

HISTORY,
GAZETTEER, AND DIRECTORY
OF THE
COUNTY PALATINE
OF
CHESTER;

COMPRISING *Cl 121*
A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE COUNTY,

WITH A VARIETY OF
HISTORICAL, STATISTICAL, TOPOGRAPHICAL, COMMERCIAL,
AND AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION;

SHewing
THE SITUATION, EXTENT, AND POPULATION OF ALL
THE TOWNS, PARISHES, CHAPELRIES, TOWNSHIPS, VILLAGES, HAMLETS,
AND EXTRA-PAROCHIAL LIBERTIES;
THEIR AGRICULTURAL AND MINERAL PRODUCTIONS;
THE LORDS OF THE MANORS AND OWNERS OF THE SOIL;
THEIR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, CHARITIES, ANTIQUITIES, & HISTORICAL EVENTS;

WITH A LIST OF
MAGISTRATES, PUBLIC OFFICERS, & CORPORATE BODIES;
AND
THE SEATS OF THE NOBILITY AND GENTRY;

IN ONE VOLUME,
WITH A LARGE COLOURED SHEET MAP OF THE COUNTY:

BY SAMUEL BAGSHAW,

Author of similar Works for Derbyshire, Kent, &c.

SHEFFIELD:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR BY GEORGE RIDGE, 6, KING-STREET;
AND SOLD BY SAMUEL BAGSHAW, WENTWORTH TERRACE, SHEFFIELD.

Price to Subscribers, 14s. 6d.

54
1860.

PREFACE.

IN presenting the Public with a popular History and Topography of the County Palatine of Chester, with a Directory of its Inhabitants, the Author has to acknowledge his great obligations to the literary and official gentlemen of the County, who have so freely furnished his Agents with valuable information, as well as to those who have honoured the Publisher with immediate communications; and also to the numerous subscribers, who have so liberally patronized the Work. As authenticity is the grand desideratum of Topography, all possible care has been taken to avoid errors. Every Parish, Township, Village, and Hamlet, with all the principal Residences and Farm Houses in the County, have been visited for the addresses, and to authenticate the necessary information; it is therefore hoped that the great variety of subjects compressed within its pages, will be found complete and satisfactory to its numerous patrons, and that the Volume will be found an acquisition either to the Library or the Office.

The Plan of the Work embraces a General History and Description of Cheshire, and of the Town and County of the Town of Chester; containing the spirit of all that has been previously written on the subject, extracted from ancient and modern Authors, and from the voluminous Parliamentary Reports of Public Charities, Population, &c., &c.; together with a variety of Agricultural, Commercial, Statistical, Biographical, and Topographical information; and comprehending a Survey of Antiquities, Roads, Rivers, Docks, Railroads, Minerals, Public Buildings, Charities, Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdictions; together with a Chronology of Remarkable Events, from the earliest period to the present time; and a full and comprehensive view of the rise and progress of those varied and beautiful Manufactures which Macclesfield and Congleton are the great Emporiums; and of the Cotton and Salt Mining District, to which the County owes much of its present wealth and importance.

The Topography of the County commences at Page 120, with an Alphabetical arrangement of Parishes, in their respective Hundreds, and of the Towns, Townships, and Villages, under their respective Parishes; shewing the Situation, Extent, and Population of each Parish, Township, Chapelry, and Extra-Parochial Liberty; the Owners of the Soil and the

Manors; the nature and value of the Church Livings, with their Patrons, and
; the Places of Worship, Public Charities and Institutions; Trade and Com-
al Occurrences, and Objects of Interest and Curiosity, &c. Each Township is
the Addresses of the Gentry and other principal Residents; with a Classification
nd Professions. The Directories of Chester, Macclesfield, Congleton, Stockport,
tion to a Classification of Trades and Professions, are accompanied by an Alpha-
I ex of Persons so that the addresses and occupation of any individual may be
r erred to. The seats of the nobility and gentry are appended to the general
he county; the whole is followed by a copious Index of Places, Persons, and
ffording an easy reference to the Page at which every Parish, Township, and
s to be found; thus giving to the Volume all the advantages of an Alphabetical

pious extracts from the voluminous Parliamentary Reports of Public Charities,
l be found a useful and valuable portion of the Publication. The Standard
ysons, Ormerod, and Henshall, have been frequently referred to in the compi-
e Historical Notices; also Leycester's Antiquities of the Bucklow Hundred, the
&c.; as well as various Local Histories and Guides to the more interesting
o County. The Work is accompanied with a large Coloured Sheet Map of the
ty graved expressly for the Publication.

SAMUEL BAGSHAW.

January 21st, 1850.

GENERAL HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF CHESHIRE.

CHESHIRE is a maritime county-palatine, bounded on the north by a small part of the county of York, the county of Lancaster, the estuary of the Mersey, and the Irish sea; on the east by the counties of Derby and Stafford; on the south by the county of Shropshire, part of the counties of Flint and Stafford; on the west by the estuary of the Dee and the counties of Denbigh and Flint. It extends from 53° to $53^{\circ} 3'$ N. latitude, and from $1^{\circ} 46'$ to $37^{\circ} 22'$ W. longitude. Its greatest length, taking it at the extreme points from east to west, is somewhat more than 60 miles, and its breadth, from north to south about 30 miles. Its form is oval, with a narrow neck of land on the west, of about six miles in breadth, projecting between the estuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, and a still narrower strip on the east, projecting about fifteen miles between the counties of Lancaster, York, and Derby. The county takes its name from the ancient city of Chester, and is an abbreviation of Chester-shire, formerly written *Ceastre-Scyre*. In the earlier period of our history, Cheshire formed part of the territories of a British tribe called the *Cornavii*. When the Romans, after their invasion of Britain, divided into two great districts, this county was included in *Britannia Superior*. The kingdom being afterwards divided into smaller provinces, it became part of *Flavia Cæsariensis*. Cheshire has been estimated to contain 1052 square miles, or about 673,280 statute acres which were distributed in 1808. nearly as follows, viz.: arable, meadow, and pasture lands, including, parks and pleasure grounds, 620,000 acres; waste lands, heaths, commons, and woods, 28,600 acres; peats, bogs, and morasses, 18,000; the residue consisting of sea-sands, within the estuaries of the Dee and the Mersey, But a good deal of the waste land, and of the bogs and morasses, has since been brought under cultivation. By the census of 1841, it contained 73,444 inhabited houses, 5,844 uninhabited, and 547 houses building, with a population of 395,660 souls; of these, 193,646 were males, and 202,014 females, of which 93,692 males and 95,149 females were under 20 years of age, and 99,954 males and 106,865 females were 20 years of age and upwards. In addition to the above population, the regiment of the King's Cheshire Yeomanry Cavalry, consisting of 490 men, belonging to this county, were temporarily absent, being quartered in Liverpool when the last census was taken, and consequently were in the returns of the county of Lancaster. Of the total population, 300,170 persons were born in the county, 79,012 in other counties, 1808 in Wales, 11,577 in Ireland, 395 in foreign parts, and the birth-place of 2,698 persons were not specified. At the same period there were 15,062 persons between the age of 60 and 70 years, 6,577 between 70 and 80 years, 1,712 between 80 and 90 years old, 123 above the age of 90 and not exceeding 100, and two persons whose ages exceeded 100 years. In the year preceding the census, 187 males and 141 females are stated to have

emigrated to the colonies and foreign parts. In size, Cheshire ranks as the nineteenth English county, and in population as the twelfth.

Cheshire is divided into seven hundreds, namely, Broxton, Bucklow, Eddisbury, Macclesfield, Nantwich, Northwich, and Wirrall, and contains 98 parishes, exclusive of the city of Chester. These are again divided into 429 townships and 10 extra-parochial places. By the recent reform and division of counties' acts, this county is divided into northern and southern divisions, each of which returns two members to Parliament. The northern division consists of the Macclesfield and Bucklow, and the southern of the remaining hundreds. The boroughs of Chester, Macclesfield and Stockport each also return two members, making in all 10 members from Cheshire returned to Parliament. The number of qualified voters for the county members are stated to be upwards of 10,000. The principal place of election for the northern division is Knutsford, and for the southern, Chester. Judge Blackstone says, England was first divided into counties, hundreds, and tithings by Alfred the Great, for the protection of property and the execution of justice. Tithings were so called because ten freeholders formed one. Ten of these tithings were supposed to form a hundred or wapentake, from an ancient ceremony in which the governor of a hundred met all the aldermen of his district, and holding up his spear, they all touched it with theirs, in token of subjection, and union to one common interest. An indifferent number of these wapentakes or hundreds form a county or shire, for the civil government of which a shire-reeve or sheriff is elected annually. The magistrate above the hundredry was called the trithingmen or lathgrieve, presiding over three, four, or more hundreds, formed into what was called a trithing, in some places a lathe, and in others a rape; hence the lathes of Kent, the rapes of Sussex, the parts of Lincoln, and trithings or ridings of Yorkshire. The kingdom was divided into parishes soon after the introduction of Christianity, by Honourius, Archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 636, and the boundaries of them, as marked in Domesday book, agree very nearly with the present division. The custom, which still continues, of making the hundreds responsible for the excesses of a lawless mob is an appendage of the Saxon system of tithing. As the extreme ignorance of the age made deeds and writings very rare, the County or Hundred Court was the place where the most remarkable civil transactions were finished, in order to preserve a memorial of them, and prevent all future disputes. Here testaments were promulgated, slaves manumitted, bargains of sale concluded, and, sometimes, for greater security, the most considerable of these deeds were inserted in the blank leaves of the parish bible, which thus became a kind of register, too sacred to be falsified. It was not unusual to add to the deed an imprecation on all such as should be guilty of that crime. In the county court or shiremates, all the freeholders were assembled twice a year, and received appeals from the other inferior courts. They there decided all causes, ecclesiastical as well as civil, and the bishop, together with the alderman or earl, presided over them. All affairs were determined without much pleading, formality, or delay, by a majority of voices, and the bishop or alderman had no further authority than to order among the freeholders. Where justice was denied during three sessions by the hundred, and then by the county court, there lay an appeal to the King's court; but this was not practised on slight occasions. Two-thirds of the fines levied in these courts went to the King, and made no contemptible share of the public revenue.

Historians all agree that the Aborigines of Britain were a tribe of Gauls, who emigrated from the continent, probably a thousand years before the Christian era. Previous to the Roman Conquest, the ancient Britons inhabiting the southern parts of the island had made some little progress towards civilization, but those in the north were wild and uncultivated, and subsisted chiefly by hunting and the spontaneous productions of the earth, wearing for their clothing the skins of animals killed in the chase, and dwelling in habitations formed of the interwoven branches of the forest. They were divided into small nations or tribes; Each state was divided into factions within itself, and it was agitated with emulation towards the neighbouring states; and while the arts of peace were yet unknown, wars were their chief occupation, and formed the chief object of ambition among the people. Their religion was Druidical, but its origin is not known. Some assert that the Druids accompanied the Gauls, in early ages, and others that Druidism was first introduced into England by the Phœnicians,

who were the first merchants who traded to this island, and for a considerable time monopolized a profitable trade in tin and other useful metals. Their government, according to Diodorus Siculus, the ancient historian, though monarchical was free, and their religion, which formed one part of their government, was Druidical. Justice was dispensed, not under any written code of laws, but on equitable principles; and on difference of opinion in the assembled congress, appeal was made to the Arch-Druid, whose decision was final. Their religious ceremonies were performed in high places and in deep groves, and consisted in worshipping the God of nature, and rendering him praise on the yearly accession of the seasons. The priests possessed great authority among them, besides ministering at the altar, and directing all religious duties; they enjoyed an immunity from wars and taxes; they possessed both the civil and criminal jurisdiction; they decided all controversies among estates as well as among private persons, and whoever refused to submit to their decree was exposed to the most severe penalties; the sentence of excommunication was denounced against him; he was forbid access to the sacrifices or public worship; he was debarred all intercourse with his tribe, even in the common affairs of life; he was refused the protection of law, and death itself became an acceptable relief from the misery and infamy to which he was exposed. The means by which religion was supported was by voluntary offerings and tithes, and in this respect we find a similarity with all the nations of antiquity. Despite the corruptions and philosophical Atheism in which the Druidical religion became involved, candour demands of us that the Druids were in possession of learning as extensive and more useful than some of their Christian posterity, who, from the eighth century to the Reformation, were almost wholly employed in scholastic divinity, metaphysical or chronological disputes, legends, miracles, and martyrologies; and Dr. Kennedy informs us, that in St. Patrick's time, no fewer than 300 volumes of their books were burnt, and no doubt the same was practised so long as a volume could be found. By this destruction, a wide chasm has been made in the historical details of this country. Julius Cæsar, in his "*Commentarii de Bello Gallico*," informs us that the Druids inculcated the doctrine of the immortality and transmigration of the soul, and discoursed with the "youth about the heavenly bodies, their motion, the size of the heavens and the earth, the nature of things, and the influence and power of the immortal Gods." The mistletoe was their chief specific in medicine, and nothing was held so sacred as the mistletoe of the oak, which, being scarce, was gathered with great ceremony, on a certain day appointed for their general festival. In the civil government of this ancient people, capital offenders were sentenced to death, and sacrificed in the most solemn manner. The spoils of war were often devoted to their divinities on the altars of their temples. At the time of the Roman invasion, the British Druids exerted their utmost zeal in opposing the usurpation of that foreign power. The invaders, on the other hand, fired with equal resentment, endeavoured to establish their security by the extermination of the Druidic order, and its priests were sacrificed to this barbarous policy; many fled to the island of Anglesey, and afterwards perished in the flames, by the orders of Suetonius, and great numbers of them were cut off in an unsuccessful revolt of the Britons, under Queen Boadicea, after which the power and splendour of the Druids rapidly declined. No species of superstition was ever more terrible than that of the Druids; no idolatrous worship ever attained such an ascendant over mankind; and the Romans, after their conquest, finding it impossible to reconcile those notions to the laws and institutions of their masters, while it maintained its authority, were at last obliged to abolish it by penal statutes, a violence which had never in any other instance been practised by these tolerating conquerors.

The Britons had long remained in a rude and independent state, when Cæsar having over-run all Gaul by his victories, first cast his eye on their island, and being ambitious of carrying his arms into a new world then mostly unknown, he took advantage of a short interval in his continental wars, and made an invasion on Britain, fifty-five years before Christ. In his first expedition, the Kentish Britons immediately opposed him, and compelled him to fight in the vicinity of Dover, combating even amongst the waves with singular courage; and, although Cæsar, observing his troops to be dispirited by the attacks of the enemy, ordered up his vessels with his artillery, and poured from their sides stones,

arrows, and other missiles ; yet the natives sustained these unusual discharges with unshaken intrepidity, and the invaders made no impression until the standard bearer of the 10th legion rushed forward, exclaiming "Follow me unless you mean to betray your standard to your enemies." Upon which the Roman legions were incited to that desperate and close battle which at length forced back the Britons and secured a landing. The inhabitants of the neighbourhood then sent a message of peace, but four days afterwards a tempest dispersing the enemy's fleet they attacked the Romans afresh. Cæsar's invasion in the ensuing summer was more formidable ; it was made with five well-appointed legions, and two thousand cavalry, amounting in the whole to thirty thousand of the best disciplined troops then known, and under the ablest commanders. Terrified at the menacing approach of such a force, the inhabitants retired among the hills, and Cæsar having effected a landing without opposition, and chosen a proper place for the security of his fleet (supposed to be where the town of Deal, in Kent, now stands), hastened on to the scene of conflict, and found the Britons had assembled in great numbers from all parts, who continued an unequal contest with the Roman legions for several days, but were at length utterly routed, and great numbers of them slain, nor did the Britons, ever after this, engage the Romans with their united forces. Cæsar then led his army to the river Thames, towards the territories of Cassivelaunus, the principal leader of the defeated Britons, on the submission of whom, and having imposed an annual tribute on the vanquished, and received the hostages which he demanded, marched back to the sea shore, and shortly after took his last leave of Britain. The civil wars which ensued, and which ended in the establishment of an absolute monarchy at Rome, saved the Britons from that yoke which was about to be imposed on them, the conquerors having little force to spare for the preservation of distant conquests ; the Britons were therefore soon left to themselves, and for nearly a century after the invasion of Cæsar, enjoyed, unmolested, their own civil and religious institutions. In the interval between the first and second invasion of Britain by the Romans, the founder of the Christian religion had accomplished his divine mission, in a province of the Roman empire, but almost without observation at Rome. The Romans, in the reign of Claudius, began to think seriously of reducing the Britons under their dominion, and Plautius, an able general, sent over, A.D. 43. gained some victories, and made considerable progress in subduing the inhabitants. Claudius himself, finding matters sufficiently prepared for his reception, made a journey into Britain, and received the submission of several British states, the Cantii, Antrebates, Regni, and Trinobantians, who inhabited the south-east part of the island. The other Britons, under the command of Caractacus, still maintained an obstinate resistance, and the Romans made little progress against them till Ostorius Scapula, was sent over, in the year 50, to command their armies. This general rapidly advanced the Roman conquests over the Britons ; pierced into the country of the Silures—a warlike tribe who inhabited the banks of the Severn ; defeated Caractacus in a great battle, took him prisoner, and sent him to Rome. Notwithstanding these misfortunes, the Britons were not subdued ; and this island was regarded by the ambitious Romans as a field in which military honour might still be acquired. Under the reign of Nero, Suetonius Paulinus was invested with the command, and prepared to signalize his name by victories over these barbarians. Finding that the island of Mona, (now Anglesea) was the chief seat of the Druids, he resolved to attack it, and to subject a place, which was the centre of superstition, and which afforded protection to all their baffled forces. The Britons endeavoured to obstruct his landing on this sacred island, both by the force of their arms and the terrors of their religion. The women and priests were intermingled with the soldiers upon the shore, and running about with flaming torches in their hands, and tossing their dishevelled hair, they struck greater terror into the astonished Romans by their howlings, cries, and execrations, than the real danger from the armed forces was able to inspire. But Suetonius exhorting his troops to contemn the menaces of a superstition which they despised, impelled them to the attack, drove the Britons off the field, burned the Druids in the same fires which they had prepared for their captive enemies, destroyed all the consecrated groves and altars, and, having thus triumphed over the religion of the Britons, he thought his future progress would be easy in reducing the people to subjection.

Notwithstanding these misfortunes, the Britons taking advantage of the absence of Suetonius, were shortly after in arms, and headed by Boadicea, Queen of the Iceni, who had been treated in the most ignominious manner by the Roman tribunes, and had already attacked with success several settlements of their insulting conquerors, the Romans, and all strangers, to the number of 70,000, resident in London, are said to have been massacred; thus determined were the British to cut off all hopes of peace or compromise with the enemy. But this cruelty was revenged by Suetonius, in a great and decisive battle, where 80,000 Britons perished, and Boadicea herself, rather than fall into the hands of the enraged victor, put an end to her own life by poison. But the dominion of the Romans was not finally established till A.D. 80, when the Roman legions were placed under the command of Julius Agricola. This great commander formed a regular plan of subduing Britain, and rendered the acquisition useful to the conquerors. He carried his victorious arms northwards, defeated the Britons in every encounter, pierced into the forests and mountains of Caledonia, reduced everything to subjection in the southern parts of the island, and chased before him all the men of fiercer and more intractable spirits, who deemed war and death itself less intolerable than servitude under the victors. Agricola endeavoured to secure his conquest by erecting a chain of forts across the isthmus between the Firth of Forth and the Clyde, and in the year 84 he extended a chain of stations from Solway Frith to Teynmouth. He introduced laws and civilization among the Britons, taught them to desire and raise all the conveniencies of life, reconciled them to the Roman languages and manners, instructed them in letters and science, and employed every expedient to render those chains which he had forged, both easy and agreeable to them. The inhabitants having experienced how unequal their own force was to resist that of the Romans, acquiesced in the dominion of their masters, and were gradually incorporated as a part of that mighty empire. The chain of stations erected by Agricola was afterwards connected by an earthen rampart raised by the Emperor Adrian, as an obstruction to the Caledonians, who frequently descended and committed the most dreadful ravages in the Roman territories. In A.D. 208 this earthen barrier was strengthened by the great wall 12 feet high and 8 feet thick, built by the Emperor Severus, across the island from Solway Frith to the river Tyne, stretching a distance of 80 miles. From this time York was made the capital of *Maxima Cæsariensis*. The Emperor Constantine, son of Constantine, was born at York, of a British princess, in the year 312, and was the first imperial convert to the Christian faith. During the residence of the Romans in this island, comprehending a period of 400 years, many great public works were accomplished, and they left behind many monuments of their skill and industry. The conquered country was divided into six provinces, each of them governed by a prætor and præstor, the former charged with the general administration of the government, and the latter with the management of the finances.

The early commerce of the ancient Britons was carried on by barter, without the aid of money; but about the commencement of the Christian era, a mint master was invited over to Britain from the Continent. A mint was erected at Colchester, and money of gold, silver, and copper, was coined in that city, about forty different specimens having reached our time. Mines both of silver and gold were worked in the island during the reigns of Augustus and Tragon. The Romans drew their revenues from various sources: commerce, mines, legacies, houses, and lands, all contributed to supply their exactions; and as they had suggested to the natives the mode of making money, they did not fail to supply the exhausted Treasury at Rome from the industry of Britain. A succession of ages had almost identified the Britons with the Roman conquerors: and when the Emperors, pressed by difficulties at home, and weakened by their possessions abroad, began to withdraw their legions from this island, the inhabitants importuned them to remain, to protect them from the incursions of the Picts and the Scots. The wall of Severus was no longer a barrier to these semi-barbarians. In A.D. 450, two years after the last Roman legion had quitted England, Hengist and Horsa, two brothers, reputed descendants in the fourth generation from Woden, one of the principal gods of the Saxons, embarked their army, to the number of 1,600, on board three vessels, and, landing in the Isle of Thanet, immediately marched to the defence of the Britons, who had invited them over to protect them against their northern invaders.

Having expelled the enemy, the fertility and richness of the country presented a temptation too strong to be resisted by the ambition of these newly acquired friends, who soon began to aspire to the possession of the island. And the Saxons of Germany soon reinforced Hengist and Horsa with 5,000 men, who came over in seventeen vessels. Roused by this display of treachery, the native inhabitants flew to arms, and fought many battles under Vortimer with their enemies, though the victories in these actions are disputed between the British and Saxon annalists. The progress still made by the Saxons proves that the advantage was commonly on their side. It was about the year 455, that Hengist, aiming at an independent sovereignty in Britain, began the conquest of the territory, and a series of battles ensued between Hengist and Horsa on the one side, and Guortemir and Catigern, two sons of Vortigern on the other. The battle of Aylesford is memorable for the death of Horsa on the side of the Saxons, and of Catigern on that of the Britons. But Hengist, continually reinforced by fresh numbers from Germany, carried devastation into the most remote corners of Britain; and being chiefly anxious to spread the terrors of his arms, he spared neither age, nor sex, nor condition, wherever he marched with his victorious forces. The private and public edifices of the Britons were reduced to ashes, the priests were slaughtered on the altars, others deserted their native country, took shelter in the province of Armorica, where, being charitably received by a people of the same language and manners, they settled in great numbers, and gave the country the name of Brittany.

King Arthur, in the year 518, expelled the Saxons almost from the island; but after the death of this monarch, the Saxons again prevailed under various leaders, and the island was divided into seven kingdoms. Thus was established the Heptarchy, Cheshire being included in the kingdom of Mercia, which reached from London to the river Mersey. In the kingdoms of the Heptarchy, an exact rule of succession was either unknown or not strictly observed; and thence the reigning prince was continually agitated with jealousy against all the princes of the blood, whom he still considered as rivals, and whose death alone could give him entire security in his possession of the throne. From this fatal cause, together with the admiration of the monastic life, and the opinion of merit attending the preservation of chastity, even in a married state. The royal families had been entirely extinguished in all the kingdoms except that of Wessex; and Egbert was the sole descendant of those first conquerors who subdued Britain, and who enhanced their authority by claiming a pedigree from Woden, the supreme divinity of their ancestors. The Mercians, before the accession of Egbert, had very nearly attained the absolute sovereignty over the Heptarchy. They had reduced the East Angles under subjection, and established tributary princes in the kingdoms of Kent and Essex. Northumberland was involved in anarchy, and no state of any consequence remained but that of Wessex, which, much inferior in extent to Mercia, was supported by the great qualities alone of its Sovereign. Egbert led his army against the invaders, obtained a complete victory, and, by the slaughter executed on them in their flight, gave a mortal blow to the power of the Mercians. Egbert, however, allowed Mercia, East Anglia, and Northumberland, the power of electing a king, who paid him a tribute, and was dependent on him. Thus were united all the kingdoms of the Heptarchy, in the year 823, in one great state, near 400 years after the first arrival of the Saxons in Britain. The fortunate arms and prudent policy of Egbert at last effected what had been so often attempted in vain by so many princes. Union in the government gave the people hopes of settled tranquillity, but these fair expectations were speedily blasted by the re-appearance of the Danes, who for some ages had kept the Anglo Saxons in a state of perpetual alarm. For upwards of forty years, and through five successive reigns, the Danes continued the struggle, and at the death of Etheldred, his brother Alfred, the successor to the throne, was obliged to abandon the field, and seek an asylum in a swineherd. Emerging afterwards from his retreat, he expelled the invaders, and contributed essentially to lay the foundations of those institutions on which the glorious superstructure of English liberty was finally erected. Alfred soon perceived that an island without a maritime force must ever be at the mercy of every piratical plunderer, determined to store his ports with shipping; and vessels larger than those in use in the surrounding nations were built, many of which carried sixty oars. The unremitting attention of this illustrious prince to the navy, contributed to

increase the blessings of his reign, and has obtained for him the title of the "Father of the British Navy."

Of the Saxon system of government it may be observed, that it had in it the germ of freedom, if it did not always exhibit the fruit. In religion they were idolators, and their idols, altars, and temples, soon overspread the country. They had a god for every day in the week; *Thor*, the god of thunder, represented Thursday; *Woden*, the god of battle, represented Wednesday; *Friga*, the god of love, presided over Friday; *Seater*, the god of Saturday, had influence over the fruits of the earth; *Tuyse*, the tutelar god of the Dutch, conferred his name on Tuesday; they also worshipped the sun and the moon, each conferring a name on one of the days of the week; *Sunnan*, on Sunday, and *Monan*, on Monday. The merit of eradicating this baneful superstition, by the introduction of Christianity, was reserved for a Roman Pontiff. Gregory, surnamed the Great, who in the year 597, sent Augustine a monk into the south, and Paulinus into the north of England, by whose preaching the Christian religion made such rapid progress, that it soon became the prevailing faith, and Augustine was elevated to the archbishopric of Canterbury, and Paulinus was made archbishop of York. He was the first to preach Christianity in Mercia, where he followed the victorious arms of Edwin, King of Northumbria.

That this county was frequently the scene of contest between the Britons and Romans, there is little doubt; and we know that the twentieth legion, belonging to the latter, had their station at Chester, but as to the particulars of any military transactions, which may be presumed to have taken place within the limits of Cheshire, history is silent. The first remarkable event relating to the county, recorded by our historians, is the defeat of the Britons, and the capture and destruction of Chester, by Ethelfrid, King of Northumberland, in 607, when he came to avenge the quarrel of St. Augustine, the first archbishop of Canterbury, to whose metropolitan jurisdiction the British monks and bishops refused to submit. Of the monks of Bangor who had flocked to the field of battle to put up prayers for their countrymen, nearly twelve thousand were slaughtered, a number which seems almost incredible; but we are assured by Bede, that the monks of that monastery were so numerous, that they were divided into seven communities, each of which consisted of about three hundred, who were under the government of so many provosts, or rulers, and that they all maintained themselves by the labour of their hands. Ethelfrid's triumph seems to have been of short duration, for we are told that several British princes, having raised an army, marched towards Chester, and defeated him with great slaughter; that he fled beyond the Humber, and that one of these princes, Cadwan, was elected King of Wales at Chester. From this time Cheshire continued as before under the dominion of the Britons, till King Egbert took Chester, and made it part of the kingdom of Mercia, then tributary to him.

At the latter end of the year 894, according to the Saxon chronicle, an army of Danes coming from Northumberland by forced marches, took possession of Chester. King Alfred's forces arrived too late to prevent their seizing the fortress, but by destroying all the cattle and corn in the neighbourhood, and intercepting their provisions, they drove them to such extremities, that they were obliged to feed upon horse flesh, and were glad to quit the city, and make their escape into North Wales. In the year 915, Ethelfreda, a noble spirited woman, the daughter of King Alfred, being entrusted after her husband's death with the government of Mercia, built a town or fortress at Eddisbury, in the forest of Delamere, and another at Runcorn. About the year 923, King Edward the elder built Thelwall on the Mersey, and placed a garrison there. The first two centuries after the Conquest are chiefly distinguished in the Cheshire annals by the inroads of their neighbours the Welsh, and the preparations made by our monarchs to resist them. During this time Chester was the usual rendezvous for the English army; and all that part of the country which bordered on Wales suffered most deplorably, not only from the ravages of the enemy, but by the destruction which was made from time to time by the king's command, to prevent them being benefitted by the plunder. The barony of Halton was held under the earldom of Chester, by the service of leading the vanguard of the earl's army, whenever he should march into Wales.

