S.W. Islington

District 15.

Nonconformist

XXXV.

B204

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District 15
Book 35

S.W. Islington

COLL U B 204

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List of Chapels (Non-conformist)

Denomination	Address of Chapel	Accommodation	Name of Minister, etc.,	Address
Congregational	"Holloway" Cong.l Ch. Corner of Camden Rd + Caled.n Rd	470	Sime. Rev. A.H. Moncur	95 Carleton Road. Tufnell Park.
" "	Arundel Sq. Cong.l. Westbourne Rd	1000	Jameson. Rev. John.	1 Thelgund Road, Highbury. N.
" "	Caledonian Road.		Batcock. Rev. W.	67 Hartham Rd Camden Road.
" "	Offord Road		Stockwin Rev. A.W.	Rosamond Villa, Southgate Rd. Wood green N
" "				

S. W. Islington. District 15

Salvation Army Islington Corps.				Adjutant Taylor	34 Park St, Upper Street N.

Revd. A.H. Moncur Sime

Holloway Congregational Chapel.

GAB 10/11/87.

The Congregation

St. Luke's parish.

CA (2)

2

Revd A.H. Moncur Sime 95 Carleton Road Tufnell Park. N.

Minister of Holloway Congregational Church. Camden Road.

Mr Sime is a young man; ~~with~~ clean shaven, intellectual face. Evidently with plenty of go in him. He succeeded the late ~~David~~ Mark Wilks and has been settled here two years although acquainted with the district for some years previously.

His predecessor, Mr Wilks appeared to have devoted much of his time to the ~~to~~ London School Board work – he was chairman of the School Management Committee – and to have neglected the organisations connected with the church, nor was he anxious to increase the membership, ~~a~~ although a very popular preacher. Consequently when Mr S. came he found the church in an unorganised condition.

The congregation is upper middle class mainly: they have no shopkeepers, no mechanics, mostly business men, nor do they get many servants. The congregation is not a local one – comparatively few from the immediate neighbourhood – they come from Upper Holloway, Crouch End,

Two distinct Congregations

Persons Employed

Buildings Employed

Services Held

End, Highgate etc. He does not know any other church, where the congregation is largely drawn from a distance, except it be South Place. The personal popularity of Mr Wilkes is the explanation he gives for this peculiarity. He drew people from a distance, whilst the exodus outward of the population has accentuated the proportion of the outside element, the people retaining their connection with the church. Practically have two distinct congregations the morning being the better socially, whilst the evening, which is growing, is becoming more local. Once a day attendance due to distance at which people live.

Minister paid, Visitor partially. Four deacons & a consulting committee (3). 19 Sunday school teachers and some other workers.

The church (seats 470) and a small school room. Also Sunday school in Warlters Road.

Sunday Services 11 am. and 6.30 PM. About 300 in the morning but not so good at night - 150 to 200. Increasing by gaining people in the neighbourhood.

Sunday School

Holloway Social Union,

IN CONNECTION WITH

Holloway Congregational Church.

President—
REV. A. H. MONCUR SIME.

Treasurer
W. WOOD, ESQ.

Committee—

MR. F. D. ALLEN,
" W. B. BUTLER,
" R. CHISHOLM,
" GODFREY HALL,
MR. JOHN HOCKEN,
" FRANK KEEN,
" W. ROWLEY,
" P. W. SYMONS.

Hon. Secs.—
MR. FRANK HOW,
"Oakville," Holly Park, Crouch Hill, N.

MR. FRANK R. WRIGHT,
"Dunimarle," Sunnyside-road, Hornsey Lane, N.

THE MEETINGS ARE HELD ON WEDNESDAYS EVENINGS IN
WARLTERS ROAD LECTURE HALL,
CAMDEN ROAD, HOLLOWAY.

Printed at the "Hornsey Journal" Office, Crouch Hill, N.

Sunday school ~~commencing~~ 3 to 4 pm. Scholars on Books ~~107~~ 150
Average afternoon attendance 107 scholars and 15 teachers.
Children's service 10.30 to 11.30. Average 30.
Extracts from Year Book describe methods & other agencies

The Teachers seek to carry on the School in such a way as to develop in the children a truly religious life, and to train them for future association with others in Christian work, wherever they may be placed.

Endeavours are made to keep up an intelligent and loving interest in the School throughout the year by means of—

1.—Earnest and faithful class teaching, directed to the shaping of a kindly, dutiful, and cultured life.

2.—A Bible Class for Young Women at 3 o'clock on Sunday (Miss Matthewman).

3.—A Dorcas Society (Miss Fowler).

4.—A Gymnastic Club for Girls (Miss Elmore and Mr. Jollyman).

5.—A circulating library of 500 volumes.

6.—An annual Old Scholars' meeting.

7.—A Summer Excursion into the Country.

8.—A flower service in July, the flowers and plants being afterwards given to the North London Nursing Association and the Great Northern Hospital.

9.—Prizes for the best plants grown at home by the children, from seed or cuttings distributed to them at the School.

10.—A Christmas entertainment for elder scholars.

11.—A Christmas Tree for infants.

It will be seen that, in carrying out Sunday-school work on such lines as these—with the object of developing character rather than of relying entirely upon the sort of influence which results from teaching of a strictly doctrinal tone—much special labour is involved, and this has been cheerfully given by several untiring workers. It must, however, be said that much more could be done if a few additional friends, with some capacity for teaching and for securing the affections of young people, would come forward and so enable the school to be worked up to much larger numbers.

The children come from the neighbourhood. Working people but not poor. Children well kept and bright.

Wednesday Service. but in the winter months it is supplanted by the Holloway Social Union. Mainly lectures – see programme attached. Attendance average 80 but varies according to subject etc. Does not bring the people to the service: not one so far as he knows.

Sunday School

SYLLABUS
OF
LECTURES AND ENTERTAINMENTS.
SESSION—OCTOBER to DECEMBER, 1897.

Oct. 6 **Concert, by the ÆOLIAN QUARTETTE.**
Elocutionary Recitals by MR. HENRY GREY.

" 13 **"Turkey and the Eastern Question"** (illustrated by lantern views).
J. P. EDWARDS, Esq.
(Social and Political Educational League).

" 20—**"Walt Whitman."**
Rev. A. H. MONCUR SIME.

" 27—**"Felix Mendelssohn as I remember him."**
FELIX MOSCHELES, Esq.
(Social and Political Educational League).

Nov. 3—**"Dr. Johnson and his Friends."**
Rev. BERNARD J. SNELL, M.A., B.Sc.

* " 10—**Soiree:** Juvenile Entertainment.

" 17—**"Russia"** (Illustrated by lantern views).
THOS. LOUGH, Esq., M.P.

" 24—**Amateur Shakespearian Recitals.**

Dec. 1—**"Richard Jefferies."**
HARRY LOWERISON
(Fabian Society).

" 8—**MSS Lecture by the late MARK WILKS.**

* " 15—**Christmas Entertainments:** Tableaux Vivants, &c.

* These meetings will commence at 7.30; the lectures at 8.

Sunday school 3 to 4 pm. ~~commencing~~ Scholars on Books ~~107~~ 150
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Mothers' Meeting

Provident Clubs

Large Mothers Meeting on Monday 2.30 to 4 – at Wallters Road.
Have about 130 on the books and about 75 attending each week. [Concerning this meeting, Mr Lane asked his wife to come & speak. She is a bright well educated woman – quite young almost girlish in appearence.]

The meeting has been managed by a lady (aunt of Mrs) for 20 years and she evidently gives away a good deal amongst them that does not appear in the Church accounts. The women, mostly come from the poorer streets on the east side of Holloway Road. Hornsey Rd &c. but some come Eden Grove, others Liverpool Rd. & as far as Kings Cross (Pentonville Rd &c.) on the one hand and Finsbury Park Station on the other – One brings another. They do not come to the Church – this meeting is their church. Respectable poor – not the 'white aproned' women. Some 'very good women'. Some very old. Have mothers and their daughters grown up & with children of their own. Some cannot read or write that is of those over 40 years old. All younger women can.

Have a Clothing & Housekeeping club, Bank, Library Excursion fund & a maternity society in connection. The women get 1d in ½ bonus in the club and can only

Provident Clubs etc (cont^d)

Payment made by women

Mothers' Library

Visitation

only draw their money once a quarter. I saw the book which showed that the women were not extremely poor. The lowest payment entered was 3^d but 6^d and a 1/ was more often paid & this for consecutive weeks. One woman paid 2/6 a week regularly with one exception when she dropped to 1/. ~~Thus~~ As a rule the money was spent on children's clothing, dress materials or household linen.

The Library consists of good stories and a few lives of various people & some childrens books. The stories are best read, indeed 'lives' are at a discount – Miss S. will give one to a woman when she asks for a book that her husband can read.

In 1896 the amounts received from the mothers were:

					Repaid or cost
Savings bank	£	30.	0.	11	32. 0. 8
Coal Club		28.	3.	2	32. 6. 2
Clothing Club.		29.	11.	5	27. 7. 7
Maternity Fund		4.	18.	11	8. 2. 5
Excursion "		18.	6.	9	29. 3. 3
	£	111	1.	2	£129. 0. 1

Confines his visitation to "my own people" unless called specially. The visitors appear to visit in connection with the Mothers' Meetings. Deacons do not visit.

Charitable Relief

Nursing

THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Funds of the Society are available for the sick poor of the neighbourhood, and are also used for cases of distress in connection with the Mothers' Meeting; but a large portion of the money is applied to the relief of cases which have been visited by the nurses of the Nursing Institution. These are reported to our almoner, who visits each case and relieves it by gifts of food or clothing.

Gave in meat & Bread tickets £1.10 Cash 10/. Total £12. – in 1896.

CHURCH DORCAS SOCIETY.

This Institution is designed to provide poor married women with a box of linen during the period of their confinement, and to supply the industrious poor of Holloway with materials for clothing at half the cost price. Every annual subscriber of one guinea to this Society is entitled to eight tickets, subscribers of half-a-guinea to four tickets, and subscribers of six shillings to two tickets, each ticket being the value of two shillings and threepence. Any woman receiving one of these tickets is expected to add to it two shillings and threepence of her own money, and this entitles her, at the sales, to purchase goods to the amount of four shillings and sixpence.

No woman is allowed to receive more than two tickets for each sale.

These sales are held twice a year—on the second Wednesdays in May and November.

Ladies working meeting on first Thursday in Month

This society expended £26 in 1896. One rule states that no woman shall be relieved with her first child.

Christmas Gifts for the poor connected with the Church or Mothers' Meeting and resident in the neighbourhood, are provided by a collection – £23.3 in 1896. Given in money and coals.

Communion Fund is used in connection with Benevolent Soc.

The Church takes a great interest in the 'North London Nursing Ass.n for the Sick Poor.' 413 Holloway Rd. Contribute one-eighth of its income – the amount in 1896 was £92.12. vide Yearbook. Thinks it was started by Mr Wilks. Any cases they would send to the Association.

Make collection for Holloway Dispensary. Gave £164 in 1896. Will send name of person to see.

No co-operation.

The C.O.S.

The Free Church Council

No co-operation. Mr Sune was on committee of C.O.S. but has given it up. Reason – could not attend regularly. Thinks the machinery is too slow, too laborous. More power should be deputed to the secretary, if trustworthy. Finds it of considerable service in arranging for the disposal of children or providing for girls, who have gone wrong. In these cases and other cases where there is plenty of time to deal with them the C.O.S is efficent.

Does not belong to the Free Church Council. The Churches (Anglican) are in a "great fizz" about it. Think it is unfair of the free churches to canvass their parishioners. This was the opinion of the vicar of St. George's, who is a friend of Mr. S. He does not agree with the F. C. Council, thinking it rather antagonistic to the Congregational ideal. e.g. it "brings ~~in~~ outside ~~interference.~~ F authority into the church". [The Council specially says that it does not interfere with the Churches in their work. See interviews with Harwood & Jones.]. Also said they were not in the Congregational Union and ~~for~~ that a similar reason would apply~~ing~~. Looking at the Congregation Year Book however I find the chapel entered in the London Union list & Mr Sis name given as the minister.

Other Religious Influences

Drink

Prostitution

Crime

Rev R. Bloomer (Emmanuel Church, Hornsey Rd) is a most unsatisfactory man. About the worst. Gives to everybody and has a hoard of beggars about him.
Rev Glover (St Lukes) Don't hear anything of their work.
Think the Wesleyans (Caledonian Rd) (Greenes) do more among the working class people than anybody else.

Drink - 'Well; there is an immense amount of drink but personally I do not see much drunkenness. Coming from Scotland he noticed that although early on Saturday afternoon the pubs/houses are crowded with men, you do not see so many men staggering about as in a Scotch town - not what you would expect from the crowd in the bars.

A considerable amount in the late hours of the evening, especial in Parkhurst Rd, between the Prison and the Nags Head; Not 'dressed' women - working girls & elderly women.
Campbell Rd - very bad. Seven years ago was working men. Attributes change to landlords and bad houses.

Marriages

Thrift

Tufnell Park District healthy

Church Membership

Marriages – only our own people. Then all are provided for.

Not much thrift. Afraid most are living up to their incomes.

Very healthy district. My doctor, who takes a special interest in these matters, say that this district is one of the most healthy districts in London. i.e. Tufnell Park & the district round to Beacon Hill.

Have about 150 members on the roll. Growing now. Mr S. has admitted 30 members since he came.

Conversation passed to more general topics concerning the district. Mr S. has noticed a tremendous difference in the Seven Sisters Road. The buildings have been improved & ~~with~~ this improvement has been accompanied by an enormous increase in the traffic. On Sundays the traffic is very great – buses etc. Also, many pedestrians ~~traffic~~ and this applies to Holloway Road especially. Large number of young men paradeing the Roads in groups – not

with girls. A quiet and orderly throng as a rule. This goes on all church time as well as at the intervals of worship

Mr Lime is evidently a ~~the~~ very broad minded man and one taking an interest in all social questions altho' he looks to spiritual education as the means of improving the people. His object is this spiritual education – ~~when~~ the training of the intellect only reaching one part of the man. The following paragraph from the year book shows the broad lines upon which the Church is organised:

> The Lord's Supper is administered on the first Sunday in every month at the close of the morning service. Although membership of the Church is, for many reasons, recommended to habitual worshippers, it is not a condition of attendance at the Lord's Supper, *invitation thereto being freely given to all who are disposed to join in it.* The qualifications for membership are simply the profession of a share in the spirit and purpose of Christ, and such evidence of the same as is afforded by willingness to take some part in Christian work.

