

SWANBOURNE 1897  
DIAMOND JUBILEE REJOICINGS.

This village held its Diamond Jubilee festivities on Thursday, in the most glorious weather, and with the utmost success. It is most gratifying to chronicle the fact that on this auspicious occasion, one and all joined right loyally and heartily in the rejoicings. Church and dissent were as one and politics were totally eschewed. And to those who are in any way cognizant of the feelings of the inhabitants - taken as a whole, - this binding together in one solid phalanx of strength and unity, in a link of friendship which will not soon be forgotten in the annals of the village of Swanbourne. Owing to the Lord of the Manor being in London on Jubilee day, it was unanimously decided to hold the festivities on Thursday, and the response to the appeal for funds was most satisfactory, the total being about .£23. To this Lord Cottesloe - according to his promise of equalling the village collection - added another £23, and his lordship also defrayed the expense of the band. It will thus be seen that the funds were ample for a right good holiday. The large flag was hoisted on the tower of the Parish Church, and at half past 8 a merry peal was rung upon the bells. The Buckingham Band (conductor Mr. Richards), paraded the village at 1 o'clock, and an hour afterwards headed the school children from the School to the Parish Church, where a short service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. Miles Myers, R.D, who spoke a few words from the pulpit. Basing his remarks upon the words "God Save the King " (II Kings, IIc, 12v.), he applied the text to our beloved Queen. Touching upon the excellence of her character all through her life, extending to nearly four score years, and the noble example set to her subjects, upon whom had been showered innumerable blessings during her sixty years' reign, and in conclusion he expressed the hope that Her Majesty may be strengthened and preserved through the coming rejoicings and for some years to come, and that the vast crowds which will assemble next Tuesday in the metropolis, may be preserved from any untoward event. Miss Myres presided at the harmonium. The opening hymn was the Old Hundredth, and at the close of the service the large congregation sang the National Anthem.

Retiring from the sacred edifice, the band led the company along the drive through the Park to the gardens of Swanbourne House. The procession was a lively and attractive one. The children waved their small flags with pride and joy, and the inhabitants followed with equal pleasure. By the kindness of Lord Cottesloe the gardens and grounds had been thrown open, and the treat was immensely enjoyed by the company, who with admiration inspected the rare contents of the most beautifully-kept gardens, which reflect the fullest praise upon the head-gardener, Mr. Geo. Ash. The company afterwards proceeded to the spacious Park, where, on the north-west, the sports were to be held. Here too, the monster marquee had been erected, and its interior was filled with attractiveness. The tables were laden with all the good things for a first class tea, including the richest of delicacies, and a large number of monstre joints of meat - the repast being in all reality what is termed a knife and fork tea. From half-past three the children were entertained with a number of sports, and an hour later, the whole company sat down to the tea.

The ladies presiding included - Miss Weight, Mrs. Hugh Colgrove, Mrs. Belgrove, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Harding, Miss Myres, Mrs. Ash, Mrs. Geo. Ash, Miss Boughton, Miss Phillips, Miss S. Phillips, Mrs. W. Kibble, Mrs. Pitkin, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Gurnett. Mrs. James Harding, Mrs. W. Phillips, Mrs. White, Mrs Brooks. Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Sheffield. Lord and Lady Cottesloe, and the Hon. Miss Fremantle - were present and during the repast his Lordship proposed the " Health of the Queen," which was responded to by a verse of the National Anthem, and loud cheering. The carvers were Lord Cottesloe, Messrs. Geo White, W. Goodman. C. Colgrove, R. Colgrove, E. Kibble, W. Holtham, W. Kibble, J. Cox, Geo. Ash, John Colgrove. After tea, the company retired to the open, and from the shade of the wide-spreading branches of the. trees, watched with extreme pleasure and interest

the sports, the programme of which contained two dozen events, as follows - 100 yards' race (ages 13 to 17) ; high jump (men) ; egg and spoon race (women) ; wheelbarrow race (men) ; obstacle race (women) ; lifting the weight (men) ; Jubilee race (women over 60) ; quarter-mile race (men over 17) ; three-legged race (2 heats, men) ; tug of war (women) ; 150 yards race (men over 17); obstacle race (boys) ; bicycle race (young men) ; long jump (men) ; stepping the chain (men over 30) ; potato race (women) ; obstacle race: (men) ; 50 yards' race (women) ; putting the weight (men) ; Jubilee Race (men over 60) ; hurdle race (men); pair race (women) ;" tug of war (men).

The band, too, played for dancing, and 'the' utmost enjoyment prevailed till 9-30, when " God save the Queen " was again played, and the company separated, highly delighted with the festivities which had been provided. The committee for carrying out the arrangements consisted of over 30, and was of the most representative character. Lord Cottesloe was Chairman, the Rev. W. M. Myres (Vice Chairman), Mr. Goodman (treasurer), and Mr. Geo. White (secretary). The Sports Committee were - The Hon Cecil Fremantle, and Messrs. W. Kibble, C. Colgrove, A. Fairman, J. Colgrove, Miss Weight, and Mrs. Geo. White. To the various Committees the utmost praise is due for the " ample arrangements made, and the highly satisfactory way in which they were carried out. We might add that to-morrow (Sunday) there will two Thanksgiving Services in the Parish Church, when the special hymns will be sung.