

12. As Victoria's reign progressed, it became increasingly clear that the Parish Church and its clergy could not minister effectively to the growing population of a parish the size of Rotherham. Churches began to be built to serve outlying districts, becoming parish churches in their own right in due course. Starting with Thorpe Hesley in 1839, new churches were erected to serve Kimberworth in 1843 and Masbrough in 1864. The first moves to build a church to serve the New Rotherham and Eastwood Vale areas were made in 1869, culminating in the laying of the foundation stone of St Stephen's Church on St Ann's Road in November 1872. The completed church was consecrated in October 1874. The church is seen here as originally constructed. The tower and spire, with a peal of bells, were added in 1910 by Sir Charles J Stoddart.

'Victorian Rotherham' by Tony Mumford

S U B S C R I P T I O N S

TOWARDS

BUILDING A CHURCH FOR THE DISTRICT OF EASTWOOD, ROTHERHAM.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
The Archbishop of York	25	0	0	A Friend	5	0	0
The Earl Fitzwilliam	300	0	0	T. Shenton, Esq.	10	0	0
The Earl of Effingham	100	0	0	F. W. Hoyle, Esq.	10	0	0
The Hon. Charles Howard	100	0	0	The Rev. J. J. Christie	3	3	0
The Hon. Capt. Douglas	20	0	0	C. Tomlison, Esq.	10	0	0
The late G. S. Foljambe, Esq.	100	0	0	D. McNee, Esq.	10	0	0
F. J. S. Foljambe, Esq., M.P.	100	0	0	W. Saville, Esq.	5	5	0
The Rev. R. Mosley	50	0	0	Miss F. T. West	5	0	0
E. Robinson, Esq.	30	0	0	Mrs. Jubb	5	0	0
G. W. Chambers, Esq., J.P.	50	0	0	Mr. T. Outwin	5	0	0
J. L. Coward, Esq. (and Conveyance of Site)	35	0	0	Mr. Fawcett	10	0	0
Joseph Badger, Esq.	15	0	0	Mr. Gilling	5	0	0
John Haywood, Esq.	15	0	0	M. T.	5	0	0
John Guest, Esq.	15	0	0	Mr. F. Fell	5	0	0
Hugh Hoyland, Esq.	25	0	0	Mrs. Dobb	2	2	0
C. B. Clark, Esq.	10	0	0	Mrs. Neal (Mount Zion, Jerusalem)	5	0	0
Henry Jubb, Esq., J.P.	15	0	0	Mr. H. Hutchinason	10	0	0
The Rev. Sir Wm. V. R. Mahon, Bart.	5	0	0	Mr. Hart	15	15	0
Robert Marsh, Esq.	5	0	0	Mr. Taffinder	5	0	0
Henry Mosley, Esq., (Banc)	5	0	0	Mr. Poncher	2	2	0
G. Didsbury, Esq.	5	0	0	Mrs. Robinson	3	0	0
Miss Didsbury	5	0	0	Mr. Cupdell	3	0	0
Samuel Camm, Esq.	10	0	0	Robert John Bentley, Esq., J.P., D.L.	50	0	0
Richard Brooke, Esq.	10	0	0	John Newton Mappin, Esq.	50	0	0
F. Wheatley, Esq.	2	2	0	The Rev. J. Verey	100	0	0
John Kekwick, Esq.	10	0	0	Mr. W. Turner	10	10	0
<i>Amistown Esq</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>	A. N. West, Esq.	25	0	0
<i>10 Green Esq</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Mr. Critchington</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>23 Shaw-Gates Esq</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>John Dodson Esq</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Wiley Esq</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>William Esq</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>31 Staunton Esq Esq</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Mr. Mason</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Miss D. & J. Hall</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Miss West</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>H. Knight Esq</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Mr. Hill</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>W. H. & Bingham</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Esq. Tennant Esq</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Lord Halifax</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>Mr. Coupland Esq</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>West & Brass</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>West & Watkins</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Mr. Boveck</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>A Friend</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>
				<i>Rev. Anderson Hill</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0</i>

One of the first subscription lists. It seems that members of the Building Committee had these lists printed and circulated to attract further subscriptions, some of which are shown above in the hand-written entries.

M. Happs = 'A Brief History: The church of St. Stephen'

**ROTHERHAM COURT HOUSE.
BOROUGH COURT.**

MONDAY.—Present Col. St. Leger (in the chair), H. Otter, Esq., and H. W. Verelst, Esq.
THE BUSINESS OF THE COURT AND THE ATTENDANCE OF SOLICITORS.—While the business of the Borough Court was being taken, Mr. Superintendent Gillett called over the names of several defendants, who did not put in an appearance. In the last instance he said a solicitor was engaged to defend, and as he was not present, the Bench would have to take a West Riding case to be going on with while he was sent for. This was at 11:20 a.m. the only gentleman of the legal profession present in court at that time being Mr. Taylor (Messrs. Whitfield and Taylor).—The Chairman said the solicitors practising in this court must really come to some arrangement to attend earlier. He had to drive eleven miles in order to reach Rotherham before eleven o'clock, and surely the legal gentlemen who resided in the immediate neighbourhood could manage to get there by the same time. The Bench were determined in future to take the cases in their order upon the charge sheets, and not wait for gentlemen who failed to attend at the proper time. The Bench gave their services gratuitously, and ought not to be treated in this way.—A short time afterwards Mr. Edwards and Mr. Willis entered the court together. The Chairman, addressing them, repeated his previous statement.—Mr. Edwards remarked that he was very glad some arrangement was about to be come to in the matter. Solicitors had very often to wait a very long period before their cases came on, and he believed this arose from a rule in force in the practice of the court that all the cases in which lawyers were not engaged were taken first.—Mr. Willis supported this statement.—The Chairman said it should be understood that in future the Borough business would be taken first and gone through before West Riding cases were taken.—In reference to the taking of depositions at the magistrates' clerk's office in felony cases, it was requested by the Bench that witnesses should attend there earlier than hitherto in order to facilitate the despatch of the business of the Court.

STEALING IRON AT THE MIDLAND IRON WORKS.
—*Betsy and Martha Goucher*, two girls, were brought up on remand charged with stealing scrap iron from the Midland Iron Works, and *William Goucher*, their father, a blast furnaceman, living in Midland road, was charged with receiving the same knowing it to be stolen.—Mr. Edwards appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Rhodes for the defence.—The circumstances of the case have already been reported in the *Advertiser*.—Mr. Edwards stated that his clients did not wish to press the case against the children, and they were discharged.—Mr. Rhodes, for the defence, said his client bought the scrap iron and some gasometer plates from a scrap iron dealer at Masbro' Station, about ten years ago. A man named George Kemp, formerly a footman porter at the Masbro' Station, stated that the iron produced resembled that which the prisoner bought.—The Bench, after some consideration, committed the prisoner for trial at the sessions, bail being allowed; himself in £40, and two sureties in £20 each.

THURSDAY.—Present the Mayor (J. M. Habershon, Esq.), the Rev. A. Fullerton, and James Yates Esq.

NEW CHURCH AT EASTWOOD.

