

Jubilee scheme was laid on October 27th, 1898, by the then Mayor (Alderman Giles Atherton). The Infirmary's splendid work is well known, and we can only express a hope that the people of Stockport will continue their efforts and provide sufficient funds to carry on this good work.

**TECHNICAL SCHOOL**—There is, perhaps, no more satisfactory work performed under the Stockport Corporation's care than that at the Technical School. Those who are in the best position to know, state that there is not a better equipped or more efficiently managed school in the kingdom, and our extensive and intimate experience leads us to fully confirm this statement. Ten years ago, when the nation was about to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, Sir (then Mr.) Joseph Leigh, Mayor of the Borough, conceived the excellent idea of erecting a Technical School as a lasting memorial of the great event, and with a munificence which has always characterised his actions, said he and a friend would give £7,000 towards the erection of such a building if an endowment fund of £7,000 could be raised by subscription. The princely offer was accepted, and the foundation-stone was laid on September 8th, 1888, by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Polydore de Keyser. Lady Whitworth, widow of Sir Joseph Whitworth (who began life in Stockport), sent £10,000, and in her letter said: "I sincerely hope in making this gift we are seeking effectively to serve the great cause of enabling the young women and young men to develop their powers and increase their usefulness to themselves and others." Highly successful classes dealing with science, art, technology, design, domestic economy, commerce, and literature are held, and Mr. F. R. Robinson, J.P., who is a very keen supporter of technical instruction, has, by his work and influence, done much for this splendid school. He is Chairman of the Committee of Management. Mr. R. J. Brown, M.Sc., is the principal.

**THE SIR RALPH PENDLEBURY CHARITY.**—That palatial building, the Pendlebury Orphanage, Lancashire Hill, was erected and endowed by the charity of Sir Ralph Pendlebury, Kt., J.P., a Stockport worthy, who was Mayor of the Borough in 1838-9, the year after the Coronation of the Queen. Sir Ralph had a very sensitive disposition, and was exceedingly tender and kind-hearted. He had no children of his own, but was so impressed with the miserable condition of some of the little ones of the Borough, that he resolved to amass sufficient wealth to build and endow an orphanage. This, the great object of his life, he succeeded in carrying out, leaving £100,000 for the work. He died in November, 1861, and was buried at Hanover Chapel, the words, "The Orphans' Friend," being inscribed on the stone marking his last resting place. The memorial buildings were opened on April 20th, 1882, by Lord Augustus Henry Vernon. The building is not intended so much for a home for children as a lasting memorial of the beneficence of Sir Ralph Pendlebury. The kindly knight did not wish that the recipients of his charity should be brought up as inmates of an asylum, shut off from the rest of the world, and so the children are placed with respectable people in different homes. Many institutions in the borough have received the benefit of Sir Ralph's benevolence. Mr. S. Ralphs is the secretary.

**THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.**—Few movements during the reign of Queen Victoria have made such marked—one might almost say extraordinary—improvements as the postal service of the country. Owing to its unique situation in regard to the railways Stockport is in a better position for the receipt and despatch of the mails than many towns of greater pretensions. In 1716 eight days were required to effect an exchange of letters with London, while to-day it can be done in under 18 hours. Prior to 1840 postage was charged according to distance, elevenpence having to be paid for a letter from Stockport to London, and if more than a single sheet was contained in the wrapper then the fee was doubled—1s. 10d. for an average letter to London! Sir Rowland Hill's universal penny post changed all that, and his scheme stands as one of the landmarks of the Victorian era. The "General" in St. Peter'sgate is a busy place to-day, what with frequent collections and deliveries, sorting of letters and parcels, issuing of stamps from the humble halfpenny in value and upwards, the sale of money and postal orders, the telegrams received and despatched, the savings bank, and the telephone. The present postmaster is Mr. G. T. Davis, he having commenced his duties in Stockport on the 1st of July, 1896. The present building was erected in 1877.

**Anglers' Clubs.**—Heaton Norris Club, Mechanics' Arms, Providence Street; Brookfield Club, Dog and Partridge, Great Moor; Jennings Club, Red Bull, Hillgate; Old Edgeley Club, Greyhound Inn, Bowden Street; County Club, Brookfield Hotel, Wellington Road South; Social Club, Prince Albert Inn, Edgeley. The Clubs are federated in the Stockport and District Anglers' Association.

**Armoury Club.**—President, Col-sergt Instructor G Mendes; hon secretary, Col-sergt H Wood; financial secretary, Col-sergt J Lowe; treasurer, Quartermaster-sergt Gandy.

**Association of Congregational Churches (Stockport and District).**—Hon sec, Mr A Wisely Bragg, Roslin, Bloom Street

**Banks.**—Manchester and Liverpool District, Limited, Great Underbank; Mr Thomas T Kenyon, manager. Manchester and County, Limited, Market Place; Mr Alfred Smith, manager. Union Bank of Manchester, Limited, Bridge Street; Mr Walsh, manager. Savings Bank, Lower Hillgate; Mr Wm Wilson, actuary. Williams Deacon's Bank, Limited, Little Underbank; manager, Mr Richard T Heys. Mercantile Bank, Limited, Great Underbank; manager, Mr Wm Stockdale.

