

At the conclusion of the sports Sir Henry Wrey made a speech in which he thanked all present for their loyalty, and expressed himself as delighted with the committee's arrangements, and was pleased to see that everybody had enjoyed themselves thoroughly. He called for three cheers for her Majesty, the sentiment being heartily acknowledged. Mr J Copp called for three cheers for Sir Henry, which was heartily given.

After the sports a move was made for Fire Beacon on which a bonfire fifty two feet high and containing over 1000 faggots, had been erected under the supervision of Mr Abel Symons and Son. The fire was lighted punctually at 10 o'clock. The surplus of the refreshments were distributed on the following morning to needy parishioners.

June 3rd 1897.

At a meeting held on Monday it was decided to open a subscription list in aid of the cottages who lost their furniture in the recent fire at Harracott. Sir Henry Bouchier Wrey contributed £5.00.

July 1st 1897.

Sufferers from the recent fire at Harracott desire to thank all subscribers to the relief fund, which amounted to about £20.00.

September 1915.

An outbreak of fire occurred at Hiscott in the parish of Tawstock, about six miles from Barnstaple, resulted in the total destruction of Steddiford farmhouse and adjoining buildings, property in the occupation of Mr N Moore. The latter who had been engaged in corn harvest operations, noticed smoke issuing from the roof of the house near the chimney about 4 o'clock in the afternoon and immediately afterwards the dry thatch burst into flame. He summoned assistance, and with all possible speed, the greater parts of the furniture was removed from the building to the garden and barns, and a band of willing helpers threw buckets of water onto the burning property. Meanwhile a message was sent for the Raleigh Fire Brigade, Barnstaple who promptly arrived with their manual engine, under the command of Captain Steele. By this time, however, the fire had obtained a strong hold, and although jets of water were poured onto the building from adjoining wells, it was soon seen that it could not be saved, and efforts were directed to preventing the spread of the flames to Mr Smallridge's farmhouse, which is separated by a few feet from Steddiford Farm. The supply of water was limited, but the best use was made of it, and although the farmhouse first involved was destroyed, the adjoining property was saved. The loss estimated at about £600 is understood to be covered by insurance. The outbreak is believed to have been due to a defect in the chimney.