

SERVICE OF SONG AT IVESTON.

On Wednesday evening the inhabitants of this

quaint little village were the recipients of a grand

treat in the Wesleyan Chapel in the shape of a

beautiful and instructive service of song, under the

direction of Mr. J. Cookham of Consett, who has

for some time past been acting as organist to the

Wesleyan Chapel, and the choir was composed of

a very able and experienced band of voices, and

the service was a very earnest prayer. The service

was commenced by the giving in brilliant

style the anthem "Jerusalem, my glorious home,"

after which Mr. Arthur Jackson, of Consett, read

the prayer in the service of song, which was both

amusing and instructive. There were two characters

in the service, who had been dubbed Rusty Joe and

Polished Sam by the villagers among whom they

lived. The former was a man who was klut,

stern, morose, and in his own estimation, very

honest living. He never had a kind word for any

one, and was, in fact, a very disagreeable man. On

the other hand Polished Sam would lift his hat to

the person and aspire, a kind word to all the

villagers, called his wife "pet," and his son

"daring," which constituted his "oldest-father."

Rusty Joe believed in main force, and used it in

every way that was possible, but it turned out that

he found himself gradually going back to the wall

instead of putting people down, and was just about

to be broken down in his when his good neighbor

Polished Sam came to his aid, and impressed upon

him to use a little more "oil" in the service of

giving his wife a kind word, he more genial and

able to follow the lead and make peace with

his neighbors. Rusty Joe did all his ways and used

the "oldest-father" to advantage, as he was

as much as his good friend and neighbor Polished

Sam in a very short time. In the course of the

service there were interludes of the kind of

songs and dances in both the characters, which

were highly amusing, but it always proved to

be a preference to non-sensical, as Rusty Joe

found out. The reading was executed in splendid

style by Mr. Jackson, and was just about to be

adapted for such work. At intervals the choir

gave selections adapted to the service. The

songs were the following: "We can make our

happy," "Always cheerful," "Love at home,"

"Don't complain," "Sister-kind words all around

you," "When we're nothing else to do," "There's

always a welcome for thee," and "Good night."

All these were given extremely well, and showed

that no pains had been spared to bring the choir

to a successful time. In the trio and chorus "Let

it pass," the Misses Stokes and Mr. M. Parker

gave general satisfaction, and Miss Stokes

sang the solo "Good temper." Miss Athey sang

the solo "Don't forget the old folks," which was

highly appreciated in the choir by the choir.

The solo "Say a kind word when you can," was

highly rendered by Miss Stokes, and those who

were present were much pleased with the

solo. Miss Collins also contributed in good style the

solo "Do good," although the piece of the evening

was a grand finale "Good night," by the choir,

which was executed with much enthusiasm and

skill. The harmonization of the piece was by

W. Wilson, who accompanied the performers very

credibly. Throughout the piece was a success,

and the articulation of the singers being really

able, which greatly added to the sense of the

service of song.

At the close the usual vote of thanks was

accorded to the performers and chairman, and

after the benediction had been pronounced, a very

enjoyable entertainment terminated.

A supper was held in the village schoolroom,

when about 100 persons partook of a daily-ordered

repast provided by Mrs. Stokes and Mr. Stokes,

and presided over by Misses S. Stokes, J. Stokes,

Athey, and Robinson.

The proceeds are to be devoted to the choir fund.

PERFORMANCE OF "HAROLD GYLDE" AT CONSETT.

On Tuesday evening the Consett and District

Choir Society gave a concert in the Wesleyan

School, Consett, to highly appreciative audience.

The performance consisted of the brilliant cantata

"Harold Gylde." The story is told in the

black verse, which is of a very high poetic order,

and which by Mr. E. J. Stokes, the author, has

been adapted to the music in the point of dramatic

drama. The whole being under the supervision of Mr. J.

Birch, of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, it will

be seen from the fact that the subject of the

concert on Tuesday was of the highest possible order,

and was a good test of the efficiency of any musical

society who would venture to bring it before the

audience. To say that our local musical society,

under the leadership of Mr. E. J. Stokes, has

itself with credit would be doing only justice to

the highly artistic manner in which the soloists,

as well as the singers in the various choruses, have

rendered the whole of the musical programme.

LOCAL COUNTY COURT BUSINESS.

A return just issued gives the business transacted

in each district in England and Wales during the

year ending on the 31st of March, 1883. The

Court in this court there were 1,421 judgments

entered for trial, representing the sum of £5,579.

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Local and General News.

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