Character of population

St. Clements parish.

15/8

12

(2)

Interview with the Rev John Jameson Arundel Square Congregationalist Chapel - Westbourne Dr. at 7 Malgund Road.

12 Nov 1897

Mr Jameson has been Pastor of this Chapel for 5 years having come from East Ind mission work at which he was engaged 7 years in St Georges. The Arundel Square Chapel has gone down. The congregation dwindled to almost none in the morning & averaged 100 in the evening. This was caused by the moving away of the richer class from whom it was drawn. Mr Jameson has got together an almost entirely new congregation. He is himself a man of the lower middle class. fair & rather rough - a strong liberal or perhaps radical with democratic ideas throughout. His parlour was decorated with a large portrait of Mr Gladstone denoting his politics & a large card announcing ~~that~~ allegiance to Christ & recognising that he was the unseen guest at every meal & the silent witness of every conversation - denoting his religion. No doubt a genuine and earnest Christian man. His age might be 40 more or less.

There are no rich - there are small shopkeepers & some well to do artisans, but the bulk of the population are ordinary wage earners

Portion touched

Persons employed

Buildings used

Services

Social agencies

warehousemen, porters, labourers &c finding their work in the city. – where the ~~[illegible]~~ young women go to the large shops &c.

This congregation is a fair sample & is so organized as to touch more or less the whole population by visiting & distributing the monthly magazine.

No one is paid except Mr Jameson (& £12 a year to the Organist)

There are 50 district visitors. all drawn from the people themselves & amongst them they call at 3000 houses every month to deliver the magazine & go in where they may be welcomed. They are generally kindly received everywhere – Even the Church people like the Magazine. If not wanted they don't call. ~~&~~

There are also the Sunday School teachers.

Church accommodates 1200. with large school rooms under & a Chapel House used for various purposes

On Sunday 11 & 7. 3/400 morning 700 ~~[illegible]~~ evening. Afternoon adult Bible class – Monday Evening Prayer Meeting. Wednesday Evening Service 60 or 70 attendance each time

Mothers meeting 55 to 60. Band of Hope 300. – Guild (in 4 sections) meeting for one or other purpose each week (1) Christian Workers who do the visiting & organize open air services in Summer. (2) Temperance assisting with Band of Hope. (3) Literary section. papers & discussions (4) Social section. County rambles social evenings &c Cricket football & Swimming Clubs – occasional lectures in the church

Educational work.

Visiting.

nursing.

Charitable relief & finance

There is also a Saturday popular Evening with music & an address (from Mr Jameson.) on topics of the day - last Saturday he spoke on the School-board Election - progressive side. 500/600 attend

The Sunday school has 700 on the books & about 450 average attendance - the children (except infants) attend the morning service in the church.

As has been said, the visiting is systematic & is useful in keeping the congregation up. Mr Jameson meets the visitors regularly & they report to him - This work seems to be the basis. He claims that they have drawn the congregation from those who went no where - recognised no denomination. They did not attempt or desire to draw from other bodies. They have no nurse but wish they could afford it, as it is much wanted.

Attend well to them on Sun - not much outside of this - Their means are restricted - they get all from their own people who give very generously according to their means - but the entire income is only £500 a year - They have had repairs to do & a debt on the Chapel House of £600 which remained when he came has been reduced to £250. by special efforts

Pew rents are voluntary - & there is a collection after last service

Other religious influences

Co-operation.

Local Gov.t

Non conformists not strong. Church of England active on all sides & grasping. Told a story of a woman of their congregation after whom they were looking who was visited by the Church curate & offered 3 weeks at the Sea side which she badly needed & accepted although a condition was made that she should come to church & transfer her little boy to the Church Sunday school. & 2 more stories of the same kind. Mr Jameson characterises these as "sad".

On occasion they may co-operate as with the Jubilee dinner but usually they go their own way amongst their own people. He respects & can work with the C.O.S though glad to keep clear of them. as he thinks their ways hard.

Amongst the new blood on vestries &c are some ~~[illegible]~~ men who lose their heads & talk nonsense. He encourages his congregation to take an interest in local gov.t.

The Police might do more. Mr Jameson is a very strong teetotaler & looks upon drink sellers as the common enemy. He thinks the police side with the publicans.

Prostitution is not flagrant. nor is there much crime. Marriage relations are satisfactory. not unduly early so far as he sees. Most of his people are fairly sober & thrifty. belong generally to a friendly society. ~~[illegible]~~ Bank &c. The church has a savings bank & have taken as much as £600 in a year. also Christian Club & Summer excursion club

Houses occupied by one family now have 2 or 3 families & there is a good deal of crowding. Sanitary authorities are active

As with the other Congregationalists one feels that the Church is a vivifying influence. Enlarging the lives of its members & binding them together in the acknowledgment of common religious motives. Mr Jamesons church is an example of "democratic" religion. It is run "by the people for the people" in the name of Christ.

See visit to Church. pp. 40.

All Saints' Parish.

15/2 (2) 17

Interview with the Rev G. H. Turner & Mr Turner at 513 Caledonian Road. Kings Cross Mission to the Masses Charlotte St. Caledonian Rd.
17 Nov 1897.

The Chapel in Charlotte St belongs to the Free Methodist body & was built 50 years ago when there were fields all round. It drew an increasing congregation of prosperous people who lived in good sub-urban houses round about, & as these people left the neighbourhood in recent years the congregation fell off to almost nothing.

Mr Turner was Superintendent of the Circuit & came to the Chapel occasionally & finally, asking himself what Jesus Christ would have done, he gave up his position as Superintendent & devoted his whole energies to the work of missioning at this Chapel for which he sought a new congregation by new methods. It was only gradually that the people understood that the building was "under entirely new management" & that it was to be for them generally & not for a particular section of them.

Amongst his own body & amongst what remained of the old congregation Mr Turner's methods seem to have been distrusted by some & violently by others. This was 8 or 9 years ago.

He was determined to find the way to fill the church or

week days as well as Sundays. Hitherto it had been shut from Sunday to Sunday. He opened it every Evening for some purpose & trying various things found good Concerts the most successful. Thursday night Concerts are an Established institution & draw full houses 1d & 2d being paid - but the poorest coming in free. The Concerts have to be good & the Performers are paid. the entrance money pays part - a collection part & part has to be made up. The Concert is secular, but is opened with Prayer & in the interval Mr Turner gives a short address. Saturday has been devoted to lectures illustrated with lime light - & in the interval Coffee & Cake are supplied for 1d (½ Coffee & ½ Cake) this is supplied by the care taker who does not lose on it. It was instituted to prevent the men going to the P.H opposite in the interval & has been successful - Monday afternoon is used for Mothers meeting & the Evening for Penny bank & Benefit Society. Tuesday Band of Hope. Wednesday Y/my Mens Guild & Christian Endeavour - the Evening when his workers meet. Friday is Choir Practice - & other things are sandwiched in - making an evidently busy week. Mr Turner takes Charge of the Mothers meeting and of much of the Charity giving of which there is a good deal

The building was enlarged - £2000 being spent & the effort to raise this on top of other work broke Mr Turners health - so that

Character of population.

Persons Employed

for 2 years he was more or less away & has only just settled down - finding things falling away more or less

Mr Turner is a tall long visaged & long bearded man of voluble speech & enthusiastic temperament - he may be 50 - his wife a gentle sweet faced grey haired lady, with gold spectacles, all kindness.

They spoke of the great poverty & make much out in their appeals for money as they no whit less than that of the East End - Even greater perhaps in degree if less in amount. When they began they tried to visit every house & long room & still maintain regular visiting which they combine with the distribution of cheap literature & a lavish giving away of 1d. tickets which stand good for a penny worth of the food & other things supplied at the Mission depôt - which is a shop taken by Mr Turner for this purpose & run by Mrs Turner. I gather that a penny worth is given for a penny, & not more - but the tickets are given very freely to almost any one who asks. Mr Turner does not think they are sold. By this means he largely avoids giving money. By these various means a large portion of the population are touched & the Church is filled.

No one is paid except Mr Turner. he gets a good deal of voluntary help for visiting & Sunday schools & altogether has a live congregation which has not much to do with the Methodist Connexion

Buildings & Services

Social agencies

There is a large school under the church & some other rooms. The church seats about 800 & the Sunday school can take about 600. There are 3 services on Sunday to which about half a congregation ~~300/400~~ come in the morning (11 am.) & a full congregation at night (6.30) – the afternoon used to be full also when more of a lecture was given but in Mr Turners absence this has fallen off & special services for men have not succeeded.
The Social agencies have been already mentioned: they seem to fill the building twice a week & something is going on always.

I did not pursue the form they better pleased to let Mr & Mrs Turner talk of their work & experiences. The key note throughout is sympathy with the people. What they do must certainly brighten the lives of the poor, though it tends somewhat to perpetuate poverty. Mr Turner declares that he makes no special efforts to bring the people to his or any other churches. At any rate he is satisfied if they go to some other church than his. He thought the churches have themselves to thank for the distrust of the mass of the people who thought the churches were not for them. & Mr Turner said you have to go to the people they will not come to you, & spoke of this as regards distress & relief as well as of religion

See visit to Church pp. 39.

Mr. Presland, New Jerusalem Church.

Ideas & Experiences

Aim of the Church.

St Luke's parish. 15 Nov. 18 – 1.01. 21

Rev. W. Presland, New Jerusalem Church, Camden Rd. Swedenborgian.

Rev. P. has the calmly intellectual looks & manner wh. might be expected in a minister of this sect, but he has only recently come from Manchester, & having been imbued to some extent with the "go" of a Northern training finds things somewhat cold & slow here. In Manchester he was brought into contact with all sections of the community, & did an amount of propaganda work; here the ambition has rather been to confine efforts of minister to their own middle-class congregation; but he hopes to alter this in a measure. He has already started lectures on Thursdays in explanation of their tenets, & has inquiry classes. Gets lots of a fair number of people who are dissatisfied with the teaching of the ordinary sects. His own opinion is that a well-to-do congregation like that at Camden Rd. shd. have a mission in a poorer locality.

He regards it as the special work of

Population reached.

Persons employed.

Buildings

Services & Attendance

the N. J. Church to maintain the fabric of divine truth in the world; to combat agnosticism & infidelity by a confirmation of things distinctly spiritual & supernatural.

It does not get into touch with the people in the neighbourhood of the church (all upper middle class), outside its own congregation, about half of whom come fm. within a mile radius; the rest fm. various parts of N. & N.W. London.

The minister, & a number of voluntary helpers.

Church, holds 300; schools, 200; lecture hall. Enrolled membership, 136.

Sunday morning, 160; evening, 140. Mainly middle class; a few of better & more intelligent sort of working people.

Weeknight occasional lectures & regular

Social Agencies.

Visiting.

class meetings.

Sunday school – 40 or 50 children, belonging entirely to members of congregation. Camden Rd. Church is peculiar in this respect, owing largely to the character of the locality. In poorer districts, these Sunday schools are filled mainly by children who are not connected with the congregation – sent to be taken care of while the parents have a nap.

Social gatherings amongst own congregation. occasional concerts & dances got up by the young people, who are given free scope in this matter, it being desired to make the church in every way attractive to them. At present these affairs are almost entirely congregational, but he hopes to extend such operations in several ways.

Visiting entirely confined to own people. District visitors appointed for this. A good deal of literature distributed

Charity.

Relations with other Churches

Looks after our old people. Have a benevolent fund. Would not allow any deserving member of the congregation to go to the parish.

Not in touch with any other church. Find it very difficult to be, for they are regarded by many people of other religious sects as something worse than infidels. In the North he was refused admission to a Nonconformist ministers association, & here he has been studiously ignored in the formation of the Free Church Council. Unitarians treated in same way. Yet he avers they are as strictly a religious body, & adhere as closely to the teachings of the gospel, as any of them.

Mr Edwd C. Cuthbert

Mission Unsectarian

St Silas' parish.

15/4 CD (2) 25

Mr Edwd C. Cuthbert. Supt of the Sermon Lane Mission.
Seen at 54 Liverpool Road – the offices of the Mission.

Sermon Lane Mission is in Pentonville, being on the south side of the Lane, the Islington boundary passing down the centre of the roadway.

Mr Cuthbert has been here since Feb 1896, coming from a Mission at Harrow. He is a wiry young man of 30 or so. Speaks fluently & confidently and has evidently plenty of ~~energy~~ energy.

The Mission is entirely unsectarian & receives help from St Augustines, Harcourt Congl. & other places. Mr C. laid special emphasis on this. Said that some people had dubbed them Congregationalists because they used a Congregational hymnbook in the Sunday School. It was discontinued & ~~Songs of Love & Mercy~~ "Golden Bells", the Children's Mission hymnbook adopted in its stead. Following is from 1896 Report:

> From the first, one distinctive feature of the work was the hearty co-operation of all sections of the Church of Christ; the minor distinctions of sect were forgotten in the earnest desire to do good, and this feature of the Sermon Lane platform, we are happy to record, is still a prominent characteristic of its work, and we trust may long continue.

In conclusion the Committee have to express their gratitude for the help rendered by St. Augustine's Church, Highbury, through Miss Pound and her friends; to Islington Chapel, for their especial sympathy in the Sunday School, the teachers of which are largely recruited therefrom: to Hare Court Church, for their constant and

Expendit

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	4	11	
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	47	2	
	6	3	
	143	15	1
	11	13	1

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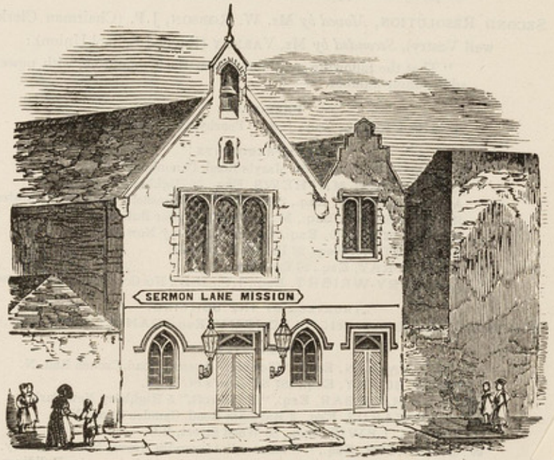
1 Buildings used

Sermon Lane Missic

LIVERPOOL ROAD, ISLINGTON, N.