Sweyn, King of Denmark, in the year 1013, landed with an army in this country to revenge a cruel massacre of the Danes, which had taken place a short time before; having

brought his fleet up the Trent to Gainsborough, and landed his forces, it created such a terror that the whole kingdom was soon brought under his yoke: he, however, did not long enjoy his success, for he died the following year and was succeeded by his son, Canute, between whom and Edmund, the Saxon, several sanguinary engagements took place, and the kingdom was for a short time divided. In 1041, Edward the Confessor was, by the unanimous voice of the people, raised to the throne; having reigned twenty-five years, he died, and with him ended both the Saxon and Danish rule in this kingdom. Harold, the son of Godwin, was the next to take possession of the throne, but he was opposed by his brother, Tosti, who entered into confederacy with Harfragar, King of Norway, he entered the Humber with a considerable force, and landed his troops in Yorkshire, where, in a deadly conflict, they were completely overthrown by Harold, who left his brother and Harfragar among the slain. Harold having retired to York to rejoice over his victory, received information that William Duke of Normandy had landed with a numerous and warlike army, at Ravensey, in Sussex. To meet this unexpected foe, Harold immediately marched his forces to Hastings, where, in an unsuccessful battle, he lost his life. William the Conqueror had no sooner taken possession of the throne, then he set up various claims to his new possessions, but his principal right was that of conquest, and if his sword had not been stronger than his titles, so many English estates would not have been placed at his disposal. William brought in his train a large body of Norman adventurers, and the roll of Battle Abbey, given by Ralph Hollinshead, contains the names of six hundred and twenty-nine Normans, who all became claimants upon the fair territory of Britain, and the Saxon lords were forced to resign their possessions. The landed property of this county was chiefly divided between the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, and the Canons of St. Werburgh. Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester and his Barons, Hugh de Mara, Bigot, Ranulphus, supposed to be the ancestor of the Mainwarings; and Osborne Fitz Tezzon, ancestor of the Boydells. Large portions of the barons' lands were granted by them at early an period to their knights and their retainers, what remained in their own possession, passed after a few generations, by co heiresses to other families, except the lands of the Barony of Halton, which became vested in the Crown, and that of the Barony of Kinderton, which continued in the Venables family till 1676, and are now vested in Lord Vernon as its representative. At an early period the families of Aldersey, Arderne, Aston, Baskervyle, Booth, Bostock, Brereton, Brooke, Bunbury, Calveley Cholmondeley, Davenport, Delves, Dod, Done, Dukinfield, Dutton, Egerton, Glegg, Grosvenor, Holford, Lawton, Legh, Leche, Leycester, Marbury, Massey, Minshull, Needham, Oldfield, Savage, Stanley, Starkey, Troutbeck, Venables, Warburton, and Wilbraham, had acquired large possessions, many of whom are still among the principal landowners in this County. The estates of the Booth family are now vested in their representative, the Earl of Stamford and Warrington; those of the Duttons are variously dispersed; those belonging to the Savages, have passed to the Cholmondeley family. The Marbury estates to the family of Barry; those of the Troutbecks by inheritance to the Earls of Shrewsbury. The large estates of the Brereton's are variously dispersed; those of the Malpas family partly passed to the Cholmondeleys, and partly to the Drakes. Mr. Holland, author of an Agricultural Survey of Cheshire, published in 1808, observes, that there are few counties of equal extent, in which the number of wealthy landowners seem so considerable. He adds, that it appears that there are not fewer than fifty noblemen and gentlemen resident in Cheshire, in possession of property within it, worth from £3000 to 10,000 a-year; and that there are at least as many others with properties of from £1000 to £3000 per annum. The tenants who occupied land under the different proprietors in early times, are sometimes noticed, and in the course of the work, some of the most curious and remarkable of the tenures will be introduced.

After so great an agitation as that produced by the Conquest, some years were necessary to restore a calm. A violent struggle was made to expel the Normans, and York was the rallying point of the patriot army. To suppress this formidable insurrection, William the Conqueror repaired in person into the north, at the head of a powerful army, swearing by the "splendour of God," which was his usual oath, that not a soul of his enemies should be left alive. According to William of Malmsbury, confirmed by others, the whole country was

laid waste from the Humber to the Tees, and for nine years. neither spade nor plough was put into the ground, which is the reason why *vasta* so often occurs in Domesday book in Yorkshire. Knowing the detestation in which he was held, the Norman Bastard, as historians designate him, entertained a constant jealousy of the English, and he obliged them every night at the hour of eight o'clock, to extinguish their fires and candles, at the toll of a bell, which obtained the name of the "Curfew." Having by these sanguinary atrocities reduced the country to repose, the Conqueror, in 1080, caused a survey to be taken of the lands in the kingdom, on the model of the book of Winchester, compiled by order of Alfred the Great. This survey was registered in the national record called the *Domesday Book*, in which the extent of the land in each district, the state it was in, whether meadow, pasture, wood, or arable; the name of the proprietor, the tenure by which it was held, and the value at which it was estimated, were all duly entered. In order to make this document complete, and its authority perpetual, commissioners were appointed to superintend the survey, and the returns were made under the sanction of Juries of all orders of freemen, in each district. After a labour of six years, the business was accomplished, and this important document, the best memorial of the Conqueror, written in Roman, with a mixture of Saxon, is still preserved in the Chapter House Westminster. For many centuries, Domesday Book remained unprinted; but in the 40th year of the reign of George III, his majesty by the recommendation of Parliament, and with a proper regard to the public interest, directed that it should be printed for the use of the members of Parliament, and the public libraries of the kingdom, which order has been duly obeyed. The counties of Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Durham, are not described in Domesday Book, probably owing to the desolation in which they were, at that time, involved. Through all ages this "Book of Judicial Verdict" will be held in estimation, not only for its antiquity, but also for its intrinsic value. At the time when it was completed, it afforded the king an exact knowledge of his own land and revenue. while the rights of his subjects, in all disputed cases, were settled by it; and to the present day, it serves to shew what manor is, and what is not ancient demesne. As the various parish histories in this work contains frequent extracts from this document, it may be necessary to explain the land measures, and other obsolete feudal terms used at the time to which it refers. A *perch*, five yards and a half; an *acre*, 160 square perches; an *oxgange* or *bovate*, as much as an ox can till, or 28 acres; a *virgate* or *yard of land*, 40 acres; a *carucate*, *carve*, or *plough land*, generally 8 oxgang's; an *hide* as much as one plough would cultivate in a year; a *knight's fee*, five hides, or 200 acres of land; *berewicks* are manors within manors; *merchet* or *maiden's rent*, a fine anciently paid by inferior tenants for the liberty dispose of their daughters in marriage; a *heriot*, a fine paid to the lord on the death of a landholder; *tol*, a tribute for liberty to buy and sell; *theam*, a liberty to a lord of a manor for judging bondmen and villeins in his court; *infangtheof*, a privilege of certain lords of manors to pass judgment of theft, committed by their servants within their district; *thelonia*, a writ lying for one who has the king's demesne in fee-farm, to recover reasonable toll; *sockmen*, tenants who hold by servile tenure; *borderers*, cottagers; *villein*, a member belonging to a manor. In the time of the Conqueror, *Earls* began to be *feudal*, *hereditary*, and *patrimonial*, and these, as appears by Domesday, were styled simple Earls, as Earl Hugh, Earl Alan, &c. Afterwards, as appears by ancient records, Earls were created with an addition of the name of the place over which they had jurisdiction, or of the principal seat where they resided, and they had, as had been customary, the *third penny* from the county where they resided for their support. Soon after the Conquest they began to be created by charter, without any ceremony, further than the delivery of it. King John is the first mentioned who used the girding of the sword, by which they were said to be invested with this honour. Thereupon, the sheriff had command to make livery unto them the third penny of the plea of the county, after which the Earl had a certain sum only allowed him out of the profits of his county, as expressed in the patent, for his better support and dignity, and sometimes great possessions were given in land, for the same purpose.

King Henry II., in the year 1156, previously to his unsuccessful expedition into Wales, came to Chester, and encamped for some time with his army on Saltney Marsh. In 1164, he came by sea to Chester, with a large army, meditating another invasion of North Wales:

but after making some stay, disbanded his army, and abandoned his intended expedition. In 1212, the Welshmen, having again invaded the borders, took some castles, put the garrisons to the sword, burnt several towns, and returned laden with plunder. King John assembled an army, and marched as far as Chester, threatening destruction on the invaders, but having there received the unwelcome news that his barons were absolved from their allegiance, and being warned that if he proceeded- he would either be assassinated by those about his own person, or delivered up to the enemy, he disbanded his army and returned to London. In 1245, we are told, that King Henry III., returning from an expedition into Wales, caused the brine pits to be destroyed, and all the neighbouring parts of Cheshire to be spoiled and impoverished, to prevent the Welsh from procuring provisions thence, either by rapine, purchase, or favour, the consequence of which was a most dreadful famine. About ten years after, the Welsh, irritated by the oppressions and tyranny of Sir Geoffrey de Langley, lieutenant of the principality under Prince Edward, broke out into open rebellion, and invading Cheshire, ravaged the country up to the very gates of the city. At length, the King having determined on undertaking himself an expedition against the Welsh, in 1257, summoned all who held of him by Knight's service to attend him at Chester, on St. Mary Magdalen's day. Thither, accordingly he marched with a great army, and the harvest being then just ready for the sickle, destroyed all the standing corn, lest it might afford a supply of provisions to the Welshmen, which caused a most dreadful scarcity, and eventually occasioned that distress to his own army which he had intended should be felt only by his enemies, and was one of the chief causes which obliged him, without having been able to accomplish the purpose of his expedition, to make an inglorious retreat. After the King's return, James Lord Audley, who had large possessions, and some castles on the borders of Wales, in revenge for the injuries which the Welshmen had committed in his absence, by burning his castles, and plundering his estates, in his turn invaded their country, and put many of the inhabitants to the sword. The Welshmen again retaliated, and the contest was continued for some time, and on both sides houses and castles were burnt, and much blood spilt, and we are told, that from the effect of their frequent contentions, the confines of each country exhibited the appearance of an uninhabited wilderness.

In the year 1276, King Edward I. sent a powerful army as a check upon Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, who still continued to make inroads, and plunder the borders. The king having arrived at Chester about the festival of St. John the Baptist, he caused spacious avenues to be cut through an extensive and thickly wooded forest, which was between that city and Llewellyn's territories. by which means he obtained a passage for his army free from all danger of ambuscade, and entered Wales in triumph. Llewellyn now hastened to make his submission, but shortly after commenced his depredations again; his death, which happened in a skirmish with Lord Mortimer, in 1281, was a prelude to the complete subjection of the Welsh, and put a stop for ever to those depredations which had harassed the inhabitants of Cheshire for more than two centuries. We hear little of this county in the baronial wars, during the reign of King John and his successor; indeed the only event which seems to be recorded, is the capture of Chester, in 1264, by the Earl of Derby, after having defeated William Lord Zouch, David, brother to Llewellyn, Prince of Wales, and James Lord Audley, who opposed him on the king's part.

Soon after Henry of Lancaster appeared in arms against King Richard II., Sir Robert Legh and Sir John Legh, with many others came to him, at Shrewsbury, and assured him of their fidelity to his cause. Upon this he came to Chester, and staid there several days, mustering his army in sight of the city; during his stay he caused Sir Peers Legh, a faithful adherent of King Richard, to be executed, and ordered his head to be put on one of the highest towers of the city. At this time the ill-fated king was at the castle of Conway, from whence he soon after removed to Flint. The conference between the King and the Duke of Lancaster, at this castle, and its consequences, are well known. The Duke returned to Chester, bringing the unfortunate monarch in his suite, virtually a prisoner; they remained one night and then proceeded by easy stages towards London. Henry's assumption of the throne was followed by the rebellion of the Earl of Northumberland. The Earl's son, Lord Percy, surnamed from his military impetuosity Hotspur, raised a rebellion against him, and

caused it to be twice proclaimed in Chester and in every market town in the county, that King Richard was still alive, and that he might be seen at the Castle at Chester, by all such as should repair thither. During this rebellion the Cheshire men who had been so forward to express their attachment to Henry of Lancaster, at Shrewsbury a few years before, took part with the Percy's, and bore a memorable share in the battle which was fought near that town. The event of the battle, which was fatal to the Percy cause, was particularly disastrous to the men of Cheshire. Upwards of two hundred knights and esquires were slain, with a great number of their retainers. The Baron of Kinderton and Sir Richard Vernon fell into the hands of the king and were beheaded. A few of the Cheshire knights appear to have adhered to the king, and Sir John Calveley and Sir John Massey, of Puddington, fell in the battle. In the following year, the king pardoned the citizens of Chester for the part they had taken in the rebellion of Harry Percy, on their paying a fine of five hundred marks.

During the bloody contentions between the houses of York and Lancaster, the feelings of the county were singularly divided, and at the battle of Blore Heath, in 1459, what rendered it the more calamitous was, that they ranged nearly in equal numbers on the side of each of the contending parties. Those who fought with the house of Lancaster wore the cognizance of a white swan, given them by the Queen Margaret, who visited Chester in 1455. Sir Thomas Dutton, Sir John Done, Sir Hugh Venables, Sir Richard Molineux, Sir William Troutbeck, Sir John Legh, and Sir John Egerton, were left dead on the field. The old English poet Michael Drayton, in his *Polyalbion*, represents the conflict as partaking of the form of a duel, in which one relative falls a sacrifice to the resentment of the other:—

“ There Dutton Dutton kills ; a Done doth kill a Done ;
 A Booth a Booth ; and Leigh by Leigh is overthrown ;
 A Venables against a Venables doth stand,
 A Troutbeck fighteth with a Troutbeck hand to hand ;
 There Molineux doth make a Molineux to die,
 And Egerton the strength of Egerton doth try.
 O Cheshire ! wert thou mad of thine own native gore,
 So much until this day thou never shedd'st before !
 Above two thousand men upon the earth were thrown,
 Of whom the greatest part were naturally thine own.”

The men of Cheshire bore a distinguished part in the battle of Flodden-field, in 1513 ; it was particularly fatal to the burgesses of Macclesfield, several of whom, with their mayor, Sir Edmund Savage, were left dead on the field. When, the Earl of Hertford, after a victory obtained over the Scots, in 1544, knighted about sixty officers who had accompanied him in that expedition ; nearly one third of them were gentlemen of the most distinguished families of Cheshire. So early as the autumn of 1642, the partizans of the Parliament had occupied and strengthened Nantwich ; in July 1643, Chester was first assailed. Lord Grandison possessed himself of Nantwich by a coup-de-main, but he withdrew his garrison with some precipitancy previous to the battle of Edge Hill. Soon after this an attempt was made by the principal persons of this county, who were pretty equally divided between the King and the Parliament, to preserve the internal peace, and a treaty of pacification was entered into at Bunbury. Lord Kilmorey appears to have been active in this congress ; but the articles then agreed upon were rendered null and void by an ordinance of Parliament, which required their adherence to maintain and assist the common cause, pursuant to their former resolutions ; and for their better encouragement, Sir William Brereton, one of the representatives of the county in Parliament, with a troop of horse and a regiment of dragoons for their protection. The King, on the other hand, sent Sir Nicholas Byron with a commission, by which he was appointed Colonel-general of Cheshire and Shropshire, and governor of Chester. On his arrival in Chester, he soon raised a considerable force, and had frequent skirmishes with the parliamentary troops, whose head quarters were at Nantwich. Vickers, in his *Parliamentary Chronicle* says, that soon after Sir William Brereton came down into Cheshire, being then with his troops at Congleton, and hearing that Sir Thomas Aston and Sir Vincent Corbet, two active commissioners of array, were about to take possession of Nantwich with their forces, sent a party about the 28th January, 1643, to secure that town ;

that Sir Thomas Aston marched to Nantwich and attacked the town several times, but was as often repulsed; and that he and Sir Vincent Corbet were entirely defeated by Sir William Brereton, who soon afterwards came up with his troops. At this time Nantwich lay open on all sides, without any trench or banks. Sir William Brereton, after he had obtained possession of it, surrounded it with mud walls and ditches. On the 20th of February, the Parliamentary forces sustained a defeat on Tilston Heath; but on the following day, they possessed themselves of the important fortress of Beeston Castle. On the 22nd, there was a sharp contest on Tiverton Common, near Tarporley, several officers on both sides fell, and were interred at Tarporley. The arrival of the Lord Capel in the county with a large body of horse and foot, appears for a time to have turned the tide of military matters decidedly in favour of the King. Sir William Brereton was much harassed at Nantwich, and the garrison of Chester were enabled to extend and improve its fortifications, and provide better for its security. On the 13th of March, Sir William Brereton, who had advanced from Nantwich with his army, gave battle to the forces under the command of Sir Thomas Aston, near Middlewich, in which the latter were completely routed. Sir Edward Moseley, captains Massie, Hurlestone, and Starkie, with eight subordinate officers, and about 500 common soldiers, fell into Brereton's hands. The neighbourhood of Burleydam Chapel was the scene of a skirmish on the 11th of April, and on the 18th a battle was fought between the Nantwich forces and the King's garrison from Cholmondeley Hall, when the latter was put to flight. A party from Nantwich on the 12th of June, attacked and took the house of Mr. Leche, at Carden, carrying him off prisoner to Nantwich. In the month of June, Bunbury Church was burnt by the King's garrison of Cholmondeley Hall. On the 18th of July, Sir William Brereton marched with his forces before Chester and made a vigorous attack on the works of that garrison, but was beaten off and obliged to retreat. Lord Capel, on the 3rd of August, made an unsuccessful attack on Nantwich; he marched again towards that town, on the 16th of October, for the purpose of making another assault on its garrison, and occupied Acton Church and Dorfold Hall, but evacuated both the next day. On the 12th of November, there was a skirmish at Stamford Bridge, between the Parliamentary garrison from Tarvin, and some of the Chester forces, in which the former were defeated.

Towards the end of November, a considerable body of troops arrived out of Ireland, for the king's service, and were ordered to remain at Chester under the command of Lord Byron, the governor's nephew, who employed them in various services in this county, and with their assistance took Beeston Castle, Doddington Castle, Crewe Hall, Dorford Hall, and Barthomley and Acton Churches, all of which had been made garrisons for the Parliamentary army. Great cruelties were committed by the Royalists at Barthomley Church. Acton Church maintained a stout resistance, but Beeston Castle, almost impregnable, and accessible only on one side, surrendered without resistance to Captain Handford, who had arrived with the Irish reinforcements. This enterprising partizan, with only eight of his soldiers, availing himself of the darkness of the night, contrived to mount the steep ascent, escalading the wall, and get possession of the upper ward before morning, and on the same day it was surrendered. The governor, Captain Steele, was afterwards shot at Nantwich for cowardice. Crewe Hall made a vigorous defence, but was obliged to capitulate on the 28th of December, for want of victuals and ammunition. In the month of December, 1643, Lord Byron, with his Irish regiments, defeated the whole of the Parliamentary forces under Sir Wm. Brereton, at Middlewich. Those who escaped fled to Nantwich. In consequence of this action, Northwich fell into the hands of Lord Byron. Nantwich being the only garrison in Cheshire in possession of the Parliament, was besieged during the greater part of the month of January, 1644. After some vigorous but unsuccessful assaults, the town was relieved by Sir Thomas Fairfax and Sir William Brereton, who, having joined their forces, defeated Lord Byron's army, the remains of which, with their commander, retreated to Chester. Most of the officers retired into Acton Church and Dorford Hall, but were soon obliged to surrender. Among them was the celebrated General Monk, then a colonel in the King's army, who was sent a prisoner to the tower, where he continued till nearly the end of the war. During the siege of Nantwich, Colonel Mitton routed a party of the King's horse conveying arms and ammunition to the besiegers, and took Sir Nicholas Byron, governor of

Chester, prisoner. Crewe Hall and Doddington Castle, shortly after, both surrendered without resistance. On the 13th of February, a detachment from the garrison of Chester made an attack upon the body of Parliamentary forces, which had posted themselves at Christleton; and after an obstinate conflict, in which much blood was spilt, compelled them to retire. Adlington Hall, a garrison of the King's, was taken on the 24th of February, and Withenshaw Hall, another Royal fortress, after a long siege, was surrendered the following day. On the 25th of May, a body of 3,000 cavalry and infantry, under the command of Colonel Duckenfield, which had occupied Stockport, was attacked by Prince Rupert, and sustained a signal defeat. The prince, after the contest, immediately crossed the bridge, and marched to Manchester. Cholmondely Hall, a garrison of the King's, was taken after a brave resistance, by the Earl of Denbigh. On the 18th of August, Colonel Marrow, lieutenant-governor of Chester, was slain in an attack upon the Parliamentary garrison, in Croughton Hall.

On the 25th of August, Oldcastle-heath, near Malpas, was the scene of a sharp conflict, in which the Royalists were defeated with the loss of several distinguished officers, amongst them Colonel Vane, Colonel Conyers, and others. The Parliamentary troops repossessed themselves of Tarvin, on the 5th of September, placed a garrison there, and fortified it. They also garrisoned Huxley Hall. In the same month, the horse of Prince Rupert were put to flight near to Malpas, and with difficulty escaped to Chester. At this time, with the exception of Chester and Beeston Castle, the whole county appears to have been in the possession of the Parliamentary forces. A concentration of the troops now took place, and their sole object was confined to the reduction of these important fortresses. A line of circumvallation was drawn round Chester, which was gradually contracted. Birket House, in Wirrall, occupied by the King's troops, for the sake of maintaining a communication with Liverpool and the opposite shore, was taken. In November, Beeston Castle was besieged by the Parliamentary forces from Nantwich, and military posts were placed by Sir William Brereton at Tarvin, Rowton, Huntington, Eccleston, Oldford, Upton, and Trafford. Subsequently he established posts at Lache, Netherlegh, and Dodleston. Christleton was strongly fortified, and the Parliament forces fixed their head quarters. On January 18th, the Royalists were repulsed in a smart engagement with the Parliamentary forces from Christleton; but the particular details of the siege of Chester will be found noticed with the local history of the city. On the 17th of March, Beeston Castle was relieved by Prince Rupert and Prince Maurice, after a siege of more than three months. On the departure of the prince, the siege was resumed, and mounds thrown up in order to facilitate its operations. Towards the end of March, the head quarters of the Parliament troops removed to Netherlegh, near Chester. In the month of May, the Parliament commanders drew off their forces from the various posts they had established on the Chester side of the county, excepting from Nantwich and Tarvin. This movement was in consequence of the intelligence of the King's advance with a powerful army. On the 27th of September, an end was put to the King's power in the county by the fatal battle of Rowton and Hoole-heath, in which the army of Sir Marmaduke Langdale was completely routed by the forces under General Poynton and Colonel Jones. In this action fell the Earl of Lichfield, a gallant nobleman, who, with Lord Gerard had made a vain attempt to recover the day's fortunes. Beeston Castle, after nearly a year's siege, surrendered to Sir William Brereton. Early in December, this commander, having been joined by Colonel Booth's troops and a strong reinforcement from Lancashire, removed his head quarters to Dodleston. At this time Chester was completely invested; but notwithstanding the extremes of privation which it underwent, it held out till the 3d of February following, and surrendered by capitulation on very honourable terms.

No farther attempt was made on the King's part, in this county, during the war. When the royalists in the north made an attempt to restore the King in the month of May, 1648, the gentlemen of Cheshire, in the interest of Parliament, fortified the castle and city of Chester, for which they received the thanks of the house; they also engaged to raise three regiments of foot, and one of horse, if they should be wanted for the defence of the country. A division of the retreating army of the Duke of Hamilton, after the battle of Preston, passing through the county, in August, was attacked in various places in Cheshire, and near 500 of them made prisoners. In the month of August, 1651, the Scottish army, under Charles II.,

were quartered for a short time at Nantwich, previously to the battle of Worcester. After the unfortunate event of that action, a party of the King's horse, on their retreat northward, passing through Sandbach, on the market day, was attacked by the country people, and 100 of them taken prisoners. During the months of June and July, many of the principal gentry of this county, among whom were Sir Peter Leycester, Peter Venables, Baron of Kinder-ton, Sir Richard Grosvenor, Mr. Shakerley, Mr. Warren, and Mr. Massey, were sent prisoners to the castle of Chester, under suspicion of being disaffected to Cromwell's Government. In the month of August, 1659, Sir George Booth, under a commission from Charles II., appointing him Commander in Chief in Cheshire, Lancashire and North Wales, appeared in Cheshire at the head of an army of 3,000 men. He was accompanied by the Earl of Derby, Lord Cholmondeley, Lord Kilmorey, and several of the principal gentlemen of the county. They mustered upon Rowton heath, the spot which had been so unfortunate to King Charles I., and there read and published a declaration, setting forth that they took up arms for a free Parliament, and to deliver the nation from the slavery they then laboured under. General Lambert being sent by the Parliament with an army against Sir George Booth, they met at Winnington bridge, near Northwich, on the 6th of August, when an action ensued, in which Booth's forces were soon defeated; he himself escaped from the field in disguise, but was taken at Newport-Pagnell, and sent to the Tower. After the engagement, Lambert marched with his army to Chester, then held by Colonel Croxton, which was immediately surrendered. As a punishment for this rebellion against their power, the Parliament passed a vote on the 17th of September, to dissolve the corporation of the city of Chester, and that it should no longer be a county of itself. On the eve of the revolution, Sir George Booth's son, Henry, Lord Delamere, who, a few years before, had been accused of an intention of raising a force in Cheshire, to join the Duke of Monmouth, and had been tried for treason before Lord Chancellor Jefferies, but acquitted, as soon as he heard of the Prince's landing, raised a great force in Lancashire and Cheshire, declared in his favour, and immediately set forward on his march to join him; meanwhile, Lord Molyneux and Lord Aston seized Chester for the King. The abdication of the bigotted monarch, which shortly after ensued, happily for the country, rendered these warlike preparations useless. About sixty years after this, the "clarion of war" again disturbed the country with its terrific sound. On the 1st of December, Cheshire was invaded by the Scotch army, under the command of Charles Edward Stuarts, commonly called the "Young Pretender;" and on the same day, this adventurer, the last military scion of an unfortunate house, entered Macclesfield at the head of his troops. They remained in the town two days, and then marched in the direction of Leek, on their projected journey to London.

BRITISH AND ROMAN ROADS, STATIONS, &c.—The Romans having placed one of their principal towns in Cheshire, and from its convenience as a military post, fixed there the head quarters of one of the three legions which formed the standing army of Britain, we must expect of course to find many roads within the limits of the county, and this is remarkably the case with respect to detached parts of roads, the nature of the soil having operated strongly against their preservation in an entire state: there is also one road which from its name and the nature of its course, was probably more ancient than the Roman times, and has a claim to be considered as British. The British road, which was called the *Watling street*, and is met with under that name in the northern counties, and even in Scotland, seems to have formed the great communication between the north-east parts of Britain and the Welsh coast opposite Dublin, as the southern street of the same name did between the south-east shore and the same point; the use of both being probably the same—to convey slaves, hides, and possibly the precious metals, with which Ireland then abounded, to different parts of the island, and especially to such parts as might be frequented by the continental merchants." Nor let us be startled at this idea of British roads and British commerce; the commerce of that people must have been of some consequence which could have furnished a naval force to the assistance of their allies, the Veneti, when attacked by Cæsar. The British could not be more uncivilized than the savages of New Zealand are at present, who, it appears, have cut a large road through the whole length of their country, from north to south, for the convenience of their scanty commerce. This road then, sup-

posed to have been made by the earliest inhabitants of Britain, enters Cheshire from the north by the ford over the Mersey, at Stratford; as the part of it here described was in the line between the Roman towns of *Mancunium* and *Condate*; it was adopted in later times by these people as their own, and marks of the elevated crest, peculiar to their military ways, still appear in it. A little south-west of Bucklow-hill, the roads seem to have divided—the Roman road, as traced by Mr. Whitaker, continued, with its crest once evident though now much defaced, towards Kinderton, under the appellation of Kind-street, while the British way pursued its old direction, through Northwich, over Delamere Forest, to Chester, and the coast of Caernarvonshire; indeed it is by no means improbable that the Romans might have used this road over the forest also, but no traces of its [ever having been raised are visible in any part of it.

The Roman road from Manchester to Kinderton has been so carefully followed by the intelligent antiquary above-mentioned that nothing can be added to his account of it. The road having crossed the ford of the Mersey, continues along the lane to the village of Cross street, proceeds through it to Broad heath, where the Roman road keeps the middle of the heath, and enters the inclosures beyond it; here it was discovered, on cutting the Canal which crosses its line; it then is seen in the inclosures about Oldfield Hall, and in a lately inclosed field beyond, it is still raised several yards, and in crossing the moss is known by the name of Upcast. It now ascends the hills; enters Dunham Park; having communicated the name of Street-head to the heights, and crossing the Bollin, falls into the modern road at Newbridge; this is demonstrated by the whole road from Newbridge through Bucklow Hill to Mere Town, being still peculiarly called *the Street*. About two miles beyond Bucklow Hill it is called Holford Street, and in half a mile more, to the left of the great road bearing to Northwich, appears a broad lane, running straight for four or five miles, and known by the name of Kind Street; it leaves Rudheath on the left, and Newton on the right, passes through Ravenscroft to the right of the bridge, and enters the field called the Harbour Field, in the parish of Kinderton. Here is supposed to have been the station *Condate*, the site, the name, the remains about it, and the tradition concerning it, are certainly a strong confirmation of this hypothesis. The ground is nearly parallellogram, about ten statute acres in extent, and bounded by a natural bank, lofty and steep upon one side, and the little Croco curling at the foot of it, and by another bank, less lofty but more steep on a second, and the Dane running directly under it, the former falls into the latter at the angle of the field. Upon the third side, but several yards within the hedge, are considerable remains of a ditch, rising upon the ascent, and, being once continued probably in the same line, and along the hollow of the adjoining lane. On the fourth side, the ancient ditch preserves its original form, being a steep foss about ten yards in depth, and eight in breadth at the top, formerly converted, like a part of the other, into the course of a road, and lately made the channel of a current.

