



OVA BHSC





WVA BHSC

1087

113

2120

UVA.BHSC

VVA.BHSC

УВА.ВНС



VVA.BHSC



The principal  
 Cities are distinguished by  
 a double Circle, and the  
 principal Towns by a single  
 Circle, and the principal  
 Villages by a square.  
 The principal Rivers are  
 distinguished by a double  
 Line, and the principal  
 Streams by a single Line.  
 The principal Mountains  
 are distinguished by a  
 double Line, and the  
 principal Hills by a  
 single Line.  
 The principal Lakes  
 are distinguished by a  
 double Line, and the  
 principal Ponds by a  
 single Line.  
 The principal Harbours  
 are distinguished by a  
 double Line, and the  
 principal Rivers by a  
 single Line.  
 The principal Mountains  
 are distinguished by a  
 double Line, and the  
 principal Hills by a  
 single Line.  
 The principal Lakes  
 are distinguished by a  
 double Line, and the  
 principal Ponds by a  
 single Line.  
 The principal Harbours  
 are distinguished by a  
 double Line, and the  
 principal Rivers by a  
 single Line.



Scale of Miles  
 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100



W. B. M. C.

UVA.BHSC

299  
ENGLAND ILLUSTRATED,

OR, A

C O M P E N D I U M

O F T H E

N A T U R A L H I S T O R Y,

G E O G R A P H Y, T O P O G R A P H Y,

A N D

A N T I Q U I T I E S E C C L E S I A S T I C A L a n d C I V I L,

O F

E N G L A N D a n d W A L E S.

W I T H

M A P S o f t h e s e v e r a l C O U N T I E S,

A N D

E N G R A V I N G S o f m a n y R E M A I N S o f A N T I Q U I T Y, r e m a r k a b l e  
B U I L D I N G S, a n d p r i n c i p a l T O W N S.

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I N T W O V O L U M E S.

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V O L. I.

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L O N D O N:

Printed for R. and J. DODSLEY, in Pall-mall.

MDCCLXIV.



UVA.BHSC

ENGLAND ILLUSTRATED  
OF  
C O M P L E T E D I C T I O N A R Y  
OF THE  
N A T U R A L H I S T O R Y,  
G E O G R A P H Y, T O P O G R A P H Y,  
A N D  
A N T I Q U I T I E S E C C L E S I A S T I C A L A N D C I V I L,  
O F  
E N G L A N D A N D W A L E S.

WITH  
M A P S O F T H E F E W E R C O U N T I E S,  
A N D  
E N G R A V I N G S O F S O M E R E M A I N S O F A N T I Q U E T O W N S,  
B U I L D I N G S, A N D F O S S I L S.

I N T W O V O L U M E S.  
V O L I.

L O N D O N,  
P R I N T E D A T T H E P R I N T I N G O F F I C E O F R. CLAY AND COMPANY,  
B U C K L E Y S T R E E T, S T. J A M E S S Q U A R E, W I M B O R N H A M.

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# P R E F A C E.

**I**N all the accounts that have been hitherto published of England and Wales, the geographical and topographical description, natural history, antiquities, memorable events, and other particulars, have been thrown together with such unaccountable disorder and confusion, that they can neither be read with pleasure, nor consulted occasionally with advantage: the present work was undertaken chiefly to regulate this chaos; and the several particulars are therefore ranged in the following order.

I. An account of the county in general, under the following heads:

1. Its present name, and whence derived.
2. Its situation, boundaries, and extent.
3. Its rivers and springs.
4. Its air and soil.
5. Its natural productions.
6. Manufacture.
7. Its civil division into hundreds; and ecclesiastical division into parishes; with the number of market towns, including cities, corporations, and ancient boroughs.

II. A particular account of the present state of each market town, under the following heads:

1. Its present name, and whence derived.
2. Its distance from London.
3. How it is governed.
4. A description of the streets, market place, guild, churches, public buildings, and schools.
5. Products and manufactures.

III. An account of the natural curiosities, as echos, grottos, mines, fossils, and petrifying springs; and of remarkable particulars, as the longevity, fruitfulness, or other singular circumstances that have happened to the

the inhabitants; floods, storms, fires, earthquakes, and other accidents and phenomena.

IV. Antiquities, containing

1. The ancient name of the county and its inhabitants.
2. The history of the ancient castles, forts, camps, highways and monuments, by whom, and when, and for what purpose erected and cast up.
3. An account of such coins, stones, and other remains as have been found in digging.
4. Ecclesiastical antiquities, containing an account of all the religious houses in the county, when, where, and by whom founded, and for what order of nuns or monks, and of what value at the general dissolution in the reign of Henry the Eighth.

V. The number of representatives in parliament for each county, and the cities and boroughs for which they are chosen.

In consequence of this plan, no place is particularly mentioned, except it be a city, borough, or market town, or the site of some natural curiosity, remarkable incident, or remain of antiquity, but the cities, boroughs and market towns that are named merely as such, under the second general head, are named again under the third and fourth; for the natural history and antiquities could not otherwise have been kept under distinct heads: the antiquities and curiosities of those places which are named only on account of such curiosity and antiquity, would have been in one place, and the antiquities and curiosities of the cities, boroughs, and towns, which are named as such, in another.

No remarkable event is mentioned that does not begin and terminate in a particular spot, so as to be *purely local*: for as all the battles, sieges, revolutions, and other *publick* and *general events*, that have happened in the island, must have distinguished some part of it, to give such an account of these as will either amuse or instruct, would be to write not the geographical and natural history of England only, but the civil, ecclesiastical, and military. The circumstance of Sir Anthony Kingston's hanging the mayor of a town in Cornwall before his own door, after he had been his guest at dinner, is *purely local*; the rise and progress of the rebellion which that knight was employed to suppress, and the battles which it occasioned, are *publick* and *general*.

P R E F A C E.

No gentleman or nobleman's seat is mentioned merely as such, but for its being remarkable by its natural situation, or for the curiosity or elegance of its building.

It will indeed be found, that many particulars are related of some counties, cities, boroughs, and towns, which are not related of others; but this is a defect that is common to all the books already extant, and therefore became a necessary defect of this; for the author does not profess to accumulate new materials, but to raise the best structure he can with the old: he must also sometimes have been misled by the books he consulted, but it must be remembered, that he did not undertake to correct, but to regulate. As far as books of authority could inform him, he has been well instructed, but where they were deficient, he was obliged to trust implicitly to others.

The counties are described in alphabetical order, so are the market towns in each county; the cuts are placed as head and tail pieces to the descriptions of the counties to which they severally relate, and the maps are inserted in their proper places. The cuts are ornaments not wholly without use, and the maps are useful illustrations, executed with an elegance which renders them in some degree ornamental: it is indeed hoped that they will be found the neatest and most accurate of any that are yet extant, and as such, a very valuable part of this work.

C O N T E N T S

The committee on education, in its report to the  
the following: that the committee on education  
of the following:

It is the duty of the committee on education  
to report to the committee on education  
the following: that the committee on education  
of the following:

The committee on education, in its report to the  
the following: that the committee on education  
of the following:



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# C O N T E N T S

OF THE

F I R S T V O L U M E .

|                  | page |
|------------------|------|
| INTRODUCTION,    | i    |
| BEDFORDSHIRE,    | 11   |
| BERKSHIRE,       | 31   |
| BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, | 43   |
| CAMBRIDGESHIRE,  | 69   |
| CHESHIRE,        | 85   |
| CORNWALL,        | 129  |
| CUMBERLAND,      | 149  |
| DERBYSHIRE,      | 165  |
| DEVONSHIRE,      | 189  |
| DORSETSHIRE,     | 207  |
| DURHAM,          | 223  |
| ESSEX,           | 245  |
| GLOCESTERSHIRE,  | 265  |
| HAMPSHIRE,       | 291  |
| HEREFORDSHIRE,   | 303  |
| HERTFORDSHIRE,   | 321  |
| HUNTINGTONSHIRE, | 331  |
| KENT,            | 371  |
| LANCASHIRE,      | 387  |
| LEICESTERSHIRE,  | 401  |
| LINCOLNSHIRE,    |      |

INTRO.

CONTENTS

OF THE

FIRST VOLUME

INTRODUCTION

BERKSHIRE

BESSHIRE

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

CHESHIRE

CORNWALL

CUMBERLAND

DERBYSHIRE

DEVONSHIRE

DORSETSHIRE

DURHAM

ESSEX

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

HAMPSHIRE

HEREFORDSHIRE

HERTFORDSHIRE

HUNTINGDONSHIRE

LEICESTERSHIRE

LINCOLNSHIRE

# INTRODUCTION.

**E**NGLAND and WALES are usually distinguished from *Scotland* by the name of *South Britain*; as SCOTLAND is distinguished from *England* and *Wales* by the name of *North Britain*. England, Scotland and Wales, together, have been formerly, and still are, comprehended under the name of GREAT BRITAIN, though there is no other Britain from which Great Britain is now distinguished by that epithet\*.

GREAT BRITAIN is an island in the Western Ocean; the southern extremity lies in latitude fifty degrees, and the northern extremity in latitude fifty-nine degrees, north: the most western part is in longitude nine degrees forty-five minutes, and its most eastern part in longitude seventeen degrees fifteen minutes, east of Teneriffe, through which the first meridian has been generally supposed to pass. Its utmost length therefore is nine degrees of latitude, and its utmost breadth seven degrees and an half of longitude: in every degree of latitude there are sixty-nine English statute miles, and 864 feet, so that the length of Britain, from its northern extremity at Caithness in Scotland, to its southern extremity, at the Lizard Point in Cornwall, is 622 miles and an half: in every degree of longitude the number of miles gradually diminishes as the latitude of the place increases; the latitude of that part of Britain where it is widest, is between fifty degrees and fifty-one; every degree of longitude in this latitude, is equal to about thirty-eight statute miles, so that the width of Britain, from its most western part, the Land's End, in Cornwall, to its most eastern part, the South Foreland, in Kent, is 285 miles.

SOUTH BRITAIN, comprehending England and Wales, extends northward to latitude fifty-five degrees, forty minutes, where it is bounded by the river Tweed, which divides it from Scotland; it is bounded on the east by the German Ocean, on the west by a narrow sea, which divides it from Ireland, and on the south by a strait, called the British Channel, which divides it from France.

Whence the name *Britain* was originally derived, is a question of idle curiosity, which it is impossible to resolve. It has by different writers been deduced from al-

\* The names *Great Britain* and *Little Britain* are used by Ptolemy, and Mr. Camden supposes, that by *Great Britain* he meant England, Scotland, and Wales, and that by *Little Britain* he meant Ireland; though others have thought that by *Great Britain*, he meant only England and Wales, and by *Little Britain*, Scotland.

## I N T R O D U C T I O N .

most every word in every language to which it has any similitude, either in orthography or sound: some have derived it from Brutus, the name of a Trojan, supposed to have subdued the island, and given his name to it 1108 years before the Christian era: Camden taking for granted, that the island was first called Britain by the ancient Greeks, conjectured that Britain was formed of *Britis*, or *Britisus*, painted, a name which the ancient inhabitants are supposed to have given themselves, because it was their custom to paint their skins, and *tanis*, a Greek termination, signifying *a country*, to express the country of the *Britis* or *Britons*. Humphry Llwyd, a celebrated antiquary, was of opinion that the name was wholly British, and that it was originally *Prydain*, or *Prydainis*, a Welch word for *white*, supposing the island to have been called *White* by those who first settled upon it, from the colour of the cliffs on its coast. The most probable conjecture seems to be, that the Phenicians, who are known to have traded to the western coast principally for *tia*, called it *Britanack*, which in their language signifies the *Land of Tin*: and it is remarkable, that *Meng*, the name of part of Cornwall, is of Phenician derivation, and signifies *bounded by the sea*. There is in this peninsula a lake, called *Eerb*, which is the Phenician word for *lake*; *Godolias*, the name of a hill there, signifies *plenty of metal* in the same language; *Pen*, a hill, comes also from the Phenician, *Penza*, and *Tra*, from *Tera*, a *castle*, two words which occur often in the names of Cornish places; Penrose, Penfance, Pengarlick, Penwarren, Pendennis, Penwin, Trewole, Trenowth, Tregenna, Trevalcus, Trenora, Treworgan, and many others.

Albion is another name of Britain, the origin of which is equally doubtful. Some suppose it to have been so called by the Greeks, from Albion, the son of Neptune, as they named Italy *Hesperia*, from *Hesperus*, the son of Atlas: others imagine that they formed it of *Algw*, *white*, and others suppose it to have been originally *Olbion*, from *Olbow*, *bappy*.

ENGLAND, the name of the southern part of Britain, distinct from Wales, is supposed to have been originally *Angland*, the Land of the *Angles*, a people who came into Britain with the Saxons, and are thought to have given this name to the country, when, after having invaded and subdued it, they united the kingdoms, into which it was at first divided, into one monarchy.

WALES, the name of the west part of Britain, distinct from England, is a Saxon word, signifying the *Land of Strangers*; a name which the Saxons thought fit to bestow upon that part of the country, into which they had driven the native inhabitants when they took possession of the rest.

The name *England* is now often used for all South Britain, including Wales. This country has some peculiar natural advantages and disadvantages as an island: it is subject to perpetual varieties of heat and cold, and wet and dry; but the heat in summer, and the cold in winter, are more temperate than in any part of the continent that lies in the same latitude: the atmosphere is so loaded with vapours, that there is sometimes no sunshine for several days together, though at the same time there is no rain; but the general humidity produced by these vapours, greatly contributes to cover the ground with a perpetual verdure, that is not seen in any other country. The air of the low lands, near the sea coast, is rather unwholesome, but the sea furnishes the inhabitants with great plenty and variety

variety of fish, and the shore is naturally formed into innumerable bays and creeks, which afford excellent harbour for shipping. The air in the inland country is healthy, and the soil in general fertile; the face of the country is diversified by hill and valley, and wood and water, and being much inclosed and cultivated, it abounds with prospects that in beauty can scarce be exceeded, even by the fictions of imagination.

As the natural history and antiquities of this part of Great Britain, will be ranged under distinct heads, corresponding with the several districts or counties into which it is now divided, it will be necessary to shew what these divisions are, and to give some account of their origin.

It is also necessary to give some account of the successive invasions of this island by different nations, and of the various forms of government which have by turns been established and subverted, because many remains of antiquity, and many local privileges and peculiarities have a relation to both, which would render an account of them, without such an introduction, manifestly defective and obscure.

The most probable opinion concerning the first inhabitants of Britain, seems to be, that they came from the neighbouring continent of France: these ancient Britons were a rude warlike people, who lived in hovels which they built in the woods, and painted their bodies, which had no covering but the skins of beasts casually thrown over them, without having been shaped into a garment of any kind.

They were divided however into separate tribes, each of which was governed by a separate lord, distinguished by some rude insignia of sovereign power; and from among these lords a general was elected in time of war, who was then invested with supreme command. They had also a kind of civil and religious government, which was chiefly administered by their priests, who were called *Druids*, and without whose concurrence no judicial determination was made, nor any publick measure undertaken.

These *Druids* taught that there was a divine mystery in the mistletoe, and their name was derived from the Celtic word *Dera*, an oak: they taught also the immortality and transmigration of the soul, and they instituted human sacrifices, as well to propitiate the gods, as to enable them to predict future events by the falling of the body, the motion of it after it was fallen, the flowing of the blood, and several other accidental circumstances of this horrid rite.

Our knowledge of these Britons before they were mixed with the people of other nations, is necessarily defective and uncertain, because they committed nothing to writing, though it appears that they were not unacquainted with letters; for among other maxims of the *Druids*, collected by Goller the Burgundian, in his *Memoirs of Franco Comte*, there is one that forbids their mysteries to be written, a prohibition that could never have been given where letters were not known.

## I N T R O D U C T I O N.

About forty-five years before the Christian æra, Britain was invaded by the Romans, under Julius Cæsar, and at length became a province to the Roman empire. The Romans maintained their conquest by a military force, with which they gradually incorporated the flower of the British youth: this force was divided into different parties, which were placed at convenient stations all over the province; and the Roman general for the time being, was supreme governor of the country.

Such was the state of Britain, till about the year 426, when the interruption of the northern Barbarians into the Roman empire, made it necessary to recall the troops that were in Britain; upon which the emperor Honorius renounced his sovereignty of the island, and released the Britons from their allegiance.

When the Romans abandoned Britain, with the legions, in which all the natives whom they trusted with military knowledge were incorporated, the country being left in a feeble and defenceless state, was invaded by the Scots. The Scots were so rapacious and cruel, that the South Britons invited over the Saxons to deliver them from intolerable oppression, and drive back the invaders to their own territory, proposing to give them as a reward, the little Isle of Thanet, which is divided by a small canal from the coast of Kent.

The Saxons came over with a great number of *Angles*, a people who are supposed to have taken their name from a place still called *Angel*, in Denmark; and having driven back the Scots, they subdued the country they had delivered for themselves, and drove the natives into that part of South Britain now called Wales.

The Saxon generals became petty sovereigns of different districts, and were perpetually committing hostilities against each other, till about the year 823, when a king of the West Saxons, whose name was Egbert, became the sovereign of all England.

About the year 1011, the Danes, who had often invaded the island, and long maintained their ground in a considerable part of it, became lords of all England under Canutus, their chief, who was crowned king of England: but after about twenty years, the sovereignty was recovered by Edward, surnamed the Confessor, a prince of the Saxon line.

About the year 1066, England was again invaded and subdued, by William duke of Normandy, called the Conqueror, in whose successors, though not in a lineal descent, the crown has continued ever since.

BRITAIN, some time before the Roman invasion, while it was yet under the dominion of its native inhabitants, was divided into seventeen principalities, each of which was governed by a separate and independant chief.

The names of the inhabitants of these principalities, as recorded by the Romans, were, 1. Cantii. 2. Regni. 3. Durotriges. 4. Dunmonii. 5. Belgæ. 6. Atre-

## I N T R O D U C T I O N .

Atrebatii. 7. Dobuni. 8. Cattiuehlani. 9. Trinobantes. 10. Iceni. 11. Coritani. 12. Cornavii. 13. Brigantes. 14. Ottadini. 15. Silures. 16. Ordovices. 17. Dimetæ.

Soon after Britain was subdued by the Romans, they divided it into five parts: the first, which they called *Britannia Prima*, was all the southern tract, bounded on one side by the British Ocean, and on the other by the Thames and the Severn Sea: the second, called *Britannia Secunda*, was the same with that which is now called Wales; the third, *Flavia Cesariensis*, reached from the Thames to the Humber; the fourth, *Maxima Cesariensis*, from the river Humber to Severus's Wall, or the river Tine; and the fifth, *Valentia*, from the Tine to the wall near Edinburgh, called by the Scots *Gramesdike*.

When the island fell into the hands of the Saxons, it was divided a third time: part of the territory which the Romans divided into five parts, the Saxons divided into *seven*, each of which was called a kingdom, and distinguished by the names of Kent, Southsex, East Angle, Westsex, Northumberland, Eastsex, and Mercia; the Roman province which was not included in this division, was *Britannia Secunda*, or Wales, a mountainous territory, in which the ancient Britons defended themselves against all the efforts of their enemies.

This **HEPTARCHY** was subdivided into several portions, each containing a certain number of *bides*, a hide being supposed to be as much ground as one plough could till in one year; and each of these districts was under the government of an earldorman, or earl.

About the year 896, Alfred, a successor of Egbert, as sovereign of the whole Heptarchy, rendered the commensuration of these districts more exact, and divided England into thirty-two counties or shires, the present names of which, and their relation, both to the British principalities and the Saxon heptarchy, will appear by the following table.

| Kingdoms of the Saxon heptarchy. | Counties into which England was divided by Alfred. | Principalities of the ancient Britons.                             |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| The kingdom of Kent              | 1. Kent  | { The British principality inhabited by the Cantii.                |
| The kingdom of the South Saxons  | 2. Suffex  | { inhabited by the Regni.  |
|                                  | 3. Surry   |  |
|                                  | 4. Berkshire                                       | { the Atrebatii.   |
|                                  | 5. Hampshire                                       | { the Belgæ.   |
|                                  | 6. Wiltshire                                       |  |
| 7. Somersetshire                 |  |  |
| The kingdom of the West Saxons   | 8. Dorsetshire                                     | { the Durotriges.  |
|                                  | 9. Devonshire                                      | { including the district afterwards called Cornwall, the Dunmonii. |

Kings.

## I N T R O D U C T I O N.

| Kingdoms of the Saxon heptarchy.   | Counties into which England was divided by Alfred.   | Principalities of the ancient Britons.  |
|--|--|---|
| The kingdom of Northumberland, which also included, besides Durham and Lancashire, Cumberland, Westmorland, Northumberland, and Scotland, to the Frith of Edinburgh, | 10. Yorkshire  | including Durham and Lancashire, the Brigantes, who also inhabited Westmorland and Cumberland.            |
| The kingdom of the East Saxons, which also included part of Hertfordshire,   | 11. Hertfordshire *<br>12. Essex<br>13. Middlesex  | the Trinobantes.  |
| The kingdom of the East Angles,  | 14. Norfolk<br>15. Suffolk<br>16. Cambridge, with Ely  | the Iceni.  |
|  | 17. Huntingdonshire<br>18. Derbyshire<br>19. Nottinghamshire<br>20. Leicestershire<br>21. Lincolnshire | the Coritani.   |
|  | 22. Northamptonshire, including Rutlandshire<br>23. Warwickshire †<br>24. Bedfordshire                 | the Cattiuchlani.   |
| The kingdom of Mercia, which included also the other part of Hertfordshire,  | 25. Buckinghamshire<br>26. Gloucestershire<br>27. Oxfordshire  | the Dobuni.   |
|  | 28. Herefordshire  | the Silures, who also inhabited Radnorshire, Brecknockshire, Monmouthshire, and Glamorganshire, in Wales. |
|  | 29. Worcestershire<br>30. Cheshire<br>31. Shropshire<br>32. Staffordshire                              | the Cornavii.   |

The three British principalities not included in this division, were those of the Octadini, the Ordovices, and the Dimetæ: the Octadini inhabited Northumberland, with four counties in Scotland; the Ordovices, Montgomeryshire, Merio-

\* Camden gives Hertfordshire not to the Trinobantes, but the Cattiuchlani; and it may with equal propriety be given to either, for it seems to have been common to both.

† Camden gives Warwickshire to the Trinobantes; Speed is here followed: the antiquaries have not agreed which is right.



Northshire, Caernarvonshire, Flintshire, and Denbighshire; and the Dimetæ, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, and Cardiganshire.

These thirty-two counties were increased to forty, by the addition of those afterwards distinguished by the names of Durham and Lancashire, which are supposed to have been then included in Yorkshire; Cornwall included in Devonshire, and Rutlandshire in Northamptonshire; Monmouthshire, which was deemed part of Wales, and Northumberland, Westmoreland and Cumberland, which are supposed to have been subject to the Scots. These forty, with the addition of twelve, into which Wales was afterwards divided, make the present number FIFTY-TWO.

Alfred subdivided each county into treshings, or trithings, of which *siding* is a corruption, hundreds, and tythings, or decennaries: the treshing was a third part of a county, the hundred was a district containing an hundred families, and the tything a district that contained ten families.

Over the county or shire, he appointed an officer, called a *shire-reeve*, or *sheriff*, a word signifying one set over a county or shire: this officer was also called *vicescomes*, not because he depended upon an *earl* or *comes*, but because he was substituted by Alfred in the place of the earl, and appointed to perform the functions which the earls had performed over the district, which they governed during the heptarchy: the sheriff was associated with a judge. The chief of the treshing, or trithing, was called a *Spilungerepar*; the hundred was put under the jurisdiction of a constable; and the tything, which was also called a *dovec*, or borough, of a headborough or tithingman.

By this regulation, every man in the kingdom became a member of some one tithing, the householders of which were mutually pledges for each other; so that if any man, accused of a misdemeanour, was not produced to answer the accusation in one and thirty days, the tithing was fined to the king, and answered for the offence to the party injured. Every male, at the age of fourteen years, was obliged to take an oath to keep the laws: this oath was administered at the county court by the sheriff, who was obliged to see that the party was properly settled in some tithing, all the householders of which, from that time, became pledges for his good behaviour. This solemn act of suretyship was called *frank pledge*, as the pledge of *franks* or freemen; and this branch of the sheriff's authority was called *View of Frank Pledge*.

The county, the treshing, the hundred, and the tithing, had each a court, and an appeal lay from the tithing court to the hundred court, from the hundred court to the treshing court, and from the treshing court to that of the county. An appeal lay also from the county court to a superior court, which was called the *king's court*, because the king himself presided there, either in person or by his chancellor: this court was then held wherever the king happened to be.

These divisions and regulations were contrived by Alfred, to prevent the robberies, murders, and other acts of violence, which the intestine commotions, and the necessary suspension of civil jurisdiction, had made so frequent, that the whole country was one scene of rapine and bloodshed: the success was beyond the most sanguine

## INTRODUCTION.

linguine expectation, and indeed the accounts of it are almost beyond credit; for it is said, that if a traveller had dropped a sum of money in his way, he would have found it untouched where it had fallen, though he should not have sought it till a month afterwards; and that the king, as a test of the publick security, caused bracelets of gold to be hung up on the high road, even where four ways met, which no man dared to take away.

At what time Wales was first divided into counties, is not certainly known: Caermarthenshire, Glamorganshire, Pembrokehire, Cardiganshire, Flintshire, Caernarvonshire, Anglesea, and Merionythshire, seem to have been of ancient date in the time of Edward the First; to these eight, Radnorshire, Brecknockshire, Montgomeryshire, and Denbighshire, were added by act of parliament in the reign of Henry the Eighth.

The first division of Wales upon record, was made about the year 870, when Roderick, king of Wales, divided it among three sons, into three districts, which were called kingdoms, and distinguished by the names of South Wales, Powis Land, and North Wales. This division gave rise to many wars, in which the kingdom of Powis Land was portioned among the conquerors, and annexed partly to South Wales, and partly to North Wales, divisions which subsist even to this day; South Wales containing Cardiganshire, Pembrokehire, Caermarthenshire, Glamorganshire, Brecknockshire, and Radnorshire; and North Wales containing Flintshire, Caernarvonshire, Montgomeryshire, Merionythshire, Denbighshire, and the county of Anglesea.

In the time of the Saxons, that form of government was established, which, with some circumstantial variations, has continued ever since.

During the heptarchy there was in each of the seven kingdoms a council that assisted the sovereign; and there was also, on particular occasions, a general council, consisting of representatives, deputed by the particular councils to assist in such affairs of government as concerned the whole heptarchy, considered as a common interest. These councils or assemblies, called *wetenagemots*, are supposed to have been the foundation of British parliaments; but it has never yet been clearly determined, whether in these *wetenagemots* the commons had representatives, whether the legislative power was in the person of the king, in the general council, or in both together; or whether the king had a right to levy taxes by his own authority: but it seems to be generally agreed, that some members of the *wetenagemot*, whether it consisted of lords only, or of lords and commons, were ecclesiastics, and that its determinations extended to ecclesiastical matters.

To our Saxon ancestors we also owe the inestimable privilege which the commons of England enjoy, of being tried by a jury, twelve men sworn to determine justly according to the evidence, whether the party accused is guilty or not guilty of the fact charged against him: when this question is determined, the judge pronounces such sentence upon the offender as the law has prescribed. It seems therefore to be not only impertinent, but injurious, for those who are employed to plead against a prisoner in criminal prosecutions, to declaim in a long and laboured harangue, on the heinousness of the offence supposed to have been committed,

mitted, and to enumerate every minute and supposititious circumstance by which it is possible to accumulate aggravation; it is impertinent, because if the crime is capital, the judge has no discretionary power either to mitigate or increase the punishment, whether the offence is simple or complicated, or whether it was committed with circumstances that extenuate or aggravate the guilt; it is injurious, because it inflames the minds of the jury, and makes them impatient to punish the offence before it has been proved, and consequently liable to punish it when the proof is insufficient.

After the Norman conquest many alterations were made from time to time in the form of government, and the manner in which it was administered.

Wales continued to be governed by its own prince and laws till the year 1287, when Llewellyn ap Gryffith, prince of that country, lost both his life and principality to king Edward the First, who created his own son prince of Wales; and ever since, the eldest sons of the kings of England have commonly been created prince of Wales.

The parliament now consists of two assemblies or houses, the lords and commons: the house of lords consists of the lords spiritual and temporal; the lords temporal are those who are noble by birth or creation, and have the title of dukes, earls, viscounts, or barons, and those who are noble by some high office, as the lords chief justices of the king's courts; the lords spiritual are the archbishops and bishops.

The house of commons consists of representatives of counties or shires, cities and boroughs. It was formerly required, that the representatives of a county or shire should be knights; and though persons below the degree of knighthood are now chosen, yet the representatives of a county, each county having two, are still called *knights of the shire*. The representative of a city, is called a citizen, and the representative of a borough a burghess: the house of commons is therefore called the knights, citizens, and burghesses, in parliament assembled.

The king's courts, of which there are four, the chancery, king's bench, common pleas, and exchequer, are now held at Westminster. The lord chancellor, or lord keeper of the great seals, presides in the court of chancery, each having the same rank, authority, and office; for the only difference between a chancellor and lord keeper is, that the chancellor is appointed by letters patent, and the lord keeper only by delivery of the seals: the king's bench, common pleas, and exchequer, have each a chief justice, and three assistant judges; the judges of the exchequer are called barons.

Every county or shire has still a sheriff, but he is now annually appointed by the king, except where the office has been made elective or hereditary by charter. The present duty of the sheriff is to execute the king's writs or mandates, to attend the judges, and see their sentence put in execution, and to give judgment in petty causes, which are still determined in what is called a county court.

There are also in every county justices of the peace, who take cognizance of felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors; and the king every year sends into

## I N T R O D U C T I O N .

each county two judges of his own courts, to hear and determine causes, both of property and life. With respect to these judges, England is divided into six circuits.

- |                                     |   |   |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1. Home circuit, which comprehends, |   |   | { Essex, Hertfordshire, Surry, Suffex,<br>and Kent.  |
| 2. Norfolk circuit,                 | * | - | { Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Hunt-<br>ingtonshire, Cambridgeshire, Nor-<br>folk, and Suffolk.                                  |
| 3. Midland circuit,                 | - | - | { Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Derby-<br>shire, Nottinghamshire, Lincoln-<br>shire, Rutlandshire, and Northamp-<br>tonshire.      |
| 4. Oxford circuit,                  | * | - | { Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire,<br>Monmouthshire, Herefordshire,<br>Shropshire, Staffordshire, and Wor-<br>cestershire. |
| 5. Western circuit,                 | * | - | { Hampshire, Wiltshire, Dorsetshire,<br>Somersetshire, Cornwall, and De-<br>vonshire.  |
| 6. Northern circuit,                | - | - | { Yorkshire, Durham, Northumber-<br>land, Cumberland, Westmoreland,<br>and Lancashire.   |

The number of counties included in these circuits is thirty-eight; Middlesex is not included, because in this county the king's courts are steadily held; and Cheshire is not included, because it is a county *palatine*: there are indeed in England three counties called counties palatine, from *Palatinus* or *Palatium*, invested with regal rights and prerogatives; these counties palatine are Lancashire, Cheshire, and Durham; and formerly the chief governors, being impowered by charter, administered justice as absolutely as the king himself. There is still a court of chancery in Lancaster and Durham, with a chancellor; and there is a court of exchequer at Chester, of a mixed kind, both for law and equity, of which the chamberlain of Chester is judge: there are also other justices in the counties palatine, to determine civil actions and pleas of the crown.

Ely, though it is not a county distinct from Cambridgeshire, is yet a royal franchise, with privilege of holding pleas like the counties palatine, and has also a chief justice.

It is supposed that these counties were originally made counties palatine by the grant of royal prerogatives, because they were adjacent to an enemy's country, as Lancaster and Durham to Scotland, and Cheshire to Wales.

Most

Most of these rights however are returned to the crown, and the justices itinerary take the counties palatine of Lancashire and Durham into their circuits.

There are two grand sessions held twice a-year in each of the twelve counties of Wales, by judges who are appointed by the king for that purpose.

But besides the fifty-two counties into which England and Wales are now divided, there are counties corporate, consisting of certain districts, to which the liberties and jurisdictions peculiar to a county are granted by charter from the king. Thus the city of London is a county distinct from Middlesex, and the cities of York, Chester, Bristol, Norwich, Worcester, Kingston upon Hull, and Newcastle, are counties of themselves, distinct from the counties in which they lie.

There are also five sea ports in the county of Kent, called the cinque ports, which, with some towns adjoining to them, have the privilege of holding pleas in courts of law and equity. They have a governor, called lord warden of the cinque ports, who is also governor of Dover castle: of these courts one is held before the lord warden, and the others before the mayor and jurats of the ports themselves. These five ports are Dover, Sandwich, R Romney, Winchelsea, and Rye.

The division of counties into hundreds, and of hundreds into tythings, still remains; of the trelhing or trithing, no traces are found but in Yorkshire, which is divided into thirds, called the east, west, and north ridings.

In Yorkshire the hundreds are called *woopentakes*; *woopentock* was a name anciently given to an hundred, from a ceremony of *touching weapons*: when a governor of a hundred was appointed, he was met by the householders of the hundred, who severally touched his spear with theirs, in token of their having one common cause to support and defend.

The sub-divisions of Suffex are called *rapes*, and those of Kent *lobes*.

As there was no ecclesiastical division of England till the establishment of Christianity, it will not be necessary to trace the superstitions of the ancient Britons, the Saxons, and Romans, through all their varieties. The Druids were extirpated by Suetonius, the Roman general, about the year 61, and Christianity was first established near the middle of the third century.

The ecclesiastical divisions of England and Wales are provinces, dioceses, and parishes: a province is the jurisdiction of an archbishop, a diocese of a bishop, and a parish is a district supposed to be under the care of one priest.

In England there are two provinces, Canterbury and York; and twenty-four dioceses, of which twenty-one are in the province of Canterbury, and three in the province of York.

For the care of a parish the priest is allowed tythes, or a tenth part of all things in his parish that yield an annual increase, besides a portion of land appointed for his separate use, called a glebe; a parish therefore, considered as affording main-  
tenance

INTRODUCTION.

tenance to a priest, is called a *benefice*, and some of these benefices have been *appropriated* to certain religious houses, bishopricks, or colleges, which have enjoyed the revenue, and appointed an ecclesiastical person to perform the duty, called the cure of souls, at a certain price, either some part of the tythes or a sum of money: these appropriated benefices are called *appropriations*; and when the religious houses were dissolved at the reformation, the appropriated benefices of which they were possessed, came into the hands of lay men, and were then called *impropriations*, though the terms are often confounded. Unappropriated benefices are also called rectories, and appropriated, vicarages.

The names of the dioceses, and the counties which they severally comprehend, together with the number of parishes and appropriated benefices, including those that are in the hands of lay men, and are properly *impropriations*, will appear by the following table.

| Provinces.   | Dioceses.                | Counties.           | Parishes.       | Impropriations. |     |
|--|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----|
| In the province of CANTERBURY, are the dioceses of | CANTERBURY,              | Kent, part          | 257             | 140             |     |
|  | LONDON,                  | Essex,              |                 |                 | }   |
|  |                          | Middlesex,          |                 |                 |     |
|  | WINCHESTER,              | Hertfordshire, part | }               | 623             | 189 |
|  |                          | Southampton,        |                 |                 |     |
|  |                          | Surry,              |                 |                 |     |
|  | CHICHESTER,              | Wight, isle of,     | }               | 362             | 131 |
|  |                          | Guernsey, isle of,  |                 |                 |     |
|  | SALISBURY,               | Jersey, isle of,    | }               | 250             | 112 |
|  |                          | Suffex,             |                 |                 |     |
|  | EXETER,                  | Wiltshire,          | }               | 248             | 109 |
|  |                          | Berkshire,          |                 |                 |     |
|  | BATH AND WELLS,          | Devonshire,         | }               | 604             | 239 |
|  |                          | GLOUCESTER,         |                 |                 |     |
|  | WORCESTER,               | Somersetshire,      | }               | 388             | 160 |
|  |                          | HEREFORD,           |                 |                 |     |
|  | LITCHFIELD and COVENTRY, |                     | Worcestershire, | }               | 241 |
|  |                          | Warwickshire, part, |                 |                 |     |
| Herefordshire,                                     |                          |                     |                 |                 |     |
| LINCOLN,   | Shropshire, part,        | }                   | 313             | 166             |     |
|  | Staffordshire,           |                     |                 |                 |     |
|  | Derbyshire,              |                     |                 |                 |     |
|  | Warwickshire, part,      |                     |                 |                 |     |
|  | Shropshire, part,        |                     |                 |                 |     |
| ELY,   | Lincolnshire,            | }                   | 1255            | 577             |     |
|  | Leicestershire,          |                     |                 |                 |     |
|  | Huntingdonshire,         |                     |                 |                 |     |
|  | Bedfordshire,            |                     |                 |                 |     |
| NORWICH,   | Buckinghamshire,         | }                   | 141             | 75              |     |
|  | Hertfordshire, part,     |                     |                 |                 |     |
|  | Ely, isle of,            | }                   | 1121            | 385             |     |
|  | Norfolk,                 |                     |                 |                 |     |
|  | Suffolk,                 | }                   |                 | Pro-            |     |

I N T R O D U C T I O N .

| Provinces.  | Dioceses.                | Counties.                | Parishes. | Impropriations. |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| In the province<br>of CANTERBURY<br>are the dioceses of | OXFORD,                  | Oxfordshire              | 195       | 88              |
|   | PETERBOROUGH,            | { Northamptonshire,      | } 293     | } 91            |
|   |                          | { Rutlandshire,          |           |                 |
|   | BRISTOL,                 | Dorsetshire,             | 236       | 64              |
|   | ROCHESTER,               | Kent, part,              | 98        | 36              |
|   |                          | { Pembrokehire,          | } 308     | } 120           |
|   |                          | { Cardiganhire,          |           |                 |
|   |                          | { Caermarthenhire,       |           |                 |
|   |                          | { Brecknockshire,        |           |                 |
|   |                          | { Radnorshire,           |           |                 |
|   |                          | { Glamorganshire, part,  | } 107     | } 36            |
|   |                          | { Monmouthshire, part,   |           |                 |
|   |                          | { Montgomeryshire, part, |           |                 |
|   |                          | { Herefordshire, part,   |           |                 |
|   |                          | { Caernarvonshire,       |           |                 |
|   | { Angleseashire,         | } 177                    | } 98      |                 |
|   | { Merionethshire, part,  |                          |           |                 |
|   | { Denbighshire, part,    | } 121                    | } 19      |                 |
|   | { Monmouthshire, part,   |                          |           |                 |
|   | { Glamorganshire, part,  | } 93                     | } 18      |                 |
|   | { Denbighshire, part,    |                          |           |                 |
|   | { Flintshire, part,      |                          |           |                 |
|   | { Montgomeryshire, part, |                          |           |                 |
|   | { Merionethshire, part,  | } 581                    | } 336     |                 |
|   | { Herefordshire, part,   |                          |           |                 |
| In the province<br>of YORK are<br>the dioceses<br>of    | YORK,                    | { Yorkshire,             | } 135     | } 87            |
|   |                          | { Nottinghamshire,       |           |                 |
|   | DURHAM,                  | { Durham,                | } 256     | } 101           |
|   |                          | { Northumberland,        |           |                 |
|   |                          | { Cheshire,              |           |                 |
| CHESTER,  | { Richmondshire,         | } 93                     | } 18      |                 |
|   | { Lancashire,            |                          |           |                 |
| CARLISLE,   | { Cumberland, part,      | } 93                     | } 18      |                 |
|   | { Westmoreland,          |                          |           |                 |
| Total,  |                          |                          | 9284      | 3845            |

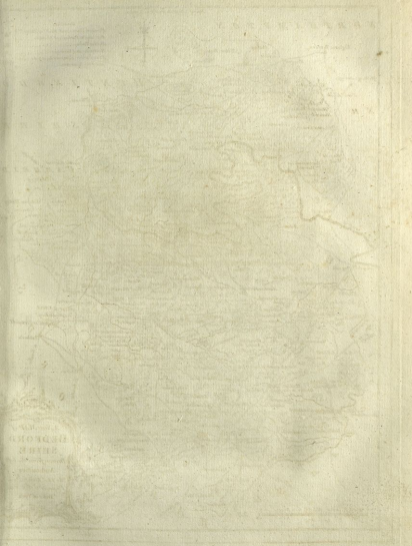
B E D F O R D .

