

GATLEY CHAPEL.

In consequence of the crowded state of Gatley preaching-room, and the improvement of our Sunday school, it was thought that we should have a chapel; and as the Lord had converted our three friends, the farmers, Messrs. T. Booth, B. Booth, and J. Ardern, we were well able to erect one. Their language was, "Where can we build a house for the Lord?" Early in November, 1841, efforts were made to answer the question, but in vain. Therefore, brother Booth determined to purchase a small freehold estate, in order that our design might not be longer frustrated. Having made the purchase, the ground was marked out, and on November 29th, 1841, the foundation stone of a chapel was laid, on occasion of which, a sermon was preached from Isaiah xxviii. 16, by brother George Kidd. The building was executed by Mr. Francis Beeston, builder, Stockport, one of our leaders, and a tried friend. It is a neat edifice, eight yards by twelve outside, is delightfully situated, and regularly settled on the Connexion, according to our deed form. It has a rising gallery in front of the pulpit, containing fifty-two sittings, forty-six of which are let; and the ground on which it stands, and belonging to it, containing two hundred and forty square yards, is taken on a chief rent, at three half-pence per yard per annum. At the south end of it is built a very neat vestry or class room, and on the west lies the spare land, which is a sufficient site for a school. In the front is a grass-plot, with evergreen and poplar trees, giving to the whole an appearance of fertility and beauty. The chapel is in easy circumstances, the whole cost of building and beautifying having been only two hundred and thirty pounds; towards which, above one hundred pounds were received by donations, collected principally by Mr. Timothy Booth, and Mr. James Ardern, in conjunction with the travelling preachers. Upwards of twenty-one pounds were raised by the opening services, on February 13th, 1842, when brother James Garner, from Manchester, preached in the morning and evening, and the Rev. J. Thornton, of Stockport, Independent minister, in the afternoon. The services were well attended, and we trust good was done. The remaining sum of one hundred pounds have been lent by one of the trustees, on a note; and, of this sum, the chapel is likely to pay off more than five pounds per annum. The trustees acknowledge the kindness of those friends who have generously assisted their undertaking.

In connexion with the chapel, we have one hundred children in our Sunday school, at whose first anniversary, held on July 3rd, upwards of twelve pounds were collected in aid of the school funds.

After a powerful revival of religion has moved a town or village, there is usually experienced the falling away of some who had been saved, accompanied by events highly injurious to the cause of Christ; but we are happy to say, that though twelve months have passed since the revival commenced at Gatley, there is not a decrease in the number of our members, nor in the fervour of their Christian love, and their zeal in the work of the Lord; but contrariwise, we improve, and have a prospect of continuing to do so.

It was predicted that Cheadle wakes and races, which took place in September, would terminate the religious career of some, especially of some whose former life had been notoriously wicked; but, blessed be God! the wakes and races have passed; yet we have escaped their destructive force, and are singing, "The Lord is in the midst of us." Glory be to God for ever. Amen. Yours affectionately,

JAMES PEET.