



Parishes of Ansty and Swallowcliffe - Appeal

An appeal to the Christian public has been just put forth by the Revs. Francis Lear and William Dansey, Rural Deans of Chalke, in behalf of the above neglected parishes, which, although containing a population together of 650 souls, have, for a long time past, been most unhappily situated in regard to spiritual matters. Owing to circumstances of there being no parsonage or other residence for the minister in either parish, or within some miles of them, and the extremely small stipends allotted to the Clergymen - that of Ansty amounting only to 22l. 5s. 4d., and that of Swallowcliffe, to 40l. - the dilapidated church of the former place has for two years past been closed, and the Protestant inhabitants thus wholly deprived of the comforts and advantages of public worship, being dependent on casual aid for the very baptism of their infants, and the burial of their dead! - while in the latter place, although the services of the Sabbath have been generally performed, yet they have taken place, for the most part, at inconvenient hours, and have been sometimes, though not of late, altogether omitted: with regard to the important point of weekly duties and ministerial superintendence, the parish has long been destitute. Under these urgent circumstances, it has been determined to appeal to the public, to raise a sum of money, by subscription, for the erection of a parsonage at Swallowcliffe, in order that the inhabitants may enjoy the consolations and blessings of a regular and devout performance of the solemn and affecting services of our Church, and the advantages of a resident minister - advantages of which not a single parish in this country ought to be deprived. It appears that a Clergyman is about to undertake the care of the two parishes, at a great personal sacrifice, and under the difficulties and disadvantages of a distant and inconvenient residence - and in order to enable him to live among and minister to the spiritual necessities of his flock, a subscription has been opened at the Bank on the Canal, and at Messrs. Williams and Co.'s, 20, Birchin Lane, London, where contributions for the good work will be gladly received.

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