

## Golden Jubilee 1887

### Jubilee Festivities at Swanbourne.

This village has led the van in our neighbourhood in the Jubilee rejoicings. Many have been the happy joyous days spent in the parish; but never has a day's holiday been arranged and so thoroughly carried out as that of Thursday, by the full unanimity of the whole of the parishioners. From Lord Cottesloe -who, *en passant*, was amongst the throng the whole of the day, - to the humblest peasant there was heartiness in the day's proceedings. And these were of no mean or limited character; but the very reverse, as the brief account we are able to publish will show, and first to last they were carried out with the fullest satisfaction.

As early as half-past 5 o'clock the bells rang out their merry peal, and shortly afterwards the Union Jack was run up the tower from the top of which it floated in the breeze during the day. Hard work was then accomplished in the Park for the afternoon's enjoyment, and at 2 o'clock the Band of the Royal Bucks Yeomanry Cavalry, under the conductorship of Bandmaster Nelson, headed the school children from the school to the Parish Church. In the sacred edifice a large congregation had assembled, and the short service was heartily, entered into a most appropriate discourse was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. W. Miles Myres, from the words " Fear God and honour the King," 1<sup>st</sup> Peter, 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter 17<sup>th</sup> verse, taken from the Lesson. Special leaflets of Jubilee Hymns (with music) were used, and the hymns sung were "Lord of Heaven, earth, and ocean," "O King of Kings, Thy blessings shed, on one anointed Sovereign's head," "Arise, O Lord of Hosts," and concluding with a special National Anthem, by Thomas Turner. Miss Annie White most ably presided at the harmonium, and as an opening voluntary played " See the conquering hero comes," and as a recessional " God save the Queen." Retiring from the sacred edifice., Mr. George White and Mrs. White formed the scholars in processional order, and headed by the band they were marched to the north of Swanbourne House. The park presented an appearance fully testifying to the hard work which had been expended to ensure the day's success. To the left was a monster canvas building, capable of seating some 600 or 700 persons. It was built of large rick cloths, and had been most beautifully decorated. Over the head table was a large portrait of Her Majesty the Queen, and beneath the royal arms, and the inscription in large letters  
1837 - GOD SAVE THE QUEEN - 1887.

The sides of the tent had been wreathed in evergreens, and the towering centre pole had been wreathed in a most exquisite manner with evergreens and Canadian plumes, whilst on the tables were pots of choice flowering plants. Near to the tent was the band-stand, from which the excellent full band played some most charming music, both in selections and for dancing, a portion of the ground near having been mown for this purpose. To the south-west of the trees was the race-course dotted with small flags, whilst close to Mrs. Bolton and Mrs. White were busy with the little children engaged with the bran-pie.

The company present included The Right Hon Lord Cottesloe, Hon. Miss Louisa. Fremantle, Hon. T. F. Fremantle, Lady Augusta Fremantle, Miss Mary Fremantle, Rear-Admiral Hon. E. R. Fremantle, C.B.C.M.G., The Hon. C. W. Fremantle, C.B., T. F. Fremantle, Esq., and Messrs. Edlin White, John Goodman, John Holdom, W. Linnell, Edwin Kibble, C. Rogers, Hugh Colegrove, Francis Woodward, W. Neal, sen., J. M. Bowden, G. Belgrove, T. Belgrove.. &c.

Mr. T. F. Fremantle was busily engaged with the races for the juveniles, and the sports were taken considerable interest in, and the prizes were of a useful character. The events comprised - Race for girls, 1 Emily Gurnett, 2 Florence Turvey., 3 Lizzie Rowe; boys' race, 1 John Walters, 2 F. Turvey, 3 Cecil Phillips; girls' race, 1 Lousia. Pitkin, 2 Mabel Alderman 3 Ethel Roads; boys' race, 1 T. Gurnett, 2 Geo. Roads, 3 Joseph Small; boys' race, 1 A. Fairman, 2 Taylor, 3 Cecil Phillips ; girls' race, 1 Sophia Belgrove, 2 Louisa Pitkin; three-legged race (boys), 1 Small and Linnell, 2 Phillips and Taylor; egg-in-spoon race (girls), 1 Esther Gates, 2 Emily Alderman; girls' race, 1 Emily North, 2 Bessie Young, 3 Rose Alderman ; high jump (boys) 1 Small, 2 Linnell, 3 Taylor.