(*Formerly Sermon Lane Ragged School*).

ESTABLISHED 1849.



Services Held.

The Mission Hall holds about 200 easily. A soup kitchen is attached & they have a school room upstairs. On Sunday evening they also use Denmark Terrace Sunday schools for children's Meetings. After the interview Mr C. took me of over the building: The hall is comfortable and warmly decorated, incandescent gaslights etc. but the absolute cleanliness was the feature that attracted my attention most. The floor was white, the benches shone, not a speck of dirt do be seen: a striking contrast to the dirty road outside.

Mr Cuthbert & the caretaker are the only paid agents. About 40 teachers (Sunday evening school) 6 visitors and about 20 other workers. Have a Prayer & Praise Union of about 50 & these are reckoned as their workers.

The Annual Report for 1896. gives very full particulars of the meetings held & social agencies so that I give these extr[illegible] unt.

something to be done in order to impart Christian principles and secular instruction. Means were raised, and premises secured—a stable. This was converted into a schoolroom. Difficulties were encountered from the wilder spirits of the locality, but knowledge of a simple form was imparted. The Bible was a prominent text-book, and good works were practised both in the way of clothing the needy and feeding the hungry; success crowned the effort, and order was gradually attained. In time, however, considerations of a sanitary character compelled a change of domicile; means were sought (by collections at Regent Street Chapel, City Road, and River Terrace Presbyterian Church, a liberal donation from the Ragged School Union, subscriptions, and a bazaar) to build the Mission—or at least part of the present premises—and the result was most successful.

From the first, one distinctive feature of the work was the hearty co-operation of all sections of the Church of Christ; the minor distinctions of sect were forgotten in the earnest desire to do good, and this feature of the Sermon Lane platform, we are happy to record, is still a prominent characteristic of its work, and we trust may long continue.

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The Annual Report for 1896. gives very full particulars of the meetings held & social agencies so that I give these extracts concerning them rather than a written account:

SUNDAY.

11 a.m. PUBLIC WORSHIP.
3 p.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL (upper room).
3 p.m. ADULT BIBLE CLASS.
6 p.m. PRAYER MEETING.
7 p.m. PUBLIC WORSHIP.
7 p.m. SUNDAY SCHOOL (Denmark School Rooms.)
8.15 p.m. PRAYER MEETING.

OPEN-AIR PREACHING during the summer months, before and after the evening service.

MONDAY.

2.30 p.m. MOTHERS' MEETING.
6.30 p.m. SEWING CLASS FOR GIRLS.
8 p.m. CHOIR PRACTICE.

TUESDAY.

7 p.m. BAND OF HOPE.
8 p.m. MISSION SERVICE.
COAL CLUB, &C.

WEDNESDAY.

8 p.m. PEOPLE'S SOCIALS AND GOSPEL TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY alternately.

THURSDAY.

3 p.m. MATERNAL SOCIETY (1st in month).
7 p.m. YOUNG WOMEN'S WELCOME.

FRIDAY.

8.30 p.m. YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN BAND.

SATURDAY.

5.30 p.m. BRASS BAND PRACTICE.
8 p.m. PENNY BANK.

Services.. Notes as.

Sunday 11 am Service About 40 – principally christian people.

" 7 PM. Evangelistic Service. About 130. Some of the roughest and poorest. Women preponderate but number of men is increasing " Women come in with shawls on head, as they go about on wash days. Men have not been fairly treated by the Christian churches. Has no difficulty in getting men to social meetings.

A register of attendance is kept, in order that any cases of illness may be noted and visited, and 130 names are thus recorded, which must be deemed a very satisfactory result. This visitation entails much duty on the Superintendent, but it helps to bind all in one feeling of common brotherhood, and the realisation that, humble as they may be, they are needful parts in one great unity.

Most come from the immediate neighbourhood.

3 PM. Adult Bible class. About 30.

3 PM. Sunday school. On books. 120. Average attendance 80

Teachers. 7. Poor children.

7 PM. Sunday evening school. 44 teachers Average attendance 430. Poorer than the afternoon school. These children are getting their dinners – if they have any – when the other children are at school. Have an annual flower show in connection. At last, 306 competitors & 47 prizes were awarded. Some of the ~~almost~~ children are almost shoeless.

Open Air Meetings are held constantly. Go all over the district visiting the courts in turn – One a regular weekly meeting at corner of Liverpool Rd.

8.15 Prayer Meeting. 50 to 60 attend.

Social Meetings & Agencies

Monday. 2.30

MOTHERS' MEETING.

Conducted by Miss Pound. *Assisted by* Miss S. Blofeld, Mrs. C. Harvey, Mrs. Mess, the Misses Lulham, Nokes, Breuer, Gummer, Gotobe, Venables, and L. Richardson (sustained by friends from St. Augustine's, Highbury. *For details of receipts see St. Augustine's Parochial Report*).

The meetings are held every Monday afternoon from 2.30 to 4 p.m., with an average attendance of 108, there being 187 names on the books. The first hour is spent in business, money being received for the Savings Bank (for which no interest is given), calico, flannel, boots, and other articles purchased at a reduction, are sold to the mothers, and a sale of old clothes and household goods is held. Then while the women work or rest, a bright story is read aloud, and it is delightful when some peculiarly quaint saying causes a healthy laugh to circulate among those whose daily lives are naturally full of care. A Scriptural address always concludes the meeting.

Death claimed three of our members during the year, two being aged, and receiving small pensions from the meeting, and the other, the mother of six young children, one an infant of three months.

The Dorcas and Maternity Societies continue their kind help, the latter having assisted in about 25 cases during the year.

The Seaside help was continued again this year, and was most helpful to those who shared in it. Twenty-five women and eleven children were sent to the sea, each for a fortnight, the railway ticket being given in each case; the expenses were defrayed partly by the balance of the money collected for the excursion, partly by the women's payments for the excursion, and by the Rummage Sale held in June, which resulted in £20 being taken, $\frac{2}{3}$ of which was used for the Mothers' Seaside Help, and $\frac{1}{3}$ for the Young Women's Welcome. In addition to this Mrs. Pound, Mrs. Skipper, and Miss Gaze made special donations to special cases.

Much attention is given to this. One lady writes letters so that each mother has a letter on her birthday. Others visit the women taking a small number only & becoming a "trusted friend" to those in whom they are interested.

Wednesday meeting (8 PM) varies. A gospel meeting, temperance gathering or a social meeting or magic lantern. Generally have the place full.

GOSPEL TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION.

Meetings are held alternate Wednesdays, at which the help of other similar societies is largely utilised to interest the members and gather in recruits. The Christian Policemen, Christian Postmen, The Blue Ribbon Army, Gospel Union, Wesleyan Central Mission, and Silver Star Society, have with others rendered valuable service, and return visits have been paid to St. John's Sq. Wesleyan Chapel, Bunhill Friends' Adult Schools, Shepherd's Bush C.E.T.S., and Islington Medical Mission, to the mutual help and pleasure of all. St. Paul's Home Mission Choir rendered a very interesting service of song, "The Princess, a Pit Maiden," which was highly appreciated.

Have no difficulty in getting a good temperance meeting. Make the meeting interesting: plenty of music. Let them see that a man can be happy without the drink. One plan of advertising these meetings is to make admission by programme & then not distribute the

Sermon Lane Mission.

If you want to spend a happy hour come to the above hall,

Next Monday, March 23rd,

at 8.15 p.m., and hear the

Gospel Total Abstinence Choir,

Render an attractive Programme of

SOLOS, RECITATIONS, &c.,

During the Evening, Mr.

EDWARD C. CUTHBERT

The Newly-appointed Superintendent,

Will give one of his Interesting and Instructive

TEMPERANCE ADDRESSES entitled;

'Catch 'em Alive'

ADMISSION FREE.

DON'T COME TOO LATE!

Evershed Bros., Printers, 329, Liverpool Road, N.

MISSION,

N.

ME

RIEND

tainment

10th, 1897,

... ... No. 249

... ... Mr. Soul

... Mr. Hitchin

... Miss M. Cutting

... Mr. Gardiner

... Miss Baynham

Mr. E. C. Cuthbert

... Mr. Morfey

er" Miss F. Rossiter

... Mr. Gardiner

s" ... Miss K. Wash

... Mr. Isaacs

... Miss M. Cutting

or" Mr. E. C. Cuthbert

Road, N.

programmes broadcast but let the people ask for them. Has a succession of knocks at his door for these bills before these meeting. Supplies refreshment - Cup of Coffee & two buns for 1d. This just pays.

Shall the Public-houses be Closed on Sundays?

"Strike the Iron while It's Hot."

All who are interested in this question (for or against), are invited to a

PUBLIC LECTURE,

TO BE GIVEN BY

MR. EDWD. C. CUTHBERT,

Rus people see so much of the evils of drink that it makes them keen opponents of it. Mentioned one of their best workers, whose wife had been drunk for 3 days & pawned everything she could lay her hand on. Sometimes it is the other way about. He is surprised at the way they stand it. Thinks he should say "Well, if you do it as well as I."

SERMON LANE MISSION,

LIVERPOOL ROAD, N.

THIS

PROGRAMME

WILL ADMIT BEARER AND FRIEND

TO A

Special Entertainment

IN THE ABOVE HALL,

On WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10th, 1897,

AT 8 P.M. SHARP.

Opening Hymn			No. 249
. . . PRAYER. . . .			
CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.			
Organ Recital			Mr. SOUL
Solo	"Resting"		Mr. HITCHIN
Solo	"Somebody else and I"		Miss M. CUTTING
Recitation	"A deed of Horror"		Mr. GARDINER
Contralto Solo	"The Four Anchors"		Miss BAYNHAM
Cornet Solo	Quick March, "Devotion"		Mr. E. C. CUTHBERT
Tenor Solo	"Queen of the Earth"		Mr. MORFEY
Recitation	"Willie and Annie's Prayer"		Miss F. ROSSITER
Solo	"Only a Rose"		Mr. GARDINER
Solo	"Don't forget the old folks"		Miss K. WASH
Solo	"The Stowaway"		Mr. ISAACS
Recitation	"The Spanish Champion"		Miss M. CUTTING
Banjo Song	"The cabin with the roses at the door"		Mr. E. C. CUTHBERT
. . . DOXOLOGY. . . .			

J. W. Poulton, Printer, 205 Liverpool Road, N.

programmes broadcast but let the people ask for them. Has a succession of knocks at his door for these bills before these meeting. Supplies refreshment - Cup of Coffee & two buns for 1d. This just pays.

Shall the Public-houses be Closed on Sundays?

"STRIKE THE IRON WHILE IT'S HOT."

All who are interested in this question (for or against), are invited to a

PUBLIC LECTURE,

TO BE GIVEN BY

MR. EDWD. C. CUTHBERT,

Superintendent,

(Member of the National Anti-Infidel League,)

ENTITLED

"THE BENEFICIAL RESULT OF SUNDAY CLOSING,"

ON

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 13th, 1897, at 8 p.m.

AT

SERMON LANE MISSION

Liverpool Road, N.

The LECTURE will be **Illustrated by Diagrams** and interspersed with Glees, Solos, Duets, &c.

. . . ADMISSION FREE. . . .

Refreshments will be supplied during THE EVENING

CUP OF COFFEE & TWO BUNS 1d

POULTON, Printer, 205 Liverpool Road, N. (10,000 Hand Bills, 10/6)

Our people see so much of the evils of drink that it makes them keen opponents of it. Mentioned one of their best workers, whose wife had been drunk for 3 days & pawned everything she could lay her hands on. Sometimes it is the other way about. He is surprised at the way they stand it. Think he should say "Well, if you do it as well I."

Band of Hope. (Tu 7, 1m) 200 members. 170 attendance. Very poor – poorer than the S.S. children.

Sewing Class for Girls. Also very poor children.

YOUNG WOMEN'S WELCOME.

Conducted by MISS POUND.

Assisted by THE MISSES B. & E. TREACHER, BRAMALL, C. NOKES, F. SHARPE, A. & A. COLLIS, HILL.

The meetings are held every Thursday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m., the average attendance each night during the last six months has been 61, there being 90 members, and 22 probationers, names on the books. Our "Cosy Room" proves a great attraction to our senior members; tired with their day's work, they are glad to enjoy the quiet of this room, which is well provided with comfortable chairs, good light, bright table-cloths, etc., really deserving its title. Here needlework is carried on, garments being cut out and made. It is hoped before long to commence a drawing and painting class for the benefit of those who, having worked with their needles all day, would find in this occupation rest and change, with the quiet which is so valued.

Downstairs are those who wish a more active recreation, and for these, classes for Musical Drill and Singing are provided, and various games.

A lending library is also in operation, and each member on entering is provided free of charge with a cup of tea and two biscuits.

During the year four of our members have married. We were pleased to welcome at our annual Tea, the married members and those who have entered service during the last few years. The Rev. Basil Boys, B.A., took the chair at the subsequent meeting and delivered the address.

Young Women's Christian Band (Friday 8.30) for those over 14 years of age. Provides for elder scholars.

Brass Band. number 16 members that been formed 12 months

PENNY BANK.

Conducted by MR. D. COOKSEY. *Assisted by* MR. R. N. TAYLOR.

This was commenced in 1859, and still continues a most successful department of the work, notwithstanding the limitation of £5 as the maximum allowed to be paid in by any depositor. The number of weekly payments averages 118, of these 69 do not exceed 6d.; 24, 1s.; 14, 2s.; and 11 over this, so that it is now clearly the poor man's bank. The number of accounts opened in the year was 789, and the cash received £324 8s. 10½d.; and paid out, £311 7s. 11d.; carried forward, £73 0s. 11½d.; leaving a surplus of £7 16s. 0½d.

Visitation

CRIPPLE CHILDREN.

At the request of the Ragged School Union (into whose hands the work among Cripple Children was given by the *Daily Telegraph* Fund for providing a Christmas Hamper for each cripple child at Christmas, 1895), the visitation of 27 of the cripples living in a radius of about ¾ of a mile has been undertaken by Miss Pound and her lady visitors. The work at first did not promise to give very much additional work, but with closer acquaintance of the needs and circumstances of each case, the labour and time required to be expended has grown.