Within the peninsula of Cheshire, and along the contiguous parts of the county, the *Carnabii* originally resided, and while they were confined within the precincts of West Cheshire, they seem to have had only the towns of Deva and Condate, and the latter appears from its name to have been the capital, being composed of the words Conda Te, and signifying the principal city. Thus was Kinderton the capital of West Cheshire, and after the acquisition of the rest of the county. Staffordshire and the neighbouring parts of Shropshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, and Flintshire the metropolis of all. Many ancient roads are still visible, pointing to or from Kinderton, one proceeding by Park-hall, enters the adjoining closes, where the ridge is quite plain, and about five miles from Kinderton, falls into the road to Nantwich, and continues with it for near a mile, then enters the fields again, and crosses a small river three quarters of a mile from Marshfield bridge; about two miles further it passes over Sandford bridge, being straight across Bromhall green, through Shropshire, to the station at Wroxeter. A second leads from Kinderton to Sandbach, which it leaves half a mile to the east, and passing by Betley, enters Staffordshire, where it can be traced to a considerable distance, being the great Roman way from Manchester and the north of England, to Worcester and the stations on the Severn. A third way by the road of Street forge and Red street, connected Kinderton with the station at Chesterton, near Newcastle-

under-Line. A fourth way is conjectured to have gone by Holme street hall, over the forest from Kinderton to Chester, falling probably, in the latter part of its course, with the old Watling street, in its way from Northwich, and proceeding with it by Standford bridge to the east gate of the Roman station. It is also extremely probable, says Mr. Whitaker, that a fifth road led from Kinderton to Warrington, and that the Kind street, which we before mentioned having thrown off the Manchester road a little to the east of Northwich, continued its straight line through the village of Stretton, and to the Ford over the Mersey at Warrington, thus opening a communication between Cheshire and the whole western coast of Lancashire. Warrington itself is supposed by the same antiquary to be the *Veratinum* of Ravennas, which that geographer seems to place somewhere in the neighbourhood of Chester.

This county is traversed by other roads of considerable importance, several of which bear for Chester, one of these is the road from Colchester, which is visible about Banbury, where the modern road declines to the right, while the Roman way keeps straight under the north-east side of Beeston hill, on which, there was probably a post for the protection of travellers, and from which the line of the old road is plainly to be distinguished for about two miles and a half, when the turnpike road again joins it, and proceeds with it to Chester. From the south gate of the station at Chester, a road runs straight to Eccleston, visible in the field on the left of the present turnpike road, it goes through Eaton park, and crosses the Dee at Oldford, proceeds to Caldecot, near Stretton, by Shocklach church, which stands on it, from which it passes to Broughton church, Sarnbridge, and Bancor. The road near Stockport crossed the Mersey at the Ford, about two hundred yards above the present bridge of Stockport, and about sixty below the confluence of the Mersey with the Tame; it then mounted the brow of the Castle hill to the market place, and traversed the site of the town to Buxton. The Roman road from Manchester to Buxton runs considerably to the west of its general direction from Stockport, it proceeds by Pepper street fold in Bramhall, and passes over Street fold beyond it, pointing towards Wandford mill on the Bollen. And Handford appears to have had three or four roads of the Romans converging to it. One crossed the present highway to Macclesfield, about half a mile to the north of Adlington hall, a long lane on the left, still bearing the appellation of Street lane. This is the continuation of the road from Manchester, as it leaves the station at Handford, and bears directly to Buxton. And two others appear to have reached it from two opposite quarters, having bequeathed their name of Street to a lane in Alderley, for three quarters of a mile, and to one in Cheadle for more than a mile together.

Of the Roman stations, Chester is one of the towns which, like London, York, Bath, and a few others, is universally allowed to be Roman. It was called by the people *Deva*, from the river which runs by its walls; and as early as the time of Agricola, or at least, not long after, they fixed here the head quarters of the twentieth legion, which, according to the military practice of the Romans, remained at Chester for upwards of two hundred years. It is not meant that the main body of the legion did not march into the field whenever its services were required, but here they returned in winter, leaving detachments of their auxiliaries, to secure the proper posts in the conquered country. Here their wives and children remained in security during the campaign, and here a numerous and warlike race of young men were continually growing up to fill their ranks, who, though natives of Britain, had no religion, interest, or manners but theirs, and in fact, no country but the camp of the legion itself. The different fortresses in Cheshire were garisoned by the legionaries. The more distant the dependencies, as it has been said, by auxiliary cohorts; the whole amounting to near 13,000 men, a force fully sufficient to keep all this part of the country in complete subjection; but the natives of Wales may reflect with some degree of pride, that the spirit of their gallant ancestors appeared so formidable to their conquerors, as to make them quarter one of the three legions which formed the British establishment on their southern, and another on their northern borders, while the third was thought sufficient to repel all the efforts of the other Britons. Chester from this circumstance of having, for above two centuries, remained one of the most important military posts in Britain, and if we may rely on the testimony of Richard of Cirencester, been honoured with the title of a colony, may be supposed to have been filled with altars, tessellated pavements, and other remains of their

magnificence; and such appears to have been the case, by the antiquities found, which will be more particularly described with the history of Chester. Of the site of another Roman town, which appears from the Itineraries, to have been within the limits of Cheshire, the situation has been the subject of considerable doubt. This is *Condate*, which Camden, led by the resemblance of the name, placed, without any other reason, at Congleton. Both Horsley and Stukeley supposed it to be at Northwich; and Mr. Whittaker with more probability, at Kinderton. The arguments of the latter, who traced the road from Manchester to Kinderton, where its name of Kind-street is lost, and the very ingenious method by which he rectifies the contradictory numbers of the Itineraries, the fortifications discovered by him and Mr. Percival in the Harbour or Harbrough-field, appear to be considerably stronger in favour of this hypothesis than any thing that has been produced against it. At the same time, the absence of all Roman remains, has caused some antiquaries to be cautious in pronouncing decidedly in favour of Condate being at Kinderton. Mr. Whittaker has conjectured also, that Roman posts were fixed at Stockport, Stretford, and Warrington. It is certain that the position of them all on a river of such importance as the Mersey, the Roman road leading to all, and the probability that places of this kind, so near the head quarters of the legion, would be protected by some of his detached cohorts, make in favour of the hypothesis.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers in Cheshire are, the Dee, the Mersey, the Weaver, the Bollin, the Dane, the Peover, the Tame, and the Wheelock. The **DEE**, which rises in Merionethshire, first becomes a boundary of Cheshire near Shacklath green; it passes by Farndon, and enters the county near Aldford, and then runs on by Eaton and Eccleston to Chester. At Chester bridge, where it meets the tide water, it is about a hundred yards wide; from thence it passes through an artificial channel, along the marshes, under Harwarden Castle, about three miles from which it becomes an estuary three miles wide, much incommoded at low water by sand banks. The main channel then crosses over to the Cheshire side, below Parkgate; ten miles further, near the island of Hilbree, being there the width of about five miles, it falls into the sea. The navigation of the Dee, by which, in ancient times, vessels were brought up to the walls of Chester, had been so much impeded by sands, from the frequent changing of the channel, that it occasioned the total ruin of the haven of Chester before the year 1449, as appears by a Commission of Inquiry of that date. To obviate this great inconvenience, a new quay or haven was made, about six miles from Chester, but not before the middle of the following century. In 1560, a collection for the new haven at Chester, was made in all churches throughout the kingdom. In 1567, there was an assessment for the same purpose in the city. The new haven was at length completed, and for many years, all goods and merchandise coming to and going from the port of Chester, were there loaded and unloaded. In 1693, Evan Jones brought forward a proposal to make the river Dee navigable, and bringing ships of 100 tons burthen to the Roodee, at his own expense, on condition that he should have all such lands as should be recovered, upon payment of the usual rent to the Crown, and one-fourth of the clear rents or profits to the companies of the city, and that he and his heirs should be entitled to certain dues on coals, lime, and limestone. This proposal was rejected, on account of the required duty on coal, lime, &c. In 1698, Francis Gell, Esq., made a proposal nearly similar to that of Evan Jones, with some modification of the duties on coal and lime, but without any allotment of the fourth part to the city's companies. This proposal was also, in the first instance rejected, but upon being brought forward a second time, it was agreed to on the 21st of October 1698. A petition was, in consequence, presented to Parliament, and in 1700 an act passed, to enable the mayor and citizens of the city of Chester to recover and preserve the navigation upon the river Dee. The undertakers of this work were incorporated by the name of the River Dee Company. A subsequent act was passed in 1732, which empowered them to inclose a large tract on the banks of the Dee, called the White Sands, on condition that they made a navigable river from the sea to Chester. This new cut was begun the next year, and completed in 1754; when upwards of 1400 acres of land were recovered from the sea; 664 acres were also recovered in 1763; and in 1769, in addition, 384 acres. A further inclosure of about 900 acres of land was also made in 1790, and other inclosures have since taken place. Immense sums were expended in cutting and embanking the new channel, and inclosing the

adjacent lands, in consequence of which, no profits were received from the undertaking till 1755, and only two per cent. was divided on the principal stock. Various schemes are now before the public for the improvement of the Dee navigation. This certainly would draw closer the connexion between Liverpool and Chester, and as certainly would it render Chester a place of no small commercial importance in its trade with the adjacent counties; time alone can shew whether any of them will be carried into execution.

The MERSEY is formed by the junction of the Etherow and Goyt. The Etherow rises near Woodhead, at the junction of the counties of Derby, York, and Chester. From its source, it forms the boundary for some distance between Cheshire and Derbyshire, and enters this county between Compstall bridge and Marple bridge, at its confluence with the Goyt, which rises in Macclesfield forest, and for about nine miles is the boundary between Cheshire and Derbyshire. At the above confluence, the united rivers takes the name of Mersey, which passes by Chadkirk, Offerton, and Bredbury, to the town of Stockport, where, a little below the bridge of Portwood, it has its junction with the Tame. From thence to Liverpool it forms the boundary between Cheshire and Lancashire. Opposite Warrington it first meets the tide water, and there its width is about forty yards; but at Runcorn Gap, where a communication is formed with the Grand Trunk and the Duke of Bridgewater's Canal, its width is above three hundred yards; and below the Gap it immediately spreads itself into a grand estuary of three miles in width, receiving in its course the navigable river Weaver, from Northwich and Frodsham. Opposite Liverpool and some distance further, it does not much exceed a mile in width. The channel, however, is more than ten fathoms deep at low water, and safe and convenient for shipping. At the Rock Perch, it falls into the sea by two channels, which, although much incommoded by sands, are rendered safe by various buoys, light-houses, and the superior system of pilotage adopted by the merchants of Liverpool. The whole course of the river is about forty four miles. The narrow peninsula of the Wirrall is washed by the Dee and the Mersey on its south and north sides; on the west it has the waters of the Irish Channel, and a valley runs across in an angular direction, on its eastern extremity. On this latter disposition of the county, Mr. Ormerod, in his elaborate History of Cheshire, in an ingenious theory, observes, that the raised terrace, formed by Wirrall, between the water of the Dee and the Mersey, after being broken by the valley before-mentioned, continues its course onward in a south-east direction towards the foot of Broxton hills, retaining still on its sides two broad and deep vales, each of which is a continuation of the line of their respective Estuaries. On the south-west, the vale forms in its upper part the bed of the Dee, but which, instead of proceeding down the residue of the vale to the Estuary in a straight line, is diverted to the walls of Chester by a deep channel formed in the elevated line he before mentions, which carries the river past Chester, in a direction nearly semi-circular, till it joins the Estuary and the line of the great vale again at Blacon-point. That the waters, before the retiring of the sea from the western coast of Britain, occupied the line of these vales, will be doubted by no one who has looked down on the general level of the county, either from the Forest hills, or from the ridge of the great natural terrace before mentioned, between Aldord and Churton. A tide a very few yards higher than usual would now cover them to a considerable extent. Mr. Ormerod afterwards observes, that having thus shewn that vestiges exist in the general face of the country manifesting that the waters occupied a wider range than the present height of the tide allows, it remains that a tide, much lower, would suffice to cover these levels,—would fill the before mentioned smaller valley, which intervenes between Wirrall and Broxton, and render the former hundred a complete island, as the tradition of the county maintains it to have been at a distant period.

The WEAVER, justly termed a Cheshire river, rises on Buckley Heath, in the parish of Malpas, and runs direct through the county to its confluence with the Mersey at Weston, near Frodsham. It passes through Ridley by Cholmondeley Castle, to Wrenbury by Audlem, Hankelow, Nantwich, Minshull, and Weaver, to Winsford bridge, thence by Vale Royal, and Eaton to Hartford bridge, and Northwich, where it joins the Dane, and soon afterwards the Peover; after which junction it passes by Weverham, Acton, Dutton, Frodsham, and Rock Savage, to Weston, where it joins the Mersey. The Weaver in its original state was navi-

gable only at high tides; but in 1720, the Hon. Langham Booth, Sir George Warburton, Bart., P. and H. Egerton, Esqrs., H. Mainwaring, Esq., and others, formed a subscription, the object of which was the obtaining an act of Parliament for making the Weaver navigable from Frodsham bridge to Winsford bridge, a distance of nearly 20 miles. It was agreed by them, and provided by the act which they subsequently obtained, that after payment of the subscriptions and interest at five per cent., and one per cent. yearly profit for their risk, the whole income arising from tonnage, &c., should be applicable to the like purposes, as the county rate of the county of Chester. In 1788, all incumbrances were paid off, and the gross revenue is now upwards of £30,000 per annum, of which about £20,000 per annum has usually been passed to the treasurer of the county rate, for the purposes of the trust. A considerable sum is annually expended in maintaining and improving the navigation of the river. Three handsome churches have been erected on the line of the river, for the use of the watermen. Schools have been built, parsonage houses erected, and the livings of the several churches endowed with £150 per annum, solely from the receipts arising from the Weaver. A portion of the expense attending the erection of that magnificent pile, the county goal, assize hall, and other necessary buildings in Chester Castle, was defrayed from the same source. About thirty years ago, in consequence of the great increase of the salt trade, the then existing accommodation of the river were found inadequate to the multiplicity of business carried on; a canal was accordingly cut from near the Weir at Frodsham to Weston Point, in order to prevent delays arising from the shallowness of the river at low tides. This and the improvements which have since taken place, have cost nearly £60,000. Vessels of 160 tons burthen can come up the river as far as Northwich bridge. Those of 80 or 100 tons which lower their masts, go up the Weaver as far as Winsford. There are about 400 vessels employed in navigating the Weaver, solely in the conveyance of salt. The entire course of the Weaver is about 33 miles; it is narrow and deep, with a slow stream.

The DANE has its rise in Macclesfield forest, close to the three Shires Mere. It forms the boundary between Cheshire and Staffordshire, for a considerable distance, and then enters Cheshire about two miles from Congleton, from which town it passes by Radnor bridge, the Hermitage to Cranage, and Byley Bridges; then by Middlewich, Croxton, Shipbrook, and Davenham, to Northwich, where it forms a junction with the Weaver; the course of the DANE is about twenty-two miles, it is broad, swift, and shallow.

The BOLLIN, like the Dane, rises in the mountainous district of Macclesfield Forest, the two principal heads of which issue from the foot of Shutlings-low, near Ridge, and united pass by Sutton, Macclesfield, Bollington Prestbury, Newton, Wilmslow, Pownall, Ringey, Dunham, and Warburton to Rixton, and there falls into the Mersey, after a course of about twenty miles.

The PEOVER is formed of the junction of two streams, one of which rises near Macclesfield, and the other near Gawsorth; these join at Chelford, and then pass to Over Peover, Nether Peover, Holford, and Wincham, and falls into the Weaver near Northwich; the length of this river is about fifteen miles.

The TAME takes its rise in Yorkshire, and during almost the whole of its course, which is about ten miles, forms a boundary between Cheshire and Lancashire. On the Cheshire side it passes by Stayley, Dukinfield, Hyde Hall, Harden Hall, and a little below Portwood bridge, it has its confluence with the Mersey.

The WHEELOCK is composed of three streams, which rise near Moreton Hall, Lawton, and Rode, these unite near Sandbach, whence it passes by Wheelock, Elton, and Warmingham, falling into the Dane at Croxton; it has a course of about twelve miles.

The GOWY is a small stream, which rises near Bunbury, from thence it passes by Beeston Castle, Tiverton, Huxley, Stapleford, Plemstall, Picton, Stoke, and Stanney, and near Stanlow House, it falls into the Mersey. This stream forms the boundary between the hundreds of Eddisbury and Broxton, during the whole of its course. The BETLEY rises at Apedale in Staffordshire; and running by Doddington, Wybunbury, and Bartherton, empties itself into the Weaver. The BIDDLE, an inconsiderable stream, also comes from Staffordshire; it falls into the Dane near Congleton. The ASHBROOK first shows itself in the Forest of Delamere, it passes by Over and Little Budworth, forms Darnhall Pool, and afterwards

empties itself into the Weaver. The BIRKIN springs near Chelford, and passing Mobberley, falls into the Bollin. The CROCO runs from Bagmere, passes by Brereton Hall, Kinderton Park, and through Middlewich, falls into the Dane at Croxton. The GRIMSDITCH passes by Preston, Daresbury, Keckwick, and joins the Mersey at Norton Marsh. The Walvern passes by Crewe Hall, and forms a junction with the LEA, which comes from Lea and Wistaston; they afterwards fall into the Mersey. The FLOOKERSBROOK, a small stream, rises close to Chester, near which it joins another rivulet, and they conjointly fall into the Dee below Chester. LAKES, or MERES AND POOLS, as they are usually in Cheshire, are very numerous. Combermere is a magnificent sheet of water, considerably more than a mile in length, which gives name to Combermere Abbey. Chapel Mere and Moss Mere are two fine sheets of water in front of Cholmondeley Castle. Bar Mere is a large pool of water in Malpas parish. The other principal meres are Quoisley Mere, Rostherne Mere, Bagmere, Pickmere, Oakmere, and Marbury, or Budworth Mere. Ridley Pool, noticed by Leland as being one of the largest in the county, has long since been drained and in tillage. In addition to the Meres already noticed, most of the parks surrounding the seats of the nobility and gentry of the county are finely adorned with sheets of water. Upwards of sixty acres are covered with water in Tatton Park.

CANALS.—Before the introduction of railroads had diminished the utility, and checked the progress of inland navigation; the Cheshire canals afforded a very constant economical channel of commercial intercourse, and general communication between Chester, Liverpool, and Manchester, the north of England, Staffordshire, and Shropshire, &c. Few counties derived, or still indeed derive, so many advantages from the internal intercourse produced by artificial navigation as Cheshire. The principal canals which intersect various parts of the county, are the Duke of Bridgewater's, the Trent and Mersey, the Ellesmere, the Chester and Nantwich, and the Macclesfield and Peak Forest canals. The BRIDGEWATER canal from Manchester enters Cheshire near Ashton on the Mersey, and traverses about 20 miles of this shire, passing near Altrincham, Dunham Massey, Bollington, Lymm, Groppenhall, Preston on the hill, to Runcorn, where it is precipitately lowered 95 feet, by a series of locks into the Mersey; it was begun in 1761, and the whole of the works at first projected were finished in 1776. This was the first canal projected by the celebrated Brindley, at the expense of the Duke of Bridgewater, to whose magnificent undertakings the inland navigation of England in general, is so much indebted.

The TRENT AND MERSEY CANAL.—The act for making the Trent and Mersey, or as it is called, the Grand Junction canal, passed in 1766. This canal communicates with the Duke of Bridgewater's at Preston Brook, and passes by Dutton, Barnton, Little Leigh, Northwich, Shipbrooke, and Middlewich, not far from Sandbach to Lawton, a little beyond which it enters Staffordshire. In the course of this canal through Cheshire, there are four tunnels; one at Preston-on-the-hill, 1,241 yards in length; at Barnton, 572 yards long; at Saltesford, 355 yards long, and another at Hermitage 130 yards long.

The ELLESMERE CANAL communicates with the Mersey at Whitby, at a place called Ellesmere Port. It passes the east end of the Hundred of Wirral, and the south-east part of Broxton, having a course of about nine miles, passing through Whitby, Great Stanney, Stoke, Crowton, Chorlton, Caughall, Moston, and Upton to Chester, where it joins the Dee, and the Chester and Nantwich Canal. The Chester and Nantwich Canal was completed in 1788. At Chester it forms a junction with the Dee, and with the Dee and Mersey, or Ellesmere Canal; and passing Christleton, Waverton, Hargrave, and the north of Beeston Castle, proceeds to Nantwich, where it is continued into the Birmingham and Liverpool Junction Canal, which runs south past Audlem into Shropshire. Four miles north of Nantwich a branch, from the Chester and Nantwich Canal runs in a north-easterly direction, to Middlewich, and is called the Middlewich Branch, which here meets the Trent and Mersey Canal, between Nantwich and the point where this branch joins the Chester and Nantwich Canal, on the other hand, a branch proceeds in a south-westwardly direction to the neighbourhood of Whitchurch. The Macclesfield Canal leaves the Trent and Mersey Canal, at Church Lawton, on the borders of this county. It runs northward past Congleton and Macclesfield, to Disley and Marple, where it joins the Peak Forest Canal. The entire length is a little

more than 26 miles. The **PEAK FOREST CANAL** enters the county at Whaley-bridge, and passing northward by Marple, Romily, Bredbury, Werneth, and Hyde, crosses the Tame at Dukinfield, and quits the county. The Macclesfield and Peak Forest Canals were leased, in 1846, to the Manchester Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway Company. For the former, the Railway Company pay a yearly sum of £9,325, and for the latter £6,605 per annum. A canal at Pennington near Leigh and Lancashire, connects the canals of Cheshire, through the Bridgewater Canal, with the Leeds and Liverpool Navigation, and thus by the numerous ramifications and intersections of the Cheshire Canals, a vast extent of internal and external facilities for general and commercial intercourse has been opened up. The Bridgewater Canal was first projected by the celebrated James Brindley, the engineer. This extraordinary man was born in 1716, at Tunstead, near Wormhill, in Derbyshire, and from the time he was able to do any thing, was employed in the ordinary descriptions of the country labour. From the extreme poverty of his father, this great genius received little or no education, and to the end of his life he was barely able to read, and his knowledge of the art of writing scarcely extended further than the accomplishment of signing his name. At seventeen years of age, he bound himself apprentice to Mr. Bennett, a millwright, of Macclesfield. Being frequently left to himself for whole weeks together, to execute works, concerning which his master had given him no instruction, Mr. Bennett was frequently astonished at the improvements introduced, and the wonderful progress in mechanical knowledge he exhibited. After remaining with his master some years, he set up in business for himself; his connections became gradually more and more extended, and at length he began to undertake engineering work in all its branches. In 1755, it was determined to build a silk mill at Congleton; another person being appointed to preside over the execution of the work, and arrange the more intricate combinations, Brindley was engaged to fabricate the larger wheels and coarser parts of the apparatus. It soon became manifest, however, that the superintendent was unfit for office, Brindley being obliged to remedy several blunders into which he had fallen; at length the entire work was confided to him, which was completed in a very superior manner. His ever active genius was constantly displaying itself, by the invention of the most beautiful simplifications, one of these was a method for cutting all his tooth and pinion wheels by machinery, which till then had been done by hand; but he had not yet found an adequate field for the display of his vast ideas, and almost inexhaustable powers of execution. Happily, however, this was at last afforded, by a series of undertakings which were destined, within no long period, to change the whole aspect of the internal commerce of the land.

The Duke of Bridgewater having an estate extremely rich in coal mines, which had hitherto been unproductive, owing to the want of sufficiently economical means of transport—the object of supplying this defect had for some time engaged the attention of the young Duke, as it had indeed done that of his father—who, in 1732, obtained an Act to enable him to cut a canal to Manchester, but had been deterred by the immense outlay and the formidable natural difficulties. When the idea was now revived, Brindley was applied to, to survey the ground. Confident of his own powers, he expressed his conviction that the ground presented no difficulties which might not be surmounted. On receiving this assurance, the Duke at once commenced the undertaking, which was the first of the kind ever attempted in England, with subterraneous tunnels and elevated aqueducts. The canal was of uniform level throughout; and when it was completed as far as Barton, where the Irwell is navigable for large vessels, Mr. Brindley proposed to carry it over that river by an aqueduct of thirty-nine feet above the surface of the water. This, however, being generally considered as a wild and extraordinary project, he desired, in order to justify his conduct towards his noble employer, that the opinion of another engineer might be taken, believing that he could easily convince an intelligent person of the practicability of his design. A gentleman of eminence was accordingly called in, who, being conducted to the place where it was intended that the aqueduct should be made, ridiculed the attempt; and when the height and dimensions were communicated to him, he exclaimed, “I have often heard of castles in the air, but never before was shewn where any of them were to be erected.” The Duke, nevertheless, retained his confidence in his own engineer, and the work was begun in September,

1760, and finished in the July following. This was the first of a succession of works of the same description in which the engineer displayed the originality and fertility of his genius, and from this may be dated the commencement of that extended canal navigation which forms so important a part of the means of internal communication which Cheshire pre-eminently enjoys.

The Duke of Bridgewater, in 1762, obtained an Act of Parliament for branching his canal to the tideway in the Mersey. This part of the canal is carried over the rivers Mersey and Bollin, and over many wide and deep vallies. Over the vallies it is conducted without the assistance of a single lock, by strong embankments. Across the valley at Stretford, through which the Mersey runs, this kind of work extends for a mile in length. The vigour of Mr. Brindley's conception in regard to machinery was so great, that however complicated the machine, having once fixed its different parts in his mind, he would construct it without any difficulty. When much perplexed with any problem he had to solve, his practice was to take to bed, where he would sometimes remain for two or three days thus fixed to his pillow. The case affords a striking example of what the force of natural talent will sometimes do, where not only all education is wanting, but all access to books. Brindley's multiplied labours and intense application rapidly wasted his strength and shortened his life. He died at Turnhurst, in Staffordshire, September 30th, 1772, in the 56th year of his age, and was buried at New Chapel, in that county.

ROADS.—All the roads from London to Manchester pass through this county. One of these enters Cheshire near Church Lawton, about 156 miles from London, passes through Odd Rode, Smallwood, Brereton, Holmes Chapel, Cranage Allostock, near Over Peover, to Knutsford; thence through Mere, up Bucklow Hill, near Rostherne, Dunham Massey, and Bowdon, to Altrincham; thence to Cross street in Ashton; a little beyond which it quits the county. The road from London to Manchester, by way of Leek, enters Cheshire not far from Bosley mills, passes through Bosley a little to the left of Sutton, to Macclesfield; thence between Prestbury and Bollington, near Butley and Adlington, through Poynton, Norbury, and Bullocksmithy, or Hazle Grove, to Stockport. The road from London to Manchester through Buxton and Matlock enters the county at Whaley Bridge, and passes by Hoo lane and Bullocksmithy to Stockport. The great road from London to Holyhead enters Cheshire at Bridgemere, 162 miles from London. It passes near Doddington Hall between Walgherton and Wybunbury, through Stapley to Nantwich; thence through Acton, Harleston, Stoke Wardle, between Alpraham and Tilstone. Fernall to Tarporley, thence, through Clotton, Duddon, and Tarvin, by Stamford Bridge, to Chester; three miles and a half beyond which it enters Flintshire, passing through this county for about thirty miles.

The road from London to Liverpool enters Cheshire at Lawton, passes through Moreton and Astbury, to Congleton; thence through Marton and Siddington to Monksheath; through Chelford and Ollerton, to Knutsford; thence through Mere, High Legh, near Grapenhall, and through Lachford to Warrington. From Monks Heath another turnpike road passes through Alderley, Chorley, Withinshaw, Handforth, and Cheadle, towards Manchester.

A road from London to Warrington enters Cheshire near Lawton, passes through that village by Dene hill to Sandbach, through Middlewich, Bostock, Davenham, Northwich, Great Budworth, and Stretton, to Latchford, opposite Warrington.

From Stockport, there is a turnpike road through Hyde, Hattersley, Mottram, and Tintwistle, by Woodhead Chapel, leading on the right towards Barnsley, and on the left towards Huddersfield in the West-Riding of Yorkshire. From Macclesfield, there is a turnpike road from the New Inn, Stoney-gate-way, and the Moss House to Buxton; and another road through Hurdsfield, Rainow, and Kettleshulme, and near Taxall, leading towards Buxton, and Chapel-en-le-Frith. From Macclesfield towards Liverpool. this road passes through Birtles, and joins the London and Liverpool road at Monks-heath.

The road from Chester to Manchester, by way of Warrington, passes through Flookersbrook, Hoole, and Mickle-Trafford, near Plemstall, through Bridge-Trafford, Dunham-on-the Hill, Hapsford-near-Elsley, through Netherton, to Frodsham; thence through Sutton, Preston-on-the-Hill, Daresbury, and the two Waltons to Warrington.

The road from Chester to Manchester, by way of Northwich, passes through Tarvin and

Kelsall, across Delamere Forest, by Sandyway-head and Northwich; thence through Mere, up Bucklow hill; leaving Rosthern and Bowden on the right, and Dunham Park on the left, it passes to Altrincham, three miles from which, a little beyond Cross street, it reaches the Mersey. A turnpike road to Knutsford branches off from this road, in the township of Over Tabley, five miles beyond Northwich, and within two miles of Knutsford.

