



ST. PETER'S, HALLIWELL

1840 - 1940

CENTENARY
of
CONSECRATION

11TH OCTOBER, 1840

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PARISH

Foreword.

One of the delights of the older generation is the recollection of the past and old associations. The completion of a cycle of years, such as a Golden Wedding or a Jubilee, acts as a spur to such recollections. Minds are more alert, old associations are recalled, incidents are related giving pleasure both to the reciter and hearers.

The centenary of a church is such an occasion, and this year of 1940, the CENTENARY OF ST. PETER'S, HALLIWELL, is the occasion of the call for a history, tracing, from its origin, the development of the parish.

A characteristic of the work of its earliest days was to encourage the young and old to become acquainted with the text of God's Word : which Our Lord Jesus Christ said—"testifies of Me" : and this characteristic prevails to-day.

St. Peter's stands foursquare "for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ" ; it is, therefore, not to be wondered at that it remains true to the Scriptural, Evangelical and Protestant standards of the Church of England, and that for long years it has been known for its Evangelical teaching and for the missionary fervour and generosity of its members.

Avoiding the use of questionable, worldly means either for the attraction of people or for the raising of money, its members have learned the joy of giving, and some of them may be well said to have given "up to their means and beyond".

In commending this brochure to the members and the friends of St. Peter's, I am conscious of the fact that it is not possible to recount the most important part of its work, the spiritual results ; eternity alone can reveal those.

Our hearts go out in praise to God for the many blessings He has bestowed upon St. Peter's in the past, and our prayers rise up to Him, that He may glorify Himself in pouring out rich blessings, temporal and spiritual, upon us in this year of Centenary.

Restrictions, due to war conditions, have necessitated the abbreviation of this history, and much which otherwise would have been included has perforce been omitted. I bespeak for it generous support and a wide circulation. Send a copy to your friends.

P. MARR DAVIES,
Vicar.

1940.

St. Peter's Church, Halliwell.

ORIGIN.

St. Peter's, Halliwell, is a daughter church of the ancient Parish of St. Mary, Deane, which was in existence in the year 1100. Through Smithills Chapel, attached to Smithills Hall, it is linked to the memory of George Marsh, the martyr of Deane.

George Marsh was born at Deane and was educated at one of the local grammar schools. He married at the age of 25. Upon the death of his wife he entrusted his children to the care of his mother, and proceeded to the University of Cambridge. His studies completed, he was ordained by the Bishops of London and Lincoln, and began his ministry as curate of All Hallows, Bread Street, London. In 1547, on the Accession of Edward VI to the throne, Marsh was appointed by the Court one of the "preaching ministers" in Lancashire, whose duty was not only to solemnise the parochial services in Manchester, but to itinerate in the neighbourhood and preach in its several churches and chapels the doctrines of the Reformation.

In the course of this Ministry he visited his native village and ministered in its church, although there is no record of his being instituted as vicar. Learning that a warrant had been issued for his arrest, he left his children with his own mother, having desired his friends and kinsfolk to comfort and be good to them, and surrendered to Sir Roger Barton at Smithills Hall.

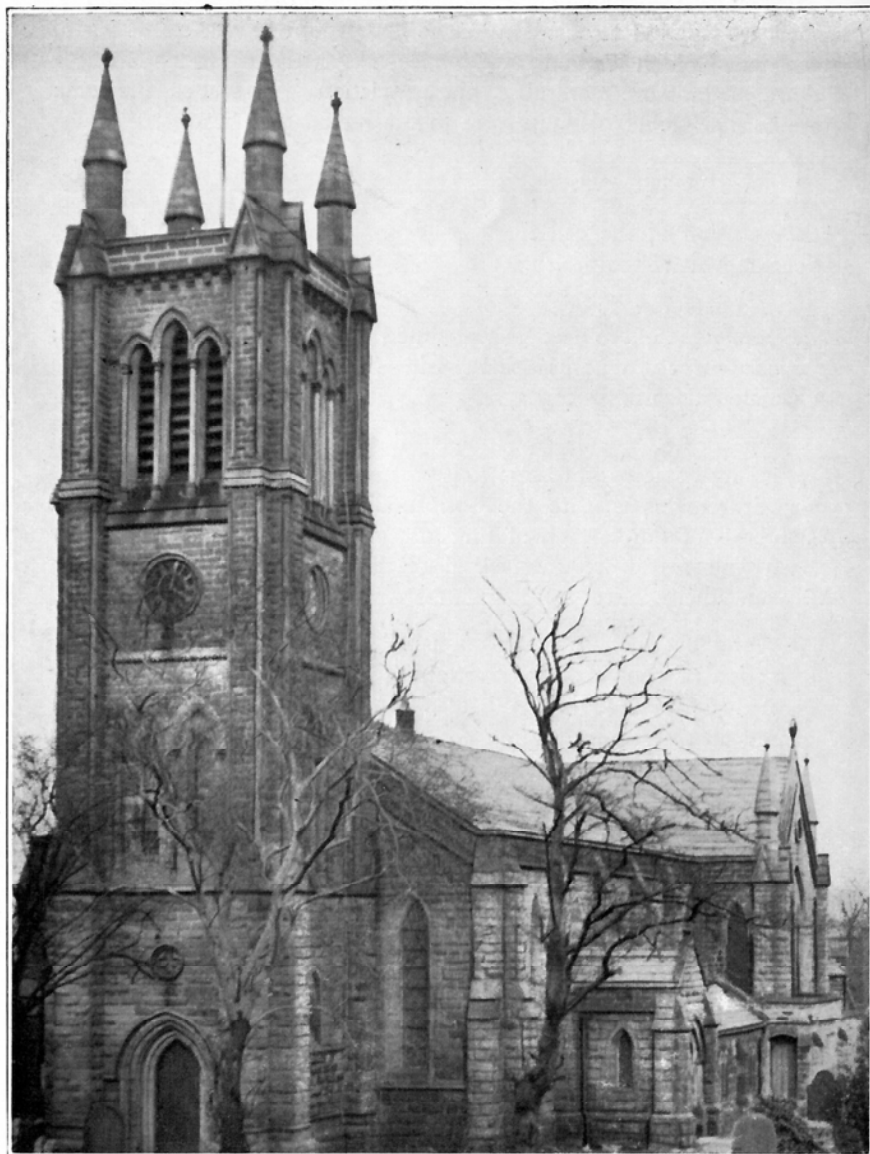
After trial he was convicted of heresy and sent for further examination to Edward, the Earl of Derby, at Latham House in West Lancashire. His conviction was confirmed, and he was confined in Lancaster Castle from Easter to October, 1554, from whence he was taken to Chester where, after further examination, he was condemned to be burned as a heretic, the sentence being executed on the morning of 24th April, 1555, at West Chester.

These doctrines, for which he laid down his life, the scriptural doctrines asserted in the 39 Articles, and the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England, are preached in St. Peter's Church.

Smithills Hall came into the possession of the Ainsworth family in the year 1801, when Richard Ainsworth, of Moss Bank, the son of Peter Ainsworth of Lightbounds, acquired it by purchase.

Following the purchase, the interest of the Ainsworth family in the welfare of their employees at the bleachworks, founded by the grandfather of Richard, Peter the Elder of Lightbounds, was manifested in the desire shown for their education.

Other gentlemen in the neighbourhood were also interested and, in the year 1809, a movement was started to provide a school for the education of the poor children of Halliwell, which resulted in the building of the Jubilee School. A meeting was held on the 21st October, 1809, attended by the principal inhabitants of Halliwell, and it was decided to erect a school as the most effectual means of celebrating the Jubilee of the reign of His Majesty, George III.



