

Account taken from the Primitive Methodist magazine, July 1856 pp.444-445

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE of A NEW CHAPEL AT MALMESBURY, BRINKWORTH CIRCUIT.

On Friday, April 18th, the Primitive Methodists held the foundation service of the new chapel, now in course of erection in Westport. On that occasion the Rev. E. W. Telfer, Wesleyan minister of Chippenham, preached, on the site of the chapel's erection, to an immense concourse of hearers. The friends then marched in procession to the town-hall to tea, after which the Rev. E. W. Telfer delivered a very feeling lecture on "Revivals of Religion."

The Primitive Methodists are doing a great work in our town, and we rejoice that with a more commodious and convenient place of worship, their facilities for usefulness will be increased. It is less than two years since they visited our town, and although we may not, in all things, be able to pronounce their 'Shibboleth,' we have no wish to close our eyes to the fact, that a great many persons and families in this town and neighbourhood have, through their agency, during that time undergone a change equivalent to that described in Acts xxvi. 18.

No doubt but that, under God, their success in the conversion of sinners in this town is attributable to their earnestness and diligence, and to the fact, that as a body, the Primitive Methodists hold right views with respect to the temperance, and other great questions affecting man's social, moral, temporal, and eternal interests. Amid the drunkenness, licentiousness, and Sabbath desecration which surround us, the man must be destitute of a humane, not to say a Christian heart who does not see the propriety of sustaining and increasing the facilities for the usefulness of such an agency as that in use by the Primitive Methodists.

The Rev. G. Warner, the resident minister, who was in the chair at the town-hall, informed the audience that the subscription list was still open at his house in Westport, and we cannot help hoping that the Christian public will liberally assist them in the chapel's erection: of course the chapel is built by voluntary contributions, and we understand that T. Luce, Esq., M.P., C. R. Luce, Esq., R. C. Lloyd, Esq., Mr. E. Lyne, &c., are among its first contributors."—A Local Paper.