Books and toys are received from time to time from the head office, and these have to be distributed, according to the mental capabilities of each child.

Charitable Relief

SANDWICH MEN'S DINNERS.

On the Tuesday and Thursday of Cattle Show Week the usual free distribution is made to the board men and others of the poorest of the toilers who throng the neighbourhood. Mrs. Lucas and her scholars on the first day, and Miss Pound and her friends on the second day, enlivened the meeting with singing, and Rev. W. H. C. Palmer, of Spa Fields, Mr. A. Kirby, Police Court Missionary, Messrs. A. H. Cæsar, D. Cooksey, and the Superintendent gave words of welcome and encouragement.

It is only needful to witness the gathering and see the grateful appreciation of this small service to feel it is a Christ-like work, and worthy of continuance.

On the first day 350 men were gathered in, and on the second 400, besides some children, who were provided for in three sittings each day, the hall being too small to accommodate them all at once.

These dinners are an annual distribution. Mr C. gives the tickets to the men personally. Knows they are not sold, as the men come with their boards.

Visitation. Mr Cubbbidge visit regularly. Used to do 14 cases a day but now not more than 6 as the people know him & he has to stop longer. He visits the sick & those who attend the mission. Has divided the district in to 8 parts. & the workers take announcements & visit in these blocks. Go as far west as Cranning Street. Visit from house to house.

Every application for relief is investigated. If they were not careful, the people would be getting relief from 5 or 6 places at once. Don't believe in teaching them sponging. Cases are mainly the result of sickness. People don't make provision for illness altho' they insure £14 for their death. Gives tickets for coals, groceries but not much. £4 in 1896 is the amount of the benevolent fund.

During the Winter, the Soup Kitchen supplies soup at 1d a quart but when poverty is great "it is freely given." Cost £6. in 1896

Police

Crime

Other relief is given by the Dorcas Society and the Maternal Society.

MATERNAL SOCIETY.

Conducted and Visited by Mrs. W. L. White. *Collector*, Miss Lewis.

Beyond a small contribution from the general fund, the expenses are met by special subscriptions. It is a work of quiet, unobtrusive usefulness, and takes effect when the need is most pressing.

During the year 60 poor mothers have been aided with gifts of infants' clothes and grocery tickets. In 12 of these cases the ladies of Hare Court Chapel provided the gifts.

DORCAS SOCIETY.

Conducted by Mrs. W. D. Lewis, Mrs. Donnison, and Mrs. Boyden.
Treasurer, Mrs. Dawson.

This is still generously advanced by friends at Hare Court Chapel, who meet at the Chapel House to make up garments which are sold at the Mission Hall at a very cheap rate. Cash received by subscriptions and sales £27 17s. 11d., and balance brought forward £6 11s. 5½d.; the expenditure being £23 12s. 6½d., leaving surplus £10 16s. 10d.

Five hundred garments were prepared by this agency, and the benefit conferred is therefore very wide-spread. Especially are

The Church (St Silas) gives most relief in the district. Never come across the C.O.S. Islington Sick & Benevolent Society (W. Smith) works in the district.

Police are very indifferent. Winks at gambling and keeps out of the way. Gambling goes on continuously in one of the courts out of Sermon Lane – Mt Zion.

Criminals live here. St James's Gardens & courts off Chapel Street. Think they work in Highbury and Hornsey. Not here. Youths of 16 to 18 are troublesome. Have a "pistol gang". Get into dark places & waylay people. Shot a girl recently.

Character of District

Bad Streets

Mr Cuthbert seemed to know his district well. He says that St James's Gardens (Chapel St) is the worst part. Thieves and loafers. Union Square is bad but far better than the Gardens. Albert Street is terrible – low, gambling, fighting lot. Payne Street – home of loafer. Victoria Street is also rowdy – very poor – what he calls the dangerous poor. You never know how to help them.

Chapel St is the market street, people well to do, many have several shops. Liverpool Road is working class. Family on a floor. Very few servants. District must have gone down considerably. None of the streets we mark pink are equal to the rest now. Moral of the poverty, he attributes to drinking.

The work of the Mission amongst the adults is increasing but is practically stationary amongst the children. Have all they can accommodate. They have converts now & again. Some people would say that the people were 'gospel hardened' but he never uses the word for you often find more good in them than is suspected.

Nov. 30th.

St. Luke's parish.

15

(2)

Interview with Rev. J. H. Greves, Caledonian Road, Wesleyan Church.

Mr Greeves is a young man under 30: clean shaven, thin, wiry, with a very bright pleasant intelligent face. He is Co-Pastor of the Highbury Circuit with Mr Denton (XXXII. 2) and with the exception of a few figures for our small form them is little to add to the Report of that interview.

Mr G. sees no signs that the population around his church are descending socially: in Camden Town and Tufnell Park etc. there is a good deal of shifting, but as a rule the new tenant seems to be of the same class as his predecessor. The congregation at all events seem to have no lack of money and there is no difficulty in raising as much money as is wanted for church purposes which a large sum is given for outside objects including £180 for Foreign Missions. Except through a Mothers' Meeting and Sunday Schools the church does not

Thursday next 7.30 p.m.

"Which hope we have as an anchor."

Caledonian Road Wesleyan Methodist Sunday

SCHOOL + PLAN.

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1897.

Committee.

Chairman,—Rev. GEORGE DENTON, 52, Aubert Park, N.
Vice-Chairman—Rev. J. HENRY GREEVES, 38, Penn Road. N.
Treasurer,—Mr. LYNN, 39, Penn Road, N.
Auditor—Mr. BROAD, 533, Caledonian Road, N.

Superintendents { Morning—Mr. E. A. LUSHER, 3, Roman Road, N.
Afternoon—Mr. E. TRACY, 13, Hungerford Road, N.
Secretary,—Mr. A. E. HOLFORD, 351, Liverpool Road, N.

Miss L. Carver, Miss Edwards, Mr. Geary, Mr. Packer, Mr. Brown, Mr. Howland, Mr. Joll, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Shaw

Place	Group	Names and Addresses.
G.	(3)	Mrs. BRUSH, 190, Holloway Road. N.
G	(1)	Miss CARVER, 31, Hertslet Road, N.
S.	(1)	,, L. CARVER, ,, ,,
G.	(1)	,, CROFT, 7, Thornhill Crescent. N
G.	(2)	,, EDWARDS, 4, Hartham Road, N.
G.	(2)	,, GALLIHAWK, 16, Brewery Road, N.
G.	(3)	,, GILLATT, 4, Parkhurst Road, N.
G.	(4)	,, GRANT, 46, Freegrove Road. N.
G.	(4)	,, HOGBURN, 13, Cardozo Road, N.
G.	(2)	,, E. HOGBURN, 13, Cardozo Road, N.
G.	(4)	,, HOWE, 81, Tabley Road, N.
G.	(3)	,, LANE, 8, Bardolph Road, N.
S.	(2)	,, MILLER, 104, Brecknock Road, N.
		,, RIX, 36, Mayton Street, N.
		,, SHAW, 165, York Road, N.
S.	(3)	,, STOKES, Monkley Terrace, N.
		,, THOMPSON, 3, North Quarters, H.M Prison Pentonville. N.
G.	(3)	,, TRACY, 13, Hungerford Road, N.
		,, E F. TRACY, ,, ,,
S	(4)	Mrs. VEREER, 17, Harvist Road, N.
		Mr. CONQUEST, 6, Canonbury Lane, N.
		,, GEARY, 86, Roman Road, N.
G.	(3)	,, HARRISON, 51, Brecknock Road, N.
G.	(1)	,, JOHNSON, 15, Cardwell Rd, N.
G.	(2)	,, PACKER, 16, Brewery Road N.
		,, SLATER, 165, York Road, N.
G.	(4)	,, SMEATON, 53, Hartham Road, N.
G.	(3)	,, VEREER, 17, Harvist Road, N.
G	(2)	,, WILLIAMS, 466, Caledonian Road, N.

Date		Group	To assist at Separate Services	To open School 2.50	Address
Oct.	3	3	Miss Stokes	Mr. Packer	
,,	10	4	Mrs Vereer	,, Tracy	
,,	17	1	Miss L. Carver	,, Geary	Rev J. H. Greeves
,,	24	2	,, Miller	,, Conquest	
,,	31	3	,, Stokes	,, Johnson	
Nov.	7	4	Mrs. Vereer	,, Lusher	
,,	14	1	Miss L. Carver	,, Packer	
,,	21	2	,, Miller	,, Geary	Rev. A. Denton
,,	28	3	,, Stokes	,, Tracy	Mr. Lynn
Dec.	5	4	Mrs Vereer	Johnson	
,,	12	1	Miss L. Carver	,, Lusher	
,,	19	2	,, Miller	,, Conquest	
,,	26	2	,, Stokes	,, Tracy	Mr. Edmunds

Boys' Classes.

MORNING.	AFTERNOON
Brigade Bible Class	Mr. Slater
1st	Mr. Lusher
2nd } Mr. Smeaton	Mr. Geary
3rd } Mr. Smeaton	Supply
4th } Mr. Harrison	Mr. Johnson
5th } Mr. Harrison	Mr Packer
6th Mr. Vereer	Miss Shaw
7th Mr. Packer	Miss Gallihawk
8th Mr. Williams	Miss Edwards
9th Miss Thompson	Miss Thompson
Infants Miss Miller	*Misses L Carver & E. Rix*

Girls' Classes.

MORNING.	AFTERNOON.
Bible Class	Miss Howe
1st	Miss Grant
2nd	Miss Carver
3rd Mrs. Vereer	Miss Gillatt
4th	Supply
5th } Miss Stokes	Mrs. Brush
6th } Miss Stokes	Miss Kear
7th } Miss Stokes	Miss E. F. Tracy
8th } Miss Tracy	Miss Croft
9th } Miss Tracy	Miss Lane
10th } Miss Tracy	Miss E. Hogburn
11th } Miss Tracy	Miss A. Hogburn

Missionary Secretary.
MR. H. HADLAND, 14, Goodinge Road, N.

Star Secretary.
MR. W. H. PEACE, 4, Chalfont Road, N.
MR. M RAVELL, 7, Thornhill Crescent. N.

Librarians.
MR. A. WATERS, 13, Cardozo Road, N.
MR. E. A. PRATT, 16, Stock Orchard Crescent
MR. W. J. STAINTON, 489 Caledonian Rd. N.

School Collector.
MISS MENDHAM, 6, Hillmarten Road. N.

Instrumentalists.
M. MR. A. G. CARVER, 31, Hertslet Road. N.
A. MISS SHAW, 165, York Road, N.

Absentee Visitor.
MR. PACKER, 16, Brewery Road, N.

Representative to Wesleyan S. S. Union.
MR. JOHNSON, 15, Cardwell Road, N.

Representatives to Sunday School Union.
MRS. VEREER, 17, Harvist Road, N.
MR. VEREER, ,, ,,

Supplementary List.
MRS. LAWSON, 2a, St. James Road, N.
MR. LAWSON, 2a, St. James Road, N.
MRS. PAGE, 490, Caledonian Road, N.
MR. H. PACKER, 16, Brewery Road, N.

BAND of HOPE MEETING every Thursday, 7.30.

JUNIOR SOCIETY CLASSES—BOYS, MR. PACKER, Wednesday, at 7.0 p.m.
TEACHERS' MEETING, Oct. 11th.

GIRLS' MRS. SMEATON, Friday, 7 p.m

BOYS' BRIGADE, Monday at 8. } from October
,, Wednesday at 8. } to May.

Childrens' Service in the Schoolroom on Sunday at 11 a.m.

To Address Infant Class p.m. Oct. 24th. MR TRACY, Nov. 21st.. REV. J. H. GREEVES, Dec. 19th. MR. LAWSON

Persons employed.

Philosophy.

Services

touch the poorest, but there is a good sprinkling of those below the middle class. Mr Greaves evidently knows few or none outside his own people.

From 70 to 100 voluntary workers are connected with the church

Church with schoolrooms below.

Sec Denton. Morning 300 Evening 500, hole within mark. Accomodation 1000. Members, offertory etc are all going up.

There is a P.S.A. originally intended no doubt for the working man, but he does not come: it is attended by "our own good people" and apparently differs little from other services: is purely religious and there is no discussion or discussion of any sort. It would seem do to allow discussion, "our people have plenty of zeal, but no knowledge"

The Church Members are 190: this includes only those who belong to Society Classes: if all who take the Lord's Supper were included there would

Social Agencies.

Education.

be double as many. The church membership among the W.M's is stricter and more confined than in any other sect, and it has often been suggested to widen the test, but "to use logical terms, what we lose in extension we gain in ~~intention~~ intension"

Mothers' Meeting: a fairly well-to-do set: none would accept a Princess of Wales' dinner.

Boy's Brigade: one of the best corps in London.

Sunday School. Mr S. will send figures. The children are of a fairly good class socially, but the parents do not attend the church. A very good proportion of the children are retained as they grow up: but the great want of the workgers generally has been some method of keeping a hold on the young people: purely social means have not been altogether a success: to get over the difficulty there has been in operation for about 3 years a Working Guild which is semi religious, semi social and which according to Mr S. has already done wonderful work in keeping hold of the young, and

Visiting:

Nursing.

Relief.

Personal.

is growing in strength and influence with great rapidity.

Mr S. visits only his own people and puts in about 150 visits a month. There are some four or five lady visitors who do unsystematic visiting among the poor.

Lend to L.L.L.H. if necessary

give scarcely anything and only to their own people.

Mr Greens is a charming young fellow but evidently entirely unversed in the work of his church. "I know nothing" he said "about local funeral Polices etc". Of the work of the church he takes an optimistic view; the church is growing, the people are generous, they are increasing their hold on the young etc.

Mr. S. told me something of the finance of a Wesleyan Minister: he is provided with a furnished house free from taxes, and a salary of about £3 a week (Mr S. has £160 a year). In addition he

has £10 for each child. Altogether Mr S. and Mr Denton cost their church about £700 a year.

EA 1/12/97

St. Matthias' parish.

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(2)

Mr Joseph Benson. 57 Hilldrop Road. N.

Honorary Pastor of Belle Isle Mission Chapel (Baptist) Brewery & Brandon Roads.