There is a turnpike road from Northwich through Leftwich, Davenham, Stanthorne, and Newton, to Middlewich. The turnpike road, from Chester to Middlewich, branches off at the ninth mile stone, on the forest of Delamere, which it crosses to Over, and proceeds over Winsford bridge, through Newton to Middlewich. The road from Tarporley goes over Delamere forest, through Weaverham, over Acton bridge, across the Weaver, through Bartington, Higher and Lower Whitley, to Stretton, where it joins the road from Northwich to Warrington. The road from Chester to Liverpool, passes by Upton, through Backford, Great and Little Sutton, Childer-Thornton, Eastham Bromborough, Bebington, and Tranmere, to the Woodside or Birkenhead ferry, opposite to Liverpool, with intermediate roads to the several ferries of Eastham or Carlett, Royal Rock, Tranmere, and New Ferry. The road from Chester to Park gate passes through Little Mollington, the township of Shotwick, and the town of Great Neston. This road is continued across the Hundred of Wirral, through Thornton, to Great Bebington, where it joins the road from Chester to Liverpool. The turnpike road from Whitechurch to Nantwich passes through Newall, Aston, and Soond. A turnpike road, from Drayton to Nantwich, passes through Audlem, Hankelow, and Stapeley. The road from Whitechurch to Chester enters Cheshire at Grindley brook, passes through Tushingham, Hampton, Duckington, Broxton, and Chowley, by Barns hill, through Handley, and near Waverton and Christleton. Another road branches off near Barn hill, and passes through Clutton, Barton, and Farndon, towards Wrexham.

RAILWAYS.—Cheshire shares largely in the advantage of railway communication. The *Grand Junction railway* between Birmingham and Liverpool, enters this county near Betley, and runs through Crewe, to the north-east of Nantwich. It then runs a little to the west of Middlewich and Northwich, and across the Valley of the Weaver by a lofty viaduct. It then proceeds to the Mersey, which it crosses by a viaduct of twelve arches, under which flow the Mersey and Irwell canal, as well as the Mersey itself, and so passes out of this county not far from Warrington. The length of the line is 82 miles and 50 chains. Total sum authorised to be raised in shares, £2,478,712, and by loan or mortgage, £833,333; opened 4th July, 1837. The *Manchester and Birmingham railway* is 31 miles in length, and forms a junction with the Grand Junction railway at Crewe, 54 miles from Birmingham. It enters this county at Stockport, by a magnificent viaduct, considered to be one of the most gigantic productions of art to be met with in the kingdom. It consists of twenty-six semicircular arches, twenty-two of which have a span of 63 feet, and the height is 111 feet from the bed of the river to the top of the battlement. The quantity of stone used in the erection exceeded 400,000 cubic feet, and the number of bricks exceeded 11,000,000. The railway passes through Cheadle, Wilmslow, Alderley, Chelford, Holmes Chapel, a short distance from Sandbach, and to Crewe, the grand focus of the Cheshire railways. Here an extensive railway station has been built, and a town has sprung up which contains a population of 5,000 souls, since the formation of the above lines of railway. The total sum authorised to be raised in shares was £2,100,000, and by loan or mortgage £690,586. Cost per mile £61,624. Opened May 10th, 1842. A branch railway leaves the Manchester and Birmingham line at the Cheadle station about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant from Stockport, and proceeds to Macclesfield. The *North Staffordshire railway* connects Macclesfield with Congleton, and the Staffordshire Potteries. From Congleton the line proceeds to Church Lawton, where there is a branch to Crewe, and another short branch to the Manchester and Birmingham railway near Sandbach. The Churnet Valley railway forms a junction with the North Staffordshire, at North Rode, on the verge of this county. The *Chester and Birkenhead railway* was opened in September 1840, its length is about $14\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and the cost per mile was £34,198. The total sum authorised to be raised in shares was £382,958, and by loan or mortgage £143,170. The Chester and Holy Head, the Shrewsbury and Chester, the Lancashire and Cheshire Junction railways, and the London and North Western, all unite at a central terminus of the lines

meeting in Chester. The Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire railway crosses the north east extremity of the county, entering Cheshire at Broadbottom, and passing by Hyde, Newton, and Dukinfield, enters Lancashire. The Manchester and Buxton railway, now in course of formation, enters this county near to Dukinfield, and takes its course for some distance in a line with the Peak Forest canal, and at Marple crosses the Goyt and enters the county of Derby. A line from Altrincham to Manchester was opened during the summer of 1849.

MANUFACTURES.—The manufactures of Cheshire are very extensive and important in their character. The cotton trade and the introduction of machinery have combined to raise it to a station of consequence amongst the manufacturing counties of England. Stockport participates largely in all the branches of the cotton trade. There are also extensive cotton factories at Hyde, Newton, Godley, Dukinfield, Mottram, Disley, Bollington, Rainow, &c. This branch of manufactures is almost exclusively confined to the north east part of the Macclesfield hundred, and the eastern extremity of the Bucklow Hundred. The establishments for the manufacture of silk goods in all their beauty and variety of texture are chiefly confined to Macclesfield and Congleton, and the neighbouring townships. There are also extensive establishments which are chiefly engaged in throwing silk for supplying the manufacturers in this county and in London. These are situate at Macclesfield, Congleton, Sutton, Sandbach, and various other places in the Macclesfield and Northwich hundreds. In Macclesfield, broad silks and fancy handkerchiefs for ladies and gentlemen are very extensively manufactured. also silk buttons for ornamenting ladies' dresses, and gimps and fancy trimmings, now very fashionable, and extensively used for the same purposes. Ribbons are made in considerable quantities at Congleton. Upwards of two hundred thousand pieces are annually made in one establishment. The manufacture of twist buttons, which was formerly very extensive in Macclesfield, is now altogether discontinued. Woollen clothes are made to a small extent at Stayley, and Micklehurst, a populous hamlet in Mottram parish, on the confines of the county, and near the borders of Yorkshire. There are extensive establishments for dyeing and bleaching at Stockport. Macclesfield, Dukinfield, and several other places; and there are several establishments for printing cotton and silk fabrics, and various establishments for the manufacture and perfecting of machinery of various kinds, applicable to the different manufactures. Wood turning is carried on at Altrincham, Macclesfield, Stockport, &c. Hats are made at Stockport, Hyde, and Bredbury, and shoes are made in large quantities at Nantwich and Sandbach, for supplying the Manchester and other markets. Tanning is carried on to a great extent throughout the whole county, more particularly in the middle and northern parts. The extensive lead and shot works of Messrs. Walker, Parker, & Co., at Chester, is one of the largest establishments of its kind in the kingdom. There are iron foundries at Chester, Macclesfield, Stockport, &c. Ship building gives employment to a number of hands at Northwich, Winsford, and Runcorn.

THE SOIL AND PRODUCE.—Clay and sand are the most predominant in the prevailing soils of Cheshire, and of those a tolerably strong retentive clay exists, in considerable proportions. Generally speaking, these two earths are so blended together throughout the county, that it is only in particular districts that an observer would at once pronounce the soil to be clay or sand. On this account, *clayey loam*, or *sandy loam*, according as sand or clay predominates, are the most accurately descriptive of the general nature of the Cheshire soils. The clay abounds mostly in the hundred of Wirrall, in the hundreds of Broxton and Nantwich, the neighbourhood of Middlewich, and the northern part of the hundred of Macclesfield. The sand is most abundant in the north-west extremity of Wirrall, the southern part of the hundred of Nantwich. the greater part of the hundreds of Bucklow and Eddisbury, the neighbourhood of Sandbach, and the hundred of Macclesfield. There is a considerable extent of black moor, or peat moss land, principally in that part of the hundred of Macclesfield which borders on Derbyshire and Yorkshire. There are mosses of smaller extent in the neighbourhoods of Coppenhall, Wilmslow, Gawsorth, and several other places. In Delamere forest is a large tract of white sand, with peat-moss in some parts. Marl is pretty generally found throughout the country, and is used as a manure. Its varieties are distinguished by the names of clay marl, stone marl, and slate marl. It has been spread

over land in Cheshire for many centuries, and leases granted in the reign of Edward I. and II. contained clauses obliging the tenants to make use of it. It is seldom found as a stratum or layer of any length, but generally a few feet below the surface, in detached masses of twenty or thirty yards in extent, and eight or ten yards in depth, covered with clay, and resting on a bed of sand or gravel.

Dairy produce in cheese and butter is the principal object of attention with the Cheshire husbandmen, and may be considered the staple commodity of this county. The former has been one of the principal articles for exportation, from a very early period. The richest and best cheese made in Cheshire, is said to be produced from land of an inferior nature; but the greatest quantity from the richest land. Among places and districts most celebrated for making prime cheese may be reckoned the neighbourhood of Nantwich, for a circuit of seven miles, the greater part of the banks of the Weaver, and indeed, the whole of the middle and southern parts of the county, generally, is highly fertile, and there are to be found the largest and best cultivated farms, many of the farmers milking from sixty to one hundred cows. It is supposed there is about 94,000 cows kept in Cheshire. Averaging the quantity of cheese made from each cow at 250 lbs., we shall have annually 9,791 tons. It would occupy too much room to go into detail on the general process of cheese making in this county; but the curious may be amply gratified on this subject by a perusal of Wedge's Agricultural Report of the county, or Holland's Survey; the latter observes, that an exact uniformity does not prevail in every part of the process is no wonder, for there is not any of the business which is conducted in a dairy, that tends in the least to chemical exactness. Where there is no precision, there can be no just comparisons; and where no comparison can be made, there exist no foundation for an attempt at uniformity. The degree of heat of setting the milk together is never measured; the quantity of steep is guessed at, and its quality not exactly known; the quantity of salt necessary is undefined, and the sweating or fermenting of the cheese is accidental. Under these circumstances, we cannot help expressing a wish, that under the management of a person well skilled in chemistry, something like scientific principles might be discovered on which to conduct the process of cheese making. In the beginning and end of the season three, four and even five meals milk are kept for the same cheese. Fuller, in page 68 of his "Worthies," says, "This county doth afford the best cheese, for quantity and quality, and yet the cows are not (as in other shires) housed in the winter, so that it may appear strange that the hardiest kine should make the tenderest cheese. Some essayed in vain to make the like in other places, though from thence they fetched both their kine and dairy-maids. It seems they should have fetched their ground too (wherein is surely some occult excellency in this kind) or else so good cheese will not be made. I have not the like commendation of the butter of this county, and perchance these two commodities are like stars of a different horizon, so that the elevation of the one tends to the depression of the other." At the cheese fair recently established at Crewe, held on November 29th, 1849, upwards of 400 tons of cheese were exhibited for sale, a great portion of which was sold at prices varying from forty to fifty shillings per cwt.

POTATOE CULTURE.—The cultivation of the potatoe is carried on to a great extent in every part of Cheshire, but more particularly in the hundreds of Buckland and Wirral, for the supply of the Liverpool and Manchester markets. The soil is admirably calculated for its production, and they are raised at an earlier period in Cheshire than in most other countries in England. Manchester in particular, has an immense supply from the vicinity of Altrincham and Frodsham. The great demand for this vegetable has given rise to an improved mode of raising the early kinds. The method consists in nothing more than in putting the sets in a warm place, carefully guarded from the frost, where they may sprout at least three inches by the beginning of March. As soon after that time as the weather is favourable, they are, with the sprout on, to be carefully planted in a dry soil in drills, with a small rib of earth between each drill, and the end of the sprout just under the surface of the ground. The cottagers in most parts of Cheshire are accommodated with land by the farmers for growing potatoes, on condition of laying on a sufficient quantity of manure. This adds materially to the comforts of the labouring class, while the farmer has an excellent

preparation for a future crop. The failure in the potatoe crop during the last few years has been a serious loss to the Cheshire farmers. The carrot seed and onion seed grown in the neighbourhood of Altrincham, is celebrated throughout the kingdom, and always commands a higher price than any other brought into the market.

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS.—From the great increase of population and the adoption of free trade measures, there seems, in a national point of view, a necessity of extended agricultural improvements, not only in this county, but throughout the whole kingdom. Although improvements by draining, inclosure, and superior management, have been progressing for the last half century in many parts of Cheshire, yet there are considerable quantities of cold wet land, partly covered with rushes, that want draining. This has been accomplished on many estates, by the united efforts of landlords and tenants, the former finding tiles and materials, and the latter performing all the draught work at their own expense. Many of the farms in Cheshire are small, and this is often found a great obstacle to improvement. They do not invite men of capital, and yet it is generally found that farmers, regardless of their capital, are grasping at more land than they are able to cultivate and stock. To manage a farm successfully, like every other occupation or business, it is necessary that the occupant should possess sufficient capital, for without it, it is useless to expect improvement or profitable cultivation. The want of it is unfortunately too common amongst farmers. Wanting it in the outset, they have not been able to acquire any, and thus have gone on from year to year with difficulty; perhaps deteriorating the soil and reducing the little they possessed. The *Farmer's Clubs*, established in many of the principal towns in Cheshire, for the discussion of practical husbandry, have had a beneficial effect, and have a tendency to develop many hidden facts, and to dispel deep-rooted prejudices by friendly argument and interchange of thought. Farmers seldom meet to exchange ideas but at these associations, which may be considered in the character of Normal Schools, where the old and young may impart and receive information on many things connected with their occupation. On the whole, Cheshire is inferior to many other counties in agriculture. It wants, however, only the application of capital and the superintendence of men of true practical science, to become one of the finest agricultural counties in England.

FARMS.—Although a number of the farms in Cheshire, particularly in the middle and southern part of the county are large, yet a reference to the village directories, will shew that there is a preponderance of small farms in most parts of Cheshire. The **FARM HOUSES** are mostly composed of brick, and have been greatly improved within the last fifty years. On some of the estates very great improvements have been made within the last fifteen years, and particular attention has been paid to the convenience of the outbuildings and farmyards. Many of the half-timbered buildings, the ancient seats of the Cheshire gentry, are still found scattered over the county, and occupied in most instances as farmhouses. The seats of the **NOBILITY** and **GENTRY** are numerous in the county, and are on a scale of magnitude and elegance, which but few counties can boast. They will be found more particularly described in the townships in which they are locally situated.

The **TENURES** are in all the variety of freehold, leasehold, and copyhold; there is not that quantity of church and collegiate lands, which are met with in some other counties. The freeholders in Cheshire are numerous; the immediate occupants of the soil are mostly tenants at will, or have short leases, a system which in all cases acts as a hindrance to those extensive agricultural improvements, which would undoubtedly take place if longer leases were more generally granted. The tithes are in most instances commuted, and in others they are paid by a moderate composition. The **SOCAGE TENURE OF ANCIENT DEMESNE** consisted of lands and manors which were the ancient inheritance of the crown, and actually in the hands of it, in the time of Edward the Confessor or William the Conqueror, and are entered in Domesday Book under the title of *Terra Regis*. Most of these have been granted out from time to time to private subjects, but the tenants were not all of the same order or degree: some of them continued in absolute villenage, dependent on the will of the lord others were in a great measure enfranchised, by the royal favour, the services of which are now changed to pecuniary rents, in consequence of which they had many immunities and privileges granted.

The staple commodities of this county are salt and cheese; the former has long been celebrated, and has been a principal article for exportation from a very early period. (*See Northwich.*) It is certain, from the record of Domesday, that salt was one of the principal articles of commerce in this county, and that it produced a considerable revenue to the Crown before the Norman Conquest, the king having two thirds, and the Earl of Chester one third of the tolls, in which manner it continued to the time of Hugh Lupus. It appears that the *Wiches*, as they were called in the Survey, were very productive in the reign of Edward the Confessor. When Hugh Lupus was first created Earl of Chester, the salt works belonged to the King and the Earl, at Middlewich and Nantwich, having before produced a rent of £15 per annum, were wholly disused and unproductive; and those in Nantwich, whence the King and Earl Edwin had derived an income of £20 per annum, were nearly as much neglected, there being in use only one salt work out of eight which had been formerly worked.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.—In the year 596 Augustine by the order of Gregory the Great, came into this kingdom, and in the space of one year converted one thousand Saxons to the Christian faith. But the gospel was not preached in the Kingdom of Mercia till the reign of Penda, long after the abolition of idolatry in all the neighbouring states of the Saxon Heptarchy. At length this monarch, having sent his son Peada into Northumberland, to solicit in marriage Achilflida, the daughter of King Osway, he was converted to Christianity by the persuasive discourses of the venerable Bede. The object of his mission being accomplished, he returned to his father's dominions, accompanied by a number of celebrated divines, who immediately began to spread the doctrines and precepts of the Gospel, with great success, among the Mercians. The aged Penda seems to have viewed these events with indifference; he soon after entered into a war with Osway, the Northumbrian Prince, and being defeated, his dominions were seized by the conqueror, who, in conjunction with Peada, remained in possession of Mercia for three years, during which Christianity was declared the established religion. At the end of this period, the Mercians, weary of subjection to a foreign yoke, revolted, and being successful, conferred the crown on Wulfere, one of the sons of Penda, who still embraced the Pagan idolatry. During the early part of his reign, the cause of Christianity was greatly injured: he however, in the end, became a convert to the Christian faith.

MONASTIC INSTITUTIONS.—The Benedictine Monks had a great abbey at Chester, dedicated to St. Werburgh, a priory at Birkenhead, and a cell at the Isle of Hilbree. The Benedictine Nuns had a priory at Chester; the Cistercian Nuns an abbey at Vale Royal, another at Combermere, another at Stanlow, afterwards removed to Whalley, in Lancashire; and a fourth at Poulton, afterwards removed to Deulacres, in Staffordshire. The Austin Canons had a priory at Runcorn, afterwards removed to Norton, a small priory at Mobberley. The Premonstratensian Canons had a monastery at Warburton. The Knights Hospitallers had a preceptory at Barrow, and the Black, Grey, and White Friars had houses at Chester. Mention is made in ancient writings of the monasteries of St. Michael and St. Ann, in Chester, and of ancient monasteries, in the Saxon time, existing at Bromborough and Runcorn. At Chester, was the ancient Collegiate Church of St. John the Baptist, for a dean and prebendaries, or canons. There was a college at Bunbury for secular chaplains, another at Macclesfield, founded by Archbishop Savage. At Chester, were the ancient hospitals of St. John, St. Giles, and St. Ursula. There were hospitals also at Bebbington, Broughton, Denwall, Nantwich, Tarvin, and Wybunbury.

MONASTERIES AND RELIGIOUS HOUSES.—It was one of the singular characteristics of the Roman Catholic Church, that it gave scope to partial reformation. What among Protestants would be called a new sect, became in that church merely a new order. From time to time men arose to recall attention to some doctrine or practice which had fallen into disuse, and for the revival of which a necessity was felt. The church gave scope to their zeal, and benefitted by their efforts, till they, in turn, became rich and corrupt, and other reformers were needed. About 1120, the rule of St. Augustine was reformed by St. Norbet. He professed that the Virgin Mary had pointed out the site on which he was to found a new house, and she had prescribed the white habit that the monks were to wear. The house then

derived the name of Premonstatension, and the monks were called white canons. About the year 1325, this new order found its way into England.

ABBEYS.—When, in a society of religious persons, whether male or female, where an abbot or abbess presided, it was styled an abbey. This governor had the sole power over the convent, could appoint or discharge any officer at pleasure, and prescribe what rules the monks or nuns should be obliged to observe. The abbots have enjoyed the power of conferring the lower order of priesthood, but in the essential points of jurisdiction, they were everywhere subject to the diocesan bishop. The consequence of the abbots grew with the wealth of their monasteries; several received episcopal titles and privileges; all held rank next to that of a Bishop, and had a vote in the ecclesiastical councils. Equal privileges and rights appertained to the abbesses, as the superior of the nunneries, except that they were seldom allowed to vote at synods. When the society of religious persons consisted of men, it was called a monastery. There is reason to believe that there were monasteries and monks in Britain before the end of the 4th century. In the course of the seventh century, many monasteries were founded in all parts of England. These monasteries were designed, in some places, for the seats of the bishops and their clergy; in others, for their secular priests, who preached and administered the sacrament over the neighbouring country; and in most instances, they were seminaries of learning, for the education of youth. When the society of religious persons consisted of women, it was called a NUNNERY. If a monastery or nunnery was subject to another, it was called a CELL. The great English abbeys had many such cells in distant places.

PRIORIES.—When the chief person in a monastery bore the name of Prior, it was styled a Priory. These kinds of religious houses were of two sorts—either they were such whose prior was independent, or they were such as depended upon some great abbey, from which they received their Prior, and to which they were often obliged to pay a small pension or annual acknowledgment. Whenever the convent to which they belonged was beyond the seas, then it was styled an alien Priory. These last transmitted their revenues to their foreign superior, for which reason their estates were generally seized to carry on the war between England and France.

PRECEPTORIES.—Whensoever the Knights Templars, or Hospitallers had any considerable manors or farms, they erected a church for the service of God, and built a convenient house for habitation, to which they sent out their fraternity, under the command of a Preceptor. **CHANTRIES** were chapels erected and endowed for the signing of masses for the souls of the deceased. Chantry rents are still paid to the crown by the purchaser of their lands. **HOSPITALS** were small convents occupied by a few monks for the entertainment of all who want any pilgrimage on religious pretence. **GUILDS** were societies of lay brethren, who lived together like monks, but were of no professed order. The *Grey Friars* were at first called *Franciscans*, from the name of their founder, St. Francis; they were likewise called *Minorites*, from their being the lowest and most humble of all orders, and *Observants*, from their great strictness to the rules of their order. They were styled mendicants, from their professing wilful poverty, subsisting chiefly upon alms, which they used to ask from door to door, by which they were distinguished from monks who kept at home within their convents, and lived in common upon their substance. Their habit was a long grey coat, down to their heels, with a cowl or hood, and a cord about their loins, instead of a girdle. Many privileges were granted them, and many of high degree were ambitious of living, dying, and being interred in the habit of these Franciscans. The *Black Friars*, so called from their habit, a black cope and cowl over a white coat, were likewise called *Dominicans*, from their having been founded by St. Dominick, and black preaching friars because they were the only preachers of all the friars. These monks obtained extensive grants of land, and had many persons of note within their convents. The *White Friars* took their name from the dress they wore; they came into England in 1325, and first settled at Canterbury.

The **RELIGIOUS** in this kingdom, (as well bishops as others, in the time of the Saxons, held their possessions by a tenure, called, in Latin, *libera eleemosyna*, and *pura et perpetual eleemosyna*; that is free alms, or *pure and perpetual alms*, to them and their successors for ever. This is the tenure by which almost all the religious houses held their lands, and

by which the deans and chapters and many other ecclesiastics, hold them at this day; by which they are discharged from all secular services, except the *trinodas necessitas* of repairing highways, building castles, and repelling invasions. The clergy of this realm were formerly of two sorts, *regular* and *secular*; the former were so called because they lived under the certain rules of some order, and made a vow of true obedience, perpetual chastity, and wilful poverty, of which sorts were all abbots, priors, and others professing any of the religious orders; the latter were ecclesiastics likewise, but for distinction sake, called *secular*, of which sort were bishops, deans, chapters, archdeacons, prebendaries, canons, parsons, vicars, and the like. The religious were suppressed at different times, the first of which we find in the county was in the reign of Henry VI, a time when learning had begun to revive, and great men grew fond of founding colleges and houses of learning, which they endowed with lands, given towards the maintenance of the monks. The amount of their revenues, and the time of their suppression in this county, will be found noticed in the parishes in which they were locally situated.

In the reign of Henry VIII, Cardinal Wolsey being desirous of founding a college at Ipswich, and another at Oxford, obtained leave of the pope to suppress as many monasteries as were needful to raise a revenue, not exceeding three thousand ducats per annum. To accomplish this, above thirty religious houses were suppressed. The chief intent of Cardinal Wolsey, and most others, in suppressing these houses, seems to have been the promotion of learning, though probably some, both then and afterwards, might encourage it with other views. The casting off the Pope's supremacy was urged as another cause for the suppression of these orders, who, notwithstanding these subscriptions, were generally thought to be against it in their hearts, and ready to join with any foreign power which should invade the kingdom, whilst the King was excommunicated by the Pope. The discoveries of several cheats in their images, miracles, and counterfeit relics, is said to have brought the monks everywhere into disgrace, and to have contributed much to their overthrow; but it is more likely, a principal inducement to their ruin, was their large revenues, and the moveables in money and jewels, which they were possessed of. In order to supply the necessities of the state, an act was passed, in the 27th of King Henry VIII, for the suppression of all religious houses, which were not above the clear yearly value of two hundred pounds per annum. By this act above three hundred and eighty houses were dissolved, and their revenues, upwards of thirty thousand pounds per annum, came to the Crown, besides plate and jewels, to the value of one hundred thousand pounds. As to the religious in them, it is said that ten thousand persons were thereby sent to seek their fortunes in the world, without any other allowance than 40s., and a new gown to some few of them. The suppression of these houses in some parts of England, occasioned great discontent, fomented, probably, by the secular as well as regular clergy; the dissatisfaction at length broke out into open rebellion. This caused the great abbeys to be surrendered, for some of the religious having joined in the rebellion, were liable to the King's displeasure, and surrendered their houses and lands to save their lives. A great many monks having been executed for aiding the rebellion; others were prevailed upon by threats and promises, to sign their resignations. In the 32nd year of Henry VIII, an act for the suppression of the Order of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, commonly called the Knights' Hospitallers, was passed, and five years after, the Parliament, in order to supply the king's wants, granted to him all the colleges, chantries, and hospitals, so that even the colleges in the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, with those of Eaton and Winchester, were not exempted in it; they were consequently, most of them destroyed, among which we read of ninety colleges, one hundred and ten hospitals, two thousand three hundred and seventy-four chantries and free chapels. Out of the revenue, however, the King founded six new Bishoprics, and in eight of the other Sees he founded deans and prebendaries. He founded two colleges in Oxford and Cambridge, and several professorships in both Universities, and was a munificent benefactor to the City of London. The revenue arising from the suppression of these monastic establishments, amounted to £147,785 per annum; but by the continued grants the King made of these lands to his courtiers, and an unbounded lavishness in his expenses, he soon wasted the whole of this immense revenue. The parochial clergy, having been stripped of their

tithes, were left in great destitution. It is greatly to be lamented, that in the destruction of religious houses, great numbers of excellent books, and other manuscripts, were made away with and destroyed, to the unspeakable loss of the learned world, for there was scarce a religious house without a library, and several of them had very valuable collections of books and manuscripts. Their chronicles, registers, and other books still remaining, are sufficient testimonials how great the advantages would have been, had there been a greater number of them preserved.

This county was, in ancient times, subject to the jurisdiction of the Bishops of Mercia, who sometimes had their seat at Chester. Peter, who was the Bishop of the diocese in the reign of William the Conqueror, removed the episcopal see to Chester, placing it, as it is said, in St. John's Church. His successors were, for more than three centuries, occasionally called by historians, Bishops of Chester, although his immediate successor, Robert de Lindsey, had removed the see from Chester to Coventry, where he had built a magnificent palace; Matthew Paris says, the Bishopric had three seats, Chester, Lichfield, and Coventry. In the year 1541, King Henry VIII. made Chester a distinct Bishopric, assigning to it for a diocese, the archdeaconry of Chester and Richmond, (severed from the sees of Lichfield, Coventry, and York,) and comprising the whole of Cheshire and Lancashire; part of Yorkshire, Cumberland, and Westmorland; one chapelry in Denbigshire; and four parishes in Flintshire. By the King's charter, the new Bishopric was placed in the province of Canterbury; but, by an act passed in the 33rd Henry VIII, the diocese of Chester was transferred from the province of Canterbury to that of York. The Diocese of Chester was one of the largest in England, before the establishment of the new Bishopric of Manchester, which now embraces a portion of Lancashire, formerly appended to this diocese. The Archdeaconry includes the Deaneries of Chester, Bangor, Frodsham, Macclesfield, Malpas, Middlewich, and Nantwich. The Archdeaconry of Liverpool, which includes the Deaneries of Warrington and Wirral, also forms part of the Diocese of Chester. Before the Dissolution, the tithes of about twenty parishes were appointed to the support of the different monasteries and religious houses. Most of these are in lay hands, but some three or four still belong to the see. The dignitaries of the Church, and the income of the see, will be found noticed with the general history of Chester.

ECCLESIASTICAL REVENUES.—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners were appointed under an act, passed in the 6th and 7th years of William IV. for the general improvement and equalization of the dioceses,—for the dividing of extensive parishes, and augmenting small livings, and the adopting of such other measures as may conduce to the efficiency of the Established Church. The archbishop of Canterbury, the archbishop of York, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Lincoln, the Bishop of Gloucester, the Lord High Chancellor, the President of the Council, the Lord High Treasurer, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with others, form a body politic and corporate by the name of the “Ecclesiastical Commissioners of England,” for the purposes of the said act.

The Commissioners reported in 1835, that the total amount of the gross annual revenues of the several Archiepiscopal and Episcopal Sees of England and Wales, were £181,631. The total amount of the net annual revenues of the several cathedral and collegiate churches in England and Wales, was £284,241, and the total amount of the net revenues of the same was £208,289. The total amount of the gross annual separate revenues of the several dignitaries and other spiritual persons, members of the cathedrals and other collegiate churches in England and Wales, was £75,854. The total number of benefices with, and without cure of souls, the incumbents whereof, have made enquiries to the returns of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, omitting those which are permanently or occasionally annexed to, superior preferments, are 10,540, the gross annual revenues of these benefices is £3,197,225, giving an average income £303, and the total annual net revenue of the same £3,004,721, giving an average income of £285. The total number of benefices with, and without cure of souls in England and Wales, including those not returned, but exclusive of those annexed to other preferments (about 24 in number) is 10,718; the total gross income of which, calculated upon the average of those returned, £3,251,159, and the net income thereof £3,055,451. The number of curates returned as employed by resident incumbents, was 1,000, whose

annual stipends or payments in money amounted to £87,075, affording an average of £86. Those employed by non-residents, were 4,224, the amount of their stipends £337,620, averaging £79, and the average of the whole of the curates stipends, £81. In concluding their report, the Commissioners state, that the Archbishops and Bishops, in addition to the payments of the fees, first fruits, and other charges incident to their taking possession of their preferments, are subject to heavy expenses for the support and reparation of their houses of residence; and on their archdeacons, the supervision of their archdeaconries sometimes extending over a large territory, entails, in many cases, an expenditure exceeding the whole emolument of their office; and that their cost and charges for first fruits and fees of admission, generally exceed the amount of their receipts for the first two or three years after their entering office.