**Baths.**—Superintendent, Mr J Robinson; Turkish Bath Attendant, Mr Titterton. Opened 1st July, 1886. Cost £12,150, including £1,600 for land. Superficial area of site, 2,471 yards. Slipper baths number 33, viz.:—Women, 6 first class; Men, 16 first class, 11 second class. The Plunge Baths include—First-class Men's, 90ft. long, 30ft. wide, 6ft. to 3ft. deep; Second-class Boys', 51ft. long, 33ft. wide, 5ft. 6in. to 3ft. deep; Ladies', 39ft. long, 18ft. wide, 5ft. to 3ft. deep. Turkish Baths comprise 3 hot rooms, shampooing and cooling rooms, with 16 separate dressing boxes. These baths are well patronised, the income being about £230 per annum. Annual number of persons using Baths averages 80,000.

**Beer, Wine and Spirit Retailers' Association.**—Secretary, Mr Wm Green, Robin Hood, Lancaster Street, Portwood

**Bible Society Auxiliary.**—Hon secretaries, Revs G C Little, Christ Church Rectory, and W G Allan, Sparth Lane, Wellington-road North

**Bishop Brown Memorial Certified Catholic Industrial School, High Street, Stockport.** (In charge of the Sisters of the Immaculate Conception.) President, Lord Bishop of Shrewsbury; treasurer, Mr. Charles Singleton. Hadleigh, Birkenhead; hon. secretary, Rev. Father Stanley, of Altrincham; bankers, Manchester and Liverpool District Banking Company, Stalybridge and Stockport; medical attendant, Dr. Rogerson.

**Botanical and Field Naturalists' Society (Edgeley).**—Hon sec, Mr James Smith, 78, Fox Street, meets at Commercial Hotel

**Botanical Society, Pineapple Inn.**—Secretary, Mr W Richardson

**Brabazon Employment Agency** (for sale of goods made by workhouse inmates)—Secretary, Miss Mabel Coppock, the Alders, Davenport Crescent; treasurer, Miss Rayner, Tiviot Dale.

**Building Societies.**—Stockport and East Cheshire, the Club Rooms, St Matthew's Road, Edgeley; secretary, Mr A Hopwood, Warren Street, Stockport and County, Temperance Hall, London Square; secretary, Mr Higson, 140, Wellington Road North, Heaton Chapel. Oddfellows' Hall, Mechanics' Institution; secretary, Mr T Smale, 5, Heath Road. Atlas, Queen's Buildings, St Peter's Square; secretary, Mr S Ralphs, St Peter's Square. Mechanics' Institution, secretary, Mr Walter Humphreys, Stamp Office, Underbank. Victoria, Mansion House; secretary, Mr R Gray, St Petersgate. Mersey, Queen's Buildings, St Peter's Square; secretary, Mr J T Fielding, St Peter's Square. Heaton Norris and Reddish, Lancashire Hill School; secretary, Mr John Ferguson, Didsbury Road. Heaton Norris "Popular" (Wycliffe School); secretary, Mr Ellis, Love Lane.

**Burns Club (Church Coffee Tavern).**—President, Mr James Muir; sec, Mr George Townsend, 16, Aberdeen Crescent, Edgeley

**C.E.T.S. Police Court Mission.**—Patron, The Lord Bishop of Chester; chairman of committee, Rev Canon Symonds; hon sec, Rev J L Litt, 61, Hall Street; hon treasurer, Mr James Wright, Hampstead, Great Moor; Missioner, Mr W Cruse Webb, 111, Wellington Road South.

**Chess Club, County Restaurant, St Peter'sgate.**—President, Mr J Burtinshaw; captain, Mr. R D Hislop; hon secretary, Mr S Fernley, Hope Street, Hazel Grove.

**Co-operative Society, Chestergate.**—Manager, Mr J Clarke; secretary, Mr J. Garner.

**Conservative (Central) Association and Club.**—Mansion House, High Street, Mr A E Ferns, JP, acting treasurer and hon secretary

**Dairymen's Association.**—Hon secretary, Mr Chas. H Shawcross, 33, Queen Street West

**English Church Union (Stockport Branch).**—Secretary, Mr E Clarkson, Hooper Street, St Peter'sgate

**Evangelical Free Churches Council.**—Hon secretary, Mr J E Thompson, "Grecetham," Manchester Old Road, Heaton Chapel.

**Factory Acts (certifying surgeons)** Dr Rayner, Tiviot Dale (tel 65); Dr W Bale, sen, Wellington Road North.

**Field Club.**—Hon secretary, Mr Edward Hewitt, the Museum, Vernon Park.

**Free Library.**—The Library and Newsroom in the Market Place was opened to the public on the 20th September, 1875. Open daily (Sundays excepted) from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Newsroom from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. On all Bank Holidays, Friday and Saturday in Whitsun-week, and Wakes Monday, closed at noon; New Year's Day, all day. Lending Department contains 16,219 vols. Reference Department 10,630 vols. Number of borrowers on register, 2,210. Number of visitors to Newsroom last year, 203,541. J D Buckland, Librarian.