INTRODUCTION

| Page | Chapter           | Page | Chapter           |
|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|
| 1    | Introduction      | 1    | Introduction      |
| 2    | Chapter I         | 2    | Chapter I         |
| 3    | Chapter II        | 3    | Chapter II        |
| 4    | Chapter III       | 4    | Chapter III       |
| 5    | Chapter IV        | 5    | Chapter IV        |
| 6    | Chapter V         | 6    | Chapter V         |
| 7    | Chapter VI        | 7    | Chapter VI        |
| 8    | Chapter VII       | 8    | Chapter VII       |
| 9    | Chapter VIII      | 9    | Chapter VIII      |
| 10   | Chapter IX        | 10   | Chapter IX        |
| 11   | Chapter X         | 11   | Chapter X         |
| 12   | Chapter XI        | 12   | Chapter XI        |
| 13   | Chapter XII       | 13   | Chapter XII       |
| 14   | Chapter XIII      | 14   | Chapter XIII      |
| 15   | Chapter XIV       | 15   | Chapter XIV       |
| 16   | Chapter XV        | 16   | Chapter XV        |
| 17   | Chapter XVI       | 17   | Chapter XVI       |
| 18   | Chapter XVII      | 18   | Chapter XVII      |
| 19   | Chapter XVIII     | 19   | Chapter XVIII     |
| 20   | Chapter XIX       | 20   | Chapter XIX       |
| 21   | Chapter XX        | 21   | Chapter XX        |
| 22   | Chapter XXI       | 22   | Chapter XXI       |
| 23   | Chapter XXII      | 23   | Chapter XXII      |
| 24   | Chapter XXIII     | 24   | Chapter XXIII     |
| 25   | Chapter XXIV      | 25   | Chapter XXIV      |
| 26   | Chapter XXV       | 26   | Chapter XXV       |
| 27   | Chapter XXVI      | 27   | Chapter XXVI      |
| 28   | Chapter XXVII     | 28   | Chapter XXVII     |
| 29   | Chapter XXVIII    | 29   | Chapter XXVIII    |
| 30   | Chapter XXIX      | 30   | Chapter XXIX      |
| 31   | Chapter XXX       | 31   | Chapter XXX       |
| 32   | Chapter XXXI      | 32   | Chapter XXXI      |
| 33   | Chapter XXXII     | 33   | Chapter XXXII     |
| 34   | Chapter XXXIII    | 34   | Chapter XXXIII    |
| 35   | Chapter XXXIV     | 35   | Chapter XXXIV     |
| 36   | Chapter XXXV      | 36   | Chapter XXXV      |
| 37   | Chapter XXXVI     | 37   | Chapter XXXVI     |
| 38   | Chapter XXXVII    | 38   | Chapter XXXVII    |
| 39   | Chapter XXXVIII   | 39   | Chapter XXXVIII   |
| 40   | Chapter XXXIX     | 40   | Chapter XXXIX     |
| 41   | Chapter XL        | 41   | Chapter XL        |
| 42   | Chapter XLI       | 42   | Chapter XLI       |
| 43   | Chapter XLII      | 43   | Chapter XLII      |
| 44   | Chapter XLIII     | 44   | Chapter XLIII     |
| 45   | Chapter XLIV      | 45   | Chapter XLIV      |
| 46   | Chapter XLV       | 46   | Chapter XLV       |
| 47   | Chapter XLVI      | 47   | Chapter XLVI      |
| 48   | Chapter XLVII     | 48   | Chapter XLVII     |
| 49   | Chapter XLVIII    | 49   | Chapter XLVIII    |
| 50   | Chapter XLIX      | 50   | Chapter XLIX      |
| 51   | Chapter L         | 51   | Chapter L         |
| 52   | Chapter LI        | 52   | Chapter LI        |
| 53   | Chapter LII       | 53   | Chapter LII       |
| 54   | Chapter LIII      | 54   | Chapter LIII      |
| 55   | Chapter LIV       | 55   | Chapter LIV       |
| 56   | Chapter LV        | 56   | Chapter LV        |
| 57   | Chapter LVI       | 57   | Chapter LVI       |
| 58   | Chapter LVII      | 58   | Chapter LVII      |
| 59   | Chapter LVIII     | 59   | Chapter LVIII     |
| 60   | Chapter LIX       | 60   | Chapter LIX       |
| 61   | Chapter LX        | 61   | Chapter LX        |
| 62   | Chapter LXI       | 62   | Chapter LXI       |
| 63   | Chapter LXII      | 63   | Chapter LXII      |
| 64   | Chapter LXIII     | 64   | Chapter LXIII     |
| 65   | Chapter LXIV      | 65   | Chapter LXIV      |
| 66   | Chapter LXV       | 66   | Chapter LXV       |
| 67   | Chapter LXVI      | 67   | Chapter LXVI      |
| 68   | Chapter LXVII     | 68   | Chapter LXVII     |
| 69   | Chapter LXVIII    | 69   | Chapter LXVIII    |
| 70   | Chapter LXIX      | 70   | Chapter LXIX      |
| 71   | Chapter LXX       | 71   | Chapter LXX       |
| 72   | Chapter LXXI      | 72   | Chapter LXXI      |
| 73   | Chapter LXXII     | 73   | Chapter LXXII     |
| 74   | Chapter LXXIII    | 74   | Chapter LXXIII    |
| 75   | Chapter LXXIV     | 75   | Chapter LXXIV     |
| 76   | Chapter LXXV      | 76   | Chapter LXXV      |
| 77   | Chapter LXXVI     | 77   | Chapter LXXVI     |
| 78   | Chapter LXXVII    | 78   | Chapter LXXVII    |
| 79   | Chapter LXXVIII   | 79   | Chapter LXXVIII   |
| 80   | Chapter LXXIX     | 80   | Chapter LXXIX     |
| 81   | Chapter LXXX      | 81   | Chapter LXXX      |
| 82   | Chapter LXXXI     | 82   | Chapter LXXXI     |
| 83   | Chapter LXXXII    | 83   | Chapter LXXXII    |
| 84   | Chapter LXXXIII   | 84   | Chapter LXXXIII   |
| 85   | Chapter LXXXIV    | 85   | Chapter LXXXIV    |
| 86   | Chapter LXXXV     | 86   | Chapter LXXXV     |
| 87   | Chapter LXXXVI    | 87   | Chapter LXXXVI    |
| 88   | Chapter LXXXVII   | 88   | Chapter LXXXVII   |
| 89   | Chapter LXXXVIII  | 89   | Chapter LXXXVIII  |
| 90   | Chapter LXXXIX    | 90   | Chapter LXXXIX    |
| 91   | Chapter LXXXX     | 91   | Chapter LXXXX     |
| 92   | Chapter LXXXXI    | 92   | Chapter LXXXXI    |
| 93   | Chapter LXXXXII   | 93   | Chapter LXXXXII   |
| 94   | Chapter LXXXXIII  | 94   | Chapter LXXXXIII  |
| 95   | Chapter LXXXXIV   | 95   | Chapter LXXXXIV   |
| 96   | Chapter LXXXXV    | 96   | Chapter LXXXXV    |
| 97   | Chapter LXXXXVI   | 97   | Chapter LXXXXVI   |
| 98   | Chapter LXXXXVII  | 98   | Chapter LXXXXVII  |
| 99   | Chapter LXXXXVIII | 99   | Chapter LXXXXVIII |
| 100  | Chapter LXXXXIX   | 100  | Chapter LXXXXIX   |
| 101  | Chapter LXXXXX    | 101  | Chapter LXXXXX    |

REPROD





# NORTHAMPTON



**Remarks**  
 Roads that with the N<sup>o</sup> of Miles they lead to Parliament by them  
 Market Towns  
 Barons and Viscounts  
 Places where Fairs are kept have a Star under the Name there

*A New MAP of*  
**BEDFORD SHIRE**  
*Drawn from the best Authorities*  
 By Tho: Kitchin Geog: Surveyor to His Most Excellent Duke of York

British Acres 100 to a Degree



WARDON MONASTERY

# B E D F O R D S H I R E .

## N A M E .

**T**HIS county is called *Bedfordshire*, from BEDFORD its principal town. It has been said that the ancient British name of Bedford was *Lifoider* or *Lettidur*, but Mr. Camden is of opinion that *Lettidur* is rather a modern translation of the English name *Bedford*. He has, however, assigned no other reason for this opinion than that the signification of *Lettidur* and *Bedford* is the same: *Lettidur*, says he, is the British word for *inn upon a river*, and *Bedford* implies *beds and inns at the ford*. But the Saxon name of this place is known to have been *Betanpopt*, from which the English name *Bedford*, a word of exactly the same signification, is manifestly borrowed; and it does not appear from any thing Mr. Camden has said, but that *Betanpopt* might as well be a translation of *Lettidur*, as *Lettidur* a translation of *Betanpopt* or *Bedford*. Perhaps he thought it more probable, that the Saxons should form a name altogether new than translate the old; because it has been usual with foreign invaders either to name places a-new, or retain the names which they heard given to them by the natives, though they did not know their signification; or perhaps he thought it improbable, that the ancient Britons had any such accommodation as a public inn;

Vol. I.

B

and

## B E D F O R D S H I R E.

and that, therefore, they could have no word in their language to express it. How far the same objection will lie against the ancient Saxons, supposing *Bedford* to mean according to Camden's paraphrase beds *and* *ivas* at a ford, the reader must determine.

## B O U N D A R I E S, F I G U R E, E X T E N T and S I T U A T I O N.

**BEDFORDSHIRE** is bounded on the north by the counties of Northampton and Huntingdon, on the east by Cambridgeshire, on the west by Buckinghamshire, and on the south by Hertfordshire. It is of an oval form, being about 22 miles long, about 15 broad, and nearly 73 in circumference; and Ampthill, a market town, and the most central in the county, is distant about forty-three miles north-west from London.

## R I V E R S.

The principal river of this county is the *Ouse* or *Isle*, which enters it on the west side, and after many meanders leaves it on the east. It is navigable all the way, and divides the county into two parts, of which that to the south is most considerable. In its course it is joined by a small stream called the *Ivel*, which runs through part of the county from north to south.

The *Ouse* or *Isle* is supposed to receive its name from *Isis*, a name of Proserpine an infernal goddess, whom the ancient Britons are known to have worshipped: and it was very usual for the ancient Heathens to consecrate rivers, as well as woods and mountains, to their deities, and call them by their names. That the ancient Britons worshipped infernal deities, appears, among other particulars, from their computation of the natural days of twenty-four hours by nights, of months by moons, and years by winters; some traces of which are still preserved, for we say *se'n*night, which is a contraction of seven nights, for seven days, and fortnight, which is a contraction of fourteen nights, for fourteen days.

## A I R and S O I L.

The air is pure and healthful, and the soil in general a deep clay.

## N A T U R A L P R O D U C T I O N S.

The county on the north side of the *Ouse* is fruitful and woody; on the south side it is less fertile though not barren. It produces wheat and barley in great abundance, and of an excellent kind: wood, a plant used by dyers, is also cultivated here; and the soil affords plenty of fuller's earth, an article of so much importance to our woollen manufactory, that the exportation of it is prohibited by act of parliament.

## M A N U F A C T U R E S.

The principal manufactures of *Bedfordshire* are boot lace; and straw wares, particularly hats.

C I V I L

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county contains nine of the districts called hundreds, and ten market towns, but no city: it is all in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Lincoln, and is divided into 124 parishes.

## PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

The market towns are Ampthill, Bedford, Biggleswade, Dunstable, Leighton-Beaufort, Luton, Petton, Shefford, Tuddington, and Woburn.

AMPTHILL is pleasantly situated between two hills, and has a charity school and an almshouse, well endowed by a private benefaction. At this place the countess of Pembroke built a seat, after a model designed by Sir Philip Sidney in his Arcadia.

BEDFORD, 48 miles from London, is the county town, where the assizes are always held: it is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, two chamberlains, a town clerk, and three serjeants.

The town, like the county, is divided into two parts by the river Ouse, which crosses it in the direction of east and west: the north and south parts of the town are joined by a stone bridge which has two gates. There are five parish churches (the principal of which is St. Paul's) one free school, one charity school, one almshouse, and two hospitals. The buildings in general are pretty good, and the streets are broad, especially the high street. This place was once defended by a strong castle, but being in ruins, it was entirely removed in the time of Henry the Eighth, and the spot on which it stood, an eminence most delightfully situated, is now a bowling-green, and reckoned the best in England.

BIGGLESWADE, 45 miles from London, and 5 from Bedford, is situated on the Ivel, which in that part is navigable, and is crossed by a stone bridge. This town has two charity schools; and as it lies in the high road between London and York, it has many good inns.

DUNSTABLE, 34 miles from London, is a populous town, built on the spot where two Roman ways, called Watling-street and Icknild-street, cross each other. Watling-street has been thought to derive its name from its remarkable windings. Icknild-street is by some supposed to have been *Icen vild street*, the *old street of the Iceni*, a people who anciently inhabited Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, and Huntingdonshire; and this is the more probable, as there appears to have been several ancient ways so called, which would naturally happen as new ways were successively thrown up. There are also several ancient ways called Watling-street, and all of them are remarkably crooked.

Dunstable is situated on a hill of chalk, just at the end of a long ridge of hills called the Chiltern. In this place no springs have been ever found, though they have been sought at the depth of one hundred and fifty feet; yet the neighbourhood is constantly supplied with water from four public ponds, which, though they are

## B E D F O R D S H I R E.

reservoirs for the rain, are yet never dry. This place is a great thorough-fare to the northern and western counties. Some have supposed its name to be derived from one *Dus*, or *Dawinge*, a famous robber; but others, with more reason, imagine that it took its name from its situation, as the British word *Dawen*, and the Saxon word *Das*, signify a hill or a town on a hill.

LEIGHTON-BEAUDESART, or LAYTON-BUZZARD, 39 miles from London, is remarkable only for a fair on Whitfun-tuesday, at which there is always great choice of horses for coaches, carts, and other carriages.

LUTON, 29 miles from London, is pleasantly situated between two hills; has a large market house, and a considerable manufactory of straw-hats.

POTTON, 43 miles from London, is pleasantly situated and well watered, though the soil in this place is sandy and sterile.

SHEFFORD, 40 miles from London, lies between two rivulets, over each of which there is a bridge: in this town the parish of Campton has a chapel of ease.

TUDDINGTON, 39 miles from London, is remarkable only for a fine seat, built by Sir Henry Cheney in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who afterwards created him Lord Cheney of Tuddington.

WOBURN, 44 miles from London, is remarkable only for a seat of the Duke of Bedford called Woburn-abbey, which is now rebuilding with great magnificence: it was originally built on the spot where an abbey had been erected by Hugh Bolebec, in the year 1145, for monks of the Cistercian order. The town has a good market-house, a free school, a charity school, and many other advantages, for which it is indebted to the Dukes of Bedford.

### N A T U R A L C U R I O S I T I E S.

Larks. The natural curiosities in Bedfordshire are not many. Dunstable is said to be remarkable for larks, which are in greater plenty, and of a larger size, near this town, than any where else in the kingdom.

Petrifying spring and earth. At Barton, a seat about eight miles beyond *Luton*, in the road from London to Bedford, there is a petrifying spring; and at *Abbley Gowis*, called *Abbley Gaise*, a village near Woburn, it is said, there is a kind of petrifying earth: as a proof of the truth of this report, a ladder was formerly shown at Woburn, which having been sometime buried in this earth was dug up petrified.

A mine of gold. A mine of gold is said to have been discovered at Pollux-hill in this county, about the year 1700, which was seized for the king, and granted by lease to some refiners; who, though they produced gold from the ore, found the quantity so small that it was not equal to the expence of separation.

In

In the 26th Vol. of the *Philosophical Transactions*, page 273, an account is given by Dr. Slare of his grand-father, a gentleman of this county, who at the age of eighty-five years had a compleat new set of teeth; and his hair, which was as white as snow, became gradually darker: after this he lived above fourteen years in great health and vigour, and in the hundredth year of his age died of a pletthory for want of bleeding. Remarkable persons.

It is also recorded upon a tomb stone in Dunstable church, that a woman of that place had nineteen children at five births, having been thrice delivered of three, and twice of five.

Walsingham the Historian, in his *Hypodigma Neuf*, p. 153. relates that on the first of January in the year 1399, just before the civil wars broke out between the houses of York and Lancaster, the river Ouse suddenly flood still at a place called Harewood near Turvey, about five miles from Bedford, so that below this place the bed of the river was left dry for three miles together, and above it the waters swelled to a great height. The same thing is said to have happened at the same place in January 1648, which was just before the death of King Charles I. and many superstitious persons have supposed both these stagnations of the Ouse to be supernatural and portentous: others suppose them to be the effect of natural causes, though a probable natural cause has not yet been assigned. Extraordinary stagnations of the Ouse.

#### ANTIQUITIES.

In this county there are many remains of Roman, Saxon, and Norman antiquities. It was, in the Roman times, part of the district inhabited by the people called, by Ptolemy, the *Cattiacablani*. It is supposed that they were originally called the *Cassi* from *Cass*, a word which in the ancient British language signified *good soldiers*, the inhabitants of this district having been remarkable for military prowess. *Bellius* is also supposed to have been a common name for *prince or governor*; the governor of the *Cassi* was therefore called *Cassibelinus*: and it is conjectured that from *Cassibelinus*, or *Cassivellaunus*, as it has sometimes been written, the Greeks might form the word *Cattiacablani* or *Cattiacellani*, as a name for the people whom a prince they had heard called *Cassivellaunus* governed. A *Cassivellaunus*, or governor of the *Cassi*, was by common consent appointed commander in chief of the forces of the whole island, when it was first invaded by Cæsar. Ancient inhabitants.

Some have thought that Bedford, the county-town, was the *Lactodorum* of Antoninus; but this is not probable, because it neither stands on a Roman military way, nor have any Roman coins been dug up there. Antiquities of Bedford.

During the Saxon Heptarchy, Offa, a powerful prince of the Mercians, chose this spot for the place of his burial. It is said that his tomb was of lead, and that a chapel was built over it; but the Ouse, sometime afterwards overflowing its banks, swept away both the chapel and the tomb.

Bedford,

Bedford, having been destroyed by the Danes, was afterwards repaired by Edward the First surnamed the Elder, in the beginning of the tenth century, who also built a little town on the south side of the river, which was then called Mikef-gate.

When William the Conqueror had obtained the sovereignty of England, he gave Bedford to Hugh de Beauchamp, who came over with him, and was called Baron of Bedford. Pagan de Beauchamp a younger son of Hugh, who succeeding his elder brother was the third Baron of Bedford, built a strong castle for its defence. This fortress being always possessed by some party or faction in the civil commotions that happened afterwards, Bedford never failed to suffer extremely in the contest; till Henry the Third having taken it from one Falco de Breant, the head of a rebellious faction, after a siege of sixty days, caused the ditches to be filled, and the works to be demolished, leaving only the inner part of the castle standing, which he gave to William de Beauchamp, from whom Falco de Breant had taken it, to live in.

Within about two miles of Bedford, there was another castle, called by Leland Rivingho-castle: no part of it was standing in his time, but the area might easily be traced, and the great round hill, where the dungeon stood, was complete. By whom or when this castle was built, does not appear.

At Sanday or Salndy, near Biggleswade, supposed to be the ancient Salense, there was once a British fort, near which the Romans had afterwards a camp. Many urns of glass, and one of a red substance like coral with an inscription, have been dug up in a field called Chesterfield, which is now a gardener's ground. They all contained ashes, and were some years ago in the possession of a gentleman at Bedford. Many Roman coins and urns were also dug up near the camp, about the year 1670, some of which were presented by Mr. Thomas Cryty to the university of Oxford. About forty years ago, there was in the possession of the Reverend Mr. Hooker, who was then rector of Sanday, a ring which had been brought him by a poor woman, who dug it out of the ground as she was weeding. What the substance of the ring was, he could never discover; but he says it was exceeding light, very black, and exquisitely polished. It had a seal on which was represented a crucifix, with a figure in the posture of worship on each side. Round the seal was written, in letters of gold, *IN HOC SIGNO VINCAS*. The figures of the seal were also of the same colour. The fort at Salndy was destroyed by the Danes, when they took winter quarters in this county. Their camp was at Tempsford, near the conflux of the Ouse and the Ivel, where they also built a castle, the ruins of which are yet to be seen.

About a mile from Dunstable, on the descent of the Chiltern hills, there is a round fortification, supposed to have been a town of the ancient Britons. It includes about nine acres; the rampart is pretty high, but there is no appearance of a ditch. This place is called Madning-bowre, Madin-bowre, or Maiden-bower; and coins of the emperors are frequently found here by the peasants, who call them  
Mad-



Madning-money. Camden supposes it to have been the Roman station, which Antoninus in his itinerary calls Magioninium, Magiovinium and Magintum, for which he assigns several reasons; first, it stands upon a Roman way; secondly, Roman coins have been found there; and thirdly, there is great affinity between the names *Madin-bours* and Magintum.

After Magintum was destroyed, either by war or by time, another town was built by Henry the First where Dunstable now stands. In the middle of the town stood one of the crosses, which Edward the First erected to the memory of Eleanor of Castile, his first queen. These crosses were pillars adorned with statues. The queen died at Hareby in Lincolnshire, from whence her body was brought with great funeral pomp to Westminster; and one of these crosses or pillars was erected in every town, where the procession stopped by the way.

Leighton-Beaufort is supposed to have been the Saxon *Lýgeanbūþ*, and near it there are the remains of a Roman camp.

At Odill or Woodhill, which was formerly called Wahull, and lies on the banks of the Ouse near Harewood, there was anciently a castle belonging to certain persons, called the barons of Wahull, having had a barony granted to them of three hundred knights fees in several counties. A knight's fee was an inheritance in land sufficient to maintain a knight, which, by the statute of the first of king Edward the Second, was fixed at 20*l.* a year. This castle has been long in ruins.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

As to the Ecclesiastical Antiquities of this county, there seems to have been a monastery at Bedford pretty early in the Saxon times, to which Ossa was a very considerable benefactor, as appears by an account of some donations in Spelman's *Constituta*, Vol. I. p. 319. There was also a college of prebendaries at the church of St. Paul, before the Norman conquest: but one of them having killed a butcher, they were obliged to remove from their habitations, which were round the church; and Roïsa, the wife of Pagan de Beauchamp who built Bedford castle, erected a priory for their reception at a place about a mile distant from Bedford, which from this new building acquired the name of *Newsham*, which it still retains. Simon de Beauchamp, the son of Roïsa, having confirmed his mother's act, has by some been considered as the first founder of this priory; and was called on his tomb, which stood before the high altar of the old church, that was demolished in the time of king John, "*Fundator de Newsham*." This monastery was dedicated to St. Paul, and had yearly revenues to the value of 293*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* says Dugdale; but according to Speed, they amounted to 243*l.* 15*s.* 5*d.*

Some townsmen of Bedford founded an hospital in the south part of the town, sometime before the 30th of Edward the First, and dedicated it to St. Leonard. In this hospital there were six chaplains; and the revenue was valued at 46*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

In the time of Edward the Second, Mabilia de Patefnull, lady of Bletneshoe, founded a house of Franciscan-friers in the north-west part of the town; valued by Dugdale at 3 l. 13 s. 2 d. and by Speed at 5 l. *per annum*.

There is now a priory or hospital adjoining to St. John's church: it consists of a master who is rector of the church, and of ten poor men. This house is said by some to have been founded, in 980, by one Robert Deparis, who was the first master: but others are of opinion, that it was built and endowed by some townsmen in the time of Edward the Second. It is dedicated to St. John the Baptist; and at the dissolution, the yearly value was 21 l. 0 s. 8 d. The patronage is in the mayor, aldermen, bailiffs, and common council, of Bedford.

Pagan de Beauchamp and Roisia his wife also founded a priory at Chickfand, near Shefford, for canons and nuns, according to the rule of St. Gilbert of Sempringham: it was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin; and at the suppression was endowed with 112 l. 3 s. 5 d. *per annum*, according to Dugdale; and 230 l. 3 s. 4 d. according to Speed.

At Ellow, about a mile from Bedford, over against Newenham, was an abbey of Benedictine-nuns, founded in the reign of William the First, by Judith niece to the Conqueror, and wife of Waltheof earl of Huntingdon: it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, St. Mary, and St. Helena the wife of Constantine the Great. It was valued at the suppression at 284 l. 12 s. 11 d. *per annum*, according to Dugdale; and 325 l. 2 s. 1 d. by Speed.

At Melchburne, about eight miles north-west of Bedford, was a preceptory of the Knights-Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem; which, in the time of Henry the First, was endowed by the lady Alice de Claremont, countess of Pembroke; and at the dissolution had lands to the value of 241 l. 9 s. 10 d. *per annum*.

At Dunstable, king Henry the First built and endowed a priory of Black-canons to the honour of St. Peter, whose yearly revenues amounted to 344 l. 13 s. 3 d. There was also at this place a house of Preaching-friers; which was established about the year 1259, and valued at 4 l. 18 s. 4 d. *per annum*.

At Wardon, about three miles south-west of Biggleswade, there was an abbey for Cistercian-monks, founded by Walter Espec in the year 1135, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. Its annual revenues are rated by Dugdale at 389 l. 16 s. 6 d. and by Speed at 442 l. 11 s. 11 d.

At Millbrook, near Ampthill, was a small cell of Benedictines, belonging to the abbey of St. Albans, a market town of Hertfordshire, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene.

The abbey at Woburn was dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and the annual income was 391 l. 18 s. 2 d. according to Dugdale, and 430 l. 13 s. 11 d. according to Speed.

In a wood near Market-freer, about three miles from Dunstable, was a nunnery of the Benedictine order, dedicated to the Holy Trinity. The site and some adjacent lands were given by the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, London, in 1145; and it was soon after built and endowed by Geoffrey abbot of St. Albans. Dugdale values this nunnery at 144 l. 16 s. 1 d. *per annum*, and Speed at 143 l. 18 s. 3 d.

At Harewood, a few miles north-west of Bedford, there was a priory of canons and nuns according to the institution of St. Nicholas of Arrouasia; which afterwards consisted only of a prioress and three or four nuns of the order of St. Austin. It was built, in the reign of king Stephen, by Sampson le Fort. The lands were rated at the dissolution at 47 l. 3 s. 2 d. *per annum*; but the clear yearly value was 40 l. 18 s. 2 d.

At Grovebury, in the parish of Leighton, there was a convent of foreign monks, the manor having been given by Henry the Second to the nuns of Fontevralt in Normandy. It suffered the fate of all foreign priories during the wars with France, and after having been several times granted to private persons for life, was at last given to the dean and canons of Windsor in Berkshire, in whose possession it still remains.

There was also, at Leighton, a house of Cistercian-monks, which was a cell to Woburn-abbey.

At Bushmead, near Dunstable, there was a priory of Black canons, founded by Hugh the son of Oliver Beauchamp, and dedicated to St. Mary. Its annual revenue was according to Dugdale 71 l. 13 s. 9 d. according to Speed 81 l. 13 s. 5 d.

At Farle, near Leighton, there was a master and brethren, subordinate to the great foreign hospital of Santingfield in Picardy, to whom this place had been given by Henry the Second. It was afterwards granted by Henry the Sixth to the fellows of King's College, Cambridge.

At Hoclytt, now called Hockley in the Hole, about five miles from Dunstable, in the road to the city of Coventry, there was an hospital for a master and seven brethren, in the time of king John, dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

At Caldwell, near Bedford, there was a house of religious brethren of the Holy-croix, founded by Robert, the son of William of Houghton, in the time of king John, and dedicated to the honour of the Blessed Virgin. Some time before the dissolution, it became a priory for about eight Augustine canons, and was dedicated to St. John the Baptist and John the Evangelist. Dugdale says it was valued at 109 l. 8 s. 5 d. *per annum*, and Speed at 148 l. 15 s. 10 d.

Speed mentions a college at Eaton-ford, near Dunstable, dedicated to the body of Christ; but bishop Tanner is of opinion this was only a gild, to which belonged one or more chantry priests. The lands were rated at 7 l. 16 s. *per annum*.

At Northill, about three miles distant from Biggleswade, the parish church, dedicated to St. Mary, was in the time of Henry the Fourth made collegiate, and

## B E D F O R D S H I R E .

endowed for the support of a master or warden, and several fellows and servants, as an act of merit for the soul of Sir John Trally, *Knt.* and Reginald his son, by his executors. The revenue was 61 l. 5 s. 5 d. *per annum.*

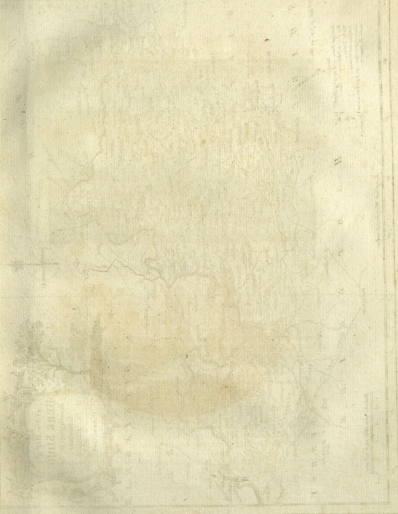
At Biggleswade, there was a college dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and valued at 7 l. *per annum.*

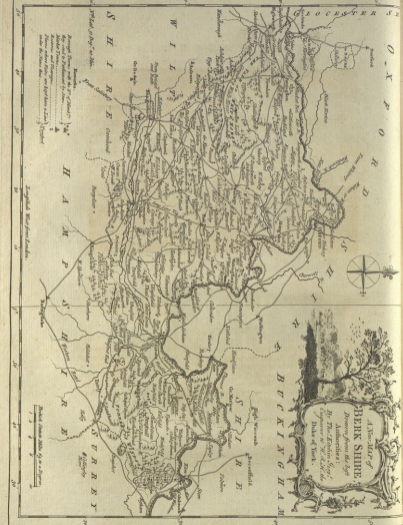
## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

Bedfordshire sends four members to parliament, two knights of the shire for the county, and two burgesses for the borough of Bedford.



BERK.