QUEEN ANNE'S BOUNTY.—FIRST FRUITS AND TENTHS.—From the earliest periods every Bishop and clergyman has been required to pay the amount of his first year's incumbency into a fund, and every succeeding year one tenth. These first fruits and tenths were formerly collected at their full value, and applied to the use of the Pope, as early as the time of Pope Nicholas (A.D. 1200). For this purpose a valuation was made of all the livings in England, which is still preserved in the remembrancer's office, and designated "valor of Pope Nicholas IV." At the time of the Reformation, King Henry VIII. passed a law with the sanction of Parliament, declaring that the first fruits and tenths should be appropriated to the use of the state; and he caused an accurate and full valuation to be made of all the ecclesiastical livings in England and Wales, which were accordingly paid into the public exchequer, till the reign of Queen Anne, with the exception of a short period in the reign of Philip and Mary. Queen Anne, deploring the wretched condition in which many of the clergy were placed, owing to the insufficiency of their livings, came to the determination that first fruits and tenths should be paid into a fund called "*Queen Anne's Bounty*," and that the amount should be appropriated to the livings of the poor clergy. No fresh valuation has been made since 1535, and registered in what is now called the *King's Book*, till that made by order of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, in 1835, on which the payments are now regulated. That the payments might not operate oppressively, the first years' income was to be paid in four annual instalments, and livings of small value was entirely exempt, and hence called "Discharged Livings." During the time of popery, a large portion of the tithes had been alienated from the parishes, for the endowment of religious houses, or for chantries, to say masses for the dead, &c. These endowments, at the Reformation, being seized by Henry VIII., left the greater part of the parochial livings very poor. The governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, sometimes aided by benefactions, and at others by Parliamentary grants, for the endowment of churches, have been able to augment many of the poorest livings, and now the resources at the command of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners by various reductions in cathedral and collegiate churches, will cause the church livings in a few years to be considerably equalized. The receipts for the year 1846 amounting to £206,502, and the disbursements to £217,900.

PARISH REGISTERS.—The earliest of the parish registers, date from the establishment of the Church of England, injunctions to this effect having been issued by Cromwell, Henry's vicegerent in ecclesiastical jurisdiction, in 1538. The canons now in force, date their authority from the beginning of the reign of James I, A.D. 1603. One of these prescribes minutely the manner enteries are to be made in the parish registers, and contains a respective clause, appointing that the ancient registers, as far as they could be procured, should be copied in a parchment book. This new regulation appears to have been carried into full effect, so that the only parish registers now extant, are transcripts, commencing with Queen Elizabeth's reign. The parish register act of 1812, obviated some of the previous sources of error, and insured the further usefulness of the registers of that period. But a satisfactory system of registration was not established until the year 1837, when the act for registering births, deaths, and burials came into operation in England and Wales. The registration of births is considerably more complete than the old parochial registers of baptism, and the registers of deaths is believed to be very complete.

EXTRA-PAROCHIAL PLACES, usually are found to have been royal palaces, sites of religious houses, or of ancient castles, the owners of which were unwilling to permit any

interference with their authority, within their own property; and in early times, such exemption was obtained from the Crown by purchase or favour. An extra-parochial place enjoys a virtual exemption from maintaining the poor, because there is no overseer on whom a magistrate's order may be served; from militia laws, because there is no constable to make returns; from repairing the highways, because there is no surveyor; besides all which, the inhabitants have an opportunity of escaping from taxation of every kind; for, in the language of the ancient law of England, such places were not "*geldable nor shire-ground*," and as the Sheriff was the receiver general in his county till about the time of the revolution, extra-parochial places were neither taxable nor within the ordinary pale of civil jurisdiction; and the inhabitants are still virtually exempt from many civil duties and offices. The reclaiming of forests, drainage of fens, or embankment from the sea, furnishes frequent occasion, even now, to establish extra-parochial immunities.

ECCLESIASTICAL ARCHITECTURE.—The most considerable remains of Saxon architecture in this county, and apparently the most ancient, are in St. John's Church, Chester, formerly collegiate. It has been asserted on the authority of Roger Hoveden, that this building was erected about the year 966, by Ethelred, Duke of Mercia, and his wife Ethelfleda; but the passage in that historian does no more than raise a probable conjecture, that it might have been built about that time, when the city of Chester was restored by those illustrious persons. Whenever it may originally have been built, the edifice appears to have been repaired by Leofric, Earl of Mercia, who died in the year 1059. The nave is for the most part of Saxon architecture, and in the style of the eleventh century, which renders it probable that it might have been a part of what was built in the time of Leofric. The four massive piers, surrounded with half pillars, having Saxon capitals and four plain semicircular arches, originally supported a large square tower, which fell down and destroyed a considerable part of the choir, probably about the year 1470, when the roof was repaired and covered with lead.

On the north wall of the nave of Chester cathedral, several circular arches appear on the outside, adjoining the west end of the north aisle of the nave, about nineteen feet by seventeen, has a semicircular arch on the south side, the piers of which are ornamented with Saxon mouldings; these are probably of the eleventh century, when the church was repaired by Earl Leofric. Adjoining the bishop's palace, and the west cloister, is a building ninety feet long, and thirty wide, with a row of short circular pillars running down the middle, from which spring diagonal vaultings of round arches, which are probably with the other parts of the building above noticed, and was the great cellar of the abbot's hall, which remained entire until the year 1649.

Near to Prestbury parish church stands an ancient Saxon chapel, with a doorway at the west end, ornamented with chevron and other Saxon mouldings, and within the arch is a rudely sculptured bas relief of our Saviour, in an oval compartment, supported by angels; over the doorway is a range of seven figures, very coarsely executed. There is a doorway, with a semicircular arch, enriched with the chevron, and other Saxon mouldings, in a cellar of Norton Priory; having no doubt belonged to the church of that monastery. The western part of Bebbington church, the west end of Birkenhead chapel, and Bromborough church, retain traces of the same kind of architecture; the doorways of Bromborough, Shocklach, and Shotwick, have similar arches, enriched with Saxon mouldings; that of Over church has a pointed arch in a similar manner. There are also some remains of Saxon architecture in Church-on-Heath, Coddington, and Ince churches.

The Cathedral church at Chester affords several elegant and striking examples of the more enriched Gothic architecture, particularly the Chapter House, and the ancient Refectory of the Convent. The Refectory must have been a very noble room, it was ninety-eight feet long and thirty-four feet wide; from the style of architecture of these buildings, there seems to be little reason to doubt that it took place early in the thirteenth century. The two upper tiers of arches in the nave of St. John's church Chester, which have clustered pillars with foliated capitals, may also be referred to the early part of the thirteenth century. Nantwich church is a very rich example of the style of this century; but the external ornaments have suffered a good deal from the decay of the crumbling sand stone of which it is built. The windows in this church are large, and the tracery very beautiful.

Among the churches in the style of the fifteenth century, may be noticed Great Bebbington, the windows are large and uniform, and the side walls beneath them are enriched with gothic tracery; the pillars between the nave and the aisles are clustered. Astbury Church, one of the handsomest in the county is of the same style, the nave is lofty, with a richly ornamented wooden roof, erected in the year 1647. The nave of Brereton Church, is a handsome uniform structure, in the style of the latter part of the fifteenth century. The nave of Bunbury Church is in the same style. Several parts of Chester Cathedral were rebuilt, or repaired and altered in the latter part of this century; the north transept and cloisters were all of this date.

Perhaps no county in England possessed a greater number of curious remains of *ancient painted glass* than that of Chester, in the latter end of the sixteenth century, more especially such as preserved the portraits and armorial bearings of its numerous gentry. In the British Museum, is a manuscript collection, containing sketches of ancient monuments, and painted glass, in the Cheshire churches. In Astbury church, were portraits of the families of Latham, Massey, and Moreton. In Bunbury church, was a curious painting of the root of Jesse. In Gasworth church, were the portraits of the Fittons and Mainwaring. One of the windows of Brereton church was formerly ornamented with painted glass, representing the four Knights who slew Thomas a Becket, standing under canopies, with their names inscribed on scrolls, and a fifth figure, supposed to have been designed for King Henry II. In Over church, and Tilstone church, are some remains of antique painted glass. The windows of Brereton Hall were formerly richly adorned with coats of arms and figures of the ancient Earls of Chester.

Among the rood lofts, and screens of antique workmanship, may be noticed those in Astbury, Mobberley, and Wilmslow churches. The rood loft in Astbury church is richly ornamented with Gothic tracery, and the cornice enriched with sculpture of vine leaves and birds. On the north side of the chancel, in Bunbury church, is a rich Gothic screen of stone, which separates it from a large chapel, formerly a burial place of the Egertons; the lower part is ornamented with grotesque figures and flowers; the upper part with sculptured foliage and shields, with arms and various devices. In Northenden church, between the side aisle and the burial place of the Tatton family, is a rich wooden screen, inscribed with texts of scripture, and enriched with a scroll of vine leaves. The screen in Brereton church is of rich Gothic open work. There are few *Fonts* in the Cheshire churches, which are sufficiently curious to be particularly noticed. That of Sandbach is the most remarkable, being octagonal, and surrounded with Acanthus leaves and flowers. Wybunbury is octagonal, and ornamented with gothic tracery, including shields of arms. The font in Tilstone church is circular, surrounded with foliage.

CHARITIES.—The parochial accounts of the posthumous charities are given from the voluminous reports of the Commissioners deputed by Parliament to inquire into the state and appropriation of public charities in England. This commission commenced in 1817, and was not finished till 1839. The charities bequeathed by numerous benevolent individuals, for the education and relief of the poor of this county, produce collectively the large sum of £11,630 19s. 10d. In addition to this, a very considerable amount is subscribed by the benevolent inhabitants, for the support of various charitable institutions, among which are free schools, hospitals, dispensaries, lunatic asylums, and various societies for relieving the poor, &c. The summary of the reports of the Commissioners of Inquiry into Charities, show, that in England, there are 442,915 acres, or about 690 square miles belonging to charities, which is little less than the area of Worcestershire. The rent of these lands is £874,313 per annum. The amount of rent charges is near £80,000, a great portion of which is made up of very small sums. The interest of the money (above £6,000,000) which belongs to charities, is £255,151 per annum. The whole income of the charity property enquired into by the Charity Commissioners is £1,209,395 per annum.

NEW AND OLD POOR LAW.—To give a digest of these laws, the former of which passed in 1834, and the latter in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, would require more space than our limits will afford. The law of Elizabeth ordered the setting to work all able-bodied poor, and the providing for age, infirmity, and youth; but so early as the year 1759, this law was

exercising ground by the soldiers in the garrison at Manchester. At the above date, an inclosure act was obtained, and the ground is now covered with luxuriant crops of garden produce, which is sent to the Manchester market. The tithes are commuted for £489 7s. 1d.

The INDEPENDENTS have a substantial brick chapel erected in 1803, situated at Sale Moor Bridge, it contains a good organ erected at a cost of about £100 raised by subscriptions. The Rev. Edward Morris is the pastor. The WESLEYAN METHODISTS have a small chapel at Broad lane. The PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL is a small fabric in Moor lane. The PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL is in Chapellane; most of these places of worship have Sunday schools attached, which are numerous attended. The SCHOOL at Sale is endowed with £60 left in the year 1808 by Mrs. Elizabeth Pearson, the interest to be applied in the education of poor girls; in addition to the interest arising from this legacy, the schoolmaster has the use of a school-house, which was built by subscriptions, about 40 years ago, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land inclosed from the waste, which is let for £23 per annum. The boys of the township are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. SALE OLD HALL, a fine old mansion about 2 miles E, from Ashton Church, has been greatly improved and modernized within the last few years; it is now the residence of Edward Lyon, Esq. Near the Hall is SALE LODGE, a handsome stone residence occupied by Edmund Haworth, Esq. On the Manchester and Altrincham road is SALE BANK, a neat stuccoed gothic residence, occupied by Mr. Samuel Roebuck.

Alderley Mr William	Lane Mr Richard, Beech Cottage
Ashcroft William, wheelwright	Leeds Mrs Ann, Oak place
Bate Thomas, tailor, Cross st	Lekh Obadiah, beerhouse keeper
Bellhouse Mr David, Saleheys Cottage	Lodge Mr Robert, Sale moor
Bennett Edmund, coal dealer	Lyon Edward, Esq. Old Hall
Bradshaw Mr Joseph, New lane	Marple Mr Paul, Hart lane
Brickell Thomas, vict. Leigh Arms, Moor In	Marsland John, carrier to Manchester
Brodgden Mr John	Moor Joseph, New lane
Brook Benjamin, shopkeeper. Sale green	Moor Matthew Taylor, Cross st
Brownhill John, beerhs. & shopkpr New Chester	Morris Rev. Edward
Brownhill Sarah, beerhouse, White's bridge	Nield Joseph, joiner and builder, Cross st
Cough Mr Wm. Newhall lane	Prince Mr Wm. New lane
Foster John Frederick, Sale Priory	Roebuck Mr Samuel, Sale bank
Gardiner Thomas, shopkeeper, Cross st	Royle John, boot and shoemaker, Cross st
Gardiner Wm. engineer, Cross st	Shiers Mr Joseph, Dane lane
Goddy Samuel, beerhouse keeper, Cross st	Singleton John, shopkeeper, Hart lane
Gratrex Edward, beerhouse keeper, Hart lane	Tebbutt Mr Wm. Sale Cottage
Haworth Edmund, Esq., Sale Lodge	Tyrer Peter Shawcross, vict. Bull's Head,
Haworth Edward, jun. Esq, Sale Lodge	Cross st
Hewitt John, boot and shoemaker and shop-	Warren James, schoolmaster
keeper, Cross st	Watmough Mr Wm. Crispin
Hull Mr John Robert	Whittenbury Mr John, Broad lane
Joynson Wm. Esq. Cross st	Wright David, beerhouse keeper
Kinsey Mr George, School lane	Yates Mr Richard Smalley

Farmers.	Brown Wm.	Hampson John	Radford Richd. & Jas.
Alderley Samuel	Carter John	Higson James	Radford farm
Barlow Thomas, New	Carter James	Marsland John	Richardson Thomas
Hall	Dewsbury Wm.	Marsland Robert	Whitehead John
Brown Peter	Gratrex John	Morgan Joseph	

BOWDON or BOWDEN parish comprises the chapelries of Altrincham and Carrington, and the townships of Agden (part of), Ashley, Baguley, Bollington (part of), Bowdon, Dunham-Massey, Hale, Partington, and Timperley; which together, at the last census, had a population of 9,383 souls. Population in 1801, 6,066; in 1831, 8,200.

BOWDEN, township and populous village, is pleasantly situated on high ground, $7\frac{3}{4}$ miles N. by E. from Knutsford, 1 mile S. E. from Altrincham, and 9 miles S. from Manchester. The Church and principal part of the village stand on the highest part of an eminence, commanding delightful views of the vale of the Bollin, and the more distant parts of the country, embracing a circuit of many miles in all directions. The delightful situation

of Bowdon, and the proverbial salubrity of the air, has caused immense numbers of genteel villa residences to be erected by the merchants of Manchester. The houses have a remarkably light, clean and elegant appearance; many of them are erected of a light yellow kind of brick, others are stuccoed, and some are built of the red brick, most of which have sprung up within the last ten years. The Earl of Stamford is now bringing a quantity of land into the market for building purposes; and the increased facilities of communication with Manchester, in consequence of the opening of the railway during the present year, will no doubt give an impetus to building, and add greatly to the prosperity and importance of Bowden.

The township contains 828A. 0R. 26P. of land, and in 1841, had 115 houses and 549 inhabitants, Population in 1801, 340; in 1831, 458. Rateable value, £5,122. The vicarial tithes are commuted for £33 10s., and the rectorial for £95 10s. The manor of Bowdon was, in ancient times, parcel of the barony of Dunham Massey. It subsequently became divided, and Roger Massey sold a moiety of it for £4 7s. in money, and two robes, one for himself and one for his wife, rendering annually 11b. cummin seed at the feast of St. Martin. The Earl of Stamford and Warrington is now the lord of the manor.

BOWDON CHURCH, a fine old structure, is said to have existed prior to the Conquest. It consists of nave, chancel, and side aisles, which are separated from the nave by five pointed arches, rising from octagonal pillars. The Church stands on a considerable elevation, and from the summit of the tower, the views are extensive and highly picturesque. The Church contains some elegant monuments, particularly to the Booth and Warrington families. In the north chapel are two handsome monuments, one of which was erected in memory of Henry, Earl of Warrington, and his Countess. Another is supported by columns of the Ionic order, and ornamented with medallions of the deceased, in memory of the Earl's younger sons, Langham and Henry Booth. The Earl died in 1694. He was thrice committed to the tower, on accusations of high treason, and having been tried by his Peers, was acquitted Jan'y 14th, 1686, a day which he ever after commemorated. Various other monuments adorn the Church. The living is a vicarage, valued in the King's Book at £24, now returned at £487, in the patronage of the Bishop of Chester. Incumbent, Rev. William Henry Galfridus Mann, M.A. A Free Grammar School was founded at Bowdon, in the beginning of the 17th century, by Mr. Edward Vawdrey, who bequeathed £4 per annum to it. The school was rebuilt at the charge of the parish in 1670, and again in 1806; and since then it has been conducted on the National system. About 250 scholars attend.

The vicarage is a good residence, situate in Bowden vale, on the banks of the Bollin.

CHARITIES.—The yearly sum of £5 is received from the Corporation of Chester, as the gift of *Dame Elizabeth Booth*, for a distribution of bread every Sunday. *William Chapman* left a rent charge of £2, in 1714, for the same object. *George, Earl of Warrington*, in 1754, bequeathed the interest of £5,000 to the use of his daughter, during life, and after her decease, "the annual proceeds to be for ever applied in placing out poor children, in the parish of Bowdon, apprentices, or for sending them to school, or for clothing them, or for the clothing or other relief of aged or infirm poor inhabitants of this parish." The amount has been invested in the purchase of £5,610 Three per Cent. Reduced Bank Annuities. A further sum of £478 15s., now invested in like stock, bequeathed by seven several donors, produces £14 7s. per annum, which is expended in bread. *Elizabeth* and *Sarah Cook* bequeathed £50 for charitable uses. *Robert Twemlow*, in 1826, left £100, the interest to be laid out in bread, and distributed every Sacrament Sunday. The Earl of Stamford and Warrington has in his hands £110, the interest of which is expended in support of Sunday schools, and in the purchase of bibles and prayer books. *Thomas Walton*, in 1754, gave to his executors the sum of £1000, for charitable uses in the township of Dunham-Massey. By a codicil to his will, dated 23rd August, 1755, he directed his executors to dispose of the residue of his property for charitable purposes, in Dunham-Massey, Bowden and Altrincham. A *School, at Seaman's Moss*, has been founded out of the funds given by Mr. Thos. Walton. About £2,000 was expended in building the school, and £5,241 13s. 2d. has been invested in the Three per Cent. Reduced Bank Annuities. It appeared the Earl of Stamford and Warrington had considered that the administration of the funds of this charity rested entirely at his discretion; on the contrary, the Charity Commissioners suggested that this was a

proper case for an application, by petition, to the Court of Chancery for a scheme, which appears to have been since adopted.

Marked 1 are Bowden Vale ; 2, Richmond Hill ; 3, Rose Hill ; 4, Albert square ; 5, Sunny Bank ; 6, Sandy lane ; 7, Rose Vale ; 8, Oak Terrace ; 9, High Field ; 10, Green Bank ; 11, Holly Bank ; 12, Church View ; 13, Lower Bowden ; 14, Vale View ; 15, Church Bank ; 16, Fir Bank ; 17 Church street, 18, High Lawn ; and 19, Oak Hill.

6 Backhouse Mr James	14 Harland Mr John	Pimlott John, painter
Barley Mark, boot & shoemkr	7 Herwer Mrs	6 Pindlebury Mrs Catherine
8 Balshaw Mr William	15 Heron Mrs Mary	3 Pogler Mr Alfred
4 Baxter Mr James	3 Hockingnell Mr Isaac R	8 Potter Mrs Elizabeth
3 Berks Miss Sarah	6 Holland Mrs Elizabeth	Potter Mrs Rebecca
6 Bickham Mr Spencer	5 Holtham Miss Mary, board-	19 Pownall Mr William
3 Blinkhorn Miss Mary	ing school	19 Richmond Mrs Sarah
Bowler Mr G. vict. Stamfrd Arms	6 Houghton Mr Henry	6 Richmond Mr Fras. Philip
9 Bradford John, constable	Houghton Wm. schoolmaster	10 Robinson Mr George
Bramhall Mr Joseph	16 Hoyle Miss Phœbe	19 Salmon Miss Louisa
1 Bray Jph. boot & shoemakr	Hunt John, vict, Griffin Inn	3 Scott Mr William Henry
6 Brougham Mrs	Jackson Sarah, shopkeeper	Seddon Mr Robert
5 Buck Thomas, joiner	and post office	Service Henry, parish clerk
Buckley Peter, lodging house	15 Kaye Mr Alexander	& agent to the Manchester
4 Burrows Mr Samuel	Kingsley Rev. John, curate,	Insurance Co
2 Burton Mr William	Woodbine cottage	8 Sevier Rev Christopher T
10 Carlisle Mr John	Layland Miss Sarah	3 Sharp Mr William
3 Christopherson Rev. Henry	2 Leese Mr Joseph	17 Simpson Misses
11 Clarke Mrs Mary	Leicester Charles, shopkeeper	17 Smith George, shopkeeper
12 Clough William, builder	Lignum Mrs Sarah	3 Spence John, surgeon
4 Collins Mr Richard	17 Lomax Piers, blacksmith	Standring Mr John
2 Crossley Mr George	Love Mr Benjamin	4 Swanwich Mr Thomas
1 Dean George, jun	Lycett Mr William Edward	Sutton John, farmer
5 Diggles Mrs Jane	6 Lyon Mr John	Thomas Mr James, Bayfields
13 Dobell Mr Joseph	Mann Rev. Wm. Henry, M.A.	7 Thompson John, boarding
9 Duffield Mr Charles	vicar, Vicarage	school
3 Eckford Mrs Robert	11 Marsland Mr Joseph	8 Trelfall Mrs Sarah
Edwards Mr Wm. Bowden hall	8 Martin Mr William	3 Tonge Miss Fanny
6 Ellis Rev Samuel	6 Midwood Mr Frederick	Walker Mr Wm. Summer field
12 Foulks Misses	15 Mills Alexander	4 Walton Mr Thomas
Frodsham Mr John	10 Miller Mr George	13 Warburton Mr John
3 Giesler Joan	12 Molineaux Mr Boulton	9 Warburton Mr William
1 Giles Mr Samuel	3 Moro Mr G. R	9 Wildsmith Mrs Martha
Goodier James, farmer	18 Neild Mr William	Williamson Mr Edward
2 Grafton Joseph Smith	Norbury Thomas, farmer	2 Wood Mrs
Greaves Miss Martha Ann	2 Norris Mr Thomas	6 Wood Mr William
Grundy Miss Mary Ann	Owen John & Son, painter &	Worthington Mr Joseph
Halls Joseph, farmer	gilder	Worthington Mr Walter
Hampson Mr. John South,	Packwood Benjamin tailor	Worthington Mr William
Down cottage	8 Parker Miss Clemantine	Barlow Mr. Laurel mount

AGDEN is a small township partly in Bowden parish and partly in that of Rostherne, situated near 4 miles S.W. from Altrincham. The township contains 572 acres of well cultivated land, of which 202A. 3R. 16P. are in Bowden parish, and the rest in Rostherne ; in 1841, there were 5 houses and 45 inhabitants in Bowden parish, and 8 houses and 50 inhabitants in Rostherne parish, making a total of 95 persons ; population in 1801, 85 ; in 1831, 99. The tithes are commuted for £77, of which the vicarial tithes of Bowden are commuted for £16, and £16 13s. is paid to Earl Stamford. Sir John N. L. Chetwode is sole proprietor. A moiety of the manor passed by successive female heirs from the Aketons, or Agdens, to the families of Daniel or Venables ; the other moiety was sold by Agnes, widow of John Leech, to the Savages, and by them, in 1619, to the Venables family, who had been possessed of the former moiety as early as the year 1401. William Venables, who married the heiress of Daniel, and settled at Agden, was grandson of Hugh Venables, baron of Kinderton. In 1727, the heiress of George Venables, Esq., of Agden, married Sir P. T. Chetwode, Bart., ancestor of the present proprietor. This township is intersected by the Duke of Bridgewater's canal.

infringed on, and shortly after, a law was passed for the union of parishes, and the building of workhouses, where profitable labour might be carried out. The average poor's rate for the three years ending 1750, was £730,135; for the year 1803, the amount was £5,348,404; and in 1817, it amounted to £9,320,440. The average annual amount of the poor's rate, paid for the three years previous to the passing of the New Poor Law, was £5,332,904. In the year 1841, it amounted to £4,028,287; and in 1843, to £4,406,088.

ADDITIONS.

HOLLYNGWORTHE (see page 189,) is a township, in the parish of Mottram, in Longendale, which derives its name from Holly and Worel, Saxon, for habitation. (The residence in the Holly's,) Hollyngworthe is mentioned in Domesday, and here, prior to the Norman Invasion, were settled the ancient family of Hollyngworthe, now represented by Robert de Hollyngworthe, Esq., of Hollyngworthe Hall. The Hall, a very ancient structure was partly repaired, and somewhat modernized in the 17th century, but sufficient remains to show that the house has been of no mean pretensions. It was originally quadrangular, and a portion of two towers still remain, and also a mound called the Chapel Hill, upon which the old chapel formerly stood. The passage through the gatehouse or tower has some curious old wood work, on one side, of massive oak, with a side door, and on the outside is one of the slide lights for the porter to examine approaching persons, prior to their admittance. The general appearance of the hall presents a mass of heavy projecting chimneys, gables, and high walls, almost buried in the foliage of the oak, ash and elm. The long old barn is one of the finest of the kind, in the kingdom, standing upon oak blocks, springing from its base, the inside altogether forming a series of arches, and referring to no later a period than the 1st or 2nd Edward. On the north side of the Church of Mottram, is a private chapel belonging to the family, with the arms, &c., in stained glass, in the windows, and on the north door the arms and initials of the family are also cut, which, from the characters and shape of the shield appear to have been executed about the time of Henry VII., or early in the reign of Henry VIII.

EATON.—(See page 444.) In several of the volumes, the 6th line will be found transposed to the 2nd. Read thus. Eaton is a small township and village, in Astbury parish, situated in the Macclesfield hundred, 2½ miles N.N.E. from Congleton. The township contains 1,224A. OR. 10P. of land, and in 1841 here were 103 houses, and 535 inhabitants; population in 1001, 184, in 1831, 525. Rateable value £1,815. G. C. Antrobus, Esq. is the principal landowner, there are several small owners; among whom, are Mr. Thomas Brownsett, and Mr. Samuel Bull. Eaton Hall, situated on the east side of the Wilmslow road, is a modern mansion of brick, in the Elizabethan style, &c. &c.

PROTHONOTARY MUNIMENT ROOMS, Chester Castle, Edward Watson Lloyd, Esq., clerk of assize, and clerk of the Crown for North Wales and Chester circuit, and keeper of the records of the County Palatine of Chester; residence, Dee House, Chester.

BATHS, WASHHOUSES, &c.—(See page 71.) It appears from the first quarter's operations of the Bathing establishment at Chester, that 12,655 swimming baths and 514 shower baths have been taken. There have also availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the washhouse, 1,103 poor washers, who have washed 4,806 dozens of clothes.

Mayors for the year 1850.—**CHESTER**, John Walker, Esq.; **CONGLETON**, William Hadfield, Esq.; **MACCLESFIELD**, Thomas Taylor Swanwick, Esq.; **STOCKPORT**, Richard Sykes, Esq.

A LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL SEATS OF THE NOBILITY, GENTRY, AND CLERGY, IN THE COUNTY OF CHESHIRE.

 *To avoid increasing this List, the Villa Residences in the suburbs of populous places are not inserted, but will be found in the Directory of the respective Towns and Parishes in which they are situated.*

THOSE WITH * AFFIXED ARE ACTING MAGISTRATES.

THE MOST NOBLE RICHARD, MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER, LORD
LIEUTENANT OF CHESHIRE, AND CUSTOS ROTULORUM.