Mr Benson is about 60 years old. Grey hair & side whiskers; clear pleasant face, prominent forehead, pleasant manner. Upright, active and of about medium stature. He is a merchant, evidently well to do. I met him at his office (37 Tenisbury Crans) & some half dozen business interruptions took place in an interview of about an hour. Has been connected with the Mission over 25 years and previously was a deacon of Camden Road Chapel, of which Belle Isle was a Mission from its opening in 1870 to 1877.

Mr Be gave me a copy of the Church Manual for 1897 a very complete booklet of 64 pages & 2 copies of the Belle Isle Chapel Magazine. From these & the interview the following particulars are taken.

The district around the Mission is poor & crowded & shut off from other parts of the district on the south by the railway and on the north by the Cattle Market. The people are drawn from Brewery Road & the streets to the south, & from the

building

The District & People

Portion reached

buildings near the market, some come from the streets north of the market and many from St Pauls Road & Marquis Road in Camden Town. These roads have declined in recent years – many of the houses are let in two rooms. Number of railway men in regular work, some owning their own houses – better class working men. Brewery Road is the worst. Better class people live in the houses. A labouring population & crowded but not so bad as those in the buildings (south side of Brewery Rd). Lot get a living by their wits – no regular employment – precarious; much drinking.

As to those reached they are more successful with the people in the houses and the district as a whole has improved e.g. Brewery Rd since he has known it. All are very friendly to them & those whose sense of their raggedness will not allow them to come to the meeting will come to the open air meetings. Have had 20 men come to the open air meetings direct from the public-house. Is on very good terms with these men: always speaks to them. "You have been to your corner shop, why don't you come to mine?". Daughter of the publican belonged to their Band of Hope.

Persons Employed.

Buildings Used.

Get some of these men. "We pick them up & polish them a little & then they go away." Other stop and are kept in the district by their love to the Mission and as a proof that they were "not building on another man's foundation" he mentioned that of 839 members admitted, 686 were so admitted on first profession of faith.

~~Mr~~ B. is certainly popular in the district. In October he held his 25th Anniversary: spent the day from 8 am to 10 pm in his vestry to receive thank offerings toward a sum of £500 needed for renovation of chapel. 250 of his congregation came & brought £195. One woman brought 16 farthings; a railway man 38 sixpences, one each from his mates & himself. Altogether they raised £510.

Pastor (honorary), an assistant paid by Mr B. 8 deacons 75 Sunday school Teachers. Reckons at least 50 apart from the S.S. Teachers

Mission Church seats 550. Infant school room (200) and a number of ~~or 5~~ class rooms. Mission hall (300) in Blundell St. with 4 or 5 class rooms. Also rents Blundell Street Board School for infant classes on Sunday.

Meetings Held

BELLE ISLE CHAPEL MAGAZINE.

Hon. Pastor - MR. JOSEPH BENSON.

Editor - REV. DAVID WALKER, 106, Brecknock Road, N.

Business Manager - Mr. CECIL J. BENSON, 2, St. Paul's Crescent, N.W.

Monthly Calendar, 1897.

Nov. 4 Thurs. Band of Hope Jubilee Meeting, 8 p.m.

,, 5 Fri. Band of Hope, Blundell Street. Annual Visit from the Kingsdown Orphanage, 8 p.m.

,, 6 Sat. Temperance Meeting, 8 p.m. Mr. Le Gal & Friends from St. Andrew's. Boys' Brigade Band Practice, 7 p.m.

,, 7 Sun. Early Morning Prayer Meeting, 7.30a.m. **Services—Morning at 11.** Mr. W. T. PATON. Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m. **Evening at 7.** Rev. D. WALKER. Lord's Supper after the Service.

,, 8 Mon. Mothers' Meeting, 2.30. Boys' Brigade, Blundell St., Physical Drill, 7 p.m. Brigade Drill, 8 p.m.

,, 9 Tues. Penny Bank, 7—9 p.m. Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m.

,, 10 Wed. Sol-fa Class, 7.30 p.m. Choir 8.30 p.m.

,, 11 Thurs. Pleasant Evening, 8 p.m. **"Pleasant Days in Italy."** J. BENSON, Esq. With Lantern Views.

,, 12 Fri. Band of Hope, Blundell Street, Juniors, 7 p.m. Written Tales on Texts. Seniors, 8.30 p.m. "Cydippe." Mr. F. E. TUCKER.

,, 13 Sat. Temperance Meeting, 8 p.m. Mr. W. Washtell and Friends. Boys' Brigade Band Practice, 7 p.m.

,, 14 Sun. Early Morning Prayer Meeting, 7.30 p.m **Services—Morning at 11.** Mr. J. E. KIRBY. Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m. **Evening at 7.** Mr. J. BENSON. A Course of Monthly Sermons, to Young Men & Women, on "Men & Women of the Bible". I.—*Joseph the Dreamer.* Prayer Meetings for Young Men and Women at the close.

,, 15 Mon. Mothers' Meeting, 2.30. Boys' Brigade, Blundell Street, Physical Drill, 7 p.m. Brigade Drill, 8 p.m.

,, 16 Tues. Penny Bank, 7—9 p.m. Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m.

Nov. 17 Wed. Sol-fa Class, 7.30 p.m. Choir 8.30 p.m.

,, 18 Thurs. **Belle Isle Parents' Tea & Public Meeting.** Tea, **6.30.** Meeting, **7.30.**

,, 19 Fri. Band of Hope, Blundell Street, Juniors 7 p.m., "Captain Cook," Mr. INGRAM. Seniors, 8.30 p.m., "An hour with Tom Hood," Rev. GEORGE HAWKER.

,, 20 Sat. Temperance Meeting, 8 p.m. Mr. Newell and Friends from the Primitive Methodists. Boys' Brigade Band Practice, 7 p.m.

,, 21 Sun. Early Morning Prayer Meeting, 7.30 p.m. **Services—Morning at 11.** Rev. D. WALKER. Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m. **Evening at 7.** Mr. J. BENSON.

,, 22 Mon. Mothers' Meeting, 2.30. Boys' Brigade, Blundell Street, Physical Drill, 7 p.m. Brigade Drill, 8 p.m.

,, 23 Tues. Penny Bank, 7—9 p.m. Mothers' Meeting Annual Tea. Mr. J. BENSON will preside.

,, 24 Wed. Sol-fa Class, 7.30 p.m. Choir, 8.30 p.m.

,, 25 Thurs. Pleasant Evenings, 8 p.m. **Grand Evening Concert.**

,, 26 Fri. Band of Hope, Blundell Street, Juniors, 7 p.m. **Prize Recitation Competitions.** Seniors, 8.30 p.m. Entertainment by Mr. A. WHITE and Friends.

,, 27 Sat. Temperance Meeting, 8 p.m. Mr. E. Moss gives a Musical Evening. Boys' Brigade Band Practice, 7 p.m.

,, 28 Sun. Early Morning Prayer Meeting, 7.30 p.m. **Services—Morning at 11.** Mr. J. E. JACK. Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m. **Evening at 7.** Mr. J. BENSON.

,, 29 Mon. Mothers' Meeting, 2.30 p.m. Boys' Brigade, Blundell Street, Physical Drill, 7 p.m. Brigade Drill, 8 p.m.

,, 30 Tues. Penny Bank, 7—9. Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m. Church Meeting, 9 p.m. Deacon's Meeting, 7 p.m.

Social Agencies

Sunday Schools 9.45 AM & 2.45 PM at Brewery Rd & Blundell Street.

	On Books.		Attendance			
	Teachers.	Scholars.	Teachers		Scholars.	
			M.	A.	M	A.
Brewery Road	43	719	15	35	184	529
Blundell ~~Road~~ St.	32	738	7	27	120	398
	75	1457	22	62	304	927

Children Service (Blundell Street) on Sunday evening 7 PM
250 to 300 children

Much activity in connection with the S. Schools. Branches of Bible Reading Union numbering 292 & 110. Three Sunday Mgs. Children Services, Libraries. The schools also collected £94 & £46 respectively for charitable purposes.

Attendance at Sunday Services. Morning 250 to 300, Evening 500
Week Night service (In) 80. Sunday Mng Prayer Mtg. 70.

Have a large number of agencies, mostly connected with the religious meetings or worked in connection with them.

Mothers' Meeting.

THE Members of the Mothers' Meeting have met 41 times during the past year, the average attendance on Monday afternoons being 46.

The weekly payments amounted to £35 8s. 4d., and the cost of materials was £36 18s. 6½d.; number of Members paying into Club, 70. Allow 1d. in 1/- bonus.

Women are rather poorer than those attending other meeting.

Young Men's Guild Monday 8 PM.
Young Women's Guild " 8 PM. Make garments for poor.
Pledge themselves to give 1d. a week, which goes for purchase of material.

Visitation

Thursday evening. Lecture, or First rate concert or Temperance Meeting. ~~Allow~~ Always kept up the tone & is obliged to be very careful who ~~he~~ is asked to take part. Get 400 to 500 every week, including many men. First to start these (8 yrs ago.)

Gospel Temperance Society Sat. 8 PM. Mostly abstainers. Members pay 1d a week. Took 45 pledges during year. Mr Benson's plan is to keep the people together & then occasional to have big meeting on Thursday to reach those outside – "but they must not be too frequent."

Band of Hope. Senior & Junior sections (Friday). 154 Junior & 68 Senior members with attendance Juniors 76, Seniors 32.

Also have social meetings of members of the Church & congregation. Call them 'Receptions' and issue personal cards of invitation. Meeting for Parents of scholars etc

Cricket club – three elevens.

Dumbbell drill for Boys Monday average attendance 166

Musical drill for Girls Thursday. " " 64

These latter (for the usual part) for children other than those attending our school.

Boys' Brigade. – Penny Band.
Lads – 12 or over

Sons of Temperance Friendly Society Lodge & Cadets of Temperance.

Whole district visited every week. Tract visitation Society (14 visitors) ~~has~~ visit 500 families regularly. Assistant pastor's chief

Relief.

chief work is visitation. For supervision of membership the neighbourhood is divided into 4 districts under the charge of the deacons.

At one time visitors gave relief but this plan was abandoned & the practice seems to have gradually hardened. Mr B. was very strong against indiscriminate relief, found that the visitors were deceived. "Here's the visitor: knock the fire out". Has been struck with how much may be cut off. "There is no greater evil than is done by the gifts that are poured down them". His plan is to help a man out & out. Thus lent a Cabman £30 to buy a horse in the dull season "to set him on his legs" — "but doles, doles, I set my face against".

Notwithstanding a considerable amount is given in one way or another. The Benevolent Society gave nearly £18 in 1896. The modus operandi being that the visitors report cases to the almoner, and he or the assistant pastor visits. In the severe winter clogs are given to children thro' board school teachers. Communion funds payments to poor members was £14.7.6. Children are also sent to Holiday Homes — 46 in 1896 — parents paid £11.14 —. Altogether Mr B. reckons relief at £50 to £60 a year. He does not however include

Other Influences

Weekly Offerings

the Christmas dinner fund – collected by the Sunday School children which amounted to £61. in 1896. This however is not spent in the neighbourhood – except a very small portion. The bulk is sent to Mr Holland, George Yard, Whitechapel & some to the Gifford Mission near the Beaconsfield Bldgs. In the cases of those they give, they give the goods to some but in other cases the money as they can spend it to more advantage themselves. The only cases in which money is given.

Of the other influences, Mr B. did not care to speak. I gathered that in the immediate neighbourhood there is practically nothing, whilst the Church (St Matthias) is a very slight force in the district, apart from its remoteness.

The Church Manual gives some very complete statistics as to the growth of the Church and these I append:

Weekly Offerings

The Expenses of the Mission Church and Sunday School operations are entirely dependent upon the voluntary offering of the people. The Members are supplied with Weekly Offering Envelopes, and it is hoped will return one each Sunday, with such willing offerings as they may feel able to give to the Lord's work :—

"The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."
"Bring an offering, and come into His courts."

The plan has met with considerable success, the offerings having steadily increased from year to year, as the following list will show :—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1896	251	17	5	1884	149	2	3
1895	266	18	5	1883	133	4	5
1894	259	9	4	1882	133	15	0
1893	217	19	0	1881	118	8	0
1892	256	11	5	1880	119	19	0
1891	209	11	0	1879	99	5	5
1890	248	10	8½	1878	90	2	9
1889	262	4	10	1877	53	17	5
1888	199	16	1	1876	28	12	2
1887	177	5	7	1875	21	3	4
1886	172	11	2	1874	12	19	7
1885	166	19	9	1873	4	17	5

Total income for 1896 was £816.

Church Membership

Attendance at Communion.

Historical Record

Church Membership.

Year	Additions: Profession	Additions: Transfer	Additions: Renewal	Additions: Total	Reductions: Transfer	Reductions: Withdrawal	Reductions: Erasure	Reductions: Death	Reductions: Total	Decrease	Increase	No. of Members
1877		83		83							83	83
1878	33	15	3	51	2			1	3		48	131
1879	26	5		31	7		4	1	12		19	150
1880	31	5		36	10		3	2	15		21	171
1881	33	6		39	8		4	2	14		25	196
1882	30	4		34	7		3	2	12		22	218
1883	18	2	1	21	3		8		11		10	228
1884	35	3		38	25		14	4	43	5		223
1885	61	6		67	10		8	3	21		46	269
1886	27	6		33	10		1	4	15		18	287
1887	19	9		28	11	3	5	3	22		6	293
1888	36	10		46	10	3	10	2	25		21	314
1889	67	9		76	10		10	3	23		53	367
1890	26	7		33	10	1	4	2	17		16	383
1891	17	4		21	22		13	4	39	18		365
1892	35	5		40	17		6	5	28		12	377
1893	23	7		30	11	2	15	4	32	2		375
1894	33	15		48	8		46		54	8		367
1895	20	6		26	1		13	4	18		8	375
1896	24	3		27	4			5	9		18	393

The Members' attendances at the Lord's Supper during 1896 have been as follows :—

January	223
February	211
March	222
April	185
May	195
June	182
July	167
August	147
September	176
October	205
November	184
December	177

Historical Record.

November 3rd, 1870. A site was granted by the Corporation of London, in Brewery Road, at a ground rent of twelve guineas per annum, upon which a Mission Hall was erected by the friends of Camden Road Chapel, at a cost of £1,500. It was opened on November 3rd, 1870, by a meeting presided over by the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, M.P., and the building used for Day and Sunday Schools, in addition to Mission Services.