There was already in existence a small school, founded under the Will of a Mr. Williamson, but this had fallen on bad days, and at that time the master was not carrying out his duties nor would he vacate the premises. It was at first proposed to take over this foundation and extend its influence by building a larger school. Difficulties arose for the reasons mentioned and legal opinion was taken from a barrister, Mr. Yates of Peel Hall, Little Hulton, who advised that an action in the Court of Chancery would have to be taken to get a pronouncement on the legal status of the trustees, and of their power to deal with the property and trust. Impatient of these delays, Mr. Richard Ainsworth of Smithills Hall and his friends decided to cease any further negotiations, although a draft covenant had been engrossed on parchment leaving places for the insertion of the names of the parties of the covenant and other items. At a meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Ainsworth, a resolution was passed appointing a deputation to wait upon Mr. James Dewhurst. After the lapse of some time the present Jubilee School was built on "a piece of land at the top of Ryecroft", generously given by Mr. Dewhurst. Now the site is bounded by Captain's Clough Road, but when the school was built, and for some considerable time afterwards, there was only a path from Chorley Old Road to the country lane, which later became Church Road. This path, entered by three or four steps from Chorley Old Road, was a favourite haunt, especially in the Spring, when the bluebells were in bloom in the plantations which bordered both sides of the path.

The first stone of the school was laid by Mr. Richard Ainsworth, on the 6th March, 1811. The Rev. A. Hadfield, M.A., Chaplain of Smithills, was present. We have no record of the date of the opening of the school.

FORMATION OF THE PARISH.

The growth of industry in the early years of the 19th Century led to an increase of population in the Bolton District and opened an era of church building. In 1826 was the formation of Holy Trinity, Bolton; 1839 that of Emmanuel, Cannon Street; 1840 of St. Peter's, Halliwell; 1848 St. Paul's, Halliwell; and 1849 St. John's, Folds Road.

In the '30's of this century Mr. John Horrocks Ainsworth commenced a movement for the formation of a parish to include the district of Halliwell and Smithills, which eventuated in the formation of the parish of St. Peter, Halliwell. Its boundaries coincided with the boundaries of the civil parishes of Halliwell and Smithills, an area of 2,500 acres and marked in the main, as was customary at that period, by streams, many of which have since disappeared. In the South it reached to Chorley New Road of which the portion now bounded by Shrewsbury Road and Wyresdale Road was its border. From here on the East the boundary followed Kirkhall Lane, Mortfield Lane, through the reservoirs, crossing the junction of Tyndall Street, Merhall Street, Yarrow Place, Boundary Street,

Maria Street, Hargreaves Street, across Halliwell Road to Acton Street; the two houses at the East end of the row on the North side of Halliwell Road being outside the Parish.

Along Acton Street the boundary went to the Dean Brook, thence along the stream in a northwesterly direction, following the stream running into the Brook from Ravendene Clough, past Smithills Hall to Brian Hey Reservoir where it crossed the road and passed East of Haslam's and Lomax Wives Farms. Thence it followed the stone wall which turned in a north-westerly direction until it reached the stream at the point where there was a brick and tile works.

Here the boundary followed the stream in a southerly direction down Halliwell Glen to Barrow Bridge. Near the present bridge and in front of Ivy Cottages (Taylor's Farm), a stream ran down from the West into the Dean Brook and the boundary followed this stream behind Hollin Hey Farm to Midge Hole Clough, where it again turned in a southerly direction behind the Tempest Inn and the houses which have recently been pulled down and others built on the site.

Crossing Chorley Old Road in a north-westerly direction the boundary passed through the smithy, behind Delph Hill to the quarry, turning South across Boot Lane and passing West of Eddish Field to the stream which, on being dammed, formed Doffcocker Lodge. The stream, which now became the outflow of the Lodge, continued to be the boundary which crossed Chorley Old Road and under what is now the bowling green of the Doffcocker Inn, leaving Whitehouses in Deane Parish and later in Heaton Parish. This locality has for generations been known as "Over Jordan". A story is related concerning a Scotchman who, it is believed, said he would "doff his cockers" rather than pay the toll to cross the stream by the bridge—hence the name "Doffcocker".

The boundary continued along the stream on the West side of what is now Moorside Avenue, across Chorley Old Road down New Hall Lane by Joe Lee's Pit to Welbeck Road, turning East following a stream to Devonshire Road, then in a curved line to Chorley New Road at Shrewsbury Road.

It will thus be seen that the parish was at this time of great extent, but it was not allowed to remain so for long, for as already noted, St. Paul's, Halliwell, was formed out of it in the year 1848. This left St. Peter's Parish with its easterly boundary the Dean Brook to Smither's Bridge, up Halliwell Dean Road to Harpers Lane, continuing up the lane to Bennetts Lane, down Elgin Street to Rushey Fold Lane. In other respects the boundaries remained unaltered until the year 1874, when a further revision took place and the part South of Chorley Old Road and East of Valletts Lane was taken out to form St. Luke's and St. Thomas's, Halliwell.

St. Luke's Church was consecrated in 1874 by Dr. Fraser, Bishop of Manchester. The corner stone had been laid in November, 1869, by Mr. Peter Ainsworth, of Smithills Hall. Before the formation

of St. Luke's Parish the district was worked separately from the mother church of St. Peter's by clergy appointed by the Rev. T. A. Lindon, Vicar of St. Peter's. The North-Easterly portion passed to St. Thomas's, Halliwell, consecrated in 1875. It is interesting to note that at that time, the population remaining in St. Peter's Parish was estimated to be 1,858; to-day it is estimated to be 10,000. St. Margaret's, Halliwell, which became a separate parish in May, 1907, the church being consecrated on 9th July, 1913, is in part a grand-daughter church of St. Peter's, a portion of the parish being taken from St. Luke's, Halliwell.

CONSECRATION 1840.

St. Peter's Church was built upon a site given by Mr. R. R. Rothwell. The chief subscriber was Mr. John Horrocks Ainsworth, of Moss Bank House, Halliwell. Other members of the Ainsworth family were also generous subscribers.

The foundation stone was laid by Mr. Robert Gardner on Thursday, 8th November, 1838. The building was completed in the year 1840 and opened by licence on Palm Sunday, 12th April, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. Edward Girdlestone, M.A., Vicar of Deane. The church was consecrated by Dr. Sumner, Bishop of Chester, on the 11th October, 1840, and dedicated to St. Peter.

The church had been built only two years when signs of dry rot appeared in the timber, and it was decided to renew the whole of the interior of the fabric and, at the same time, to enlarge the church by the addition of North and South transepts and the building of an apse at the East end of the church.

The small tower was taken down and replaced by one of enlarged ground plan and increased height in which was placed a peal of 8 bells, the gift of Mr. John Horrocks Ainsworth. The new roof was more ornamental, and the pew framing was altered more in keeping with the style of the church. At this time, Mr. Ainsworth also gave an organ, and bore almost the whole cost of the restoration. The architect was Mr. James Whittaker, of Rippledell, who on his death was buried in the churchyard.

The church, closed on the 8th May, 1843, was re-opened and re-consecrated by Bishop Sumner on the 30th November, 1844.

RE-CONSECRATION 1844.

The following, an extract from a local paper, is of interest.

"The Lord Bishop was received at the churchyard gates by Mr. J. H. Ainsworth, Mr. Peter Ainsworth, M.P., the churchwardens, etc., and at the door of the Church by the Chancellor and the clergy (33 in number) who stood on each side of the porch and aisle leading to the vestry.

"The ceremony of consecrating the church being concluded, the usual services followed. Mr. J. Aspinwall officiated at the organ.

"At the close of the service, the bishop and clergy, with several of the ladies and gentlemen, were invited to the residence of Mr. Ainsworth at Moss Bank where they lunched. The children of the Jubilee School, numbering 560, followed in procession accompanied by their teachers. They were ranged on the lawn in front of Moss Bank House, where they were each supplied with a large bun. The teachers of the Sunday School, friends and managers of Mr. Ainsworth's works, to the number of 150, sat down to dinner in a large room at the works called the 'capitol'. Appropriate toasts and sentiments were given".

CHURCH RESTORATION 1880.

In 1880, following plans prepared by Mr. R. K. Freeman, the whole of the nave and North transept seats were rearranged, and a wide central aisle and two side aisles formed, thus giving better access to the seats. The South porch, formerly used as a vestry, was reopened, and a new doorway with a moulded arch was made externally. The font was moved to a central position at the West end, and a new oak font cover of suitable design provided. On each side of the font were new seats for the wardens. In the previous arrangement of the East end of the church, there existed no adequate accommodation for the choir. This was obtained Westward of the apse. Pitchpine choir stalls and desks of special design were provided on a new tiled floor raised to the level of the apse.

The whole was separated from the nave by a moulded stone coping. The pulpit was placed on a stone base at the South side of the quasi-chancel thus formed.

The organ was removed from the West gallery, reconstructed at a cost of £300, and placed in a specially formed North transept gallery, the richly decorated front being retained. Extra seating was thus obtained in the West gallery. A new vestry, harmonising in style with the old structure, was built South of the apse, and opened into the nave. It was lighted by a two light lancet window glazed with cathedral quarry glass. New side windows were placed in the transepts and new glass in the windows of the apse.

The total cost, viz., £1,812 17s. 8d., was met by subscriptions and collections.

Subscriptions included the following :—

	£	s.	d.
R. H. Ainsworth, Esq.	550	0	0
W. Hargreaves, Esq.	450	0	0
J. O. Ormrod, Esq.	250	0	0
James Ormrod, Esq.	250	0	0
Marquess de Rothwell	50	0	0
T. H. Rushton, Esq.	25	0	0
W. Hargreaves, Esq. (donation to make up deficiency)	27	6	8
Several amounts of £10, £5, 2 gns., 1 gn., etc.			

The Jubilee School was licensed for Divine Service, Publication of Banns, Solemnisation of Marriages during the repairs to the church.

THE JUBILEE OF ST. PETER'S 1890.

In the year 1890 the old vestry was converted into an organ chamber and the organ was removed from the North transept to its present position. The door and lancet window of the first vestry may be seen at the South-West corner of the exterior of the church. A new vestry was erected by the South porch.

The repair fund and alterations account, April 1890 to April 1893, totalled £393 19s. 2d. This was met by subscriptions and collections.

	£	s.	d.
Family of the late W. Hargreaves	66	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Rushton	40	0	0
R. H. Ainsworth, Esq.	20	0	0
J. C. Ormrod, Esq.	20	0	0
Rev. J. H. Coghlan	5	0	0
John Lomax, Esq.	5	0	0
Joseph Thwaites, Esq.	5	0	0
James Ormrod, Esq.	5	0	0
Mrs. Balshaw	5	0	0

And various smaller amounts.

Collected in Sunday School, April, 1890 23 11 7

Collected in Church, 23rd November, 1890 (Reopening)

and March, 1891 27 11 0

The architect was Mr. R. K. Freeman, F.R.I.B.A., whose son, Mr. F. R. Freeman, F.R.I.B.A., was the architect for the new Delph Hill Mission Hall in the year 1936. His practice later passed to Mr. H. Higson, who was the architect of the Stott Memorial Vestry in 1933.

It is worthy of note that on the re-opening after these alterations, the Rev. J. H. Coghlan, who was vicar at the time, after a week-night service in church, read a history of St. Peter's to the congregation. In that account it was mentioned that the employees at Ainsworth's Bleachworks each gave a day's wages towards the re-roofing of the church in the 1844 re-building, and were present at church on the Sunday following the re-opening.

LIGHTING.

It is interesting to trace the development of the lighting of the church from candles to electric light. There is no mention of oil lamps having been used, and it would appear that from 1840 candles were used until 1869 when gas lighting was introduced at a cost of £55. In 1904 incandescent gas fittings were introduced and these were remodelled in 1920/21, to be replaced by electric fittings in 1925 at a cost of £144. £115 of this was collected at a thank-offering service in the church.

ADDITION TO FABRIC.

In 1933 a new vestry, in memory of the Rev. P. Stott, who held the living for 30 years, was built on the South side of the Church, adjoining the existing vestry and South transept. It is in the Early

English style of architecture to harmonise with the rest of the building, and to maintain this harmony, stone, worked from the same quarry as that used in building the church and already weathered by exposure in old buildings of Ainsworth's Bleachworks, was kindly given for that purpose.

The foundation stone was laid by Mrs. Silvester on Saturday, 25th February, 1933, and the vestry, and also a Mural Tablet were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Manchester, Dr. Guy Warman, on Saturday, 13th May, 1930.

ARCHITECTURE.

The ground plan of the building is cruciform, consisting of nave, transepts and a quasi-chancel, with a tower at the west end. There are vestries on the south side, and also porches on the north and south sides of the building.

In the erection of the building, the Early English style of architecture has been used, and the result is very dignified and beautiful.

An examination of the exterior of the building reveals some interesting features. The building is perhaps best viewed from the south-east, from which position one appreciates the dignity of the Early English style with the perpendicular lines of turrets, lancet windows, buttresses and tower.

A closer examination of the arches of the east window reveals the "dog-tooth" decoration and also carvings of queens' heads which support the drip-stone.

The tower calls for special attention, for it is a fine example of the Early English style. Near the tower door stands the original font of the church.

Before entering the church, one notices the finely wrought hinges of the north door, and the drip-stone of the porch arch supported by carved representations of heads.

On entering the church several objects attract attention. The roof is most elegant, particularly the juncture of the nave with the transepts. The arches of the quasi-chancel and transepts, supported by cluster shafts having bell capitals, are elegantly decorated with chevron and dog-tooth ornament.

The East window consists of three lancets, the glazing of which has been executed in the style appropriate to the period. Early English glass was designed in geometrical pattern, and figure painting or heraldic devices were usually confined to medallions inserted in the design. In the middle lancet there is a representation of St. Peter, while in the flanking lancets there are representations of scenes from his life and death. The geometrical designs have been executed in very brilliant colours.

Under the East window there is a very beautiful arcade of trefoil pointed arches, similar to that in Salisbury Cathedral, and is worthy of special attention.

On the North wall of the apse there is a bracket with a trefoil pointed arch.

The South side is now occupied by the Organ which formerly stood on the gallery. The first vestry was altered to make an organ chamber. The organ case is composed of Early English tracery, with high pointed gables, surmounted with richly carved crockets and finials.

The finials are bold and beautiful, edged with gold and ultramarine. The other parts of the organ case are similarly ornamented. The organ, a very superior instrument, was built by Mr. Jackson, of Bolton. This fine instrument will play seven notes lower than ordinary organs, down to C. Above the organ the arms (Gu., three Battle Axes, Or) of John H. Ainsworth are to be found illuminated in stained glass, emblazoned in tincture. The metal of the pipes is spoken of as spotted metal, and is of excellent quality.

The pulpit is carved and is in keeping with the general architecture of the building.

The lectern is a finely carved representation of an eagle. The stone chancel wall is pierced by quatrefoils.

Proceeding to examine the window of the South Transept, one finds that it consists of three lancets, glazed in the Early English style. The middle lancet has a medallion with a representation of St. Paul. In the left flanking lancet there is a medallion with the heraldic arms of Ainsworth impaling Noble, while in the right flanking lancet there is similarly depicted the arms of Ainsworth impaling Shaw.

The North Transept window is glazed with impainted glass.

At the West end of the church there is a gallery, the front of which is carved with an arcade of pointed arches. Under the gallery is situated the font.

The font is a beautiful specimen in the Early English style. It is octagonal. Around the rim at the top is carved the text "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter the Kingdom of God". John 3, 5. The carvings on the panels include the Arms of the Diocese of Manchester, Arms of J. H. Ainsworth, the Paschal Lamb, the Keys of St. Peter, Greek Monogram, etc. The font is supported by a cluster of shafts with dog-tooth ornament interspaced.

By his attention to detail, the architect has been able to produce a building in the Early English style which can be counted as one of the treasures in Bolton church architecture.

Around the Apse is the following text from Ps. 96 : 2. "SING UNTO THE LORD, BLESS HIS NAME; SHEW FORTH HIS SALVATION FROM DAY TO DAY."

THE BELLS.

St. Peter's is fortunate in having an excellent peal of bells presented to the Church at the restoration in the year 1844. "The gift of John Horrocks Ainsworth", in addition to a text, is cast on each bell.

The weights of the bells with the texts are as follows :—

- No. 1. 5c., 1q., 9lbs. Joel, Chap. 1. "Call a solemn assembly, gather the elders, and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the Lord your God".
- No. 2. 5c., 2q., 18lbs. Psalm 96. "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness ; let all the earth stand in awe of Him".
- No. 3. 6c., 2q., 2lbs. Psalm 100. "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise".
- No. 4. 6c., 3q., 20lbs. Psalm 100. "The Lord is gracious, His mercy everlasting and His truth endureth from generation to generation".
- No. 5. 8c., 2q., 12lbs. Psalms 50 and 96. "Give the Lord the glory due unto His name, bring an offering, and pay thy vows unto the most High".
- No. 6. 9c., 2q., 20lbs. Psalm 33. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord ; and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance".
- No. 7. 10c., 3q., 18lbs. Romans, Chap. X. "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things".
- No. 8. 16c., 1q., 25lbs. Rev., Chap. V. "Blessing and honour, and glory, and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever".

St. John, Chap. XI. "I am the resurrection and the life", saith the Lord, "he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live".

Peals and Touches.

A record, taking the form of a lithographed sheet showing a picture of the Church, has been preserved. It announces that on Sunday, 24th June, 1888, a date touch of 1,888 changes was rung, in 1 hour 5 minutes, as a farewell peal by the band of ringers, whose services were being dispensed with, but gives no reason therefor. The names of the ringers, churchwardens and vicar appear thereon.

Other recorded peals of special interest are as follows :—

13th January, 1887, "a date touch" in honour of the marriage of Miss Emily and Miss Mabel Hargreaves.

3rd March, 1900. The Relief of Ladysmith.

7th February, 1901 (Muffled). Death of Queen Victoria.

6th May, 1925 (Muffled). In memory of Mrs. R. H. Ainsworth.

20th October, 1933 (Muffled). As a token of respect for William Pennington, conductor of the band for many years.

10th December, 1938. Celebrating the marriage of the Rev. E. A. Pitt, M.A., Curate of St. Peter's, to Miss O. M. Stocker, of Nottingham.

Names of bellringers with long service include R. Thornley (50 years), W. Crankshaw (37 years), J. Gregory, James Seddon, W. Pennington (35 years), H. Sidey, John Seddon. R. Seddon,

W. Thornley, J. Fleetwood. The present leader Mr. John F. Wood, is making a great effort to maintain a Home Band by training young ringers, despite the difficulties attendant on war conditions.

Handbells.

It is recorded that in addition to presenting the peal of bells to the tower, Mr. J. H. Ainsworth at the same time presented a set of handbells, consisting of 64 bells. Unfortunately in the process of time most of these disappeared and only a serviceable peal of eight remained in 1930, and some of these were much worse for wear. The inscription "The gift of John Horrocks Ainsworth of Moss Bank" is still readable on the tenor bell.

In January, 1937, the present band of ringers presented a new ring of 8 handbells to the Church, and these were dedicated to the Service of God by the Rev. W. Russell Davey. In November of the same year two additional trebles were added by the members, giving an excellent ring of 10 bells, the ringing of which has given pleasure to friends assembled at the parochial gatherings.

SMITHILLS CHAPEL.

A history of St. Peter's, Halliwell, would be incomplete without a brief reference to its association with Smithills Chapel, the private chapel of Smithills Hall.

Tradition carries the Hall back to the 6th Century, but probably the oldest portion of the present building dates to early 14th Century; and a chapel is known to have been in use from the latter part of that century, in which the family and tenants worshipped.

For some years before the Ainsworth family possessed the Hall, services had been in abeyance, but were revived in 1801, and the chapel became the place of worship for residents in Halliwell and Smithills. It was here that parents brought their children to be baptised, a record of the same being made in the Register of Deane Parish Church.

On the formation of St. Peter's Parish, registrations of Baptisms were made in the records of that church, until the Chapel was closed on Whit Sunday, 5th June, 1938, on the purchase of the estate by the Corporation of Bolton.

The scholars of the Jubilee Sunday School, who lived in Halliwell and Smithills, attended service in the Chapel on Sunday morning until St. Peter's Church was built.

From the establishment of the parish until 1930, the Chaplain of Smithills was responsible for the ministration to the portion of St. Peter's Parish within the Smithills Estate, except from 1915 to 1924 when, owing to the shortage of clergy and war conditions, the Vicar, the Rev. Percy Stott, M.A., B.D., took charge of the whole parish. In the year 1924 the Rev. P. Marr Davies, M.A., was appointed Chaplain of Smithills and took over the care of that portion until, on the death of Mr. Stott in 1930, he was appointed vicar and took charge of the whole parish, remaining honorary Chaplain of Smithills until 1938. During this time Mr. N. V. Ainsworth provided most of the stipend for a curate.

JUBILEE SCHOOL.

Some account of the origin of the school has been given and here follows a brief account of its life history.

Mr. Latham was appointed schoolmaster, and Mr. Walch secretary and treasurer. Mr. John Seward was one of the first superintendents of the Sunday School. In these early days, writing was taught on Sundays, but this was soon changed by Mr. John Darbyshire, who started a night school, where he trained a class of boys to be Sunday school teachers. This class went by the name of the "Darbyshire Lads", who became good servants for the firm of Richard Ainsworth & Sons. The members of the class included William Morris, Oliver Morris, Aaron Cranshaw, Roger Walch, John Stanning, James Rushton, James Berry, James Fletcher, Thomas Longworth and Samuel Price. Mr. Darbyshire also introduced a music class and formed a band. Mr. Ellis Morris and his son James Morris of Westhoughton, distant relatives of Messrs. John and George Morris, of Doffcocker, were engaged as teachers, both being good musicians. Veteran workers in the early days of the school included Mr. John Smith and Mr. John Ashworth.

On the 21st October, 1883, Mr. John Smith, who had been associated with St. Peter's Church, Halliwell, for upwards of 60 years, "was presented with a valuable and elegant easy chair by his friends at the Jubilee School", the testimonial being formally handed over to him by the Vicar of St. Peter's (The Rev. T. de Rome Bolton). It was a sad and remarkable circumstance that both the Vicar and Mr. Smith died within less than a week of each other, and in little more than a fortnight after the time of the presentation.

It is interesting to note that Miss Lawson (Mrs. Hulme's sister), a member of St. Peter's congregation, possesses the chair and a Bible presented to Mr. Smith. The Bible was presented on the 20th May, 1864.

The Jubilee School has undergone many alterations. In the year 1885 the school-house was added to the school, thus giving extra classroom accommodation, and the staircase was removed from the East to the West end of the school. In the year 1894 the Infants Department was enlarged, and a classroom was added at the South-East corner of the school. A new roof was put on at this time. The last schoolmaster to reside in the school-house was Mr. Williams, who left the Jubilee School in 1882. Then the caretaker, Mr. Salisbury, lived there until the time of the alterations.

Amongst the schoolmasters who followed Mr. Latham were Mr. Bennett, Mr. Morris, Mr. Bateson, Mr. Williams and Mr. H. T. Ellis. Mistresses of the Girls' Department included Miss Cawthra, Miss Plumbley, Miss Stringer, Miss Mayall, Miss Owen, Miss Callie and Miss Rothwell; and of the Infants' Department, Miss Hodkin, Miss J. Openshaw (Mrs. Tate), Mrs. Harter, Mrs. Higginson and Miss Crompton (Mrs. Thompson). Those in charge of the day school generally undertook Sunday school work as well.

Superintendents of Sunday School.—The Superintendents of the Boys' Sunday School include Messrs. Wm. Williams, H. T. Ellis, Joe Thomasson and Jesse Clegg, the present superintendent. For some years Mr. Wm. Cooper was the Superintendent of the Girls' School. Mr. E. Wigley succeeded him and upon his leaving the town the position was filled by Mr. W. Horrobin, the present leader. Mrs. Holloway has charge of the Junior Department.

In the early days of the school there was a trap-door in the floor of the upper school, which was lifted on Sundays for the opening and closing services of the two departments—Boys and Girls.

Connected with the Jubilee School was a prosperous Sick and Burial Society which was established in the year 1856. In the early years of this century the Society ceased its connection as a part of St. Peter's activities, and thenceforward was carried on as the Halliwell Church Mutual Benefit Society. It still meets in the Jubilee School.

In 1895 an application was made to the Committee of Council on Education for a building grant. The Council required confirmation of title of trust before considering the application. The Trust Deeds could not be found so application was made to the Charity Commissioners and a draft submitted on 29th February, 1860. The Council made certain suggestions, and a further draft was submitted, and a certificate was issued the 17th April, 1860, the school thus becoming a trust under the Charity Commissioners. The sole control of religious teaching in the Day School, and use for Sunday School and other purposes connected therewith out of school hours was vested in the vicar.

The children were to be instructed in the Holy Scriptures, the Liturgy and Catechism of the established church. They were also to be regularly assembled for the purpose of attending Divine Service in the parish church or other place of worship under the establishment. At this time the school was linked with the National Society for the Building of Church Schools.

The Day School was closed on 29th October, 1909, the scholars being transferred to the new Church Road Council School which opened on 2nd November under the headmastership of Mr. P. W. Evetts, B.A. Mr. H. T. Ellis, who had been headmaster of the Jubilee School for 25 years, was appointed headmaster of St. George the Martyr's Church of England School.

SMITHILLS DEAN SCHOOL.

The keen interest shown by Mr. Richard Ainsworth, of Moss Bank, in the education of the children of Halliwell was likewise shown by his sons Peter and John Horrocks, who conveyed a plot of land adjoining the highway from Horwich to Belmont on Smithills Dean in the township of Halliwell "for a site upon which to erect a building or buildings to be used as a school for the education of children and adults, or children only, of the labouring and manufacturing and poorer classes, united to the Incorporated National Society for the Education in the Principles of the Established Church", the control and management to be vested in the donors, their heirs and assignees and officiating minister for the time being of Smithills Chapel.

The heads of the day school include Mr. Middlemas, Misses E. Fielding, H. E. Martin (Mrs. J. Crompton), F. Crompton, A. Winstanley and P. Castles, the present headmistress.

MARKLAND HILL SCHOOL.

It is interesting to learn that Markland Hill School, originally a mill for hand spinning and weaving, was converted into a school in 1846 by Mr. John Horrocks Ainsworth. St. Paul's, Halliwell, is also indebted to him for its two schools, as well as its church. Mr. Peter Ainsworth took a special interest in St. Luke's Parish, and the East window is a memorial of this.

ST. PETER'S MISSIONS.

Valletts Mission.

The shape of the parish left to St. Peter's after the formation of St. Luke's was roughly that of a man's foot and leg, with the hamlet called the Valletts at the heel, Chorley Old Road along the sole, the parish church at the instep, Doffcocker at the ball of the big toe, Delph Hill beyond, Barrow Bridge at the front of the ankle, Smithills Hall and Chapel at the back and the scattered farms of Smithills Dean with Smithills Dean School up the leg. For many years building operations were confined to the south part of the parish near Chorley Old Road.

It is thought that the name Valletts was derived from the surname of a French chemist who came to Bolton in connection with the introduction of chemical bleaching. This is supported by the fact that the old people pronounce the name as if spelt "Valley". By the year 1885 the houses in Horrocks Street and Benson Street had been built, and were chiefly occupied by workers at the bleach works. In the winter 1885-86 cottage meetings were commenced in 25, Horrocks Street. From the beginning Mrs. Coghlan, the vicar's wife, took a very active interest in the work, and under her leadership it developed and a movement was inaugurated to build an iron church, resulting in the erection of the present building. The accommodation soon proved insufficient and steps were taken to erect other premises and the present two-storied brick building was erected in 1895.

The development of the clay deposits for brick making stopped building development to the east, and beyond the making of Ivy Road and Holly Grove, no building took place in this area until after the Great War. This left the "Valletts" isolated from the general parish, hidden away and difficult of access from Ivy Road via Cope Bank, and checked its development.

During the vicariate of her husband, Mrs. Coghlan continued her active interest in the Mission. This is marked by an oak prayer desk provided under the Will of Mrs. Fred Slater, who was for many years the leader of the Wednesday afternoon Women's Class held there. It was dedicated to God's service by the present vicar in the year 1934.

There is also a font dedicated to the Memory of Alice Roscow, a great worker, and an organ to the Memory of Peter Roscow, her husband, who was the Leader of the Mission at the time of his death.

Amongst the leaders of the mission may be named the Rev. John Daft, who first worked as a lay worker and later was ordained to the assistant curacy of St. Peter's, continuing the work for some two years. Other leaders include Messrs. H. Brammall, W. Rodgers, Jesse Clegg, S. Lee, W. Sims and Fred Greenlees, the present leader, and A. Owen the superintendent of the Sunday School.

The many changes since the Great War have made the work here very difficult, but a band of earnest workers maintain the fight.

Barrow Bridge Mission.

The hamlet of Barrow Bridge is the result of one of the earliest experiments in building a model village and mill in the early days of the industrial development. The name of its founder is perpetuated in the name of one of the streets, Bazley Street, the other streets being known by numbers First Street to Fifth Street. In addition to the houses, he built a large building with a number of rooms on the ground floor and a large hall above. It was intended for use as a rallying point for the villagers, the centre of the village life and culture, and was called the Institute.

On March 10th, 1863, a special adaptation of the National Anthem was sung by the Sunday and day scholars of all schools in St. Peter's Parish, in the large room, on the occasion of the marriage of His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, afterwards Edward VII. Use was also made of the Institute on other occasions. A prize giving in connection with St. Peter's Jubilee School is recorded as being held there in January, 1874. For a period the mother of the Misses Shaw was a day school teacher there, but information is not available as to the standing of the day school being held.

With the failure of the mills in 1877, the families dispersed from the district and, on account of the number of houses vacated, it became known as "the deserted village".

The commencement of a laundry, in the Institute, brought more inhabitants, and the shortage of houses after the Great War increased their number, and the village again pulsed with life. Cottage meetings were revived in Mrs. Hughes' house and from these sprang the beginning of a Sunday school. Mr. Thomas Haydock, the lessee of the property and owner of the laundry, allowed the use of the Institute for this purpose and for the holding of a Sunday evening service. On his business developing he required the room for laundry purposes and allowed a hut to be built on a portion of his land near the Institute. This was later enlarged. Further building developments brought notice to quit from the local authority and Mr. Haydock in 1939, and the work of the Mission was transferred to the present stone building leased from Miss Fletcher.

Mrs. Coghlan held some services at Barrow Bridge during the later years of her husband's Vicariate.

Amongst the leaders have been Messrs. J. Price, W. Davies, Senr., W. Rostron, C. Ashlyn, J. Wood and the present leader, Wm. Stewart. A number of families have long been connected with the Mission; one, however, is outstanding for her long 40 years' service—Mrs. Hughes, affectionately known by the children as "Granny Hughes", to whom the Mission owes a great debt of gratitude for her long and faithful service.

Delph Hill Mission.

The portion of the parish known as Boot Lane, Eddish Field and Delph Hill was not left without the witness of the Gospel, and open air services and cottage meetings were followed by meetings being established in a cottage, No. 2, Delph Hill, in October, 1902, Mr. Parker being the first superintendent. Miss Lily Shaw started a class on Tuesday evenings, and later became a Sunday school teacher. Mr. Parker later left to teach at the Valletts Mission, and Mr. Fred Greenlees undertook the work. Mr. George Isherwood, the present leader, was also a worker and was appointed superintendent when Mr. Greenlees went abroad.

Later two cottages were purchased and made into one, with the bedrooms of one cottage remaining as a gallery. These premises were used until 1934, when the New Hall, necessitated by the building of Johnson Fold Municipal Estate, was built in Tattersall Avenue, on land given by Mr. John Halstead, who also kindly lent the money to build the hall without interest. The foundation stone of the New Hall was laid by Mrs. George Isherwood on 11th November, 1933, the stone being given by Mr. A. Brammall. A memorial stone to "Jackie", Mr. Halstead's son, was placed in the wall on the opposite side of the entrance to the foundation stone. The Hall was opened on 10th February, 1934, by Mrs. Halstead, and dedicated to God's service.

At the opening of the New Hall, testimony was given to the great things God had done in the old building, an inspiration for the work in the New Hall.

Amongst the workers in the old mission were Mr. W. Grundy, Miss M. Martin, who later became Mrs. R. O. Lawson, Misses A. and E. Isherwood, and the Misses Owen as teachers, and Miss Alice Barlow and later Mr. R. O. Lawson as organist. Mr. Isherwood has been well supported in the new mission by his wife, as leader of the women's class, other members of his family and a band of willing workers.

Smithills Dean Sunday School and Service.

Although not a mission of St. Peter's Church, the above school and service, carried on under the supervision of the Chaplains of Smithills until 1930 when, under the present vicariate, it came under supervision of the vicar of St. Peter's, and is now a part of St. Peter's activity, should be mentioned, as it includes half the area of the parish

in its sphere of labour. Its inception has been already mentioned, and it only remains to be recorded that the religious life of the scattered farms was centred therein. Amongst the leaders may be mentioned Mr. Fred Slater, a true Boltonian, who, after his conversion, became a bright shining light for God and was much used in the conversion of souls. His dialect and wit give him ready access to many hearts. Mr. Sims was superintendent for a time, Mr. W. Grundy a teacher, and Mr. David Robinson, who passed to his rest on 11th June of this year, served as teacher and Sunday School superintendent for 25 years.

Mr. Fred Horrobin, Senr., was leader of the service for some years, his successor being Mr. James Fielding, who holds the office at present.

THE EVANGEL AND ITS FRUITS.

At its birth St. Peter's Church was cradled in endeavour to promote the knowledge of the scriptures. Mr. J. H. Ainsworth had sheets of texts printed and offered a reward to any youth who could recite them by chapter and verse. Miss Shaw's father gained an award for reciting some 500 texts.

The fact that the Rev. T. A. Lindon taught the Sunday School scholars the following verse testifies to his evangelical ministry :—

"I would not work my soul to save,
For that my Lord hath done :
But, I would work like any slave,
For love of God's dear Son".

Mr. Coghlan was very interested in the Irish Church Missions, and on one occasion went to Ireland himself to conduct a mission, taking with him a number of bibles for distribution. It was during his Vicariate that "Evening Prayer" was changed from Sunday afternoon to evening.

It would be to attempt the impossible to try to enumerate the fruit of the sowing of The Seed of the Word, eternity alone can declare it, but it would be to fail to give Glory to God if no mention was made of the wonderful way God used His servant, Mrs. Ainsworth, as much of the blessing received at St. Peter's during the last 50 years sprang therefrom.

Mrs. Ainsworth was a keen witness for Christ when she came to Smithills as the bride of Colonel Ainsworth ; but it was not until the Halliwell Mission, of which she was the chief support, conducted by Canon Hay Aitken, that the Colonel was converted. He at once came out boldly in witness for the Lord. Smithills Hall became a centre of definite evangelical work. Soon Mr. Thomas Hardcastle, the father of Colonel H. M. Hardcastle, was converted through Mrs. Ainsworth's influence, and as one result of that, the Bradshaw, Rigby and Riding Gate Missions stand to-day. Another well-known character converted under her influence was Mr. Fred Slater, a rough diamond afterwards much used of God. The neighbouring clergy were invited to the Hall to Bible readings and by this means the Rev. Percy Stott, at that time Curate of St. Matthew's, Bolton, came

right out on the Lord's side. Within a year he left Bolton to take up the curacy of St. Ann's, Nottingham, from which church he returned to Bolton as Vicar of St. Peter's, Halliwell, in 1900. St. Peter's soon became noted for its definite stand for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ. The work of the parish was run on definite spiritual lines, and the unevangelised people to the "uttermost part of the earth" came within the vision of the parish, and its congregation and schools became missionary hearted. After the death of the Rev. Percy Stott, in 1930, the present vicar, who had been Chaplain of Smithills Hall for six years, took over the care of the whole parish and has continued to work on these definite evangelical and Protestant lines in accordance with the scriptural teaching and practice of the Church of England as laid down in her Articles, Homilies and Book of Common Prayer.

The following lists of men ordained to the Home Ministry, and of missionaries abroad, who were members of St. Peter's Church and Smithills Chapel, is evidence of the fruitfulness of a definite evangelical ministry.

The Rev. Wm. Morris, M.A., formerly of St. Paul's, Halliwell (it is interesting to note that Mr. Morris sprang originally from the Morris's of Heaton, thus belonging to the same families as others who are mentioned in this record in connection with the early days of the church) ; The Revs. P. E. H. Stott, G. W. Bromiley, M.A., and Paul Greaves, L.Th.

Miss Alice Entwistle (died in China) ; Miss Hollis (China) ; Mrs. B. Chandar (nee Hughes) (India) ; Miss A. Lambert (India) ; Miss H. Brown (India) ; Miss M. Mitchell (Burma) (also of St. Paul's, Deansgate, Bolton) ; Miss S. Bradbury (India) (St. Andrew's Homes, Kalimpong) ; Rev. W. Stott, B.D. (S. China) ; Mrs. Payne (nee Hobson) (W. Africa) ; Mr. and Mrs. H. Kitchen (Burma) ; Mr. A. Mitchell (N.E. Africa) ; Miss C. Dodworth (India) ; Miss J. Horrocks (Nigeria) ; Rev. G. Molyneaux (Arakan) ; Miss O. Baxendale (detained in England by the war) ; Miss C. Bromiley (in training).

MEMORIALS.

Marble Tablet in South Transept.

In Memory of John Horrocks Ainsworth, of Moss Bank. This Memorial is erected by his workpeople employed by him in testimony of their grateful remembrance of his unwearied interest and of his constant liberality in promoting it. Born 18th August, 1800. Died 1st April, 1865.

Memorial Window.

The stained glass window, illustrating the Parable of the Good Samaritan, in the South Wall of the church is a memorial to the Rev. J. H. Coghlan, M.A. The inscription reads : "To the Glory of God and in Memory of the Rev. J. Henry Coghlan, for over 16 years Vicar of this Church and Parish 1883-1899. This window is erected by parishioners and his many friends".

From the Vestry Book. Vestry Meeting 15th April, 1901.

"The meeting unanimously desired to record in the minutes of the Church Vestry Book their appreciation of the work done during the vicariate of their late vicar (the Rev. J. H. Coghlan), especially the building of the organ chamber and vestry, the alteration to the Jubilee School and the building of the Mission Church and Hall at the Valletts".

Tablet on the North Wall.

This Tablet is erected to the Glory of God and in loving memory of William Fishwick, a member of this church, serving it faithfully as Sexton for 17 years. Entered into rest 21st February, 1918. Aged 66 years.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.
Their works do follow them". Rev. xiv. 13.

Memorial to the Fallen in the Great War.

A stone Tablet bearing the following inscription may be seen set in the Tower wall near the West door.

The Bells of this Church after being silent for some years were re-hung in 1923 as a memorial to those from this Church who fell in the Great War 1914-1918.

"He will swallow up death in victory". Is. xxv. 8.

Memorial to the Rev. P. Stott, M.A., B.D.

The Mural Tablet on the South wall near the Memorial Vestry door bears the following inscription :—

In grateful acknowledgment of forty years' faithful service in the ministry, the Clergy Vestry of this Church was erected by parishioners and friends in affectionate remembrance of Percy Stott, M.A., B.D., Vicar of this Parish for thirty years 1900-1930.

"He sought not the praise of men, but the Glory of God and the extension of His Kingdom".

Extract from the Parochial Church Council Records as Follows.

At a meeting of the Parochial Church Council on 10th December, 1930, it was unanimously resolved to perpetuate the memory of the late vicar the Rev. P. Stott, M.A., B.D.

"The Council feel that no words of theirs are needed to commend this appeal to those who have partaken of the ministry of the late vicar during his long and faithful vicariate of 30 years.

"His exposition of the Scriptures, his loyalty to those Scriptures and the Book of Common Prayer and Thirty Nine Articles based thereon, and his fearless stand for Reformation Principles and Practice, are too well known to call for special comment".

T.P.M.

When the Rev. Thomas Plunkett Mooney was the Vicar of St. Peter's, the churchyard was extended Eastward, and on the gate-posts of the new entrance his initials were cut.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.

Churchwardens' Wands.

Two wands were given at the Consecration of the Church. The engravings round the silver caps are :—

- (1) "Presented by J. H. Ainsworth, Esq., of Moss Bank, 1840".
- (2) "Presented by Peter Ainsworth, Esq., M.P., of Smithills Hall, 1st May, 1840".

Engraving on top of both wands :—
"St. Peter's Church, Halliwell".

From Smithills Chapel.

At the closing of Smithills Chapel, Nigel V. Ainsworth, Esq., gave the Chapel Warden's Wand to St. Peter's.

"Presented by Messrs. Ainsworth & Son to Smithills Chapel, 1801", is engraved round the silver cap, and on the top is the Coat of Arms of George, III.

Oak Communion Table.

The original Communion Table was removed by faculty and replaced by the present oak table, the gift of Col. R. H. Ainsworth in the year 1923.

Carved on the front of the Table is the text from St. John vi., 63 :
"The words that I speak unto you, are spirit, and are life".

Church Repair Fund.

In the year 1868, a sum of money was invested through the Incorporated Church Building Society, the interest on which can be used for repairs to the fabric of the Church. In the year 1938, we were able to draw on this fund to the extent of £66 3s. 4d.

EMOLUMENTS.

Endowment.

When the parish was formed, sums of money, which yield a little under £200 per annum, were invested to assist in the provision of a stipend for the Vicar.

Other Sources.

The stipend is augmented by fees and pew rents, and also from the net proceeds from receipts from burial fees, after payment of a percentage to the churchwardens, for the upkeep of the churchyard, and the deduction of the wages of the churchyard staff, overhead charges, rates, taxes and cost of renewals, etc.

Graveyard Extension.

The failure, in past years, to secure available land for the extension of the churchyard has considerably reduced the income derived from that source. The Parochial Church Council has taken steps to remedy this, as far as is possible, and hopes thereby to make the income more stable in future years.

VICARAGE.

One of the problems of St. Peter's Parish, since its formation has been the housing of the vicar, as no vicarage was provided at that time.

The first vicar resided in the school house, and resigned after eight years because of the lack of suitable living accommodation. The text of his last sermon, Phil. 1 : 27, gives a pathetic touch to his leaving.

After long delay, his successor, the Rev. S. C. Sharpe accepted the living, and was accommodated in a house in Church Road, lent by Mr. J. H. Ainsworth, who had lived in it after his marriage, before going to Moss Bank on the death of his father. Mr. Ainsworth's Coat of Arms could be seen over the door.

Succeeding vicars resided there, but the families do not appear to have enjoyed good health, and for this reason Col. Ainsworth arranged for the Rev. P. Stott to reside in a part of Moss Bank House.

The old house, like others built in the same period, had no damp-proof course and the outer walls lacked an air cavity. Dry rot had got hold of the inside timbers and the floors had to be supported on girders owing to the perishing of the joist, where they were supported on the walls. By 1930, mildew had appeared on most of the internal walls and, although the roof was repaired in order to preserve the building, if possible, the estimated cost of putting the house in proper repair was such that it was not deemed wise by the church authorities to go further in that direction, as with all the expense, it would still remain an old house, difficult to work, and possibly liable to rapid deterioration. As it stood empty, this soon made its appearance by the growth of fungus in the timbers and walls, leaving no alternative but demolition.

This property was not an ecclesiastical house attached to the church, although it had been known as "The Old Vicarage".

The Parochial Church Council have in hand the provision of a Vicarage, and it is hoped that in the Centenary year, this will be accomplished. The scheme has been approved by the Ecclesiastical Commission, but long legal delays and the coming of war may prevent this.

THE CHURCHYARD.

During the Vicariate of the Rev. T. P. Mooney the churchyard was extended eastward.

In the year 1892 Mr. R. Rothwell gave $\frac{3}{4}$ acre of land to the south of the church.

Further extensions were made in 1907, land being given by Col. Ainsworth ; in 1911 with land given by Mr. R. Rothwell and in 1925 with land purchased from Mr. Rothwell.

The Rev. T. de Rome Bolton died in the year 1883 and was buried in St. Peter's churchyard. His grave is near the wall facing the East window. It is mentioned that the congregation bought his tombstone.

His last sermon was preached from the text Phil. 1 : 21. "For me to live is Christ and to die is gain".

The grave of the Rev. J. H. Coghlan is near that of Sir Benjamin Dobson's to the South of the church.

The Rev. P. Stott's grave lies to the North east of the church.

The grave of William Blundell, a former Sunday School teacher, is near the South door. The headstone was subscribed for by his fellow teachers, Sunday School class and friends. The inscription on the stone speaks of the high esteem in which he was held.

GLEANINGS FROM THE PARISH REGISTER.

First Baptism.

Joseph, son of Joseph and Mary Smith, 8th November, 1840. Baptised by Walter C. Gibbs, Incumbent.

First Funeral.

James Pendlebury, 26th November, 1840. 15 days old. Buried by Walter C. Gibbs, Incumbent.

The heading used in the Burial Register was "Deane Chapelry of Halliwell" until 1856, when it was entered as St. Peter's. Halliwell.

First Marriage.

24th December, 1848.

Samuel Lunt (draper), widower—Maria Wroe, spinster.

S. C. Sharpe, Curate.

It will be noted that the Vicar signed himself as Curate. This title is now commonly used for the Assistant Curates, but it really belongs to the Vicar who has the "Cure of Souls".

The date shows that this marriage did not take place until more than 8 years after the consecration of the Church. This was due to the delay in executing a Deed of Transfer of the temporalities (the fees) in favour of the Vicar of St. Peter's by the Vicar of Deane. This he did in 1848.

Vestry Book.

Among the signatures at the Easter Vestry meeting, 1841, is that of Simeon Martin, grandfather of Mrs. John Crompton, Mrs. R. O. Lawson, Miss Martin and Mrs. Jos. Isherwood.

Whit Friday, with its processions to Smithills Hall, Moss Bank House, etc., and the Field Day in "Penny Pie", will be recalled by many old scholars. A favourite hymn always sung at Smithills Hall was "Stand like the Brave."

CHURCH WARDENS.

1840-41	...	Edward Balshaw.	John Knowles.
1842	...	Thomas Cross.	John Ashworth.
1843	...	Peter Fearnley.	Thomas Haddock.
1844	...	John Morris.	John Darbyshire.
1845	...	William Morris.	John Darbyshire.
1846-47	...	Richard Berry.	Samuel Price.
1848	...	John Ashworth.	Wm. H. Goodbrand.
1849-50	...	Richard Berry.	Wm. H. Goodbrand.
1851	...	Wm. H. Goodbrand.	Saml. Mahood.
1852	...	William Kitchen.	John Lomax.
1853	...	William Kitchen.	Simeon Martin.
1854	...	John Stanning.	Simeon Martin.
1855-56	...	John Stanning.	John Charlton.
1857	...	John Charlton.	Simeon Martin.
1858	...	John Charlton.	John Clegg.
1859	...	John Charlton.	Simeon Martin.
1860-66	...	Joseph Connor.	Simeon Martin.
1867	...	Joseph Connor.	John Lomax.
1868	...	Joseph Connor.	Thomas Vose.
1869-71	...	James Cross Ormrod.	Thomas Vose.
1872-73	...	John Knowles.	Rothwell Lomax.
1874	...	Rothwell Lomax.	Isaac Plumbley.
1875-83	...	William Hargreaves.	James Cross Ormrod.
1884	...	William Hargreaves.	Fred Walmsley.
1885-86	...	William Hargreaves.	James Cross Ormrod.
1887	...	William Hargreaves.	Joseph Bradley.
1888	...	William Hargreaves.	E. B. Manby.
1889	...	Fred Walmsley.	Joseph Bradley.
1890	...	Fred Walmsley.	H. L. Hinnell.
1891-92	...	William Cooper.	H. L. Hinnell.
1893	...	J. W. Marshall.	Fred Walmsley.
1894-96	...	J. W. Marshall.	C. F. Murphy.
1897	...	J. W. Marshall.	C. Franklin.
1898-1900	...	J. W. Marshall.	James Higson.
1901	...	John Dobie.	W. Clarke.
1902-05	...	John Livingstone.	W. Clarke.
1906-07	...	Edwin Wigley.	W. Clarke.
1908	...	Edwin Wigley.	Joseph Thomasson.
1909-11	...	Edwin Wigley.	Arthur Wood.
1912	...	Edwin Wigley.	James Naylor.
1913-16	...	Edwin Wigley.	Jesse Clegg.
1917-18	...	William Boswell.	Jesse Clegg.
1919	...	William Boswell.	Peter Roscoe.
1920-21	...	William Boswell.	Horace Morton.
1922-26	...	Edwin Wigley.	John T. Baines.
1927-33	...	William Roston.	A. J. Holloway.
1934-37	...	Philip Nuttall.	A. J. Holloway.
1938-39	...	Philip Nuttall.	H. W. Hornby.
1940	...	Philip Nuttall.	A. J. Holloway.

THE GREAT WAR, 1914-1918.

ROLLS OF HONOUR.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

R. Aspden.	*H. B. Henderson.	J. Sewart.
R. Barlow.	T. Henderson.	*R. Sewart.
*W. I. Brown.	A. Heywood.	O. Stott.
A. Bullock.	T. Hollis.	E. Summerton.
R. Fitton.	J. Hollis.	G. Taylor.
T. Fletcher.	H. Lambert.	R. Taylor.
H. Fearnley.	J. Livingstone.	H. Thomasson.
*J. E. Fishwick.	J. Morris.	*A. Thornley.
H. Fletcher.	T. Openshaw.	T. Thwaites.
J. Greenhalgh.	H. W. Pooley.	T. Turner.
J. Guest.	*H. Pilling.	*P. Weir.
*J. Grundy.	D. Shuttleworth.	J. Wilson.
	W. Shuttleworth.	S. Wood.

* Died in action or through sickness.

SMITHILLS CHAPEL.

*W. Battersby.	*J. A. Longworth.	J. Taylor.
*E. Clarke.	*R. Lowther.	P. Taylor.
F. Clarke.	P. Nuttall.	S. Taylor.
*A. G. Duff.	W. Pennington.	W. Thomasson.
*H. R. England.	P. Pilling.	*A. Thornley.
H. A. R. England.	A. Pilkington.	G. Weir.
J. R. England.	W. Settle.	J. Weir.
A. Hardman.	*E. V. Slater.	*P. Weir.
F. Hardman.	*G. H. Slater.	J. H. White.
N. Hargreaves.	E. Spencer.	J. W. Wright.
T. Hibbert.	F. Street.	W. Wright.
R. Jowett.	E. Taylor.	
H. Livingstone.		

* Died in action.

VALLETTS MISSION.

N. Aldred.	W. Duckworth.	P. Owen.
F. Anderson.	J. Evans.	R. Settle.
J. Boardman.	J. W. Gregson.	H. Thornborough.
H. Bridges.	A. Grime.	E. Tustin.
J. Bridges.	J. D. Grime.	*W. Walker.
Sgt. Bulmer.	J. Grime.	R. Walker.
J. Butler.	H. Grime.	W. Warburton.
A. Collier.	R. Grundy.	*T. Warburton.
*W. Crook.	F. Heap.	R. Wright.
*G. Cupitt.	A. Horrocks.	*E. Yates.
W. Cupitt.	Jane Horrocks, V.A.D.	
	* Died in Action.	

ADVOWSON.

Present Trustees.

Rev. G. H. Lunn, Richard Rigg, Esq., Rev. G. Northridge,
Rev. E. G. Bowring and A. W. Large, Esq.

Clerical Succession.

The church was licensed for services in 1840.

VICARS.

Rev. W. C. Gibbs, M.A.	...	...	1840 - 1848
Rev. S. C. Sharpe, M.A.	...	...	1849 - 1854
Rev. T. A. Lindon, M.A.	...	...	1854 - 1872
Rev. T. P. Mooney, B.A.	...	...	1872 - 1875
Rev. T. de Rome Bolton	...	...	1875 - 1883
Rev. J. H. Coghlan, M.A.	...	...	1883 - 1899
Rev. Percy Stott, M.A., B.D.	...	...	1900 - 1930
Rev. P. Marr Davies, M.A.	...	...	1930 -

CURATES.

Rev. Jos. Littler	...	...	1841 - 1844
Rev. H. Vannan, M.A.	...	...	1891 - 1895
Rev. D. P. Buckle, M.A.	...	...	1895
Rev. J. R. Altham, B.A.	...	...	1895 - 1896
Rev. A. H. Bartram	...	...	1896 - 1899
Rev. J. Daft	...	...	1905 - 1909
Rev. F. W. Lloyd, L.Th.	...	...	1913 - 1915
Rev. H. W. Thomasson, D.Litt.	...	...	1915 - 1917
Rev. W. Russell Davey	...	...	1932 - 1937
Rev. E. A. Pitt, M.A....	...	...	1937 -

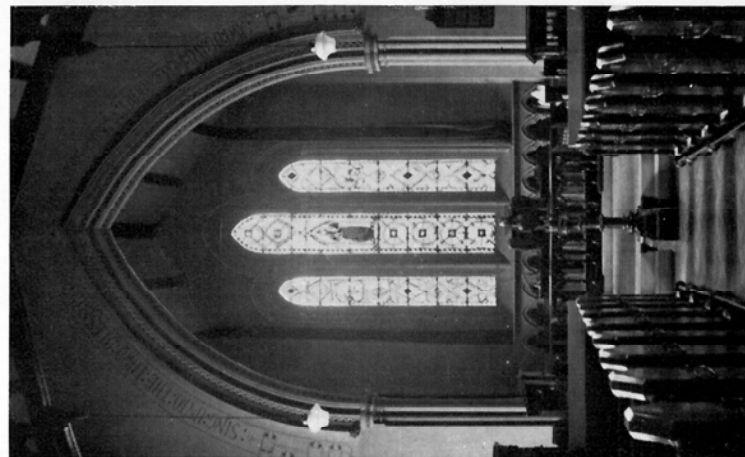
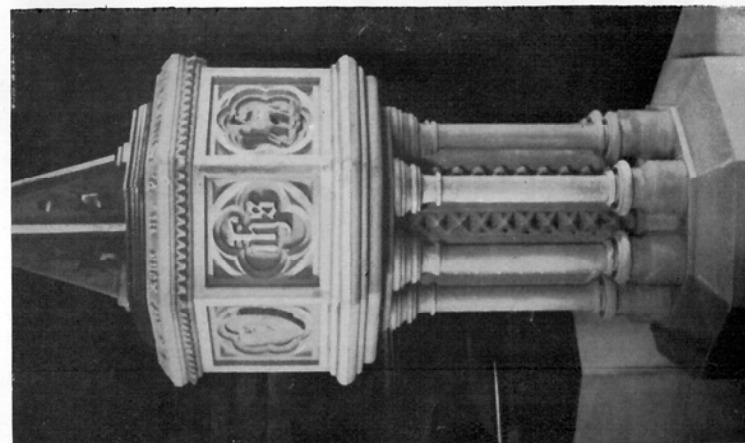
The Rev. W. Brown Pollock, M.A., assisted in 1907 before becoming Chaplain of Smithills; and the Rev. S. Sheppard gave considerable help between 1921 and 1929.

ORGANISTS.

The organists of the church include Messrs. J. Aspinwall, J. Fearnley, A. Martin, J. Lomax, F. L. Pollitt, T. Talbot, R. O. Lawson and the present one, F. Street, who has been organist and choirmaster for 27 years.

Some of the organists had the dual position—organist and choirmaster.

Other choirmasters include Messrs. W. Williams, H. T. Ellis, A. Sugden, W. Boswell, T. Shaw and S. Parker.



EPILOGUE.

In presenting this brief history of St. Peter's Parish the compiler is conscious of its shortcomings, but hopes it will prove of interest to friends of the church, both old and new.

The absence of records of the early days of the church, and particularly of the Jubilee School, has made research work difficult and disappointing.

Thanks are due to many friends for their kindly interest, especially the Misses Shaw, Mrs. John Crompton, Messrs. Joseph Balshaw, Percy Edge, James Henderson, Herbert Higson, Philip Nuttall, for valuable and otherwise unobtainable information.

The compiler of this brochure desires to acknowledge her indebtedness to the Vicar for information from legal and other sources, and for his help in reading and revising the script ; to Mr. Jesse Clegg, Mr. Brian H. Smith and others for much appreciated criticisms and suggestions ; and to Miss A. D. Colling for preparing the copy for the printer.

B. CROMPTON.