

Christmas Day in Keld - 1843

By Rev Gillian Bobbett



At 7 o'clock in the morning a Prayer Meeting in Chapel, after which the Sunday School Teachers sat down to Breakfast together. 33 in all breakfasted in the morning. At half past 9 o'clock 140 children were arranged in order in front of the Chapel when Mr Boyd of Low Row made a speech powerful and impressive, after which a sacred piece was sung with instrumental music playing by friends from Gunnerside. The children then proceeded in procession to Angram wher Mr Boyd delivered a second speech and another piece of music was performed. They then returned to Keld where tea and cakes were provided for the children when 134 children partook and this concluded their morning enjoyments highly delighted.

Dinner being provided, 30 sat down to dinner. At half past 1 o'clock a numerous congregation assembled in the Chapel

when a sermon was preached by the Revd William Palmer of Hawes. After service 87 sat down to tea in the school. At half past 3 in the evening commenced a Public Tea Party when 160 were regiled with tea and spice loaf. The whole company that took tea in the School House during the day was 401. Collection to meet the expenses was made at the Tables amounting to £7-3-10 .

At 7 o'clock there was a Public Meeting in the Chapel when addresses were delivered by Messrs Boyd, Palmer and Wilkinson, the Chapel being crowded to excess. Perhaps on no former occasion were there more company and excitement at Keld. The day was fine, and all passed off with cheerfulness and satisfaction. May the Lord overrule the services of the day to glory of his name and to the good of souls.