- Acton, 1 mile N. from Nantwich, Wilbraham Spencer Tollemache, Esq., Dorfold Hall; Rev. Francis Storr, Vicarage; Mrs. Tomkinson.
- Adlington, 5 miles N. from Macclesfield, *Charles Richard Banastre Legh, Esq., Adlington Hall; William Clayton, Esq., Endon Hall; Henry Hodgkinson, Esq., Hope Green.
- Agden House, 2½ miles S.E. from Malpas, Robert Neville Johnson, Esq.
- Alderley Edge, 6 miles N.W. from Macclesfield, (see directory, page 343).
- Alderley Nether, 6½ miles W.N.W. from Macclesfield, *The Right Hon. John Thomas Stanley, Bart. The Park; Rev. William Cruttenden Cruttenden, Rectory.
- Alderley Over, 4¾ miles W.N.W. from Macclesfield, William T. Hibbert, Esq., Hare Hill
- Aldersey Hall, 8 miles S.E. by S. from Chester, Samuel Aldersey, Esq.
- Aldford Rectory, 6 miles S.S.E. from Chester, Rev. Francis Brandt.
- Altrincham, 7 miles N. from Knutsford, William D. Nicholls, Esq.; Rev. Francis Orton, D.C.L.; *Edward J. Lloyd, Esq., Oldfield Hall.
- Antrobus, 5 miles N.W. from Northwich, George Eaton, Esq., The Pole.
- Appleton, 4½ miles S. from Warrington, *Thomas Lyon, Esq., The Hall; Rev. Edward A. Litton; John Urmson, Esq.
- Arrow, 6 miles N. from Great Neston, John Nicholson Shaw, Esq., Arrow Park.
- Ashton-upon-Mersey, 3 miles N. from Altrincham, Peter Daine, Esq.; John E. Gallimore, Esq., Whitfield House; *Rev. Charles B. Sowerby, M.A. Rectory.
- Astle Hall-by-Chelford, *John Dixon, Esq.
- Aston-by-Budworth, 4 miles N.E. by N. from Northwich, *Rowland E. E. Warburton, Esq., Arley Hall.
- Aston-by-Sutton, 4½ miles S.E. from Runcorn, Sir Arthur Ingram Aston, G.C.B.; Rev. Edward Marsden, M.A.
- Aston Juxta Tarvin, *William Atkinson, Esq., Ashton Heys; Rev. Gerard Smith.
- Bache, 1¼ mile N. from Chester, Samuel Broadhurst, Esq., Bache Hall.
- Backford, 4 miles N. by W. from Chester, Edward Holt Glegg, Esq., Backford Hall.
- Baddiley, 3 miles W.S.W. from Nantwich, Rev. John Wilkinson Edwards, Rectory.
- Barthomley, 7 miles S. by E. from Sandbach, *Rev. Edward Hinchcliffe, M.A., Rectory.
- Bebbington, 5 miles N. from Great Neston, *Rev. Robert Mosley Fielden, Rector; *John William Harden, Esq., Ross Cottage; *William Hall, Esq. (see also directory p. 692).
- Bechton, 2 miles S.E. from Sandbach, Rev. John Armitstead, Vicarage; George Sewell, Esq., Bechton Hall.
- Bickerton, 4½ miles north from Malpas, Rev. Henry Wingfield, Parsonage
- Birtles, 2¾ miles W. by N. from Macclesfield, *Thomas Hibbert, Esq., Birtles Hall.
- Birkenhead, 1 mile E. from Liverpool, *William Jackson, Esq., Manor House, Claughton; *John Laird, Esq.; *John S. Jackson, Esq.; *John William Harden, Esq.; *William Potter, Esq.; *John R. Shaw, Esq.

- Bollington, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. by E. from Macclesfield, Joseph Brook, Esq., Lime Bank House; Martin Swindells, Rock Bank House; Peter Brook, Esq., The Rookery; Samuel Greg, Esq., The Mount; Thomas Oliver, Esq., Water House; Rev. George Palmer, Parsonage.
- Bostock, 2 miles south from Northwich; *James France France, Esq., The Hall.
- Bowdon, 1 mile S.E. from Altrincham, Rev. William Henry Mann, M.A., vicar (see also directory, page 516).
- Bradwell, 2 miles N. by W. from Sandbach, *John Latham, Esq., Latham Hall.
- Bramall, 3 miles south from Stockport, Lady Maria Davenport, The Hall; Peter Pownall, Esq., Pownall Hall.
- Bredbury, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.E. by N. from Stockport, *Joshua Bruckshaw, Esq., Harryton Hall; John Pender, Esq., Bredbury Hall; *Henry Marsland, Esq., Wood Bank; James Ashton, Esq., High Field House.
- Brereton-cum-Smethwick, 3 miles N.E. by N. from Sandbach, *John Howard, Esq., The Hall; Rev. Edward Royd, Rectory.
- Budworth Great, 3 miles N. from Northwich, Mrs. Fanny Leigh, Belmont; Rev. George Henry Webber, Vicarage.
- Buglawton, 3 miles N.E. by E. from Congleton, *Samuel Pearson, Esq., The Hall; Rev. Edward Wilson, Parsonage.
- Bunbury, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.E. from Tarporley, Rev. Rev. John Martin; Rev. John Donkin.
- Burton, 8 miles N.W. from Chester, *Richard Congreve, Esq., The Hall; Rev. Ralph Congreve, Parsonage.
- Butley, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles north from Macclesfield, The Hon. Thomas A. Erskine, Bonis Hall.
- Caldey, 7 miles N.N.W. from Great Neston, Richard Barton, Esq., Manor House.
- Capesthorpe Hall, 6 miles W.S.W. from Macclesfield, Mrs. Caroline Anne Davenport; Arthur Henry Davenport, Esq.
- Carden, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.N.W. from Malpas, John Hurleston Leche, Esq., Carden Park.
- Cheadle, 3 miles W. by S. from Stockport, Ebenezer Robert Le Mare, Esq., Belmont; George Peel, Esq., Brook Field House; John James Schmidt, Esq., School Hill; *James Newton, Esq., Cheadle Heath; John Farmer, Esq., Richmond Hill; Mrs. Prescott, Bradshaw Hall; Mrs. Baxter, Brook Lodge; Rev. Charles James Cummings, Rectory.
- Chelford, 7 miles W. from Macclesfield, John Dixon, Esq., Astle Hall; Rev. Greville John Greville, Parsonage.
- Chester: *Sir Edward Samuel Walker, Knight.; *Charles Potts, Esq.; *John Williams, Esq.
- Cholmondeley, 4 miles N.E. from Malpas, *The Most Noble George Horatio, Marquis of Cholmondeley, Cholmondeley Castle; Rev. Samuel Lambric, Parsonage; Edward Stephen Clark, Esq.; Jonathan Hill, Esq.
- Chorlton-by-Backford, $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles N. from Chester, James Wickstead Swan, Esq., The Hall.
- Chorlton-by-Malpas: *Thomas Chorlton Clutton, Esq., Chorlton Hall; The Hon. Edward Kenyon, Chorlton Lodge; Thomas Vaughan, Esq., Chorlton Cottage.
- Christleton, $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles S.E. by E. from Chester, *Townsend Ince, Esq., The Hall; Rev. Thomas Lloyd, Rectory; Benjamin Parkin, Esq.
- Church Lawton, 6 miles S.W. from Congleton, Charles Bourne Lawton, Esq., The Hall; Rev. Vernon Tipping, Rectory; Rev. Charles A. Tryon, Green Bank.
- Clive, 2 miles S.W. from Middlewich, John Roylance Court, Esq., Clive House.
- Coddington Rectory, 6 miles N.N.W. from Malpas, *Rev. Thomas Boydell.
- Cogshall, 3 miles N.N.W. from Northwich, Peter H. Jackson, Esq., Cogshall Hall.
- Combermere Abbey. *The Right Hon. Stapleton Stapleton, Viscount Combermere.
- Congleton, 31 miles E. from Chester. (See page 437.) *Thomas John W. Swettenham, Swettenham Hall; *Rev. James Brierley, Moseley Moss Hall.
- Crabwall Manor House, one mile and a quarter N. from Chester, Samuel Britain, Esq.
- Cranage, $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles E.N.E. from Middlewich, *Lawrence Armitstead, Esq., The Hall.
- Crewe Hall, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S. by W. from Sandbach, *Right Hon. Hungerford, Lord Crewe.
- Crewe, 9 miles S.S.E. from Chester, *Roger Harry Barnston, Esq., Crewe Hill House.
- Cuddington Lodge, 2 miles W.S.W. from Malpas, William Frederick Hugh Clerk, Esq.
- Delamere, $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles W. from Northwich, Rev. William Darwin Fox, M.A.

- Delamere Lodge, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles W.S.W. from Northwich, *George Wilbraham, Esq.
- Daresbury, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.E. from Frodsham, Samuel Beckett Chadwick, Esq.
- Davenham, 2 miles S. from Northwich, *John Hoskin Harper, Esq., Davenham Hall; *Rev. Thomas France, Rectory.
- Davenport, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.W. from Congleton, Mrs. Tipping and E. J. Tipping, Esq., Davenport Hall.
- Doddleston, 5 miles S.W. from Chester, Rev. Robert Martin Smith, Rectory.
- Dorfold Hall: Wilbraham Spencer Tollemache, Esq., Dorfold Hall.
- Dukinfield Lodge, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.E. by N. from Stockport, *Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P.
- Durham Massey, 3 miles W.W. by S. from Altrincham, The Right Hon. George Harry, Earl of Stamford and Warrington, Dunham Hall.
- Eaton Hall, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. from Chester, *The most noble Richard, the Marquis of Westminster.
- Eaton-in-Astbury, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.N. from Congleton, *Gibbs Crawford Antrobus, Esq., The Hall.
- Edge, 2 miles S. by W. from Malpas, Rev. Joseph Yates Dod, Edge Hall; John Johnson, Esq., Higher Hall.
- Farndon, $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.W. from Chester, John Thomas Simpson, Esq., Dee Bank; Rev. John Piccope, Parsonage.
- Foulk Stapleford, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles W.N.W. from Chester, Rev. William Ellwood, Parsonage.
- Frodsham, 10 miles N.E. by N. from Chester, Rev. John R. Hall, M.A.; Harry Heron, Esq., Park Place; *John Jesse Esq.; Rev. Edward Wolfenden.
- Fulshaw, half a mile S. from Wilmslow, John Jenkins, Esq., Fulshaw Hall.
- Gayton, 3 miles N.W. by N. from Great Neston, *John Basvervyle Glegg, Esq., The Cottage; William Latham, Esq., Gayton Hall.
- Godley-cum-Newton, 6 miles E.E. by N. from Stockport, *Samuel Ashton, Esq., Oakland House; John Thorneley, Esq., Highfield House; Randal Hibbert, Esq., Brookside; *John Turner, Esq.
- Grappenhall, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles S.E. by S. from Warrington, Rev. Thomas Greenall, The Rectory; *Thomas Parr, Esq., The Hays; Mrs. Greenhall, The Hall; John Clare, Esq., The House; James Fenton, Esq., The Lodge.
- Great Barrow, 5 miles E. by N. from Chester, Rev. John Clark, Rectory.
- Grimsditch Hall, 5 miles N.N.W. from Northwich, Thomas Grimsditch, Esq.
- Hartford, a mile and a half S.W. from Northwich, Thomas Frith, Esq., Hartford Lodge; James Royds, Esq., Woodlands; Mrs. Agnes Phœbe Marshall, The Beach.
- Harthill, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.W. by S. from Chester, Rev. William Vawdrey, The Parsonage.
- Hatherton, 4 miles S.E. by S. from Nantwich, John Charles Mare, Esq., Broomlands.
- Henbury, $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles W. from Macclesfield, *Major Thomas Marsland, Henbury Hall.
- Heswall, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles W. from Great Neston, Rev. Mark Coxton, Rectory.
- Hollingworth, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile E. by N. from Mottram, *Robert de Hollyngworthe, Esq., Hollyngworthe Hall; The Misses Wood and John Wood, Esq., Hollingworth House; *John Sidebottom, Esq., Etherow House; *William Sidebottom, Esq.
- Hoole, $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles N. by E. from Chester, John Hostage, Esq., Brook Lodge.
- Hooton, 5 miles N. by E. from Chester, Richard Naylor, Esq., The Hall.
- Hough, 3 miles E. by S. from Nantwich, Robert Green Hill, Esq., The Hall; Rev. Delves Broughton, Cliffe House; Robert Orton Easton, Esq., Hough House.
- Hurdsfield, 1 mile N.E. from Macclesfield, John Brocklehurst, Esq., The Beach; Thomas Brocklehurst, Esq., The Fence; Charles Condron, Esq., Swanscoe Park; Rev. Edward Weigall, Parsonage.
- Hyde, 5 miles N.E. from Stockport, *Robert Ashton, Esq.; Samuel *Ashton, Esq.; John Sidebotham, Esq.
- Knutsford, 24 miles E.N.E. from Chester, James Arden, Esq., The Lodge; *Peter Leigh, Esq., Nortury Booths Hall; Rev. Robert Clowes, M.A., Vicar; Peter Holland, Esq.
- Lachford, 1 mile S.E. from Warrington, Rev. James Wright, Parsonage; F. Smith, Esq.; Captain Henry Hill.

- Legh or Leigh, 5 miles N.W. from Knutsford, *George Cornwall Legh, Esq., M.P., Legh Hall; *Egerton Leigh, Esq., West Hall; Rev. Wilbraham B. Guest, B.D.; *Egerton Leigh, jun., Esq.
- Leighton, a mile and a half N. from Great Neston, Edmund Bushell, Esq.; John Hartley Cartmell, Esq.; Hugh Craig, Esq., Backwood Hall.
- Liscard, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.W. from Birkenhead, Harold Littledale, Esq., Liscard Hall; *J. C. Ewart, Esq.; John Taylor, Esq., Clifton Hall; Rev. John Tobin, Liscard House; (See also Directory, page 673.)
- Littleton, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles E. from Chester, *Thomas Dixon, Esq., Littleton Hall.
- Little Budworth, 4 miles N.E. from Tarporley, *Sir Philip de Malpas Grey Egerton, Bart., Oulton Park; Rev. Robert White, B.A., Parsonage.
- Lymm, 5 miles E.S.E. from Warrington, James Barratt, Esq., Lymm Hall; *William Hoskin Harper, Esq., Statham Lodge; Rev. William McIver, Rectory; *Trafford Trafford, Esq., Outrington Hall; Thomas Ridgway, Esq.
- Lyme Hall, 7 miles N.E. from Macclesfield, *Thomas Legh, Esq., Lyme Hall; Rev. Peter Legh.
- Macclesfield: *John Brocklehurst, Esq., M.P.; *Thomas Swanwick, Esq.
- Malpas, 15 miles S.E. by S. from Chester, Rev. Charles Augustus Thurlow, M.A., Higher Rectory; Rev. John Tyrwhett Drake, Lower Rectory.
- Marbury, a mile and a half N. from Northwich, James Hugh Smith Barry, Esq.
- Marbury, $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.W. from Nantwich, D. H. C. Poole, Esq., The Hall; *Sir H. Mainwaring Mainwaring, The Cottage,
- Marple, 5 miles E.S.E. from Stockport, Mrs. Isherwood, Marple Hall; Rev. Thomas B. Dickson, Parsonage; *John Wright, Esq., Brabins Hall.
- Mere, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.W. from Knutsford, Thomas John Langford, Brook, Esq., Mere Hall.
- Middlewich, 6 miles S.S. by E. from Northwich, *The Venerable Archdeacon Wood.
- Minshull Church, 5 miles N. from Nantwich, Rev. George Benjamin Sandford, The Parsonage; Frederick Hilton Cook, Esq., Ivy Cottage.
- Mobberley, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles E.N.E. from Knutsford, Major John Blakiston, Mobberley New Hall; Rev. George Mallory, M.A., Old Hall.
- Mollington, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles N.N.W. from Chester, John Feilden, Esq.
- Mottram-in-Longdendale, 7 miles E.E. by N. from Stockport, *John Chapman, Esq., Hill End House; Joe Sidebottom, Esq., Harewood Lodge; Rev. David Seddon, Vicarage; *George Woodhead, Esq.
- Mottram St. Andrew, 2 miles N.W. from Prestbury, Rev. Henry Wright, The Hall.
- Nantwich, 20 miles S.E. from Chester, *Edward Delves Broughton, Esq., Shrewbridge Hall; Rev. Andrew Fuller Chater, Rectory; John Richardson, Esq.; Thomas Charles James Fox White, Esq.; William Smith, Esq., Charles R. Edleston, Esq.; *William Baker, Esq., Highfields. (See also Directory, page 385.)
- Neston, Great, 10 miles N.W. from Chester, John Carter, Esq., Manor House; *Bolton Case, Esq.; Edward Houghton, Esq.; R. Houghton, Esq.; Charles Monk, Esq.; Rev. Robert Yarker, Vicar.
- Newbold Cottage, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.E. from Chester, T. Wynne Denton, Esq.
- New Beighton, *Joseph C. Ewart, Esq.
- Newton, 6 miles N.E. from Chester, Charles James Ashton, Esq., Newton Lodge; Rev. G. W. Bower, Parsonage.
- Newton-by-Daresbury, *Shallcross Jackson, Esq., Newton Bank; Rev. Charles Wright.
- Newton-by-Middlewich, William Court, Esq., Manor House.
- Northenden, 5 miles W. from Stockport, *William Thomas Tatton, Esq., Withenshaw Hall.
- North Rode, 3 miles N.E. by N. from Congleton, Rev. John Daintry, M.A., The Farm; *Thomas R. Daintry, Esq., The Cottage; Rev. William Sutcliffe.
- Northwich, 18 miles E.N.E. from Chester (see directory, page 462).
- Norton, $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles N.E. by E. from Frodsham, *Sir Richard Brooke, Bart., Norton Priory.
- Odd Rode, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.W. from Congleton, *Randle Wilbraham, Esq., The Hall; *Randle Wilbraham, Jun., Esq., Rode Heath; Rev. John Palmer Firmin, M.A.

- Ollerton, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.E. from Knutsford, William Hilton, Esq., Ollerton Lodge; Captain William F. Hindle, Ollerton Hall.
- Overton, one mile and a half N. by W. from Malpas, Rev. R. B. Brocklebank.
- Oxton, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles S. by E. from Birkenhead. (See Directory, page 703.)
- Peckforton Castle, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.W. from Tarporley, *John Tollemache, Esq., M.P.
- Peover, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.E. from Knutsford, *Harry Mainwaring, Esq., Peover Hall.
- Poole Hall, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.N.W. from Nantwich, Francis Elcock Massey, Esq.
- Poulton-cum-Spittle, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.E. from Great Neston, William Barker, Esq., Claremont; Thomas Green, Esq., The Hall; Henry Neild, Esq.
- Poynton Hall, 5 miles S.S.E. from Stockport, Samuel Christy, Esq., M.P., Poynton Towers; Isaac Hadwen, Esq.
- Prestbury, 3 miles N.N.W. from Macclesfield, Rev. Henry Pearson, L.L.B., Vicarage; Rev. William Pearson, M.A.; John Lawton, Esq., Prestbury Hall.
- Rainow, 3 miles N.E. by E. from Macclesfield, *John Upton Glegg, Esq., Ingersley Hall.
- Romiley, 4 miles E.E. by N. from Stockport, Ormerod Heyworth, Esq., Oakwood Hall; Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., Birch Vale.
- Rostherne, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles N. from Knutsford, Rev. Joseph Hordern, M.A., Vicarage; Mrs. Maria Banks, Rostherne Hall.
- Rowton Hall, $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles S.E. by E. from Chester, the Misses Tomkinson.
- Runcorn, 15 miles N.E. by N. from Chester, Rev. John Barclay, M.A., Vicarage; Rev. James Cox, M.A.
- Sale, 3 miles N.N. by E. from Altrincham, Edward Heyworth, Esq., Sale Lodge; Edward Lyon, Esq., Old Hall; William Joynson, Esq.
- Sandbach, 5 miles E. by S. from Middlewich, *Charles F. Ford, Esq., Abbey Fields; James Skerratt, Esq., Wheelock House; *Rev. John Armitstead, Vicar.
- Seacombe, a mile and a half N. from Birkenhead, *Henry Winch, Esq., Winch House. (See also Directory, page 674.)
- Shotwick, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, N.W. by W. from Chester, The Rev. James Cottingham.
- Shrigley, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.N.E. from Macclesfield, *Rev. Brabazon Lowther, The Hall; George Swindells, Esq., Pott Hall.
- Smallwood, 3 miles E.S.E. from Sandbach, Rev. Francis Cradock Twemlow, M.A.
- Somerford Park, 3 miles N.E. from Congleton, Sir Charles Peter Buckworth Shakerley, Bart.
- Somerford Booths, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles N.W. from Congleton, *Clement Swettenham, Esq., Radnor Hall.
- Stanney Little, 5 miles N. from Chester, Robert Mawdsley, Esq., Rake Hall.
- Stanthorne, 1 mile N.N.W. from Middlewich, Richard Dutton, Esq., Stanthorne Hall.
- Stapley, $1\frac{3}{4}$ mile S.E. from Nantwich, Joseph Betteley, Esq., Oakfield; *Rev. James Folliott, Stapley Cottage.
- Stockport, 6 miles S.E. from Manchester, *Rev. Charles Kenrick Prescott, Rectory: *Peter E. Marsland, Esq.
- Stretton, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.S.E. from Warrington, Rev. Richard Greenall.
- Sutton, 4 miles S.S.W. from Macclesfield, Henry Brocklehurst, Esq., Foden Bank; Thomas Parrott, Esq., Green Bank; Joseph Stancliffe, Esq., Foden Bank; Rev. Thomas Hughes, Parsonage.
- Swettenham, 5 miles N.W. from Congleton, Thomas John W. Swettenham, Esq., The Hall; Rev. John Darcey, Rectory.
- Tabley Honse, 2 miles W. by S. from Knutsford, *Right Honourable George Warren, Baron de Tabley.
- Tarvin, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles E. by N. from Chester, Rev. Thomas S. Bowstead, Vicarage; Richard Weaver, Esq., Poole Bank.
- Tatton, 2 miles N. from Knutsford, *Wilbraham Egerton, Esq., Tatton Park: *William Tatton Egerton, Esq., Mere Hall.
- Tattenhall, 8 miles S.S.E. from Chester, *Robert Bulkeley Orton, Esq., Bank House; Rev. George B. Moncreiff, Rectory; Samuel Bromfield, Esq., George H. Jones, Esq.
- Thelwall 3 miles E. by S. from Warrington, John Dakin, Esq., Old Hall; Peter Nicholson, Esq., Thelwall Hall; Rev. Joseph Brindle, Parsonage.

- Thingwell, 5 miles N. by W. from Great Neston, John Lilly, Esq., The Hall.
 Thornton Haugh, 2 miles N. from Great Neston, John Dale, Esq., The Lodge; David Evans, Esq., New Hall.
 Thorneycroft Hall, 4 miles S.W. from Macclesfield, *Rev John Thorneycroft.
 Thurstaston, 5 miles N.W. from Great Neston, *John Baskervyle Glegg, Esq., The Hall; Rev. John Fish, the Rectory.
 Tilston, 4 miles N. by W. from Malpas, Rev. P. Shaw Allen, The Rectory.
 Tilston Fearnall, 2½ miles S.W. from Tarporley, *Edwin Corbett, Esq., Rev. Samuel H. Unwin.
 Tintwistle, 2½ miles N.E. from Mottram, Rev. James Augustus Page, Parsonage.
 Toft, 2 miles S.E. from Knutsford, *Ralph Gerard Leycester, Esq., Toft Hall.
 Tranmere, 1½ miles S. Birkenhead. (See Directory, page 695.)
 Tushingham, 3 miles N.W. by N. from Whitechurch, Benjamin Allport, Esq., The Hall; John Vernon, Esq., Tushingham House.
 Twemlow, 4½ miles E.N.E. from Middlewich. Thomas Booth, Esq., The Hall; Egerton Lee, Esq., Jodrell Hall.
 Upton, 4 miles W. from Birkenhead, William Webster, Esq., The Hall
 Vale Royal, *The Right Hon. Thomas Baron Dalemere, Marquis of Cholmondeley.
 Wallasey, 3½ miles N.W. from Birkenhead, The Hon. Sir Edward Cust, Leasowe Castle.
 Walton Superior, 2½ miles S.S.W. from Warrington, Gilbert Greenal, Esq.
 Warmingham, 3½ miles W. from Sandbach, Rev. George Clayton.
 Waverton, 4½ miles S.E. by S. from Chester, Rev. John Wilbraham Hill, The Rectory.
 Weaverham, 3¾ miles W. by N. from Northwich, Richard Aston, Esq., Gorstage Hall; Booth Grey, Esq., Sandiway Bank; Rev. Charles Spencer, Stanhope.
 Weston 5½ miles E. by N. from Nantwich, Rev. Launcelot Ion Wilson, Parsonage; James Boote, Esq., The Hall.
 Wharton or Winsford, 3 miles W.N.W. from Middlewich, John Dudley, Esq., Wharton Lodge; William Bruce Sangster, Esq., Winsford Lodge; Joseph Lea, Esq., Rev. John Lowthian.
 Whatcroft, 3 miles N.W. by N. from Middlewich, *Geoffrey Shakerley, Esq., The Hall.
 Whitby, 7 miles N. from Chester, John Grace, Esq., The Hall; Rev. Thomas Irwin.
 Willaston, half a mile E. by N. from Nantwich, James Bayley, Esq., The Hall.
 Willington, 3 miles N.N.W. from Tarporley, *Colonel William Tomkinson, The Hall.
 Wilmslow, 7 miles N.W. from Macclesfield, Edward Marsland, Esq., Pownal Hall; *Robert H. Greg, Esq., Norcliff: *Rev. W. Brownlow.
 Wincham, 1½ miles E. by N. from Northwich, *Lee Porcher Townshend, Esq., Wincham Hall.
 Winnington Hall, near Northwich, *The Right Hon. John Edward Stanley Baron Dalemere.
 Wistaston, 2½ miles N.E. by E. from Nantwich, *Rev. Thomas Brooke.
 Withington Hall, 7 miles W. by S. from Macclesfield, *John Baskervyle Glegg, Esq.
 Wrenbury, 6 miles S.W. by S. from Nantwich, Samuel Sproston, Esq., Sproston Wood; John C. Starkey, Esq., Wrenbury Hall; Rev. Charles Aldis, Parsonage.

ERRATA.

- Page 88, second line from bottom, for Presbyterian, read Presbyterian persuasion.
 Page 131, for Crewe Hall, read Crewe Hill House, the seat of of R. H. Barnston, Esq.
 Page 252, twelfth line from bottom, for 104 years, read 140 years.
 Page 256, Sutton 4 miles S.S.E. from Macclesfield, read S.S.W.
 Page 361, twenty first line from top, for rotory, read rectory.
 Page 402, in Bridgemere directory, for Trelfr, read Trelfa.
 Page 445, fourth line from bottom, for Crystels, read Crystals.
 Page 669, six lines from top, for Elesmer Port, read Ellesmere Port.

exercising ground by the soldiers in the garrison at Manchester. At the above date, an inclosure act was obtained, and the ground is now covered with luxuriant crops of garden produce, which is sent to the Manchester market. The tithes are commuted for £489 7s. 1d.

The INDEPENDENTS have a substantial brick chapel erected in 1803, situated at Sale Moor Bridge, it contains a good organ erected at a cost of about £100 raised by subscriptions. The Rev. Edward Morris is the pastor. The WESLEYAN METHODISTS have a small chapel at Broad lane. The PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL is a small fabric in Moor lane. The PRESBYTERIAN CHAPEL is in Chapellane; most of these places of worship have Sunday schools attached, which are numerous attended. The SCHOOL at Sale is endowed with £60 left in the year 1808 by Mrs. Elizabeth Pearson, the interest to be applied in the education of poor girls; in addition to the interest arising from this legacy, the schoolmaster has the use of a school-house, which was built by subscriptions, about 40 years ago, and 3½ acres of land inclosed from the waste, which is let for £23 per annum. The boys of the township are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. SALE OLD HALL, a fine old mansion about 2 miles E, from Ashton Church, has been greatly improved and modernized within the last few years; it is now the residence of Edward Lyon, Esq. Near the Hall is SALE LODGE, a handsome stone residence occupied by Edmund Haworth, Esq. On the Manchester and Altrincham road is SALE BANK, a neat stuccoed gothic residence, occupied by Mr. Samuel Roebuck.

Alderley Mr William	Lane Mr Richard, Beech Cottage
Ashcroft William, wheelwright	Leeds Mrs Ann, Oak place
Bate Thomas, tailor, Cross st	Lekh Obadiah, beerhouse keeper
Bellhouse Mr David, Saleheys Cottage	Lodge Mr Robert, Sale moor
Bennett Edmund, coal dealer	Lyon Edward, Esq. Old Hall
Bradshaw Mr Joseph, New lane	Marple Mr Paul, Hart lane
Brickell Thomas, vict. Leigh Arms, Moor In	Marsland John, carrier to Manchester
Brodgden Mr John	Moor Joseph, New lane
Brook Benjamin, shopkeeper. Sale green	Moor Matthew Taylor, Cross st
Brownhill John, beerhs. & shopkpr New Chester	Morris Rev. Edward
Brownhill Sarah, beerhouse, White's bridge	Nield Joseph, joiner and builder, Cross st
Cough Mr Wm. Newhall lane	Prince Mr Wm. New lane
Foster John Frederick, Sale Priory	Roebuck Mr Samuel, Sale bank
Gardiner Thomas, shopkeeper, Cross st	Royle John, boot and shoemaker, Cross st
Gardiner Wm. engineer, Cross st	Shiers Mr Joseph, Dane lane
Goddy Samuel, beerhouse keeper, Cross st	Singleton John, shopkeeper, Hart lane
Gratrex Edward, beerhouse keeper, Hart lane	Tebbutt Mr Wm. Sale Cottage
Haworth Edmund, Esq., Sale Lodge	Tyrer Peter Shawcross, vict. Bull's Head,
Haworth Edward, jun. Esq, Sale Lodge	Cross st
Hewitt John, boot and shoemaker and shop-	Warren James, schoolmaster
keeper, Cross st	Watmough Mr Wm. Crispin
Hull Mr John Robert	Whittenbury Mr John, Broad lane
Joynson Wm. Esq. Cross st	Wright David, beerhouse keeper
Kinsey Mr George, School lane	Yates Mr Richard Smalley
Farmers.	
Alderley Samuel	Brown Wm.
Barlow Thomas, New	Carter John
Hall	Carter James
Brown Peter	Dewsbury Wm.
	Gratrex John
	Hampson John
	Higson James
	Marsland John
	Marsland Robert
	Morgan Joseph
	Radford Richd. & Jas.
	Radford farm
	Richardson Thomas
	Whitehead John

BOWDON or BOWDEN parish comprises the chapelries of Altrincham and Carrington, and the townships of Agden (part of), Ashley, Baguley, Bollington (part of), Bowdon, Dunham-Massey, Hale, Partington, and Timperley; which together, at the last census, had a population of 9,383 souls. Population in 1801, 6,066; in 1831, 8,200.

