



Tradesmen's Benefit And Friendly Society Anniversary

The 19th anniversary of the above named Society was celebrated on Wednesday. Shortly after 10 o'clock, the members assembled, and were marshalled in procession by their Secretary, Mr W. Burrough. Headed by the excellent Fovant Brass Band, under the able leadership of Mr John Foyle, they proceeded to St George's church, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Andrews, of Teffont Evias, from Psalm cxxxiii.

The prayers were read by the Rev. A. Earle, curate in charge of Fovant, and the choir performed their duties under the able leadership of Miss Marsh and Miss Fussel, who alternately presided at the organ. Service being over, the procession was re-formed and the members and friends soon found their way to the school-room, where a good dinner had been provided. The room was crowded to excess, between 80 and 90 being present. The chair was taken by the Hon. Secretary, Mr W. Burrough. Mr James Sansom most ably filled the vice-chair. At the conclusion of the repast, the Chairman rose for the purpose of giving the following annual statement of accounts: 17 members relieved to the amount of 324 1s 6d; contributions paid in, £43 18s; interest of capital for one year, £9 8s 9d. Total amount of capital, £349 11s 9d. (Loud applause) During the last year no member had been removed by death, and none had left of their own accord. On the other hand, 13 had joined, thus bringing their numbers up to 65. The Chairman concluded by proposing "The Queen," which was drunk most loyally by the whole company. The formal proceedings at the room having been concluded, the happy company, together with a large number of visitors (the fair sex being largely represented), adjourned to the lawn in front of the residence of the Rev. A. Earle, where dancing, "kiss-in-the-ring," racing, and other amusements made the time pass pleasantly until sunset, when most of the company returned home. The members however, returned to the school-room, where a most excellent supper awaited them, after which the company were amused by some songs, which were sung by Messrs. Barnes, Penny, T. Snook, and others, in capital style.

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