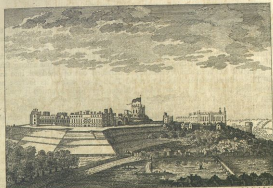




Legend:  
 —— Roads  
 - - - - - Railways  
 ~~~~~ Canals  
 [Symbol] River  
 [Symbol] Park  
 [Symbol] Palace  
 [Symbol] Castle  
 [Symbol] Church  
 [Symbol] Mill  
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 [Symbol] Wood  
 [Symbol] Moor  
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 [Symbol] Valley  
 [Symbol] Plain



VVA.BHSC



WINDSOR CASTLE

p. 28.

# B E R K S H I R E.

## NAME.

**I**N the most ancient Saxon annals, the name of this county is written *Beaproc-rycpe*: the English Saxons afterwards wrote it *Bepprocrycpe*, from whence the present name Berkshire is immediately derived. Some have supposed this name to have been originally derived from that of a wood which produced great quantities of box and was called *Barysc*; others imagine the county took its name from a disbarked or *bare* oak in the forest of Windsor, to which the inhabitants used to resort in times of danger, and consult about public affairs.

## SITUATION, FIGURE, and EXTENT.

This county is bounded by Hampshire on the south, by Wiltshire and Gloucestershire on the west; by the river Thames, which divides it from Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, on the north; and on the east by Middlesex and Surry. The general shape of it has some resemblance to a sandal or slipper; it is about 39 miles long, 29 broad, and 120 in circumference: the center of it is distant about 44 miles west from London.

C 2

RIVERS.

## R I V E R S.

The principal river in this county is the Thames, which some have called the *Isis*, till its conflux with the little river *Thame*, and from *Thame* and *Isis* have formed *Thamifis* or *Thames*. The notion that the name of the river *Thames* is thus derived, has indeed been universally received; and yet there is incontestible proof that it is erroneous; the name *Isis* has seldom been heard but among scholars, though it has been almost constantly transcribed out of one book into another. The common people call this river the Thames quite from its source; and in an ancient charter granted to abbot Aldhelm, particular mention is made of certain lands upon the east part of the river, "cujus vocabulum *Temis* juxta vadium qui appellatur *Summerford*," and as this *Summerford* is in Wiltshire, it is manifest that the river was then called *Temis* or *Tems* before its junction with the *Thame*. The same thing appears in every charter and authentic history where this river is mentioned, particularly in several charters granted to the abbey of Malmesbury, and some old deeds relating to Cricklade, both which places are also in Wiltshire. All our historians, who mention the incursions of Æthelwold into Wiltshire in the year 905, or of Canute in the year 1016, tell us, that they passed over the *Thames* at Cricklade: the Saxons called it *Temepe* quite from its source, and from *Temepe* our *Tems* or *Thames* is immediately derived. The word seems indeed to have been originally British, as it is the name of several rivers in different parts of the island, particularly of the little river *Thame*, whose name the *Isis* has been supposed to borrow, the *Tame* in Staffordshire, the *Tem* in Herefordshire, the *Tamer* in Cornwall, and many others. Mr. Lhwyd the antiquary of Wales affirms, that the Saxon *Temepe* was derived from their *Tef* or *Tawys*, a name which is common to many rivers in Wales, and signifies a gentle stream; the Romans having first changed their *v* or *f* into *m*, as they did in their word *Demetia*, which in Welch is *Dyfed*.

These observations, besides obviating a popular error, may serve to shew the great uncertainty of the most ingenious conjectures concerning the origin of names, by which countries, rivers, districts, and tribes have been distinguished; for perhaps there are none more specious than that which has been just exploded; and if there had been no record or history in which this river had been called the *Thames* before its conflux with another, it is probable that the formation of *Thames* from *Thame* and *Isis*, would have been believed with little less confidence than the existence of the two streams or the country through which they flowed.

There are four other rivers in this county, the *Kennet*, great part of which is navigable, the *Lodden*, the *Ocke*, and the *Lambourne*, a small stream which contrary to all other rivers is always highest in summer, shrinks gradually as winter approaches, and at last is nearly if not quite dry.

To account for this extraordinary phenomenon, it has been supposed that there is in the hill from which this stream issues a large cavity with a duct in form of a syphon or crane, such as is commonly used to decant wine and other liquors; and if this be granted, the solution is easy, as will appear by the following diagram.

Let





Let ABC represent the side of a hill in which there is the cavern or bason D; and let E represent the siphonic duct, one foot of which communicates with the bason D. and the other terminates in the small stream F.

Now the rain which begins to fall plentifully in autumn, and continues during the winter, will at length raise the water in the bason to the level of DE; and the duct being then filled, and the leg that communicates with the stream F. being longer than that which communicates with the bason D. the water in the reservoir or bason will run out through it, and will continue to do so till the surface of the water sinks below the foot of the duct that communicates with it; the consequence is, the bason being filled during winter, the duct will begin to run in the spring, and continue running all summer; but summer being a dry season, and not supplying the bason with rain as fast as it is exhausted, the water will at length sink below the end of the duct, and consequently the stream will again cease to run, till the water again rises in the bason to the level DE, which will happen the beginning of the following summer; and thus the stream will always run in the dry season and become dry in the wet, except the little that it borrows from the trickling of the adjacent springs.

Supposing this hypothesis to be true, the periods of flowing and failing of this spring will be reciprocally longer or shorter as the seasons are wetter or dryer; for if the winter proves wet, the stream will begin to flow earlier in the summer, and if the summer also should be wet it will continue to flow longer, and so vice versa. And in this particular the fact confirms the hypothesis. The country people mark the time when the Lambourne begins to flow, and from thence predict the scarcity or plenty of corn, which they may very well do, as seasons remarkably wet or dry must have little less influence upon the harvest than upon the river.

#### AIR, SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The air of this county is healthy even in the vales, and though the soil in general is not the most fertile, yet the appearance of the country is remarkably pleasant, being delightfully varied with hill and valley, and wood and water, which are seen at once in almost every prospect.

This county is well stored with timber, particularly oak and beech; and some parts of it produce great plenty of wheat and barley. It is most fruitful on the banks of the Thames and the Kennet, and in the country about Lambourne, on the western  
side,

## BERKSHIRE.

side, where it borders upon Wiltshire; on the east side, where it borders upon Surry, it is rather barren, being covered with woods and forests.

## MANUFACTURES.

It was once superior to all the rest of the island in the manufacture of wool; and its principal manufactures now are woollen cloth, sail cloth, and malt.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into twenty two hundreds, and contains twelve market towns, but like Bedfordshire has no city; the whole of it is in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Salisbury, and contains 140 parishes.

## MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are Abingdon, Farringdon, Hungerford, East Ilsley, Lower Lambourne, Maidenhead, Newbury, Ockingham, Reading, Wallingford, Wantage, and Windsor.

ABINGDON, or Abbendon, was so called from an abbey anciently built there; it stands on a branch of the Thames, and is distant from London 55 miles. It was incorporated by Queen Mary I. and is governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, and nine aldermen, and the summer assizes are always held here, as the Lent assizes are at Reading.

The streets are well paved, and center in a spacious area, where the market is held. In the center of this area is the market-house; it is a curious building of ashler-work, supported on lofty pillars, with a large hall of free-stone above, in which the assizes are held, and other public business transacted. It has two churches, one dedicated to St. Helena and the other to St. Nicholas; St. Helen's is adorned with a spire, and both are said to have been built by one of the abbots of Abingdon. It has also two hospitals, one for six, and the other for thirteen poor men and poor women, a free-school, and a charity-school: its chief produce is barley, and its chief manufacture malt; great quantities of which are sent in barges to London.

FARRINGDON, 65 miles from London, is governed by a bailiff, and situated on a hill near the Thames; it is neatly built, and the church is a large handsome structure.

HUNGERFORD, 64 miles from London, in the great road to Bath, is governed by a constable, who is chosen yearly and is lord of the manor, which he holds immediately of the king, for the time being. It is situated in a moorish ground on the river Kennet, and neither its buildings nor its market are considerable.

EAST ILSLEY is 54 miles distant from London. It stands in a fine sporting country, and in the road from Oxford to Newbury. Its market is famous for sheep, of which great numbers feed on the surrounding downs.

LOWER LAMBOURNE is so called from the little river Lambourne which rises near it; the adjacent country is pleasant, but it is not a place of much note.

It has however a church; and on the north side of it an hospital for ten poor men; six nominated by the warden of New-College, Oxford, and four by the family of Hipposley, in Lambourne. It was founded and endowed by John Isbury, Esq; in 1502; and the ten poor men receive twenty two shillings a week, three loads of wood, a certain quantity of wheat and malt yearly, and a share of the fine paid every seventh year for renewing the lease.

MAIDENHEAD, 28 miles from London, is said to have been once called South Allington, or Southelington, which Stowe has contracted into Sudlington, and to derive its present name from the head of a British maiden having been kept there, who was supposed to be one of eleven thousand virgins that suffered martyrdom with their leader St. Ursula near Cologne in Germany, as they were returning from Rome. If this is true, Maidenhead must be a place of considerable antiquity, for the martyrdom of St. Ursula and her eleven thousand attendants is imputed to Attila king of the Huns, who was called the scourge of God, and lived so early as the fifth century: it seems more probable that the name originally was *Maidenhithe*, of which Maidenhead is a corruption; at least it is certain that the town was incorporated by the name of the fraternity or guild of the brothers and sisters of *Madenbeithe*, in the 26th year of king Edward the Third, which was about the middle of the fourteenth century. The story of the eleven thousand virgins is a remarkable instance of the gross ignorance and superstitious credulity of the Monks; for we are told by a popish writer, Sirmon the Jesuit, a man of great eminence and learning, that in a very ancient MS. Martyrology which he had seen, there were the following words, "Ursula & Undecimilla V V. M M." Ursula and Undecimilla virgins and martyrs; and that the monks mistaking the name Undecimilla for undecim mille, eleven thousand, had conceived and propagated the ridiculous notion that eleven thousand virgins travelled and suffered martyrdom with St. Ursula.

But supposing the name of this town to have been not Maidenhead but Maidenhithe, it still remains doubtful whence this name was derived, except that Hithe, from the Saxon *Hýðe*, signifies a small haven or wharf to land wares out of boats, and might therefore properly be added to the name of any place that like this lies on the banks of a navigable river.

Maidenhead was last incorporated by a charter from king James II. and is governed by a high-steward, a mayor, a steward, and ten aldermen.

This town stands in two parishes, Cookham and Bray, and was first raised out of obscurity by a bridge, which about three centuries ago was built over the Thames at this place, and brought hither the great north-west road, which used to cross the Thames at a place called Babham-end about two miles to the north, where there was a ferry. After this bridge was built, Maidenhead began to be accommodated with inns, and the town is now pretty large and not ill built. The corporation has a gaol not only for debtors but felons, a chapel dedicated to St. Andrew the Apostle and St. Mary Magdalene, but no church, and an almshouse consisting of dwellings for eight poor men and their wives, each man has six pounds a year, and every second year each person has a new gown. It was endowed by James Smith, citizen and falter of London, and his wife, about 1589, and the Salters company of London are trustees.

A

A considerable trade is carried on here in malt, meal, and timber, which are sent in barges to London, and the pier of the bridge called the *barge pier*, divides this county from that of Buckingham.

NEWBURY, 56 miles from London, is supposed to have been originally *new Borough*, and to have been so called with respect to a more ancient place near which it was built.

It was incorporated by Queen Elizabeth, and is governed by a mayor, high-steward, recorder, aldermen and capital burgeses. It is pleasantly situated on the river Kennet, which runs through the town; the streets are spacious, and the market-place, in which there is a guild-hall, is large. It has a church and a charity-school for forty boys, endowed with 40 l. a year by the corporation, and 25 l. a year by the benefaction of a private person.

It has a considerable manufacture of shaloons and druggets, and was once famous for broad cloth, which is still made here though not in the same quantity.

There is also an almshouse, said to have been originally founded by king John, for six poor men and six poor women; each person is allowed 21 pence a week, four shillings each on the fair day, 13 s. 4 d. at Christmas, a hundred fagots of wood yearly, and a new coat or gown every two years.

OCKINGHAM, or as it is sometimes called *Wokingham*, is distant from London 33 miles, and stands in the forest of Windsor. It is a corporation governed by an alderman, recorder, and capital burgeses.

It contains several streets, and has a market-house in the middle not ill built. It has a parish church, a free-school, and an hospital founded by Henry Lucas, Esq, in the reign of Charles the First, for sixteen pensioners, who have each ten pounds a year: there is also a chaplain to this hospital who is called master, and has an appointment of 50 l. a year. The trustees of this charity are the Grocers of London, and the pensioners are presented by the following parishes alternately.

| BERKS.        | SURRY.       |
|---------------|--------------|
| Ockingham     | Cobham       |
| Arberfield    | Chertsey     |
| Finchamstead  | Bisley       |
| New Windsor   | Purford      |
| East Hampsted | Egham        |
| Cluer         | Waineborough |
| Old Windsor   | Newdigate    |
| Barkham       | Frimley      |
| Burfield      | Bagshot      |
| Hurst         | Windletham   |
| Ruscomb       | Stoke        |
| Bray          | Thorpe       |
| Sandhurst     | Purbright    |
| Wingfield     | Warpleiden   |

BERKS.

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Vol. I. page 57



*The South View of Reading, Berks.*

J. Bland del. 1794

BERKS.  
Swallowfield  
Sunning-hill.

SURRY.  
Byfleet  
Woking  
Hort-hill.

It has a manufacture of silk stockings and cloth.

READING is supposed to derive its name from *Radia*, the British word for Fern, which is said to have grown here in great abundance. It is distant about forty miles from London, it is the county town, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, and twelve burgesses: it has three parish churches dedicated to St. Mary, St. Lawrence, and St. Giles. The streets of this town are well built, and it is more spacious and populous than many cities. It is so near the Thames, that the largest barges come up to the town bridge, where there are commodious wharfs for clearing and loading them. The Kennet which runs through the town will bear a barge of more than one hundred tons, and is navigable almost to Newbury. Reading therefore has a considerable trade into the country, but its chief traffic is to London; whither it sends malt, meal, and timber, and receives back coals, salt, tobacco, grocery wares, oil, and other necessary commodities.

WALLINGFORD. This place is supposed to derive its present name originally from the ancient British name *Gual-beu*, Old Fort, whence the Saxons formed *Gualenge* and *Walenge*, to which adding *popo*, ford, the name of a shallow place in the river, it was called *Gualengapopod* and *Wallengapopod*, which was afterwards contracted into Wallingford.

This place is distant from London 46 miles; it was incorporated by a charter from James I. and is governed by a mayor, a high steward, a recorder, six aldermen, a town clerk, two bailiffs, a chamberlain, and eighteen burgesses or assistants.

The town is large and has a good appearance: it stands on the river Thames, over which it has a stone bridge that is three hundred yards long, has nineteen arches, and four draw bridges. It has also a market house, over which is the town hall, where the mayor and justices hold the quarter sessions for this borough, which is a distinct jurisdiction. There is only one church now remaining of fourteen: it is called St. Mary's; and there is also a free school. Its chief manufacture is malt, which it sends by water to London.

Within a mile of this town is a farm called Chofely, said to be the largest in England; the lands which lie all together are let at 1000 l. *per annum*: and there is one barn on the estate, the roof of which is three hundred and six feet long.

WANTAGE, 59 miles from London, is a neat town, the capital of a hundred, situated in a fine sporting country; and the downs, which are distant from the town about a mile, are famous for horse races. A little nameless river runs by it, which soon after falls into the Ocke.

WINDSOR, 23 miles from London, is supposed to derive its name from its *winding shore* on the fourth side of the Thames. The Saxon name was *Wintlesopa*, a word which in their language expressed winding shore, and this place was called *Windlesora*, in a charter granted by Edward the Confessor.

The town was incorporated by king Edward the First, and by virtue of charters from king James the First and king James the Second. It is governed by a mayor, high-steward, under steward, a town clerk, two bailiffs, and twenty eight other persons to be chosen out of the best of the inhabitants, thirteen of whom were to be called fellows or benchers of the Guildhall; and of these thirteen, ten were to be called aldermen; from among whom the mayor and bailiffs are to be annually chosen.

This town is situated on a rising ground: the principal street looks southward over a long and spacious valley, chequered with corn-fields and meadows, interspersed with groves, and watered by the Thames, which glides through the prospect in a translucent and gentle stream; and, fetching many windings, seems to linger in its way. On the other side, the country swells into hills which are neither craggy nor over high, but rise with a gradual ascent that is covered with perpetual verdure where it is not adorned with trees. In this street there are many good buildings, and a very handsome town hall, which was built in the time of king Charles the Second. The parish church is a large though not an elegant building, and has a ring of eight bells.

At the north-east end of this town, there is a castle which is about a mile in circumference, and consists of two square courts, one to the east and the other to the west, with a circular tower between them; in the eastern square there is a royal palace, and in the middle an equestrian statue of king Charles the Second: the royal apartments with those of the great officers of state are to the north; and on the outside of this square to the north, the east, and the west, there is a terrace said to be the finest in the world; it is faced with free stone like the ramparts of a fortified place, and is covered with fine gravel; it is also so well furnished with drains, that it is always dry, even immediately after the heaviest and longest rains; to the north, where it is broadest, it is washed by the Thames; and the prospect from the apartments over it include London one way, and Oxford the other. The apartments are all spacious and elegant, richly adorned with sculptures and paintings, particularly a hall called *St. George's Hall*, where the Sovereign of the order of the Garter used to feast the knights companions of his order every *St. George's day*.

The tower, which is the residence of the constable or governor, is built in the manner of an amphitheatre, very lofty and magnificent.

The western square is of the same breadth as that to the east, and is considerably longer. On the north side of this court or square, is the chapel of the order of the Garter dedicated to *St. George*; in this chapel the knights are installed, and in the choir each of them has a seat or stall with the banner of his arms fixed over it. This chapel has a dean and six canons, who have houses on the north side of it in the form of a fetlock, which was one of the badges of Edward the Fourth, who rebuilt them. Near the chapel there are also little cells for eighteen poor knights,

sup-



supposed to be gentlemen who have been wounded in war, impaired by age, or become indigent by misfortune; each has a pension of 40 l. a year. They wear a cassock of red cloth with a mantle of purple, having St. George's cross on the left shoulder; they have stalls in the middle of the choir just below those of the knights of the Garter; and are obliged by their order to go twice a day to church in their robes to pray for the sovereign and the knights of the order. The chapel has also a chauntry; and at the west end of this square are the houses of the choristers; at the bottom is the library. This square is surrounded with a high wall, as the other is by a terrace; and both are entered by a stone bridge with a gate.

At a little distance stands Old Windsor, which Camden says has been falling to decay ever since the time of Edward the Third. At the Conquest, Old Windsor consisted of one hundred houses, of which twenty two were exempt from tax, and thirty shillings was levied upon the rest.

Near this place there are also two parks; one called the little park, and the other the great park. The little park is about three miles in compass; the walks are finely shaded, and it is well stocked with deer. The great park is not less than fourteen miles in compass. It abounds with all kind of game, and is so embellished by nature, as to surpass all that can be produced by the utmost labour and ingenuity of art. A circuit of thirty miles south of this place is called the Forest; and the forest also is well stocked with game.

## C U R I O S I T I E S.

The most remarkable curiosity in this county is the rude figure of a white horse, which takes up near an acre of ground, on the side of a green hill. A horse is known to have been the Saxon standard; and some have supposed that this figure was made by Hengist one of the Saxon kings; but Mr. Wise, the author of a letter on this subject to Dr. Mead, published in 1738, brings several arguments to shew that it was made by the order of Alfred, in the reign of his brother Ethelred, as a monument of his victory gained over the Danes, in the year 871, at Ashdown, now called Ashen or Ashbury Park, the seat of lord Craven, near Ashbury, not far from this hill. Others however suppose it to have been partly the effect of accident, and partly the work of shepherds, who observing a rude figure, somewhat resembling a horse, as there are in the veins of wood and stone many figures that resemble trees, caves and other objects, reduced it by degrees to a more regular figure. But however this be, it has been a custom immemorial for the neighbouring peasants to assemble on a certain day about Midsummer, and clear away the weeds from this white horse, and trim the edges to preserve its colour and shape; after which the evening is spent in mirth and festivity.

Remarkable  
figure of a  
white horse.

The hill stands a little to the north of Upper Lambourne, and is called Whitehorse Hill. To the north of this hill there is a long valley reaching from the western side of the county, where it borders upon Wiltshire, as far as Wantage, which from this hill is called the Vale of Whitehorse, and is the most fertile part of the county.

Subterranean shells and other extraordinary fossil substances.

As some peasants were digging some years ago on a rising ground, not far from Reading, they discovered a stratum of oyster shells, lying on a bed of green sand, and covered with a stratum of bluish clay. Many of the shells when they are taken up, have both the valves lying together, and when the upper and under shell or valve are found separate, it appears, upon comparing and joining them, that they originally belonged to each other. This stratum has been found to extend through five or six acres of ground.

On each side of the Kennet, near Newbury, there is a stratum of peat, which is from about a quarter to half a mile wide, and many miles long. Peat is a composition of the branches, leaves, and roots of trees, with grass, straw, plants, and weeds, which, having lain long in water, are formed into a common mass, so soft as to be cut through with a sharp spade. The colour is a blackish brown, and it is used for fuel; the depth below the surface of the earth, at which it is found in this place, is from one foot to eight. Great numbers of intire trees are found lying irregularly in the true peat: they are chiefly oaks, alders, willows, and firs, and appear to have been torn up by the roots. Many horses heads, and bones of several kinds of deer, the horns of the antelope, the heads and tusks of boars, and the heads of bevers, are also found in it. Not many years ago, an urn of a light brown colour, large enough to hold about a gallon, was found in the peat pit, in Speen moor, near Newbury, at about ten feet distance from the river. And four feet below the level of the neighbouring ground, just over the spot where the urn was found, an artificial hill had been raised about eight feet high; and as this hill consisted both of peat and earth, it is evident that the peat was older than the urn. From the side of the river several semicircular ridges are drawn round the hill, with trenches between them. The urn was broken to shivers by the peat diggers who found it, so that it could not be critically examined, nor can it be known whether any thing was contained in it.

Amazing phenomenon.

At a village called Finchamstead, the water of a well is said to have turned red, and to have boiled up with a considerable ebullition for many days. The author of the Saxon Chronicle says, that it boiled up with streams of blood; and the same thing has been recorded of other wells, by authors of good credit.

Remarkable fine trout.

The river Kennet is remarkable for producing the finest trout in the kingdom. They are in general very large, and it is said that some have been taken here which measured five and forty inches long.

Whimsical custom.

East and West Enbourne, near Newbury, are remarkable for the following singular and whimsical custom of the manor. The widow of every copyhold tenant is intitled to the whole copyhold estate of her husband, so long as she continues unmarried and chaste; if she marries, she loses her widow's estate without remedy; but if she is guilty of incontinence, she may recover her forfeiture, by riding into court on the next court day, mounted on a black ram, with her face towards the tail, and the tail in her hand, and repeating the following lines:

Here I am, riding on a black ram  
Like a whore as I am;

And

And for my *crincom crancum*  
 Have lost my *bincum bancum*,  
 And for my tail's game  
 Am brought to this world's shame,  
 Therefore, good Mr. Steward, let me have my lands again.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

This county was the district which in ancient times was inhabited by people called the *Atrebatii*, who are supposed to have come hither from among the *Atrebatas* in Gaul, whose name they still preserved; but whence the name *Atrebatas* was originally derived is not known. Ancient Inhabitants.

At Reading there was, during the Saxon heptarchy, a castle of considerable strength, but when it was built does not appear. The Danes, in one of their incursions into this county, seized upon this castle; and to secure the possession of it, drew a ditch from the Kennet to the Thames. Not long afterwards they quitted it to the Saxons, who plundered and destroyed the town. The castle remained till the 12th century, when it became a refuge for some of those who had taken up arms for king Stephen against Henry Plantagenet, afterwards Henry the Second; but Henry forcing them out, totally demolished it, and there is now the least trace by which its situation can be discovered. Leland imagined it might stand at the west end of a street now called Castle Street; perhaps only because it seemed probable that a street built on or near the site of the castle, should be so called. There are the tracks of two bastions near the ruins of an abbey, but they are known by their figure to be modern, and were probably constructed during the late civil war, and destroyed at the revolution. Many coins of great antiquity have been dug up here, particularly one of gold and one of brass, as we are told by bishop Gibson in his addition to Camden, who could not learn to what people they belonged. Antiquities of Reading.

Not far from Reading stands Laurence Waltham, where the foundations of an old Roman fort are to be seen, and Roman coins are often dug up. Roman fort and coins.

Windsor, with the adjacent country, is supposed by Camden to have been inhabited by the *Bibracti*, a people who are said to have put themselves under the protection of Cæsar when he invaded Britain. He observes that *Bray*, the name of the hundred, very much favours this opinion, because *Bibracte* in France has suffered the same contraction, and is now called *Bray*. Antiquities of Windsor.

Windsor, supposed by some to be the *Pontes* of Antoninus, was granted by Edward the Confessor to Westminster Abbey; but William the Conqueror, being struck with the beauty of its situation, procured a surrender of it in exchange for some lands in Essex, and here built himself a hunting house. King Henry the First repaired and fortified it. Edward the Third, who was born in this fortified house, built the castle nearly as it now stands, new from the ground, and fortified it with walls, ditches, and a rampart. Henry the Fourth rebuilt the chapel with much greater magnificence; and several elegant improvements and additions were made in different parts of the building by king Henry the Seventh,

Seventh, and king Henry the Eighth, king Edward the Sixth, and queen Mary. The terrace was added by queen Elizabeth; and king Charles the Second furnished the castle with a magazine of arms.

The architect employed by Edward the Third, was William of Wickham, who was afterwards bishop of Winchester, and after whom one of the towers is still called Winchester Tower.

Order of the Garter.

At this place Edward the Third is said to have instituted the order of the Garter. The patron of this order is Saint George of Cappadocia, the tutelar saint of England. The qualifications required in those who are candidates for this dignity, are gentility by birth, knighthood, and a life free from heresy, treason, cowardice, and prodigality. The number is restrained by statute to twenty six. Their habit and ensigns at the institution, were a mantle, surtout, hood, cap, collar, the George and the garter, to which Charles the First added a star. The George is an equestrian figure spearing a dragon, which is hung round the neck by a blue ribbon; the garter also is blue, and is inscribed with the words, *Honi soit qui mal y pense*, in letters of gold. The knights are said to be *invested*, when the ensigns of the order are put on; and to be *installed*, when they are clothed in the habit, and placed in their seat or hall, in St. George's chapel. Foreign princes are admitted into the order by *investiture* only. The king is sovereign: the subordinate officers are the prelate, the chancellor, the register, garter king at arms, and the black rod. The first prelate was William of Wickham, and this office has been ever since annexed to the bishoprick of Winchester; the chancellorship is also annexed to the bishoprick of Salisbury, and the dean of Windsor for the time being is register.

Concerning the origin of this order and its ensigns, there are many accounts, widely different and equally uncertain. It is in general agreed, that the king had deliberately formed a design to institute a new order of knighthood, at once to produce and to reward military merit; but the doubt is, how it came to be called the order of the Garter. Some have supposed it to be merely accidental, and have related, that a lady of great beauty, who was then countess of Salisbury, dropped her garter in the king's presence as she was dancing, and that he having taken it up, and perceiving her confusion, gallantly attoned for it, by making it an ensign of honour, and precluded any wanton surmise which such an accident might produce, by choosing for a motto this sentiment, *To him that thinks evil, let evil be*.

Others say, that the king gave the signal to charge at the battle of Cressy with his own garter, and that being victorious, he took occasion to make the garter an ensign of his new order, as a memorial of his own victory, and a pledge of victory to his knights. It is said also, that the institution of this order happened about the time when the king set up his title to the crown of France, and assumed the arms of that kingdom, which gave occasion both to the colour of the garter, and the motto. The field of the French arms is blue, and by the motto the king might either imprecate evil, or bid defiance, to all those who should think evil of his claim, or of any enterprize which he should undertake to assert it.

It

It is however recorded in a book which contains the first institution of the order of the Garter, that when Richard the First was besieging a fortress in the Holy Land, he perceived many knights to be backward in the attack; that to quicken them, he promised them great honour and reward upon taking the place; and that he bound upon the legs of several of them a thong of leather, such as he had at hand, as a pledge of this honour and reward. Some have supposed that this incident determined Edward to make choice of the garter as a military ensign; but that as the leathern garter given by Richard was a kind of reproach to those who needed such an incitement, he contrived a motto which should preclude any imputation of such a motive to himself, or of such want of incitement to his knights.

Others have observed, that in Edward's time charms and amulets for victory were so common, that in a duel the combatants were obliged to swear they had no such spell about them, and have therefore supposed that the garter was contrived by him as a kind of talismanic ligature, and bound about the legs of his knights, as a token of the protection of God, the Virgin, and Saint George; the motto being an imprecation of evil upon those by whom evil was designed. "May evil be to him who designs evil to the wearer of this band:" or in other words, Let his travel come upon his own head, and his wickedness fall upon his own pate. If this supposition be admitted, it will not appear very improbable, that in confidence of the virtue of the ligature, Edward might call his new institution the order of the Garter.

Not far from Windsor there is a hill called St. Leonard's Hill, where many ancient coins, instruments of war, and lamps have been dug up. Ancient coins, &c.

At East Hampstead, not far from Ockingham, there are the traces of a large Roman camp, which is commonly called Caesar's Camp. A Roman camp.

Newbury is supposed to have risen out of the ruins of the ancient *Spine*, a town mentioned by Antoninus in his Itinerary: for there is a little village within less than a mile, that is still called *Spene*, which the inhabitants of Newbury own to be their mother; and part of Newbury itself is called Spenham Land. Antiquity of Newbury.

At a village called Denington, or Dunnington, not far from Newbury, Chaucer, the celebrated English poet, is said to have lived in a castle still standing, that was built by Sir Richard de Abberbury, knight, on the brow of a woody hill, in the time of Richard the Second, towards the end of the fourteenth century; and there was till within a few years, an oak standing near this castle, under which he is said to have composed many of his poems, and which was called Chaucer's oak. Denington Castle.

Abingdon is thought by bishop Gibson, to be the place which in the Saxon Annals is called Cloves-hoo, and where it is said two synods were held, one in the year 742, and the other in 822. Some have fixed this Cloveshoo at a place now called *Cliff at Doe*, in Kent; but the bishop supports his own conjecture, by observing, that in a council held at Hertford, it was decreed, that a synod should be held annually at *Cloveshob*, and that *Cliffathoo* in Kent, is not a convenient situation for such a purpose. He observes also, that there is great reason to suppose Cloveshoo to be in Mercia, because Ethelbald, king of Mercia, was a principal Antiquity of Abingdon.

cial person at one of the fynods said to be held there; and lastly, that the Anglo Saxon name for Abingdon was Sheoverham, Shooveham, which he thinks might easily have been formed from the Saxon Cloper-hoo or Clofeloh. It appears that Abingdon, by whatever name it was called, was a place of some eminence even in the time of the Britons, for when the Saxons took possession of it, they found crosses and many other symbols of christianity.

The bridges at Burford and Culhamford, which turned the great road between Gloucester and London through Abingdon, were built in the year 1416, by king Henry the Fifth, as appears by an inscription in one of the windows of St. Helen's church.

In the center of the market place, where the market-house now stands, there was a cross of excellent workmanship, said to have been built in the reign of Henry the Sixth, by the fraternity of the holy cross, of which he was the founder. This cross, among many other more valuable remains of the taste and ingenuity of our ancestors, was destroyed in the civil wars of the last century.

Camps, and other monuments of antiquity.

Above the head of the river Ocke, near White Horse Hill, there was a camp, which, as the works are single, is supposed to be Danish. The diameter is about an hundred paces, and the figure a kind of quadrangle, with the corners cut off. The works were some time ago almost defaced, by digging for stones called fardén stones, to build a house for lord Craven, in Ashbury Park.

Above the hill there is also another camp of the same kind, but much larger, sometimes called Uffington Castle; and at the distance of about two furlongs there is a barrow, called Dragon's Hill, supposed by some to be the burying place of Uther Pendragon, of which however there is no better evidence than the name.

At the distance of about a mile from the hill there are many large stones, some of them standing on their edges, which appear to have been brought thither with some design, tho' they are now in great confusion and disorder. Mr. Wise supposes they were originally set up as a funeral monument for a Danish king, who was slain in the battle of Ashdown: he imagines that the whole formed an oblong square, extending duly north and south; and on the east side of that part, which is thought to have been the southern extremity, there are two square flat stones about five feet over each way, set on edge, and supporting a fourth of a much larger size, which lies flat upon them; this is thought to be a sepulchral altar, on which sacrifices were annually performed in honour of the dead. Several of these altars are to be found in Wales, where they are called Cromlech, a word which some antiquaries have conjectured to be formed of the Hebrew, Cherum-luach, the devoted or altar stone.

This place is called *Wayland Smith*, by the country people, who have a fabulous tradition that it was once the dwelling of an invisible smith; and that if a traveller's horse had lost a shoe upon the road, he need only bring his horse to this place, with a piece of money, and leaving both there for a short time, he might come again and find the money gone, and the horse new shod.

Within

Within about two miles of Denchworth, which lies between Abingdon and the Vale of White Horse, there is an orbicular rampire, fortified with three ditches; it is called Cherbury Castle, and said to have been a fortress of Canutus the Dane: but it is not known that there are any traces of it in history. At about a mile distance from this castle, there are some scattered remains of the walls of another; and in the middle, between the two castles, there is a round hill, now called Windmill-Hill, on which it is supposed there was a watch tower, from which signals might be seen from both the forts.

Wantage in the Saxon times was a royal villa, and rendered illustrious by the birth of king Alfred. Near this place there is a Roman work called *Ickleton Way*; it is carried on to the sea, and is part of Ickenild Street. About a mile above Wantage, on the brow of a hill, there is a very large camp of a quadrangular form, with single works, which is supposed to be Roman.

At Farrington, or Farendon, a fortification was built by Robert earl of Gloucester against king Stephen; but Stephen having taken it after a long siege, in which he lost many men, laid all the works level with the ground, so that no traces of it are now to be seen.

Wallingford is supposed by Mr. Camden to have been anciently the chief city of the Atrebatii, called by Antoninus, in his Itinerary, *Gallia Atrebatum*, and Wallingford. Antiquities of Wallingford.  
by Ptolemy *Gallia*; tho' he is of opinion that both Antoninus and Ptolemy wrote it *Gallia*, from the British name *Gwall-ben*, and that Gallena was corrupted into *Gallava* by transcribers; but Dr. Gibson supposes this city of the Atrebatii to be at Henley upon Thames, in Oxfordshire.

Wallingford was once surrounded by a wall and ditch, the traces of which are still visible, and are more than a mile in compass. There are at this place the shattered remains of a castle, supposed by Camden to have been originally built by the Romans; and after it had been ruined by the Saxons and Danes, during the contest between them, to have been rebuilt by William the Conqueror. There is indeed very good evidence that a castle was built here by the Conqueror; for it is recorded in Doomsday-book, a book in which this prince caused the greatest part of the possessions in the kingdom to be registered and taxed, that eight houses in Wallingford were destroyed for the castle. This castle was feated on the river Thames, and fortified with a double wall and three ditches, very wide and deep, which are always full of water. In the middle there was a tower raised on a very high mount, in the steep ascent of which, Camden says, he saw a well of exceeding great depth. It was many times besieged by king Stephen in his contest with Henry the Second, but he never took it. It came afterwards into the hands of Richard earl of Cornwall, the younger brother of Henry the Third, who repaired it, and kept his wedding in it, when he entertained the king and queen, and the whole court. The site of this ancient castle and its remains now belong to the college of Christ-Church at Oxford, as it did in Camden's time, when it was a retiring place for the students of that college.

Not far from this place, on a high hill, called Sinodun Hill, which is still surrounded by a deep ditch, there was in ancient times a Roman fortification; and whenever the ground is broken by the plough, Roman coins are thrown up.

VOL. I.

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At the foot of this hill, or perhaps, says Camden, on the top of it, there was in later times a castle, which Henry the Second took by storm, a short time before he concluded a peace with king Stephen.

At Aldworth, between Newbury and Wallingford, there was a castle belonging to certain knights of the family of de la Beche, which has been extinct so long ago as the reign of Edward the Third, yet there is a farm at this place called Beche Farm, and there are some tombs and statues of the knights, which, being much larger than the life, are supposed by the common people to be the memorials of a race of giants.

A Roman way.

At a village called Streatly, between Wallingford and Reading, the Roman way, called Ickenild Street, which crosses Watling Street at Dunstable, enters this county.

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

The ecclesiastical antiquities of this county are numerous and considerable. It is said that there was an abbey of 500 monks at ABINGDON, so early as the British or Roman times; and that in this abbey Constantine the Great received his education. Of this however there is no very authentic testimony; but it is pretty certain, that in the Saxon times, about the year 675, a small monastery was founded upon a hill in Bagley wood, two miles nearer Oxford than the town now called Abingdon, by Cissa, who was then viceroy of Wiltshire and great part of Berkshire, under Kentwin, king of the West Saxons, at the request of Heane, his nephew, who became the first abbat. This monastery, for some reason which cannot now be discovered, was about five years afterwards removed to Shevestham or Sevekilham, which from that time was called Abingdon. The monastery at Abingdon was built and endowed by the munificence of Cedwalla and Ina, kings of the West Saxons, and was afterwards destroyed by the Danes. About the year 955 it was rebuilt by the care of Ethelwold, the abbat, who was afterwards bishop of Winchester, and by the bounty of king Edred and king Edgar. The abbey was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and the monks were of the order of saint Benedict. In the church of this abbey were the tombs of Cissa its first founder, and many other eminent persons, particularly Geoffrey of Monmouth the historian, who was one of its abbats; but all these monuments, with the church and many other buildings that belonged to the abbey, were destroyed at the dissolution, when the revenues were valued at 1876*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* *per annum.*

Near the spot where the church of St. Helena in this town afterwards stood, a nunnery was built about the year 690, by Cissa or Cilla, who was niece to Cissa the founder of the monastery, and sister to Heane the first abbat. Of this nunnery Cilla was the first abbess, and the place was then called *Helenshow*.

After the death of Cilla, the nuns removed higher up the Thames, to a place called Witteham or Wytham, where they continued till about the year 780, when the war broke out between Offa king of the Mercians, and Kinewulf king of the West Saxons. Abingdon, being a frontier town, was then made a garrison,



son, and the nuns were obliged to retire to other religious houses, whence they never returned.

At Stevenon, near Abingdon, there was an alien priory of Black Monks, which was a cell to the abbey of Bec in Normandy. It was afterwards granted to the dean and chapter of Westminster.

At Bradfield, about four miles west of Reading, a monastery was built by king Ina some time before the year 699. How long it continued, does not appear.

At Reading a nunnery was founded about the year 980, by Elfrida, who was the widow of Edgar, and mother in law to king Edward the Saxon, who was called the Martyr, though for what reason cannot be guessed: he was killed by a domestic of Elfrida at her command, and she built this nunnery among others to expiate the murder. At this place king Henry the First also laid the foundation of a starey abbey about the year 1121, which in about four years was finished, and endowed for the maintenance of 200 monks of the Benedictine order, whose annual income at the dissolution amounted to 1938*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* Soon after the endowment of this abbey, the nunnery founded by Elfrida was suppressed, and the land given to the monastery.

Some time before the year 1134, one Aufgerus or Aucherius, the second abbat of this monastery, founded an hospital for twelve leprous persons, and one or more chaplains. The site of this hospital was near the abbey, and it was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. About the year 1190, Hugh, the eighth abbat, founded just without the gate of the monastery, an hospital for the maintenance of six and twenty poor people, and for the entertainment of strangers and pilgrims that should pass the western road, and obtained the church of St. Laurence to be appropriated toward the better support of it.

Some time before the year 1400, a house of Gray Friars was built on the north side of Castle Street, the site of which was afterwards granted to the corporation, and upon some part of it they built their Bridewell.

At Cholsey, near Wallingford, there was a monastery founded about the year 980, by king Etheldred, son of Edgar by Elfrida, to make some atonement for the murder of his brother Edward the Martyr. It was destroyed with the town, in the contest between the Danes and Saxons, about the year 1006.

At Hurley, about four miles from Maidenhead, a priory of Black Monks was founded by Geoffrey de Magna Villa or Mandeville, in the reign of William the Conqueror. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was a cell to Westminster Abbey. The revenue at the dissolution was 121*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* *per annum.*

At Bisham, near Hurley, there was a preceptory for the Knights Templars, to whom Robert de Ferraris had given the manor in the time of king Stephen. The Templars had granted it away before their dissolution to Hugh Spencer, and it afterwards came to William Montacute earl of Salisbury, who in the year

1338 built a priory here for canons of the order of St. Austin, which at the dissolution was endowed with 285 l. 11 s. *per annum*. After the prior and convent had surrendered this monastery, king Henry the Eighth refounded it, and endowed it with lands of other dissolved monasteries to the value of 661 l. 14 s. 9 d. *per annum*, for the maintenance of an abbat, who was to have the privilege of wearing a mitre, and thirteen Benedictine monks. But this new institution was of short continuance; for three years afterwards it was surrendered a second time, and in the seventh year of Edward the Sixth it came into lay hands. In both the surrenders it is called the conventual church of the Holy Trinity: yet in the charter of the first foundation it was said to be dedicated to our Lord and the Virgin, and in that of the second to the Virgin alone.

At Wallingford there was a convent of Black Monks subordinate to the great abbey at St. Albans, to whom the church of the Holy Trinity in this town had been given by Galfridus Camerarius. There were also a dean and prebendaries in a chapel called the King's free Chapel, dedicated to St. Nicholas, which stood within the third ditch of the castle, in the time of king John, and was endowed by Edmund earl of Cornwall in the tenth year of Edward the First, for the maintenance of six chaplains, six clerks, and four choristers. Its revenues were augmented by Edward the Black prince, and king Henry the Sixth; so that before the dissolution, the yearly value was 147 l. 8 s.

At this place there was a religious society, called the master, brethren, and sisters of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist. It was instituted before the time of Edward I. and the house, which stood without the south gate of the town, had an annual revenue of 6 l.

At a place anciently called Ellenfordesmere, in the parish of Chaddleworth, near Lambourne, there was an hermitage in very early times. In the year 1160, a priory for regular canons of the order of St. Austin, was founded upon the spot where the hermitage had stood, by Ralph de Chadeleworth, who dedicated it to the honour of St. Margaret: this priory was afterwards called Poghele, and in the time of Edward IV. was endowed with 50 l. *per annum*. It was one of the smaller monasteries dissolved by Cardinal Wolsey; and the annual value was then 71 l. 10 s. 7 d.

On the borders of this county, near Stratfield Say, in Hampshire, there was a priory of Benedictine monks, belonging to the abbey of Vallemont, in Normandy, which, upon the suppression of the alien priories, was granted to Eton College.

At Bromhale, in or near Windfor Forest, there was a small Benedictine nunnery, which had been founded before the first year of king John, and dedicated to St. Margaret: this being deserted by the abbess and nuns, of which there were but two, was granted by the crown to St. John's College, Cambridge, in which the property still continues.

At Farendon there were a few monks settled, who were subordinate to the convent of Beaulieu, in Hampshire.

At Sandlesford, or Newtown, near Newbury, there was a priory for canons of the order of St. Austin. It was founded by Jeffrey, earl of Perch, and Maud, his wife, about the end of the twelfth century, and dedicated to St. Mary, and St. John the Baptist. In the year 1480, this little monastery was totally forsaken by the monks; upon which it was annexed to the collegiate church of Windfor.

At a place called Hamme, perhaps the same that is now called Hams, in the parish of Wauage, there was a monastery of Black nuns, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, as early as the time of king John.

At Brimpton, probably near Reading, there seems to have been a house of the Knights-hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, about the time of Henry the Third.

At Shottesbrook there was a chantry or college, consisting of a warden, five priests, and two clerks, founded in the year 1337, by Sir William Trussell of Cublesden, knight, to the honour of St. John the Baptist: the clear annual value was 33 l. 18 s. 8 d.

At Hungerford there was an hospital, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, so early as Edward I.

In the castle of Windfor there was an old free chapel, dedicated to King Edward the Confessor, in which Henry the First placed eight secular priests, who seem never to have been incorporated or endowed, but to have been maintained by pensions paid out of the king's exchequer. In the beginning of the reign of Edward the Second, there was a royal chapel in the park for thirteen chaplains and four clerks, who had yearly salaries out of the manors of Langley and Sippenham, in Buckinghamshire: these chaplains and clerks were removed by king Edward the Third, in the fourth year of his reign, out of the park into the castle; and he soon after added four more chaplains and two clerks to them. In the twenty eighth year of his reign he refounded this chapel, and established it as a collegiate church to the honour of the Virgin Mary, St. George, and St. Edward, the king and Confessor. This establishment consisted of a custos, (since called a dean) twelve great canons or prebendaries, thirteen vicars or minor canons, four clerks, six choristers, twenty six poor knights, and other officers. Their yearly revenues were rated at 1602 l. 2 s. 1 d. This free chapel was particularly excepted out of the act for suppressing colleges, and still subsists in a flourishing state.