For many years it has been felt that the growing district of Eastwood was inadequately provided with the means of satisfying the spiritual requirements of the large population residing in the locality. Until about four years ago there was no place of worship whatever in the immediate neighbourhood, nearer than Rotherham, although the population of the district of Eastwood at the present time is about 8,000. Considerably over twelve months ago, however, commodious church schools were opened, and service has since that time been regularly held therein. To the unwearied exertions of the Rev. J. Verey, the respected vicar of Eastwood, Mr. John Gibbs, and other gentlemen, the inhabitants were principally indebted for the erection of the school, and at the same time endeavours were being made to obtain funds for the building of a church. Mr. Verey and his coadjutors have, since the completion of the schools, been indefatigable in their labours in this direction, and it is gratifying to know they have not been unrewarded. The noble sum of £2,300 has been received in subscriptions towards the erection of the sacred edifice, and it is anticipated that in a very short time building operations will be commenced. Some time ago it was resolved that designs for the proposed new church should be obtained and Messrs. Thomas D. Barry and Son, of Liverpool, were selected as the architects. The plans prepared by these gentlemen have been submitted and approved, and the contract for the whole of the works connected with the building have been let to Mr. Charles Ripley, contractor, &c. of Rotherham. The church, when finished, will be one of the finest and best constructed in the neighbourhood of Rotherham, and will most certainly be an ornament to Eastwood. The site chosen is situated at the junction of St. Leonard's with St. Ann's road, and is one of the most eligible in the locality. The total length of the church will be about 130 feet, and the width 60 feet. It will be built in the Gothic style of architecture, and will consist of nave, side aisles, chancel, vestry, and organ chapel. There will be three entrances to the edifice, which will be surmounted at the south-west corner by a well-proportioned tower and spire, having a total height of about 130 feet. The building will be constructed of stone, and it is computed that it will seat about 600 persons. The pews and internal fittings will be of pitch pine throughout. The roof will be slanting and of blue slate, and every possible care will be taken to secure thorough and efficient ventilation. The total cost, including that of the site, will, it is estimated, be about £4,000. Towards this, as we have already intimated, subscriptions amounting to £2,300 have been received or promised, and it is confidently hoped that ere long the whole of the funds necessary to cover the cost of erection will have been raised. It is expected that the church will be completed and ready for opening by about Michaelmas, 1873. We congratulate Mr. Verey and his helpers on the success which has hitherto attended their laudable endeavours in this good work, and trust that it may be satisfactorily completed.

GREASBRO FLOWER SHOW.

The annual show in connection with the Greasbro' Floral, Horticultural, and Cottage Gardeners' Society was held at Greasbro' on Monday in a

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A NEW CHURCH AT EASTWOOD.

Some weeks ago we announced that it was intended shortly to proceed with the erection of a new church at Eastwood, and gave a brief description of the proposed building. On Thursday, at noon, the corner stone of the new edifice was laid by Countess Fitzwilliam. The first meeting for the purpose of constituting Eastwood into an ecclesiastical district was held in the month of February, 1869. The population of the district—something approaching 5,000—was considered such as to warrant immediate and strenuous endeavours to obtain funds for the erection of schools and a commodious church. Since that time the Rev. J. Verey, who has been appointed to the charge of the district, Mr. John Gibbs, and other gentlemen, have been most indefatigable in their efforts to attain the object in view. In December, 1870, they had been so far successful, that large and comfortable national schools were constructed at the corner of Frederick street and St. Ann's road. Subsequent to the opening of the schools Divine service has been regularly conducted therein by Mr. Verey, in the presence of a numerous and increasing congregation. The site of the new church is situate at the junction of St. Ann's road and St. Leonard's road, and is easy of approach from all parts of the neighbourhood. A sufficient quantity of land has been purchased to admit of a parsonage being erected should it be found necessary to build one. The church which will be one of the best constructed in the neighbourhood, will be in the decorated style of the Geometric Period. There will be a chancel 28ft. by 22ft.; nave, 90ft. by 25ft.; south aisle, with tower and spire at the west end, 78ft. by 11ft.; north aisle, with porch at the west end, 90ft. by 11ft.; organ chamber, opening into chancel and south aisle by arches, 15ft. by 13ft.; vestry in north east, 15ft. by 13ft.; and warming chamber under vestry. In the interior the church will be divided into nave and aisles by octagonal stone shafts, supporting stone arches, above which are the clerestories, pierced with two light tracery windows. The aisle windows will be of two lights each, and richly traceryed. The east window of chancel will be of five lights, with geometric tracery. The west window will be of four lights, also with tracery. The roofs, which are of high pitch, will be open timbered, with interlacing principals, stained oak, and twice varnished. The chief entrance will be through the tower, which will supply the place of a south-west porch. Another entrance will be through a porch, at the north-west; while a third door will be provided at the north-east, to give additional facilities for ingress. Pew accommodation is provided for 600 adults in the nave and aisle, and for 24 choristers in the chancel. Externally the church will have a very fine effect, the tower and spire in the south-west grouping effectively with the nave and aisles. To break up the north-west angle, and assist the effect of the tower and spire, a small octagonal turret and spire are introduced in the angle of the north porch. The tower is 18ft. square, and 65ft. to the top of the parapet. The spire will be 72ft. above this point, and will be surmounted by a vane. At the angles of the tower are four lofty pinnacles, with crockets and finials, from which traceryed flying buttresses are united by arches with the spire. The church will be built of local stone, with dressed quoins and other ornamental features; the facings will be of the same stone, rock faced. The internal portions will be of Hoxton stone. The floors of passages will be of tiles, those in the chancel being of a rich description. The benches and all internal fittings will be of pitch pine, twice varnished, and the windows will be glazed with toned cathedral glass. The roofs are to be covered with alternate bands of reddish and greyish slate. The contract for the whole of the works has been let to Mr. Ripley, of Rotherham, for the sum of £3,600. The architects are Messrs Thomas D. Barry and Sons, of Liverpool. It is estimated that the total cost of the building, with the land and boundary walls, will be about £4,500, towards which about £2,300 has already been promised or received as subscriptions. The sum of £322 has been given by the York Diocesan Building Society, and £250 by Marshall's Charity at London.

At twelve o'clock a procession of the school children left the National Schools, headed by the Rev. R. Mosley, Vicar of Rotherham, and the Rev. A. Fullerton, of Thrybergh, for the site of the new building, which is at the junction of St. Ann's and St. Leonard's roads. An awning had been erected over the stone, at the north-east corner of the chancel. Near this place speedily congregated a large number of spectators, notwithstanding the

very anpropitious state of the weather. Among those present were the Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam and party from Wentworth House, the Mayor of Rotherham (J. M. Habershon, Esq.), G. W. Chambers, Esq., J.P., H. Jubb, Esq., J.P., the Rev. E. Mosley, vicar of Rotherham; Rev. W. Newton, vicar-elect of Rotherham; the Rev. J. Verey; Rev. W. Byers, Greasbro'; Rev. A. Fullerton, Thrybergh; Rev. C. J. D. Marsden, M.A.; Hooton Roberts; Rev. W. S. Evans, Ulley; Rev. C. J. Hamilton, Kimberworth; Rev. A. W. Hamilton, Blackburn; the Hon. and Rev. W. Howard, Whiston; Rev. E. Wynne, Parkgate; Rev. J. Levitt, Swinton; Rev. P. Schofield, Maltby; Mr. and Miss Egerton, Aldwarke Hall; Rev. J. J. Christie, Rotherham Grammar School; Mr. C. L. Coward, Rotherham; Mr. H. Hoyland, Rotherham; Mr. John Barras, Alderman Guest, Mr. F. W. Hoyle, Mr. J. Gibbs, Mr. C. Beatson Clarke, Mr. J. Fawcett, Mr. H. Hart, &c. &c.

