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Erne Abbas  
February 9<sup>th</sup> 1889

General Pitt-Rivers

Sir, Allow me to present  
to you the enclosed statement  
of our proceedings with  
respect to the building of  
our new Chapel.

From it you will see how  
bravely we have succeeded  
hitherto in getting the  
sum required.

I have deferred asking  
you for a donation until

I could show you that  
we are doing our utmost  
amongst ourselves.

I think you will be  
pleased when you come  
to come to see the improve-  
ment our little building  
is to that part of the  
town.

May I ask you Sir  
to be so good as to give  
this appeal your kind  
consideration, as we are  
most anxious to get  
the sum required before

the Opening Day.

I am Sir

Yours respectfully  
E. Norman

Secretary to the  
Building Committee.

Will you kindly address  
Miss Eliza Norman  
Cerne Abbas  
Dorsetshire

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED—*continued.*

<i>Collected at the Laying of the Foundation.</i>		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
	Purses—			
Mr. J. W. Lewis, Bath ..	..	5 0 0	Mr. Charles Cornick's Card ..	.. 0 10 6
Miss Marie Derriman ..	..	0 10 0	Miss Cheesman's ..	.. 1 10 0
Master George Derriman ..	..	0 10 0	Mrs. James Young's ..	.. 1 0 6
Master Willie Derriman ..	..	0 10 0	Mrs. Whitty's ..	.. 1 15 0
Miss Laura Derriman ..	..	0 10 0	Master Bertie Cornick's ..	.. 2 0 0
Miss Florence Derriman ..	..	0 10 0	Master Frank Cornick's ..	.. 1 5 3
Miss Elsie Derriman ..	..	0 10 0	Master Alfred Cornick's ..	.. 1 18 6
Miss Annie Derriman ..	..	0 10 0	Miss Devenish's ..	.. 0 12 0
Miss Kate Child ..	..	0 3 0	Mrs. Cheesman ..	.. 1 10 0
A Friend from Dorchester ..	..	0 3 0	Miss Jenner ..	.. 1 0 0
		<hr/>		<hr/>
Loose Money and Collection ..	..	8 16 0	Fire Insurance Money ..	.. 13 1 9
Collection at Evening Meeting ..	..	3 4 1	Promises ..	.. 67 12 6
Proceeds of the Tea ..	..	2 19 1		.. 40 0 0
Proceeds of the Bazaar ..	..	2 5 10		
		<hr/>		<hr/>
		32 17 5	TOTAL	£626 18 9

➤ BALANCE SHEET. ➤

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Purchase of Freehold Site .. ..	.. 100 0 0	Collections and Subscriptions ..	.. 466 8 10
Cost of Conveyance, Solicitors, Deeds, &c. ..	.. 20 14 0	Ditto at the Laying of the Foundation ..	.. 20 0 0
Builders' Contract .. ..	.. 570 0 0	Proceeds of a Bazaar .. ..	.. 32 17 5
Ditto for Razing Cottages and enclosing space in Front, Gate, &c. .. ..	.. 35 0 0	Fire Insurance Money .. ..	.. 67 12 6
Stove, Lamps, &c. .. ..	.. 15 0 0	Sums Promised .. ..	.. 40 0 0
Architect's Bill .. ..	.. 20 0 0	Amount still to be Raised .. ..	.. 133 15 3
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£760 14 0		£760 14 0

1622

H. Smith

# CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, CERNE ABBAS.

## NEW CHAPEL.

### APPEAL FOR HELP.

We beg respectfully to solicit your kind assistance in the effort we are now making to provide a new Chapel and School-room for the Congregational Church at Cerne Abbas, a small town of about 1,000 inhabitants, 11 miles from Sherborne and 8 miles from Dorchester, in the County of Dorset. In order that you may understand our position, we venture to lay the facts of the case before you.

The present chapel was built in the last century, and enlarged in about the year 1820, on a plot of ground leased for three lives from the late Lord Rivers. The building, which was never very substantial, and has a thatched roof, has for many years been falling into decay, and has now become almost too dilapidated to be used.

An effort would have been made years ago to do such repairs as would have made the chapel usable for a long time to come, but the uncertainty of the tenure (the lease might have fallen in any day) and the unwillingness of the landlord, to whom application was several times made, to sell the freehold, prevented it. In March, 1886, a spark from a neighbouring chimney ignited the thatched roof of the school-room, which was burnt down, and the chapel with difficulty saved.

