

G5577

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE
OF
SOUTH PLACE CHAPEL
FOR THE YEAR 1877.

SOUTH PLACE CHAPEL

1877.

Minister.

MONCURE D. CONWAY, M.A., Hamlet House, Hammersmith.

Committee.

Mrs. ANDERSON
Mr. E. K. BLYTH
,, W. BURR
,, G. W. COOKE
,, E. DALLOW
,, R. G. HEMBER
,, G. HICKSON
,, P. HICKSON
,, R. S. JOHNSON
,, J. KNIGHT
,, E. R. LEVEY

Mrs. McMORRAN
Mr. W. J. REYNOLDS
,, C. H. SEYLER
,, J. SHAW
,, W. SHURY
,, J. STOUT
Mrs. THOS. TAYLOR
Mr. W. D. THOMSON
,, A. J. WATERLOW
Miss WILLIAMS.

Treasurer and Chairman.

Mr. GEORGE HICKSON, 35, Highbury New Park, N.

Secretary.

Mr. E. R. LEVEY, 162, The Grove, Camberwell, S.E.

Secretary Sotree Committee.

Mr. CORRIE B. GRANT, 8, Fig Tree Court, Temple, E.C.

Choir-Master.

Mr. J. TROUSSELLE, 7, Blandford Place, N.W.

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE OF SOUTH PLACE CHAPEL
FOR THE YEAR 1877.

YOUR Committee are glad, while submitting their Annual Report, to be able to express their assurance of the growing appreciation of the cause promoted at South Place, shown in the rapidly increasing numbers that attend the services, and listen with rapt attention to Mr. Conway's interesting discourses. Satisfactory evidence of this is to be found in the amount received for seat-rents, which from £431 in 1875, rose to £478 in 1876, and £586 in the year just concluded.

In consequence of this increase in the attendance, your Committee deemed it necessary, for the purpose of providing additional accommodation in the body of the hall, to re-arrange the sittings, and by so doing they have obtained 52 more seats, many of which are already let.

It will be within the recollection of the majority of the Members of this Society that last year a guarantee-fund, amounting to £1,700, was formed; and it is with much satisfaction that your Committee refer to the accompanying Balance Sheet to show that the current expenses of the year have again, notwithstanding the additional demands made upon the resources of the Chapel, been fully met without calling upon the Guarantors.

One of the first duties your Committee had to consider, was the preparation of the Hymn Book for a reprint, the first impression of 1,500 copies having been exhausted; and it was a great satisfaction to them to be able, by printing 4,500 copies, to produce an edition, a part of which, printed on cheaper paper, might be sold at 1s. a copy. About 500 copies of this re-issue have already been disposed of. Typographical and other errors in the previous issue have been corrected, and the work now takes its place as one of the best of the kind for the use of free religious Societies. It is gratifying to know that one other Congregation, viz., that of the Rev. G. Dale, of Burton-on-Trent, has already adopted it, and it may confidently be expected that other Societies will do the same.

Your Committee regret that they have been unable to carry out the resolution, passed at the last annual general meeting, "that the whole question of the music be referred to arbitration." Mr. H. K. Moore, acting under the advice of his friends, declined to submit to arbitration the only point really at issue, viz.: the right of the congregation to the continued use of the music composed and arranged by him, during his tenure of the office of Musical Director, for the use of the Congregation in connexion with their hymn book. Your Committee therefore took steps for the preparation of new tune books, and are pleased to express their acknowledgment of the valuable assistance rendered by the choir-master, Mr. J. Trousselle, in the composition and selection of music, and of the general efficiency of the choir under his able and energetic management.

The amount received for letting the chapel is in excess of the previous year, although the Sunday League have not engaged it for their "Sunday Evenings for the People," and a growing item of revenue may be looked for from this source. The Committee congratulate the League in being able to carry on their good work in a larger and more commodious building.

The Annual Soirée was held at the Cannon Street Hotel with unprecedented success; and the Monthly Soirées have taken place in the Chapel, affording pleasant opportunities for the

members of the Society to become better acquainted. The Committee cannot sufficiently thank the ladies and gentlemen who arrange these evenings in so satisfactory a manner.