The service was commenced by the singing of the 67th and 81th Psalms, followed by prayers being read by the Rev. J. Verey. The choir, under the leadership of Mr. I. Warburton. This rendered the dedicatory hymn, beginning "This stone to Thee in faith we lay." Mr. John Gibbs placed a hermetically sealed bottle in a cavity in the wall beneath the stone. The bottle contained the following on parchment:—"The corner stone of this church, dedicated to the memory of St. Stephen the Apostle and Martyr, was laid by the Countess Fitzwilliam on Thursday, November 14, 1872," copies of the local newspapers, and a silver coin. Her ladyship then laid the stone in the usual way, saying "In the faith of Jesus Christ, we place this foundation stone in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost." The Countess made use of a handsome silver trowel, procured from the establishment of Mr. Taffinder, of High street. It had an ivory handle, and was elegantly engraved and chased. It bore the appended inscription:—"Presented to the Countess Fitzwilliam, on her Ladyship laying the foundation stone of St. Stephen's Church, Eastwood, Rotherham, Nov. 14th. 1872." During the time the stone was being lowered to its proper place, Mr. T. D. Barry explained to her ladyship the dimensions and character of the new edifice. On the completion of the stone laying,

Earl FITZWILLIAM stepped forward and said:—My friends of Rotherham and the neighbourhood, As Lady Fitzwilliam has laid the first stone of this church, now about to be built here, she wishes I would just say a few words to you to let you know how much gratification it has given her to take part in so good a work among you. That a church here is a necessity I think no one, looking at the population which has grown up of late years, can possibly deny, and it is a great satisfaction to hear that those—I mean the working population—most interested in it have fully taken their share in trying to erect this church. I hope, and I doubt not, that it will be always filled, and that all our hearts, through the instrumentality of the gospel, will be bound together in brotherly love and affection. (Hear, hear.) For that is the aim and object of the Christian religion. Having made these few observations I have merely to say once more that it has given Lady Fitzwilliam much satisfaction to lay this stone. (Cheers.)

The remaining prayers were read by the Hon. and Rev. W. Howard, and after the singing of another hymn, the Rev. R. Mosley pronounced the benediction, and the proceedings terminated with cheers for the Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam and the Vicar of Eastwood, the Rev. J. Verey.

Immediately after the completion of the ceremony of laying the foundation stone, a bazaar was formally opened in the large hall of the Mechanics' Institute. The room was very prettily decorated for the occasion, the stalls, six in number presenting a very attractive appearance. Among the first visitors were the Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam and party. During the day the attendance was very large, owing chiefly no doubt to the very inclement weather. The six stalls were arranged on the three sides of the room, while Mr. C. Harvey's string band occupied the platform, and during the afternoon rendered an agreeable selection of music. The usual fancy and useful articles were offered for sale, and the quantity and quality of the collection displayed may be imagined when we state that the total value of the goods was estimated at something over £500. A number of beautiful hothouse and other plants, principally the gift of the Countess Fitzwilliam, were exhibited for sale in the centre of the room, and this department was under the superintendence of Miss Fanny Taffinder. At the first stall, the presiding ladies were Mrs. Verey, Mrs. Tomlinson, and Mrs. Gratton; No. 2, Mrs. Mosley, and the Misses Mosley; No. 3,

Mrs. W. Turner and Miss Turner; No. 4, Mrs. Easton and the Misses Reddish; No. 5, Mrs. Savilla, Mrs. Gibbs, and Mrs. Askwith; No. 6 (Refreshment Stall), Mrs. Outwin, Mrs. Willis, and Miss Outwin. The bazaar was continued yesterday, and will be open again this afternoon.

R. A.

16th November,
1872.

Please note:
'R. A.' on press
cuttings pages
refers to

'The Rotherham
Advertiser'.

CONSECRATION OF ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, EASTWOOD, ROTHERHAM.

On Saturday morning last the new church of St. Stephen, Eastwood, was consecrated by his Grace

the Archbishop. The plan of church consecration is a very and highly interesting subject. At Eastwood, the late Rev. E. Mosley, M.A., took the necessary steps for its formation into an ecclesiastical district, the first meeting for that purpose being held in February, 1862. The Rev. J. Verey was entrusted with its charge, and for some time laboured there unsuccessfully. National schools were opened near the junction of Frederick street with St. Ann's road in December, 1870. Since their opening, Divine service has been regularly conducted to increasing congregations, and much success has also attended the working of the day schools held therein. It was resolved that a commodious church should be erected for the accommodation of the inhabitants of the district, and in raising the necessary funds, the Rev. J. Verey, Mr. J. Gibbs, and other gentlemen laboured most assiduously. The Earl of Brougham, Earl Fitzwilliam, and P. J. S. Foljambe, Esq., M.P., were among the chief contributors to the building fund. A very eligible site at the junction of St. Leonard's and St. Ann's road was purchased, and the foundation stone of the edifice was laid on November 14th, 1873, by the Countess Fitzwilliam, who was accompanied by the noble Earl. The work of erection has since been going on, and, according to contract, ought to have been completed by Christmas last. For various reasons this was found to be impossible, and the ceremony of consecration had to be delayed until Saturday last. Although the whole that remains to cover the cost of the building has been guaranteed by one or two gentlemen, about £1200 has yet to be subscribed in order to free the guarantors from responsibility in the matter. On the appointment of the Rev. W. Newton, M.A., as Vicar of Rotherham, some questions arose as to the boundaries of the ecclesiastical district of Eastwood, as laid down by the Rev. R. Mosley. The Rev. J. Verey thereupon resigned the charge of the district, and was presented to the living of Scopton, near Worksop. Some dissatisfaction was lately caused by the decision of the Building Committee of the Church to vest the patronage in the Vicar of Rotherham. It had been understood that the living would be placed under the patronage of the Archbishop of York, and that thereby a grant of £250 towards the building fund would be secured from Marshall's Charity. Until the end of last week the decision of the committee with regard to the patronage was regarded as final. It was then found that the Archbishop claimed the right to have the patronage vested in himself. We understand that although it was not generally known, an arrangement had been entered into by the Rev. E. Mosley that the living should be in the gift of his Grace. Since his appointment to the charge of the district, the present Vicar, the Rev. W. Pilkington, has been most indefatigable in his efforts to bring the erection of the church to a successful termination. The lectern is the gift of J. W. Potter, Esq., and the chairs that of Mrs. Potter. The churchwardens are E. W. Hodgkinson, Esq., and Estwall W. Hoyle, Esq.

