

## *Connexional Intelligence: -*

BELTON, EPWORTH CIRCUIT. -CHAPEL OPENING, - Belton is two miles from Epworth, Lincolnshire and contains a population of about 2000 people, who reside in Belton, Church Town, Westgate, Turtary, Gray Green, Beacon Carr house and Woodhouse. These hamlets surround a large open field, in which a chapel was erected forty-seven years ago, and was designed to accommodate the whole population. In the year 1835 this chapel was enlarged, under the superintendence of the Rev. G Lamb, but for many years past it has been much too small for the congregation and the Sunday-school.

Various plans were devised to meet the necessities of the case, when, after much prayer and deliberation, it was resolved to erect a new chapel in Belton Westgate, for the requirements of that locality, the old chapel being still continued as a place of worship for Church Town and the hamlets adjoining, and having the same services appointed to be held in it as before.

A site of ground containing 366 square yards, in an excellent situation, having been purchased for the sum of £24, the foundation of the new edifice was laid on Good Friday, 1868, under favourable circumstances, and the building, complete in every part, was dedicated to the worship of God, October 11th and 12th, 18th, 19th, and 25th, and 26th 1868. The Rev. C. Temperton Oswestry, (who is a native of the place) W. Harland, Barton, P. Milton, Filey, R. Harrison, Hornsea, J. R. Parkinson and B. Fell, (Epworth,) G. F. Stephens (Crowle,) and Mr. W. Glow, (Headby,) taking a part in its various opening services. The attendance was good, numbers of people being unable to gain admission on the Sabbath evening of the opening.

The chapel is 42 feet in length by 33 feet 4 inches in width, and 16 feet 4 inches high from the floor to the ceiling. It is lighted by six circular headed windows, which open at the top, and a fan-light over each door, of opaque glass and coloured margins. The walls are fourteen inches in thickness, and the roof is covered with slate. The front is formed of red stock bricks, tuck pointed with white stock jambs, quoins and arches. The stone cornice in front contains the inscription, and is surmounted by the following verse, also engraved on stone, namely: -

*"When God makes up his last account  
of holy Children in his mount,  
T'will be an honour to appear  
As one new-born or nourished here"*

The chapel is thoroughly ventilated and has a good boarded floor, and contains in the elevation thirty-six pews, which have carved ends, wide seats and open, backs. The orchestra, or singers' pew, is conveniently placed, and contains accommodation for the harmonium and twelve singers or more. There are 160 sittings in pews, and 100 free seats making a total number of 260 sittings.

The entire costs of the chapel, site, lamps, stove, and incidentals amount to £320 12s 1d. By means of a bazaar, tea meetings, gratuitous labours, opening collections and donations, £211 16s. 3d., of this sum has been contributed (including £10 value of bazaar goods unsold,) leaving a debt of £100 16s. 8d. This debt is

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expected to be only temporary as all the sittings are let, and more wanted, the surplus income from this source alone being considerable. Special thanks are due to A. Parkin, Esq., solicitor, for the gift of title deed, stamps. &c., while the laudable efforts of many others are remembered with gratitude, their record being on high.

JAMES R PARKINSON

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