There was also at Windfor an hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Peter, in the time of Henry the Third; which was afterwards given to Eton College.

At Dunington there was a house of Friars, of the order of the Holy Trinity, founded by Sir Richard Abberbury, who built the castle in the sixteenth year of Richard the Second. It was valued at 191. 13 s. 10 d. *per annum*. At this place there is now an hospital, called God's House, for a master and twelve poor men, who have each 6 l. 13 s. 4 d. *per annum*; and every seventh year, when the lease is renewed, almost double. This also was created and endowed by Sir Richard Abberbury.

At

## B E R K S H I R E.

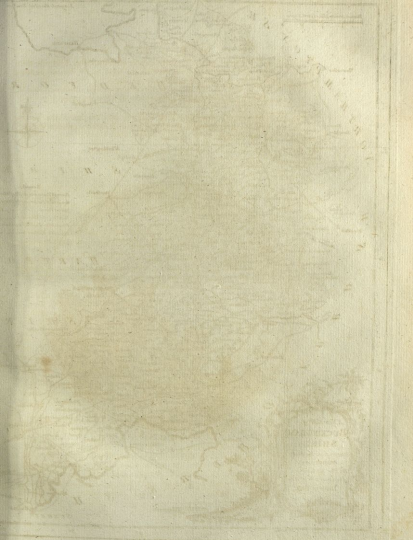
At Fyfield, or Fifhyde, probably from its ancient admeasurement Fif-hyde, there was an hospital, dedicated to St. John the Baptist; founded by the executors of John Golaire, before the twentieth of Henry the Sixth.

## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends nine members to parliament: two knights of the shire for the county; two burgessees for New Windsor; two for Reading; two for Wallingford, and one for Abingdon.



B U C K.



British Statute Miles 1 to 2 Degrees

Longitude West from London



**Remarks**  
 Dotted Lines with the N. of them  
 they lead to Parliament by Statute  
 Market Towns  
 Dotted and Dashed Lines  
 Places where Turnpike Acts have  
 been made the Lines show

**A New MAP of  
 BUCKINGHAMSHIRE,**  
 Drawn from the best  
 Authorities:  
 By Tho: Edlin Surveyor  
 & Geo: Hill  
 Duke of York.

THE HISTORY OF GREAT BRITAIN  
BY SAMUEL JOHNSON  
REVISED BY JOHN GAY

PLATE



*W. Kneller del.* *J. Kneller sculp.*  
**BURNHAM PRIORY**

# BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

## NAME.

**T**HIS county is supposed to have been called Buckinghamshire, either from *Bocay*, a Saxon word, signifying Beech Trees, with which it abounded, or from *Buc*, which is the same with our Buck; for the woods of this county abounded also with Deer.

## BOUNDARIES, SITUATION and EXTENT.

Buckinghamshire is bounded by the Thames, which divides it from Berkshire, on the south, by Oxfordshire on the west, by Northamptonshire on the north, and by Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, and Middlesex on the east. It extends about 39 miles from north to south, and from east to west about 18. It is about 138 miles in circumference; and the center of it is about 33 miles north-west from London.

## RIVERS.

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

## RIVERS.

The rivers of this county, except the Thames, which bounds it on the south, are inconsiderable: the eastern side is watered by the *Coln*, the north by the *Ouzes* or *Issa*, and several nameless rills glide through the other parts of the county.

The south-east part of the country lies high, and consists of a ridge of hills, called the Chiltern, probably from *Cylt* or *Chilt*, a Saxon name for chalk: the northern part is distinguished by the name of the Vale.

## AIR and SOIL.

On the Chiltern Hills the air is extremely healthful, and in the vale it is better than in the low grounds of other counties. The soil of the Chiltern is stoney, yet it produces good crops of wheat and barley: in many places it is covered with thick woods, among which there are still great quantities of beech. In the vale, which is extremely fertile, the soil is marl or chalk; some part of it is converted into tillage, but much more is used for grazing: the gentlemen who have estates in this county, find grazing so lucrative, that they generally keep their estates in their own hands; and the lands that are let fetch more rent than any other in the kingdom. One single meadow, called Beryfield, in the manor of Quarendon, not far from Aylbury, was let many years ago for 800*l.* per annum, and has been since let for much more.

## MANUFACTURES.

The chief manufactures of Buckinghamshire are bone lace and paper.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into eight hundreds, and contains fourteen market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Lincoln, and contains 185 parishes.

## MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are Amerham, Aylbury, Beaconsfield, Chessham, Colnbrook, Ivingo, Great Marlow, Newport Pagnel, Oulney, Monk's Risborough, Stoney Stratford, Wendover, Wiccomb, and Winslow.

AMERHAM, anciently Agmondesham, is nine and twenty miles distant from London. It is an ancient borough, not incorporated, and is governed by burgesses. It is situated in a valley between two woody hills, near the river Coln: it consists of two streets, a long one and a short one, which cross each other at right angles in the middle. In the area where these streets intersect each other, stands the church, which is the best rectory in the county. In this town there is a free school founded by queen Elizabeth, and a guild or market-house, built by Sir William Drake, knight, who was nephew and heir to Sir William Drake, baronet: Sir William bought the borough of king Charles the Second; and the Drakes therefore are, among others, *hereditary* members of the house of commons.

This



This town-house is a brick structure, raised on pillars and arches, and has on the top a lanthorn and clock.

AYLSBURY, or ALESBURY, the best town in the county, is distant from London 44 miles: it is a corporation, consisting of a bailiff, ten aldermen, and ten capital burgessees. It stands on a rising ground, at the east end of a rich valley, called Aylsbury Vale, which extends almost from Taun, on the edge of Oxfordshire, to Leighton, in the county of Bedford. It consists of several streets, which lie round the market-place. In the middle of the market-place, which is a large handsome square, stands the town-hall, under which is the prison. From this place there is a causey which extends three miles toward London, and was raised at the expence of Baldwin, the chief justice, who also erected the town-house, and some other buildings. The church of Aylsbury is said to be the oldest in this part of the island.

BEACONSFIELD is twenty three miles from London: it stands in the Oxford road, and has many good inns.

BUCKINGHAM is distant from London about 60 miles: it is a corporation, governed by a bailiff and burgessees, and is still considered as the county town, tho' Sir John Baldwin, who was chief justice of the common pleas in the time of Henry the Eighth, having purchased the manor of Aylsbury, found it his interest to remove the assizes thither, where they are still frequently held in the winter, tho' the summer assizes have since been restored to Buckingham by act of parliament. The town stands low, and is surrounded on all sides, except the north, by the Ouse, over which it has three stone bridges. In the north part there is a town hall, not ill built, and in the west a church, which is a very large edifice, but its spire, which was one of the tallest in the kingdom, was blown down in the year 1698, and has never been rebuilt. The county gaol is also in this town, and several buildings, called wool halls, which are now falling to decay: for though Buckingham was once a staple for wool, yet that trade is now utterly lost. There is a free school, and many paper mills in the neighbourhood, on the banks of the Ouse. In the year 1725, many of the old buildings in this town were destroyed by a fire which burnt out 138 families, and did near 33,000 pounds damage.

CHESHAM is 29 miles from London: it stands on the border of Hertfordshire, and has a free school.

COLNEROOK, or COLBROOK, 18 miles from London, stands on four channels of the river Coln, over each of which it has a bridge: it is in the road from London to Bath, and has therefore several considerable inns, by which it principally subsists: it has also a charity school.

IVINGO is 55 miles from London: it stands in a nook between Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, and is surrounded with woods.

GREAT MARLOW, so called from the marly soil in which it stands, is a borough by ancient prescription: it is situated under the Chiltern Hills, and is distant 31 miles from London. It has a bridge over the Thames not far from its conflux with the river, which is supposed to give name to Wiccomb. It has

a handsome church and town hall, with a charity school for twenty boys. A considerable quantity of bone lace is made here; and in the neighbourhood there are several mills for corn and paper, besides one for making thimbles, and another for pressing oil from the seeds of rape and flax.

NEWPORT PAGNELL derives its name from its ancient lord, Fulk Paganell. It stands on the south side of the Ouse, and is distant from London 54 miles. It is only a market town, yet is larger than many corporations and boroughs: it is well built and populous, and has two stone bridges over the Ouse. It has a church, but no other public building is mentioned in any account of it yet extant. It is a kind of staple for bone lace, of which, it is said, more is made in this town and in the neighbouring villages, than in any other part of the kingdom.

OSLNEY, 54 miles from London, is remarkable only for its church, which has a very fine spire, and there is but one other steeple with a spire in the county.

MONK'S RISBOROUGH, thirty three miles from London, is remarkable only for some antiquities, which will be mentioned in their proper place.

STONEY STRATFORD: this town is supposed to derive its name from the stoney street that runs through it, and the ford where travellers used formerly to pass the Ouse. It is distant from London in the road to Chester 53 miles. The town is rather large, and the houses in general are built of free stone, which is dug from a quarry very near the town. The Ouse is now crossed by a stone bridge at the ford, and sometimes swells so high, that it breaks into the neighbouring fields with great violence, especially on that side next the town, the bank on the other side being something higher. This town has two parish churches, but no other town in the county has more than one; it has also two chapels and a small charity school. In May, 1743, 150 houses were totally destroyed by fire. The chief manufacture of this town is bone lace.

WENDOVER, 39 miles from London, is an ancient borough by prescription. Its situation is low and miry, but the hills on each side are pleasant. It is a poor place, in which there is nothing worthy of notice but a charity school for twenty children.

WICCOMB, sometimes called Chipping Wickham, and sometimes High Wickham, is supposed to derive its name from a small stream which glides through the low grounds near this place into the Thames. The town stands just on the *turning* of this stream, and the Saxons called the winding of the sea or a river, which formed a bay, *wic*: the same word also signifies a castle, and in both these senses makes part of the name of many places in England: *owb* is an old word for a low place or valley.

Wiccomb is distant from London, in the road to Oxford, 32 miles. It is a corporation, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, a town clerk, two bailiffs, and a common council.

It is situated between two pleasant hills, shaded with wood, and, except Alebury, is the best built and most wealthy town in the county. The market is

so considerable, that the toll was let by lease for 130 l. a year. It is divided into four wards, though it consists of only two streets. The church is a large structure, with a steeple not ill built; and the town has a free grammar school and two alms-houses.

WINSLOW, 45 miles from London, is a small town, surrounded with woods, which has neither building or manufacture worth notice.

At Eaton, which stands on the borders of Berkshire, and is joined to Windsor <sup>Eaton Col- lege.</sup> by a wooden bridge over the Thames, there is a college of royal foundation, for the maintenance of a provost and seven fellows, two schoolmasters, two conductors, one organist, seven clerks, ten choristers, and other officers, and for the instruction of seventy poor grammar scholars, who are nominated by the King, and are therefore called king's scholars; these scholars, when they are properly qualified, are elected on the first Tuesday in August, to King's College, in the university of Cambridge, where, after they have been students three years, they claim a fellowship: but as there is not always a vacancy at Cambridge, the scholars remain at Eaton till vacancies happen; and these vacancies they fill up according to seniority.

The school is divided into two parts, the upper and the lower, and each of these is sub-divided into three classes. Into the lower school children are admitted very young, but none enter the upper school till they can make Latin verses, and have some knowledge of Greek. Besides the 70 scholars on the foundation, there are seldom less than 300 for whose education the masters are paid, and who board at the masters' houses. The master of each school therefore has four assistants or ushers. The building has large cloysters like the religious houses abroad, and the chapel is a noble pile, though the architecture is Gothic.

The present school-room is a modern building; and the other parts of the college have been repaired and beautified at great expence. There is a library for the use of the school, which was greatly encreased by two other collections; one bequeathed by Dr. Waddington, a bishop of Chester, valued at 2000 l. and the other by the late lord chief justice Reeves, to whom it had been given by the will of Richard Topham, esq. who had been keeper of the records in the Tower of London.

The gardens of this college are very extensive and pleasant; and the revenue is about 5000 l. a year.

#### CURIOSITIES and remarkable PARTICULARS.

At Taplow, near Clifden, a seat of Frederick the late Prince of Wales, <sup>Remarkable cave.</sup> about five miles distant from Windsor, there was discovered not many years ago, a round cave 19 feet high, and about 10 feet wide. It is in the side of a chalky hill, near the bottom, and is adjoining to the Thames: the top is an arch, and the whole is evidently artificial, though the time and occasion of this work is not known.

It has been thought strange that the Chiltern Hills, though they are covered with stones as if by a shower, should yet be fruitful; and that if these stones are

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gathered in a heap and carried off, the land will in a short time be covered with them again.

Aylbury  
Vale.

Aylbury Vale is remarkable for its sheep, which are the largest in the kingdom.

An earth-  
quake.

This county was shaken by an earthquake on the 20th of January, 1665, about six o'clock in the evening; it was attended with an unusual noise in the air, but did no damage.

Lady  
Temple.

And in this county was born the lady Temple, wife of Sir Thomas Temple, and grandmother to the late lord Cobham, whose gardens at Stowe, near Buckingham, may well be considered as the principal curiosity in this county. It is remarkable of lady Temple, that though she had by her husband only four sons and five daughters, yet she lived to see them increased to no less than seven hundred persons.

Remarkable  
tokens.

The lordship of Farnham, called Farnham Royal, near Clifden, was formerly held by the Furnivals, on condition that they should fit the King's right hand with a glove, and support his left arm while he held the scepter. Aylbury, which was also a royal manor in the time of the Conqueror, was granted by him to several of his favourites, upon condition that they should find straw for his bed and sweet herbs for his chamber, whenever he came that way; and that they should thrice in the winter provide him three eels, and thrice in the summer, three green geese, if he should come so often into this country.

### CIVIL ANTIQUITIES.

Ancient inha-  
bitants.

Buckinghamshire was anciently inhabited by the Cattiuchlani, of whom some account has been given among the antiquities of Bedfordshire.

Antiquities of  
Buckingham.

Buckingham was fortified by Edward the Elder, about the year 915, with a rampire and turrets on both sides the bank, against the incursions of the Danes. Yet it seems to have been an inconsiderable place at the Conquest; for it appears by Doomsday-book, that in the time of Edward the Confessor, it paid but for one hide of land, and had only twenty-six burghesses. In the middle of the town, on a very high mount, there was anciently a castle, but by whom or when it was built, does not appear. The mount is still visible, but of the castle scarce the ruins are to be found. In the church of this town was discovered the coffin of St. Rumbald, who had formerly a shrine there. St. Rumbald, in the popish legend of his life, is said to have been the son of a British king, by a Christian princess; to have been born at King's Sutton, a little village near this town; to have lived only three days, but during that time to have professed himself a Christian; and to have bequeathed his body to Sutton, the place of his birth, for one year, to Brackley, in Northamptonshire, for two years, and then to this town for ever. After these prodigies, he was at his own request baptised, and immediately expired. It is said, that this blessed and wonderful saint was the patron of fishermen, and that his feast is still annually observed at Folkston in Kent. This part of Buckinghamshire is thought to have been the seat of action, when  
the

the Romans, commanded by Aulus Plautius, made their second expedition into Britain under the emperor Claudius.

At Wiccomb there was probably a Roman station, for in the year 1724, a Roman anti-Roman pavement was discovered by some workmen, who were digging in a neighbouring meadow belonging to lord Shelbourn. It was about nine feet square, and consisted of stones of various colours, wrought with exquisite art; but the biggest was not broader than the square of a die.

At Buryhill, now contracted to Brill, about seven miles distant from Aylsbury, many Roman coins have been dug up, which, says Camden, witness it to have been an ancient burgh. This place is supposed to have been sacked and destroyed by the Danes, and to have been afterwards a royal villa belonging to Edward the Confessor.

Stoney Stratford stands on the Roman way, called Watling Street, and is supposed by Camden, to have been the *Lactodorum* of Antoninus, not only because it stands on a Roman way, but because the name *Lactodorum*, if derived from the ancient British language, has the same signification with Stoney Stratford, for *Lact* signifies Stones, and *Ri* and *Ryd* a Ford; others have supposed it might be called *Lactodorum* by the Gauls, who came over hither from the old town in Gaul, called *Lactorafe*, Cæsar having observed, that they gave the same names to the towns in which they settled here, as those had which they left behind them. Some have supposed the *Lactodorum* to be at Towcester. At this place was one of the crosses which Edward the First erected to the memory of Eleanor his wife; but it is now totally destroyed.

Colnbrook is supposed by Camden to be the *Pontes* of the ancients, though some have placed it at old Windsor, and others at Reading; his reason is the exact distance on both sides from Wallingford and London, and the four bridges over the Coln.

Near Monk's Risborough there are two places which seem to be of great antiquity,

Ellesborough and Kymbel: at Ellesborough, on a round mount near the church, there is an ancient fortification, called *Bellinus's Castle*; and the inhabitants have a tradition, that king *Bellinus* resided there; and above this place there is another hill that still retains the name of *Bellinesbury Hill*. *Kymbel* is supposed to derive its name from *Cunobeline*, one of the British kings, for the name in ancient records is written *Cuncbel*. Near this place are many trenches and fortifications, which confirm the opinion that this county was the scene of action, when the Britons opposed the Romans in their second expedition under Aulus Plautius, when *Camaratacus* and *Togodannus*, the two sons of king *Cunobeline*, were slain.

Not far from Monk's Risborough, there is a high steep chalky hill, on the south-west side of which there is the figure of a cross, which is there called *Whiteleaf Cross*, from *Whiteleaf*, the hamlet in which it stands. It is formed by trenches cut into the chalk about two feet deep, in the same manner as the horse on *White-*

Whitehorse Hill, in Berkshire, and like that is supposed to be a trophy of the Saxons. The perpendicular line is about one hundred feet long, and the transverse line about seventy. The breadth of the perpendicular line at bottom is about fifty feet, but it grows gradually narrower, and at the top is not more than twenty. The breadth of the transverse line is about twelve feet, and the whole is supported on a triangle, intended to represent the flight of steps gradually decreasing, on which it was usual at that time to erect crosses in the public ways: such crosses and steps being also represented on some of the coins of the northern nations, and in subscriptions to charters granted in the early ages of christianity, by our Saxon ancestors.

Prince's Risborough.

Near Monk's Risborough, is Prince's Risborough, where on the top of a hill there are the traces of a camp; and the way that goes by it is now called Ack-nel-way, which is manifestly a corruption of Icknild-way\*. At the foot of the hill a coin of the emperor Vespasian was found; and it is said that thirteen counties may be seen from the top of it.

Bohec Castle.

Near Winslow, in the manor of Credenden, or Crendon, there are the ruins of a castle, which was built by Hugh de Bolebec, heir to Walter Giffard, the second earl of Buckingham, about the middle of the twelfth century.

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

Monk's Risborough having been given to the monastery of Christ-church, Canterbury, about the year 991, by Aethwyn, bishop of Dorchester, it is said there was a cell to that priory at this place.

At Crawley, or Crowley, near Newport Pagnel, there was a monastery before the time of Edward the Confessor, which is mentioned in Doomsday-book, and continued till some time after the Conquest.

At Tickford, near Newportpagnel, there was a cell of Cluniac monks, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, which was subordinate to the abbey called Marmontier, at Tours, in France, to which this priory was given by Fulk Paignel, or Paignel, in the reign of William Rufus. This, among other alien priories, was seized by king Edward the Third, during his war with France; and when it was again restored to the church by Henry the Fourth, it was made subject to the priory of the Holy Trinity at York.

In the seventeenth year of Henry the Eighth it was dissolved, and with several other small monasteries, granted to Cardinal Wolsey to be settled on one of the colleges which he was about to build at Oxford and Ipswich. The value was then 126 l. 17 s. *per annum*. When the Cardinal fell into disgrace, it was granted to the use of King's College, Oxford, but was afterwards resumed, and sold by James the First to one Atkins, a doctor of physick.

At Newton-Longville, said to be near Water Eaton, there was an alien priory of Cluniac monks, belonging to the abbey of St. Faith, at Longville, in Nor-

\* See the account of Dunstable, in Bedfordshire.

mandy, to which it was given by Walter Giffard, the second earl of Buckingham, in the time of Henry the First. This cell was seized by the king during the French war, and in the nineteenth year of Henry the Sixth, was granted to New College, Oxford, in which the property still continues.

At Missenden, near Aylesham, an abbey for Black canons was built by Sir Thomas Missenden, knight, in the year 1133, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. It was valued at the dissolution at 261 l. 14 s. 6 d. *per annum*.

At Aylsbury there was an ancient hospital, dedicated to St. John, said to have been founded by several inhabitants of the town, in the time of Henry the First. In the twenty-fourth of Edward the Third, the building was in ruins, and the endowment, valued only at five nobles, or 1 l. 13 s. 4 d. a-year, had been seized by some lay persons.

There was also another hospital in this town, for lepers, called St. Leonards, said to have been built and endowed with twenty shillings *per annum*, by the inhabitants, about the same time as that of St. John, with which it seems to have been afterwards ruined.

It is said that there was a nunnery of Maturines where the parsonage now stands; and that there was also a house of Grey, or Franciscan friars, at the south end of the town, founded by James earl of Ormond, in the tenth year of Richard the Second, valued at 3 l. 2 s. 5 d. *per annum*.

At Aicot, in the parish of Wenge, near Winslow, there was a cell of Benedictine monks, belonging to the monastery of St. Nicholas, at Angiers, in France, to which the church and other lands had been given by the empress Maud. It suffered the fate of other alien houses, and was afterwards granted to the monastery of St. Alban's, as part of which it came into lay hands at the dissolution.

The village of Birtlesden, or Bidlesden, not far from Buckingham, was given by a steward to Robert earl of Leicester, whose name was Ernald de Bosco, to the Cistercian monks of Gerondon, who founded an abbey here in the year 1147. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Nicholas; and at the dissolution was valued at 125 l. 4 s. 3 d. *per annum*.

At Ivingo a Benedictine nunnery was founded by Henry de Blois, bishop of Winchester, about the year 1160, to the honour of St. Margaret and St. Nicholas. At the dissolution there were nine nuns in this place, yet the revenue was no more than 14 l. 3 s. 1 d. *per annum*.

In the manor of Crendon, near Winslow, there was an abbey, or priory, for regular canons of the order of St. Augustine, called Noctele, or Nottley. It was built and endowed by Walter Giffard, the second earl of Buckingham, and Ermengard his wife, in the year 1162. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. John the Baptist; and at the dissolution the society consisted of eighteen monks, whose revenue was 437 l. 6 s. 8 d. *per annum*.

As

At Ankerwyke, not far from Eaton-College, a nunnery was built in the time of Henry the Second, by Sir Gilbert de Montfichet, knight, and Richard his son, for religious of the order of St. Benedict. There were five nuns in this place at the dissolution; and their revenue was 32 l. 0 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

At Bradwell, about two miles from Stoney Stratford, a priory of Black monks was founded in the time of king Stephen, by Manefelmus, or Meinfelin, baron of Wolverton. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and was at first a cell to Luffield; it was one of the small monasteries granted to Wolsey; and at the dissolution it was valued at 53 l. 11 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

At Ludgarshall, or Litherhal, on the western border of this county, there was an alien priory or hospital, subordinate to the great hospital of Santingfield, near Whitland, in Picardy, to which three hides of land had been granted for that purpose, by king Henry the Second. This was afterwards given to King's College, Cambridge.

Dugdale, in his *Monasticon*, and Tanner, in his *Nostitia*, mention a parish in this county, called *Lavinden*, but where it was situated does not appear in either; nor could the name be found in any list of towns, villages, or parishes, that was consulted on the occasion. We are however told, that at this Lavinden, there was an abbey of the Premonstratensian order, built and endowed by John de Bidun, in the time of Henry the Second, to the honour of St. Mary, and St. John the Baptist. The yearly income at the dissolution was 79 l. 13 s. 8 d.

At Medmenham, or Mednam, near Great Marlow, there was a small abbey of the Cistercian monks, from Woburn, in Bedfordshire. It was settled about the year 1204, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. At the dissolution it was valued at 20 l. 6 s. 2 d. a year.

At Little Marlow, near Mednam, there was a nunnery, said to have been first founded by Geoffrey, lord Spensar, before the time of king John. It was of the Benedictine order; dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and valued at 23 l. 3 s. 7 d. *per annum*.

At Hogshaw, a few miles south-west of Winflow, there was a preceptory, commandry, or hospital, belonging to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, as ancient as the year 1180.

At Snellshall, near Whaddon Church, a few miles north of Winflow, there was a small convent of Black monks, dedicated to St. Leonard, built by Ralph Martel, before the tenth year of Edward the Third. Some arches of this building still remain, and support the north side of a farm-house. The four bells that were in a turret of the old building, were removed to the church of Bradwell; on the largest of which is inscribed, *Vox Augustini sonus in aure Dei*. The yearly value of this priory at the resignation was 18 l. 1 s. 11 d.

At Wiccomb, there was an hospital for lepers, founded before the thirteenth of Henry the Third, and dedicated to St. Margaret and St. Giles. There was also before the twentieth of Henry the Third, an hospital for a master, brothers, and sisters, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, which is still in being, for four  
poor



poor persons, under the government of the mayor, aldermen, and bailiffs. One of these hospitals was valued at the dissolution at 7*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.* clear *per annum*.

At Newport there were two hospitals. One founded before the year 1240, dedicated to St. Margaret: the other founded in the year 1240, called the new hospital.

At this place there was also an hospital founded about the ninth year of Edward the First, by John de Somery. It was dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist, and was valued at 6*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* *per annum*. This hospital was refounded by queen Anne, the consort of James the First, for three poor men and three poor women above fifty years of age. It is now called the Queen's Hospital; and the vicar of Newport, for the time being, is master.

At Stony Stratford there was also an hospital before the year 1240. It is supposed to have been dedicated to St. John, and to have stood upon the causey leading to the bridge.

At Chitwood, or Cherwood, not far from Buckingham, in the road to Oxford, there was a priory of the order of St. Augustine, founded by Sir Ralph de Norwich, in the year 1244, to the honour of St. Mary and St. Nicholas. The site of this priory, and the estate belonging to it, came into the possession of the abbat and convent of Nuttley; and the conventual church of Cherwood became parochial, yet there still remained at this place a cell of a canon or two, from Nuttley abbey.

At Ravenston, or Raunston, near Oulney, king Henry the Third, about the thirty-ninth year of his reign, built and endowed a small monastery of Black canons, which he dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. This monastery was among those given to Wolfey toward the endowment of his colleges; and was valued in one account, at 57*l.* 15*s.* and in another, at 66*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* *per annum*.

At Burnham, which lies on the borders of the county, near the Thames, in the road to Bath, and about two miles distant from Maidenhead, in Berkshire, there was a nunnery of the order of St. Austin, consisting of an abbess, and seven or eight nuns. It was founded by Richard, king of the Romans, in the year 1165, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. It was valued at the dissolution at 51*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* *per annum*.

At Alheridge, or Efferug, on the border of the county, next Hertfordshire, not far from Berkhamstead, there was a college for a rector and twenty brethren or canons, called Bonhommes. It was founded in the year 1243, by Edmund, earl of Cornwall, son to Richard, king of the Romans, in honour of the precious blood of the holy Jesus. The annual value at the suppression, was 416*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

At Buckingham there was an old hospital, consisting of a master and several infirm brethren, dedicated to St. Laurence.

The college at Eaton, called "The Kynges College of our Lady by Etose, besyde Wyndesore," was founded by king Henry the Sixth, in the nineteenth year of

## BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

of his reign, for a provost, ten priests, four clerks, six choristers, twenty-five poor grammar scholars, with a master to teach them, and twenty-five poor old men. Some of the endowment was taken away by king Edward the Fourth; and at the general dissolution, out of which it was particularly excepted, the annual revenue was valued at no more than 886 l. 12 s. clear.

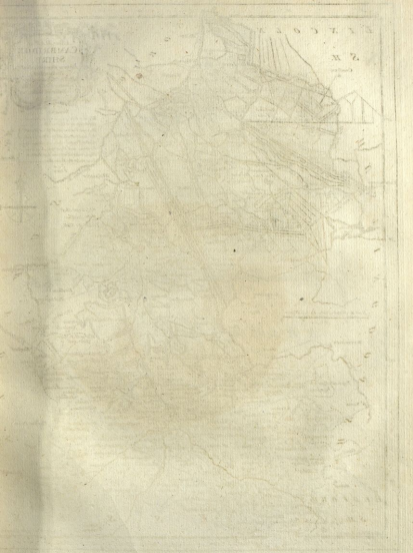
## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends fourteen members to parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, two burgesies for Buckingham, two for Wiccomb, two for Aylsbury, two for Amerham, two for Wendover, and two for Great Marlow.



P. 39.

C A M.



L I N C O L N

S H.

A NEW MAP OF CAMBRIDGE SHIRE

Drawn from the best Authorities by Tho: Kitchin Esq; Surveyor to H. R. H. the Duke of York.

Remarks

- City is a City
- Cambridge is a University
- Notwithstanding that the City and University are not in the Parish of St. Andrew
- Market Towns
- Rivers and Rivers
- Places where Fairs are kept have a Star under the Town, thus



British Statute Miles by a Degree

B E D F O R D

S H.

Scale

Length East from London

UVA.BHSC



CAMBRIDGE CASTLE.

P. 15

## C A M B R I D G E S H I R E .

### N A M E .

**T**HIS county is called CAMBRIDGESHIRE, from its principal town *Cambridge*, which evidently derives its name from its *Bridge* over the river *Cam*.

### B O U N D A R I E S , S I T U A T I O N and E X T E N T .

Cambridgeshire is bounded on the west by Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire, on the south by Hertfordshire and Essex, on the north by Lincolnshire, and on the east by Norfolk and Suffolk. It extends about 40 miles from north to south, and from east to west about 25; and the center of the county is about 54 miles nearly north from London.

### R I V E R S .

The principal river of this county is the *Ouse*, or *Ue*, which, running from west to east, divides it into two parts. The little river *Cam*, runs through the middle

G 2

middle of the county, from south to north, and falls into the Ouse at Sreatham-merc, near Thetford, by Ely. The Ouse derives its name from Isis\*. The Cam is supposed to have been so called from its winding course, the British word *Cow*, signifying crooked; so a river in Cornwall, that is remarkable for its irregularity, is called the *Camel*.

And besides these rivers, there are many channels and drains; for almost all the water from the middle of England, except what is discharged by the Thames and the Trent, falls into part of this county. They have been called the Gleane, the Welland, the Neane, the Grant, the Mildenhall, the Brandon, and the Stoake, besides the water called Moreton's Leam, which is now navigable from Peterborough to Wilbich.

#### AIR and SOIL.

A considerable tract of land in this county is distinguished by the name of the Isle of Ely: it consists of fenny ground, divided by innumerable channels and drains, and is part of a very spacious level, containing 300,000 acres of land, and extending from this county into Norfolk, Suffolk, Huntingdonshire, Northamptonshire, and Lincolnshire. The Isle of Ely is the northern division of the county, and extends southward almost as far as Cambridge. The whole level, of which this is part, is bounded on one side by the sea, and on the others by uplands, which taken together, form a kind of rude semicircle, resembling a horse shoe.

This level is generally supposed to have been overflowed in some violent convulsion of nature: a preternatural swelling of the sea, or an earthquake, which left the country flooded with a lake of fresh water, has frequently happened in other places. It is certain that the fens in Cambridgeshire were once very different from what they are now. William Somerfet, who was a monk of the abbey of Malmesbury, in Wiltshire, and was therefore called William of Malmesbury, an historian of great credit, who wrote in the twelfth century, says, that in his time this country was a terrestrial paradise. He describes it as a plain that was level and smooth as water, covered with perpetual verdure, and adorned with a great variety of tall, smooth, taper, and fruitful trees: here, says he, is an orchard bending with apples, and there is a field covered with vines, either creeping upon the ground, or supported by poles. In this place art also seems to vie with nature, each being impatient to bestow what the other withholds. The buildings are beautiful beyond description; and there is not an inch of ground that is not cultivated to the highest degree. It must however be remarked, that William of Malmesbury, who was himself a recluse in another part of the island, is here describing the country about Thorny Abbey, which was the dwelling of other solitary devotees like himself. He therefore described a place which it is probable he never saw, and which his zeal might induce him to mention in the most advantageous terms. It must also be observed, that he describes the country as a level, and mentions *marshes* and *fens*, though he says the marshes were covered with wood, and the fens afforded the most stable and solid foundation for the buildings that were erected upon them.

\* See Bedfordshire.

It must also be remarked, that the celebrated Abbo Floriacensis, an historian of the year 970, near two hundred years before William of Malmbury, in a description of the kingdom of the East Angles, in which this county lies, says that it is encompassed on the north with *large wet fens*, which begin almost in the heart of the island; and the ground being a perfect level for more than an hundred miles, the water of these fens descends in great rivers to the sea. He adds, that these large fens make a prodigious number of lakes, which are two or three miles over, and by forming a variety of islands, accommodate great numbers of monks with their desired solitude and retirement.

That the flat country might easily be overflowed to a great extent, merely by an accidental obstruction of the rivers through which the water of the fens was carried off, is very evident, and that such an inundation actually happened, there is indubitable evidence, yet more authentic than that of any history; for timber trees of several kinds have been found rooted in firm earth, below the slime and mud that lie immediately under the water. In other places a perfect soil has been found at the depth of eight feet, with swaithes of grass lying upon it as they were first mowed. Brick and stone, and other materials for building, have also been found at a considerable depth, by the workmen who were employed in digging drains for the water: and in setting a sluice, there was found, sixteen feet below the surface, a compleat smith's forge, with all the tools belonging to it. And when the channel at Wisbich was repaired and improved, in the year 1635, there was found eight feet below the bottom, a stratum of firm ground, which had once been the bed of the river, as appeared by many large stones and old boats which were lying upon it, and had been buried in the slime.

But whatever was the condition of this country and its inhabitants before the inundation, it was extremely bad afterwards; the waters stagnating, for want of proper channels to run off, became putrid, and filled the air with noxious exhalations; the inhabitants of the neighbouring towns could have no communication with each other by land, and a communication by water was in many places difficult, and in others impracticable; for though the water covered the ground to a considerable height, yet it was so choaked with mud and sedge, and reeds, that a boat could not every where make way through it: and in winter, when the surface was so frozen as to prevent all navigation, and yet not hard enough to bear horses, the inhabitants of many islands among these fens, were in danger of perishing for want of food.

To remedy these evils, many applications were made to the government for cutting rivers and drains, which was many times attempted but without success.

In the reign of Charles the First, Francis Russell, who was then earl of Bedford, agreed with the inhabitants of the several drowned countries to drain the whole level, in consideration of a grant of ninety-five thousand acres of the land that he should drain, to his own use. The earl admitted several other persons to be sharers with him in this undertaking, and they proceeded in the work till one hundred thousand pounds had been expended; but the ground was still under water. It was then undertaken by the king, who engaged to compleat the work for 60,000 acres more, and proceeded on the attempt till the civil war

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

broke out, which first put an end to his projects, and then to his life. During the civil war the work stood still; but in the year 1649, William, earl of Bedford, and the other adventurers, who had been associated with Francis, resumed the undertaking upon their original contract for 95,000 acres; and after having expended 300,000*l.* more, the work was completed. But the expence being much more than the value of the 95,000 acres, many of the adventurers were ruined by the project, and the sanction of the legislature was still necessary to confirm the agreement, and invest the contractors with such rights and powers as would enable them to secure such advantages as they had obtained. King Charles the Second therefore upon application, recommended it to his parliament, and in the fifteenth year of his reign, an act was passed, intitled An act for settling the drains of the great level called (from the first private undertaker) Bedford Level. By this act the proprietors were incorporated by the name of the governor, bailiffs, and commons, of the company of the conservators of the great level of the Fens. The corporation consists of one governor, six bailiffs, and twenty conservators. The governor and one bailiff, or two bailiffs without the governor, and three conservators make a quorum, and are empowered to act as commissioners of sewers, to lay taxes on the 95,000 acres, to levy them with penalties for non-payment, by sale of a sufficient part of the land on which the tax and penalty are due. But by this act the whole 95,000 acres were not vested in the corporation. The king reserved 12,000 acres to himself, 10,000 of which he assigned to his brother, the duke of York, and two thousand he gave to the earl of Portland.

In the Isle of Ely the air is damp, foul, and unwholsome; but in the south-east parts of the county it is more pure and salubrious; the soil is also very different: in the Isle of Ely it is hollow and spongy, yet affords excellent pasturage: in the uplands to the south-east, the soil produces great plenty of bread corn, and barley. The dry and barren parts have been greatly improved by sowing the grass called *saint foins*, holy grass, from its having been first brought into Europe from Palestine.

## NATURAL PRODUCTIONS and MANUFACTURES.

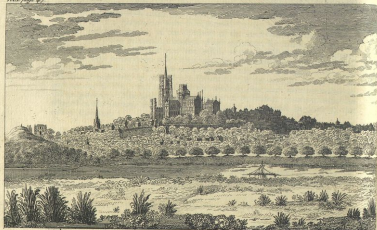
The principal commodities of Cambridgeshire are corn, malt, cattle, butter, saffron, coleseed, hemp, fish, and wild-fowl. The wild-fowl are taken in *duckoys*, places convenient for catching them, into which they are led by tame ducks that are trained for that purpose; and in the Isle of Ely there is such plenty of these birds, that 3000 couple are said to be sent to London every week; and there is one duckoy near Ely, which lets for five hundred pounds a-year. The principal manufactures of this county are paper and wicker ware.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Cambridgeshire is divided into seventeen hundreds, and contains one city and eight market towns, one of which, Cambridge, is a borough and university. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Ely, except a small part which is in the diocese of Norwich; and contains 163 parishes.



VVA.BHSC



*A South East View of Ely.*

J. Pyne del.

## CITY and MARKET TOWNS.

The city is Ely, and the market towns are Cambridge, Caxton, Lynton, Merth, Newmarket, Royton, Soham, and Wisbich.

The city of ELY is situated in that part of the county called the Isle of Ely, which is supposed to derive its name either from *Eel*, a fish, with which the waters of the fenny country abounded, from *EXE*, a marsh, or from *elig*, the British word for willows, or fallows, which grow in great plenty in this place, where scarce any other tree is now to be found.

Ely is 69 miles distant from London. It is governed by the bishop, who has not only the ecclesiastical, but civil jurisdiction; and though a city, it is not represented in parliament; two particulars in which it differs from every other city in the kingdom.

The sovereignty of Ely was settled upon the bishop by Henry the First, who also made Cambridgeshire his diocese, which before was part of the diocese of Lincoln: from this time the bishop appointed a judge to determine all causes, whether civil or criminal, that should arise within his isle, till the time of Henry the Eighth, who took this privilege away.

It stands on a rising ground, yet being in the midst of fenny lands, and surrounded with water, it is deemed an unhealthy place. It is very ancient, but is neither beautiful nor populous. The principal street, which is on the east side of the town, is full of springs; and at the distance of almost every hundred yards there are wells, which, though they are bricked up about two feet high, yet generally overflow, and form a stream from one to the other, which is continually trickling down the hill. The principal buildings are the cathedral and the episcopal palace.

The church is four hundred feet long, and has a tower at the west end about two hundred feet high: it has also a stately cupola, which is seen at a great distance, and has a fine effect, though it seems to totter with every blast of wind. It has a free school for the maintenance and education of 42 boys; and two charity schools, one for 40 boys, and the other for 20 girls, which are supported by voluntary subscription. All the environs of the city are gardeners grounds, which produce such abundance, that the country as far as Cambridge is supplied from thence; and greens and garden-stuff are sent even to St. Ives, in Huntingdonshire.

CAMBRIDGE, the county town, is situated on the river Cam, which divides it into two parts that are again joined by a stone bridge. It is distant 52 miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, high steward, recorder, thirteen aldermen, a common council of twenty-four, a town clerk, and other officers.

The situation of this place is low; and as the adjacent soil is somewhat moist, the air is too gross to be healthful in the highest degree. The town is dirty and ill built, but it has fourteen parish churches. In the market-place there is a pub-

publick conduit, which was built by Hobson the carrier, who in James the First's time acquired a great estate. A new building, called the shire-house, was lately erected contiguous to the old town hall, at the expence of the county. And there are in this town two charity schools, in which 300 children are taught, and fifty clothed. These schools are supported by a subscription of 230 l. per annum, an estate of 30 l. a-year, which was left them for ever by Mr. William Wortes; and by the money given at the sacrament in some of the college chapels, which has been appropriated to that purpose.

The university of Cambridge consists of sixteen colleges, four of which are distinguished by the name of halls, though the privileges of both are in every respect equal. It is a corporation, consisting of about 1,500 persons, and is governed by a chancellor, a high steward, two proctors, and two taxers. All these officers are chosen by the university. The chancellor is always a peer of the realm, and generally continues in his office for life, by the tacit consent of the university, though a new choice may be made every three years. As the chancellor is a person of so high rank, it is not expected or intended, that he should execute the office; but he has not the power of appointing his substitute: a vice chancellor is chosen annually, on the third of November, by the university; he is always the head of some college, the heads of the colleges returning two of their body, of which the university elects one. The high steward is chosen by the senate, and holds his place by patent from the university. The proctors and taxers are also chosen every year, from the several colleges and halls by turns.

The publick schools, of which there is one for every college, are in a building of brick and rough stone, erected on the four sides of a quadrangular court. Every college has also its particular library, in which, except that of King's College, the scholars are not obliged to study, as in the libraries at Oxford, but may borrow the books, and study in their chambers. Besides the particular libraries of the several colleges, there is the university library, which contains the collections of the archbishops, Parker, Grindal, and Pancroft; and of Dr. Thomas Moore, bishop of Ely, consisting of 30,000 volumes, which was purchased for 7000 l. and presented to the university by his late majesty king George the First, in the year 1715.

Each college has also its particular chapel, where the masters, fellows, and scholars meet every morning and evening, for the publick worship of God, though on Sundays and holidays, when there is a sermon, they attend at St. Mary's church.

The names of the colleges are Peter-House, Clare-Hall, Pembroke-Hall, Corpus Christi, or Benedict College, Trinity-Hall, Gonvil and Caius College, King's College, Queen's College, Catharine-Hall, Jesus College, Christ's College, St. John's College, Magdalen College, Trinity College, Emanuel College, and Sidney Suflex College.

I. **PETER-HOUSE**, is a large quadrangular building, well contrived, and adorned with porticos, and has a master, 22 fellows, and 42 scholars.

## II. CLARE-

II. CLARE-HALL is one of the neatest and most uniform structures in the university. It is a square of building three stories high, the materials are free-stone, and the work is doric; it reaches quite to the banks of the Cam, and the court is entered by a lofty gate-house, adorned with two rows of pillars. There is another building contiguous to the college, the upper story of which is the library, and the lower the chapel. To this college belongs a meadow on the other side of the river, which communicates with it by a bridge. It has a master, 18 fellows, and 63 scholars.

III. PEMBROKE-HALL has a master, 5 fellows, and 13 scholars. In the building there is nothing worthy of note.

IV. CORPUS CHRISTI, or BENEDICT COLLEGE, is a long square of buildings, containing two courts, and two rows of lodgings. It has a chapel and library under the same roof; and maintains a master, 12 fellows, and 40 scholars.

V. TRINITY-HALL is but an irregular building, yet it has convenient lodgings for the master and fellows, and pleasant gardens, inclosed by walls of brick; and maintains 12 fellows, and 14 scholars.

VI. GONVIL and CAIUS COLLEGE has 26 fellows, and 74 scholars.

VII. KING'S COLLEGE is an unfinished pile, the original plan of the building having been executed only in part; yet the chapel, though it was built by parts, at different and distant times, is said to be one of the finest rooms in the world. It is 304 feet long, 73 broad, and 94 feet high on the out-side; yet it is supported merely by the symmetry of its parts, having no pillar within to sustain the roof, which, as well as the sides, is of free-stone. The choir is adorned with excellent carving, and the windows are very curiously painted. This college maintains a master, 50 fellows, and 20 scholars.

VIII. QUEEN'S COLLEGE is one of the pleasantest in the university; it has the most convenient lodgings, delightful gardens, orchards, and walks; and was the residence of the celebrated Erasmus, of Rotterdam, who chose this college for his last retreat. It maintains a master, 19 fellows, and 44 scholars.

IX. CATHARINE-HALL maintains a master, 6 fellows, and 30 scholars.

X. JESUS COLLEGE maintains a master, 16 fellows, and 31 scholars.

XI. CHRIST'S COLLEGE is adorned with a fine new building; and maintains a master, 15 fellows, and 50 scholars.

XII. ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE is a large building consisting of three courts; and has a master, 54 fellows, and 100 scholars.

XIII. MAGDALEN COLLEGE stands on that side of the Cam which is opposite to all the rest. A new building was begun some years ago to be added to this college, but it was never finished. It maintains a master, 13 fellows, and 30 scholars.

VOL. I.

II

XIV. TRI-

XIV. TRINITY COLLEGE consists of two spacious squares, or courts, in one of which a library has been lately erected, of free-stone, supported by two rows of pillars, and said to be one of the most noble and elegant structures of the kind in the world. This college has 65 fellows, and 91 scholars.

XV. EMANUEL COLLEGE has a very neat chapel, built chiefly by the bounty of archbishop Sancroft; and maintains a master, 14 fellows, and 60 scholars.

XVI. SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE has a master, 12 fellows, and 28 scholars.

The whole number of fellows is 406, and of scholars 660; beside which there are 236 inferior officers and servants of various kinds, who are maintained upon the foundation.

These however are not all the students of the university; there are two sorts of students, called pensioners, the greater and the less; the greater pensioners are in general the young nobility, and are called fellow commoners, because though they are scholars, they dine with the fellows; the less are dieted with the scholars, but both live at their own expence. There are also a considerable number of poor scholars, called sizars, who wait upon the fellows and scholars, and the pensioners of both ranks, by whom they are in a great degree maintained; but the number of these pensioners and sizars cannot be ascertained, as it is in a state of perpetual fluctuation.

The university, by a special grant, has the privilege of printing books of every kind at its own press.

CAXTON, 50 miles distant from London, is a little town, in which there is nothing worthy of note. It was however the birth-place of William Caxton, the first Printer in England, who died in the year 1486.

LYNTON, 46 miles from London, is a little obscure town, near which it is said a considerable coal-mine was discovered some years ago.

MERSH, or MARCH, is in the Isle of Ely, 67 miles distant from London, and has a church that belongs to the neighbouring parish of Doddington.

NEWMARKET, notwithstanding its name, is of considerable antiquity; for in the time of Edward the Third, the bishop of Carlisle, who was afterwards so troublesome to Henry the Fourth, was called Thomas of Newmarket. It is 60 miles distant from London, and consists principally of one street, which is long and well built; the south side of it only is in this county; the north side is in Suffolk. The air of this place is very healthy; and the heath which surrounds the town is remarkable for the finest course in England, where there are horse-races in April and October every year.