The new church occupies a commanding position and is centrally situated. A sufficient quantity of land has been purchased, adjoining the church, to admit of a parsonage being erected if it should be found necessary to build one. The church is in the decorated style of architecture of the Geometric period, and consists of nave, aisles, chancel, organ chamber, and vestry; the total length of the building being 116 feet, and the breadth 56½ feet. The tower at the west end, forming the principal entrance, is unfinished, a further sum of £850 being required to complete it, with a belfry and spire, according to the designs. A turret surmounts the north porch, and contains one of Vickers and Co.'s steel bells. All the capitals, corbels, and bosses have been beautifully carved in natural foliage, by Mr. Henry Ripley. The walls are plastered inside, and tinted French grey; the arches, windows, and wall-plates being relieved by texts and borders of conventional ornament, stencilled in buff, on a chocolate ground. The ornamentation of the chancel is on a more elaborate scale, and has a very fine effect. The gas brackets and corona are from the works of Messrs. Guest and Chrimes, Rotherham. The fittings throughout are of pitchpine, the seats being on the free and open principle. The appearance of the church both internally and externally is very fine; although the effect of the latter is somewhat marred by the absence of the spire from the west end. The cost of the building is about £3060. The architects are Messrs. T. D. Barry and Sons, of Liverpool, and the contractor Mr. Charles Ripley, of Rotherham. The work has been carried

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The ceremony on Saturday was a very impressive one throughout. Among the clergymen present were the Rev. W. Newton, M.A., Vicar of Rotherham; the Rev. Rowley Hill, M.A., of Sheffield; the Rev. E. Fox, M.A., of Rotherham; the Rev. J. E. Blankeney, of Sheffield; the Rev. Sir W. Ross Mahon, Bart., of Rawmarsh; the Rev. J. C. Hamilton, M.A., of Kimberworth; the Rev. E. Wynne, M.A., of Parkgate; the Rev. W. S. Evans, of Ulley; the Rev. W. Byers, of Greasbro'; the Rev. A. W. Hamilton, Mns. Bas., of Blackburn; the Rev. F. W. Pudsey, of Masbro'; the Rev. W. Poster, M.A., of Dalton; the Rev. W. Pilkington, M.A., of Eastwood; the Rev. W. T. Bassell, of Rotherham; the Rev. J. J. Christie, M.A., of Rotherham; and the Rev. C. A. Moore, of Rotherham. The Archbishop, who was attended by his chaplain, registrar, and apparitor, at the commencement of the ceremony was received at the western door by a number of the clergy, the churchwardens, and other gentlemen. On entering the building, a petition praying that he would consecrate the church was presented to him. The Archbishop, having received it, presented it to the Registrar, who read aloud. His Grace then signified his assent to the consecration of the church. The Archbishop, clergy, churchwardens, and others in attendance, then proceeded along the chief aisle towards the communion table, repeating the 24th Psalm as they went. The psalm having been concluded, the Archbishop and his chaplain proceeded to the communion table where the former had the instrument of conveyance presented to him by the Registrar. It was laid on the communion table, and prayers were then offered by his Grace. The sentence of consecration having been read by the Registrar, it was signed by the Archbishop, and ordered by him to be enrolled and preserved amongst the muniments in the registry. The service for the day was then proceeded with, the prayers being read by the Rev. W. Newton, the first lesson by the Rev. Sir W. Ross Mahon, Bart.; the second lesson by the Rev. W. Pilkington; the epistle by the Rev. Rowley Hill; and the gospel by the Rev. E. Fox.

The ARCHBISHOP, before announcing his text, stated that the offertory at the close of the service would be devoted to the building fund. He remarked that the opening of the church was attended by somewhat unusual circumstances. Although the payment of the cost of the building had been guaranteed by several gentlemen, there was no less a debt than £1200 still required to be made up to free the place from debt. By private liberality that amount had been guaranteed, but it was not right or fair that because that had been done for the sake of getting the church opened, it should be left to private persons to contribute thus unduly. The parishioners, as a duty, ought to help in discharging this debt. His Grace went on to say that there was, to use a peculiar phrase, a great deal of lee-way to make up in connection with Church operations in the town of Rotherham. The Church here could not boast that she had been thoroughly awake to the claims upon her during the time that the town of Rotherham had been growing up to be a great and important place. The must, therefore, do more than an average amount of work in order to make up this lost ground, and in order to make the Church of England take its proper standing in this great and important population. His Grace then proceeded to deliver his sermon, the text being Job, chapter xi, verses 13 and 14—"If thou prepare thine heart and stretch out thine hand toward him; if iniquity be in thine hand, put it away; and let not wickedness swell in thy tabernacles." The sermon was a very appropriate and impressive one, and was listened to with the utmost attention by the congregation.

On Sunday, morning and evening, two sermons were preached by the Rev. Canon Crosthwaite. There were large congregations, that in the evening being especially numerous. Collections in aid of the building fund were made at the close of each service.

NEW ORGAN FOR ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, EASTWOOD.

Reference has already been made on more than one occasion in our columns to the fact that it was intended to provide an organ for St. Stephen's Church, Eastwood. Success has attended the energetic efforts of the promoters, and the new organ, built by Messrs. Brindley and Foster, of Sheffield, will be opened on Thursday next. In the morning, the preacher will be the Rev. Canon Brock, M.A., Vicar of Christ Church, Doncaster; and in the evening, the Rev. A. H. Favell, M.A., Vicar of St. George's, Sheffield. In the afternoon, there will be an organ recital by E. H. Tarpin, Esq., of London, organist of St. George's, Bloomsbury, and Honorary Secretary of the College of Organists. On Sunday, May 28th, the opening services will be continued. The morning preacher will be the Rev. W. Newton, M.A., Vicar of Rotherham; and in the evening, the Rev. W. M. Ede, M.A., of Sheffield. The organ, when completed, will be one of the most effective in the neighbourhood. It contains two complete manuals and independent pedals. There is a bracketed screen case of pitch pine, showing two fronts of decorated pipes, gilded at mouth-piece. The following is a specification of the instrument:—

- GREAT ORGAN—COMPASS C C TO G.
- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Double Stop Diapason, 16 ft. | 5. Principal, 4ft. |
| 2. Open Diapason, 8ft. | 6. Harmonic Flute, 4ft. |
| 3. Gedact, 8ft. | 7. Twelfth, 8ft. |
| 4. Dulciana, 8ft. | 8. Fifteenth, 2ft. |
| | 9. Trumpet, 8ft. |
- SWELL ORGAN, C C TO G.
- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 10. Violin Diapason, 8ft. | 14. Full Mixture, III ranks. |
| 11. Lieblich Gedact, 8ft. | 15. Oboe, 8ft. |
| 12. Vox Angelica, 8ft. | 16. Horn, 8ft. |
| 13. Salicet, 4ft. | |
- PEDAL ORGAN C C C TO F.
- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 17. Open Diapason, 16ft. | 18. Bourdon, 10ft. |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
- COUPLERS, &c.
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 19. Swell to Great. | 21. Great to Pedal. |
| 20. Swell to Pedal. | 22. Swell Sub-Octave. |
- THREE COMPOSITION PEDALS.

R. A.

20th May, 1876

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, EASTWOOD.—On Sunday, the services in connection with the opening of the new organ were continued in St. Stephen's Church, Eastwood. The morning preacher was the Rev. Canon Bennett, M.A., Rector of Thrybergh; and the evening preacher was the Rev. W. M. Ede, M.A., lecturer, Cambridge University. There were good congregations; and the collections amounted to £17. 4s. 7d. Mr T. Tallis Trimmell, Mus. Bac., organist of the Parish Church, Sheffield, presided at the organ.

R. A.

3rd June, 1876

P 8

**ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, EASTWOOD.
OPENING OF THE NEW ORGAN.**

Last week we gave a description of the new organ placed in St. Stephen's Church, Eastwood, Rotherham. On Thursday morning, the services in connection with its opening were commenced in the presence of a numerous congregation. The prayers were read by the Rev. W. Pilkington, Vicar; the first lesson by the Rev. R. Mason, St. George's, Edgbaston; and the second lesson by the Rev. Thomas Meadows, Vicar of Thornton. The Rev. Canon Brock, M.A., Vicar of Christ Church, Doncaster, read the Communion Service, and the Epistle was read by the Rev. W. Newton, Vicar of Rotherham. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Canon Brock, who took for his text a portion of the 21st verse of the 10th chapter of Deuteronomy: "He is thy praise." In the course of his sermon, the rev. gentleman alluded to the occasion in connection with which they were now met. He remarked that while they availed themselves of the help of music in Divine service, and cultivated it to the highest extent, yet that music should be of a simple and popular kind, so that it might be appreciated by the people. Mr. E. H. Turpin, of London, organist of St. George's, Bloomsbury, and honorary secretary of the College of Organists, presided at the organ. The opening voluntary was "O rest in the Lord," by Mendelssohn. For the concluding voluntary, Mr. Turpin played "O great is the depth," also by Mendelssohn. During the service, the choir in a very efficient manner gave the anthem "The Lord is King," by Mr. T. T. Trimnell, organist of the Sheffield Parish Church. In the afternoon, Mr. Turpin gave an organ recital, in which he not only brought forth the full powers of the fine instrument, but also displayed rare ability as a musician on his own part. There was a large congregation. The following was the programme gone through:—Organ Sonata, No. 5 (Mendelssohn); Adagio, "1st Symphony" (Kalliwodd); Fantasia and Fugue, G Minor (J. S. Bach); Andante, in G (H. Smart); Variations on the "Vesper Hymn" (E. H. Turpin); Andante and Allegro, "4th Organ Concerto" (Handel); Allegretto (Beethoven); Overture, "Athalia" (Mendelssohn.) The evening service was also well attended. The prayers were read by the Rev. W. Pilkington, the Vicar; and the lessons were read by the Rev. E. R. Mason and the Rev. T. Meadows. The preacher, the Rev. H. A. Favell, Vicar of St. George's, Sheffield, took for his text Ephesians, chapter 4, verses 9 and 10. Mr. Turpin again presided at the organ, playing as the opening voluntary "I know that my Redeemer liveth," the concluding voluntary being the "Hallelujah Chorus." After the third collect, the choir sang Kent's anthem, "Blessed be Thou, Lord God of Israel." The musical portions of the services were very satisfactorily performed throughout, and evidenced that the choir had been carefully trained by the organist and choirmaster, Mr. J. O. Gill. We understand that Mr. Turpin, who stands very high in the musical profession, is of the opinion that the organ is equal to the productions of the best London builders. He also expressed himself highly gratified by the performances of the choir, who had gone through their share in the services in a most talented manner. Collections amounting altogether to £22. 9s. 8d.—were made at the close of each service in aid of the organ fund. The services will be continued to-morrow (Sunday).

R. A.

27th May
1876

P 8

EASTWOOD CHURCH.

DEDICATION OF NEW TOWER AND PEAL OF BELLS.

GIFTS OF COLONEL STODDART.

STRIKING SERMON BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

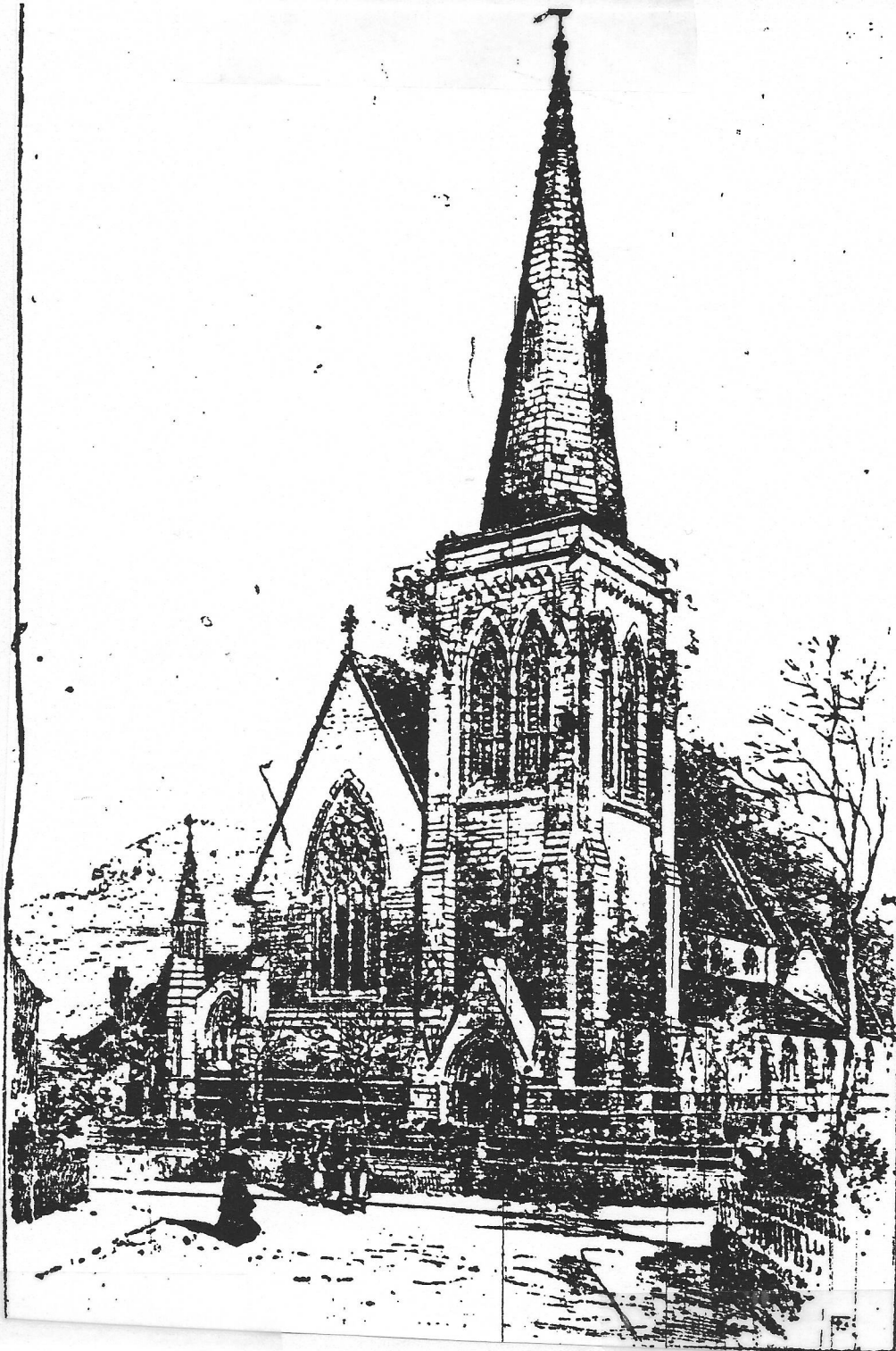
Eastwood Parish Church, now complete with its distinctive tower and spire and peal of bells, through the generosity of Colonel C. J. Stoddart, was on Monday afternoon crowded on the occasion of the dedication of these additions to the church by the Archbishop of York. Attending the Archbishop were Canon Goodall (Vicar of Rotherham) and the Rev. W. Parker (his private chaplain), assisted by the Rev. W. Dyer (Vicar of Eastwood). Other clergy present were the Revs. A. B. Burney and J. E. Lamin (Kimberworth), G. W. Sykes (Masbro'), R. H. Townend, J. Davies, C. S. James, H. T. W. Butler (Greasbro'), T. P. Ring (Rawmarsh), W. A. Hick (Dalton), J. H. Poole (Northfield), G. H. C. Bowen (Thrybergh), and E. H. Smith (curate of Eastwood). Included in the congregation were Colonel Stoddart, the Mayor (Ald. D. Mullins), the Town Clerk (Mr. W. J. Board), Mr. James Rhodes, Mr. E. Phillips, and Mr. Robert Warner (representing Messrs. Warner and Co., founders of the bells).