BOWDEN, township and populous village, is pleasantly situated on high ground, 7¾ miles N. by E. from Knutsford, 1 mile S. E. from Altrincham, and 9 miles S. from Manchester. The Church and principal part of the village stand on the highest part of an eminence, commanding delightful views of the vale of the Bollin, and the more distant parts of the country, embracing a circuit of many miles in all directions. The delightful situation

of Bowdon, and the proverbial salubrity of the air, has caused immense numbers of genteel villa residences to be erected by the merchants of Manchester. The houses have a remarkably light, clean and elegant appearance; many of them are erected of a light yellow kind of brick, others are stuccoed, and some are built of the red brick, most of which have sprung up within the last ten years. The Earl of Stamford is now bringing a quantity of land into the market for building purposes; and the increased facilities of communication with Manchester, in consequence of the opening of the railway during the present year, will no doubt give an impetus to building, and add greatly to the prosperity and importance of Bowden.

The township contains 828A. OR. 26P. of land, and in 1841, had 115 houses and 549 inhabitants, Population in 1801, 340; in 1831, 458. Rateable value, £5,122. The vicarial tithes are commuted for £33 10s., and the rectorial for £95 10s. The manor of Bowdon was, in ancient times, parcel of the barony of Dunham Massey. It subsequently became divided, and Roger Massey sold a moiety of it for £4 7s. in money, and two robes, one for himself and one for his wife, rendering annually 11b. cummin seed at the feast of St. Martin. The Earl of Stamford and Warrington is now the lord of the manor.

BOWDON CHURCH, a fine old structure, is said to have existed prior to the Conquest. It consists of nave, chancel, and side aisles, which are separated from the nave by five pointed arches, rising from octagonal pillars. The Church stands on a considerable elevation, and from the summit of the tower, the views are extensive and highly picturesque. The Church contains some elegant monuments, particularly to the Booth and Warrington families. In the north chapel are two handsome monuments, one of which was erected in memory of Henry, Earl of Warrington, and his Countess. Another is supported by columns of the Ionic order, and ornamented with medallions of the deceased, in memory of the Earl's younger sons, Langham and Henry Booth. The Earl died in 1694. He was thrice committed to the tower, on accusations of high treason, and having been tried by his Peers, was acquitted Jan'y 14th, 1686, a day which he ever after commemorated. Various other monuments adorn the Church. The living is a vicarage, valued in the King's Book at £24, now returned at £487, in the patronage of the Bishop of Chester. Incumbent, Rev. William Henry Galfridus Mann, M.A. A Free Grammar School was founded at Bowdon, in the beginning of the 17th century, by Mr. Edward Vawdrey, who bequeathed £4 per annum to it. The school was rebuilt at the charge of the parish in 1670, and again in 1806; and since then it has been conducted on the National system. About 250 scholars attend.

The vicarage is a good residence, situate in Bowden vale, on the banks of the Bollin.

CHARITIES.—The yearly sum of £5 is received from the Corporation of Chester, as the gift of *Dame Elizabeth Booth*, for a distribution of bread every Sunday. *William Chapman* left a rent charge of £2, in 1714, for the same object. *George, Earl of Warrington*, in 1754, bequeathed the interest of £5,000 to the use of his daughter, during life, and after her decease, "the annual proceeds to be for ever applied in placing out poor children, in the parish of Bowdon, apprentices, or for sending them to school, or for clothing them, or for the clothing or other relief of aged or infirm poor inhabitants of this parish." The amount has been invested in the purchase of £5,610 Three per Cent. Reduced Bank Annuities. A further sum of £478 15s., now invested in like stock, bequeathed by seven several donors, produces £14 7s. per annum, which is expended in bread. *Elizabeth* and *Sarah Cook* bequeathed £50 for charitable uses. *Robert Twemlow*, in 1826, left £100, the interest to be laid out in bread, and distributed every Sacrament Sunday. The Earl of Stamford and Warrington has in his hands £110, the interest of which is expended in support of Sunday schools, and in the purchase of bibles and prayer books. *Thomas Walton*, in 1754, gave to his executors the sum of £1000, for charitable uses in the township of Dunham-Massey. By a codicil to his will, dated 23rd August, 1755, he directed his executors to dispose of the residue of his property for charitable purposes, in Dunham-Massey, Bowden and Altrincham. A *School, at Seaman's Moss*, has been founded out of the funds given by Mr. Thos. Walton. About £2,000 was expended in building the school, and £5,241 13s. 2d. has been invested in the Three per Cent. Reduced Bank Annuities. It appeared the Earl of Stamford and Warrington had considered that the administration of the funds of this charity rested entirely at his discretion; on the contrary, the Charity Commissioners suggested that this was a

proper case for an application, by petition, to the Court of Chancery for a scheme, which appears to have been since adopted.

Marked 1 are Bowden Vale ; 2, Richmond Hill ; 3, Rose Hill ; 4, Albert square ; 5, Sunny Bank ; 6, Sandy lane ; 7, Rose Vale ; 8, Oak Terrace ; 9, High Field ; 10, Green Bank ; 11, Holly Bank ; 12, Church View ; 13, Lower Bowden ; 14, Vale View ; 15, Church Bank ; 16, Fir Bank ; 17 Church street, 18, High Lawn ; and 19, Oak Hill.

6 Backhouse Mr James	14 Harland Mr John	Pimlott John, painter
Barley Mark, boot & shoemkr	7 Herwer Mrs	6 Pindlebury Mrs Catherine
8 Balshaw Mr William	15 Heron Mrs Mary	3 Pogler Mr Alfred
4 Baxter Mr James	3 Hockingnell Mr Isaac R	8 Potter Mrs Elizabeth
3 Berks Miss Sarah	6 Holland Mrs Elizabeth	Potter Mrs Rebecca
6 Bickham Mr Spencer	5 Holtham Miss Mary, board-	19 Pownall Mr William
3 Blinkhorn Miss Mary	ing school	19 Richmond Mrs Sarah
Bowler Mr G. vict. Stamfrd Arms	6 Houghton Mr Henry	6 Richmond Mr Fras. Philip
9 Bradford John, constable	Houghton Wm. schoolmaster	10 Robinson Mr George
Bramhall Mr Joseph	16 Hoyle Miss Phœbe	19 Salmon Miss Louisa
1 Bray Jph. boot & shoemakr	Hunt John, vict, Griffin Inn	3 Scott Mr William Henry
6 Brougham Mrs	Jackson Sarah, shopkeeper	Seddon Mr Robert
5 Buck Thomas, joiner	and post office	Service Henry, parish clerk
Buckley Peter, lodging house	15 Kaye Mr Alexander	& agent to the Manchester
4 Burrows Mr Samuel	Kingsley Rev. John, curate,	Insurance Co
2 Burton Mr William	Woodbine cottage	8 Sevier Rev Christopher T
10 Carlisle Mr John	Layland Miss Sarah	3 Sharp Mr William
3 Christopherson Rev. Henry	2 Leese Mr Joseph	17 Simpson Misses
11 Clarke Mrs Mary	Leicester Charles, shopkeeper	17 Smith George, shopkeeper
12 Clough William, builder	Lignum Mrs Sarah	3 Spence John, surgeon
4 Collins Mr Richard	17 Lomax Piers, blacksmith	Standring Mr John
2 Crossley Mr George	Love Mr Benjamin	4 Swanwich Mr Thomas
1 Dean George, jun	Lycett Mr William Edward	Sutton John, farmer
5 Diggles Mrs Jane	6 Lyon Mr John	Thomas Mr James, Bayfields
13 Dobell Mr Joseph	Mann Rev. Wm. Henry, M.A.	7 Thompson John, boarding
9 Duffield Mr Charles	vicar, Vicarage	school
3 Eckford Mrs Robert	11 Marsland Mr Joseph	8 Trelfall Mrs Sarah
Edwards Mr Wm. Bowden hall	8 Martin Mr William	3 Tonge Miss Fanny
6 Ellis Rev Samuel	6 Midwood Mr Frederick	Walker Mr Wm. Summer field
12 Foulks Misses	15 Mills Alexander	4 Walton Mr Thomas
Frodsham Mr John	10 Miller Mr George	13 Warburton Mr John
3 Giesler Joan	12 Molineaux Mr Boulton	9 Warburton Mr William
1 Giles Mr Samuel	3 Moro Mr G. R	9 Wildsmith Mrs Martha
Goodier James, farmer	18 Neild Mr William	Williamson Mr Edward
2 Grafton Joseph Smith	Norbury Thomas, farmer	2 Wood Mrs
Greaves Miss Martha Ann	2 Norris Mr Thomas	6 Wood Mr William
Grundy Miss Mary Ann	Owen John & Son, painter &	Worthington Mr Joseph
Halls Joseph, farmer	gilder	Worthington Mr Walter
Hampson Mr. John South,	Packwood Benjamin tailor	Worthington Mr William
Down cottage	8 Parker Miss Clemantine	Barlow Mr. Laurel mount

AGDEN is a small township partly in Bowden parish and partly in that of Rostherne, situated near 4 miles S.W. from Altrincham. The township contains 572 acres of well cultivated land, of which 202A. 3R. 16P. are in Bowden parish, and the rest in Rostherne ; in 1841, there were 5 houses and 45 inhabitants in Bowden parish, and 8 houses and 50 inhabitants in Rostherne parish, making a total of 95 persons ; population in 1801, 85 ; in 1831, 99. The tithes are commuted for £77, of which the vicarial tithes of Bowden are commuted for £16, and £16 13s. is paid to Earl Stamford. Sir John N. L. Chetwode is sole proprietor. A moiety of the manor passed by successive female heirs from the Aketons, or Agdens, to the families of Daniel or Venables ; the other moiety was sold by Agnes, widow of John Leech, to the Savages, and by them, in 1619, to the Venables family, who had been possessed of the former moiety as early as the year 1401. William Venables, who married the heiress of Daniel, and settled at Agden, was grandson of Hugh Venables, baron of Kinderton. In 1727, the heiress of George Venables, Esq., of Agden, married Sir P. T. Chetwode, Bart., ancestor of the present proprietor. This township is intersected by the Duke of Bridgewater's canal.

DIRECTORY.—The principal resident *Farmers* are, George Arnold, New road farm; Thomas Cross, Booth bank; William Hewitt, Hall; Joshua Starkey, Samuel Starkey, Brook farm, and Joseph Robinson, blacksmith.

ALTRINCHAM is a township, chapelry, and well-built market town, pleasantly situated in a delightful and salubrious part of the county, 30 miles N.E. from Chester, 7 miles N, from Knutsford, and 8 miles S.S.W. from Manchester. The situation of the town is dry and remarkably healthy, it contains several good Inns, and has an air of quiet comfort and respectability; in the vicinity are some handsome villa residences. The township contains 524A. 0R. 34P. of land, and in 1841 had 684 houses and 3,399 inhabitants; population in 1801, 1,692; in 1831, 2,708. Rateable value, £8,792. The market is held on Tuesday, and fairs are held on the 29th of April, 5th and 6th of August, and on the 22nd of November. The Duke of Bridgewater's canal intersects the township for $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, and at Broadheath, near the northern entrance to the town, are extensive wharfs. The Altrincham and Manchester railway, opened in July, 1849, takes its course in a line with the canal, and affords additional convenience for the transmission of the industrial products to the market, and will no doubt add greatly to the prosperity of the place, by causing numbers of the merchants and manufacturers of Manchester to fix their abode in this pleasant and salubrious locality, the population of which has been considerably augmented since the last census. There are excellent bowling greens at the Stamford Arms and Unicorn Inn, at the former of which is a billiard table.

In the reign of Edward I. (about the year 1290), Hamon de Massey, baron of Dunham—Massey granted a charter to Altrincham, making it a free borough, and granted to the burgesses a *guild mercatory* (or society of free traffic), together with freedom from tolls throughout the barony; and also that his "burgesses might make to themselves *provosts, or mayors and bailiffs*, by the common advice of myself—and of my bailiffs and theirs, and that no plea in the said burgh be determined, except before me or my bailiffs." The remainder of the charter fixes the terms on which burgages are to be held by the lord; reserves to him and his heirs "the privilege of our oven in the said burg," and undertakes to maintain the rights thus granted to the burgesses against all people for ever. By a charter in the 18th year of his reign, Edward I. grants to Hamo de Massey a market on Tuesday, and a fair of three days duration, on the eve, the day, and the morrow of the Feast of the Assumption of the blessed Mary. Under this charter, a mayor has been annually appointed at the Michaelmas court leet of the lord of the barony; but he does not exercise any magisterial functions, and has very little real influence in the town, although he has certain privileges or perquisites. It seems that at some remote period, the then lord of the barony offered to grant to the mayor of Altrincham a yearly payment of £5, or land of the same yearly value, at his option. The mayor chose the land, which now produces a yearly rental of about £80. A similar offer being made to the mayor of Ashton-under-Lyne, he chose to have the payment in money, and, consequently, all he now receives is £5 yearly. "The Mayor's land," as it is called, in Altrincham, consists of 13A. 1R. 26P. statute measure, the rental of which the mayor has the sole right to receive and to disburse at his discretion. The amount is usually expended in providing dinners at the Easter and Michaelmas court Leets. There have been mayors, however, who have thought the custom "more honoured in the breach than the observance," and have expended the money in local improvements. Sir Peter Leycester, in his "Historical Antiquities," in noticing Altrincham says, "There are so very many small cottages erected here by permission of the Lords of Dunham Massey, that it is now become a nest of beggars." The manor has descended with Dunham Massey to the present proprietor, the Earl of Stamford and Warrington.

The **CHURCH**, or rather **CHAPEL**, is a substantial brick building, erected by subscriptions in 1799. Neither its interior nor its exterior exhibits anything remarkable. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £1000 Parliamentary grant, and returned at £150, in the patronage of the vicar of Bowdon, and incumbency of the Rev. Francis Orton, D.C.L. The rectorial tithes are commuted for £48 14s., and the vicarial for £43. There is Divine ser-

vice at the Floating Chapel, near the Wharf, Broadheath, every Sunday afternoon, by the curate of St. George's. The new Infant School, in Albert street, has also been licensed as an episcopal place of worship. The WESLEYAN CHAPEL is a brick building, erected in 1787, and will hold upwards of 500 worshippers. The NEW CONNECTION METHODIST CHAPEL is a good brick building in George street. The UNITARIAN CHAPEL is a small fabric in Shaws lane, under the pastoral care of the Rev. Charles Wallace. The CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, erected in 1848, is a handsome gothic structure, on the Downs, which will hold about 1000 worshippers. A powerful organ is now building for this place of worship. The chapel stands on elevated ground, and has an imposing appearance. The Rev. Henry Christopherson is the minister. Commodious schools called the JUBILEE SCHOOLS, have been erected near St. George's Church; and there are Sunday schools connected with the several places of worship, which are numerous attended. The *British School* was opened in 1848, and is taught in the old Independent Chapel.

A Market Hall and Town Hall, becoming the population and growing importance of Altrincham, is now in course of erection (1849) by the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. It will be a handsome brick structure, with rusticated stone-work facings, and will be ornamented with a clock and bell turret, the upper part of which, under the clock, will have a lantern, with pillars and arches supporting a metal cupola, and surmounted by a vane. The assembly room will be particularly commodious, measuring 66 feet by 30 feet. The magistrates hold a petty session every Tuesday. The old Town Hall is a small structure, situated in the centre of the Market place, the lower compartment of which is open and provided with seats for the accommodation of parties bringing butter and other commodities to the market. The upper story is used for the town's business, and the holding of the Court Leet, &c. It is intended to take the old structure down in the autumn of the year 1849.

The Altrincham COUNTY COURT, for the recovery of debts not exceeding £20, has jurisdiction in the several townships of Altrincham, Dunham, Bowdon, Timperley, Ashton-upon-Mersey, Hale, Baguley, Sale, Ashley, Agden, Bollington, Warburton, Partington, Mellington, High Leigh, Aston-by-Budworth, and Carrington. All applications for the granting and issuing of summonses, and other proceedings incident to the said court, are to be made at the office of the County Court, George street, in Altrincham. *Judge*. J. W. Harden, Esq.; *Clerk*, Hugh Wallace, Esq.; *High Bailiff*, Robert Stevenson.

The Bowdon and Altrincham SAVINGS BANK, Church street, has been established twenty-six years; and in the year ending 20th November, 1848, had a capital stock of 46,183. 2s. 5d. and 991 accounts, of which 15 were charitable societies and 5 friendly societies. Of the depositors, there were 462 whose respective balances did not exceed £20; 260 were above £20, and not exceeding £50; 134 were above £50 and not exceeding £100; 46 did not exceed £150; 31 were above £150 and less than £200; and 12 exceeded £200. The Bank is open on Tuesdays, from 2 to 4 o'clock; and on Saturdays, from 5 to 7. Mr. John Mort, actuary. The *Excise Office* is at the Unicorn Inn, and the *Stamp Office* at Mr. John Mort's. A *Literary Institution* was established in 1847, which has an interesting library of books, and the News Room is supplied with some of the leading provincial and London papers. The Altrincham Poor Law Union House is situated at Knutsford. The *Gas Works* were established by a company of shareholders, with a capital stock of £4,000, raised in shares of £5 each. Altrincham formerly enjoyed a trade in worsted and woollen yards, but this branch of industry has long since left the neighbourhood. About 40 years ago, there were three cotton factories at work here, but the trade has for many years been discontinued. The spinning of linen thread and bobbin turning are now the only branches that can well be named under the head of manufactures. The saw mills of Messrs. Johnson, at Broadheath, is an extensive establishment. The prevailing occupation of the labouring class is agriculture. Great numbers are employed in the extensive market gardens with which this part of Cheshire abounds, the soil being peculiarly adapted for the raising of esculents, which are conveyed hence to Manchester for sale. The CARROT SEED of Altrincham is celebrated throughout the kingdom, and will fetch more than double the price of seed raised in other parts of the country. Immense quantities of onion seed are also raised in this and the neighbouring townships.

OLDFIELD HALL, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile N.W. from the church, is a handsome house, with park-like grounds, the residence of Edward J. Lloyd, Esq.

CHARITIES.—*John Cooper*, by deed, 17th August, 1807, gave a house and land in Partington. to trustees, upon trust, to distribute the clear rents on every Christmas-day yearly, among poor householders of Altringham, of the respective ages of 50 years and upwards, no such poor person to have more than 40s., nor less than 20s. The present rental is £21, which is usually distributed amongst 18 persons.

Sarah and Elizabeth Cooke, by their respective wills, already mentioned under the head of Bowden parish, gave two sums of £100 in trust, to be invested in the funds, or on real security, and the dividends to be applied as follows; one half amongst such poor inhabitants of Altringham, as the clergyman and wardens shall think proper; one fourth for the instruction of poor children, on a Sunday, at the Sunday school of St. George's Chapel; and one fourth in the instruction of poor girls, in the school there proposed, and since erected in Altringham.

By indenture, dated 22nd December, 1755, a plot of waste land was conveyed upon trust, with the consent of the Earl of Warrington the lord of the manor, that a workhouse for the use of the poor, might be erected upon some part thereof; the rents and profits arising from the residue of the said waste ground, to be applied to the use and benefit of the poor. The plot of land contains 9A. 3R. 8P., and there are seven or eight cottages upon it; the whole of which, produces an income of about £80 per annum. £20 of the yearly proceeds are expended in coal, and distributed to the poor, and the residue is paid in aid of the poor's rate of the township.

The sum of £2, being the interest of £40 given by *George Norman*, to the poor of Altringham, (which forms part of the £478 15s., mentioned under the head "various charities" in the parish Bowden,) is applied by the chapel wardens in purchasing woollen cloth, for the poor inhabitants of the township.

The *Rev. John Ashton*, by will, 1722, charged his estate at Calton Green, with the payment of £2 per annum, to be distributed by the overseers. He also gave, by the same will, a like rent charge of £2, to be paid to the schoolmaster of Bowden, for the instruction of poor children of Altringham. *George Cooke*, by will, 1790; gave £1 10s. yearly, to the Sunday School in Altringham. The principal is in the hands of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington.

POST OFFICE.—GEOFFERY WILDE, POSTMASTER.

Letters arrive from Manchester at 25m. past 7A.M., and are despatched at 6P.M.

*Marked * are Lodging Houses.*

Allin Rev Thos. (Wes. New Conxn)., Mount house, George st
 Andrew Mrs Samuel, Sandiway place
 Armitage Mr Ziba, Downs
 Atkinson Miss Ruth, Downs
 Bagshaw Mrs Sarah, New st
 Barlow Mr Henry, Downs
 *Barratt Elizabeth, Ashley lane
 Bateson Mr Richard, Downs
 *Bayley Mrs Elizabeth, Downs
 Bellott Miss Jane, Downs
 Bennett Mr Robert William, Norman place
 Blew Mr Jesse, Downs
 Bouck Mr John, Groby place, Dunham road
 Bowyer Mrs Esther, New st
 Boyer Mr Edward, New st
 Bramall Mr Joshua, Southern Downs
 Brierley Jas. Booth, dealer in game and ginger beer maker, George st
 Broadbent Mrs Mary Ann, Groby place
 Brownell Mr John, George st

Buckley Mr Joseph, Mount Pleasant
 Burgess Mr Samuel, New st
 Burgess William, Chief constable, Church st
 Burrow Wm. coal agent and manager at Gas Works, New st
 Butterworth Mr William, Norman place
 *Clark Mrs Catherine, Downs
 Cluley Mr William, George st
 Collier Mr William, Broadheath
 Crallan Mr Thomas, Downs
 Dodge Mr James, Mount Pleasant
 Elton Rev William, (Wesleyan), Downs
 Gardon Misses My. Sarah & Catherine, New st
 Garner Mrs, Downs
 Gaskarth Mrs Betty, Sandiway place
 Hacking Mrs Elizabeth, Spring hill, Downs
 Haigh Mr Job, Mill house
 Haworth Mrs Ann, Parkfield
 Heatley Ths. relvng officer & registrar, Wells gt
 Heron Mr John Speir, Downs
 Hewitt Mr Septimus, Downs
 Heyes Mrs, Downs

Hill Mrs Charlotte, Downs
 Holland Mr James, Sandiway place
 Hope Miss Lydia, Spring hill, Downs
 Hordern Mrs Frances, Mount Pleasant
 Howarth Mrs Hannah, omnibus & cab proprietor, Downs
 Hulley Miss Elizabeth, Downs
 Joynson Mr Edward, Downs
 Kinsey John, surveyor, Chapel Walk road
 Knight Mr Thomas, High st
 Krauss Miss H. Downs
 Leigh Thos. agent to the Bridgewater trust, Broadheath
 Lessey Mr John, Sandiway place
 Lloyd Edward Jeremiah, Esq., Oldfield hall
 Lord Mr William, New st
 Marsden Mr Thomas, Norman place
 Mayson Mr William, Sandiway
 McKitrick Rev William, (Wes.) George st
 McWilliams Mrs Esther, Downs
 Mellor Mrs Betty, Downs
 Mellington Mr William, Dunham road
 Morgan Robert, Navigation lane Saw mills
 Moreley Mrs Dinah, Sandiway
 Munday Mrs Elizabeth, Downs
 Nanson Mr Thomas, Downs
 Nichols William Devereux, Esq., High st
 Norris Mr Samuel Holker, Dunham road
 Oldfield Mr James, Norman place
 Orton Rev Francis, D.C.L., Parsonage
 Parker John, inland revenue officer, George st
 Partington Miss Sarah, Sandiway
 Pierson Mr Mark, Victoria st
 Poole Mr Richard, Market place
 Reyney Miss Angela. Downs
 Riley Mr Joseph, Downs
 Roberts Mr Alexander, Ashley road
 Rogerson Mrs Margaret, Norman place
 Rostron Mr Richard, High st
 Rothwell Miss Ann
 Roylance Mr John, Downs
 Royle Mr William, Ashley road

Academies.

*Marked * take Boarders.*

*Allin Miss Ann, Mount Hs
 British School, George st,
 Samuel & Rachael Butler
 *Cliffe Misses, Norman place
 *Collier Elizabeth, Stockport road
 *Ernshaw Rev. John, High st
 Hacking Elizabeth, Downs
 Jubilee School, Mary Jones
 Latham John, Moss lane
 *Naylor Misses, High st
 Richardson William Henry,
 and land surveyor
 *Thomson Sophia, Stockpt. rd

Architects.

Bayley Jame, Broadheath
 Street James, Downs

Attorneys.

Leicester Peter, Spring bank

Sharpe Mrs Mary, Sandiway place
 Shawlcross Mr John, Downs
 Shelmerdine Mr Robert, Downs
 Shelmerdine Sarah, Mount Pleasant
 Shepherd Mrs Julia, prfser. of music Norman pl
 Smith George, land surveyor, Broadheath
 Smith Mr John, Sandiway place
 Street Mr Samuel, Downs
 Sumner Mrs Sarah, Sandiway
 Taylor Mr James Mayers, Groby place
 Tetlow Mr John Sandiway place
 Turner Mrs Mary, Sandiway place
 Turton Isaac, overseer and surveyer of Highways, High st
 Waddington Mrs Hannah, Norman place
 Wade Mr Thomas, Sandiway place
 Williams Mrs Benjamin, Groby place
 Wilson Miss Elizabeth, New st
 Wilson Misses, Downs
 Wiseley Mr James, New st
 Withington Mrs Mary, George st
 Woodcroft Mr Rufus, New st
 Worthington John Arthur, Sandiway
 Wraith Miss Dorothy, Downs
 Woollam Mr John, Davenport meadows

Hotels, Inns, and Taverns.

*Marked * are Brewers.*

Axe & Cleaver, James Royle, Post Office place
 *George & Dragon, James Bell, Sandiway pla
 Malt Shovel, George Birch, Wells st
 *Navigation Inn & Boat House, Henry Dean, Broadheath
 Orange Tree, Samuel Howard, Railway st
 Red Lion, George Dunn, Market place
 Roe Buck, Thomas, Cottrell, Victoria st
 Stamford Arms & Pstng hse, S. Wright, Chrch st
 Unicorn Inn, Excise Office, & Posting house, George Massey, Market place
 Waggon & Horses, Thomas Jones, High st
 Wheat Sheaf, Robert Peacock, Sandiway
 Woolpack, George Hulme, Railway st

Nicholls and Worthington, High st
 Pass William, Church st
 Robinson Thomas Caldwell, Church st
 Wallace Hugh, and clerk to County Court, Bowdon dwns

Auctioneers and Valuers.

Balshaw Charles, High st
 Balshaw Thomas, Church st
 Pass Nathaniel, Stamford st

Bakers.

Bailey Mary, George st
 Bagnall Samuel, George st
 Faulkner Thos. Railway st
 Layland Hannah, Wells st
 Smith Wm. Church st
 Sothern John, Chapel st
 Williams Herbert, George st

Beer Houses.

Bradshaw John, Broadheath

Drinkwater Peter, George st
 Faulkner Thomas, Railway st
 Royle Samuel, Railway st
 Smethurst John, Wells st
 Whitehead James, Broadheath

Blacksmiths.

Brownell John, George st
 Clarke Jph. & Ts. Sandiway
 Foster John, Wells st
 Pixton Joseph, Railway st
 Smith Wm, Broadheath

Brickmaker.

Bradbury Joseph, George st

Bobbin Turners.

Hambleton Wm. Police st
 Johnson James, Chapel st
 Johnson Wm. Chapel st

Booksellers, Printers, and Stationers.

Balshaw Charles, High st
 Balshaw Thomas, Church st

Boot and Shoe Makers.

Adshead Eliz. Market place
Bowker Joseph, Chapel walk
Brundrett John, Wells st
Fisher Wm. Downs
Ford Thomas, George st
Grantham George, George st
Martin John, High st
Matthews Jas. Market place
Mills Jph & Wm. Church st
Mitch Samuel, Railway st
Potter James, George st
Toft Elias, Broadheath

Brazier and Tinner.

Sharrock Ellen, George st

Brewer.

Royle Samuel, Railway st

Butchers.

Ardern John, Market place
Garner Richard, Church st
Garner Samuel, Railway st
Kinsey Henry, Market place
Warmisham Wm. Railway st
Westbrook James, Railway st

Cabinet Makers.

Bateman Joseph, Victoria st
Starkey Wm. George st

Chemists and Druggists.

Grange James, & tea dealer,
Market place
Poulden Wm. Stamford st
Ritson Joseph L. Market place

Coachmaker.

Barlow Mr. Sandiway

Confectioners.

Cook Ann, High st
Heyes Ellen, Church st

Coopers.

Layland Charles, Wells st
Smith Samuel, Church st

Corn Miller.

Jackson John, and saw mills,
Altrincham Mills

Currier and Leather Cutter.

Davies John, Victoria st

Farmers.

Brundrett Wm. Ashley lane
Hulbert Mary, Navigation ln
Woodhall Robert, Broadheath

Fire and Life Offices.