There are two churches in Newmarket; one on the Cambridge side, which is a chapel of ease to Diton, a neighbouring parish, and one on the Suffolk side, which is parochial. There are also two charity schools, one for 20 boys, and the other for 20 girls; and on the heath there is a royal palace, which was built by  
king

king Charles the Second. The town was burnt in the year 1683, but was soon afterwards rebuilt by a brief.

ROYSTON is supposed to have derived its name from a lady named *Royfia*, whom some have supposed to have been countess of Norfolk, in the reign of king Stephen, and others the wife of Pagan de Beauchamp, the third baron of Bedford\*. This lady is said to have erected a stone cross on the way side, near the spot where Royston now stands, which was therefore called *Royfe's Cross*; a monastery being some time afterwards erected near the cross, several inns and houses were also built, and at length became a town, which from *Royfe's Cross*, was called *Royfe's Town*, of which Royston is an almost necessary contraction. Some remains of the cross are still to be seen near an inn, which stands at the meeting of the old and new post road from London to Biggleswade.

Royston is distant from London 38 miles; and some part of it lies in Hertfordshire. It is a populous and well built town, and stands in a good air on a chalky soil. It has a church, which formerly belonged to a convent, and contains many curious monuments. It was made parochial soon after the dissolution; and five parishes being then reduced into one, the rectory is of great value, and the incumbent is lord of the manor. At this place there is a charity school, built and supported by voluntary contribution. It carries on a considerable trade in barley and malt.

SOHAM, 68 miles from London, is a little town on the east side of the river Cam, and near a fen which lies in the road to Ely, and was once extremely dangerous to pass; but a good causeway is now made through it. It has a charity school for near one hundred children.

WISBECH is distant from London 88 miles. It is situated among the fens and rivers in the Isle of Ely, but is a well built and populous town, and has a good publick hall, and an episcopal palace, belonging to the bishop of Ely. It has a navigation by barges to London, which has made it a place of considerable trade. Its principal commodity is oats, of which more than 52,000 quarters are annually sent up to the metropolis, besides one thousand tuns of oil, and 8,000 firkins of butter.

There is in the neighbourhood of Cambridge, on the east side, a village called *Sturbridge*, from the little brook *Stour*, or *Sture*, which runs by it, that is remarkable for a fair, which was once the greatest temporary mart in the world, and is now so considerable as to deserve particular notice.

It is held in a corn-field about half a mile square, which is covered with booths that are built in regular rows, and divide the area into many streets, which are called *Cheapside*, *Cornhill*, the *Poultry*, and by the names of many other streets in London, to distinguish them from each other. Among these booths there are not only ware-houses and shops, for almost every kind of commodity and manufacture, but coffee-houses, taverns, eating-houses, musick-houses, buildings for the exhibition of drolls, puppet-shows, legerdemain, wild beasts and monsters.

\* See in Bedfordshire the civil and ecclesiastical antiquities of Bedford.

## C A M B R I D G E S H I R E.

There is an area of about 100 yards square, called the Duddery, where the clothiers unload, that is scarce inferior to Blackwell Hall; and in this place woollen goods have been sold to the value of 100,000 l. in a week; and the manufacturers of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex, generally lay out sixty thousand pounds in wool: the upholsterers and ironmongers wares amount to a prodigious sum; and hops to still more, the price of which, all over the kingdom, is generally settled at this fair; and large commissions are negotiated for all parts of the kingdom. This fair begins on the eighth of September, and continues a fortnight. The last day is appropriated to the sale of horses, and to horse and foot races, for the diversion of the company.

The heavy goods from London are brought by sea to Lynn, in Norfolk, whence they are carried in barges up the Ouse to the Cam, and so to the fair. The concourse of people, whom business and idleness concur to bring to this place, is so great, that not only Cambridge, but all the neighbouring towns and villages are full; and the very barns and stables are converted into drinking-rooms and lodgings, for the meaner sort of people. More than fifty hackney coaches from London are frequently found plying at this place; and even wheelbarrows have been brought from the Thames in waggons, to row people up and down the Cam. But notwithstanding the multiplicity of business, and the concourse of people, there is very seldom any confusion or disorder, by which either life or property is endangered; for a court of justice is held here every day by the magistrates of Cambridge, who proceed in a summary way, and with such steadiness and diligence, that the fair is in many respects like a well ordered city. Near this place there is an excellent causeway, which reaches near four miles, and was begun by Dr. Hervey, master of Trinity-Hall, and finished by William Wortes, Esq; of Cambridge.

## N A T U R A L C U R I O S I T I E S.

*Natural curiosities.* The natural curiosities of this county are few. There are crows about Royston which have some white feathers about their breasts and wings, and in this particular differ from all other crows in the kingdom.

At Fulmer, near the southern boundary of the county, there are quarries of free-stone, which produce plenty of vitriol.

*A tragical event.* The most memorable event that appears in the histories of this county, except those of a publick kind, happened at Barnwell, a little village near Cambridge, on the eighth of September, 1727. It happened that some strollers had brought down a puppet-show, which was exhibited in a large thatched barn. Just as the show was about to begin, an idle fellow attempted to thrust himself in without paying, which the people of the show prevented; and a quarrel ensued; after some altercation the fellow went away, and the door being made fast, all was quiet; but this execrable villain, to revenge the supposed incivility he had received from the show-man, went to a heap of hay and straw, which stood close to the barn, and secretly set it on fire. The spectators of the show, who were in the midst of their entertainment, were soon alarmed by the flames which had communicated themselves to the barn: in the sudden terror which instantly seized the whole assembly, every one rushed to the door, but it happened unfortunately



ately that the door opened inwards, and the crowd that was behind, still urging on those that were before, they pressed so violently against it that it could not be opened; and being too well secured to give way, the whole company, consisting of more than 120 persons, were kept confined in the building till the roof fell in; this accident covered them with fire and smoke, some were suffocated in the smoldering thatch, and others were consumed alive in the flames: six only escaped with life; the rest, among whom were several young ladies of fortune, and many little boys and girls, were reduced to one undistinguishable heap of mangled bones and flesh, the bodies being half consumed, and totally disfigured. The surviving friends of the dead not knowing which were the relick that they sought, a large hole was dug in the church-yard, and all were promiscuously interred together. As it is not easy to conceive any circumstances of greater distress and horror than those which attended this catastrophe, neither is it easy to conceive more aggravated wickedness than concurred in the perpetration of it.

The favour which was refused, was such as the wretch had neither pretence to ask, nor reason to expect. The barn which he fired did not belong to the man that had offended him, and the people that were in it were admitted only upon terms with which he refused to comply; he had therefore no provocation either to envy or malice, yet he was guilty of a crime which only a diabolical excess of both could commit. It might reasonably have been supposed, that indignation would have prompted the first relators of this event to have expressed some satisfaction in the punishment of the criminal, or some regret at his escape, and that this particular would, from the same emotion, have been constantly preserved with the story; yet it is totally omitted in all the accounts from which this is compiled, which are no less than five, and they do not all appear to have been transcribed from one original.

## ANTIQUITIES.

Cambridgeshire is one of the counties that was anciently inhabited by the *Ice* Ascient inhabitants. who by some are supposed to have derived their name from the British word *Icen*, a wedge, the country which they inhabited having a kind of wedge-like figure. Others, with apparently more reason, derive the name *Iceni* from the *Ise*, now called the *Ouse*, which runs through this part of the island. It has been common for the people of all countries to distinguish themselves by the name of the river near which they first settled: thus in Asia the Indians were named from the river *Indus*; in Greece, the *Mæonians* from the *Mæonia*; in Scythia, the *Alani* from the *Alanus*; in Germany, the *Alsatians* from *Alsa*; in France, the *Sequani* from the *Sequana*; and in England, the *Lancastrians* from the *Lan*, or *Lon*, and the *Northumbrians* from the *Humber*. The change of *Ise* into *Ice*, was very natural and easy, because the Britons instead of the Greek  $\epsilon$ , used *o*, and wrote *Ichen* for *Ires*, *Soch* for *ooc*, and *Buch* for *βuc*.

Under what division Cambridgeshire and the other counties inhabited by the *Iceni* fell, when Britain became a Roman province, is not certainly known; but it is generally believed to have been *Flavia Caesariensis*, though the *Notitia* of the Western Empire places the *Tribantes* and *Simeni*, or *Iceni*, in the *Britannia Secunda*. When the Saxons settled their Heptarchy, the *Iceni* were included in the kingdom of the East Angles.

The

The inhabitants of the fenny part of the county of Cambridge, now called the Isle of Ely, and of the rest of the great level in Huntingdonshire, Northamptonshire, and Lincolnshire, were, in the time of the Saxons, distinguished by the name of *Girvii*, or *Fen-Men*; and notwithstanding William of Malmesbury's description of Thorney Abbey, the country was then in such a condition, that these *Girvii* used to walk aloft on a kind of stilts, to keep them out of the water and slime. There is a kind of happy prejudice which has such a remote kindred to virtue, as bigotry has to religion, by which men are induced to consider their own country, whatever are its disadvantages, as the best in the world; and it would not have been strange, if these walkers on stilts, who breathed the noxious vapor of stagnant waters instead of air, had regarded those who walked upon the ground in a happier situation with an air of contempt, especially as the fruitfulness of the country, when the rivers were not obstructed, made them rich; but Camden says that they were a rugged uncivilized race, who if they did not repine at their situation, envied that of their neighbours, whom they called *Upland Men*, not however as a name of honour, but distinction.

Antiquities of Ely and its neighbourhood.

In the city of Ely there are no remains of profane or secular antiquity, except a very high round mount on the south side of the church. It is now the site of a windmill; but when, or for what purpose it was thrown up, is not known.

At Sutton, a little village in the neighbourhood of Ely, several pieces of antiquity were discovered by some peasants, who were ploughing, in the year 1694. The plough-share first brought up a thin plate of lead, with several small ancient coins; and one of the labourers thrusting his hand into the earth, which was light and moorish, found three thin plates of silver, of a circular shape, two of which were locked together by a small rivet that passed through their centers. One of these plates, which is represented by a cut in Gibson's Camden, appears to have been about six inches diameter, and has a Dano-Saxon inscription round it, of which the three first words are supposed to be magical terms, and the rest have been thus translated:

O Lord, Lord, him always defend, who carrieth me about with him: grant him whatever he desires.

On the other side of the plate there are many knots and figures, which concur with the inscription to prove that the whole was intended for a charm. With these plates there were also found some rings of gold, supposed to have been the treasure of some noble person who fled into this fenny country for safety.

Granteester a Roman town.

Near Cambridge is Granteester, or Grantchester, an obscure village, which Bede, an ecclesiastical historian of the year 700, says was in his time a little desolate city. In some ancient manuscripts\*, one of which was written before the year 520, it is called *Cairgrant*; *Cair*, in the old Celtic tongue, signifies a city, so that Granteester must have been a place of great antiquity. It is thought to have been the *Camboritum* of the Romans, which the Saxons, retaining part of the old name, called *Epanteburgh* and *Epont-ceyreep*. *Camboritum* is supposed

\* *Gildas Albanus's British History, and Nennius's Latin Story of Britain*, both in the University Library of Cambridge.

to be formed of *Cam*, crooked, the name of the river on which the place stands, and *ryth*, or *ryd*, a ford; the word therefore might signify either a ford over *Cam*, or a crooked ford. The name *Groncester* has been derived from *Upton*, a fenny place, by some who have observed that some fenny grounds in Somersetshire were called *Grunas Paludofluous*, which is a mixture of Saxon and Latin; and that there is a city in West Frisland, lying also among fens, which is called *Growingen*. Bede relates that just by the walls of *Grantcester*, there was found a little trough or coffin of white marble, delicately wrought, with a lid of the same stone exactly fitted to it.

Cambridge is supposed to have risen out of the ancient *Camboritum*, or *Grantcester*, from one of which names it is thought originally to have derived that which it bears at present. This place was a fortified town in the time of the Saxons; and being afterwards seized by the Danes, they kept a garrison there till the year 921, when they were driven out by Edward the Elder. Towards the end of the eleventh century, William the Conqueror built a castle here, which is said to have been a large, strong, and stately building; some traces of it are still to be seen, and the gate, which remains intire, is now the county gaol. In the succeeding reign of William Rufus, the town was burnt by Roger de Montgomery, to revenge a supposed injury he had received from the king; but Henry the First, the successor of Rufus, rebuilt it, and made it a corporation. During the civil contentions, called the barons wars, which happened in the twelfth century, it was often ravaged by outlaws, who took refuge in the Isle of Ely; but king Henry the Third, about the year 1219, secured it against these incursions, by a deep trench, which in Camden's time was called the King's Ditch; but houses having been since built on both sides of it, the name was at length forgotten.

Antiquities of  
Cambridge.

There is also an artificial mount of considerable height, flat on the top, but steep on the sides, and surrounded by a deep ditch. In the reign of Richard the Second, near the end of the fourteenth century, during the insurrection of Wat Tyler and Jack Straw, a rebellious rabble entered this town and burnt the records of the university in the market-place. The round church in this town is thought to have been a synagogue of the Jews, who having been invited hither by the Conqueror and his successor, settled here, and were very numerous for many generations, and inhabited all that part of the town which is now called the Jewry.

Of the antiquities of the university of Cambridge, there are many accounts manifestly fabulous, and many more of doubtful authority.

The Univer-  
sity.

There is an history of the origin and antiquities of the university of Cambridge by Nicholas Cantalupe, who is said to have been a Carmelite friar of Northampton, and to have died at that place on the twenty seventh of September, 1441. The account given by Cantalupe, who has always been considered as a fabulous writer, is in substance as follows:

In the year of the world 4321, being 375 years before the Christian *Æra*, Gurgunt, the son of Belin, who was then king of Britain, sailed with a fleet to Denmark, the Danes having refused the tribute which they had paid to his father.

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When he had reduced the Danes to subjection, he embarked again for England, and as he was returning by the Isles of the Orcaides, he discovered thirty ships full of men and women. Upon enquiring who they were, he learned that they were the relations and friends of Partholaym and Canteber, two brothers, the sovereigns of Cantabra, in Spain, who had been expelled their country by their people. When Partholaym and Canteber discovered Gurgunt to be king of Britain, they apologized for being found so near his coast, by assuring him that they had been driven about upon the ocean without knowing whither they went near a year and a half, and earnestly intreated him to allot them some small part of Britain for an habitation. Gurgunt, taking pity on their distress, sent Partholaym with his fleet of fugitives, to settle in Ireland, which was then desolate, and brought Canteber with him to England, because he understood, that though a Spaniard, he had been educated at Athens, and was a great scholar. How these Britons and Spaniards came so readily to understand each other, does not appear; however we are told that Canteber recommended himself so much to Gurgunt, that Gurgunt gave him his daughter Guenolena to wife, and with her the eastern part of Britain, as a dowry. Canteber soon improved his new territory by planting and building, and founded a large city, which the Britons called Caergrant, from his son the earl of Grantin, but which in Latin was called the city of *Cante*, from Canteber, the founder, whence it came afterwards to be called Cantebrigia.

To this place Canteber invited many astronomers and philosophers from Athens, and appointed them stipends. The university of Cambridge being thus founded, continued to be a seminary of heathen learning till the time of pope Eleutherius, when two doctors were sent into England, who converted Lucius the king, and baptised three thousand of the philosophers of Cambridge in one day.

In the year 529, king Arthur granted many privileges to Cambridge, by the name of the City of scholars.

Not long afterwards Cambridge was totally destroyed, and both the students and citizens extirpated by the Picts and Saxons: but St. Aulin, who came into England in 596, established other learned men in this place, to whom Cadwald granted a new charter in the year 685.

Cambridge was again wasted by Hubba, in 869, but was rebuilt, and its privileges restored by Edward the Elder, the son of Alfred, in the year 915. The several charters of Arthur, Cadwald, and Edward, are inserted by Cantalupe: but having thus far gratified the curiosity of the reader, his opinion must be formed by himself.

We have no account of the university of Cambridge generally allowed to be authentic, that goes farther back than the reign of Henry the First, who succeeded William Rufus, in August 1100. About this time the monastery of Crowland, or Croyland, in Lincolnshire, being consumed by fire, Joffred, or Geoffrey, the abbot, who was possessed of the manor of Catenham, near Cambridge, sent thither Gisebert, his professor of divinity, and three other monks.

These

These monks, being well skilled in philosophy and the sciences, went daily to Cambridge, where they hired a barn and read public lectures: a number of scholars were soon brought together, and in less than two years, they were so multiplied, that there was not a house, barn, or church in the place large enough to hold them. Inns and halls were soon after built for the accommodation of the students, with chambers, which exempted them from the high rents which the town's-men had taken occasion to exact; the scholars were then divided into different classes. The boys and young men were assigned to friar Odo, an excellent grammarian and satyric poet, who read them lectures in Grammar early in the morning: at one o'clock Terricus, another of the monks, read Aristotle's Logic to a second class; at three friar William read Tully's Rhetoric and Quintilian's institutions to a third; and Gislebert, the principal master, preached to the people on all Sundays and holidays.

The society, still encreasing, was called an university, before any college was founded for the scholars, or any pecuniary encouragement given to the institution, as appears by a record in the Tower, of the fifty second of Henry the Third, which was in the year 1268, where it is styled *Universitatis Scolarium*, though Robert of Remington says, "Grantbridge was from a study made an university like Oxford, by the court of Rome, in the reign of Edward the First." But at whatever time it was first considered as an university, it is certain that the first college was founded in 1257, by Hugh Ballham, then prior of Ely, who endowed it in 1284, the twelfth of Edward the First, when he was become bishop of that diocese, for a master, fourteen fellows, two students in divinity, and eight poor scholars, directing the number to be either increased or diminished, as the revenue should be improved or abated.

This college was called *St. Peter's House*, probably because it was built near the church of St. Peter, which about the year 1352 lost its name; for a beautiful chancel being about that time added to it, and dedicated to St. Mary, the whole building was called St. Mary's, a name which it still retains. The college has also been sometimes called St. Mary's College, and the Hall of St. Mary of Grace. I. St. Peter's House.

From this time other colleges were successively erected and endowed, till the university attained its present state of perfection.

In the year 1326, the ninth of Edward the Second, Richard Badew, who was II. Clare-chancellor of the university in 1338, purchased some houses which he converted into a college, called University-Hall, in which he placed one principal, and admitted no scholars but such as lived at their own expense. This building was about sixteen years afterwards burnt down, and in the year 1347, the twentieth of Edward the Third, twenty-one years after its foundation, was rebuilt by Elizabeth Burk, countess of Clare, in Suffolk, who endowed it for the maintenance of one master, ten fellows, and ten scholars, and gave it the name of Clare-Hall. II. Clare-Hall.

In the year 1343, the sixteenth of Edward the Third, Mary de S. Paulo, the third wife of Audomar, or Adomare de Valence, earl of Pembroke, founded a college, since called Pembroke-Hall; and in the year 1347, finished and endow- III. Pembroke-Hall.

ed it for the maintenance of a master, and such a number of fellows and scholars as the master and fellows for the time being, should think best proportioned to the revenue.

The countess of Pembroke is said to have been the same day maid, wife, and widow; the earl being unfortunately killed at a tilting on his wedding-day. She lived sixty years after this fatal accident, still preserving a tender remembrance of her lord, and devoting her whole life to acts of piety and munificence. She died in a good old age, and was buried in the abbey of Denny, which she had founded in this county, between the choir of the seculars and nuns, and a marble tomb was erected over her grave.

IV. *Corpus Christi College.*

In the year 1344, the seventeenth of Edward the Third, the brethren of the gild or society of Corpus Christi, and of St. Mary, began to build a college near the church of St. Benedict, which was by some called Bennet's College, from its neighbourhood to the church; and by others Corpus Christi College, from its founders. On the third of February 1353, they obtained a confirmation of their college from the bishop of Ely, and in the same year chose Henry Plantagenet, duke of Lancaster, commonly called Henry of Monmouth, for their provost; under the auspices of such a patron, they obtained many advantages, and the number of fellows and scholars, which was left to be determined by the value of the revenue, was wonderfully increased by subsequent benefactions.

V. *Trinity-Hall.*

In the year 1347, the twentieth of Edward the Third, William Bateman, bishop of Norwich, purchased an hospital which John Craudene, prior of Ely, had before bought and appointed for the reception of the monks of Ely, who should come to Cambridge to improve their learning. On the site of this hostel he founded a hall, which he dedicated to the holy and undivided Trinity, and intended for the maintenance of a master, twenty fellows, and three scholars, who were all, except one divine, to study the canon and civil law. The bishop left only a master, three fellows, and three scholars of his own foundation, when he died: but the revenues have been since greatly augmented.

VI. *Gonvil and Caius College.*

In the year 1348, the foundation of a college was laid in the place which is now the orchard and tennis court of St. Bennet's College, by Edward Gonvil, who in the absence of Bateman, the bishop of Norwich, the founder of Trinity College, was appointed his vicar: this house being finished, Gonvil placed in it a warden, and four fellows, whom he maintained during his life; when he died, he left a considerable sum to bishop Bateman, to improve and endow the college that he had founded. Bateman erected a new building on the spot where Gonvil and Caius College now stands, which was then called Gonvil-Hall. To this building John Caius, of Norwich, doctor of physic, who had been many years a celebrated reader of physic at Padua, in Italy, and was physician to queen Mary, added a new fabric in 1565, the seventh of Elizabeth, and endowed it with lands of considerable value: from this time the building was called Gonvil and Caius College.

VII. *King's College.*

In the year 1441, king Henry the Sixth founded a house for one rector and twelve scholars, which he dedicated to St. Nicholas. Near this building there was a little hostel for Grammarians, which had been built by William Bingham,

and

and two churches, St. Nicholas and St. Zachary. Bingham granted his foundation to the king, who having added to it the two churches, founded and endowed a new college for a provost, seventy fellows, ten priests, six clerks, and sixteen choristers, and he called it the college of the blessed Virgin Mary, and the glorious Confessor St. Nicholas. This building was intended to be a regular quadrangle, but the king being interrupted by his contests with the house of York, did not fully execute his plan. Edward his successor, instead of carrying on the design, resumed several of the possessions of this foundation, and it is said gave some of them to the Oxonians, who were at his court. Henry the Seventh, in whom the two houses of York and Lancaster united, carried on the building; and his successor, Henry the Eighth, brought it to its present state.

In the year 1448, Margaret of Anjou, wife of Henry the Sixth, founded a college near the monastery of Carmelite friars, and endowed it with 200*l.* *per annum.* She was however prevented from completing it, by the confusion of the times, but in the year 1465, it was finished by Elizabeth, the wife of Edward the Fourth. It is said that Elizabeth was induced to complete what Margaret her professed enemy had begun, by the solicitations of Andrew Duckett, whom Margaret had appointed warden of her college, when it should be built. Andrew continued warden forty years, and obtained many considerable benefactions from the duke of Clarence, the dutchess of York, and Richard the Third, who, among other donations to this college, gave it the inheritance of John Vere earl of Oxford, whose estate he had seized for his adherence to the house of Lancaster, against Edward the Fourth. But when Henry the Seventh, who was of the house of Lancaster, obtained the throne, he restored the earl of Oxford's estate to the family. This building was from the first called Queen's College.

In the year 1459, the thirty-seventh of Henry the Sixth, \* Robert Woodlarke, doctor of divinity, master of King's College, and chancellor of the university, founded a hall, which he dedicated to St. Catherine, and endowed it for a master and three fellows. This building, with some embellishments and additions, is the college now called Catherine-Hall.

In the year 1497, Dr. John Alcock, who was then bishop of Ely, obtained the licence of Henry the Seventh, and pope Alexander the Sixth, to convert a deserted convent of Benedictine nuns into a college, for a master, six fellows, and six scholars, which has been since called Jesus College, though it was dedicated, by the founder, to the blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Evangelist, and St. Radegundis. This St. Radegundis is, by Parker, in his account of Cambridge, styled the Glorious Virgin; yet he tells us that she was the wife of Lothair, the son and successor of Clouis, the first Christian king of France. She is said to have left her husband about the year 460, and to have retired into a monastery at Poitiers, where she founded the abbey of the Holy Cross, in which her tomb is still to be seen. Dr. Alcock committed this college to the perpetual protection of the bishops of Ely; and for this reason the bishops of Ely, when they

\* Tanner is his *Nicœna* obérisse, that Parker, Le Neve, and many others, though they fix the founding this college in 1497, yet say, that it was by licence from Edward the Fourth, who did not begin to reign till 1460; he therefore follows Fuller, who says it was founded in 1474.

came thither, are, in the registers of Ely in the years 1556 and 1557, said to have resided in their *own house* in Jesus College.

XI. Christ's College.

King Henry the Sixth, when he removed the hostel, which had been granted him by Bingham, to make room for the foundation of King's College, assigned to the scholars of that hostel, an house belonging to the monks of Tilley and Deny, who came thither to study, and called it the College of the House of God, the hostel from which the scholars were translated having been before called God's House. The king intended to have endowed this place for sixty scholars, but was prevented by the same commotions which obliged him to leave King's College unfinished.

In the year 1506, the lady Margaret, countess of Richmond, mother to Henry the Seventh, endowed this house for the maintenance of a master, twelve fellows, and forty-seven scholars, and dedicated it to our Saviour Christ: it is said that in the time of Edward the Sixth, when the reformation began to gain ground in England, the number of fellows in this college being twelve, and with the master making thirteen, was complained of favouring superstition, and al-luding to Christ and his twelve apostles, and that the young king, to remove this occasion of offence, added a thirteenth fellowship.

XII. St. John's College.

In the year 1511, the second of Henry the Eighth, the executors of the same lady Margaret, in pursuance of her will, obtained from the king a grant of the site and lands belonging to an old hospital, founded in the time of Nigellus, bishop of Ely, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, and erected the college now called St. John's College, which the countess had endowed for the maintenance of a provost, fifty fellows, and fifty scholars.

XIII. St. Mary Magdalen's College.

In the year 1519, the eleventh of Henry the Eighth, Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, purchased three houses, in which the monks of several neighbouring abbeys had been used to study, and converted them to the use of the university by the name of Buckingham-Hall. In the year 1542, the thirty-third of king Henry the Eighth, Thomas Baron Audley, of Walden, lord chancellor of England, took upon himself the patronage of this hall, and having endowed it with lands belonging to the priory of the Holy Trinity of London, he called it the College of St. Mary Magdalen. It has been remarked that the founder's name is contained in the word M-audley-n, which is the orthography of Magdalen, according to the vulgar pronunciation. This college was considerably enlarged, and its revenue increased, by Sir Christopher Wrey, who was some time afterwards lord chief justice of England.

XIV. Trinity College.

In the year 1546, king Henry the Eighth converted three ancient Halls, called St. Michael's, King's, and Phiswick's Halls, into a stately college, which he dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and endowed it for the maintenance of a provost, sixty fellows, forty scholars, and ten almoner orators, reserving to himself and his successors, the right of appointing the warden.

The college, or house of St. Michael the Archangel, was founded in 1324, by Henry Stanton, canon of St. Peter's at York, and chancellor of the exchequer to king



king Edward the Second. This place was in all respects a college, and the fellows of it took their degrees in the publick schools of this university, as appears by the archives which are still extant.

King's-Hall was compleated and endowed by Edward the Third, in the year 1376, and the fiftieth year of his reign; and the fellows of this hall also took their degrees in the university as fellows of a college.

Phifwick-Hofstel, or Hall, was the dwelling-house of William Phifwick, Esq; beadle of the university, who in the year 1393, gave it to Gonvil-Hall, and converted it into a little college, to receive such scholars belonging to Gonvil-Hall as that house could not commodiously contain.

In the year 1584, the twenty-sixth of Elizabeth, Sir William Mildmay, who XV. Emanuel was chancellor and treasurer of the exchequer to that princess, instituted a college. College. lege where there had been formerly a convent of Dominicans, founded in the year 1280, and the sixth of Edward the First, by Alice, then countess of Oxford. This college he dedicated to Emanuel, and placed in it a master, three fellows, and four scholars.

In the year 1589, the thirty-first of Elizabeth, the lady Frances Sidney, countess of Suffex, left 5000 l. to build and endow a college for the maintenance of Suffex Col- a master, ten fellows, and twenty scholars, to be called Sidney-Suffex College. lege.

In pursuance of this will a college was soon after built by the countess's executors, upon the spot where a monastery of Franciscans, commonly called Grey friars, had been built by king Edward the First; and though the sum which was bequeathed by the countess, was not sufficient perfectly to fulfil her intention, the deficiency was so far supplied by the liberality of her executors, Henry Grey, earl of Kent, and John lord Harrington, that it immediately received a master, eight fellows, and twenty scholars.

Such is the history of the first foundation of the colleges of the university of Cambridge, the present state of which has been before described: all the intermediate benefactions could not be added with propriety, because this work will not in other respects admit so minute a particularity.

The Roman high way, called Ikenild Street, runs along the west side of the Roman Ways. southermost part of this county, passing by Huntington, through Caxton to Royfton. But in the Ely book it is called *Erwing Street*, as is supposed from *Erwen*, a name given by the Saxons to Mercury, whom they worshipped as god of the high-ways. There is also a Roman way at Lynton, which runs into the Ikenild.

At Wisbich, a castle was erected by William the First, in the eleventh century, An ancient to overawe the outlaws of these fenny parts, who made frequent incursions and castle. did much mischief. In the year 1236, this castle, together with the town, was destroyed by an inundation of the sea. Cardinal Morton, who was bishop of Ely in the beginning of the sixteenth century, rebuilt the castle of brick, which was used in the time of queen Elizabeth as a prison for popish priests.

Royfton

**Roydon a Roman town.** Roydon is supposed to have been a Roman town, because many coins have been dug up near it. The Roman way called Ikenild Streer, runs on the east side of it, and upon almost every eminence in the neighbourhood there is a barrow.

**Ancient ruins.** At Soham there are the ruins of a church which the Danes burnt with the inhabitants, whom they forced into it before they set it on fire.

**Septichal and other remains of Roman antiquities.** At Merth, or March, when a road was making from thence to Wisbœch, the workmen found two urns; in one of them there were bones and ashes, and in the other about three hundred pieces of silver coin, no two pieces of which were perfectly alike, but all appeared by their dates to be more than two thousand years old.

At Trumpington, distant about one mile from Cambridge, there is a place called Dam Hill, where great numbers of human bones have been found, and many urns, patera's, and other Roman antiquities.

**Berne Castle.** Near Shengay, not far from Roydon, on the north-west, stood a castle called Burne Castle, which was burnt during the barons wars, in the reign of Henry the Third, by one Ribald de Insula, sometimes called Ribald L' Ille.

**Roman camps, coins, &c.** At Arbury, or Arborough, about a mile north of Cambridge, there are the remains of a Roman camp in a figure inclining to a square, and of very considerable extent. In this camp there have been found many Roman coins, particularly one of silver, with the head of Rome on one side, and Castor and Pollux on horseback on the other. Near this spot is the place called Chesterton, probably from this camp or *Castrum*.

Over against Arborough, to the south-east of Cambridge, and at a small distance from it, are certain high hills, called by the students of the university *Gog magog Hills*: on the top of these hills there is an intrenchment of a rude circular figure, which is 246 paces in diameter: it is fortified with three rampires, having two ditches between them, as the manner then was; and it is supposed that if it could have been supplied with water, it would at that time have been impregnable.

Some have imagined this camp to be Roman, as the Romans did not always reject a circular figure when the situation made it more convenient than another. Others think it was a summer retreat of the Danes, who are known to have committed great barbarities in this country: and some are of opinion that the work is British, and was thrown up to check the Romans, who were encamped at Arborough, over against it. Gervase of Tilbury, an historian of the thirteenth century, thinks it was a camp of the Vandals, when they destroyed the Christians, and desolated great part of the country. He therefore gives it the name of *Vandelbiria*, which has been since corrupted into *Wandlebury*: Gervase relates also, that this place was haunted by some *perurbed spirit*, which assumed the appearance of a man in compleat armour. Near this camp, from the brow of the hill southward, there runs a Roman way; and in the year 1685, many Roman coins were found in an adjacent spot.

At

At Burwell, near Newmarket heath, there was anciently a castle, of which Ancient fortifications. scarce any vestige is remaining.

At Audre, formerly called Erith and Athered, not many miles south of Ely, there is a rampire, very large, but not high, called Belfar's Hill, from one Belfar, a person unknown.

In this county there are several very wide, deep, and long ditches, which were Ditches. cut by the East Angles, to keep out the Mercians. The first, called Flemish-dyke, begins at Hinkelton, or Hinxton, not far to the south-west of Lynton, and runs eastward, by Hilderham, to Horseheath, at the distance of about five miles: the second, called Brent ditch, runs from Milbourne, on the north side of Royston, by Fulmer: the third, called Seven Mile-dyke, because it is seven miles from Newmarket, is situated at the end of a causeway three miles long, which was thrown up by Henry Hery, doctor of laws, master of Trinity-Hall, leading from Stourbridge fair towards Newmarket. This dyke begins on the east side of the river Cam, and runs in a straight line as far as Baltham. Five miles to the east, and one mile and an half distant from Newmarket, is a fourth ditch, which being a stupendous work, much superior to the rest, has obtained the name of Devil's dyke, the common people supposing it to be more adequate to the power of spirits than men. It begins at Rech, and running many miles over Newmarket heath, it ends near Cowlidge. Some writers have thought that Seven Mile-dyke and Devil's dyke, were the work of Canutus the Dane, but the Devil's dyke is mentioned by Abbo Floriacensis, an historian who died in the tenth century, and Canutus did not begin his reign till the beginning of the eleventh: they were called St. Edmund's Ditches in ancient times, and were probably the work of St. Edmund, king of the East Angles.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

It is said that St. Felix the Apostle, and the first bishop of the East Angles, founded a monastery, and placed the episcopal see, at Solham in this county, where a great church was also built by Luttingus, a noble Saxon. A monastery of monks flourished here, and became famous under Abbot Wenefrid, but they were all destroyed and the church laid in ashes, by the Danes under Ingvar and Hubba, about the year 870.

There is a tradition that king Ethelbert founded a church, or monastery, at a place called Cradindene, about one mile from Ely, at the instance of St. Augustine: but it is with good reason rejected as fabulous. It is believed upon better authority, that a religious society was first founded here about the year 673, by Etheldreda, one of the daughters of king Anna, who married Tombert, prince of this country, and after his death became the wife of Egfrid, king of Northumberland. The church was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and the service of God was performed in it both by monks and nuns, who lived together under the government of an abbess, as was the custom in those early times. The royal foundress was herself the first abbess, and the society, which soon became famous, continued near 200 years, when the country was over-run, and all the religious houses destroyed by Hubba in 870. Some years after, a few of the monks, who had escaped the massacre, returned; and having repaired some part of the church and buildings,

ings, lived in them as secular priests, under the government of provosts, or arch-priests, for about one hundred years. In the year 970, Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, wholly rebuilt the monastery with great magnificence; and having amply endowed it, partly by his own donations, and partly by the munificence of king Edgar, he once more introduced an abbat and regular clergy. In 1108 the see of a new bishoprick, taken out of the diocese of Lincoln, was established here; the bishop was substituted in the place of the abbat, as governor of the monastery, and the revenues were divided between him and the prior and monks. The share of the bishop was valued at the dissolution at 2134*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.* *per annum*; and that of the convent at 1084*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* There were then in it a prior, and between thirty and forty Benedictine monks; and upon their surrender, king Henry the Eighth placed here a dean and eight secular canons, or prebendaries, with vicars, lay clerks, choristers, a schoolmaster and usher, and twenty-four king's scholars, and endowed them with the fine and great part of the lands belonging to the priory. The old monastery was dedicated to St. Peter, and St. Etheldreda, commonly called St. Audrey. It is said that Ely, as a city, gradually rose out of this monastery, as the buildings and inhabitants increased after the bishoprick was settled there, and the depredations of the Danes had been repaired.

There was also an old hospital here, probably founded by some of the bishops, and maintained out of the episcopal revenue. This hospital was one of two that were dedicated, one to St. John the Baptist, the other to St. Mary Magdalen; both were united by bishop Norwold about the year 1240, and managed by some of the monks of the priory till 1458, when bishop Gray made one of his secular chaplains master, or warden. It was valued at 25*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* *per annum*, and granted by queen Elizabeth to Clare-Hall.

Saxulph, the first abbat of Peterborough, is said to have built a monastery, or rather an hermitage, at Thorney, the place described by William of Malmshury as a terrestrial paradise, so early as the time of St. Etheldreda. In the year 870, the house was destroyed, and the prior and several anchorites were murdered by the Danes. In 972, Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, refounded it for Benedictine monks, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. At the dissolution its revenue was valued at 411*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* *per annum*. At this place there was also an hospital for poor persons, under the government of the abbey.

At Horningsfey, near Cambridge, there was a monastery of some note in the early Saxon times, which, after its destruction by the Danes, was never rebuilt.

At Chatteris, near Garter's Bridge, in the fens, a nunnery of Benedictines was founded to the honour of the Blessed Virgin, by Alfwen, wife of Ethelstan earl of the East Angles, and nurse to king Edgar, about the year 980. At the suppression it was endowed with 97*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* *per annum*.

At Elstefey, now called Ellisfey, or Elsfey, near St. Neots, in the road from Cambridge, there was an old nunnery, which was destroyed at the Conquest.

At Swavefey, on the borders of Huntingdonshire, a little south-east of St. Ives, there was about the time of the Conquest, a cell of Benedictines belonging

to the abbey of St. Sergius and Briocus, at Angiers, which was sold to the priory of St. Anne, near Coventry, by the French abbat, during our wars with France, by licence from Richard the Second.

At Barnwell, Pain Peverel, a famous soldier, who was standard bearer to Robert duke of Normandy in the holy wars, built a priory in honour of St. Giles and St. Andrew, for thirty canons of the order of St. Augustine. At the dissolution its revenue was 256 l. 11 s. 10 d. *per annum*.

At Anglesey, a priory of Black canons was founded by Henry the First, to the honour of the Blessed Virgin and St. Nicholas. At the dissolution there were eleven canons in it; and the annual revenue was 149 l. 18 s. 6 d.

At Shengay there was a preceptory of Knights Hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem, given to that order by Sibylla de Raines, daughter of Roger earl of Montgomery, in the year 1140: it was worth, at the suppression, 171 l. 4 s. 6 d. *per annum*.

At Cambridge there were many religious houses both for monks and nuns. There was a Benedictine nunnery near Greencroft, so early as 1130, which being afterwards forsaken, was converted into the college, now called Jesus College; the revenue of which, at the dissolution, was no more than 87 l. 18 s. 3 d. *per annum*. There was an old hospital for a master and brethren, founded in the time of Nigellus, who was bishop of Ely, in the reign of Henry the Second, to the honour of St. John the Evangelist; the revenue of which, just before the dissolution, was valued at 80 l. 1 s. 10 d. *per annum*. It was dissolved by Henry the Seventh, for the irregularity of the members, and the site was granted to the lady Margaret, countess of Richmond, who made it the foundation of St. John's College. There was also a house of Mendicant Franciscan friars, commonly called Grey friars. These friars were first placed in an old synagogue near the common prison, by the magistrates of the town, in the time of Henry the Third, and were afterwards removed to the spot on which Sidney College has been since built. The original founder is said to have been king Henry the Third; and Edward the First was probably the donor of their new situation. Another order of Mendicant friars, called Bethlehemites, fixed themselves in a house in Trumpington Street, about the year 1257. In the same street also stood a house and church of Friars de Penitentia Jesu Christi, who were founded by Henry the Third, and continued till the suppression of the order at the council of Lyons in 1307. A priory of Black Dominican, or Preaching Friars, was founded in this town by the charity of several devout people before the year 1275, and was much enlarged by Alice, the widow of Robert de Vere, the second earl of Oxford. The revenue does not appear. The friars Heremits, of the order of St. Augustine, had a house in or near the Peas Market, in St. Edward's parish, about the year 1290: the founder was Sir Jeffrey Picheford, knight. The value does not appear. About the year 1291, a convent of White canons from Sempringham, settled themselves at the old chapel of St. Edmund the King, over against Peter-House, which they had of B. fil. Walteri. The annual value at the dissolution, was 14 l. 8 s. 8 d. About the year 1324, Herveus de Stanton, chancellor of the exchequer, founded a college for a master and several students, to the honour of St. Michael. This, with all its revenues, valued at 124 l. 15 s. 6 d. *per annum*,

was included in the royal foundation of Trinity College, by Henry the Eighth, in 1546.

At Denny, not far from Cambridge, some Benedictine monks from Ely had a house and church, dedicated to St. James and St. Leonard, before the year 1169; in the next century they were succeeded by Templars; and in the century following by nuns; for the manor of Denny being given by Edward the Third to Mary de St. Paulo, widow to Adomarc earl of Pembroke, she founded a monastery for an abbeſs and nuns Minoriffes, to the honour of the Blessed Virgin and St. Clare; and to this monastery another from Waterbech was soon united. At the general diſſolution there were in the abbey of Denny twenty-five nuns, who were endowed with lands to the value of 172 l. 8 s. 3 d. *per annum*.

At Ickleton, on the borders of the county, not far from Cheſterford, in Eſſex, Aubrey de Vere, the firſt earl of Oxford, in the time of Henry the Second, or Sir William de Cantelupe, father to Euphemia, his firſt wife, founded a Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. At the diſſolution it conſiſted of a prioceſs and eleven nuns; and was endowed with 71 l. 9 s. 10 d. *per annum*.

At Chippenham, near Newmarket, there was a preceptory of the Knights Hoſpitalers, ſubordinate to their great houſe in London; the manor being given them by William de Mandeville, earl of Eſſex, in 1184. It was uſed as a country houſe for the ſick; and the revenue was valued at 33 l. 6 s. 8 d. *per annum*.

At Great Wilberham, a little to the north-eaſt of Cambridge, there was a habitation of Knights Templars, which, with their other eſtates, came into the poſſeſſion of the knights of St. John of Jeruſalem.

At Upwell, in Wiſſich hundred, in the iſle of Ely, formerly called Mirmaud, there was a ſmall priory of Gilbertines, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and given as a cell to Sempringham, by Ralph de Hauville, in the time of Richard the Firſt, or John. It was valued at 10 l. 7 s. 7 d. *per annum*.

At Swaffham Bulbec, a little weſt of Newmarket, there was a Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to St. Mary, by one of the Bulbecs, a family of great diſtinction in this country, before the time of king John. At the diſſolution there were found in it a prioceſs and eight nuns, who had a revenue of forty pounds *per annum*.

At Spinney, near Soham, there was a priory for three regular canons of the order of St. Auguſtine. It was built and endowed in the time of Henry the Third, by Sir Hugh de Malebiſſe, who married the lady of the manor; and it was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and the Holy Croſs. In 1449, it was united to the cathedral monastery of Ely.

At Fordham, a little to the north-weſt of Newmarket, was a ſmall convent of Gilbertine canons, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Mary Magdalen. King Henry the Third gave the church, and Sir Hugh Malebiſſe was a conſiderable benefactor. It was endowed at the ſuppreſſion with 40 l. 13 s. 4 d. *per annum*.

At

At Longfow, near the borders of Huntingdonshire, an hospital for poor sisters was founded by the vicar, about the time of Henry the Third, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin.

At Sturbridge there was an hospital for lepers, called St. Mary Magdalen's: it was leased by Henry the Eighth at the dissolution, to the town of Cambridge; but the annual value does not appear.

At Lynton there was an alien priory, subordinate to the abbey of St. Jacutus de Infula, in Brittany, before the time of Henry the Third. It was seized by the crown during the French wars; and at the suppression was valued at 23l. 8s. 10d. a year.

At Helham, a little to the north-east of Soham, there was a priory which, like Lynton, was a cell to the abbey of St. Jacutus, in Brittany. It was valued at 10l. 13s. 4d. *per annum*.

At Waterbech, not far from Denny abbey, the lady Dionysia de Monte Canisso, in the year 1293, built the abbey of Nuns Minorifics, whom the countess of Pembroke removed to her foundation at Denny.

Near the bridge at Wittlesford, a village south of Cambridge, in the road from London to Newmarket, there was an hospital as early as the time of Edward the First. It seems to have been founded by one William Colville, and was dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

At Barcham, in the parish of Lynton, in the time of Edward the First, there was a priory of Crouchid or Crossed Friars, which was a cell to Welnetham, in Suffolk; and Welnetham was subordinate to the great house of that order in London.

At Wicken, near Soham, there was a house which the lady Mary Baffingburn, in the fifteenth of Edward the Second, gave with several parcels of land to the convent of Spinney, upon condition that seven poor old men should be maintained in it, with an allowance to each of one furthing loaf, one herring, and one pennyworth of ale every day; and three ells of linen, one woollen garment, one pair of shoes, and two hundred dry turf every year.

At Wisbich there was an hospital dedicated to St. John the Baptist, before the year 1343.

At Newton, near Wisbich, in the chapel of St. Mary Super Costeram Maris, there was a large chantry, consisting of a warden and several chaplains, founded by Sir John Colville, in the reign of Henry the Fourth, and being particularly excepted in the act of dissolution, the lands became annexed to the rectory of Newton.

At Liverington, not far from Newton, there was an old hospital, which is long since decayed, and the revenue swallowed up.

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

And there was a small priory at Thirling, near Upwell.

All the religious institutions in this county, not here mentioned, are included in the account of the antiquities of the University.

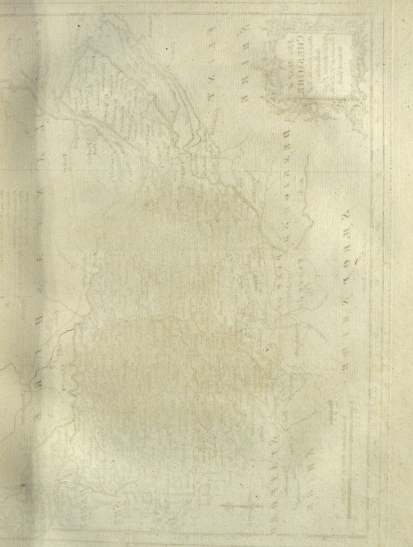
## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

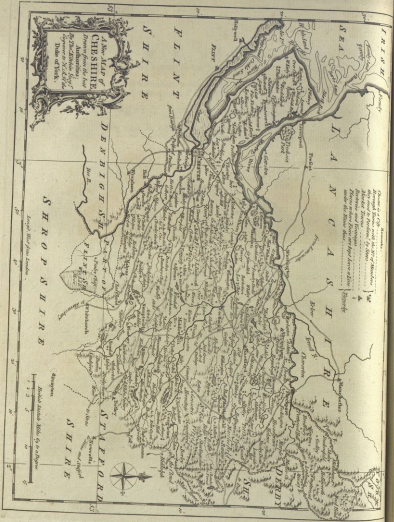
This county sends six members to parliament: two knights of the shire, two burgeses for the town of Cambridge, and two representatives for the university.



CHE









*H. Knight delin.*

*J. Ryland sculp.*

*HALTON CASTLE.*

*P. 72*

C H E S H I R E.

N A M E.