June, 1872. The Mission Committee of Camden Road Chapel, invited Mr. J. Benson (one of the Deacons) to take charge of the work.

October, 1872. Mr. Benson commenced his labours as Honorary Superintendent of the Mission Work, and shortly after resigned his position as a Deacon in order to devote himself more entirely to the Mission.

October, 1873. Ordinance of the Lord's Supper first observed in the Mission, 29 friends partaking.

September, 1874. During the year ending 30th September, 1874, 14 persons from the Mission joined the Church at Camden Road.

Poor Relief

Police

SEPTEMBER, 1875. During the year ending 30th September, 1875, 33 persons from the Mission joined the Church at Camden Road.

SEPTEMBER, 1876. During the year ending 30th September, 1876, 15 persons from the Mission joined the Church at Camden Road.

MAY, 1877. Sunday School operations extended by opening a new Infant School in Blundell Street Board School, and further by the transfer of the School carried on by the late Mr. Mansell in the Mission Hall in Blundell Street.

SEPTEMBER, 1877. During the year ending 30th September, 1877, 26 persons from the Mission joined the Church at Camden Road.

SEPTEMBER, 24th, 1877. 83 members of the Church at Camden Road were granted honourable dismission from that Communion for the purpose of forming a Mission Church, these friends having nearly all joined the Church at Camden Road as fruits of the Mission work. The late Rev. Francis Tucker, B.A., presided at the meeting, when Mr. Benson was unanimously chosen to be Honorary Pastor.

OCTOBER, 1879. The Mission Building in Brewery Road was enlarged at a cost of £1,217 4s. 6d., and opened free of debt on the 2nd of October, 1879.

In October, 1879, the Mission ceased to receive pecuniary support from Camden Road Chapel, and has since then been self-supporting and practically independent.

In 1883, the Blundell Street Mission Hall became our property by purchase of the lease from the late Trustees, at a cost of nearly £170, and was then enlarged and improved at a cost of £575, the whole amount being raised, and the building opened free of debt.

In 1885-6, further extensive alterations were effected at the Mission Chapel, including covering-in of passages, altering class rooms, doors, etc., also building new lavatories, at a total cost of £237, the whole of which has been paid.

In 1887, the Church, Vestries, and Lecture rooms, were cleaned, wall re-coloured, and roof re-varnished. The platform was enlarged, so as to admit of the choir sitting there: the total cost of which was about £120, which has been paid.

In 1892, a New Organ was purchased, costing over £150. The opening ceremony took place in May, when the Chapel was crowded. The whole of the money was raised before the opening ceremony closed, principally from the members and friends worshipping at Belle Isle.

In 1894, an additional Lecture Hall was erected by the kindness of Messrs. John and Paul Schilizzi, in memory of their late brother, Mr. Demetrius Schilizzi, at a cost of £500. Our Pastor and Mrs. Benson generously provided an additional sum of £130, to cover the cost of furnishing the same. The Hall was opened on 14th February, 1895.

In 1895, new Railings were fixed against the Building in Brewery Road, and the front was cleaned and repainted, Mr. Benson kindly defraying the cost.

Not very much poor relief given

Police very friendly with them but afraid they are bribed by the publicans. Has seen them near the Mother

Drink

Prostitution

Thrift

Housing

Mother Redcap. One of the publicans men brings out a can under his coat & the policeman drinks the contents quickly in a dark place.

Afraid it has increased amongst women.

Some but not much.

Not much crime

Our own people are thrifty. Have £550 in the Penny Bank & 700 to 800 depositors. Not all drawn out at Christmas. Advises them how to invest when they have saved a little. Many have bought houses. Remarked it as singular that however poor they were when they came, the people soon began to improve their position. Members of the Church seldom needed relief

Little houses are very bad and should be cleared away. e.g. Blundell Street.

Appreciation

Altogether a very vigorous work is going on, in which the whole Benson family take an active part. The Deacon's Record for 1896 refers to Mrs Benson thus:

> A subtle prime minister once said, "Let me select the wives of our colonial governors, and I don't care who the husbands may be." Now, although we cannot carry the simile so far as regards the acceptance of a pastor upon the merits of his wife alone, there is no doubt whatever, that the simile does exist to a very large extent in relation to the internal workings of a church: and if any church has been especially favoured in respect to their pastor's wife, that church is BELLE ISLE; and so we extend our thanks, and that our heartiest, for all the loving devotion evinced in the work by Mrs. Benson.

Mr Benson says that his efforts are as much to save people from falling as to pull out those who have fallen & he pointed to the following lines of Ruskin's which he quoted in his sermon on Citizen Sunday.

> The public house is a peril to children. It is a right thing to shield our future men and women from its baneful influence. John Ruskin says—"Every day I am more sure of the mistake made by good people universally, trying to pull fallen people up, instead of keeping the yet safe ones from tumbling after them aud always spending their pains on the worst instead of the best material."

~~His~~ This was his point of view.

R. W. Little, Wesleyan minister.

The circuit.

(St James' parish)

District 14/3

CD (2)

Dec 1. 97

The Rev. R. W. Little is supt. minister of the Islington circuit of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He is a tall clean-shaven man of distinctly clerical cut, high & dry, unsympathetic, & not ready to volunteer information. Seems to know very little of the lives of his congregation, & to be concerned rather with questions of doctrine & official organization than with individual spiritual needs. The only matter he spoke of, aside from immediate answers to questions, was the distinctiveness of Wesleyan tenets & methods of organization — the one-ness of 'idea & motive of all its churches.

The circuit extends in a narrow, irregular strip from Liverpool Rd. (west) to Queens Rd. Dalston (east), its northern boundary being St. Pauls Rd. & Balls Pond Rd. Its 2 chapels are at the extreme points (Liverpool Rd. & Mayfield Rd.), & it has 3 missions, viz. Windsor Hall, Windsor St.; Copenhagen Hall, Copenhagen St.; & a hall in

All Saints, Haggerston.

Population reached

Persons Employed.

St Mary's parish. —
Holy Trinity, Dalston.

Hilcot St., Lee St., Haggerston.

As the circuit includes nearly all classes, so do the ministrations of the church reach a section of each. The poor of course go mostly to the missions, but there are some quite poor amongst the church congregations. The population around both churches has deteriorated, & the numbers of the congregations & members has also fallen, especially at Liverpool Rd., wh. is a very big building, erected by & for a quite well-to-do class.

The paid agents are 2 ministers & one lady visitor. There is an efficient church organization, in wh. work is found for everybody who will come in, & from Trustees down to tract distributors something is found for all.

— Liverpool Rd. Church holds 1200, Dalston Church 1000, & there are schoolrooms & classrooms attached to each. Capacity of mission Halls he does not know.

Services & Attendances.

Liverpool Rd. – Services on Sunday morning & evening, Tuesday & Saturday evenings. Sunday congregation does not average more than 300.

Dalston – Services twice on Sundays, & twice on week nights. About same attendance as Liverpool Rd.

Windsor Hall has two services on Sunday & one on Wednesday eve; Copenhagen Hall and Haggerston Hall have each a service on Sunday night & Wednesday night. Sunday attendances vary, I believe, from 50 to 150, but it appears to stand next to nothing about the work of these missions, wh. is carried on by voluntary lay agents.

There are small class meetings at each church nearly every evening in the week, under charge of a dozen or more leaders at each place, & each mission sets apart one week night for similar gatherings.

There are also week nights services at the missions for brothers, adult Bible class, girls service, &c.

Church Members.

Sunday Schools.

Day Schools.

Membership Reported at the June Quarterly Meeting, 1897.

Place of Worship.	No. of Members.	Trial.	New Members.
Liverpool Road	196	3	1
Dalston	175	—	8
Copenhagen Hall... ...	5	—	—
Windsor Hall	43	2	2
Haggerston	28	9	3
Total	447	14	14

16

	On books.	Average attendance	Teachers
Liverpool Rd	345	237.	41
Dalston - -	284	229	42
Windsor Hall	-	120	-
Haggerston -	210	128	34

14

Copenhagen Hall mission has been recently started in place of the mission formerly held in the Wesley Hall, Beaconsfield Buildings, but now closed. It has no Sunday School.

There are Day Schools connected with the Dalston Church – a mixed school with fees of 3d. & 4d., & a junior school at 1d. a week: –

	On books	Average attendance
Mixed school –	195.	148.
Infants - - - -	132.	93.

32

Social Work

Visiting

Charity

Thrift.

Each place has its Band of Hope & Temperance meeting, & the 2 churches have the usual agencies – mothers meetings, sewing societies, missionary band, &c. Liverpool Rd has a successful mutual improvement society.

A female visitor is just being appointed (there has been some transition lately) who will visit systematically house-to-house; there are voluntary visitors to look after our members.

A benevolent fund is provided by collections at Lord Feasts, & is dispensed by the minister, mostly amongst his own flock, but sometimes to outsiders. At L'pool Rd the minister has the assistance of a Strangers Friend Soc., wh. meets on Sunday morning before service, & to them he refers any doubtful cases for inquiry.

No corporation with other bodies.

A slate club with 400 members is

Other Influences

Key Impression.

People to see.

held in the schoolroom of L'pool Rd. Church, under usual conditions. Has no organic connection, but is run by people belonging to the church. Most of the members are outsiders & some come from long distances, having kept up their membership after leaving the neighbourhood.

The Wesleyan Church is the only place of worship in Liverpool Rd., but there are several adjacent to it, & probably, with missions, the people are well looked after spiritually. Refers us to Sermon Lane for particulars of mission work near by.

There is here, on the whole I shd say, a small & declining influence. Rev. L is certainly not the man to move the masses, nor does he seem anxious to do so.

To get to know about the missions we must see the Supts:—

Windsor Hall — J. Taylor, 25 Almorah Rd., N.
Copenhagen Hall — Rev. Hibbard, 129 Copenhagen St. (Secy)
Haggerston — J. S. Baker, 2 Middleton Rd. N.E.

Character of population

Probation tracts

St. Luke's parish.

15/13 (2)

Interview with the Rev Geo Hawkes Camden Rd Chapel (Baptist) - at his house Broadlands, Anson Rd Tufnell Park.

The Chapel is an old established one & had a rich congregation It maintains its numbers fairly well but has to stand a continual drain from various causes. not so much from the better to do people leaving as Tufnell Park maintains its standing, though this cause may apply in some parts of the district, but first to the tendency of the better off to join the Church of England - & to the fact that young people who marry move to more convenient neighbourhoods where there are smaller houses or houses arranged in flats. The Chapel has been the origin of the Belle Isle Mission & has done much towards the establishment of the Holloway Chapel - Its own mission is in the Cattle Market - & a great deal is done for foreign missions (Congo particularly) - the members give liberally for their means.

The surrounding population is middle & lower middle class. & the mission works amongst the poor who surround the Cattle market.

The congregation is drawn from Baptists, Congregationalists & others the division between the sects not being very marked - The better to do classes whom they do not touch go to church or no where. & consist of Jews & foreigners as well as English men

Persons Employed

Buildings used

Services

Social agencies

SUNDAY AND WEEK-DAY SERVICES & MEETINGS.

Lord's Day .	10.0 a.m.	Sunday School.
" " .	11.0 a.m.	Divine Worship.
" " .	11.0 a.m.	Children's Separate Service.
" " .	3.0 p.m.	Sunday School.
" " .	3.0 p.m.	Young Men's Bible Class.
" " .	3.30 p.m.	Young Women's Bible Class.
" " .	7.0 p.m.	Divine Worship.
Monday .	3.0 p.m.	Mothers' Meeting.
" .	8.0 p.m.	Prayer Meeting.
Tuesday .	7.0 p.m.	Junior } Band of Hope.
" .	8.15 p.m.	Senior } Band of Hope.
Thursday .	7.30 p.m.	Service.
Friday .	8.0 p.m.	Christian Band, alternate weeks.

THE PRAYER MEETING on the first Monday evening in the month is specially on behalf of Foreign Mission Work.

CHURCH MEETING on the Monday evening preceding the first Sunday in the month at 8 o'clock. Members who have any matter of special interest to communicate, or who may desire to ask any question concerning the Church's work, are invited to send notice of same to either of the Church Secretaries.

ORDINANCE OF BAPTISM on Thursday evening when required.

No one except Mr Hawker is paid - there was a Bible woman but she is not employed now - Mission & Sunday School work all voluntary. There are 9 deacons & 3 secretaries - A visitation committee of 8 in addition to Pastor & deacons & Sunday School teachers. At the Mission there is a Superintendent (Mr Glover) Secretary & 8 others on committee - as well as Sunday School teachers.

The Chapel accommodates 1100 & is about half full morning & evening - rather the better congregation in the morning. There are also School buildings. The Mission Hall is quite small & holds its services in the "Drovers Hall" & in the Board Schools

On Sunday morning & evening - School & classes in the afternoon

On Sunday evening at the Drovers Hall. The Mission is not in a satisfactory condition. Mr Glover who has conducted it for many years no longer gives satisfaction. There is a split & they are "waiting on Providence" - they wish to get rid of Mr G but do not like to tell him to go - the attendance meanwhile is small. They could do much more & better work if united

There is not much in this line - Mothers meeting. Christian Band - Young Ladies Home mission working meeting. Band of Hope & all very serious & religious in tone - Foreign mission are the most exciting subjects

Persons Employed

Buildings used

Services

Social agencies

THE PASTOR'S LETTER TO THE CHURCH AND CONGREGATION.

Dear Friends,—The New Year reminds us of the old promises. Time passes, scenes change, friends fail; but "every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of Lights, with whom is no variableness, neither the shadow of turning." Among the best gifts are the exceeding great and precious promises which assure us of the unfailing interest and succour and love of God. Whether for the hour our way be gloomy and tearful, or "compassed about by songs of deliverance," we have need to lean upon these promises, and to cultivate the sense of His presence, who says to us as we enter every New Year, "Certainly I will be with thee": whose fellowship is our joy, our salvation, and our strength.

Our motto for the year is: "*Bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.*" A passage which reminds us that *good works* must have place in every Christian life; that the good works of those who believe are *fruit*, that is, the natural, beautiful, and inevitable

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better work if united
in this line - Mothers meeting. Christian
Home mission working meeting. Band of Hope & all
in tone - Foreign missions are the most exciting

Subjects

Educational

Visiting

Nursing
Charity

Other Religious bodies.