The Archbishop preached an inspiring sermon from Psalm 61, verse 3, "Thou hast been my hope and strong tower for me against the enemy." He said he had long wished to have an opportunity of visiting that parish, and he rejoiced to meet so many of them—some of whom, at least, he knew belonged to that parish and congregation, while others of them were fellow members of the one Church. They must always remember that in every place and every diocese they must, as one fellowship, address themselves to a great and difficult task. He knew well how difficult that task was in these great modern cities of labour. He knew well how the pressure of material things, of material wants, and the perpetual insistence upon the struggle for daily bread, and of the perpetual insistence of the competition of business drove out of the soul of man any capacity for those higher things. And it must always be a task, certainly of great inspiration, but also a task of great difficulty for the Church of Jesus Christ to uphold its witness in these great widespread towns of labour that covered the face of Yorkshire—to uphold unflinchingly and unflinchingly the witness of things unseen and eternal. He knew how in that parish the incumbent had been obliged to face his task for many years single-handed, and he was glad to be able by his presence to give him the assurance that his (the Vicar's) labour was not unmarked.

Those who were present and were the minister's fellow workers with a desire by their fellowship and services to make that

The service opened with the singing of the hymn, "Christ is our corner stone," and after prayers the Archbishop and clergy, during the singing of "All people that on earth do dwell," proceeded to the tower for the dedication ceremony. The Archbishop having dedicated the tower and spire and the bells, received a rope from Colonel Stoddart, and, handing it to the Vicar (the Rev. W. Dyer), said: "Receive these bells as a sacred trust, committed unto thee as the appointed minister of this church and parish, and take heed that they be ever and only used in His service and for His glory." To the churchwardens (Messrs. W. Bell and P. Davy) the Archbishop said: "I desire to say you are to take notice that these bells of the church are committed to the custody of the Vicar of the parish, to be used only with his consent, and subject to the ultimate control of the Bishop of the Diocese." After a short peal of bells had been rung prayers for blessing by the Archbishop followed. During the singing by the congregation of "Lifted safe within the steeple," the Archbishop and clergy returned to their places. Canon Goodall read the lesson, 10th chapter of Moses. The anthem sung by the choir was "Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thine house" (G. W. Terrence). The organist was Mr. H. Crackel, F.R.C.O.

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R. A.

2nd October,
1909

P 10

Work is now proceeding in connection with the erection of a new tower and spire which are being added to the Church of St. Stephen, Eastwood, Rotherham. These are the gift of Colonel C. J. Stoddart, V.D., J.P., of Blenheim House, Rotherham.

The walls of the new tower are being built upon those of the present porch, which were made strong enough to carry an intended tower and spire when first the church was erected.

The walls of the tower are in coursed Rotherham wallstone, to match those of the present church, the whole of the stone having been procured from an old disused quarry in St. Leonard's road, almost adjoining the site. The ashlar dressings are of red Matlock stone.

The height of the tower from the ground is 44 feet, and the spire 67 feet in addition, or a total height of 121 feet. The whole of the spire is in coursed ashlar stone, the top courses having top crockets at angles. The whole is surmounted by a carved stone finial and metal weather vane.

A ringers' chamber, with belfrey directly above, are provided in the tower. A peal of eight bells, by the well-known firm of Messrs. John Warner and Sons, of London, is to be placed in the tower, and the cost of these is being defrayed by Colonel Stoddart.

The tower and spire are in the decorated Gothic style, to accord with the general design of the church, and the work is being carried out by Mr. Walter M. Beeden, contractor, Thrybergh, from the designs and under the personal supervision of the architect, Mr. J. E. Knight, of Rotherham.

money in a man's possession was something which persons were not able to resist, especially if he had been drinking and idling about all day, as in this case. A man did not think so much of the consequences of it as when the guilt and the consequences of it had been down. Using the word in its strict proper sense, this was really a bloody crime. It did not seem to him that the dent in the stick, made by some of the witnesses, had been done with some idea of putting the man into the straw he had struck him down; but that was mere speculation. Whether it was so, or whether he fell at that place, he could not say, but it was clear that that amount of blood was spilt, and the jury must not forget there was very much blood. There were fifty ways in which it could have been upon his clothes, and it was something more than a little blood was on the stick. It was not a very strong proof, but it was a fact that belonged to Coe, and might have been returned to him after they left the women, deduced to some extent from the importance of the being found on the scene of the murder, but there were some other observations he felt it his duty to make about that stick, which were not so probable. The stick was found pushed in under the straw, with some eight or nine inches sticking out. Supposing Coe had the stick at the time he murdered, would it have been found in that position? It seemed somewhat improbable, but this was not a case in which they must go on speculation. A man who struck the blow with the stake would be compelled to hold it with both hands so as to make it an effective weapon, and to do that the stick must have to be dropped. Why it was left he could not say. His observation of persons who committed crimes was, that they did not think of everything; they constantly overlooked things, their minds were disturbed at the time and fixed upon the thing they were doing, and by the consciousness and attention of the terrible act they performed, they were very apt to leave traces of things which might be found about them. It was most important in this case that the prisoner, after getting possession of the stick, and getting the thing in his mind could not, in any rate did not, turn his attention away from anything else. It was most remarkable that at the time he was seen by Wadsworth to the watch he met Poynter he seemed to have been occupied with this watch. The description of his behaviour with the watch at the Stag Inn was almost that of the boy at school, with a new watch for the first time, who could not help looking at it and playing with it. It was urged that if the watch had belonged to the murdered man, and had been procured for the prosecution suggested, the prisoner would not have exhibited it in the mad way he did; but people who committed the greatest crimes often did the most foolish things which could be imagined, and ruined themselves. Although there might be something extraordinary in a watch made by Needham having a tight case, in its having been prised open with a knife, and marked in the manner described, nothing extraordinary in the steel curb or in the bloodstone seal, he should think it

R. A
15th May
1880 P 6

NEW STAINED GLASS WINDOWS.

During the week, two beautiful stained glass windows, the gift of the late Mr. Charles Morris, of Olifton Mount, have been placed in the south side of St. Stephen's Church, Eastwood, by the executor, Mr. R. Mirrie, the artists being Messrs. Camm Bros., of Smethwick, near Birmingham. The subject of the first window is the announcement by the angels of the birth of Christ to the shepherds, and the second, the presentation of Christ in the temple. Before speaking in detail of the merits of the work, we may state that we are given to understand that it is intended to replace the remaining three plain glass windows on that side with others containing a continuation of the story of the life of Christ, but this will depend, of course, on the donations left for that purpose. Already a great improvement has been effected in that side of the church, and no doubt the congregation will know how to appreciate the alteration. In the first window—containing the embodiment of a design of the angels announcing the birth of Christ to the shepherds—a night effect has been retained, and against this background the star which is to guide the shepherds to Bethlehem shines with much brilliancy. The bright light from the angelic host in the one compartment is cast upon the figures of the shepherds and their sheep in the other, and all the details of the dress, features, &c., are brought out with great distinctness. This window contains the inscription "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace." Lilies comprise the surrounding ornamentation, being taken as a type of Christ's purity. The second window shows Christ, when a child, presented in the Temple, by His parents, and the scene is taken just as the faithful Simeon is holding the child in his arms, saying "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation." This inscription runs through the tracery. On one side the principal figures are those of Joseph and Mary, and a kneeling figure presenting a basket containing two doves as the usual offering. On the other side stands the high priest in his official robes, Simeon holding the Infant Jesus in his arms, while Anna, the aged prophetess stands in the rear. Behind the high priest is to be seen the tapestry screen, referred to in Exodus, as worked by the Israelites, bearing a representation of an angel and palms; the golden candlestick, and the altar on which incense is burning are also shown, and some very fine glass is used for the altar and the steps, showing as if it were really red marble. In this window the passion flower is introduced, as having reference to the words of Simeon to Mary, "A sword shall pierce through thy own soul also." At the bottom of each window is the following inscription, "To the glory of God, and in memory of Charles Morris and Phoebe his wife, March, 1880." The glass used is the kind known as antique, and is made expressly for artistic purposes, much finer effects being obtained. The figures are nobly drawn, and everything about them evidences a really artistic spirit. While there is nothing glaring about the windows, care has been taken not to interfere too much with the light; a beautiful, quiet tone pervades the whole, the colours are admirably blended, and as all the various tints are burnt in, there is no fear of any alteration in the colouring until the glass itself crumbles away. Messrs. Camm Brothers are to be complimented on the style and quality of their workmanship.