The Chapel was closed during the month of August. On the other Sundays of the year, Mr. Conway has delivered discourses noticeable for those distinctive charms and qualities, always identified in our minds with his name. Several of these discourses have been printed during the year, and Mr. Conway has published his "Idols and Ideals," a work embodying much of the thought contained in discourses previously delivered at South Place. These publications have been received by the congregation with evident satisfaction.

A meeting was held in the Chapel on Sunday, the 6th of May, to support the policy indicated in the resolutions which the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone proposed moving in the House of Commons on the following day. Resolutions to that effect were passed by the meeting, and a petition signed by the chairman was presented to the House of Commons. It is hoped that the deplorable war which has during the past year raged in Turkey, may shortly be terminated by an enduring peace, under which freedom and good government may be secured for the oppressed populations of Eastern Europe.

A collection was made in the Chapel on Sunday, the 28th October, in aid of the funds of the Normal College for the Blind, when the sum of £33 1s. 8d. was contributed.

In April last a bust of the late W. J. Fox, by the late eminent sculptor Mr. T. Earle, was presented to the Congregation by his widow, and the Committee took it upon themselves, to tender to her, the best thanks of the congregation for her acceptable present. The members of South Place Chapel will be glad to hear that the kindred Society meeting at the Athenæum, Camden Road, continues to attract those who are beginning to face the religious problems of the day; and in this way many who might never reach South Place are brought into sympathy with its views and objects.

In conclusion, your Committee believe that the progress of freedom and the growth of intellectual activity, both of which this Society has so warmly at heart, are evidenced by the movements which have taken place in the religious and scientific world, and especially in the cordial reception which has been recently accorded to Mr. Darwin, and the honour awarded to him by one of our most ancient Universities; in the overwhelming majority, by which Convocation has now admitted Women to the degrees of the University of London, and by the important events which have taken place in France and other parts of the world during the past year.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, SOUTH PLACE CHAPEL, FOR THE YEAR 1877.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand.....	32	19	8		500	0	0
Seat Rents.....	586	13	6	By Mr. Conway.....	127	6	0
Collections.....	107	11	1	" Choir.....	24	14	0
Sale of Hymn Books and Pamphlets.....	92	7	4	" Salaries.....	41	16	4
Rent of House.....	70	0	0	" Advertising.....	40	6	3
Soirée Committee.....	25	15	4	" Rates, Taxes and Insurance.....	22	18	1½
Annual Soirée.....	8	0	11	" Coals and Gas.....	126	13	0
Chapel lettings.....	121	3	3	" Interest on Mortgage.....	64	19	11
Collection for the Normal College for the Blind.....	33	1	8	" Printing and Stationery.....	21	18	4
				" Sundries.....	18	10	2
				" Repairs.....	8	2	0
				" Tuning Organ.....	33	1	8
				" College for the Blind.....	47	6	2
				" Balance carried to Hymn Book Account.....			
					<u>£1,077</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>9</u>

NEW HYMN BOOK ACCOUNT.

From General Account.....	47	6	2	By Paper and Printing, 4,500 copies.....	116	9	9
Balance due to Treasurer.....	79	17	11	" Binding, 650 copies.....	10	14	4
					<u>£127</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>

BENEVOLENT FUND.

Balance in hand.....	16	18	0½	By Sundry Payments.....	14	0	0
Collection, December 30th.....	15	19	8	" Balance in hand.....	18	17	3½
					<u>£32</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>3½</u>

GEORGE HICKSON, Treasurer.

Examined and found correct this 18th January, 1878,
ALEX. McMORRAN, }
J. A. LYON, } Auditors.

Estimated and paid

18 11 81
18 11 81
18 11 81

Co. Capt. Deschamps Sal.
 Pay for 12 months

18 11 81
18 11 81
18 11 81

Adjutant Genl. Deschamps No 11 11
 Equip Genl. Deschamps No 11 11
 Total \$1,000.00

RECEIVED OF THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
 THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS:
 1. For the pay of Capt. Deschamps for 12 months, \$1,000.00
 2. For the pay of Adjutant Genl. Deschamps for 12 months, \$1,000.00
 3. For the pay of Equip Genl. Deschamps for 12 months, \$1,000.00
 Total \$3,000.00

RECEIVED OF THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY