

LANDKEY, OPENING OF THE NEW ORGAN, AND HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE,

On Monday last, the new organ which has taken the place the harmonium which had long done faithful, if inefficient, service in our parish church, was publicly opened with Divine service, which also partook of the nature of a harvest festival. For this reason the sacred edifice had been neatly, though not elaborately, decorated with a variety of fruits and flowers and harvest productions, and around the front of the chancel arch was the appropriate quotation from Holy Writ—"He maketh peace in thy borders, and filleth thee with the finest flour of wheat."

The organ is a handsome one, such as is worthy of the active efforts which have been made by the good vicar, the Rev. R. G. Sandford, and those of his parishioners who have assisted him in his enterprise. It has been built by Messrs. Conacher and Co., the well-known organ builders, of Bristol [sic], from designs prepared by Sir Herbert Oakley, Bart., Musical Professor of the University of Edinburgh. It has been placed in the chancel, and fortunately its position does not prevent the sound from reaching the remote portions of the church, sometimes the case, for even its softest tones can heard in every part of the building. The builders are to be complimented upon the satisfactory manner in which they have fulfilled their engagement. It was not, indeed, in perfect condition, for there was some defect in the action of the swell pedal, but with this exception everything seemed complete. The power and dimensions of the instrument may be gathered from the following particulars. There are 19 stops and two manuals, both of the full compass —from CC to G, 56 notes. The stops on the great organ are open diapason, metal, 8ft., 56 pipes ; stop diapason, wood, 8, 56; dulciana, metal, 8, 56 ; flute, wood, 4, 56; principal, metal, 4, 56 fifteenth, metal, 2, 56. Those on the swell organ—open diapason, metal, 8, 56; rohr flute, metal and wood, 8, 56; dulciana [sic, although the present salicional seems to be original], metal, 8, 56; gemshorn, metal, 4, 56; piccolo, metal, 2, 56; mixture, metal, 112; oboe, metal, 8, 56. The range of the pedal organ is from CCC to F, 30 notes. The Bourdon stop is of wood, is 16ft., and has 30 stops [sic], and there are in addition the following couplers, namely, swell to great, swell to pedals, great to pedals, and swell to great sub-octave. There are two composition pedals to the great organ. The front pipes are very chastely painted, and are enclosed in a frame designed by Mr. White, London. The cost the new instrument is estimated to be about £270, and of this sum nearly £250 had been already realised, and it was hoped that alter the proceeds of Monday's celebration the balance will soon be forthcoming. The power and the good qualities of the organ could not have been better displayed than they were by Mr. H. J. Edwards, Mus. B., of Barnstaple, whose services on all such occasions as the present are no less eagerly sought and highly appreciated than they are willingly rendered. The organ did not work easily - a new one never does; but Mr. Edwards is such a master of even the instrument which is said to the "king" of all others that it is but scant praise to him to say that this occasion no defect was noticeable. ...