

MARTIN.

This village was the scene of unusual excitement on Monday last, on the occasion of the laying of the foundation-stone of the new Union Chapel. The day being unusually fine, a large number of persons assembled from Salisbury

and the surrounding neighbourhood. A brief history of the church was given by Mr. Lapham, of Salisbury, after which Mrs. Short, of Salisbury, performed the ceremony, and addresses were delivered by the Revds. G. Short, J. H. Allchurch, of Salisbury; J. C. Collier, of Downton; and J. Reynolds, of Fordingbridge. After the ceremony the company adjourned to the National School-room, kindly lent for the occasion by the Rev. G. W. B. Daniell, the vicar, where an excellent tea was provided. Short speeches were then made by Messrs. Brooks, Pritchard, Saunders, and others, and votes of thanks were accorded to Mrs. Short and all those who had assisted in the services of the afternoon, and also to the worthy vicar for the use of the school-room. The estimated cost of the building will be about 300*l.*, and when finished will prove quite an ornament to the village, standing as it does in the central part. The sum of 108*l.* 8*s.* 8*d.* has already been raised, and 10*l.* 3*s.* 7*d.* was placed on the stone, making a total of 119*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* collected during the past three months.