It was now about 5 o'clock, and the company were summoned by bell to the tent for tea. But it was more than what is generally known by the acceptation of the word tea and might properly be called a collation. Rounds of beef, legs of mutton, and other substantial joints gave the tables an attractive appearance. Lord Cottesloe presided and did service as carver, as did also his sons and the farmers at the twelve tables. The ladies who took trays included Miss Weight, Mrs. E. White, Miss Bowden, Miss Belgrove, Mrs. Rowe, Mrs. Jas. Gurnett, Mrs. G. W. Belgrove, Miss Phillips, Mrs. Sarah North, Mrs. Jordan, Mrs. John Phillips, Mrs. B. Sheffield, Mrs. Keen, Mrs. Kibble, Mrs. Holtham, Mrs. H Colgrove, Mrs. J. Colgrove, Mrs. W. Bates, Mrs. W. Turvey, Mrs. Geo. Phillips, Mrs. A. Hurst, Mrs. J. Harding, Mrs. Geo. White, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. J. Holdom, Mrs. J. Morris, Mrs. W. Taylor, Mrs. A. Ellis, Mrs A. Alderman, Mrs. J. Ash, Mrs. Bolden, Mrs. E. Rust. Previous to the repast, Jubilee medals were distributed, and from leaflets, the National Anthem was sung. Grace having then been offered by the Vicar the repast was entered into and most thoroughly enjoyed, and thanks having been sung, Lord Cottesloe rose amidst applause to give the toast of "Her Majesty the Queen." He alluded to the duties her Majesty had to perform, as no act of Parliament could come into force without receiving the royal consent, and if they did not go into the details of those measures they could judge of them by the happy results which they experienced. He believed there never was a time since her Majesty came to the throne now 50 years back, in which there had been such uniform happiness and contentment, and advancement and good of the country as there had been during Her Majesty's reign (applause). They ought to be thankful to Almighty God for all this. As to her personal qualities, he did not think he need say much, because those who attended Church heard the minister speak of her character, which had been marked by prudence, respect to the law and the upholding of religion. During her reign she had been called upon to bear misfortunes, the same as her subjects. He said it was most gratifying to him as one of the oldest, if not the oldest inhabitant in the parish to see the whole of the parishioners all of one mind in celebrating in the way they were doing the Jubilee (cheers.) He thought he had never seen such unanimity shewn in the parish before as was manifest in the parish that day (applause). It appeared that everybody had turned out with the determination to do honour to the Queen (applause). He then gave the toast, saying the Queen was worthy three cheers. Let them drink it with long life and best wishes for her happiness (cheers). The Honble. T. F. Fremantle then rose to give the toast of "The Prince of Wales and the rest of the .....

W. Freemantle, C.B. then proposed the toast of " The Committee," and in doing so he said he was reminded of a monument in St. Paul's, to Christopher Wren, who built it, which says " If you want a monument look around," (cheers). And really if they wanted testimony of what the

committee had done they had only to look around, and see the well planned arrangements, and the capital way in which they were carried out (cheers). With the toast he had to couple the name of the Vicar. They all knew that Mr. Myres enjoyed the respect and affection of everybody, and that no one in the parish or out of it could have performed the duties of chairman of the committee better than he had done. The Rev. W. Miles Myres in reply said it had been a very pleasant duty, which the committee had performed. It was true that the labours of the committee had not been small, and he did not believe they could have been carried to the successful issue they had achieved, if it had not been for the good feeling not only existing with the committee, but also in the whole parish (cheers). He was glad to think there was not a family unrepresented there, though of course there were those who could not come, and in these cases they would not be forgotten by the committee (cheers). He asked them in conclusion not to forget their gracious Majesty in their prayers, and not only say it with the voice, but from the heart " God save the Queen," (cheers). Rear Admiral Hon. E. R. Fremantle, C.B.C.M.G., then rose to give the toast of " The Ladies," and passed a high compliment to them for the great exertions they had put forth, and which had contributed so largely to the day's success. With the toast he coupled the names of Miss Weight, Mrs. Linnell, Mrs. Geo. White and Mrs. Taylor, and he had further to add the name of Miss Cole; who had been instrumental in collecting the offerings for the Women's Jubilee (cheers). To these he was informed will be presented a portrait of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen (cheers). - T. F. Fremantle, Esq., returned thanks for the ladies, and added that Swanbourne had contributed more to the Women's Jubilee Offering in proportion than he believed any other village in the county (cheers). - Mr. Edlin White proposed " The Health of Lord Cottesloe whom he hoped might be spared to live in Swanbourne a few more years, and attend several more meetings (cheers, which were repeated for the ladies and the family).- Lord Cottesloe in response said he felt gratified at the way in which the compliment had been proposed and received (cheers). As to the day's holiday, he had had little to do with it, only giving a word of advice when asked (cheers). He was satisfied to think they were a united people, as Swanbourne that day declared itself to be (cheers). -the company then retired.

The weather was lovely, and the entire scene was very pleasing. Old and young all were bent on pleasure, and it was manifest on all hand, Mr. T. F. Fremantle was again busy with the sports, with a card containing no less than 24 events ; but it was found impossible to get them all of. They included - Hurdle race, 1, William Johnson, 2, W. Linnell; girls' race, 1, Emily North, 2, Ruth Sheffield, 3, Bessie Young; throwing the ½ cwt weight. 1. Henry Ash 26ft 10ins, 2 T. Ash 26ft 9ins, 3. W. Linnell 24ft 3ins ; wheelbarrow race, 1 T. Ash, 2 Mark Alderman, 3 Albert Harding ; women's race, 1 Mrs. Campbell, 2 Mrs. Currell ; Jubilee race for men over 50, 1 W. Taylor, 2 J. Turvey ; Jubilee race, 1 Rear-Admiral Hon. E. R. Fremantle, 2 Hon. C. W. Fremantle ; women's race over 50, 1 Mrs. W Turvey, 2 Mrs. Lee; obstacle race for men, 1 Mark Alderman, 2 George North, 3 Geo. Elmer; obstacle race for girls, 1 Miss Dauncey, 2 Miss A. White ; long jump, 1 W. Morris, 14ft. 4in., 2 C. Anstee, 14ft. 1in., 3 J Turvey, 13ft. 7in.

The band played for dancing on the lawn, and in the tent refreshments were supplied. The tea was confined to the parish, but after the repast many persons flocked into the Park from Winslow and the villages. Shortly after 9 o'clock the band played the National Anthem; but this did not close the Programme for now a brilliant display of fireworks was given by Mr. Brock, of the Crystal Palace, which included several set pieces, and the display was loudly cheered and it concluded with the set piece " V. R." This was fulfilled the wish expressed by the late Hon. T. F. Fremantle at the club festival, that Swanbourne should set an example to the neighbourhood in its Jubilee rejoicings. From first to last all was success and happiness.