This gave occasion to make fresh application to the ground-landlord, General Pitt-Rivers, who, after some time, kindly consented to sell the freehold for £100. The way thus being prepared for making improvements that would be the property of the denomination, and put the cause of Christ in connection with this little struggling church on a permanent footing, steps were taken to ascertain what repairs were required, and what the cost would be.

To our disappointment, several independent persons, who were called in at different times to examine the premises and advise, agreed that the walls were in such an unsatisfactory condition that it would be dangerous to remove the roof and attempt to put slate or tile in place of thatch, and that, moreover, seeing that the whole interior fittings must be renewed, the cost would be almost as great as in building a new chapel.

Thus we have been led, step by step, to the course taken—of endeavouring to erect an entirely new chapel and school-room. In the spring of last year, plans for a simple but comfortable village chapel were prepared by Mr. Jackson, of Weymouth. These plans and the specifications have been approved by the English Chapel Building Society, the contract has been taken by Messrs. Rendell & Co. (of Dorchester), the foundation was laid in July, and the work is now nearly completed. The opening is fixed (D.V.) for April 16th.

The whole expenditure, including the sum paid for the freehold and conveyance, amounts to about £760 14s., a statement of which will be given below.

Towards this sum the members of the congregation, who are nearly all of the working class, have raised over £200. This is a considerable sum, when the extremely low rate of wages in the locality is considered.

Friends who have known the history, the work, and the condition of the church, have generously come forward and contributed a further sum of £153. About £20 was obtained at the service held in connection with the laying of the foundation in July, and over £32 was realized by a Bazaar held in September.

In response to our appeal to the Christian public, over £100 has been already received. The Chapel Building Society has kindly promised £30, and about £10 has been promised by friends in the neighbourhood. These sums, together with what was received from the Fire Insurance Company, amount to £626 18s. 9d., leaving about £134 still to be raised.

The congregation is too poor to be able, with any probability of success, to struggle with the burden of a debt, and would therefore earnestly appeal to you to help to provide the balance.

We desire to tender our warmest thanks to all the friends who have so liberally responded to our appeal, and, in anticipation, to the churches and friends in the county who have promised contributions this spring. We are most anxious that the House we build for God should be opened free of debt, and we confidently trust that, when this fact is made known, many who have not yet had an opportunity of shewing their sympathy with this object will respond to our present appeal with such generosity as will enable us to realize our expectations. The cause is worthy, the time is urgent, and the Master's reward is sure—"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me."

The case has been heartily commended by the Dorset Association, and is warmly supported by the Revds. W. Densham, of Wareham, Chairman of the Association; J. Ogle, of Sherborne, Secretary; and B. Gray, B.A., of Blandford, late Secretary; who will thankfully receive contributions or give any information that may be desired.

We remain,

Yours faithfully,

DAVID THOMAS, Pastor.