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LIST OF VICARS AT ST. STEPHEN'S

Revd. W. Pilkington	1874 - 1895
Revd. G. A. England	1895 - 1907
Revd. W. Dyer	...	...	...	1907 - 1931
Revd. W. C. Thomas	...	...	...	1931 - 1937
Revd. P. W. R. Kennedy	...	...	...	1937 - 1942
Revd. A. M. Cook	...	...	...	1942 - 1948
Revd. D. F. News	...	...	...	1949 - 1951
Revd. R. C. H. Saunders	...	...	...	1952 - 1962
Revd. A. E. Watling	...	...	...	1964 - 1988

After the departure of Mr Watling in 1988, the vicar of Rotherham, Rev. Stuart Brindley, was created priest-in-charge of St. Stephen's. Rev John Presswell was appointed as 2nd curate of All Saints' with special responsibility to minister to the people of St. Stephen's. He lived at the Eastwood Vicarage on Doncaster Road. He left when the parish of St. Stephen was dissolved.

THE PARISH OF ST. STEPHEN, EASTWOOD

'What is happening in Eastwood has been on the cards for forty years'.

The Archdeacon of Doncaster, himself a Rotherham man, reminded a meeting of this fact recently.

'It was indeed that long ago that the closure of the church and the combining of the parish with its neighbouring parishes of Clifton and Rotherham was first seriously proposed. And two years ago it was again a real possibility,

Since 1988 a brave fight has been waged to keep St. Stephen's in being. But facts have to be faced.

The congregation has gone down in this time. Most of the regular worshippers, but for a couple of families and a number of people from the House of Light, now live outside the parish itself, coming in from as far away as Bramley, Rawmarsh - and even Sheffield Manor.

But for the loyal support of these people, whose generosity in time and money have been invaluable, the church would have closed long ago. But it must be recognised that the congregation does not any longer in any real sense represent the people of Eastwood.

The income of the church has gone down too. And there is no realistic likelihood of its being increased. Most of the best givers are pensioners on low incomes themselves.

The church building needs a considerable amount of money spending on it which would (a) be difficult to find and (b) hardly justifiable for a church which is not - apparently - required by most of its own parishioners.

It had been hoped that the Rotherham Cultural Resource Centre Project, which the P.C.C. approved last autumn, would be the thing we were looking for to bring an injection of new life - a new life of service to the community by the Church. But this has just not taken off in such a way as to indicate that this new life is present.

Thus - sadly - the closure of the Church and the winding up of the Parish are inevitable.

What of the future, then?

The parish will probably be divided along the line just east of St. Ann's Road, so that all of St. Ann's Road itself - including the church and its lands - will come into Rotherham Parish; and all to the east of that line will become part of Clifton.

The church building could well become a site for a new Diocesan Office - and we shall fight for this to happen. A study is being undertaken to see if this site or a new set of buildings alongside Sheffield Cathedral would serve best for these offices.

A very good case indeed could be made out for there being at Eastwood....

- an empty building ready and waiting.

- a considerably cheaper development cost.

- a pleasant site with ample car-parking space and a garden.

- a site central to the Diocese as a whole, with easy access to people from Doncaster and beyond as well as from Sheffield and its environs.

- a building with a chapel in it for the use of Diocesan staff.

That's the start for the building-up of a good case!

What of the clergy?

It looks likely that the future staffing of Clifton will consist of two clergy. Similarly, there will continue to be two at Rotherham; and there could well be a post for a female deacon too. Or a female priest, I suppose, if we get to the point of ordaining women to the fulness of sacramental ministry.

But all these are only thoughts as yet. There will be lots of time for all concerned to make their opinions known and their voices heard.

Meanwhile we must be very conscious of what our brothers and sisters at St. Stephen's are going through. It is a sort of bereavement and will cause a great deal of heartache. We must do all in our power to make this time as easy for them as

St. Stephen's CHURCH BELLS

BELLS SILENT

The bells of St. Stephen's Church, Rotherham, are silent — for repair work.

During a search for dry rot at the church on St. Ann's Road, the bell frame, which supports the eight bells, was found to be loose.

The frame was cemented back in place and then work started on the bells, which are being re-lead, re-tied, cleaned and greased.

Mr. Fred Fisher, the head bellringer, and his team are doing the work voluntarily, along with bell ringers from other parishes. To help to pay for the materials, Mrs. Watling, wife of the Rev. Arthur Watling, the Vicar of St. Stephen's, raised £175 from selling cards and stationery.

After a year of silence the bells of an Eastwood church rang out loud and clear over Easter.

The bells at St Stephen's Church were re-dedicated last Saturday by Bishop Gordon Arthur after the original dedication on October 8th, 1910.

It has taken ringers from the church three years to restore the bells to their former glory and their success was glorified on Saturday when they came second in a local bell ringing competition.

Teams from all over Rotherham and Sheffield took part with the winners from Rotherham Parish Church.

R. A

18.4.1980

R. A.

11.6.1977

Ringling tribute

The bells of St Stephen's, the parish church of Eastwood, rang last Saturday to mark the 76th birthday of one of the ringers.

Mr George Lee, of Norfolk Court, Wharnccliffe Hill, has been a ringer at the church for 56 years and he manned one of the bells for the 44 minute celebration.

And some of the ringers came from far afield to help. Mr Dennis Burling and Miss Catherine Inder came from Rawmarsh, Miss Ann Ward came from

Thrybergh, Mr John Hallam, from Treeton and Mr David Hunton, who also conducted the celebration, was from Wentworth.

The other Eastwood ringers were Mr Fred Fisher and Mr Andrew Fisher.

The church recently spent over £1,000 re-hanging the bells.

R. A.

4.6.1980

St Stephen's bells to be broadcast by the B.B.C

If Rotherham Christians think that the background music of an arts programme has a familiar ring next year, they will not be wrong.

For St Stephen's Church at Eastwood has been chosen to provide a tuneful backing to readings of the late John Betjeman's poetry in an arts programme to be broadcast in the New Year.

BBC programme makers recorded the church bells chiming on Sunday morning after the Church, which is under threat of closure, was chosen by the vicar of Rotherham, the Rev Stuart Brindley.

The Church is one of just three in the country to be chosen for the programme.

Churchgoers at St Stephen's have raised £106 for the multiple sclerosis Chair appeal, pioneered by Greasbrough GP Hamid Husain, by holding coffee mornings.