Feb. 29th. I visited this church in the morning. There was a good, but not a full congregation, the church being I suppose rather more than half full, but many of the unoccupied seats evidently belonged to pew holders. ~~After~~ The people seem entirely middle class.

After hymn and prayer Mr Hawker delivered an admirable address to the children lasting about 8 minutes. It was mainly an appeal to them to save some of their pocket money for the Baptist Missionary Society which is badly in want of funds: it struck me as quite a model

Sunday Schools belonging to Chapel ~~[illegible]~~ 300/350 on books with 260 average attendance & 230 on books at the Mission with 180 attendance. 35 teachers at Chapel school & 18 for the Mission

Not very systematic - but a good deal done from the Mission with tract distribution

Appeals to Holloway Not when necessary - are subscribers till

See to their own poor - & give in various ways at the Mission as required.

Do not come across them much - or friendly footing when they meet

Drink - The Tufnell Estate - not less than a mile square has only one public House - it being restricted in the title deeds. Mr Hawker thinks this restriction has maintained the character of the district - There are no shops either.

Mr Hawker received me in a dressing gown (1 p.m.) & lives in very simple style - one of the children opened the door - but the house is comfortably & nicely furnished & of good size - he sat in the dining room his study being he said in the hands of the cleaners the apological for there being no fire - Dinner was served elsewhere the bell rang for it at 2 o'clock just as I was leaving. He

of an address to children.

The sermon which lasted just half an hour was also excellent in delivery and tone, and as far as thought and expression went was far above the average sermon one hears in the church of England. It was mainly a denunciation of antinomianism, the text being "Shall we sin that grace may abound?".

has a pleasant quiet manner & cultivated voice. I should think he had been well educated. His views were sensible & unsensational & expressed with caution & reserve. He is better fitted to hold things together than to inaugurate anything new. & I doubt if the congregation is very active at present in any direction

15/13

Interview with the Rev. T. Meakin (of 28 Beacon Hill) Primitive Methodist - Head of the Caledonian Road Circuit.

(2)

Renewal of Tickets.

CALEDONIAN ROAD—

W. Plummer	Sun.	10.15 a.m.	Nov. 7th	No. 1
L. Lindsay	,,	2.30 p.m.	,, 7th	,, 1
G. Everitt	Mon.	8.0 ,,	,, 8th	,, 1
G. Hensman	,,	8.0 ,,	,, 8th	,, 1
S. Newell	,,	8.0 ,,	,, 15th	,, 1
J. Weigandt	Tues.	8.45 ,,	,, 9th	,, 1
S. Percy	,,	8.0 ,,	,, 9th	,, 1
T. Meakin	Wed.	3.0 ,,	,, 10th	,, 1
W. Evans	Thurs.	7.0 ,,	,, 11th	,, 1

HIGHBURY VALE—

G. Wood	Sun.	4.0 p.m.	Nov. 7th	No. 1
T. Meakin	Wed.	8.45 ,,	,, 7th	No. 1

Leaders' Meetings.

Caledonian Road	...	Dec. 2nd	...	No. 1
Highbury Vale ...	...	,, 1st	...	,, 1

Mission Band.

(*The Leaders are responsible for the attendance of the Members of the Band*).

Leader—F. Newell, 13, Hornsey Street, N.

Special Services.

CALEDONIAN ROAD—

Oct. 3rd—Harvest Festival, Rev. W. Jones.
,, 4th—Harvest Tea and Public Meeting.
,, 5th—Lecture, Rev. W. Jones, on "Garfield."
,, 17th—Universal Prayer for Sunday Schools.
Nov. 28th—Missionary Sermons, Rev. J. Smith.
,, 29th—Missionary Meeting.
Dec. 31st—Watch Night Service, 11 p.m., Rev. T. Meakin.
Ladies' Effort during the Quarter; arrangements to be made.

HIGHBURY VALE—

Oct. 17th—Universal Prayer for Sunday Schools.
,, 24th—Week's Revival Services, Allport and Wood.
Nov. 14th—Ladies' Effort. See bills.
,, 28th—Missionary Sermons, Rev. T. Meakin.
Dec. 1st—Missionary Meeting, Rev. J. Smith (Deputation).
,, 31st—Watch Night Service, 11 p.m., Mr. Allport.

15/13

Interview with the Rev. T. Meakin (of 28 Beacon Hill) Primitive Methodist - Head of the Caledonian Road Circuit.

CALEDO

REV. T. MEAKIN, Circuit Book Steward and

Next Quarterly Meeting, at Caledonia

PLACES.	Time	OCTOBE		
		3	10	17
CALEDONIAN ROAD	11	Jones, H. T.	Meakin	Shirtclifle
	6.30	Jones, H. T.	Meakin	Meakin
Evangelistic Service	3.15	Song Service	Newell	Newell
Tuesday	7 45	Lecture	Meakin	Meakin
Thursday, Christian Endeavour	8	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin
HIGHBURY VALE	11	Meakin	Allport	Allport
	6 30	Allport	Allport	Allport
Wednesday... ...	8	Allport	Meakin	Allport

Connexional Officers.

Rev. T. Mitchell, *Connexional Book Steward.*
Rev. H. B. Kendall, B.A., *Connectional Editor.*
Rev. W. Goodman, *General Committee Secretary.*
Rev. J. Smith, *General Missionary Secretary.*

Preachers' Names and Residences.

1 Rev. T. Meakin, 28, Beacon Hill, Hillmarton Road.
E. Allport, 129, Blackstock road.
2 J. T. Hendry,
3 J. Lindsay, 7, Corporation street, N.
4 G. Hensman, 310, Caledonian road, N.
5 S. Percy, 3M, North wall, Pentonville, N.

Exhorters.

6 Mrs. Thorne, 60, Hornsey road, N.

KING'S CROSS BRANCH.

7 Rev. H. W. Shirtcliffe, 31, Richmond crescent, Barnsbury.
8 W. Allison, 12, Outram street, Copenhagen street.

Circuit Regulations.

PREACHERS.—When a Preacher is prevented from taking his work, he must endeavour to obtain an accredited supply. In case of failure he must inform the Minister, Circuit Secretary, or Circuit Committee, assigning the reason for his inability. At special services preachers are expeeted to be present throughout the day, unless otherwise appointed. No unauthorised person must be allowed to preach in our chapels. Preachers who wilfully neglect their work shall be left without appointments on the next plan.

SOCIETY STEWARDS.—Their duties are to have Services and Collections announced the previous Sabbath ; furnish pulpit notices ; provide for the ordinances ; make collections as planned ; forward the report and circuit moneys at the commencement of the Quarterly Meeting.

LEADERS—Their duties are to visit absentees, receive the weekly contributionns, inculcate and practice brevity in religious exercises read the rules to the class quarterly, assist the Society Stewards to prepare the report, request his assistant to conduct the class monthly, and furnish the Minister with the names and addresses of members removing.

LEADERS' MEETINGS.—Leaders and Assistants should attend The Class Books must be examined, and the Roll Book signed.

MEMBERS.—Class money should be paid weekly and a quarterly donation at the renewal of Tickets, Credentials for members removing may be obtained of the Superintendant Minister. Complaints are regulated by the law of Trespass. See Matt. xviii. 15, 17.

BAPTISMS—The Baptismal Service will be performed ONLY on Sunday Mornings and Week Evenings. Notice must be given to the Society Stewards before the commencement of the preaching service ; both parents must be present, if possible. Sevenpence will be charged for a Certificate

REFERENCES.

BH Band of Hope	P Prayer Meeting
C Lighting Collections	PF Poor Fund
CA Chapel Anniversary	PM Protracted Meeting
CF Conference Fund	RM Revival Meeting
CO Chapel Opening	S Sacrament
CS Chapel Special	SA School Anniversary
F Circuit Fund	SR Sacrament and Reception of New Members
H Hospital	SS School Sermon
HT Harvest Sermon	TS Temperance Sermon
L Lovefeast	W Benevolent
MB Mission Band	X School Address
MF Metropolitan Chapel Fund	Z Sermon to the Young
MA Minister's Anniversary	

The Primitive Methodist, the Newspaper for Primitive Methodists (illustrated), published every Thursday, price One Penny. The profits of the above are devoted to needy Local Preachers and the Connexion

Order of any Bookseller : or sent free by post for 1s. 9d. per quarter, including all Supplements, from the Publisher, F. H. Hurd, "Bourne House," Bedford Street, Commercial Road, London, N.

15
13

Interview with the Rev. T. Meakin (ex- 28 Beacon Hill) Primitive Methodist - Head of the Caledonian Road Circuit.

(2)

CALEDONIAN ROAD CIRCUIT, 1897

REV. T. MEAKIN, Circuit Book Steward and Sub-Missionary Treasurer.

DR. JAS JACKSON, Circuit Steward, 15, Huntingdon Street,

Next Quarterly Meeting, at Caledonian Road, December 6th. Preachers' Meeting and Full Board at 7 p.m. Invitation of Minister.

PLACES.	Time	OCTOBER					NOVEMBER				DECEMBER			
		3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26
CALEDONIAN ROAD	11	Jones, H. T.	Meakin	Shirtcliffe	Meakin	Allport	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Smith, MS	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin
	6.30	Jones, H. T.	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Wood	Meakin s	Meakin	Meakin,	Smtth, MS	Meakin, s	Meakin	Meakin, W	Meakin
Evangelistic Service	3 15	Song Service	Newell	Newell	Newell	Newell	Newell	Newell	Newell	M. M	Newell	Newell	Newell	Newell
Tuesday	7 45	Lecture	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin
Thursday, Christian Endeavour	8	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin	Meakin
HIGHBURY VALE	11	Meakin	Allport	Allport	Allport, RM	Meakin	Allport	Ladies' effort	Allport	Meakin, MS	Allport	Allport	Allport	Allport
	6 30	Allport	Allport	Allport	Allport, RM	Allport	Meakin s	Ladies' effort	Shirtcliffe	Meakin, MS	Allport	Allison	Allport	Allport
Wednesday... ...	8	Allport	Meakin	Allport	Meakint RM	Allport	Meakin	Allport	Meakin	Miss. Mtng.	Meakin	Allport	Meakin	Allport

Connexional Officers.

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Exhorters.

6 Mrs. Thorne, 60, Hornsey road, N.

KING'S CROSS BRANCH.

7 Rev. H. W. Shirtcliffe, 31, Richmond crescent, Barnsbury.
8 W. Allison, 12, Outram street, Copenhagen street.

Auxiliaries.

10 Rev. W. Turner, Holloway.
11 Rev. W. Beccles, Harringay park.
12 G. Hand, 250, Green Lanes, N.
13 R. Harding, 248, Harrow road, W.
14 W. Saunders, 25, Cloudesly street, N.
15 J. Weigandt, 5, Cloudesly road.
16 R. W. Smith, 15, Rona road, Gospel Oak, N.W.
17 E. W. Smith, 71, Freegrove road, N.

Society Stewards.

CALEDONIAN ROAD—L. NEWELL, 18, Westbourne road, Barnsbury, N.

HIGHBURY VALE—W. J. ALLISON, 21, Courtney road, Drayton park, N.

J. ALLISON, 7, Courtney Road, Drayton Park, N.

COMMITTEES.

CIRCUIT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Is composed of all the members of the Quarterly Meeting. To meet in the Caledonian Road Chapel the last Friday in the month when requested.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

Dr. Jackson, Messrs. J. M. Weigandt, J. T. Hendry, and Circuit Minister. To meet when requested.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION COMMITTEE.

Will meet when requested.

T. G. IVEY, *Secretary.*

Congregation.

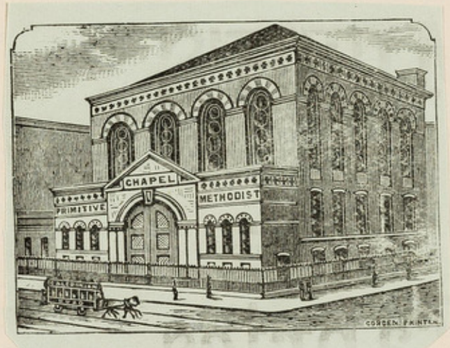
Staff & helpers.

Buildings.

Services

St Matthias' parish.

There are two Chapels in the Circuit, but Wesleyan is in special charge of the one in Celebration Road.



Corner of
Market Road.

The congregation attending here is mainly working-class; with 10 or 12 tradesmen & a doctor & a solicitor.

Besides the weekly there are 30 Sunday School teachers; 15 visitors who distribute a monthly magazine; & the usual conventional offices.

The chapel holds 500, the bands underneath 300.

At the Sunday morning service about 150 attend, & in the evening about 300. There are open air services throughout nearly

Workers.

Sunday School.

Social agencies.

Visiting.

Nursing.

Charity.

Religious spirit.

Obstacle – indifference.

on the great, either outside the chapel, or on the corner of Frederick Street, on Sundays, Thursdays, & Saturdays. They are very attended, & bring a considerable number on to the chapel, especially the poorer.

For list of leaders &c. v. Page, p. 63.

Number of members – 234

There are two Sunday School teachers. Average ~~234~~ 162 Morning 132

A few social agencies:-

Band of Hope	Senior & Junior	– 255 members.
Temperance Soc.	Adults	– 64 —
Christian Endeavour.		

Visits Congregation mainly. Not much time to go outside, unless called for.

No arrangement for nursing.

Benevolent Fund for poor members. Needs £30 a year.

A considerable amount of religious work in district. Wesleyans, Baptists, the Bryans mean a neglected part. But it is going down.

The great obstacle to religious work is not drink, but indifference.

Highbury Vale Chapel.

Personal

The Church is on Free Church Council, Mr Meadkin is on the Committee.

Highbury Vale Chapel:. Mr Allport in special charge.
Same class of people for the most part.
Chapel holds 150.
Congregation: Sunday morning - 40
evening - 100.
School meet in chapel.
Band of Hope - 30 members
Sunday School. Teachers 6; Scholars 42. Average 25.

Mr Meadkin is a man of between 40 & 50, ~~the portrait~~ on the other side is flattering. He is short-, thick-set, untidy, & rather dull. Without, he has a pseudo-sentimentalism which is disgusting, & attitudinizes before answering questions like a well trained.

Adjutant Thompson
Salvation Army

The Man

Change of Officers

The Islington Congregation

St Mary's parish.