Atlas, Ptr. Leicester, Spring bk
Manchester & Pelican, Thos.

Caldwell Robinson, Chesh st
Phoenix, Jno. Mort, Church st
Star, Geo. Bowden, Market pl

Glass, China, & Earthenware
Dealers.

Atkinson James, George st

Fenton Elijah, George st
Smith Samuel, Church st

Grocers and Tea Dealers.

*Marked * are corn dealers.*

Barrow John, and malt, hops,
beer, and porter merchant,
George st

*Bradburn John, Broadheath

*Bruckshaw Joseph, Market pl

*Davenport John, Church st

*Faulkner Thos., Railway st

*Hampson John, Broadheath

*Royle John, Downs

Smith Margaret, Church st

Gun Maker.

Batchelor James, Church st

Hair Dressers.

Bell Thomas, and toy dealer,
Market place

Brown Thomas A., Church st

Hankinson Thos., Railway st

Polson Hannah, George st

Ironmongers.

Gough Charles, Church st
Lupton Hannah, Market pl

Joiners and Builders.

Baliff James, New st
Brownell Timothy Police st
Clarke Wm., George st
Delves Saml., Ashley road
Holt Charles, Victoria st

Linen and Woollen Drapers.

Bowden George, Market place
Davison Thos., Church st
Mort John, Church st
Whitehead Sarah, Market pl

Maltster.

Barratt Saml., Market place

Milliners and Dress Makers.

Ackerley Mary and Martha,
George st

Brownell Ann and Caroline,
George st

Barlow Hannah, Stamford st

Bell Mary Ann, Market place

Collins Elizabeth, George st

Cooper Eliza, Church st

Gibbons Elizabeth, Chapel wk

Gleave Hannah, George st

Gresty Martha, Ashley road

Pearson Mary, High st

Roberts Ann, Dunham road

Roberts Ann, Ashley road

Roberts Mary, Church st

Sharpley, Ann, George st

Smith Alice, Stockport road

Whitehead Sophia, Stamfd. st

Nail Makers.

Watkinson Isaac, Chapel st

Watkinson William, Chapel st

Painters.

Bailey Thos., Downs

Davenport Saml., Wells st

Plumbers, Glazrs. & Painters

Pearson Mary, High st

Renshaw John, Church st

Wild Geoffrey, Post-office pl

Saddlers & Harness Makers.

Daine Peter, Market place

Dale John, Broadheath

Okell Daniel, Market place

Warmisham John, Church st

Seedsmen.

*Those marked * are Agricultural Field Seedsmen.*

*Barratt Saml. Market place

Bruckshaw Joseph. Market
place, garden seedsman

*Davenport John, Church st

*Dean Henry, Broadheath

*Goodier John, Market place

*Grange James, & garden &
flower seedsman, Market
house

Shopkeepers.

Ashton William, Chapel walk

Bagnall Samuel, George st

Barber Mary Ann, George st

Berry Wm. Market place

Faulkner John, George st,
and fruiterer

Faulkner Martha, Railway st

Hodges Thos. Chapel walk

Leigh Thos Broadheath

Marsden John, Moss lane

Mitchell Margaret, Police st

Owen Robert, New st

Partington Thos. New st

Pownall John, Wells st

Walton William, George st

Whitehead George, Chapel st

Williams Herbert, George st

Wood Amelia, Wells st

Smallware Dealers.

Balshaw John, George st

Lupton Hannah, and dealer in

Berlin wool, Market place

Pemberton Wm. New st

Stone Masons.

Buckley Saml. New st

Gibson Wm. Church st

Lauchett John (slater) Vict. st

Surgeons.

Blease Thomas, Stamford st

Broadbent Richard, High st

The Oaks, Dunham road

Brownhill Thos. New st

Pownall John, Sandiway

Renshaw Jeremiah, Downs

Robinson Chas. Church st

Tailors and Woollen Drapers.

Berry George, Market place
 Brierley, Thos. George st
 Burgess Robt. Church st
 Collins John, George st
 Dickinson Jerem. Church st
 Holt Jeremiah, Railway st
 Mitchell James, Stamford st
 Percival John, George st
 Richardson John, Railway st
 Richardson Wm. Broadheath
 Street Joseph, Wells st
 Worthington John, Church st

Thread Manufacturer.

Mitchell James, Stockport rd

Timber Merchants.

Johnson, Jn. and Thos. Broad-
 heath, & saw & bone mills
 Warren Wm. George st.

Veterinary Surgeons.

Darwell James, Church st
 Greaves John, Church st of the
 college of Vet. Sur. London

Watch and Clock Makers.

Boddington Wm. Church st
 Chiesman Benjn. Church st
 Wyatt Thos. Victoria st

Wheelwrights.

Albinson Wm. Railway st
 Gillibrand Geoff. Broadheath
 Okell Matthew, Church st

Conveyances.

The railway communicates
 with Manchester 6 or 8
 times a day, & Omnibusses
 leave the Stamford Arms,
 Bowden, ten times a day,
 calling at the Unicorn, Al-
 trincham. There is also an

Omnibus from the Red Lion
 at 9 A.M.

To Northwich a Coach at
 10:30 A.M. and 6 P.M. from
 the Unicorn, and from the
 Red Lion at 5 P.M.

Conveyance by Water.

To Liverpool, Runcorn, Lynn,
 Warrington & Manchester,
 swift Packet Boats leave the
 wharf Broadheath at 10 A.M.
 and 4 P.M.

Carrier.

To Northwich, John Warbur-
 ton of Bowden passes thro'
 Altrincham on Mon. Wed.
 and Friday, and to Man-
 chester on Tuesday, Thurs.
 and Saturday.

ASHLEY, township and small village, pleasantly situated, two miles S. by E. from Altrincham, contains 2173A. 3R. 12P. of well cultivated land, and in 1841, here were 65 houses and 377 inhabitants. Population in 1801, 288; in 1831, 379. Rateable value, £2,273. This place was anciently parcel of the barony of Dunham-Massey. From the Masseys, it passed in exchange to the Dutton family, a branch of which, seating themselves at this place, assumed the name of Ashley, in or about the reign of Edward I. Towards the close of the reign of Henry VII., Thomasin, a daughter and heiress of George Ashley, Esq., brought the manor in marriage to Richard Brereton, and the estate continued vested in the Breretons till the middle of the 17th century, when Thomas Brereton left his inheritance to be divided among his three sisters, married into the Barlow, Tatton, and Ashton families. Wilbraham Egerton, Esq., is now the lord of the manor. The other principal proprietors are William Dodge Cooper Cooper, Esq., John Orrell, Esq., Mr. Thomas Dooley, and Mr. William Royle. The above Thomas Brereton built a domestic chapel at Ashley in 1653.

ASHLEY HALL, a fine old mansion, the ancient seat of the Ashleys, is pleasantly situated near the river Bollin, and commands a beautiful view of Bowden and the neighbourhood. In a large room in the Hall are a number of portraits of the leading Cheshire gentry, who assembled here during the rebellion of the Pretender. to determine on whose side to give their influence. It appears that party spirit was so evenly balanced, that the resolution in favour of the reigning sovereign was only carried by the casting vote of the chairman, Thomas Asheton, Esq., the owner of this estate. The small tithes are commuted for £8, and the rectorial for £197.

The poor of this township have a rent charge of £1 12s. 11d., purchased in 1711, with the sum of £32, of which £20 was the gift of Thomas Brereton, £10 Francis Barlow, and £2 Anne Meredith's gift. The amount is distributed with the Earl of Warrington's charity, noticed with Bowdon.

Bailey James, blacksmith
 Bracegirdle Jno. jun. gamekpr
 Bray Thomas, boot and shoe
 maker
 Chapman Thos. blacksmith

Davenport Mr corn miller
 Ashley mills
 Dewhurst George Charnley,
 Esq. Hodson House
 Kelsale Jonathan, shopkeeper

Lowe Thos. carrier to Man-
 chester, Tuesday & Saturdy
 Pownall James, beerhouse
 Timperley George Taylor
 Warburton John, gamekeeper

Farmers.

Barrow Josiah
 Bradbury William
 Bracegirdle John
 Brown James
 Brown John, jun.
 Brown John

Dooley Thomas
 Erlam Isaac
 Hardy John
 Harrison John
 Jackson John
 Jones Ts Sugar Brook
 Farm, & corn dealer

Kenderdale Peter
 McKnight James
 Newton Peter
 Ureycroft farm
 Overend William
 Partington John
 Pownall Burgess

Ridgway William
 Sidebotham Charles
 Howard
 Taylor Peter
 Yarwood Jonathan
 Whittingham Thos.
 The Hall

Farmers			
Brown James	Daine John	Hollinworth Peter	Taylor Robert
Collins Isaac	Daine Peter	Newton Richard	Unsworth Thomas
Collins Peter	Deniswright Denis	Newton Thomas	Walkden W. Crngtn hll
	Hardman John	Royle Thomas	Whitelegg Thomas

DUNHAM MASSEY is an extensive township and compact well built village 3 miles W.W. by S. from Altrincham, so called from Hamon de Massey, the first Baron. The township is divided into the several hamlets of Dunham, Oldfield, Woodhouses, and Sinderland, which comprise together 3,470A. 3R. 4P. of land; and, in 1841, had 223 houses, and 1,257 inhabitants. Population, in 1801, 872; in 1831, 1,105. Dunham Massey was the seat of the Barony of that name, and was held by the Barons Massey, under the Earls of Chester by military service, they being bound to attend the king in the time of war with a certain number of horse and foot, and immediately repair to the king's summons with their whole *posse*, if an enemy's army should come into Cheshire, or if Chester Castle should be besieged. Hamo, the last Baron of Dunham Massey, died without male issue about the year 1341, having sold the reversion of Dunham Massey, and other estates, to Oliver Ingham justice of Chester, for 1,000 marks and an annuity of 40 marks. The heirs of Hamo, the Strangers, Lords of Knocking, were for a while possessed of it, but not without disturbance from the Fittons. Leycester, in noticing the controversy, observes, "But now fell great suits concerning the Barony of Dunham Massey, after the death of Hamon and Joan without issue of their bodies. For Richard Fitton and the heirs of the other sisters, entered into the manor of Dunham, as heirs to the said Hamon, at which time Oliver Ingham was in the king's service beyond the sea, to wit, the steward of Gascony; and then, by the king's command, Hamon Massey, of Tatton, and others of the council of the said Oliver and Richard Fitton and his partners, went out of Doneham, and so the said Oliver Ingham died seized of the said manor with its appurtenances; and after the death of Oliver Ingham, Richard Fitton and his partners entered again, and the heirs of Oliver (who were Mary, daughter of John Corson, and Joan, wife of Roger le Strange, of Knocking, the elder), brought a writ of *Nova Disseisinæ* against the co-heirs; and after Henry, Duke of Lancaster buys out all the right of the co-heirs, as also the right of the heirs of Oliver; and so the Duke being possessed of the manor of Daneham, with its members gave it to Roger le Strange, Lord of Knocking." Thus the Booths obtained a footing in Dunham Massey. Sir Robert Booth, Knt., of Dunham, was a younger son of John Booth, Esq., of Barton, and, together with William, his son and heir, and conferred upon them, for their lives, the office of Sheriff of Chester.

George Booth, the seventh in descent, was created a baronet on the institution of that order, in 1611, and his grandson of the same name was made Baron Delamere, of Dunham Massey. The barony descended to Mary, daughter and heiress of George Booth, second Earl of Warrington, on whose death it passed to her son, George Harry, who had, by a new creation, in 1796, conferred on him the titles of Earl of Stamford and Warrington, and Baron Delamere, of Dunham Massey. He died in 1819, and the titles and estate are now possessed by the Right Hon. George Harry, Earl of Stamford and Warrington, and Baron Delamere. Clarendon thus describes Sir George Booth. "He was a person of one of the best fortunes and interests in Cheshire, and for the memory of his grandfather, of absolute power with the Presbyterians. He was thrice member for the county, in the Long Parliament; but during the civil wars espoused the cause of Parliament, and was included with Sir William Brereton 'in a Parliamentary order for arming the county and seizing on the warlike stores of the King's Friends. He, however, abjured the cause, in which he had embarked, and became as warm a supporter of the royalists, as he had before been of the Roundheads. Early in 1659, he received a commission from the king, then at Brussels, by which he was appointed commander of the king's forces in Cheshire, Lancashire, and North Wales. As the Royalist cause gained ground, numerous attempts were made to re-establish monarchical authority, and amongst them Sir George siezed the city of Chester for the king, but was prevented obtaining possession of the Castle by the resolute defence of the governor, Colonel Croxton. In the end Sir George sustained a signal defeat at Winnington,

by Lambert, who, with a candour which did not mark the bulletins of a conqueror of the present age, fairly allows that his opponents bravely rallied within a quarter of a mile of the scene of defeat, disputing the place very gallantly, both parties shewing themselves like Englishmen." Sir George's party was completely dispersed, and he was seized in his flight at Newport Pagnell, and committed close prisoner to the Tower. "On his liberation, in February, 1659-60, he took his seat in Parliament, and was one of the Committee of Twelve, who carried to Charles II. the answer of the House to his majesty's letter. His sufferings in the Royal cause had been very great, and the House resolved to reward his services with the sum of £20,000; but, with a high spirit, he requested that the grant should only be £10,000, which was agreed to by the Commons. He had also the liberly to propose six gentlemen for knights, and two for baronets." His zeal in defending the liberties of the country against the aggressions of the Crown, and the activity which he manifested in promoting the Exclusive Bill against the Duke of York soon marked him out as an object of Royal persecution. His name was erased from the list of Magistrates; he was deprived of the office of *Custos Rotulorum*, and was three several times committed to the Tower on undefined charges, and was, the first and second, liberated without being legally accused. On his third commitment, he was tried by a special assembly of Peers, and, notwithstanding a formidable array of perjured witnesses, he was acquitted to the great joy of the populace. In the reign of William III., his lordship was appointed Lord Lieutenant of the city and county of Chester, and *Custos Rotulorum* of the county. He was also, in April, 1689, made a Privy Councillor and Chancellor and Under Treasurer of the Exchequer. Afterwards, becoming the object of Parliamentary jealousy, he resigned the latter office, but was created Earl of Warrington, with a pension of £2,000 per annum.

It is thought by some writers that the Barons of Dunham had a castle here, but not a relic now remains of the structure. Mr. Ormerod gives the following account of the Old Hall:—"It appears to have been a large quadrangular pile, with gables within and without. The gables within the court were indented and scalloped, and large transom windows introduced. The exterior front appears to be finished at a later period with pilasters and other ornaments, in imitation of Italian architecture, and large octagonal turrets were placed at the corners. It stood within gardens, laid out in the stiff taste of the time, and surrounded by an ample moat, in one angle of which is drawn a *large circular mound*, with a modern summer-house at the top of it. It can scarcely be doubted from its form and situation that it was the *the last relic of the castle of Hamo de Masci*, and like similar mounds in the other castles of Cheshire, was the site of the Norman Keep Tower.

DUNHAM MASSEY, the seat of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, was rebuilt in 1730, from the designs of Mr. John Norris, and is situated about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles W.W. by S. from Altrincham. It is a handsome brick structure in the quadrangular form, superbly furnished, and contains a valuable collection of paintings, familiar to the recollection of the admirers of fine Arts. There are great numbers of portraits by Hans Holbein, Cornelius Jansen, Vandyke, Sir Peter Lely, Sir Geoffrey, and others. The collection of family plate is said to be superior in splendour and value to most in the kingdom. The park is adorned with several fine sheets of water, and comprises upwards of 400 acres of land, abounding with remarkably fine timber, and is beautifully diversified with sylvan beauty. The park gives pasturage to upwards of five hundred head of deer. There was formerly a fine Heronry here.

OLDFIELD is a hamlet about a mile W. from Altrincham. Here is a free school, a good, substantial brick building, erected in 1759, and endowed for the instruction of 50 children from Altrincham, Dunham, and Bowdon. SINDERLAND consists of several scattered farms, on the north side of the township. WOODHOUSES, a hamlet on the west side of the township. The rectorial tithes are commuted for £402 10s. and the small tithes for £64 10s. LITTLE HEATH SCHOOL. Thomas Walton, in 1754, bequeathed £1,000 to his executors, to be by them applied to charitable uses. The interest, which had accrued in respect to the said legacy, in June, 1757, being added to the principal sum, made, in the whole, £1,120, of which £207 2s. was laid out in the erection of a school, and a habitation for the schoolmistress, and the residue, £912 18s., was subsequently put out on bond to John Jackson, Esq. The funds of the School, at the present time, amount to £1,120, have been lent upon mort-

gage, at five per cent. interest, and the income is expended in payment of the salary of the schoolmistress, and finding clothes for the children.

Marked 1 are in Dunham ; 2, Woodhouses ; 3, Sinderland ; 4, Oldfield.

The Rt. Hon. George Harry, Earl of Stamford and War- rington, Dunham Hall	3 Graham Jno. boot & shoemkr Hickman Mr W. Oldfield, cot 1 Kemp Mr Samuel	Thornton Thos. land surveyor Thornton Wm. land agent & stwr. to the Earl of Stam. and Warr. Dunham farm
4 Adams Stephen, park keepr	3 Lambert Samuel, tailor	4 Timperley Mr Nathaniel
3 Bury Mr Saml. Lodge view	1 Lingard William, beerhouse keeper and butcher	2 Yarwood Wm. wheelwright
1 Chantler Jas. wheelwright	1 Luckman Mr Thomas	1 Wainwright Isaac, tailor
1 Clarke George, blacksmith	McGill Miss, housekpr. Hall	Walker Josiah, tailor
2 Clarke Sml. vict., Crown & Anchor	Newton Mr Martin, Oldfield hs	Walker Mr Ibbotson
2 Clarke William, blacksmith	1 Perkins Mr James	Warburton Margt. schlmstrss
1 Dean Sarah, shopkeeper	4 Race Hy. Hugh, schoolmstr	Winstanley Lke, joiner & bldr
2 Fletcher Jas. grocer & baker	3 Royle James, beerhousekpr	Wright Jane, beerhouse keepr

Farmers.	2 Fletcher George	1 Hobson Joel	3 Timperley James
3 Allen Thomas	2 Fletcher John	3 Noden John	3 Timperley J. Highr hs
2 Burgess William	1 Gratrix James	3 Pearson George	4 Timperley John
3 Chantler John	3 Gratrix William	4 Priestner George	3 Timperley Samuel
3 Clarke Peter	4 Greaves Joseph	1 Pownall James	3 Timperley Isaac
1 Clayton Samuel	4 Hardy Jph. Dany hs	3 Raingill Thomas	2 Walker Martha
1 Dale Thomas	3 Hardey Marlborough	3 Stanbank Thomas	3 Warren John
3 Dawson John	3 Hardey Samuel	3 Stanbank Thos. jun	3 Whitelegg Robert

HALE, is a township and considerable village, adjoining Altrincham, and extends a distance of about two miles S.E. from that town ; it has 3,769 acres of land, of which 89A. are in roads, rivers, and waste, of the latter, 34 acres are comprised in Hale Moss. At the last census, here were 183 houses, and 974 inhabitants ; population in 1801, 783, in 1831 945, Rateable value £5,263. The principal landowners are the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. Reginald Foden, Esq., Thomas Hulme Bowers, Esq., Thomas Lawton, Esq., and trustees of late Mr. Harrop, there are also several smaller proprietors. The vicarial tithes are commuted for £97, and the rectorial for £323. Hale, at the Domesday survey, was held by Hamon de Massy, and was in fee of the barony of Dunham. The Massies of Hale were settled here for many generations.

RINGWAY, or **RINGEY CHAPEL**, although originally built for an episcopalian place of worship in process of time was possessed by the dissenters, which they retained possession of till the governors of Queen Annes bounty endowed the living, and a clergyman licensed by the bishop of Chester took possession of it. The chapel was rebuilt by lord Crewe, in 1720, who gave £200 towards its endowment ; the living is a perpetual curacy, returned at £112, in the patronage of Wilbraham Egerton, Esq. A parsonage house was built by the Crewe family, in 1798, contiguous to which is the school. **HALE BARNS**, 2 miles S.E. from Altrincham, contains some genteel residence, two public houses and a number of cottages, near this place stood till 1848, a very good specimen of the few old tithe barns remaining in this county, when it was pulled down by the steward of Lord Stamford. **HALE BARNS GREEN**, is a handsome residence, the seat of Titus Hibbert Ware, Esq., and **HALE MOUNT**, that of John Pownall, Esq. **ASHLEY HEATH** is a scattered hamlet, one mile S.E. The Unitarians have a place of worship, which was built some time after their ejection from Ringway chapel. The portion of the Earl of Warrington's charity, received from the Earl of Stamford, usually amounts to about £5, which is doubled by the inhabitants, and distributed among the poor.

Those marked 1 reside at Hale Barnes ; 2, Ringway ; 3, Eastoe lane ; 4, Warburton Green ; 5, Ashley Heath.

Crampton Mr Jno. SpringVale	Hethorn Mr Jno. Prospect hs	Massey William, corn miller, Castle mill
3 Croft Mr Peter	Killmister George Ridgway, Esq., Ford-bank	Moore Joseph, shopkeeper
4 Greaves Thos. land surveyor	Long Mr Peter, Peel causway	5 Nield Mr John
Hallows Mr William	Lignum Mr Edwd. Hale Lowe	3 Perrin James, beerhouse
Hardy James, brick maker		

1 Pownall Mr Jno. Hale Mount	Ware Titus Hibbert, Esq, barristr at law, Hale Barns Grn	Bulls Head, Jas. Faulkner
Taylor Mr Geo. Yew Tree Cot.	Inns and Taverns.	2 Red Lion, Maria Baguley
Timperley Francis, tailor	5 Bleeding Wolf, Henry Lees	Unicorn, John Moore
Wallace Rev Chs. M.A. Hale ldg		
Blacksmiths.	Daine Mary	Kirkley Thomas
1 Aldcroft James	Davenport William	Moore Mary
2 Baguley William	Dodd John	Newton Isaac
Boot & Shoe Makers.	Garner Andrew	Perrin John
Farrington Robert	Garner Andrew jun	4 Pickering John
Whitehead William	Garner George	2 Pickstone Mry & Jas.
Farmers.	Gaskill William	Ridgway John
1 Ardern John	Goodier Matthew	Rogerson James
1 Bailey John	Goolden Ann	2 Royle Henry
Broadhurst John	Goolden James	Royle Joseph
Bourne Robert	Goolden John	5 Taylor John
2 Brown George	2 Gresty Hugh	Timperly Elizabeth
Brown Josiah	3 Heald George	1 Warburton Joseph
Brown Mary	Jackson Thomas	Warberton Josiah
3 Clarke Thomas	Johnson John	Warburton Thomas
	Johnson Thomas	Warburton William
		Whitelegg Wm, Outwd
		Wilcock Thomas
		Williamson James
		1 Wood Joseph
		1 Wood Richard
		Wood William
		Yarwood William
		Joiners & Whlwrights.
		<i>Thus * are Joiners.</i>
		2 Chorlton James
		1 Dyke Joseph
		* Goolden Samuel
		3* Sampson Peter
		Smith Bessy
		Tomkinson Charles
		Wood William

PARTINGTON, township and scattered village, on the northern confines of the county, separated from Lancashire by the river Mersey, 4 miles N.W. from Altrincham, contains 754A. 1R. 28P. of land, and in 1841 had 88 houses and 457 inhabitants. Population in 1801, 358; in 1831, 466: rateable value, £1,749. The manor, anciently parcel of the barony of Dunham, Massey, was at an early period divided into severalties. In 1666, Lord Delamere had a third part. The remainder was divided amongst the families of Warburton, Owen, Hadfield, and Partington. The Earl of Stamford and Warrington is now the lord of the whole, and owns a considerable portion of the land. Richard Hamson, Esq., and several others, are also small proprietors. The Calvinists, or Presbyterians, have a chapel here, a venerable fabric, near upon two centuries old. The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in 1843. The Primitive Methodists have also a chapel in Timperley.

It was reported that the trust deed of the Presbyterian Chapel, in case a Presbyterian congregation should fail, the chapel and land belonging to it should be appropriated to the poor. Upon inspection of the deed of settlement, it appeared that in case "the Toleration Act should be repealed," the trustees are empowered to dispose of the property to such charitable purposes as they may think proper. This township receives a part of the Earl of Warrington's and of the parochial charities noticed with Bowdon, but has no charities specifically appropriated to it.

DIRECTORY.—William Clarke, vict., Greyhound; Mrs. Sarah Derbyshire, Rev. Edward Dowling, Mr. John Erlam; James Greaves, paper manufacturer, Mill bank; William Lucas, blacksmith; Mr. Wm. Martin: John Pitt, vict., William IV.; Benjamin Whitelegg, tanner: Robert Whitelegg, shopkeeper. **Farmers.**—Thomas Clarke, Richard Erlam, Peter Fletcher, Richard Hesketh, Thomas Howard, James Millitt, John Rodgers, Hugh Worthington, Wm. Worthington.

TIMPERLEY, township and considerable village, 8½ miles N.N.E. from Knutsford, contains 1,628A. 2R. 26P. of land, and in 1841 had 188 houses and 947 inhabitants. Population in 1801, 688; in 1831, 752. Rateable value, £4,000. A moiety of the manor belonged at a very early period to a family which assumed the local name, and passed by successive female heirs to the Masseys, Chattertons, and Radcliffes. From the co-heiress of the latter, who married Parre, a fourth of the manor passed by purchase to Sir Wm. Booth, and has descended to the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. The other half passed in marriage to the Breretons, and was subsequently vested in Sir Amos Meredith, in right of his wife, who was daughter of Robert Tatton, Esq., of Withenshaw. The other moiety of the manor of Timperley was held at a very early period under the barony of Dunham, Massey,

by the Cheadles and their representatives, the Bulkeleys. This estate belonged to Lord Bulkeley, in 1702; but in consequence of purchases made by the Earl of Stamford, it is united to the Dunham Massey estate, and vested in the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. The impropriate tithes are commuted for £225 17s., paid to the lord of the manor; and the small tithes for £49. The principal landowners are Mr. James Wood, the executors of late John Barratt, Mrs. Berry, Mr. D. C. Cooper, and Mr. John Frodsham, besides whom are a number of resident proprietors. Timperley contains a many genteel houses, which are principally occupied by the manufacturers and merchants of Manchester. The township is intersected by the Manchester and Altrincham Railway and the Bridgewater Canal.

The CHURCH, a neat structure in the Norman style, has just been erected on a site given by the late John Barratt, Esq., consisting of a little more than a statute acre. The edifice consists of nave, chancel, side aisles, and transepts, and will have a tower and spire. It is built of the red free stone, of the county, got from the Runcorn quarries. The patronage is vested in trustees. Rev. Edward Downing, incumbent. The Wesleyan Methodists have a small chapel, built in 1846.

RIDDINGS HALL, 1 mile N.E. from Altrincham, now a farm residence, was a moated house, anciently the seat of the Vaudreys, a family of great antiquity. It was purchased by the Gerards about 1660. The hall has been considerably modernized. The old parts remaining have a very primitive appearance, being little more than sticks twisted into the framework of wood, and covered with plaster. PICKERING LODGE, the residence of John Skelton, Esq., is a handsome stuccoed residence, pleasantly situated, and beautified with extensive pleasure grounds.

The OAKLANDS is a neat gothic villa residence, and TIMPERLEY HALL is a modern residence of brick.

CHARITIES.—Jane Houghton, in the year 1802, gave by deed £200 upon trust, to pay the interest thereof to the schoolmaster of the public school of Timperley, for teaching so many children as the curate of St. George's Church, in Altrincham, should nominate, such children to be elected out of the families of poor persons resident in the township of Timperley and Baguley, in equal numbers out of each township. He also bequeathed in 1803 the additional sum of £100 upon the same trust, and for the like purposes; and also the further sum of £100, the interest to be applied in the purchase of Bibles and Prayer Books, to be distributed among the children taught at Timperley school. The money was invested in the purchase of £673 Three per Cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities, in pursuance of a declaration of trust bearing date 1st June, 1832.

Arnold John, stone mason & quarrymn, Stamford quarry	Hembrerow Hy. civil engineer	Simpson Peter, joiner and builder
Arnold Wm. vict. Mason's Arms	Hobday Mrs Mary	Skelton Mr John, Pickering Lodge
Aghley John, vict. Hare and Hounds	Holdernesse Grenville, Vale Cottage	Smith James, brickmaker
Bagnall Mr. Benj. Oaklands	Keyworth Mr John Kirk	Starkey Mr Samuel, Moss Cottage
Beard Mr James Rait	Lea William, shopkeeper	Taylor Mr James
Brown Mr Wm. Oak mount	Lindley Mr John	Yeardsley Mr James
Chambers Mr. Wm. Lark hill	Lucas Samuel, blacksmith	Walker Mr James, share broker,
Chorlton Thos. provision dlr	Moores John, butcher	Warren Mr Jabez
Clegg Mr John, Timperley Lodge	Perrin Thos. boot and shoe maker and shopkeeper	Walton Jno. vict. Church Inn
Dearden Mr Abraham	Pilling Mr Charles, Timperley house	Whittaker Mr James, Bloomsbury Cottage
Gilbert and Renshaw, wheelwrights	Richardson John, schoolmaster and land surveyor	
	Savage John, vict. Pelican	

Farmers.			
Carr Thomas, Timperley Hall	Cookson, Joseph	Hulme John	Rogerson Thomas
Chorlton, John	Fletcher George, Riddings Hall	Jackson Samuel	Thomason James
	Garner James	Kemp Samuel	Warburton Thomas
	Heywood James	Keyworth Mr	Whitelegg James
		Rogerson John	