ROTHERHAM ADVERTISER

31/8/1990

CASH APPEAL - launch of 5 Year Appeal

THOUSANDS of pounds are needed by a big Rotherham church for major maintenance work.

St. Stephen's Church, at Eastwood, is appealing for cash for long term restoration, mainly to the roof and spire.

Work is now being carried out to patch up the roof but Rev. Arthur Watling said within the next 20 years major roofing work would have to be done.

And now was the time to be raising cash for the project, he said.

Mr. Watling said tiles were coming loose and water was leaking through the roof in several places.

"The work being done at the moment is really first aid and we need to build up a fund over the years to meet the staggering sums we need for major work," he said.

Appealing

"We are appealing to people to increase the amount they give to the church."

Mr. Watling suggested a good way of raising the cash would be by subscription payments to the church.

"The situation is under control but we really do need churchgoers and others to increase their giving as far as they are able.

"The condition of the roof overall is quite good but it is a fact that the roof will need a lot of work over the years and the spire needs attention."

He said scaffolding for the spire alone would cost about £1,000 but it was impossible to know how much the major work would cost altogether in years to come.

A £30,000 APPEAL has been launched to preserve one of the area's finest Victorian churches.

St. Stephen's Church, Eastwood, is one of the few churches of its era in Rotherham with its beautiful interior still intact.

Over the years much repair work has been done, but now the roof in particular — which is 111 years old — is beyond repair and must be replaced.

Said Vicar of Eastwood the Rev. Arthur Watling: "I would say there are few churches, if any, which can match it as a Victorian church of its era."

Demolished

Other notable examples of Victorian churches at Masbrough and Northfield have already been demolished.

The appeal, which was launched in June and will be spread over five years, aims to pay for re-roofing, re-wiring and renewal of crumbling stonework, in addition to meeting the £7,000 a year running costs.

This week sees the start of a leafleting campaign in the parish appealing for help.

The Sunday congregation averages 50, but many are unemployed or pensioners, so it is hoped that non-churchgoers interested in preserving the building will chip in.

The Star

28.10.1985

22.7.1980

R.A.

Beginning of the story

Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in a stable, in the days of Herod the king. The Magi in the Far East spotted his star. They came to Jerusalem to worship Jesus; Herod was very disturbed by the news (Matthew 2)

Not knowing the nature of the Kingdom of God, Herod decided to kill all the boys in Bethlehem who were two years old and under. He was fulfilling Jeremiah's prophecy (31-5) saying, "A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping. Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, for her children are no more"

However, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream saying: Arise, take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." (Matthew 2: 13) So began the journey of the holy family to Egypt.

Early Christianity in Egypt

Many of the concepts of Christianity were already familiar to the Egyptians from their ancient religion, such as the death and resurrection of a God, the idea of the judgment of souls and a paradisaical afterlife for eternal life, is very familiar to that of the cross-revered by Christians.

The Apostle Saint Mark first brought Christianity to Egypt in the days of the reign of Emperor Claudius (41-44AD). Alexandria later consecrated a bishop and Patriarch of Alexandria. This succession of Patriarchs has remained unbroken down to the present day, making the Coptic Christian church one of the oldest in existence.

AGE OF THE MARTYRS

The Coptic Church is rightly known as the Church of the Martyrs. As the Christian faith grew many attempts to quash it were made by the Emperor's, which as time passed became more and more fierce.

The Coptic Church suffered greatly, in excess of her numbers. This was partly due to the zeal of the Egyptian Christian's, who would rather face death at the hands of the state than be forced to worship in secret in the catacombs. Martyrdom was considered not to be death, but rather, a way to new and everlasting life. The height of persecution was in the region of the Roman Emperor Diocletian and to commemorate the many martyrs of this period, the Coptic Church decided to adopt for Church use a calendar of martyrs, the Anno Martyri, which commenced in the year 284, the year of the accession of Diocletian.

MONASTICISM

The worldwide monastic movement owes its origin to the to the foundation of monasticism is ascribed to ST. Anthony (circa 251-365). St. Athanasius who states that Anthony was the leader of thousands of monks wrote his life story.

St. Pachomius was converted to the Christian faith after a successful army career He founded two monasteries and two convents in Egypt and wrote his rules of monasticism, which were later, translated into Greek by Palladius and into Latin by St. Jerome. St. Basil the Great used the rules extensively. St. Benedict used the rules of St. Pachomius for his western monasticism. Among those who visited the desert monasteries and were influenced by the

life there include, St. John Cassian, St. Jerome, St. Rufinius, St. Hilarioun, Etherina, a Spanish Abbess, ST. Melania, a Roman lady and St. John Chrysostom

MONASTICISM SAND WADI EL NATROUNA

St Anthony founded monasticism in Egypt at the end of the 3rd century. Later, in 330 AD, one of his disciples named St. Macarius the Great (300-390) established ascetic life in the Natroun Valley (Wadi El-Natroun).

At first, monks used to live in separate caves or cells. Later, simple forts called "keeps" were established as a way of protection from the attacks of foreign invaders. Three basic styles of monasticism existed.

- 1) The Hermetical: each monk lived in a separate cell.
- 2) The Cenopitic: A group of 3 or 4 monks in one cell.
- 3) Monastic groups: Each monk had his own cell, but cells grouped together forming a monastery.

Monks in these monasteries took vows of chastity and poverty and, if forming a part of a monastic community, obedience to the abbot. They practiced long frequent fasts and were self-supported, e.g. making and selling some small handicrafts.

LEADERS OF THE CHURCH

During the period of the Greek SUPREMACY, Alexandria was the center of philosophy and culture. According to Catechetical School there, and through it some of the greatest theologians in the history of the Church became known.

The first great head of the school was Pantaenus who besides being an inspiring teacher is credited with adopting the Greek alphabet into the Coptic script. His successor was Clement of Alexandria a prolific writer, although much of his work is lost. He is remembered for his attempt to reconcile Greek culture and Christianity. Clement's most brilliant pupil was Origen. His commentary on the Old Testament was widely acclaimed by the worldwide Church. Many of his other works were translated into many languages. Others who passed through the school were, St. Gregory of Nazianzen, St. Jerome, the historian Rufinus and Didimus the Blind who created writing for the blind some fifteen centuries before Braille. At the First Ecumenical Council at Nicaea the Alexandrian archdeacon Athanasius played an important part in protecting the Church from the influence of Arianism. Patriarch Kyrillos (Cyril) was commissioned by the council to determine the date of Easter for every year and to announce the dates to all the other churches. Both Kyrillos and Theophilus were leading figures at the following two councils respectively. Pantaenus taught the faith in India. From the Catechetical School of Alexandria many pagan parts of the world.

THE COPTIC CHURCH TODAY

Under the leadership of his Holiness Pope Shenouda III the Coptic Church is the largest church in the Middle East. There are an increasing number of men and women dedicating themselves to the Christian life. Monasteries and convents are being increasing

number of parish priest are being ordained to meet the needs of parishes in Egypt and throughout the world. With the blessing of Pope Shenouda the Coptic Church plays an increasing part in the councils of the Church, trying to bring about the reconciliation of the Orthodox Churches. The Coptic Orthodox Church holds fast to the faith of the apostolic tradition, in sacraments and doctrine. Notwithstanding the Coptic Church is very much alive in the twenty first century, having a great emphasis on care of the individual. One of H.H.Pope Shenouda's dictums is "Look after the Children".

St. Anthony's
Open Day
11th May, 2002

Diocese of Ireland, Scotland, and N. England

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