GHA 27/11/92

Adjutant Wm J. Thompson; Salvation Army Corps, Almeida Street, Islington:

San at 34 Park Street, Islington.

Adjutant Thompson has only been ~~at~~ in Islington a few weeks. Came from Penge. He is a stout, muscular man, rather above ~~middle~~ the average height; broad chest and well developed limbs. Standing in his red jersey with his back to the fire he looked a regular athlete. About 35 ~~to~~ years of age, fair hair & ~~short~~ whiskers & mustache. He is a countryman; been an S.A. officer 15 years; most of the time at country corps, Manchester etc. Quite different in appearance, thought, & I should think, in methods to all the other officers I have seen.

Like Miss Clarke (South Hornsey Corps) the Adjutant says that the officers settle down quickly to their work. Generally get all your own people at the 'Welcome meeting' and can take their measure at once.

At Islington, the congregation is mostly working class. Don't get many shop assistants

Persons Employed

Buildings Used

Meetings held

but get a good many in from the Street (Upper St).
Also on Sunday evenings from 8.30 to 9.30 a large number of other christians come in to the prayer meeting.

The Adjutant is the only paid officer. His wife is delicate & cannot take part. Have 35 local officers, 20 junior officers of whom 13 or 14 are S.S. teachers. Brass Band 21 members.

Hall in Almeda Street holds 1100 people. No other rooms available as underground portion cannot be used. Mission Hall in Sebbon Street for juniors, holds about 80.

Meetings as to time as in other corps.
Sunday. 7 am Knee drill. 11 & 3 & 7 pm. Services each preceded by 2 or 3 open air meeting.
Average attendance. Sunday morning 260, highest 400. Evening 800, go up to 1100.
For children at Sebbon St at 10 AM, then ~~go~~ come to the ~~Hall~~. Afternoon. S. School. 130 on books. Attendance 90 to 95. Cannot get more in: quite packed. Good many of the children belong to soldiers

Children's Social Agencies

The Adjutants Methods

Membership of Corps.

a few are ill clad and fed.

Monday. Meeting for S.S. children – Bible lesson.

Tuesday Band of Love 135 on books: some are in arrears: they pay ½d a week.

Also have shorthand classes, Fretwork class

Drum & fife band, Physical drill.

Knitting & Cutting out classes for the girls.

Get 30 to 40 each evening.

Meetings for adults are held each week evening at 8 PM preceded by open air meeting on 4 nights. Thursday & Tuesday evenings are the Soldiers' nights. Attendance varies according to what is on, from 100 to 300 – but I am going to double that.

My methods are peculiar to the ordinary run. I am not an orthodox man (meaning Salvationist) Has "Bible rough & ready's". Popularise the Old Testament. Make the history apply to modern life. Make Abraham live in the nineteenth century. Has found this class of exposition very successful in other places.

Have 300 Soldiers, including recruits and about 120 Junior soldiers. 3 Brigades.

Visitation

Relief

District is divided into 8 wards with 2 visiting sergeants in each. These visit converts, sick &c. & report to officer. ~~He~~ is supposed to visit 18 homes a week, but cannot always do it. At previous corps, ~~he~~ has succeeded in visiting every member once a month, at least for past 6 or 7 years. Nothing to prevent him doing it here. Has names in sheet order & records every visit, dates etc. Showed me his book, with several pages of visits recorded. Name address & date of visitation.

No organised relief fund and no money to give but "you cannot ask Godo blessing on a person who has not a 1d loof." Often comes home without a cent in his pocket. Used to get a large number of cadgers, who thought them fair game but the starting of the social work has helped them wonderfully. ~~Tells them, you~~ Tells the unsatisfactory ones, "You will get nothing out of me" and now they give him the cold shoulder. Can always tell the ~~old~~ cadging class. Immediately starts dealing with them about their spiritual condition.

His Opinion of Penge

Had not heard about the migration from the Moorgate St Area to Penge.

Regent Hall

condition. They can't stand that & sheer off. If only a bed were wanted, would give a letter to a shelter – never give money.

Into the ~~general~~ local questions I did not enter but encouraged the Adjutant to speak of the work at his other London Stations Penge & Regent Hall.

At Penge he said the Church (St Johns) was dead against them. The Baptists (Rev W. Hobbs) were friendly. The pastor a very good fellow. Appley Road & the district immediately round was very bad. They could not do very much there – could not grow much. If the people became decent they cleared out from Penge, whilst beyond the poor area the people thought themselves above the Salvation Army.

Regent Hall appears to be a unique corps. ~~Like~~ With other officers, the Adjutant describes it as unlike any other corps he has been to. Saw more gold in the collections there than in all his other Army experiences.

Prostitution

Aversion to Rescue Home Laundries

Appreciation

Always a fresh congregation at each meeting - "a great ~~blessing~~ responsibility and privilege".

At Regent Hall, they come very closely into touch with prostitutes and upon these the Army appears to have made a strong impression, ~~not~~ by their midnight brigades etc. Women now regard them as their friends. Some who would have knocked the officer's cap off or slit a Hallelujah bonnet would now fight for them.

Amongst these women there is a great aversion to the methods of some of the Rescue agencies, especially to the laundry work.. "Go & slap soapsuds - I'll rot first", was the words of one & the sentiment of many.

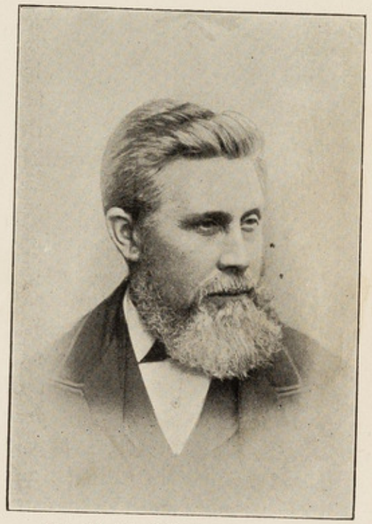
He claims for the Army treatment of these women that they have to a large extent solved the problem by providing many occupations, and placing the girls in that for which they appear fitted, nor do they place many together.

Of Mr Thompson, I formed a high opinion. A bright cheerful countryman with wide human

human sympathies combined with uncompromising christian principle make him an attractive personality. He has unbounded confidence in himself - or perhaps he would say in the gospel he presents to the people. This is combined with a contempt for Londoners, (implied rather than expressed) whom he regards as distinctly inferior to the hard-headed independent north country men.

He will probably ~~do the~~ double the attendance as he expects to do.

Mr W. H. Whittenbury
Gifford Hall



Mr. W. H. WHITTENBURY.

Character of Congregation

St Michael's parish.

15/6

(2)

Mr W. H. Whittenbury, 59 Holloway Road N.

Mr Whittenbury is the lay-pastor of Gifford Hall Mission Church. A man of about 56; stout with greyish hair & beard. He has been connected with mission work from his youth. Came here as lay pastor in 1872; previously worked a little mission at Blundell Street, which is now worked by Mr Benson.

The ~~Mis~~ Gifford Hall Mission originated in 1859 as a Branch Mission of Offord Road Chapel at Tufford Hall (the same place as the Church occupied in its early days). It was not successful at first but grew under the charge of Mr B. Clarke. In 1871 Gifford Hall was opened, Mr W. coming in the following year. See "A Souvenir, the story of the origin of the Mission" & the Report for 1896 for further details.

The people come from the adjoining streets: a few from the east side of Caledonian Road and a good many from Beaconsfields Bldgs. Respectable poor: labouring men: live from day to day but are far better than 20 years ago. ~~(Se~~ Change very much. Partially account for this by so many being railway men – porters and shunters

Persons Employed

Buildings Used

Services Held

'on the bank.' They get shifted to other towns. (See also Book XXXVIII. 55)

~~Op~~ Hall Keeper is the only paid person. Pastor & about 20 other workers, beside 65 S. S. teachers.

Gifford Hall holds 350 easily (Have had more than 450 in) small hall 60, 3 large rooms & 4 class rooms.

Sunday. Prayer Meeting 7.30 AM & Morning service 11. 40 average; Evening - 250

Sunday School. Morning, Afternoon & Evening

	Average attendance Teachers.	Scholars
Morning -	13	173
Afternoon	32	429
Evening	20	270

On the Book. 630 scholars.

Wednesday - Service.

Children's Services. Sunday morning for Infants and one for Upper school. Evening (two) for Boys & Girls.

Women's Bible Class - 42 members.

Men's " "

Christian Endeavour Soc. 40 members.

Wed. " " " Junior 66 " over

Church Membership

GIFFORD * HALL * MISSION.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR 1896.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.
Morning, 173 in average attendance.
Afternoon, 429 in average attendance.
Evening, 230 in average attendance.

SEPARATE SERVICES.
Morning, for Infants and Upper School. Evening, Boys and Girls, separately.

MOTHERS' MEETING, with CLOTHING, BOOT and COAL CLUBS. 98 Members.

WEEK EVENING BIBLE CLASSES FOR WOMEN.
42 Members; and MEN,

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN UNION.
35 Members.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR BAND.
40 Members.

JUNIOR BRANCH, 66 Members.

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE READING ASSOCIATION.
80 Members.

JUNIOR BAND OF HOPE.
84 Members.

INFANTS' PLAYROOM.

MISSION CHURCH.
188 Members.

Services for Adults, Sunday Morning and Evening. Week Evening Services on Wednesday. Prayer Meetings.
Open-air Services—May to October.

over

GOSPEL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE VISITATION AND TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

MEN'S TOTAL ABSTINENCE BENEFIT SOCIETY. 81 Members.

WOMEN'S TOTAL ABSTINENCE BENEFIT SOCIETY. 58 Members.

PENNY BANK. 924 Depositors.

SCHOLARS' SICK CLUB. 76 Members.

CHILDREN'S COUNTRY HOLIDAY FUND.

50 Ailing Children sent to the Country for a fortnight.

FLOWER SHOW.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS. 376 Distributed.

SOUP KITCHEN.

HOMES FOR AGED POOR. With 8 Occupants.

LOAN BLANKETS.

THE MISSION CHOIR.

Teachers and other Christian Workers are greatly needed.

Church

Social Agencies

Visitation

Social agencies are active & numerous as shown on previous page.

Band of hope – 84 members

Scholars Sick Club 70 members.

Penny Bank . 924 depositors . Deposits in 1896 £568.

Flower Show. in connection with S.S. 170 exhibits last year.

Infants Play room. Friday evening. Children of the schools come to ~~play~~ play – about 100 at a time – admitted by ticket in rotation. Have a bun as they go home. Turn comes about once in three weeks.

Mothers Meeting 98 members, average attendance 77. with several Clubs.

Homes for Aged Poor. Pay rents of rooms 2/6 or 3/- a week for old people, who have of some income. either from sons or from parish or other source.

Gospel Temperance Meeting

Goose Club & Holiday Fund

Men's Total Abstinence Benefit Society. 88 members

Women's " " " 58 members.

Thrift Club in connection – nearly £30 deposited.

Mrs W. visits in the district. Members of Endeavour Society also visit.

House-to-House Visitation is going forward as usual by Mr. and Mrs. Peachey, Mrs. Maluish, Mrs. Stokes, and Mr. Fleming, who distribute tracts, and relieve distress by gifts of bread, tea, coal, etc., where needed, for which purpose Mr. Fleming specially collected about £14 10s. These friends visit the sick and aged in Islington Infirmary, and thus keep in touch with our dear old people. It should be understood that this visiting is not in place of, but in addition to that done by other workers and agencies of the Mission.

Only go to follow the local people.

Nursing

Charitable Relief

CHRISTMAS DINNERS, NEW YEAR'S TREATS, AND RELIEF FUND, 1896—1897.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand ...	11	15	1
,, Church Anniversary Collections in Oct., 1896	5	17	4
,, Profit on Anniversary Tea	1	8	6
,, London Congregational Union, per Mr. E. Wilson Gates	7	10	0
,, Subscriptions and Donations (p. 16)	64	5	7
	£90	16	6

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
By Christmas Dinners	21	10	4
,, Infants' Treat ...	3	11	8
,, Juniors' ,, ...	4	18	3
,, Senior Scholars' Social	4	0	6
,, Infants' Playroom, Buns and Toys ...	1	12	7
,, Band of Hope Tea	1	4	10
,, Soup Kitchen ...	8	10	10
,, Loans for Assistance	12	0	0
,, Printing, Tickets, and Postage ...	1	2	7
,, Poor People's Home Fund	1	0	0
,, Coal, Bread, Gifts, &c.	11	15	4
,, Cash in hand... ...	19	9	7
	£90	16	6

Sometimes send for a nurse, but oftener gets one of the poorer women to take up the case. Would pay for nurse out of church relief fund.

For a small place a good deal of relief is given. The Relief Fund was £90 in 1896-97. Rents for Homes for Aged Poor amounted to £47.13. (8 kept) and there is also a small amount from the Communion collections for the poor of the Church. The distribution is mainly for relief of widows & children or sick cases. Very careful in dealing with chronic cases. Visit the people and know all their cases, having been so long in the neighbourhood. Also on friendly terms with St Andrews & St Michaels and compare lists for Christmas dinners etc with them & Board School Teachers.

Soup Kitchen is opened on Tuesday & Friday during severe weather. Give the soup away & sell the bread. Issue 1d tickets which entitle recipient to quart of soup & 1d of bread. Christmas dinners are on rather a large scale. Last Xmas, 376 cooked dinners were given "to the most deserving poor around us". [These agencies are included in the £90 above].

Other Agencies

Police

People to see

St Michael.- not doing much. A little help from Muldmay but the sisters are gone now. No ~~Cit~~ city missionary on district for years.

Dr Gwyther has a club in Beaconsfield Bldg. Gives a little assistance but not so substantial as formerly. ~~Dr~~ Club Not doing so much as it used to do. Was an active agency. It is more ~~for~~ to catering for the people's amusement than relief.

Pembroke Hall. Used to be brethren. Doing a little but never come into touch with them.

Most of the police are very good fellows.

On housing and other points see notes in Book XXXVIII p 55 sq.

Other old residents in the district are Mr W. Adams of 43 Thornhill Road, now retired from business. Is a churchwarden of St Andrews & Supt of their Mission Sunday school. Can go back 50 odd years

Mr Ryders the scripture reader at St Andrews, has been there 30 to 40 years but is not such a good man as Adams.

Visit to Bethoven
Parte 5 Wpe 8
Cut me that a B