H. NORMAN, Secretary.

J. DERRIMAN, Treasurer.

*Cerne Abbas, Dorset, January 31st, 1889.*

## CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Collected at a preliminary meeting at Cerne, 1886	2	5	0		Children ditto	0	3	0
<i>Collected at Cerne in 1887 and 1888—</i>					Miss Cheesman	0	5	0
Mr. Norman	15	5	0		Miss Marion Cheesman	0	5	0
Mr. and Mrs. J. Derriman	55	5	0		Mr. John Peach	1	0	0
Miss Tizard	60	10	0		Mr. George Sherry	0	10	0
Rev. D. Thomas	10	5	0		Mr. George Fox	0	5	0
Mr. Cornick	6	3	0		Mr. Way	0	10	0
Mr. H. Derriman	5	5	0		Miss Farr	0	5	0
Miss Read	2	2	0		Small sums, 2s. and under	2	13	1
Mr. and Mrs. James Young	2	5	6		Rev. U. B. Randall, M.A., Beaminster	1	0	0
Children of ditto	0	5	0		Mrs. Marsh, Beaminster	1	0	0
Master John Young	0	2	6		Mr. J. P. Daniel, South Petherton	1	0	0
Miss Alice Young	0	2	6		Sir Richard Howard, Weymouth	2	2	0
Mr. and Mrs. Whitty	1	0	0		Mr. Freeman	0	10	0
Master Frank Whitty	0	5	0		Mr. W. Rogers	0	2	6
Miss Devenish	1	10	0		Mr. J. T. Stephens, Bridport	5	0	0
Mrs. Cheesman	1	0	0		Captain Martin	1	0	0
A Friend	0	10	0		Rev. W. J. Bain	0	10	0
Miss Annie Thomas	0	10	6		Mrs. Bain	0	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. House	1	16	0		Mr. R. Reid	0	10	0
Children ditto	0	5	0		Miss Reid	0	2	6
Mr. George House	0	7	6		Mrs. Campbell	0	5	0
Master Willie House	0	2	6		Mr. Payne	0	2	6
Mr. George Old	0	2	6		Mr. Champ	0	2	6
Mrs. Thomas Whittle	0	3	0		Mr. W. Reid	0	3	6
A Friend	0	15	0		Mr. J. Roberts	0	2	6
Mrs. Beer	0	3	0		Mrs. Buckpitt	0	2	6
Mrs. Jeffrey	0	18	0		Miss Pitcher	0	5	0
Mr. William Thorne	0	5	0		Mrs. Thornburn	0	2	6
Miss Mary Thorne	0	5	0		J. Batten, Esq., Up-Cerne	2	2	0
Mr. Peaty	0	2	6		Lieut.-Colonel Mount-Batten, Up-Cerne	3	3	0
Mr. Bonnett	5	10	0		Mrs. Holford, Castle Hill	5	5	0
Mr. Kingsbury	0	12	6		Mr. George Rolls	0	5	0
Mrs. Kiddle	0	10	0		Rev. G. R. Tanswell	0	10	0
A Friend	0	2	6		Mr. Tracy, Minterne	0	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. John Paddock	0	8	0		Dr. Williams, Sherborne	2	0	0
Mr. E. J. Thorne	2	5	0		B. Chandler, Esq.	5	5	0
Mr. George Cornick, junior	0	15	0		S. W. Chandler, Esq.	2	0	0
Mrs. Jacobs	0	2	6		Mrs. Bannister	0	5	0
Mr. J. Paulley	0	3	0		Rev. W. Griffiths, M.A., Upwey	1	0	0
Mr. Harry Jenner	0	10	6		Mrs. Samson	0	10	0
Miss Christie Peach	0	5	0		Mr. Hankinson, Bournemouth	2	0	0
Miss Alice Cornick	0	8	0		Mr. Hudson, Parkstone	0	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Chant	0	15	0		Mr. C. Greening, Dorchester	0	2	6
Miss Lucy Peach	1	0	0		Mr. Wright	1	0	0
Mr. Isaac Sherry	1	5	0		Miss Cullen, Nottingham	0	10	0
Mr. John Sherry	2	10	0		Mrs. Fletcher, Derby	0	10	0
Miss Derriman	5	0	0		Miss Alice Roberts, Derby	0	5	0
Mr. Charles Old	0	5	0		Mrs. Gillingham, Puddletown	1	0	0
Mrs. Beach	1	0	0		Mr. Boatswain	0	3	0
Mr. and Mrs. Groves	1	0	0		Mr. T. Roberts	0	2	6
Master T. Groves	0	2	6		Miss Ann Devenish	20	0	0
Messrs. Clark and Sons	0	10	6		Mrs. Devenish	3	0	0
Mr. North	0	10	0		A Well-wisher	100	0	0
Mr. L. D. Gillingham	0	10	0		The Misses Devenish	10	0	0
Miss Jenner	0	10	0		Miss Sarah Devenish	10	0	0
Mrs. Earwacker	0	5	0		T. Carver, Esq., Marple	10	0	0
Mrs. Purtil	0	5	0		Mr. T. Coombs, Henstridge	1	0	0
Mr. R. Devenish	0	5	0		Mr. J. Evans, Aberystwyth	0	10	0
Mrs. Sherry	0	5	0		Rev. E. Evans, Yarmouth	0	10	0
Mrs. Stanton	0	3	0		Mr. Palmer, Reading	4	0	0
Master Alfred Cornick	0	2	6		H. R. Farquharson, Esq., M.P.	1	0	0
Master Bertie Cornick	0	2	6		Mr. and Mrs. J. Beer	0	10	0
A Friend	0	10	0		Mrs. Thomas, Talybont	1	0	0
Miss Fountain	0	5	0		Mr. L. Thomas, Queensland	20	0	0
Mrs. Jane Old	0	2	6		Miss Thomas	5	0	0
Miss Talbot	0	2	6		Mr. T. Thomas	1	0	0
Mr. Jenner	1	0	0		Miss Gray	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins	1	0	0		Mr. George Paulley	0	3	6
Mr. Fountain	0	10	0		Mr. John Tanner	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Green	0	10	0		Mr. Richard Worseley	0	5	0
					Coward's Trust	15	0	0