**C**HESHIRE, the present name of this county, is a contraction of Cheshire, and derived from Chelster, the name of its city. It is a county palatine\*, great part of which is a champaign, called by king Edward the First, for its great fruitfulness, Vale Royal of England.

BOUNDARIES, SITUATION and EXTENT.

Cheshire is bounded on the north by Lancashire, on the east and south-east by Derbyshire and Staffordshire, on the south by Shropshire, and part of Flintshire, and on the west and north-west by Denbighshire and the Irish sea, into which the north-west corner shoots out, and forms a peninsula near sixteen miles long and seven broad, called Wiral. The sea breaking on each side of this peninsula, forms two creeks, one between the north-east side of the peninsula and the south-west coast of Lancashire; the other between the south-west side of it and the north-east coast of Flintshire: these two creeks receive all the rivers of the county. The whole county is about five and forty miles long, and five and twenty broad

\* See the Introduction.

in

in its greatest extent; and the city of Chester is about 182 miles nearly north-west from London.

#### RIVERS.

The principal rivers are the Mersee, the Weaver, and the Dee. The Mersee runs from the north-east westward, and dividing this county from Lancashire, falls into the northern creek of the peninsula. The Weaver rises in Shropshire, runs from south to north, and falls also into the northern creek. The Dee rises from two springs near Bala, a market town in Merionethshire, in Wales, and is a name supposed to have been derived from *Dwy*, which in the ancient British language signifies the number *two*; it runs north-east, through Merionethshire and Denbighshire, and then directing its course north, and separating Cheshire from North Wales, falls into the southern creek of the peninsula. The Dee abounds with salmon; and it is remarkable that the longest and heaviest rains never cause it to overflow, though it always floods the neighbouring fields, when the wind blows fresh at south-west. The British name of this river is *Dyffyr dwy*, a word signifying *the water of two springs*. The Romans called it *Devæ*, probably from *Dyffyr*; and its present name is evidently derived from the same source. Of the names of the Mersee and Weaver, there is no account. Besides these rivers there are several meres and lakes of considerable extent, which abound with carp, tench, bream, eels, and other fish.

#### AIR and SOIL.

The air of this county is serene and healthful, but proportionably colder than the more southern parts of the island. The country is in general flat and open, though it rises into hills on the borders of Staffordshire and Derbyshire, and contains several forests, two of which, called Delamere and Macclesfield, are of considerable extent. The soil, in many parts, is naturally fertile; and its fertility is greatly increased by a kind of marle, or fat clay, of two sorts, one white and the other red, which the peasants find in great abundance, and spread upon their lands as manure: corn and grass is thus produced with the most plentiful increase; and the pasture is said to be the sweetest of any in the kingdom. There are however several large tracts of land covered with heath and moss, which the inhabitants can use only for fuel. The mossy tracts consist of a kind of moorish boggy earth; the inhabitants call them *wyler*, and distinguish them into white, grey, and black, from the colour of the moss that grows upon them. The white mosses, or bogs, are evidently compages of the leaves, seeds, flowers, stalks, and roots of herbs, plants, or shrubs. The grey consists of the same substances in a higher degree of putrefaction; and the only difference of the black is, that in this the putrefaction is perfect; the grey is harder, and more ponderous than the white; and the black is closer and more bituminous than either. From these mosses, square pieces like bricks are dug out, and laid in the sun to dry for fuel, and are called turfs.

#### NATURAL PRODUCTIONS and MANUFACTURES.

The chief commodities of this county are cheese, salt, and millstones. The cheese is esteemed the best in England, and furnished in great plenty by the excellent

cellent pasturage on which the cattle are fed. The salt is produced not from the water of the sea, but from salt springs, which rise in Northwich, Nantwich, and Middlewich, which are called the Salt Wiches, and Dunham, at the distance of about six miles from each other. The pits are seldom more than four yards deep, and never more than seven. In two places in Nantwich the spring breaks out in the meadows, so as to fret away the grass; and a salt liquor oozes through the earth, which is swampy to a considerable distance. The salt springs at Nantwich are about thirty miles from the sea, and generally lie along the river Weaver; yet there is an appearance of the same vein at Middlewich, nearer a little stream, called the Dane, or Dan, than the Weaver. All these springs lie near brooks, and in meadow grounds. The water is so very cold at the bottom of the pits, that the briners cannot stay in them above half an hour at a time, nor so long, without frequently drinking strong waters. Some of these springs afford much more water than others; but it is observed, that there is more salt in any given quantity of water drawn from the springs that yield little, than in the same quantity drawn from those that yield much; and that the strength of the brine is generally in proportion to the paucity of the spring. It is also remarkable, that more salt is produced from the same quantity of brine in dry weather, than in wet. Whence the brine of these springs is supplied, is a question that has never yet been finally decided: some have supposed it to come from the sea; some from subterraneous rocks of salt, which were discovered in these parts, about the middle of the last century; and others from subtil saline particles, subsisting in the air, and deposited in a proper bed. It is not probable that this water comes from the sea, because a quart of sea-water will produce no more than an ounce and an half of salt, but a quart of water from these springs, will often produce seven or eight ounces. But whether the saline rocks, or the saline particles are the cause of this phenomenon, future naturalists must determine.

The stone which is wrought into mill-stones, is dug from a quarry at Mowcop Hill, near Congleton.

#### CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into seven hundreds, and contains one city, and twelve market towns. It lies in the province of York, and diocese of Chester; and includes 124 parishes.

#### CITY and MARKET TOWNS.

The city is Chester; and the market towns are Altrincham, Congleton, Frodsham, Halton, Knottersford, Macclesfield, Malpas, Middlewich, Nantwich, Northwich, Sandbach, and Stockport.

The city of CHESTER derives its name from *Castrum*, the Latin name for a camp, the Roman Legions having several times encamped near this place, and the twentieth Legion, called *Vidrix*, being settled here by the emperor Galba, under Titus Vinius, to overawe the inhabitants of the neighbouring counties.

Chester

Chester is distant 182 miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, twenty-four aldermen, two sheriffs, and forty common council men. It has nine churches, not ill built, one of which is the cathedral, having the parish church in the south side, dedicated to St. Werburg; the others are dedicated to St. John, St. Peter, the Trinity, St. Michael, St. Bridget, St. Olave, St. Mary, and St. Martin. The cathedral, with the bishop's palace, and the houses of the prebendaries, are on the north side of the city, which is built in a square form, and surrounded by a wall, with battlements, that is two miles in compass. The two principal streets intersect each other at right angles, and form an exact cross. At the intersection, which is nearly in the center of the city, there is a spacious area, called the Pentife, in which stand the town-house, with an exchange, a neat building, supported by columns thirteen feet high, of one stone each. The houses, which in general are timber, are very large and spacious, and are built with a piazza before them, so that foot passengers go from one end of the city to the other, under complete shelter from the weather. This manner of building however has its disadvantage; for the shops, which lie behind the piazza, are very close and dark, and in other respects inconvenient. These piazzas are called rows; and the pavement is considerably above the level of the street, into which there are descents by steps, placed at convenient distances. The city has four gates, one at each end of the two great streets, which are placed exactly east, west, north, and south, and a castle, on a rising ground on the south side, which is in part surrounded by the river Dee, and is a place of considerable strength. A garrison is always kept in it. It has a governor, lieutenant-governor, a master gunner, store-keeper, and furnisher of small arms. In this castle there is a stately hall, something like that at Westminster, where the palatine courts and assizes are held. There are also offices for the records, and a prison for the county. The walls of the city join the castle on the south side; and from thence the top of the wall would afford a walk quite round the city, if it was not for the towers that are built over the gates. Near the castle there is a bridge of twelve arches, over the Dee. At each end of the bridge there is a gate, over one of which is a tower, whence the city is well supplied with water, that is raised by mills, from the river.

A little below Chester, on the south side of the peninsula, called Wiral, is Parkgate, the port at which passengers from England to Ireland take shipping, and passengers from Ireland to England come on shore, which is of considerable advantage to the trade of Chester.

To this city there is a suburb, called Hanbrid, by the inhabitants, but by the Welch *Tredstob*, burnt town, a name which it acquired from its having been often burnt by them, in their incursions into Cheshire.

There is a charity school for 40 boys, who are taught, clothed, and maintained, by a fund of 500 l. and seventy pounds a-year subscription. And there is a considerable manufacture of tobacco-pipes, which are made of clay, brought from the Isle of Wight, Pool, and Biddeford, and are said to be the best in Europe.

ALTRINCHAM, or ALTRINCHAM, is 152 miles from London, and situated between Warrington and Stockport, near the borders of Lancashire. It is governed by

by a mayor of an ancient institution, but no mention is made of its buildings, not even of a church.

CONGLETON is so called from its old name *Condatum*, which it is supposed to have derived from *Condate*, a town in ancient Gaul, whence it was peopled. It is distant from London 157 miles; and stands on the borders of Staffordshire. The town is well built, though it is ancient, and the middle of it is watered by the little brook Howtey, the east side by the Daning Schow, and the north by the Dan, over which it has a bridge. It is very populous, and in ancient writings is called a borough. It is now a corporation, governed by a mayor and six aldermen; and has two churches. It is said, in all the books that mention it, some of which are of a very late date, to carry on a considerable trade in leather gloves, purses, and points. But if it was to furnish all the leather *purses* and *points* that are now used in the kingdom, its trade in these articles would scarce produce twenty shillings a-year. Gloves however are still worn, and in gloves its manufacture may still be considerable.

FRODSHAM is a sea port, distant from London 162 miles. It is situated on the river Weaver, near its conflux with the Mersee, and has a stone bridge over it. It consists of one long street, at the west end of which there is a castle, that for many ages was the seat of the earls Rivers. It has a church, which stands at a field's length from the town, near a lofty hill, called Frodsam Hill, the highest in the county, on which there has been used to be a beacon. About a mile from this town, in the way to Halton, is a bridge over the Weaver, of brick, called Frodsam Bridge.

HALTON, or HAULTON, *i. e.* HIGH TOWN, is so called from its situation, which is an hill about two miles north of Frodsam, and about 163 miles distant from London. It has a castle, said to have been built by Hugh Lupus, to whom the county was granted by William the Conqueror, which, with the barony, belongs to the dutchy of Lancaster, and maintains a large jurisdiction in the county round it, by the name of Halton Fee, or the Honour of Halton, having a court of record, and a prison. The king's officers of the dutchy keep a law-day at the castle every year, about Michaelmas; and a court is held there once a fortnight, to determine all matters within their jurisdiction. The inhabitants claim a market here by prescription; and there is a small market held here on a Saturday; but the town has not been generally considered as a market town, nor registered as such.

KNOTTESFORD, NUTSFORD, or CANUTE'S FORD, 154 miles from London, stands near the Mersee, and is divided into two parts, called the Upper and the Lower town, by a rivulet, called Bicken. In the Upper town there is a church; and in the Lower, a chapel of ease, the market, and town-house.

MACCLESFIELD, or MAXFIELD, is 151 miles from London. It is situated on the river Bollin, and is a borough, governed by a mayor. It has a church, which is a fair edifice, with a high steeple, in form of a spire; but it is rather a chapel than a church, for it stands in the parish of Prestbury. On the south side of the church there is a college, founded by Thomas Savage, who was first bishop of London, and then archbishop of York: there is also on the same side, an oratory,

ry, built by the Leighs of Lime. In this place there is a free school, of an ancient foundation; and the chief manufacture is buttons.

MALPAS derives its name from the narrow, steep rugged way to it. The Romans called it *Malo passus*; and the Normans *Malpas*, the name which it still retains. It is 157 miles from London, and situated on a high hill, on the borders of Shropshire, not far from the Dee. It consists principally of three streets, which are now well paved. It has a stately church, which stands on the highest part of the town; and the benefice is so considerable, that it supports two rectors, who officiate alternately. It had formerly a castle; and has now a grammar school, and an hospital.

MIDDLEWICH, so called because it stands between Namptwich and Northwich, is distant 156 miles from London, and stands on the conflux of the Dan with the Croke. It is an ancient borough, governed by burgesses: it consists of many streets and lanes; and is very populous. The salt water springs here are said to produce more salt, in proportion to the brine, than those at any other place. The parish extends into many townships; and the town has a spacious church.

NAMPTWICH lies in the Vale Royal, on the river Weaver, and is distant from London 164 miles. It is the greatest and best built town in the county, except Chester; the streets are regular, and adorned with many gentlemen's houses; the church is a large and beautiful structure, built in the form of a cross, like a cathedral, with a steeple in the middle. It has two charity schools; one for 40 boys, and the other for 30 girls. The inhabitants carry on a considerable trade in cheese and salt, both which are made here in the utmost perfection: they also derive considerable advantages from its being the greatest thoroughfare to Ireland; and from the traffic which is carried on at their great weekly fair, for corn and cattle.

NORTHWICH is 159 miles distant from London, and stands on the river Weaver, near its conflux with the Dan. It appears by the buildings, to be of considerable antiquity; and is so near the center of the county, that it is generally made the place of meeting to transact publick affairs. It has a good church, with a fine roof, and semicircular choir: it has also a charity school, for teaching ten boys to read, write, and cypher. The salt that is made here is not so white as that made at other places; but about sixty years ago, there was discovered, on the south side of the town, many mines of rock salt, which have been wrought ever since with great diligence, and the salt sent in great lumps to the sea ports, where it is dissolved and manufactured for use. Some of the quarries are now 150 feet deep, and have a very splendid appearance: they are supported by regular rows of pillars; and the roof and sides sparkle like crystal, with the light of innumerable candles, that are continually burning when the miners are at work; so that the whole looks venerable and striking, not unlike a subterraneous cathedral.

SANDBACH is 153 miles from London, and is delightfully situated, on the river Wheelock, which flows in three streams from Mowcop Hill, and falls into the Dan, a little above the town. It has a church, with a lofty steeple; and in the market place there are two stone crosses, elevated on steps, and adorned  
with



with several images; and the history of the sufferings of Christ carved in basso-relievo.

STOCKPORT, sometimes called STOFFORD, is 160 miles distant from London, and situated on the south side of the river Mersee, over which it had a bridge, but it was blown up in the year 1745, to prevent the rebel army, which had marched from the north of Scotland into the center of this kingdom, from returning that way.

#### NATURAL HISTORY and CURIOSITIES.

In this county there are several mineral springs, particularly at Stockport there is a chalybeate said to be stronger than that at Tunbridge. In the morasses, or moories, whence the country people cut their turf, or peat, for fuel, there are marine shells in great plenty, pine cones, nuts and shells, trunks of fir trees, and fir apples, with many other exotic substances. The morasses, in which these substances are found, are frequently upon the summits of high mountains; and the learned have been much divided in their opinions how they came there. The general opinion is, that they were brought thither by a deluge, not merely from their situation, but because seven or eight vast trees are frequently found lying much closer to each other than it was possible they should grow; and under the trees are frequently found the exuvia of animals, as shells and bones of fishes; and particularly the head of an hippopotamus was dug from one of these moors, some years ago, and was seen by Dr. Leigh, who has written the Natural History of this county. There are however substances of a much later date than the general deluge, found among these trees and exuvia, particularly a brass kettle, a millstone, and some amber beads, which were given to the doctor soon after they were dug up. The fir trees are dug up by the peasants, and are so full of turpentine, that they are cut out into slips and used instead of candles.

At Sanghall, near Chester, there lived in the year 1668, a woman aged 72, who had two horns growing out of the right side of her head, a little above her ear. When she was eight and twenty years old, an excrescence grew out of this part of her head, which resembled a wen; after it had continued two and thirty years it shot out into two horns, about three inches long; after they had continued five years she cast them, and two more came up in their room; after four years she cast these; and those which were growing when this account was taken, had grown four years, and were then loose.

Doctor Leigh mentions a kind of sheep, in the park of Stripperly, belonging to John Leigh of Adlington, which differed from all other sheep in the kingdom: he supposes them to be natives of this county, and says they are larger than most others, and are covered rather with hair than wool; that all of them have four horns, which sometimes are of an extraordinary size: the two horns next the neck are erect, like those of goats, but larger; and the two next the forehead are curved, like those of other sheep. The doctor doubts whether these sheep are a particular species, or whether they might not be produced at the first by goats and sheep engendering together; but as the words of *the fable*, seem to imply that they had afterwards increased by engendering among themselves, this cannot

not be admitted, without departing from the general opinion universally confirmed, with respect to mules, that creatures of a mixed breed are a sort of monsters, and never propagate their kind. The flesh of these sheep was different from that of other mutton, and had some resemblance in colour and taste to the flesh of goats.

There is a small wild white heart cherry, peculiar to a little spot in this county near Frodham; where there is also a free-stone rock, in which the belemnites, or thunderbolt, has been often found.

At Norton Hall, a seat of Sir Thomas Brook, near the northern boundary of the county, about four miles distant from Warrington, in Lancashire, there is a remarkable echo. There is a wall about one hundred and twenty yards long, at one end of which are some steps that lead into the house; about the middle there is a round tower with a gate in it, and at the other end another tower and gate of the same kind: if a flute is sounded on the steps, it is scarce heard at all at the first gate; but at the distance of thirty yards from it, nearer to the farther tower, is heard very distinctly, not however as coming from the steps where it is sounded, but from the farther tower; but upon approaching ten yards still nearer to the farther tower, it is no longer heard from that gate, but from the steps where it is sounded.

A N T I Q U I T I E S.

Ancient history of this county.

Cheshire was one of the counties which in the British times was inhabited by the Cornavii, a word of which the derivation is not known; and under the Saxon Heptarchy it was included in the kingdom of Mercia. The Saxons called the county *Leofscype-ryne*, from *Leofscype*, the name of the city, whence Cheshire, the present name, is evidently derived. It continued in the possession of the successors of Creda, the founder of the kingdom of Mercia, about 200 years, and then fell into the hands of the Danes. About the year 877, Alfred the Great, having recovered it from the Danes, made it a province to the kingdom of the West Saxons, and appointed Etheldred, a descendant of the kings of Mercia, to be its governor or shirereeve. After the death of Etheldred, the government of this county devolved to his widow, Edelfleda; and at her death, descended to Etheldred's posterity, till, with the rest of England, it came once more into the hands of the Danes, under Canutus. Canutus committed it to the government of Leofric, who assumed the old title of Earl or Comes. From Leofric it descended to his son Algar, and from Algar to Edwin, who were successive earls of Cheshire; and in the time of Edwin it was subdued by William the Norman, who gave it as a principality, first to Gerhord, a nobleman of Flanders, who had greatly assisted him in his enterprise against England, and then to Hugh Lupus, his nephew, to whom he gave a palatine or sovereign jurisdiction, by a grant of this county, "to hold to him and his heirs, as freely by the sword, as the king held the crown of England."

By this grant Cheshire became a county palatine, with sovereign jurisdiction within its own precincts, in so high a degree, that Lupus, and many of his successors, had parliaments, consisting of their own barons and tenants, who were not bound by the acts of the general parliament of the kingdom. This power of

the earls of Chester, which was originally proposed in them to enable them more effectually to repress any attempt of the neighbouring people to recover their independency, was, after the kingdom had long submitted quietly to the Conqueror, no longer necessary for this purpose; and being at length become formidable to the king himself, Henry the Eighth restrained it, and rendered it dependant upon the crown; though all pleas concerning property, whether real or personal, are still heard and determined in the county, though cases of felony and treason are determined by the judges itinerary in their circuit.

The city of Chester was called *Deunana* by Ptolemy, and by Antoninus, *De-* Antiquities of  
Chester.  
*va*, from the river *Dee*. The Britons called it *Caer-Legion*, *Legion City*, from the Roman troops encamped there; and the Saxons gave it the name of *Leges-cester*.

Chester is supposed by some to have been a city before the time of the Romans, and to have been called *Genuina*, or *Gunia*; and by others, to have become a city by the gradual increase of buildings, which were necessary to accommodate the persons that resorted thither on various occasions, while it was the station of the twentieth Roman Legion, called *Valeria Victrix*, or *Valens Victrix*. The wall is supposed by some to have been built by *Edelfleda*, and the castle and cathedral by *Hugh Lupus*, the earl of the county, soon after the Norman Conquest. Several authors however mention the castle of Chester, in the Danish and Saxon times; it is therefore probable, that *Lopus* only repaired or rebuilt the castle, especially as there is now a square tower belonging to it, which tradition has ascribed to *Julius Caesar*; and though there should not appear sufficient authority to believe that this tower was the work of *Caesar*, yet the tradition must be allowed as good evidence, that there was a castle here long before the Norman Conquest. There seems also sufficient reason to conclude that *Lopus* did not originally build the cathedral, but repaired it only.

That this place was considerable in the Roman times, appears incontestibly from the vast vaults and foundations, coins, altars, pavements, and other antiquities, that have been found near it, and known to have been Roman; some of which prove Chester to have been a colony anno Dom. 211.

Many tiles have been dug up here, on which is inscribed, *COL. DIVANA LEG. XX. VICTRIX*. In the year 1653, an altar was dug up with this inscription:

J. O. M. TANARO T. ELUPIUS GALER. PRAESENS GWJA. PRI.  
LEG. XX. W. COMMODO. ET LATERANO COS. V. S. L. M.

Which is read as follows: *Jovi Optimo Maximo Tanaro Titus E Lupius Galerius Praefens Gubernator Principibus Legionis Victricis Valeriae Commodo et Laterano Consulibus Potam Solvit Lubens Merito.*

Another altar was also found some time afterwards, with this inscription:

PRO. SAL. DOMNORUM. NN. INVICTISSIMORUM AUGG. GENO  
LOCI FLAVIUS. LONG. TRIB. MIL. LEG. XX. LONGNVS FI. EIVS.  
DOMO SAMOSATA. V. S.

It

It was discovered in digging for a cellar, at the house of one Heath, lying with the inscription downward, upon a stone two feet square, which is supposed to have been its pedestal; on the left side of it was a flower pot; on the top a corymb, or cavity; in the bottom of that cavity a young face, supposed to be that of the Genius; on the back, ornaments of drapery of uncertain figures; on the right side a Genius, standing with a cornucopia in his left hand; the right hand was cut off by the workmen, in digging it out, before they knew what it was. The foundation was broad, consisting of many large stones, and it lay deep. The earth about it was solid, but of several colours, and mixed with ashes. In this earth, near the foundation, were found the bones, horns, and heads of several creatures, supposed to have been sacrificed there; with two coins, one of brass, and the other of copper; on the first side of the brass coin was this inscription: Imp. Caes. Vespasian. Aug. Cos. III. and the face of the emperor; on the reverse, Victoria Augusti S. C. and a winged Victory standing. On the first side of the copper coin was, Fl. Val. Constantius Nob. C. and the face of Constantius; on the reverse, Genio Populi Romani, and a Genius standing, holding a sacrificial bowl in the right hand, and in the left a cornucopia.

In a ruinous fabric, called the Chapter, there was discovered, about thirty years ago, a skeleton, supposed to be the remains of Hugh Lupus: the bones were very fresh, and in their natural position: they were wrapped in leather, and contained in a stone coffin; the legs were bound together at the ancles, and the string was intire. In the Cathedral, among other ancient monuments, is the tomb of Henry the Fourth, emperor of Germany, who is said to have abdicated his kingdom, and lived the life of an hermit, at Chester, altogether unknown, till he discovered himself to the priest, who confessed him, just before he expired.

*Ancient towers and castles.* On the south side of the entrance into the peninsula called Wiral, there was anciently a royal castle, of which scarce the remains are now to be seen.

To the east of Wiral lies the forest of Delamere, in which Edelfleda built a city, which she called Eateburg, Happy Town, of which, in Camden's time, only a heap of rubbish remained, which was called the Chamber of the Forest. From this city Eadsburg-Hall, an old building near this place, which gives name to an eminent family, and one of the hundreds of this county, was probably denominated.

At a little distance are the ruins of Finborough, another town, said to have been built by the same lady.

At a little distance from Delamere Forest, near a village called Bunbury, stands Beeston Castle, which was built by Ranulph the Third, the sixth earl of Chester after the Conquest, when he returned from the holy war. This Ranulph began his government in the year 1180, and having governed something more than fifty years, died 1232. The castle, which covers a great extent of ground, stands upon a hill, and is fortified, as well by the mountains, that almost surround it, as by its wall, and the great number of its towers: the chief of these towers was supplied with water from a well that is now ninety-one yards deep, though it is supposed to be near half filled up with rubbish, that has either fallen

fallen into it by accident, or been thrown in by design. This castle is now in a ruinous condition; but Leland, in some verses which he wrote upon it, says, that if old prophecies are to be believed, it will in some future time recover its original splendor. Near this place there are many traces of ditches, and other military works.

Near Norton-Hall, which has been already mentioned on account of its remarkable echo, there have been many pieces of pigs of lead dug up, of an oblong form: the upper part of some was inscribed thus: Roman remains of antiquity.

IMP. VESP. VII. T. IMP. V. COSS.

On others, the inscription was,

IMP. DOMIT. AUG. GER. DE CEANG.

From this inscription it has been conjectured, that the Cangi, a people of the old Britons, of whom very little is now known besides the name, lived in this county; and that these pieces of lead belong to some monument of a victory gained over them by the Romans; a conjecture which is strengthened by a passage in Tacitus, from which it appears, that the Cangi were situated upon the Irish sea; and by the names of several places in this part of the country, as Cagghill, Cagleton, Keedale, and Kestland, which, by an easy corruption, may have been formed from Cangi.

There is a Roman way from Middlewich to Northwich, raised very high with gravel, and manifestly intended for publick use.

At Rudheath, some time since the feast of the Mainwarings, near Northwich, was once an asylum for criminals, where they were permitted to remain in safety a year and a day; but it was so grossly abused, that long before the reformation the privilege was taken away. An ancient asylum.

In the oratory belonging to the Leighs of Lime, on the south side of the parochial chapel at Macclesfield, there is an old epitaph on Perkin a Legh, the ancestor of the family, who received the lordship of Lime from king Edward the Third, as a reward for taking the count of Tankerville prisoner, and other military services in France, particularly at the battle of Cressly; and Sir Piers Legh, his son, who was slain at the battle of Agincourt. Monumental inscription.

This epitaph was inscribed on a plate of brass, in 1626, by Sir Peter Leigh of Lime, who found it written upon a stone in this chapel.

On the other side of the same parochial chapel, in the oratory belonging to the Savages, there is an indulgence engraved on a plate of brass, in the following words:

The pardon for saying V pater nosters and V ayes and a . . . is XXVI thousand yeres and XXVI dayes of pardon.

E C.

## ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

An episcopal see, for part of the Mercian dominions, was placed in the city of Chester, before the end of the seventh century; this was generally, though not always, under the same bishop as that of Litchfield, to which it was at length united. After the Conquest, bishop Peter quitted Litchfield, and fixed his residence at St. John's church, in Chester, where he was buried in 1102. Bishop Robert, his successor, taking greater liking to the rich monastery of Coventry, made that one of his cathedrals, and left Chester; though several bishops of Litchfield and Coventry, after this time, wrote themselves, and were written by others, bishops of Chester.

In this city there was early in the Saxon times a religious house, probably a nunnery, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul; whither, as a place of safety from the outrages of the Danes, the remains of St. Werburg were brought from Heanburgh, or Hanbury, in Staffordshire, in the year 875. St. Werburg is said to have been the daughter of Wulferus, the first Christian king of Mercia, and to have professed herself a nun very early in life, under Audria, her aunt, at Ely. She lived much at Weedon, in Northamptonshire, died at Trentham, in Staffordshire, and was first buried at Hanbury, whence, after near 200 years, she was removed to Chester. From the shrine of this virgin princess, the church of St. Peter and Paul was called St. Werburg's. It was some time after totally ruined, by the intestine commotions of the times, but it was afterwards rebuilt by Edelfeda, for secular canons; and more liberally endowed by king Edmund, king Edgar, earl Leofric, and other benefactors, in honour of St. Werburg. In the year 1093, Hugh Lupus, at the instigation of the celebrated Anselm, who was afterwards archbishop of Canterbury, expelled the seculars, and established in their stead an abbat, and convent of Benedictine monks, from Bec in Normandy, in whose possession St. Werburg's church continued, till the general dissolution, in the thirty-third year of Henry the Eighth. Henry however restored the foundation to a dean and six prebendaries, directing the church to be from that time styled the Church of Christ and the Blessed Virgin, and making Chester once more the seat of a bishop. The yearly revenues were then rated at 1003*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*

The ancient collegiate church of St. John the Baptist, in the east part of this city, is said by Giraldus Cambrensis, who was bishop elect of St. Davids about the year 1200, to have been founded by king Ethelred, in the year 689; but it is more probable, that Ethelred, who was earl of Mercia in the year 906, either founded, or at least rebuilt it, with the rest of the city; for not long afterwards, there was a celebrated church, or monastery, at Chester, dedicated to this saint, which, in the next century, was repaired by earl Leofric; and was endowed with houses and lands at the time of the Conqueror's survey. It is said that Peter, the bishop of Litchfield, when he removed the episcopal see hither, made this church his cathedral. Here was, till the suppression, a dean and seven prebendaries, or canons, who were in the collation of the bishop of Litchfield, besides seven vicars, two clerks, four choristers, sextons, and other servants. Their yearly income, in the twenty-sixth of Henry the Eighth, after reprisals, was no more than 27*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.*

Not

Not far from St. John's, was a monastery dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, which at the suppression was rated at 66*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

There was also a monastery in this city, dedicated to St. Michael, before the year 1162, as appears by a charter of Henry the Second to the canons of Nocton.

In the parish of St. Martin, there was a house of Carmelite, or White friars, built by Thomas Stadham, gentleman, in the year 1279; and a house of Black, or Preaching friars, founded by a bishop of Litchfield.

Without the north gate was an ancient hospital, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It was originally a sanctuary, and endowed with great privileges. At the suppression it consisted of a chaplain and six poor brethren; and had an annual revenue of 13*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* clear.

In the parish of the Holy Trinity, there was also a house of Grey, or Franciscan friars, which is supposed to be as ancient as the time of Henry the Third, who began to reign in 1216.

At Bromborough, anciently Brunnesburgh, in Wiral, near the river Mersey, was a monastery, founded by Edelfleda, which soon decayed; and the church was appropriated to the abbey of Chester, and has been since made part of the endowment of that dean and chapter.

At Runcorn, near the mouth of the Mersey, there was another religious house, said to have been founded by the lady Edelfleda. And in the year 1133, William Fitz Nigell built a priory for regular canons of the order of St. Austin.

This priory, in the time of king Stephen, before 1148, was removed to Norton-Hall, where there was also a priory, which at the dissolution was valued at 180*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* *per annum.*

At Combermere, near the southern boundaries of the county, an abbey was founded in the year 1133, by Hugh de Malbanc, lord of Nantwich, for Cistercian monks. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Michael, and endowed at the dissolution with 225*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* *per annum.*

At Poulton, but whether at Poulton in Wiral hundred, or Poulton in Boxton hundred, does not appear, there was a Cistercian abbey, built and endowed by Robert, who was brother to Randal, the second earl of Chester, in the year 1153. This abbey being in perpetual danger from the incursions of the Welch, the monks were translated to Dieulacres, in Staffordshire.

At Barrow, on the south-west side of Delamere forest, there was a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, which, with Yevceley in Derbyshire, was valued at 93*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

At Stanley, or Stanlaw, near Frndsham, an abbey for forty Cistercian monks was founded in the year 1172, by John Constable of Chester, and baron of Halton, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The monks of this monastery being

incommoded by the overflowings of the sea, or the waters of Mersee, were removed to Whalley, in Lancashire. Four monks however remained here, so that Stanley continued to be a small cell till the dissolution.

At Berkinhead, between the Dee and the Mersee, a priory was built by Hamon Mafly, third baron of Dunham, about the year 1189, for sixteen Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. Mary and St. James. It was subordinate to the abbey of Chester, and endowed at the dissolution with 90*l.* 13*s.* *per annum.*

At Mobberley, to the north-east of Northwich, a priory of Black canons was founded in 1206, by Patrick de Modberly, who dedicated it to the honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Wilfrid; but it continued a very short time, for it was proved that Patrick had only an estate for life, in the lands with which he had endowed it.

At Hillbree, or Hilbury, a little barren island, which lies off the end of Wiral, in the mouth of the river Dee, there is said to have been once a convent of Benedictine monks, which was a cell to Chester, and was dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At Tarvin, or Tervin, four miles east of Chester, there was an hospital, endowed out of the tithes of the parish church, by Alexander Stavenby, bishop of Litchfield, about the year 1230.

At Darnall Grange, on the south-west side of Middlewich, prince Edward, eldest son to Henry the Third, began in his father's life time, about the year 1266, to build an abbey for one hundred monks of the Cistercian order; but when he became king, in the year 1277, he laid the foundation of a stately monastery at a small distance, in a more pleasant situation, which he called Vale Royal. It was situated on the river Weaver, east of Delamere forest, and to this place the monks of Darnall were removed about the year 1281. The building however was not finished till the year 1330; and in the mean time they were much incommoded for want of room. The conventual church was dedicated to our Lord, the Virgin, St. Nicholas, and St. Nichastus; and at the dissolution it was endowed with the clear yearly value of 518*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*

At Baddington, or Babington, near Namptwich, there was an house or hospital for poor leprous persons, so early as the year 1283.

At Boughton, just without the east gate of the city of Chester, there was an almshouse for poor lepers, as early as the year 1309.

At Namptwich there was an ancient hospital, dedicated to St. Nicholas.

In the parish church of Bunbury, a village on the east side of Beeston Castle, Sir Hugh Calvely, knight, founded a college about the year 1386, for a master and six secular chaplains, to the honour of St. Boniface. Its clear value at the dissolution was 48*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.* *per annum*; and at that time the foundation consisted of a dean, five vicars, and two choristers.

At



At Denhall, or Dunwall, a village mentioned by King in his *Vale Royal*, but not in any modern list or map, there was an old hospital given by Henry the Seventh to the hospital founded by bishop Smith, at Litchfield.

At Macclesfield, a college or chantry of secular priests was founded on the south side of the parish church, about the year 1508, by Thomas Savage, a native of this place, who was afterwards archbishop of York.

MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

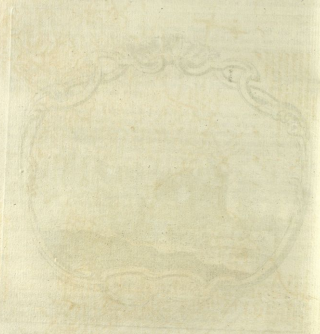
Cheshire sends four members to parliament: two for the county, and two for the city of Chester.



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MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF ...





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A New Act of  
CORNWALL

Drawn from the Eight  
Authentic  
By Thomas Riddell Esq.  
Surveyor-General of the  
Isle of Rock.



S. T. G. R. O. R. G. E. S.  
B. H. A. N. N. E. T.  
D. E. V. O. N. S. H. I. R. E.





ST. MICHAEL'S MOUNT

p. 100.

C O R N W A L L.

N A M E.

**C**ORNWALL, the most western county of England, is supposed by some to derive its name from the British word *Corn*, a horn, either because the whole county is shaped like a cornucopia, or because on the western extremity it shoots out into two promontories, or horns, called the Land's End, and the Lizard Point. Some have imagined that it was called Cornwall from *Corineus*, a supposed companion of Brute: and others have derived Cornwall from *Corn*, the British word for a rock. These derivations indeed relate only to the first syllable, *Corn*; Wall is supposed to have been originally *Wealh*, or *Wealþ*, a name given by the Saxons to every thing that was strange, or *Gaul*, a name by which they distinguished this county from other parts of Britain, when they observed that the language and customs of the inhabitants were the same as those of the Gauls, the G being afterwards changed into W, according to the German dialect.

It seems most probable, that Cornwall is a contraction of *Cornu Wallie*, which expresses both the shape of the county, and the name of the inhabitants, who were called *Welch*; the Saxons at first including Cornwall under the name  
Wales;

Wales; and indeed it has been called *Occidua Wallia*, or West Wales, by some writers of succeeding times.

### BOUNDARIES, SITUATION, and EXTENT.

Cornwall is bounded on the south, the west, and the north, by the sea, and on the east by the river Tamar, which divides it from Devonshire. Its greatest length east and west is 78 miles and an half, and its greatest width, from south-south-east to north-north-west, is 43 miles and a quarter. Launceston, the principal town, is situated about 108 miles south-west of London.

### RIVERS.

The principal rivers of Cornwall are the Tamar and the Camel. Tamar is supposed to be a British word, signifying the water of the large river. The Tamar rises in Moor-wintow, the most northern parish of this county, about three miles from the sea coast. It issues from the summit of a moor, whence part of the water descending to the north, forms the river Torridge; and the other part descending to the south, forms the Tamar. At the distance of ten miles from its source, it gives name to the small parish and village of North Tamarton, where it is crossed by a stone bridge. In its course it receives many small streams; and at Polton Bridge, a large fair stone fabric erected, as Leland says, by the abbe of Tavistock, it becomes a wide and rapid stream. As it continues its course, it passes under another, called Graistun, or Greytone Bridge, about twenty miles from its source. The stream still increasing, by the conflux of other waters, passes under a high strong stone bridge at Stoke-Clymland, or Stokelym-land, not far south of Greytone. The bridge at Stokelym-land was called Haut Bridge, i. e. High Bridge; but this name by degrees degenerated into Horse-bridge. At a small distance it passes under another bridge, sometimes called Caltock Bridge, from the parish in which it stands; and sometimes New Bridge. Five miles farther down, the Tamar becomes a spacious harbour; and passing within half a mile of Saltafs, an ancient borough, it is joined by the creek and river called Lynher; and then passing straight forward, forms the noble harbour called Hamoze, a Saxon word, signifying the wet or oozy habitation or district. At this place it makes two large creeks on the west, one called St. John's, the other Millbrook; and one creek on the east, called Stonehouse Creek; and then, after a course of about forty miles nearly south, it falls into the sea.

The Camel was anciently called the *Cablan*, by a contraction of the words *Cabm-Alan*, the crooked Alan; for Alan was its proper name. It was also sometimes called *Dannere*, the water of the hills; but it is now called Cam-el, a name signifying the Crooked River. It rises about two miles north of the borough of Camelford, and after a course of about twelve miles, it becomes navigable for barges: a few miles further, it runs by Eglos-hel, that is, the church on the river, where it receives a small stream, called the Laine, supposed to have been originally called the Eleim, a name signifying a *Young Hind*, from the swiftness of its course: about a mile farther it runs under the largest bridge in this county, called Wade Bridge. The erection of this bridge was undertaken by the vicar of Eglos-hel, in the year 1460, whose name was Lovebon, as a work of publick utility.

utility, there being at that time a ferry which could be plied only when the tide was in; and when the tide was out, the ford was very dangerous. The expence of this noble work was greatly disproportioned to his circumstances; and in the course of the work many difficulties arose, by which a mind, less ardent and less firm, would have been driven from its purpose. The foundation of some of the piers proved so swampy, that after many other expedients had been tried, without success, they were at last built upon woolpacks. But Lovebon, whatever were his difficulties and discouragements, persevered, and being assisted by the bounty of others, whose assistance he solicited with unwearied application, when his own powers were exhausted, he lived to see his bridge completed as it now stands, with seventeen arches stretching quite cross the valley, to the great emolument of his country, and the immortal honour of his name.

Small barks of fifty or sixty tons come up to this bridge, and supply the country with coals from Wales, and with lime, timber, and grocery, from Bristol. About a mile below this bridge, the Camel forms two small creeks to the east, and soon after two others to the west; after it has flowed about a mile farther, it reaches Padstow, an ancient town, where there is a pier, and some trade from Ireland, Wales, and the Bristol Channel. At this place it is near a mile wide; and there is a ferry boat to cross it. About two miles below the town, the sea has thrown a bar of sand across the haven, which prevents ships of more than 200 tons from coming in at all, and renders it dangerous even for smaller ships to come in, except when the tide is high, and the weather fair.

Besides the Tamar and the Camel, there are in this county the Lynher, the Tide, or Tidi, the Seaton, the Loo, the Duloo, the Fawy, the Fal, the Hël, the Lo, and the Heyl; besides several creeks that run up from the sea.

The Lynher is supposed to derive its name from a lake which it makes a little before it joins the Tamar at Hamoze. *Lyn*, in the Cornubriish language, signifies Lake, and *êr* signifies long; Lynher therefore is *Long Lake*. This river rises on some hills, in a parish called Altaran, about eight miles west of Launceston; and after a course of about twenty-four miles, falls into the Tamar. In the summer the stream is small, but in winter rapid, wide, and dangerous, frequently overflowing its banks, and carrying away ricks, barns, and houses, and whatever else happens to be in its way.

The Tide, or Tidi, rises on the south side of a hill, called Caradon Hill, near Leskard, a parliament borough, and falls into the Lynher, a little below another ancient borough, called St. Germans.

The Seaton is probably so called from Seaton, or Sea Town, a town which anciently stood where this river falls into the sea, but which has been long since swallowed up by the encroachments of the waves. It rises in some high lands, called St. Clare, about four miles to the north-east of Leskard; and its whole course is about twelve miles.

The Loo, or East Loo, is supposed to derive its name either from the Welch, *Lhâch*, or the Cornubriish *Lûh*, the same with the Irish *Lough*, and the Scots *Loch*,

Loth, which are the same with our Lake, Pond, or Pool, and to have been so called from the large pool which it makes every full tide between two boroughs, called from the river East Loo and West Loo. The Loo, as well as the Seaton, has its rise in the high lands of St. Clare, and after a course of about ten miles, falls into the sea. A bridge crosses this river from East Loo to West Loo; it is built of stone, over fifteen arches, and is one hundred and forty-one yards long, and six feet three inches wide between the walls.

The Duloo, that is the Black Loo, or as it is sometimes called, the West Loo, rises in a parish called St. Pinock, and after a course of about seven miles, falls into the East Loo.

The Fawy, or Fauwy, derives its name from Fau, a hole or ditch, and Wy, water. It rises in a moor, called Fauwy Moor, not far from a mountain called Brownwilly, which is one of the highest in the county. It passes under six bridges; and having received several rivulets, in a course of six and twenty miles, it falls into the sea between two old towers, that were built in the reign of Edward the Fourth.

The Fal, or *Fala*, rises at a place called Fenton Val, that is, the source of Val or Fal, about two miles to the west of some hills, called Roche Hills; and after a course of about twenty miles, falls into the sea, forming an harbour near a mile wide, secured with hills and winding creeks, with a deep channel, and a bold shore. In this harbour it is said an hundred ships may anchor, and no one see the other's top; it is also situated conveniently for getting clear of the Channel, and yielding only to Milford Haven, on the coast of Wales, it is reckoned the second harbour in Great Britain. There is however a large rock near the middle of it, the top of which is below high water mark, but no damage happens from it, because the heirs of Killegrew, the lords of a castle, called Pendennis Castle, which guards the entrance, are obliged to keep a tall pole fixed on the highest part of it, so that its situation is always seen and avoided.

The Héi, the name of which is equivalent to river, issues from some hills near Penhll Guy, i. e. water coming from the head of a hill; and after a course of about six miles, falls into the sea, where it forms a haven, and is near a mile wide.

The Lo, or Loo, called the Loo in Kerrier, the name of the hundred through which it flows, to distinguish it from the East and West Loo, rises in the north part of a parish called Windron; and after a course of about six miles, falls into the sea, having first formed a lake, called Loo Pool.

The Héi, or Heyl, in Penryth, rises from four brooks, about three miles north of a town called St. Erth; and after a course of more than five miles, falls into the sea at St. Ives Bay.

These are all the rivers in Cornwall that are navigable in any part of their course; the others are too inconsiderable to be particularly mentioned.



## AIR and SOIL.

Four fifths of the outline of this county being washed by the sea, the air is necessarily more damp than in places that lie remote from the coast. A dry summer is here extremely rare; but the rains are rather frequent than heavy; and there are few days so wet, but that some part of them is fair, and few so cloudy, but that there are intervals of sunshine. Storms of wind are more sudden and more violent than within the land, and the air is impregnated with salt, which rises with the vapours from the sea; this quality of the air is very unfavourable to scorbutic habits; it is also hurtful to shrubs and trees, and in general to tender shoots of whatever kind, which after a storm, which drives the sea air upon them, generally appear shriveled and have a salt taste; for this reason there are no such plantations of wood on rising grounds, nor any such hedge-rows of tall trees in Cornwall, as there are in the northern counties of England, which, though farther from the sun, are not exposed to blasts from the sea.

In Cornwall however, the winters are more mild than in any other part of the island, so that myrtles will flourish without a green-house, if they are secured from the salt winds that blow from the sea; the snow seldom lies more than three or four days upon the ground, and a violent shower of hail is scarce ever known. The spring shews itself early in buds and blossoms, but its progress is not so quick as elsewhere. The summers are not hotter in proportion, as the winters are less cold; for the air is always cooled by a breeze from the sea, and the beams of the sun are not reflected from the surrounding water with so much strength, as from the earth; it happens therefore, that though Cornwall is the most southern county in England, yet the harvest is later, and the fruit has less flavour, than in the midland parts.

As the county abounds in mines, the air is filled with mineral vapours, which in some parts are so inflammable as to take fire, and appear in flame over the grounds from which they rise. But notwithstanding the saline and mineral particles that float in the atmosphere, the air of Cornwall is very healthy; for it is in a great measure free from the putrid exhalations that in other places rise from bogs, marshes, and standing pools; and from the corrupt air that stagnates in the dead calm that is often found among thick woods. In Cornwall, the country is open, the soil in general sound, and the air always in motion, which may well atone for any noxious effluvia supposed to rise either from mines or the sea.

The soil of Cornwall is of three kinds, the black and gritty, the shelly and flattey, and the stiff reddish soil, approaching to clay.

The highest grounds are covered with the black soil; and on the tops and sides of hills it bears nothing but four grass, moss and heath, which is cut up in thin turfs for firing; and in places where the ground is level or hollow, so that the rain cannot run off, which are few, and but of small extent, it is formed into bogs and marshes; these bogs yield nothing useful but a thick brick turf, full of the matted roots of sedge grass, the juncus, and other marsh plants, which when perfectly dry, make a strong fuel. In crofts farther down from the hills, this

black soil serves as wintering for horned cattle, and bears good potatoes, rye, and pillas, the *avena nuda* of Ray; in fields it bears barley and oats, and serves as pasture for cows and sheep, but seldom yields any advantage when it is sown with wheat.

The Shelfey flattey soil is found chiefly in about the middle of the county; this is reckoned to bear better corn, especially wheat, and a stronger spine of grass than the black.

The reddish loamy soil, which is most common on level grounds and gentle declivities, is of a closer texture, and yields better crops.

But these three soils are not always found distinct from each other, but in many places are mixed in a great variety of proportions.

In the mines of this county there are often found the ochrous earths of metals, the rusty ochre of iron, the green and blue ochres of copper, and the pale yellow ochre of lead, the brown yellow of tin, and the red ochre of bismuth; the ochre of lead, in its natural state, mixes well with oil, and gives a colour between the light and brown ochre; as it is solid, and will not fly off, it might perhaps be useful in painting.

There are also, in almost every parish, strata of clay for making brick, as well as white clay for tobacco pipes, bricks for smelting houses, and other purposes, and a great variety of the clays called steatites, from their extreme resemblance to tallow; but no chalk has been yet discovered.

Of sea sands there is in this county a great variety; some are spread in a stratum on the highest hills, and some are found in clefts far above the highest sea mark. On the side of St. Agnes Beacon, one of the highest hills on the sea shore, at the height of at least 480 feet above the level of the sea, the strata appeared upon digging in the following order: the vegetable soil and common rubble under it, five feet deep; of fine white and yellow clay six feet; under this a layer of sand like that of the sea below; six feet under this a layer of rounded smooth stones, such as are found on the beach, then a layer of white stoney rubble and earth four feet deep, and then the firm rock, within which are veins of tin.

## NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The natural products of this county are wheat, barley, oats, and rye; of which, in a plentiful year, some can be spared for exportation; in a moderate year, there is just a sufficiency for home consumption; and in a year of scarcity, it is necessary to purchase from other counties.

Among the products of this county, may be reckoned the stones that are used either for building or for ornament.

The surface of the ground in almost every part of Cornwall, yields an opaque whitish crystal, commonly called white spar, in great plenty, these are used only to repair the roads and face hedges.

On

On the south-east coast, between Lefkard and the Tamar, there are some quarries of slate, which is exported in considerable quantities. And at a place called Denyball, not far from Holfiney, on the north coast, there is a quarry of slate for covering roofs, said to be the finest in the world. The whole quarry is about 300 yards long, and 100 wide; the deepest part is judged to be about forty fathom below the grass; the green sod reaches downward about one foot, a yellow brown clay two feet more, then the rock, which, to the depth of twelve fathom, consists of a lax shattery slate, which is fit for nothing; then comes a firmer brown stone, which becomes still browner in the air, and is fit both for paving and roofing; this is called the top stone, and the stratum is ten fathom deep; under this lies the fine slate, which is called the bottom stone; it is of a grey blue colour, and of a texture so close, that it sounds upon being struck, like metal.

At St. Columb, farther towards the Land's End, on the north coast, there is a quarry of free-stone, of which no use is made, though it might well serve all the purposes of Portland, but it is not quite so fine.

This county also abounds with coarse granites of various colours, and different degrees of continuity.

There are also some quarries of marble, but it is not remarkable either for its beauty or use: but there are no gravel pits where pebbles and flints lie in heaps and strata, though the beach of the bays and creeks is strewn with an infinite variety of both.

Mr. Ray says, that the stone called the warming-stone, has been found in Cornwall. This stone, when once heated, will continue warm eight or ten hours, and is said to relieve several kinds of pain, especially that which arises from the internal hemorrhoids.

The swimming-stone has also been found in a copper-mine near Redruth, a town not far from St. Ives Bay, on the north coast: it consists of rectilinear lamina, as thin as paper, intersecting each other in all directions, and leaving unequal cavities between them: a structure which renders the stone so cellular as to swim in water.

Several kinds of the asbestos, or amiantus, a stone so fibrous that linen has been made of it, which fire would not consume. The art however of making linen of this stone is now lost.

Gems of several kinds have been found in the tin-mines, but so small as not to be critically examined without a microscope; particularly topazes very highly coloured, rubies as red as a carbuncle, hyacinths and amethysts.

Of crystals there is great variety, both figured and plain.

Another product of this county is femimetal, of which there is a great variety: bismuth, speltre, zinc, naptha, antimony, lapis calaminaris, and molybdæna, or pencil-lead; cobalt, a substance containing arsenic, zaffer and smalt; and  
muddle,

mundic, called also marcasite, which contains arsenic, sulphur, vitriol, and mercury.

But the principal product of Cornwall is tin and copper; these metals are found in veins or fissures, which are sometimes filled with other substances, and the substance, whatever it is, with which these fissures are filled, is in Cornwall called a lode, from an old Anglo Saxon word, which signifies to lead, as the miners always follow its direction. The course of the fissures is generally east and west, not however in a straight line, but wavy, and one side is sometimes a hard stone, and the other loose clay. Most of these lodes are impregnated with metal, but none are impregnated equally in all parts. These lodes are not often more than two feet wide, and the greater part are not more than one; but in general, the smaller the lode the better the metal: the direction of these lodes is seldom perpendicular, but declines to the right or left, though in different degrees.

Tin is the peculiar and most valuable product of this county; it affords employment, and consequently subsistence to the poor, affluence to the lords of the soil, a considerable revenue to our prince of Wales, who is duke of Cornwall, and an important article of trade to the nation, in all the foreign markets of the known world.

This metal is found either collected and fixed, or loose and detached; it is found collected either in a lode, or in a horizontal layer of ore, called a floor, or interspersed in grains and bunches in the natural rock. It is found loose and detached, either in single separate stones, called rhodes, or in a continued course of such stones called the beuheyl, i. e. the living stream; for when a stone has no metal in it, the tanners say it is dead; or lastly, in a powder by itself.

A floor is sometimes found at the depth of many fathom, and the same ore is sometimes found in a perpendicular lode for many fathom, and then diffused into a floor. The mines in which there are these floors are very dangerous, for great care must be taken to support the vast mass that is undermined by digging out a horizontal stratum of ore, at the depth of many fathoms below: for want of this caution, which cannot be carried into execution without considerable expence, the ground over one of these floors, for a very considerable compass, sunk down, without the least notice, and at once killed and buried all that were below, and indeed all that were above, within the compass of the ground that gave way.

Tin, in a pulverised state, is found only upon the banks of creeks and rivers and open bays, where it is probably thrown by the water, after having been washed from some lodes that lie bare to the sea.

Copper is no where found richer, or in greater variety of ores than in Cornwall; though the mines have not been worked with much advantage longer than sixty years. The most common ore is of a yellow brass-colour; but there is some green, some blue, some black, some grey, and some red; the green, blue, and black yield but little; the grey contains more metal than the yellow, and the red more than the grey. There are besides, in almost all the considerable mines, small



small quantities of malleable copper, which the miners, from its purity, call the virgin ore. This is combined and allayed with various substances; sometimes with basic crystal, sometimes with a gravelly clay, and sometimes with the rust of iron: its figure also is very various; sometimes it is in thin plates, shaped like leaves, sometimes it is in drops and lumps, sometimes branched, fringed, or twisted into wires, sometimes it shoots into blades, crossed at the top like a dagger, and sometimes it has the appearance of hollow fillagree; it has also been found in powder, little inferior in lustre to that of gold; in a congeries of combined granules, and sometimes in solid masses of several pounds weight, maturated, unmixed, and highly polished.

The annual income to the county from copper, is at this time nearly equal to that from tin; and both are still capable of improvement. The water in which the copper ore is washed, has been lately discovered to make blue vitriol of the best kind; and the water which comes from the bottom of the mines, and which is now suffered to run off to waste, is so strongly impregnated with copper, that if it was detained in proper receptacles, it would produce great quantities of malleable copper without any hazard or attendance, and without any other charge than the purchase of a much less quantity of the most useless old iron; for old iron, immersed in this water, will in about fourteen days produce much more than its weight of what is called copper-mud, whence a great proportion of pure copper may be obtained.

One ton of iron being thrown into a drain of a copper-mine in Ireland, produced, in about a year, one ton nineteen hundred and an half weight of copper-mud, and each ton of mud produced sixteen hundred weight of the purest copper; so that in this instance the quantity of copper taken out of the drain, was much greater than the quantity of iron put in.

It is also probable that silver might be found, if the lodes of copper were properly traced with that view; for the mine of Osloquee in Peru, was at the top almost all copper, and every spade's breadth as the miners dug downward, the ore grew more and more rich in silver, till at length the silver was found, without any mixture of other metal. And in the mines of Cornwall, silver has been frequently found in the pursuit of a vein of pure copper.

Besides tin and copper, Cornwall produces iron, though there are no mines of this metal yet worked in the county.

Lead is also found in some parts of the county, but the greater part is what the miners call potter's ore.

Gold in very small quantities has sometimes been discovered in the tin ore; and Mr. Borlase, the author of a late history of Cornwall, from which this account is principally taken, thinks more may probably be found, if it is skilfully and diligently sought.

With respect to trees, whether of the forest or orchard, there is scarce any thing peculiar to this county. The plants and herbage, both of the field and garden, are also nearly the same as in other counties; and the sea plants are not dif-

different from those found on other parts of the coast; neither is there any animal, whether of the air, earth, or water, that is peculiar to this county, except the pyrrhocorax, a crow with a red bill and red feet, called the Cornish chough, and the seal, or sea-calf, which is frequently found in the caves and other parts of the shores which are least frequented.

#### CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into nine hundreds, and contains one and thirty towns, which are incorporated, or have a market; for as some market towns are not corporations, some corporations have no market. It lies in the diocese of Exeter, and province of Canterbury, and includes, according to Camden and Speed, one hundred and sixty-one parish churches; according to others one hundred and eighty; and in Martin's Index Villaris, they are said to be one hundred and ninety-eight.

#### MARKET TOWNS.

The towns are, Bodmyn, Boscastle, Boffiney, Camelford, Columb Magna, East Loo, Falmouth, Fowey, St. Germans, Grampont, Heliton, St. Ives, Kelington, Launceston, Leskard, Lestwithiel, Market Jew, St. Maws, St. Michael, Mouse Hole, Newport, Pasiflow, Penryn, Penfance, Redruth, Saltash, Stratton, Tregony, Truro, Woodbridge, and West Loo.

**BODMYN, or BODMAN,** in Cornish *Bos Venna*, of which I find no interpretation, is distant from London 263 miles, and governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, twenty-four common council, and a town clerk, who have a toll and lands to the value of about 200*l.* *per annum.*

This town lies between two hills, almost in the center of the county, a situation which renders it less healthful than any other part of Cornwall. It consists chiefly of one street, which is near a mile long, running from east to west, and containing about three hundred houses. The hill on the south side effectually intercepts the sun as well as the air; and the back houses, consisting of kitchens, stables, and other buildings, of more convenience than cleanliness, says Carew, being built upon the declivity, are ascended by steps, and the filth is by every heavy shower washed down through the houses into the street.

The hill on the north side is not quite so steep, and therefore does not subject the houses to equal inconvenience; but the water which supplies the town from the conduit runs through the church-yard, which is the ordinary place of burial both for the town and parish. Such however was the condition of Bodmyn, when Carew published his Survey of Cornwall. How much it has been since improved, appears no otherwise than from the silence of later writers, with respect to these disadvantages. The church however is the largest in the county, and had once a spire, but that was destroyed by lightning in the year 1699. The remains of an episcopal palace and priory are still to be seen; and there are vestiges of many other buildings, which shew that this place was in ancient times much more considerable than it is now; and indeed so lately as the time of Henry the

Eighth, it was deemed the largest town in the county, though whether that distinction is lost by the increase of other places, or the diminution of this, does not appear.

In this place is the sheriff's prison for debtors, and a free school, maintained partly by the duke of Cornwall, and partly by the corporation. The principal manufacture is yarn, for which Bodmyn was once the only staple in the county, but in this it is much decayed.

BOSCASTLE, originally called BOTTERUX-CASTLE, from a castle built here by the ancestors of the family of that name, is distant from London 186 miles, and was in ancient times a place of considerable note, but is now a mean place, though a market town. The ruins of the castle are still to be seen.

BOSSENEY, called also TINTAGEL and TREVENA, is 252 miles from London, and governed by a mayor and burgessees. This town stands upon two rocks, one of which is on the main land, and the other in the sea. The two parts were formerly joined together by a draw-bridge, which has been since destroyed by the fall of the cliffs on the farther side, which has filled up the space between the two parts of the town; but the passage over these cliffs is extremely troublesome and dangerous. The farthest point of the rock that was surrounded by the sea, is called Blackhead, and is well known to mariners. It is wholly inaccessible by water, except at one place towards the east, and there it is very difficult and incommodious.

In this place it was, in Carew's time, fenced with a wall, through which there was an entrance by an iron gate to the declivity of the rock, which was very steep and craggy; and there is a cave under this rock or island, which reached quite through it to the main, on the other side of the draw-bridge, and was navigable for boats, at full sea; but the farther end of it is now stopped by the stupendous fragments of the rock that have fallen down; and when the passage was open, the subterranean darkness and rude aspect of the cavern, gave it so horrid an appearance, that few ventured to go through it. On the rock above, are the ruins of a castle, said to have been the birth-place of the British king Arthur. The place at this time is very inconsiderable, being little more than the ruins of ancient buildings, most of which were of stone, joined together by a cement, so strong, that where the stone itself is wasted away, this frequently remains.

CAMELFORD, 250 miles from London, draws its name from the *ferd* over the river Camel. It is said to have been incorporated by king Charles the First, and is governed by a mayor, eight aldermen, a recorder, and town clerk. The town is small, and the inhabitants few; of its buildings and trade our topographers have made no mention.

COLUMB MAGNA is so called from a church which was built here, and dedicated to St. Columba. The place is inconsiderable, yet the justices for the south division keep their session and hold a court here once in three weeks, to determine all suits, where the cause of action does not exceed the value of forty shillings.

WEST

WEST LOW, and EAST LOW, so called from their situation on each side of the river Loo, or Low, are distant from London 232 miles, and joined together by a stone bridge of fifteen arches. They were both incorporated by queen Elizabeth. West Low is governed by twelve burgessees, and East Low by nine burgessees, one of which is annually chosen mayor, with a court of aldermen and recorder. The manor of East Low is held by the corporation of the dutchy of Cornwall, at the annual rent of twenty shillings: the church is a chapel of ease to the parish of St. Martin's, in which the town stands. It has a wall next to the sea, with a battery of four guns; and the inhabitants carry on a petty trade by fishing for pilchards.

West Low, which is also called Port Pigham, holds the manor of the dutchy, at the rent of twenty-four shillings *per annum*. It had formerly a chapel of ease to the parish of Talland, but that has since converted into a town-hall, and the inhabitants go to Talland to church. The harbour is commodious, though not large, and the river is navigable for vessels of one hundred tons.

FALMOUTH, so called from its situation at the mouth of the river Fal, is distant from London 282 miles. It is governed by a mayor and aldermen, and is the richest and most trading town in the county, being superior to any three of the boroughs that send members to parliament. The harbour, which is guarded by the castles of St. Maws and Pendennis, is described in the account of the river Fal, by which it is formed.

The town is well built, and has a church, which was formerly a chapel to that of the parish of St. Gluivias; but by an act of the sixteenth of Charles the Second, it was made a parish church. The custom-house for most of the Cornish towns is at this place, where the principal collector of those duties resides. About the time of king William, packet-boats were established here for Spain, Portugal, and the West-Indies, which has greatly increased the trade of the place. These vessels bring over great quantities of gold, both in specie and in bars; and the merchants of Falmouth now trade with the Portuguese in ships of their own; they have also a considerable share of the pilchard fishery, which brings in very great profit.

FOWEY, or FAWEY, so called from the river on which it stands, is distant from London 240 miles, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, eight aldermen, a town clerk, and other officers, who hold the toll of the fairs and quays of the harbour, under the dutchy, at forty shillings *per annum* rent. Fowey has a commodious haven in the Channel, and is both populous and extensive, reaching more than a mile on the east side of the river. There was formerly a fort on each side of the harbour, and a chain reaching from one to the other quite across the river. The remains of the forts are still visible, but the chain has long since disappeared, though it is said to be still defended by blockhouses and ordnance: It has a fine large old church, a free school, and a public hospital.

This place flourished greatly in former times, by naval wars and piracies; and the Fowey ships having refused to strike as they sailed by some of the Cinque ports, were attacked, but having defeated the assailants, the inhabitants gained the honourable appellation of the *Gallants* of Fowey; and the town, as a memorial



memorial of her triumph, quartered the arms of all the Cinque ports with her own. This town is indeed a member of the Cinque ports, having obtained that privilege from Edward the Third, for succouring certain ships of Rye that were in distress. It has still a considerable share of the fishing trade, especially of that for pilchards.

**SAINTE GERMAN'S** derives its name from St. Germanus, a bishop of Burgundy, who came over hither to suppress the Pelagian heresy. It is distant from London 220 miles, and governed by a mayor, who is also bailiff of the borough, and may make any house in it the prison of the person he arrests. The mayor is assisted by inferior magistrates; but the place is a mean village, consisting only of a few fisher-men's cottages, built upon an irregular rock, in form of an amphitheatre, washed by the river Tide, which abounds with oysters. It was once a bishop's see, and the ruins of the episcopal palace are yet visible at Cuttenbeck, about a mile and a half distant from the town. The church is large and not ill built, with an episcopal chair and stalls for the prebends. There is a free school and a sessions house. The parish in which this town stands, which is also called St. Germans, is the largest in the county, being twenty miles in compass, and containing seventeen villages. It is supposed to include more gentlemen's seats and lordships, than any other parish in England.

**GRAMPONT**, supposed to have been called *Grand-pont*, Great Bridge, from its bridge over the river Fal, is 251 miles distant from London. It is a corporation, governed by a mayor, eight aldermen, a recorder, and town clerk. It consists only of one street: it has a chapel of ease to the parish church, which is at Creed, about a quarter of a mile distant from the town. The corporation is endowed with several considerable privileges, particularly freedom from all toll throughout the county, which are held of the duchy, at the annual rent of twelve guineas. The inhabitants are said to carry on a considerable manufacture of gloves.

**HELLSTON**, distant 294 miles from London, is called in the Cornish language Hellaz. Hellston, or Hellaz, is said to signify *Green Hall*, a name supposed by Carew to be given to this place from the salt water about it, which is of a greenish hue. It seems however more probable, that the name is Hel's-Town, or the town on the river Hel. It was incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and is governed by a mayor, aldermen, and common council. It is situated on the river Cober, not far from its influx into the sea; and is not only large but populous. It consists principally of four streets, built in the form of a cross, through each of which runs a stream of water. At the intersection of these streets stands the market-house, which is a large convenient building. This town has also a guild-hall and a church, with a steeple that is ninety feet high, and serves as a sea mark. A little below the town is an harbour, by no means contemptible, where many of the tin ships take in their lading.

**ST. IVES**, called originally St. Ives, from an Irish female saint, whose name was Iia, is 278 miles from London, and governed by a mayor, twelve capital and twenty-four inferior burgesses, with a recorder, and town clerk. St. Ives was an harbour in the Irish sea, but it is now almost choked up with sand, the coast from this place to the Land's End being a long tract of sand banks, so that

the people have been more than once forced to remove. The town is now small, but has a handsome church, which however is but a chapel of the parish of Unilhan, and stands so near to the sea, that the waves often break against it. There is also at this place a free grammar school founded by king Charles the First, of which the bishop of Exeter, and the mayor and burgesses are governors. The bay, called St. Ives Bay, which receives the river Heyl, or Hël, is much exposed to the north-west wind, which has heaped the sands upon it that have rendered it almost useless. The land between this place and Mount's Bay is not above four miles over, and is so situated, that neither the British nor St. George's Channel is distant above three miles; and from the hill the Islands of Scilly may be distinctly seen in a clear day, though they are distant above thirty miles. The inhabitants, before the harbour was ruined, carried on a considerable trade in pilchards and Cornish slates, and had twenty or thirty ships belonging to the harbour, the number of which is now greatly reduced.

KELLINGTON is distant from London 199 miles; and though it has no charter of incorporation, is governed by a portreeve, who is annually chosen at the court leet of the lord of the manor. It is situated on the river Lyner, or Lynher, and is greatly superior to the majority of Cornish boroughs. It consists of one good broad street, in which there is a church that is a chapel of ease to the parish of Southill, and a market house. Its chief trade is the woollen manufacture.

LAUNCESTON was called *Lanfapbedon*, the *Church of St. Stephen*, and of this name Launceston is a corrupt contraction. It is situated on a rising ground near the river Tamar, and is distant from London 208 miles. This town includes two ancient boroughs, called Dunhivid or Dunevet, and Newport. Dunevet was probably so called from its situation on a Down; and the name Newport needs no explanation. Launceston was made a free borough by Henry the Third, and incorporated by queen Mary in 1555. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, and eight aldermen. It is said to be a populous and trading town; though of the many books that were consulted for this epitome, there is not one that tells us of what articles this trade consists. It has a parish church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, whose image is curiously cut in the side of a wall; and the remains of a castle, one part of which is now used as a gaol, and in another part the assizes are held, or were held not many years ago. Indeed the summer assizes are now constantly held at Bodmyn, though, till a late act of parliament, they were held only at Launceston, where the knights of the shire are still elected. It has a free school, and two charity schools; the free school was founded by queen Elizabeth, and the charity schools are supported by private contributions. They are for the benefit of children of both sexes; and the girls, besides reading, are taught to knit, sew, and make bone lace, and are allowed what they earn. By an act made in the thirty-second of Henry the Eighth, for the repair of decayed Cornish boroughs, this town was endowed with the privilege of a sanctuary, but it does not appear that these privileges have ever been claimed.

LESKARD. The name of this place is of uncertain derivation; though *Les*, in the Cornish language, signifies *bread*, and *Ker* signifies *pane*. It is distant from London 229 miles, and was first incorporated by Edward earl of Cornwall, in ancient times, and last by queen Elizabeth, in virtue of whose charter it is govern-

ed by a mayor and burgesſes, has power to purchaſe lands, and to hold by perpetual ſucceſſion. It is ſeated upon a hill, and ſaid to be now one of the largeſt and beſt built towns in Cornwall; though in the time of James the Firſt it conſiſted of little elſe than the ruins of ancient buildings, which ſhewed that it had once been great. The church is large, and the town-hall is a handſome building, erected on ſtone pillars, with a turret, in which there is a clock that has four dials: this town has alſo a curious conduit, a meeting-houſe, and a free ſchool. It is ſaid to carry on a conſiderable trade with the neighbouring towns, in boots and ſhoes, and to ſpin conſiderable quantities of yarn for the clothiers of Devonſhire. Near this town there is a park, where the late lord Radnor had a fine feat.

LESTWITHEL, or LESETHIEL, diſtant 239 miles from London, is ſuppoſed to derive its name from the Corniſh word *Lofwithiall*, which ſignifies a Lion's Tail. The earl of this province bore the lion for his arms, and the principal ſtrength of the lion being ſuppoſed to lie in his tail, and this town being anciently the earl's place of reſidence, where his exchequer was kept, and the affairs of his government tranſacted, it is ſuppoſed, from theſe circumſtances, to have been called the Lion's Tail, or *Lofwithiall*. It was firſt incorporated by Richard earl of Cornwall, and has had other charters ſince. It is governed by ſeven capital burgesſes, of which one is mayor, and ſeventeen aſſiſtants, or common council; it is however at preſent much inferior to the neighbouring towns of Leſkard and Bodmyn. Leſtwithiel originally ſtood upon a high hill, where there are ſtill the remains of an ancient caſtle, called Leſtormin, or Reſtormel, which was the duke's palace; but the town is now removed into the valley, and though it is well built, is not populous, becauſe the river Fawy, on which it ſtands, is ſo choaked with ſand, that it is no longer navigable for the veſſels, which in the laſt age uſed to bring manufactures and commodities of various kinds quite up to the town.

It has however ſtill ſome peculiar privileges: the common gaol for all the ſtannaries and their ſeveral weights and meaſures are kept here; and this town holds the buſhelage of coals, ſalt, malt, and corn in the town of Fowey, and the anchorage in its harbour, for which, and other liberties, it pays 17l. 19s. 10d. *per annus* to the dutchy of Cornwall. It has a church with a ſpire, the only one, except that of Helſton, in the whole county. The great hall and exchequer of the dukes of Cornwall, were deſtroyed by the rage of fanaticiſm, in the year 1644. The trade that remains is in woollen manufactures. Among other memorialſ of the ancient ſplendor of this place, as the metropolis of a principality, it was the cuſtom for the freeholders to aſſemble on Low Sunday, one of whom was dreſſed in royal robes, with a crown on his head, and a ſcepter in his hand, and was mounted on a horſe richly caparifoned, a diſtinction which each of them enjoyed by rotation. He then proceeded through the town with a ſword of ſtate borne before him, and attended by the reſt of the freeholders on horſeback, to the church, where he was received by the prieſt, and conducted with great ſolemnity to divine ſervice. When this duty was diſcharged, he returned with the ſame pomp to a houſe appointed for that purpoſe, where an entertainment was provided for him and his attendants, at which he preſided with royal dignity, being ſerved upon the knee, with all the ceremony uſed to a ſovereign prince, in memory of the royalties appertaining to the honour of Cornwall, poſſeſſed by the dukes in this town; but the cuſtom has been now many years diſuſed.

**MARKET-JEW**, or **MARKET-JU**, Jupiter's Market, so called from the market day, Thursday, *die Jovis*, in the Cornish language *Jew*, is distant from London 284 miles. The town, which is very inconsiderable, stands upon a bay, called Mount's Bay, and has a harbour, which is neither commodious nor safe. This place is called *Morazion* in all the maps, and in all the books *Market-Jew*.

**St. MAWS**, supposed by some to have been St. Mary's, is about 282 miles from London; how it is governed does not appear, but it has a castle, called St. Maws Castle, which with another over against it, called Pendennis castle, and said to be the largest in the kingdom, was built for the security of Falmouth haven. The castle has a governor, a deputy, and two gunners, with a platform of guns; but the town is a wretched hamlet to the parish of St. Just, without either church, chapel, or meeting-house. It consists but of one street, which is built under a hill, and fronting the sea. The inhabitants subsist entirely by fishing; yet they have the honour to chuse two members of parliament. The castle of Pendennis has generally a small garrison.

**St. MICHAEL'S**, supposed to have been originally *Medisbold*, and to have been fainted by a vulgar error, after this name was corrupted to Michael; is distant from London 261 miles, and governed by an officer, called a portreve, who is annually chosen by a jury of the chief inhabitants, out of six chief tenants, who are called deputy lords of the manor, because they hold lands in the borough. It is now a mean hamlet to the parishes of Newland and St. Enidore; and though a borough, has no market. It consists of not more than thirty houses, inhabited by poor people, who have neither trade nor privilege, but that of sending two members to parliament.

**MOUSEHOLE**, 290 miles from London, lies also on Mount's Bay, and is an harbour for fishing boats. This place was formerly called *Port-Inis*, or the Port of the Island, because there is a little island stands before it, called St. Clement's.

**NEWPORT**, though it is included in Launceston, must be distinguished from it, as it still retains its privilege of sending members to parliament.

**PADSTOW**, originally **PETROCK-STOW**, derived its name from Petrocus, a British hermit, who resided here in his cell. It is distant from London 232 miles, is a corporation, governed by a mayor and other officers, and is situated on the river Camel, in the Bristol Channel: the harbour is the best in the north part of the county, and capable of receiving many ships of great burden, but it cannot be entered without danger, except by a very skilful pilot, as there are rocks on the east side, and banks of sand on the west. The principal trade of this place is in the slate-tiles and herring fishery.

**PENRYN** is said by some to be so called from its situation on a woody hill, *Penryn* signifying a curled head. It is distant from London 264 miles; and having been incorporated by king James the First, is governed by a mayor, eleven aldermen, and a common council of twelve, with a recorder and other officers, who are invested with a power to try felons in their jurisdiction.

Penryn

Penryn is situated upon a hill at the entrance of Falmouth harbour, near a castle, called Pendennis Castle, and has so many gardens and orchards, that it looks like a town in a wood. It is well watered with rivulets, and has an arm of the sea on each side of it, with a good custom-house, quay, and other neat buildings. In this town are the ruins of a collegiate church, founded by Brancomb, bishop of Exeter, consisting of a tower and part of the garden walls. There is also a free school, founded by queen Elizabeth, a prison, and a guild-hall, but neither church nor chapel, according to some writers, though the compilers of the *Magna Britannia* say that it has two; one in that part of it which stands in the parish of Gluvias, and another in that part which stands in the parish of Roskrow. It does not however appear from any other work, that the town stands in two parishes; and this is full of manifest contradictions, that it deserves no credit. Penryn is inhabited by many merchants, and carries on a considerable trade in catching, drying, and vending pilchards, and in the Newfoundland fishery.

PENSANCE is supposed to have been *Pen-Saint*, Saint's Head, the arms of the town being the Baptist's Head in a Charger; but it seems more probable that it was originally either *Pen-Sands*, the Head of the Sands, or *Penfavas*, the Head of the Channel. *Penfavas* agrees best with the situation of the place, which is in the bottom of Mount's Bay; and it seems more probable, that the original name should have been in one language, than compounded of two; the arms may have been given since the name *Penfavas* was changed to *Pensance*, and supposed to be compounded of *Pen* and *Saint*. This place is distant 200 miles from London. It is well built and populous, and has many ships, in which a considerable trade is carried on.

REDRUTH is distant from London 273 miles; and as it lies in the midst of the mines, is made populous by the resort of the tinnors.

SALTASH is but 226 miles distant from London, being the first town in the county. *Saltash* is supposed to be a corruption of *Salteffe*. The town was anciently called *Villa de Esse*, or *Esse's town*, *Esse* being the name of several families to this day. *Villa de Esse* was at length contracted to *Esse*, and the word *salt* was afterwards added, because it stands upon the sea. It was incorporated by a charter of Charles the Second, and is governed by a mayor and six aldermen, who are styled the council of the borough, and with the burgesses may chuse a recorder. In this corporation the manor of the borough is vested; and on the payment of eighteen pounds a-year, it has all the tolls of the markets and fairs.

Saltash is situated on the declivity of a steep hill, not more than three miles from the Dock of Plymouth, to which there is a ferry over the Tamar, called the Crimble Passage. The church of this town is a chapel of ease to the parish of St. Stephen, in which it stands. It has a handsome market house and town house, with a free school. This place, among other advantages, has a court of admiralty, with a coroner, a yearly revenue raised on its boats and barges, anchorage and soilage from all foreign vessels, the profits of the Crimble ferry, and the right of dragging for oysters, except between Candlemas and Easter. The harbour will receive ships of any burthen; and the inhabitants carry on a

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considerable trade in malt and beer: they also furnish the inhabitants of Plymouth Dock with almost all the necessaries that are sold at market, for they chuse rather to go by water to Saltash market, in the town boat, than by land to the town of Plymouth, because provisions are much cheaper at Saltash than Plymouth, and because the boat, without any additional expence, brings home what they buy.

There are some merchants at this place who have ships, that of late years have used the Newfoundland fishery.

STRATTON, distant from London 211 miles, is said to deserve note only for its orchards, gardens, and grailick.

TREGONY, 256 miles from London, was incorporated by king James the First, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, and twelve capital burgessees. It stands on the river Fal, which is navigable to this place from Falmouth. The chief manufacture is serge.

TRURO, distant from London 274 miles, is so called because it consists chiefly of three streets, as the Cornish word *Truro* signifies. It was first incorporated by king John, since by queen Elizabeth, and is now governed by a mayor, four aldermen, and a recorder. The mayor of this place is also mayor of Falmouth, and the quayage of goods laden or unladen there, belongs to this town. When the mayor is elected, he is obliged by custom to deliver up his mace to the lord of the manor, till sixpence is paid for every house in the town, and then it is redelivered by the lord's steward to the mayor again.

Truro is situated near the conflux of two small rivers, which almost surround it, and form a large wharf, with a commodious quay for vessels of about 100 tons. The streets are regular, and the church, which is a large Gothic building, not inferior to any in the county: no other public edifice is mentioned, except a market-house, which is said to be large, but is not particularly described. The people of this town live and dress so elegantly, that the *pride* of Truro is one of the by-words of the county. The chief trade consists in shipping off tin and copper ore. The copper abounds between this town and St. Michael's, and the works are greatly improved since the erection of the copper mills near Bristol.

WAADBRIDGE, OR WARDBRIDGE is said to be distant from London 248 miles, though but five miles south of Padstow, which is said to be distant but 232 miles. It derives its name from the bridge over the Camel, of which an account has been already given in the description of that river.

To these towns and boroughs must be added St. Austil, a place which is registered as a market town in several lists, and distinguished as such in many maps, yet is not mentioned either in Camden, the Magna Britannia, Carew, Blome, Bowen, the Gazetteer, Borlace, or any other book among more than 200 volumes that were consulted for this work. It lies to the north of Grampont.

It is also necessary to add some account of the rocks of Scilly, as they have been always deemed part of this county. The rocks of Scilly are about 140 small islands,

islands, that lie near 60 miles distant from the Land's End, and are supposed to have been separated from it, and from each other, by some violent eruption of the sea, which is from forty to sixty fathom deep all about them. The largest and most fruitful is nine miles in circumference; it is called St. Mary's, and has a good harbour, with a castle, that was built by queen Elizabeth. Another of them is called the Island of Scilly, from which the rocks took their name; these, and some others, stand high, and bear good corn, with fine pasture, abounding also with rabbits and cranes, herons, swans, and other water fowl. They have also tin mines, and are well inhabited; but others are overflowed at high tides, and consequently are desert.

As these islands lie in the middle, between the Bristol Channel on the north, and the English Channel on the south, they have proved fatal to innumerable ships, notwithstanding light-houses have been erected, and every other method taken to prevent it.

#### NATURAL HISTORY and CURIOSITIES, remarkable PARTICULARS, &c.

In this county there are several springs, supposed to have medicinal virtue, that are not known to be tinged with any mineral. At a village called Madern, Medicinal waters. situated under the hills a little to the north of Penzance, there is a well which is said to cure pains and stiffness in the limbs, by being used as a bath. Superstitious persons also resort to this well at certain times of the year, moon, and day, on a less justifiable errand; they drop pebbles or pins into the water, or shake the ground about, and from the turns which these small bodies make in sinking, or the bubbles that rise in the water, they determine by certain rules, what in general will be their future fortune, or what will be the issue of an amour or undertaking in which they happen to be engaged.

In the parish of Sancred, among the hills to the west of Penzance, there is another well that has been much celebrated for curing wounds and sores, and removing cutaneous eruptions. As a memorial of its virtue, a chapel was long since built near it, and dedicated to St. Ewinus; the ruins of it, consisting of much carved stone, still remain, and shew that it was once of considerable note. Both these waters rise in a grey moor-stone gravel, called in Cornish grouan, and are very cold and limpid, but not mineral.

There is a third well of the same kind, called Holy Well, about a mile and a half to the north-west of St. Cuthbert's Church. St. Cuthbert's Church is in a small sandy bay on the south-west coast, not far from St. Columb's. In this bay there are several caves, which have been wrought into the cliff by the north sea; and in one of these caves, at the north-east point of the bay, at the foot of a high cliff, is this well. There are some rude steps cut into the rock, which lead from the entrance, that is very low, to the height of many feet perpendicular; the water is then seen distilling from every part of the roof, and being collected in a little basin, it flows from thence in a small stream, not bigger than a reed. There are several small protuberances of the alabastr kind, hanging from the roof; and the floor of the rock is covered with the same substance; and there is no production of the alabastr kind in any other part of the county.

county. The water of this well is greatly commended in fluxes, and other disorders of the bowels; but upon trying the common experiments upon it, it does not appear to contain either steel, alum, acid salts, sulphur, or any other mineral principle.

There are many chalybeate springs in this county, particularly at Ludgvan, not far from Market Jew. Mr. Borlace\* says that he knows two people, who by drinking, and washing the part affected with this water, which is diuretic, and passes forcibly by perspiration, have been cured of the king's evil.

Carew † mentions a well, called Scarlet Well, near Bodmyn, which he says represents many colours, like those of the rainbow, is much heavier than common water, and will keep without alteration, either in scent or taste, the greatest part of a year. Many miracles were said to have been performed by this water about the time of the reformation; but the neighbouring justices of peace having detected the workers of these lying wonders, the miracle ceased, and it is not now exactly known where the well was.

Mr. Borlace has taken notice of this well; but there is another mentioned by Gibbon, in his additions to Camden, of which he has taken no notice. This well is in the parish of Penfance, and is called St. Madren's Well. There are many legendary fables concerning the virtues of it, but Gibbon adds in a note, that there were many instances of its extraordinary virtue, too recent, and too well attested, to admit of suspicion or doubt. Whether this water is supposed to have been impregnated with any mineral we are not told; but probably it is a chalybeate, and for that reason passed over by Mr. Borlace, who says there are many such in the county: but as the effects of all are extremely similar, the mention of more than one would be unnecessary.

Mr. Borlace mentions a letter from one Vallack, an able apothecary and chemist at Plymouth, in which he affirms, that a water, called Carn-key water, near Redruth, is impregnated both with iron and tin.

No saline, aluminous, hot, bitter, sulphureous, or petrifying waters, have been discovered in this county. But the waters in general are impregnated with mundic, in proportion to the quantity which they pass through, and the disposition of the mundic, either to retain or communicate its noxious qualities. Mundic is a mineral fossil, consisting of arsenic, sulphur, vitriol, and mercury, dreadful ingredients, yet the water is seldom poisonous, even in the mine, where it proceeds directly from the body of the mundic lode. It is not however always innocent; for the mundic in general will not yield its arsenic to water, yet sometimes it yields either that or some other poison so copiously, that a tinner washing a wound on his leg with a mundic water, in a mine at Ludgvan, it brought on a gangrene that killed him. At the same time, the fumes of the mundic in the same mine were so strong, that the labourers became pale and languid, and their cloaths retained effluvia in the highest degree loathsome. It happened also, that in the year 1739, a flock of geese going as usual into the river at Crowles, a village in the same parish, to drink, nine of them upon their re-

\* Nat. Hist. Corn. p. 14.

† Survey Cors. p. 26.



turn to the bank, lay down immediately and died. This river is always of a red turbid colour, but both geese and horses drank it before that time, and since, without mischief, though it is remarkable that no fish can live either in this or any other brook that receives water thus impregnated from the mines.

There are scarce any meteorological phenomena which are not common to all parts of a district so small as England; yet there is an appearance in Cornwall, called by the country people a weather dog, and found to be a certain prognostic of hard rain, which to Mr. Borlase appeared new and singular. By his description it must look like a square piece cut off from the end of a large rainbow, thrice as wide as a common rainbow, but no higher than wide; that which he saw appeared in the north-east, about six in the evening of the fifteenth of August 1752, the wind at west-north-west, the sky cloudy, and the mercury moving upwards in the barometer; soon after the mercury began to fall; the next day about eleven, it began to rain; at one, the rain came down like a flood, and so continued without intermission, till ten o'clock on the morning following. This appearance is very common in almost all parts of England. The weather dog, a meteor.

The most extraordinary phenomenon that ever appeared in the sea on this coast, was on the first of November 1755, about two in the afternoon, the day on which Lisbon was destroyed by an earthquake: there was just then a dead calm which left the vanes pointing to the north-east; the mercury in the barometer was higher than it had been known for three years before, and the mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer stood at fifty-four. The sea at St. Michaels Mount, after it had ebbed about half an hour, suddenly rose six feet, and again retired in about ten minutes; this flux and reflux continued every ten minutes for two hours and an half. It came in with great rapidity from the south-east, and ebbed away to the westward, whirling the boats that lay at the head of the pier, some one way, and some another. The first and second flux and reflux were not so violent as the third and fourth; for in these, and those that immediately followed, the sea was as rapid as a mill stream descending to an undershot wheel. After about two hours, the undulations became gradually fainter, and ceased about the time of low water. Earthquakes.

The western parts of this county were on the fifteenth of July 1757, shaken by an earthquake, which Mr. Borlase says was violent, though it did no damage to the slightest building, nor even to the mines.

Among the natural curiosities of this county, a cove, or cave, called Kynan's Kynan's Cove. Cove, is not the least considerable. Kynan's Cove is situated one mile and an half north-west from the Lizard Point; the way down to it from the hill, is extremely rugged and narrow, being only a single track worn by the horses that carry sand. The sand of the cove, which is entered by this path, is partly of a light colour, and partly glittering; it is dispersed in many winding passages among rocks, and vast masses of the cliff, which lead to different grots of various size and figure: these grots are washed too often by the tides to produce any cavernous plants; but at the foot of the rocks many basons, or baths of water, transparent as crystal, are formed in the sands by the eddy of the waves. The crevices in the rocks, which are seldom more than the twentieth of an inch wide, are full of a smooth viscuous substance, which greatly resembles bees-wax, both

both to the sight and touch; and between the rocks, on the eastern side, there are a few small veins of the white and red marbled clay, which, from its resemblance to tallow, which in Greek is called *ερασ*, has obtained the name of *ερασιτες*. Woodward, in his Cat. vol. 1. p. 6. says that a considerable part of the cliff near the Lizard, consists of this earth. And Hill, who seems implicitly to have copied him, says, "that the cliff of the Lizard Point is almost wholly composed of it." But this is so far from being true, that about the cliffs there is scarce any of this earth to be seen. It is found most pure and in the greatest plenty, about a mile farther to the north than Kynan's Cove, in a narrow valley, about two hundred paces from the top of the hill.

**Fossil wood.** Of fossils the most remarkable in this county are trees of various kinds and sizes, that are found at considerable depths below the surface of the earth.

In the year 1740, several pieces of oak, and one intire stock, about ten feet long, without branches, were found about four feet below the surface of a drained marsh, on the banks of the river Heyl, in Penwith.

In the year 1750, another oak about twenty feet long, and twelve inches diameter, was found at the depth of thirty feet, by a man who was digging for tin near the Land's End. The branches of this tree were full of leaves, the impression of which was left in the bed where it was found, which was the same shelly sand with that of the adjacent beach. Near this tree was found the skeleton of an animal, supposed to be a deer; the skeleton was intire, but the horns were imperfect. The largest piece was about two feet and a half long, and about as thick as a man's wrist.

In the year 1753, several other pieces of horns, either of the elk or deer, were found in the same place at the depth of twenty feet.

Another sort of fossil tree have been discovered in lakes, bogs, and harbours, in whole groves together, standing perpendicularly as they grew. There was a tradition in Cornwall that a large tract of ground, on the edge of Mount's Bay, was a wood; and on the tenth of January 1757, after the sands had been drawn off the shore by a violent sea, the remains of the wood appeared; several trees with their branches and roots intire, were discovered, though in a horizontal posture; there were oaks, willows, and hazels. The place where these trees were found, was three hundred yards below full-sea-mark, and the water was about twelve feet deep upon them when the tide was in.

**Turtles.** On the third of July 1756, two turtles were caught on this coast, one about four leagues south of Pendennis Castle, which weighed eight hundred weight, and the other off the Land's End, which weighed near seven hundred weight, after it had bled to death.

**A monstrous production.** The black cattle of this county sometimes generate within the first year, without suffering either in their health or growth; neither have the monstrous or imperfect productions been many. The most remarkable was a calf that was cast in May 1751, with two heads conjoined, four ears, four eyes, four nostrils, two mouths, and two back bones, from the heads to the end of the ribs, where they

they grew into one, and were continued single to the tail. This monster had no more than four legs, but it had two hearts, two livers, and all the inwards double, except the primæ viæ, from the stomach downwards, which were single. It lived some hours, and cried and lowed with two voices at the same time.

With respect to other animals, nothing remarkable occurs, except that a dog of the town of Saltash used constantly to carry victuals from the house of one Parkyns, to a blind mastiff that lay in a brake without the town, except on a Sunday, and on that day, instead of carrying him his usual portion, he used to conduct him to Parkyns's to dinner, and when the meal was ended, never failed to conduct him back to his couch and covert again. This particular is related by Carew, who says it was told to him by Parkyns himself.

Extraordi-  
nary circum-  
stances related  
of a dog.

As to the inhabitants of Cornwall, they are distinguished from those of other counties by several peculiarities.

Inhabitants  
of Cornwall;

