

OLD YORKSHIRE CHARITIES.

R. V. T. continues his notes on the Yorkshire Charities, in the neighbourhood of Leeds:—

MIRFIELD.

The Free School was founded by Richard Thorpe, of Hopton, by deed, dated 24th February, 1667, for teaching fifteen poor children to read English well. Joseph Langard left £2 per annum to the school. Thos. Holdsworth also left 10s. per annum. The income, exclusive of the above two mentioned rent-charges, consists of the rent of some cottages and six or seven acres of land. Twenty children were taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. This income, with £20 a year left by Jos. Ledgard and Thos. Holdsworth, now produces an income of £181 a year; it is applied to the education of 10 children free, and a certain number at half-fee, under a scheme of the Endowed School Commissioners of 1872, under which scheme schools and a master's house have been erected at a cost of over £2,000. Lady Betty Hastings's trustees pay £2 per annum for bread and wine for the Communion; if more than sufficient for that purpose, the residue is to be given to the poor. R. Beaumont's Charity was £10 per annum (now £14 12s. 6d.) for apprenticing one or more poor boys. Nathaniel Waterhouse left a rent-charge of £1 per annum, to be laid out in cloth for the poor. Doles: Joseph Lidyard, £2; Mary Hutton, £2; James Shepley, £4; Robert Holdsworth, £3 12s.; Unknown, £1; Richard Northop, 10s. The interest of £20 is now paid out of the poor's rate; and the interest of £10 is also now paid out of the poor rate. Robert Holdsworth gave (date not stated) a rent-charge of 12s. per annum, out of a messuage and land called Brick House, to the Vicar of Mirfield, for reading prayers the first Wednesday in every month; and he also left a rent-charge on the same property of 10s. per annum to the clerk. See 17th Report, p. 733, &c. There are also £333 6s. 8d., £3 per cent. Consols, left by the late Joseph Lee in the hands of the Charity Commissioners, the interest thereof to be given to the Mirfield Society of Ringers, for ringing a muffled peal three times in each year on the anniversaries of his own death and his relatives. A Cottage Hospital, with 16 beds, has recently been built by the generosity of Charles Wheatley, Esq., J.P., who has also endowed it with a sum of £100 per year. It was opened in April, 1893.