



Parish Celebrations

ALVEDISTON

The Earl of Pembroke Comes of Age 1871

The auspicious event of the coming of age of the Earl of Pembroke was celebrated on Thursday last at this village with considerable zeal and spirit. The liberal donation of the noble Earl to his tenants on this occasion, supplemented by a contribution from the principal inhabitants, furnished the means of providing an entertainment to which not only the cottagers on the Pembroke estate, but the whole population were invited.

This took the form of a substantial dinner, at which about 220 adults partook of the fare of Old England, tea and cake being at the same time provided for the younger branches.

After dinner, sports were arranged for the children of the National School, and prizes given. This was followed by a dance to the enlivening strains of the Fovant band, in the spacious barn kindly lent by Mr Rogers.

It should also be mentioned that the principal object of this unprecedented and happy parochial gathering was not forgotten. Loud and prolonged cheers, again, again and again, were given for the young nobleman who has just succeeded to his vast estates, and good wishes were framed that in the discharge of his great responsibilities he might follow the benevolent and judicious example of those who had preceded him. The inhabitant of this remote and out-lying parish, who, by the way, seemed to enjoy themselves most thoroughly, will not easily forget the memorable event which was so agreeably impressed upon their minds.

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