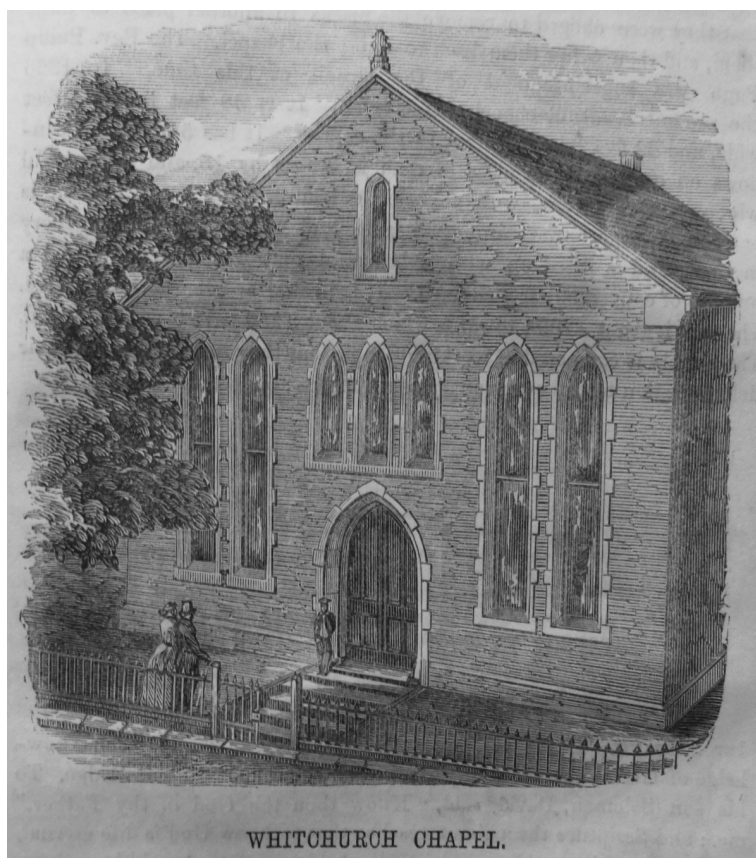


WHITCHURCH CHAPEL.

Transcription of Article published in the Christian Messenger

WHITCHURCH is a considerable market town, 189 miles by rail and 163 by road north-west from London, 16 South-west from Crewe, 12 North-west from Market Drayton, 11 East North-east from Ellesmere, 20 South South-west from Chester, and 18 and-a-half from Shrewsbury. It is situated on the old road from London to Chester. The population in 1861 was 11,275. It has two churches, and four large and beautiful chapels, belonging respectively to the Independents, the Baptists, the Wesleyans, and the Primitive Methodists. High church influence, with its ancient charities to distribute, has not prevented the spread of dissent.



About 40 years ago our people first missioned this town, and for thirteen years they had much opposition and little success. In 1840 the first chapel was built. Clay was excavated, and bricks made on the ground. But opposition run so high that they were obliged to remove the bricks to another place to burn them, and then bring them back to build the chapel. The Rev. Philip Pugh was superintendent of the circuit at this time. In 1866 the present beautiful chapel was erected. It is 48 feet long, 39 feet wide, and 22 feet from the floor to the ceiling. It has 5 beautiful windows on each side, the glass of each is 3 feet by 15, and 5 beautiful windows in the front, with a gothic entrance.

The front ground is enclosed by appropriate iron pallisades and gates. It has a gallery in front, and is fitted up with a beautiful platform and pews, and a number of convenient free sittings. It is heated by hot water apparatus. The cost is about £800; towards which about £230 have been subscribed. The society is composed of working people, but they have expressed their determination to use every appropriate means to lessen the debt.

H. LEECH.

References

Christian Messenger 1867/321