They were, till about two centuries ago, distinguished by their language, a dialect of that which, before the Saxon invasion, was common to all Britain; so different from the Welch and the Armoric, which are two other dialects of the same language, that those who speak one of these dialects, cannot converse with those who speak another; the Cornish is less guttural, and therefore supposed to be more pleasing than the Welch. Mr. Borlase mentions several particulars of this tongue as singularities.

their lan-  
guage;

1st, The substantive is generally placed before the adjective. 2dly, The preposition sometimes comes after the case governed. 3dly, The nominative and governed case, and pronouns are often incorporated with the verb. 4thly, Letters are changed in the beginning, middle, or end of a word or syllable; and some are omitted, some added: and 5thly, a word is sometimes compounded of several others, either for significance or sound.

As a specimen, the following proverbs are inserted.

Nob na gare y gy, an gwra deveeder :  
He that heeds not gain, must expect loss.  
Gura da, rag ta honan te yn gura :  
Do good, for thyself thou dost it.

There was nothing printed in this language till Lhuyd, the antiquary, published his Cornish Grammar; but there are two manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, which contain several interludes, or as the author calls them, ordinalis; the subject of the first is the Creation of the world; of the second, the Passion of our Lord Jesus; of the third, the Resurrection; and of the fourth, the Deluge. There is also a Cornish vocabulary in the Cotton Library, which is printed by Mr. Borlase, at the end of his Antiquities of Cornwall.

This language was so generally spoken in Cornwall till the time of Henry the Eighth, that Dr. John Moreman, who was vicar of Menhinnct, or Menhinick, near Launceston, in that reign, was the first who taught his parishioners the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and Commandments in English, which now universally

prevails; so that the Cornish language is not spoken in conversation, in any part of the county.

*their sports.* The sports of Cornwall are wrestling and hurling.

These manly sports, if they are not Cornish by peculiarity, are certainly so by excellence. The exercise of wrestling is too well known to need a particular description. Hurling is thus described by Carew: the players are divided into two parties, each consisting of an equal number, and matched against each other in pairs; two bushes are pitched in the ground, at a considerable distance from each other, called the goals, which one pair of each party is allotted to guard; the rest draw into the middle between the two goals, with the ball, which is of wood, covered with silver, and is about three inches diameter; some indifferent person then throws it up, and whosoever can catch it, and carry it through his adversaries goal, wins the game. But as soon as it is caught, the pair of the opposite party that is matched against the pair, one of which has caught the ball, immediately endeavours to stop him, or trip up his heels; they are not at liberty to strike him, but he is allowed to keep them off by thrusting them in the breast with his fist clenched, which they call butting: if he outrun, or keep off those who assail him in his way, he has still those to contend with who wait at the goal: if in wrestling, any part of the player's body who has the ball, touches the ground, or if being overpowered, he cry Hold, he must then throw up the ball again, which being again caught, the same strife is repeated till the game is over; which seldom ends but with the day; for he that has the ball, being always opposed by two, it is seldom carried through the goal; however that side carries off the honours of the field, which giving most falls, keepeth the ball longest, and presseth his adversary nearest to his own goal.

These wrestlings and hurlings are always practised on holidays, particularly on the Monday and Tuesday after the Sunday which is kept every year in memory of the dedication of the parochial church.

*The Tanners.* The tanners have some holidays peculiar to themselves, particularly the Thursday one clear week before Christmas-day, which they call *Jeu-Whyden*, or *White Thursday*, in commemoration of black tin being first melted into white tin in these parts; for it was anciently the custom to export the tin ore unmelted.

The tinmen also keep the fifth of March, in honour of St. Piran, a saint who is said to have given their ancestors some very profitable informations relating to the tin manufacture.

The tanners are indeed in many respects a community distinct from the other inhabitants of the county. They have an officer, called the lord warden, who is appointed to administer justice among them, with an appeal to the duke of Cornwall, in council, or to the crown. The lord warden appoints a vice warden to determine all stannary disputes every month, and he constitutes four stewards, each for a particular district, who hold courts every three weeks, and decide by juries of six, with an appeal to the vice warden, from him to the lord warden, and finally to the crown. They have also a parliament, consisting of twenty-four gentlemen tanners, six to be chosen for each of the stannary divisions, by the mayor

mayor and council of the towns of such division respectively. The towns are Launceston, Lestwithiel, Truro, and Heliton. The twenty-four persons thus chosen are called Stannators, and chuse their speaker, who is approved by the lord warden. Whatever is enacted by this body of tanners, with the subsequent assent of the crown, has all the authority, with respect to tin affairs, of an act of the whole legislature.

There have been several remarkable instances of longevity in this county, particularly a woman of Githian, near St. Ives Bay, who died in the year 1676, aged one hundred and sixty four years; and till a short time before her death, enjoyed good health and a sound memory; and the reverend Mr. Cole, minister of Landawidnek, near the Lizard Point, who died in 1683, aged more than one hundred and twenty years.

Carew mentions also several remarkable instances of strength and activity, particularly that one John Bray, who was his tenant, carried upon his back, a considerable distance, six bushels of wheaten meal, reckoning fifteen gallons to the bushel, and the miller upon the whole. John Romane is also said to have carried the whole carcase of an ox with great ease. One Kilton, a prisoner in Launceston gaol, lying in the Castle Green upon his back, threw a stone of some pounds weight over the top of the tower that leads into the porch; and one John Chlew, who was carrier of Ludgvan, in 1757, was so strongly built, that a wheel of his cart, which, with the loading, could not weigh less than one and twenty hundred weight, went over his breast without crushing him, the whole pressure being supported by his ribs, without giving way.

The wife of one Sibley, a fisherman of Penfance, lay without motion, speech, or apprehension, seven years and two days, being fed during that time with milk, broth, fish, and potatoes; and afterwards, being seized with convulsions, she recovered her speech, memory, and health.

Mr. Carew mentions one Grifling, a man that had been long deaf, who could tell what was said to him by watching the lips of the speaker, as Carew himself often experienced.

The most remarkable event in this county, except the battles in which the whole island was interested, is the preservation of Penryn, near the end of the sixteenth century, by the drums and trumpets of a puppetshow. It happened that as some Spaniards were secretly landing to burn the town, the show-men were just setting Sampson upon the Philistines, and the drums and trumpets, which were sounded upon that occasion, being heard by the Spaniards, they imagined that the place was alarmed, and that a superior force was coming against them, upon which they ran back to their ships, and before another attempt could be made, were obliged to leave the coast.

To these remarkable particulars, I shall add two instances of wanton cruelty, which, to the honour of human nature, is sufficiently uncommon to be recorded in this epitome. Immediately after the insurrection had been quelled, which happened in this county in the time of Edward the Sixth, one Anthony Kingston, who,

who, to the disgrace of a noble order and profession, was a knight, and provost marshal of the king's army, came into Bodmyn, and sent orders to the mayor to cause a gibbet to be erected in the publick street before his own house, by the next day at noon, and at the same time acquainted him that he would then come and dine with him, that he might be present at the execution of some rebels, whom it would be necessary to punish capitally, as a sanction to the law, and an atonement to the state.

The mayor did as he was commanded; and having provided a liberal entertainment for his guest, received and made him welcome at the time appointed.

The noble knight, after he had been regaled by his unsuspecting host, and pledged by him in wine, till he saw that his spirits were exhilarated, and his heart was open, asked him if the gibbet was ready; the man replied that it was, and Kingston, with a sneer of wanton and diabolical cruelty, ordered him to be immediately hanged upon it.

Carew attempts to palliate this horrid fact, by saying that Kingston acted "not as a judge by discretion, but as an officer by direction," and that he had before given the mayor sufficient warning to shift for his safety. But the fact, which Carew with all its circumstances admits, being taken for granted, Kingston *alone* must be answerable for every thing that is guilty and infamous in it. In the mere execution of a rebel, there could be neither infamy nor guilt; and the mere execution of a rebel must have been all that he was commanded to perform. The concealment of these orders from the mayor, till the moment he executed them, the execution of them in the character of a guest, the suffering himself to be treated and caressed in the confidence of hospitality, and in the very height of convivial cheerfulness, without notice or preparation, to take away the life of a man whom he had thus persuaded to regard him as a friend, must have been in compliance with the dictates of his own heart, and to gratify a disposition which could deliberately anticipate and enjoy a pleasure so horrid, that it could not, without the evidence of fact, be believed possible to a human being. That this man had mercy, cannot be believed, and as no other motive can be imagined for his giving the mayor notice of his danger, that he might escape, this fact may reasonably be rejected as false: yet if it was true, it cannot mitigate the guilt of what followed; for it appears plainly from the story, that the mayor, not having been taken into custody, but being on the contrary visited on supposed terms of friendship, by the only man from whom he could apprehend danger, was lulled into perfect security, merely that he might suffer death with every possible aggravation.

The other instance, a fact equally attested, would alone prove Kingston to have been totally destitute of all sense of humanity, generosity and honour. Among other unhappy persons, whose erroneous zeal had betrayed them into this rebellion, was a miller, who was so beloved by a servant, that the honest affectionate and generous rustic, hearing that his master was to die, came to Kingston and offered to die in his stead, saying that he could never do his master better service. Kingston, so far from being struck with this uncommon instance of heroism, fidelity and friendship, told the poor fellow, that if he liked hanging so  
well,

well, he should not be disappointed, and immediately ordered him to be tied up.

Carew has thought fit to palliate this action also, by saying that the man was equally guilty with the master, and that therefore Kingston deserved the praise of mercy for sparing one, rather than the blame of cruelty to hang one for the other. I hope however, that there are few who do not think, that he who could make such an apology, deserves to share the infamy of the wretch for whom it is made; for it appears incontestibly that the miller's servant supposed himself in no danger of suffering on his own account, when he made an offer to suffer for his master; for if both had been to suffer, the offer of one to suffer for the other, would have been absurd. It is therefore improbable that the servant and master were equally guilty; and if they were, the servant's offer to die, when he had the power to escape, would lose nothing of its merit, nor can the acceptance of the offer with insult and derision, lose any thing of its obloquy.

There is however a nameless wretch, who has written an account of Cornwall in a voluminous work, called *Magna Britannia, et Hibernia Antiqua et Nova*, whose heart appears to have been perfectly congenial with Sir Anthony's; he relates the story of the mayor and the miller in the following words. "The Cornish and Devonshire men being rampant, their major, one Boyer, was very active to assist them, and was deservedly hanged for his pains; but it was one of the merriest executions that ever was; for Sir Anthony Kingston, the provost marshal of the king's army, who was appointed the judge of those rebels, first dined with Mr. Major, and then hanged him on a gallows which he had provided, though his miller's man offered to suffer for him, which Sir Anthony would not accept, yet hanged him because it pleased him so well, knowing him a rebel too."

By this account, in which there are perhaps as many blunders as were ever crowded together in the same compass, it appears, that the writer finding mayor spelt by Carew after the old manner *major*, has converted it into *major*, and instead of supposing him a civil magistrate of the town of Bodmyn, has made him a military officer of the men of two counties; he appears also to have supposed Kingston to be judge as well as executioner, and the miller's man to have offered to die for the mayor, who was hanged with him, and not for his master, who was spared for his sake: and yet, though by one of these blunders he has precluded the apology which Carew has made for the death of the mayor, and by the other that which he has made for the death of the rustic, he has related both facts with an air, not of approbation only, but of merriment. Surely he who could think of these horrid violations of all that is tender and sacred among men, as circumstances that made an execution merry, must have had a heart unfit for human society; and it cannot be too much regretted, that his obscurity has sheltered his name from the infamy with which, if it had been known, it would have been for ever united.

If this digression should deserve censure, as being in some degree foreign to my subject, those who feel the same indignation that produced it, will not be much offended; and those who do not, I am contented to offend.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

**Ancient inhabitants.** Cornwall was anciently inhabited by those Britons, whom Solinus calls *Dunmonii*, and Ptolemy *Damonii*, or *Danmonii*; the name *Dunmonii*, or *Danmonii*, is by some supposed to be derived from *Mesina*, a name signifying a hill of mines, given by the Britons to the tin mines, with which this county abounds; others have supposed the Roman name to be derived from *Dannomith*, a term by which the Britons distinguished the way of living in this county, where the houses are built under hills.

**Rude stone monuments.** In this county there are many of those most simple monuments of antiquity, which consist of single stones, not only uninscribed, but unhewn; other monuments there are composed of two, three, or more stones, arranged sometimes in a straight line, and sometimes in a circular one; stones are frequently found in heaps, and now and then three or four large flags, or thin stones, are still standing, capped with a much larger stone.

In *Mén Perhen*, a village of this county, between Falmouth and Helston, there stood, not many years ago, a large pyramidal stone, twenty-four feet high, of which twenty feet appeared above ground. And near a village called *St. Cleere*, north of *Leskard*, are many large stones of a rude columnar shape, now lying at full length on the ground, though it is past all doubt, but that they formerly stood erect.

In *Mén Perhen*, already mentioned, is a stone, shaped like the Greek letter *omega*, somewhat resembling a cap; it is thirty feet round, and eleven feet high, and adjoining to it are some other large stones, which still shew plain marks of workmanship, as if they had been in part fashioned by the same model. In one of the *Scilly Islands*, called *St. Mary's*, on the edge of a most remarkable circular temple, there is a vast stone, cut much in the shape of the preceding ones: these are supposed to have been stone deities.

Near the village of *St. Cleere*, already mentioned, is a pile of rocks, placed one over another, and called *Wringcheefe*, from the resemblance of some of them to large cheeses pressed by the superincumbent weight.

This pile, which attracts the admiration of all travellers, is thirty-two feet high; the stones towards the top, by being many times larger than those in the middle, or nearer the foundation, project so far over the middle part, that it has been a matter of wonder how such an ill constructed pile could resist for many ages, the storms of so exposed a situation. Some have judged this an artificial structure, though most writers are of opinion it is a natural one: the top stone is said to have been formerly a logan, or rocking stone, which when it was entire, might be easily moved with a pole, but now great part of that weight, which kept one end of it in an equipoise with the other, is taken away, whence it is become immovable. On the top are two regular basins, but part of one of them is broke off. This structure is also judged to have been one of the rock deities of the *Druids*.

There



There is another kind of stone monuments in this county, each consisting of a large orbicular rock, supported by two other rocks, between which there is a passage. This sort of monument in Cornwall and Scilly, is commonly called *Tal-men*, which in the Cornish language signifies the hole of stone. These are supposed to have been deities in time of the Druids; and the most astonishing monument of the kind now remaining, is at Mén, between Falmouth and Helston; it consists of one vast oval pebble, placed on the points of two natural rocks, so that a man may creep under the incumbent rock, and between its two supporters, through a passage about three feet wide, and as many high; the longest diameter of the incumbent stone, which points due north and south, is thirty-three feet, the circumference is ninety-seven feet, and sixty feet cross the middle, and it is thought to be 750 tons weight, at least. On the top the whole surface is wrought into basons, and resembles an imperfect or mutilated honey-comb. Most of these basons discharge their contents into two principal basons, one at the south, and the other at the north end of the rock. There are two other tombs of the same structure, though not quite so large, in the Scilly Islands, one in St. Mary's Island, at the bottom of Salakee Downs, and the other in the little island of Northwethel, and each is situated on the decline of a hill, near a large pile of rocks.

Near Madern, north of Penfance, there are three stones standing erect on a triangular plan; one of them is thin and flat, and fixt in the ground on its edge; in the middle of it is a large hole about fourteen inches diameter, whence it is called *Mes an Tol*, which in the Cornish language signifies the holed stone; each of the other two stones is a rude pillar about four feet high, and near one of them is a stone lying like a cushion or pillow, as if to kneel upon. To what particular rite of superstition this monument was appropriated is uncertain, but the country people in its neighbourhood, even at this day, creep through the holed stone for pains in their backs and limbs: young children are drawn through it to cure them of the rickets, and it serves also as an oracular monument, to inform them of some material incident of love or fortune. Of the same kind there are many other stones, in different parts of this county, and here are many rocks of that grandeur, remarkable shape, and surprising position, as leave no room to doubt, but that they must have been deities of the Druids, a people much addicted to the superstition of worshipping rocks.

At Dryft, in Sancred, not far west from Penfance, is a sepulchral monument consisting of two stones, one of which is nine feet high above the ground, and the other somewhat more than seven; they stand north-west and south-east, at the distance of eighteen feet asunder.

At Madern, already mentioned, there is another monument of the same sort, consisting of two stones lying east-north-east, at the distance of ten feet asunder.

At Karn Boscawen, near St. Burién, about five miles from Penfance, is a stone monument, consisting of one large flat stone, one end of which rests upon the natural rock, and the other end on three large stones, placed one upon another, in order to raise a proper support for the weight of the horizontal stone. Between this canopy and its supporters, there is an opening seven feet wide at the top, but closing gradually into an acute angle at the bottom. The top-

stone is too nicely supported to be the work of nature, and the opening underneath it is supposed to have been designed for the seat of some chief priest among the Druids, from whence he might issue his edicts and decisions, his predictions and admissions to noviciates; and indeed the mind can hardly frame to itself a scene more striking and awful than this, which consists of vast rocks on either side, above, and below, fronting an immense ocean.

In this county there have been several rocking stones, or logan stones, as they are called in Cornwall, some of which are supposed to be natural, and some artificial. Near the fourthmost point of the Land's End there is a promontory, called Castle Treryn, which consists of three distinct piles of rocks. On the western side of the middle pile, near the top, lies a very large stone, so evenly poised, that any hand may rock it; and yet the extremities of its base are at such a distance from each other, and so well secured, that it is impossible any lever, or indeed any force, however applied in a mechanical way, could remove it from its present situation.

There is a very remarkable stone of this kind on the island of St. Agnes, in Scilly. It is supported by a rock which is ten feet six inches high, forty-seven feet in circumference round the middle, and touches the ground with no more than half its base. The rocking stone rests on one point only, and is so nicely poised, that two or three men with a pole can move it. It is eight feet six inches high, and forty seven in girt, and has a large basin eleven feet diameter, and three feet deep, at the top.

In the parish of Sithny, near Helston, stood a famous Logan stone, commonly called Men Amber. It is eleven feet long, twenty-four feet in girt, and was so nicely poised, that the least force could move it; but in the time of Oliver Cromwell it was undermined and thrown down by order of the governor of Pendennis.

There are some more of these stones in this county. They are with great reason supposed to be Druid monuments; but to what particular use they were applied is not so certain.

Among the most ancient British monuments are the circles of erect stones, which, from their simplicity, appear to be next in date to the monuments already treated of.—The number of stones erected on a circular plan, is found to be various, and is supposed to have been the effect either of some established rules observed in the construction of these monuments, or to refer to, and be expressive of the erudition of those ages. The distance of the stones from each other, is also different in different circles, but was likely the same, or nearly so at first, in one and the same circle; so that by the distance of what remain standing, or otherwise, may in a great measure be ascertained the number of stones of which the circle formerly consisted. It was not in any indifferent or common place, that these circles were erected; but the rites of augury, and the opinion of the magi or philosophers of the country were first consulted, especially if religion, or the election of princes, gave occasion to the structure; but if victory, the place where it was won was to be honoured with the trophy.

The

The figure of these circles is either simple, or compounded. Of the first kind, are exact circles, elliptical, or semicircular; and the second sort consists not only of a circle, but of some other distinguishing property. In or near the center of some, stand a stone taller than the rest; in the middle of others is a sepulchral chest or cavity; an altar tomb of rough stones distinguishes the center of some circles, and some remarkable rock that of others; some have only one line of stones in their circumference, and some have two; some circles are adjacent, some contiguous, and some include, and some intersect each other; sometimes urns are found in or near them; some are curiously erected on geometrical plans, the chief entrances facing the cardinal points of the heavens; some have avenues leading to them, placed exactly north and south, with detached stones, sometimes in straight lines to the east and west, and sometimes triangular; all evidences of more than common exactness and design.

These monuments are found in many foreign countries, as well as in the isles dependant upon Britain, and in most parts of Britain itself. They go by several names, in different places; in the Highlands of Scotland they are called *Temples*; in the western isles they are called by the common people *Drain Crooney*, or *Druid Circles*; in Denbighshire there is a circle called *Kery y Drudion*, which in the ancient language of Britain signifies the *Druid Stones*; and in Cornwall there is a great number of these circles, commonly called *Devas-Mêx*, or the *Stone Dance*, so called by the people, on no other account but that they are placed in a circular order, and make an area for dancing.

That these temples were erected by the Druids, before the Romans came into this island, appears evident, from many of them being crossed and mangled by the Roman ways; for had they been erected by the Romans themselves, that people would never disfigure their own works. Besides, they must have been prior to the Romans, since the Druids, in the time of the Romans, would never be suffered to obstruct the high-ways of their lords and masters; and this must naturally lead to another conclusion equally evident, which is, that as they could not be Roman works, because prior to the Roman ways, so neither could they have been of Danish or Saxon construction, and therefore can justly be ascribed to none but the Druids.

These circles are of different sizes; some are so exceeding small, as to be no more than twelve feet diameter, and yet they might all be places of worship; that some are larger than others, may be owing either to the different quality of the founders or priests, or the different ends for which they were designed; the larger for more noble and general assemblies, the smaller for more private, and perhaps family uses; the large for sacrifices and festival solemnities, the small for particular intercessions, predictions, and perhaps sepulchres of priests and worthies; the larger circles might be for inauguration as well as worship, and the smaller for electing inferior magistrates.

Of these monuments that kind was most ancient which was most simple, and consisted only of a circle of erect stones; of this sort there are a great number in Cornwall, which differ not materially one from another, and need not therefore any particular description. At Kerris, in the parish of Paul, not far from Penfance, there is an oval inclosure, called the *Roundago*, which is about fifty-two

paces from north to south, and thirty-four from east to west; at the southern extremity stand four rude stone pillars, about eight feet high, at the foot of which lie some large stones, which are supposed to have formerly rested on these pillars.

On a rock, adjoining to a place called the Giant's Castle, in the island of St. Mary, in Scilly, is an area of a circular figure, 172 feet from north to south, and 138 from east to west; on the edges of the rock are nine vast stones still remaining, planted in a circular line; several others perfected the round, but from time to time have been removed. This was a great work of its kind; the floor is of one rock, the stones round the edges are of an extraordinary size; and a stone, mentioned already among the rock-idols, makes one of the ring.

There are some circles near one to the other, and their centers in a line: of this kind is the monument called the Hurlers, in the parish of St. Cleere: the stones of this monument are by the vulgar supposed to have been once men, thus transformed as a punishment for their hurling\* upon the Sabbath-day. This monument consisted of three circles, from which many stones are now carried off. There are some of these circles which include, and others which intersect one another, as in a curious cluster of circles, at Botaleck, about ten miles west of St. Ives.

Of the circles with altars, there is one on the island of Trefcaw, in Scilly. The altar consists of one rude stone nineteen feet long, and shelving on the top; round the bottom there is a hollow circular trench, thirty-six feet in diameter, and the brim of the trench is edged with a line of rude and unequal stones. Another of these circles is on a high hill called Karn-Menelez, in the wilds of Wendron, not far from Penryn. The altar consists of four flat thin stones, placed one over another; the upper stone is circular, and its diameter nineteen feet; it has a circular trench at the bottom, the diameter of which is thirty-five feet and an half.

It must not however be thought that all the monuments of the circular kind had no other use but those of religion, government, and election; the names by which some of them are still called, the singular construction of others, as well as the particular customs recorded in the history of the ancients, will suggest some other very different uses to which monuments of this figure were applied. Where these stone inclosures are semicircular, and distinguished by seats and benches of like materials, there is no doubt but they were designed for the exhibition of plays. There are several theatres of this kind in different parts of Britain; but though this form is best adapted for the instruction and information of the audience, yet as they cannot be supposed, in those illiterate times, to have consulted the delight and instruction of the ear so much as the pleasure and entertainment of the eye, it is not so commonly met with among the remains of antiquity, as the amphitheatrical form, which being more capacious, had generally the preference of the former. In these amphitheatres of stone, not broken as the circles of erect stones, the Britons usually assembled to hear plays acted, and to

\* For a description of which, see page 108.

see sports and games. Of these circles there are a great number in Cornwall, where they are called *Plan an guare*, which signifies a plain of sport and pastime. The benches round were generally of turf, but there are some in Cornwall, the benches of which are of stone. The most remarkable monument of this kind is near the church of St. Just, north-west of Penzance, not far from the Land's End; by the remains it seems to have been a work of more than usual labour and correctness. It was an exact circle of 126 feet diameter, the perpendicular height of the bank, from the area within, is now seven feet, but the height from the bottom of the ditch without, ten feet. The seats consist of six steps, fourteen inches wide, and a foot high, with one on the top of all, where the rampart is about seven feet wide.

In these cirques were also performed all their athletic exercises, for which the Cornish Britons are still remarkable: and when any single combat was to be fought on foot, no place so proper as these inclosed circles.

The cirques, whether open or inclosed, were also often sepulchral; for in, or adjoining to the edge of these circular monuments, are found sometimes stone chests and cromlechs, and at other times sepulchral urns or barrows, all evident signs of burial, doubtless of persons the most illustrious of their country, for knowledge, virtue, or power; for it must not be supposed that these circles were ever the ordinary common places of burial, it being very seldom that more than one stone-cavity, barrow, or cromlech, was found in or near them, and scarce more than two, or very few urns.

In Cornwall, on almost every plain, as well as on the tops of hills, are still to be seen great numbers of those artificial heaps of earth or stone, which are at present called barrows, and are monuments of the remotest antiquity, and oftentimes of the highest dignity. They were originally intended for the more secure protection of the remains of the dead, though afterwards they were raised to answer other purposes. Barrows are found in most countries; but in Britain, and the British isles, they are very numerous, occasioned by the practice of the Druids, who burnt, and then buried their dead. The materials of which barrows consist, are either a multitude of small or great stones, earth alone, or stones and earth mixed together, and forming a little hill, which was called by the Romans *Tumulus*. Those which consist chiefly of stone, are called *Kairnes*, or *Karns*, in Scotland, the Isle of Man, Ireland, Cornwall and other parts of England. When they consist of earth, they are frequently termed *Cribs*, or *Craggs*, in Cornwall, which signifies round heaps; in Staffordshire they are called *Lows*, or sepulchres; in Wales they are termed *Tommens*, or hillocks; and the word *barrow* seems to come from the Saxon *Byrigh*, from which the English word *bury* is also derived.

An earthen barrow of a wide circumference, and about five feet high, situated in a field at Trelowarren, not far from Helston, was opened in July 1751. As the workmen had dug half way to the bottom, they found a parcel of stones set in some order, which being removed, a cavity was discovered in the middle of the barrow, about two feet in diameter, and of equal height; it was surrounded and covered with stones, and inclosed human bones of all sorts, intermixed with wood ashes; at the distance of a few feet from this central cavity, there were found

found two urns, one on each side, with their mouths turned downwards, and inclosing small bones and ashes; and among the earth of the barrow were found three thin bits of brass, supposed to have been pieces of a sword, or some other instrument, which, after having been put upon the funeral pile and broke, was thrown into the barrow, among the earth and other materials that were heaped together.

Besides these plain barrows, there are others which discover greater art and exactness. Some are surrounded with a single row of stones, which form the base, others with a ring or foss of earth; some have a large flat stone on the top, and some a pillar, now and then with, but oftener without inscription; some have a circle round the bottom, and round the top also; and where this custom prevailed, and no stones offered for the purpose, trees were planted. When these barrows were not very large, and the burying places of private persons only, they were situated near public roads, to put travellers in mind of their common destiny; if they were the sepulchres of common soldiers, they were thrown up generally on the field of battle where the soldiers fell; these are found in straight lines, stretched along the plains which have been the scenes of great action, as regularly as the front of an army. The size of these sepulchral monuments is various, but generally large in proportion to the quality of the deceased, or the vanity, affection, and power of the survivors.

There is a singular kind of barrow which obtains throughout all the Scilly islands: these barrows are edged with stones, which form the outward ring; in the middle they have a cavity, walled on each side, and covered with large flat stones, over which is a tumulus of small stones and earth. Upon opening one of these, in the middle of the barrow was found a large cavity, containing some unctuous earth, to which there was a passage at the eastern end, one foot and a half wide, between two stones set on end in the middle of the cavity; it was four feet eight inches wide, and twenty-two feet in length; it was walled on each side with masonry and mortar, the sides were four feet ten inches high, and it was terminated on the west by a large flat stone, and covered by the like stones at top: the reason for its being so much beyond the dimensions of the human body, was probably that it might contain the remains, not of one person only, but of whole families.

As some barrows, upon examination, have been distinguished by urns, others by round or square pits in the center, which served the office of urns, and others by human skeletons only, that discover no signs of their having passed through the fire, it becomes a question by what nation particular barrows were erected. This is no easy matter to determine, as the method of burying under Tumuli was so universal, without some criterion found in each barrow to assist in making a discovery. Thus by the materials and workmanship of the urn, the cell that contains it, coins, instruments of war, or domestic life, which may accompany the remains of the dead, a judgment may be formed to what nation such sepulchres are to be assigned; but where such indications are wanting, no certainty can be obtained. If it be true, as is reported, that the Saxons and Danes, though they continued to bury their dead under earthen hillocks, had left off burning them at or before their arrival or settlement in this island, then all barrows with urns

or

or ashes, must be either British or Roman; and where there are no coins or pavements underneath, or elegance in the workmanship of the urns, or choice in the materials of which the urns are made, or Roman camp near, or in a line with the barrows, it may be concluded that such barrows are not Roman, and *vice versa*.

By the contents of all barrows which have been examined elsewhere, as well as in this island, it appears that the principal cause of their erection was to inclose either the ashes or the bodies unburnt of the dead; however, the sepulchres of the ancients being always looked upon with a kind of veneration, they afterwards became applied to the solemnization of their highest rites of religion and festivity; for on stone barrows, especially such as have a large flat stone on the top, the Druids kindled their annual fires; where the earth barrows are inclosed, or shaped by a circle of erect stones, they may be presumed to have served as altars for sacrifice; these heaps were also probably at times, places of inauguration, the prince elect standing on the top, exposed to view, and the Druid officiating close to the edge below; on the same hillock perhaps judgment was frequently pronounced, and the most important decisions made, as from a sacred eminence; and where such barrows were not at hand, something of the like kind was erected.

In several parts of Cornwall are found a large flat stone, in an horizontal position, supported by other flat stones, fixed in the ground. This monument, in different countries, is known by different names; but the general name by which it is known among antiquaries, is that of *Cromlech*, or *Cromlech*, which in the Irish, and the ancient British language, signifies a crooked stone, the upper surface of the incumbent stone being generally convex, and the whole stone frequently lying in an inclined, or crooked position. The situation which is generally chosen for this monument, is the summit of a hill, in order, without doubt, to render it as conspicuous as possible; sometimes it is mounted on a barrow, consisting either of stones or earth; it is sometimes placed in the middle of a circle of erect stones, in which case it is supposed to have been erected on some extraordinary occasion; but when a circle has a tall stone in the middle, we find this monument sometimes placed on the edge of such a circle, from which circumstance it would appear, that it was unlawful to remove the middle stone.

The elevation of this monument is generally six, eight, or more feet from the ground, and some are found quite inclosed, and buried as it were, in the barrow. The number of supporters in almost all the monuments of this kind, are found to be no more than three, and these inclose an area generally of six feet or more in length, and four feet in width. To what nation, sect, or religion, this monument is to be ascribed, is a point not easily to be adjusted, as cromlechs are found in Denmark, France, and Germany, in the islands of the Mediterranean sea, in Ireland, Britain, and the British Isles; they are therefore generally supposed to have been Celtic monuments, and doubtless are very ancient, as appears by their simplicity. There are some monuments of this kind in Wales, the supporters of which are marked with crosses; but these crosses must have been marked upon them after the establishment of Christianity, as the Christians never erected structures of this sort.

The use and intent of these monuments appear to have been sepulchral, as is evident from several circumstances, but particularly from the skeleton of a human body, together with several pieces of bones lately dug up under a monument of this kind, in Ireland. When a cromlech is found in the middle of a facred circle, Mr. Borlase thinks it probable that it was the sepulchre of one of the chief priests or Druids who presided in that district, or of some prince, a favourite of that order. When the middle of the circle was taken up by a single obelisk, which was always regarded as a symbol of something divine, and generally worshipped, then was the cromlech, as he thinks, placed on the edge of the circle.

In the parish of Madern, in this county, there are two cromlechs, one at Molfra, and the other at Lanyon. The former is placed on the summit of a round hill: the cover stone measures eight feet nine inches by fourteen feet three inches; the supporters, being three in number, are five feet high, and the length of the incumbent stone bears due east and west. It was evidently brought from a karn, or ledge of rocks about a furlong to the north-west, in which karn are several very large flat stones lying horizontally, one over another. The stone barrow with which this cromlech is surrounded, is not two feet high from the general surface, but is thirty-seven feet three inches in diameter.

The length of the area described by the supporters of Lanyon cromlech, is seven feet; the cover stone is forty-seven feet in girt, nineteen feet long, and in some places two feet thick, and it is also so high, that a man on horseback can stand under it. This cromlech stands on a bank of earth, not two feet higher than the adjacent soil; it is however twenty feet wide and seventy feet long, running north and south.

On the top of a high hill, about a mile east of Senor, near St. Ives, stands a very large handsome cromlech; the area inclosed by the supporters is exactly of the same dimensions with that at Molfra, it points the same way, and the top stone is eight feet ten inches high from the ground; underneath it is a stone chest, neatly formed, and fenced every way; it is surrounded with a stone barrow forty-seven feet in diameter. The cover stone was brought from a karn about a furlong distant from it; and near the same karn is another cromlech, not very different from that east of Senor.

Near Ch'ûn Castle, not far from Penfance, stands a cromlech, the covering stone of which is twelve feet and an half long, eleven feet wide, and is supported by three stones pitched on their edges, which with a fourth, form a pretty regular kist-vaen, or stone chest; the top of the covering stone is convex, and the monument has a low barrow, or heap of stones round it, like that at Molfra.

Among the ancient coins found in Cornwall were a considerable number of pure gold, dug up in the month of June 1749, in Karnbrê-hill, near Redruth: some were worn and very much smoothed, not by age, or lying in the earth, but by use, they having no alloy to harden and secure them from wearing. There were no letters discoverable on any of them; some were plain or flat, some a little concave on one side, and convex on the other, and the largest weighed no more than four pennyweight fourteen grains. From the reverse of these coins, which

Ancient  
coins.



which was generally marked with the impression of a horse, some imagined that they were Phenician, because a few colonies of that people were said to have chosen a horse for their symbol. The place where the coins were found seemed to confirm this opinion, because Cornwall, since the first appearance of Britain in history, was celebrated for its tin, which the Phenicians, from their superior skill in navigation, for many ages engrossed to themselves: but there are coins produced by antiquaries, which have been found in Britain, which are inscribed with British names, and are with the greatest probability believed to have been the coins of princes contemporary even with Julius Cæsar, the reverse of which has the figure of a horse. It is moreover observed, that the coins found at Karnbré are too rude, and the designs too mean, to have been Phenician, Roman, or Grecian; that coins of all the different sorts found at Karnbré, have been discovered in several places in Britain, and in no other country; and that those coins which are not inscribed, are most probably older than coins of the same nation which are inscribed. From all these circumstances it is therefore reasonably concluded, that the coins found at Karnbré are originally British, and older than the Roman invasion of this island: but such as would see this argument in its full force, are requested to consult the reverend and learned Mr. Borlase's *Antiquities of Cornwall*, from page 242, to page 263 inclusive, where these coins are particularly described; and elegant impressions given of seventeen different sorts, found in the treasure of Karnbré.

In the side of the same hill of Karnbré, were dug up, in the year 1744, several hollow instruments of brass of different sizes, called celts, together with a great many Roman coins. A vast number of celts have been found at different times, in different parts of Europe, but particularly in Britain. There are various opinions concerning the design and use of these instruments, though they are generally supposed to be of Roman original; but the reverend Mr. Borlase strongly contends for their being originally British implements of war, used for the heads, or arming, of spears, javelins, and arrows.

In the month of July 1749, the quantity of one pint of Roman copper coins was dug up at the foot of Karnbré hill; and a few years before, about a quart of the same coin was found near the same place. Roman coins have been found in and near the ancient mines of this county, which must have been deposited either by the Roman miners, or by officers appointed by that nation to superintend and guard the mines, which possibly the Romans might have worked by the natives.

At Treryn, near the Land's End, was found a brass pot full of Roman money: and in a tenement called Condosa, on Helford Haven, not far from Hélfon, in the year 1735, twenty-four gallons of the Roman brass money were dug up, all which coins were of the age of the emperor Constantine and his family, and had either the heads of those emperors, or were of the cities of Rome or Constantinople. On the other side of Helford Haven, opposite to Condosa, were found forty Roman coins. At Mopas, near Truro, not many years ago, twenty pounds weight of Roman brass coin were dug up; and at Trewardreth, near Fowey, many Roman coins have been found.

Sepulchral  
remains of  
Romans anti-  
quity.

In the year 1733, upon opening an ancient barrow in the tenement of Chikara, and the parish of St. Just, so often mentioned, was discovered a great number of urns, surrounding a square stone chest, in which also was an urn finely carved, and full of human bones. The number of urns surrounding the central and principal one, is said to be about fifty; they all contained some bones and ashes, and were carefully placed side by side. The barrow is supposed to have been a family sepulchre of the Romans.

In 1714, a fine Roman urn, with a cover to it, was discovered in a hill near Karnbré; it contained some ashes and a coin, the bigness of a crown piece, with an inscription intimating it to be a medal of Augustus Cæsar.

Near the mansion-house of Kerris, in the parish of St. Paul, already mentioned, a vault eight feet long, and six feet high, was discovered in 1723; the floor was paved with stone, and the roof arched with the like materials; it contained a beautiful plain urn of the finest red clay, full of earth, with which was intermixed a considerable number of brass coins. In the year 1700, some tanners having opened a barrow at Golvadnek, north of Héllon, discovered a vault with a fine chequered brick pavement, in which was contained an urn full of ashes, several Roman brass coins, and a small instrument of brass set in ivory, which is supposed to have been used by the Roman ladies in dressing their hair. About a furlong from Golvadnek, on a hill called Karn-menelez, are two barrows, in which it is said Roman coins and urns have been found: and in the year 1600 a large gilt urn, graved with letters, was found in a great stone chest near Trewardreth.

Three Roman paternæ of fine moor-stone, turned and polished, have been found not many years ago, in this county. One was discovered in an old hedge, at a place called Ludgvan, and is supposed to be a sacrificial patera, for receiving the blood of the victim, and conveying it as an offering to the altar. The other two paternæ were found in the tenement of Lefwyn, in St. Just. They are supposed to be that kind of patera from which the libation of wine was poured out, either upon the altar, or between the horns of the victim. About a hundred yards from these two paternæ, was also found a large urn.

Roman cities  
and fortifica-  
tions.

Condora is supposed to have been a Roman fortification; and near it is an old vallum, stretching almost from sea to sea, which is thought to be the remains of a Roman work. Falmouth Haven is the Ostitium Cenionis of Ptolemy. There are two square forts; one at Binnomay, where some old brass coins were lately found; and the other at Wallaborow, which are both supposed to have been Roman forts. Launceston Castle is thought to have been originally a Roman fortification; and some Roman coins have been found here. There is an angular fort on the barton of Wolveston, in the parish of Probus, north-east of Truro, which is also believed to have been a Roman work: and at St. Agnes Kleish, north-west of Truro, there is a vast intrenchment, extending near two miles in length; it is a work of great skill and labour, supposed to have been thrown up by the Romans; and within the intrenchment a gold coin of the emperor Valentinian was turned up in the year 1684.

Gram-

Grampont is supposed to be the Voliba of Ptolemy, and Leflwithiel is generally believed to be the Uxela of the same author, though there are some antiquaries who assert Saltash to be the Uxela of the ancients.

There are many other ancient fortifications in this county, which it is difficult to assign to their original builders; and the times of building them are still more difficult to ascertain. At Castle Treryn, near the south-west part of the Land's End, there are some remains of an ancient fortification. The cape called Tolpedn-penwith, about a mile and an half to the west of Castle Treryn, is divided from the mainland by a stone wall: and the castles of Karnijek and Boffajell, in the parish of St. Just, with many others on the sea coast, are in like manner separated from the mainland.

Other ancient  
sites and  
castles.

On the top of Bartiné Hill, in the parish of St. Just, is a circular mound of earth, with little or no ditch, never of any great strength, and perhaps only traced out, begun, and never finished. Within this inclosure was sunk a well, now filled up with stones; and the only thing remarkable is, that near the center of the castle are three circles, edged with stones pitched on end, and contiguous to each other; one of them is nine yards in diameter, and the other seven. Caerbran in the parish of Sancred, is another circular fortification, on the top of a high hill, consisting of a deep ditch, fifteen feet wide, edged with stone: this is surrounded by a vallum of earth fifteen feet high; within this vallum is a large ditch, about forty-five feet wide; and the top of the hill is surrounded by a stone wall, which seems to have been of considerable strength: the diameter of the whole is ninety paces; and in the center is a small circle. There are many others of the like kind still to be seen in Cornwall; some of which are regularly built, and walled round. These hill castles in this county are supposed to be Danish.

At the east end of Karnbré Hill stands a ruinous building, which from its situation is called Karnbré Castle, and is built upon a very irregular ledge of vast rocks. It is supposed to have been erected by the ancient Britons: and on the west side of it is a circular fortification, called the Old Castle, which from some circumstances observable in the building, is supposed to have been erected by the same people, as early as the time of the Druids. Tindagel Castle is an ancient building, near Boffiney, erected on a high promontory, the extremity of which was a peninsula, joined to the mainland. The fortifications stand partly on the peninsula and partly on the mainland; but the remains on both are not now very considerable. This castle was erected by the ancient Britons, and is celebrated for having been the birth-place of the famous king Arthur, in the fifth century, at which time it was the seat of the dukes of Cornwall, and continued to be one of the castles of the earls of Cornwall, to the time of Richard king of the Romans, who entertained here his nephew, David prince of Wales. After the death of Richard and his son Edmund, all the ancient castles went to ruin, and this among the rest. There are the remains of another castle of the same kind in the parish of Sancred, called Caerguida, which is also judged to have been built by the ancient Britons.

Trematon Castle, in the parish of St. Stephens, near Saltash, was the head of a barony of the ancient dukes of Cornwall; and though it was built before the Conquest, is yet the most entire ancient castle with a keep in this county. The wall of the bailecourt is still standing, and is ditched without, and pierced in several places with certain loop holes. There is no tower projecting from this wall, but the gate-way, which seems more modern than the rest of the building. At one end of this court is an artificial hill, on the top of which is the keep, of an oval figure. The outer wall is still standing, and is ten feet thick. Restormel Castle, about a mile north of Leftwichel, was one of the principal houses of the ancient earls of Cornwall. It stands upon a rock: the keep is very magnificent; the outer wall or rampart is an exact circle, a hundred and two feet diameter on the inside, and ten feet wide at the top; and from the floor of the ground rooms to the top of the parapet, is twenty-seven feet six inches. It appears from the ruins, that this was a castle of great extent; and it had a park round it, well wooded, and suitable to the quality of the ancient owners.

Inscribed  
monuments.

Among the inscribed monuments of antiquity, still extant in this county, is a stone at St. Clement's, near Truro. It has a large cross on it in bas relief, and the following inscription in one line: ISNIOC. VITAL. FILI. TORRICI; which should be read, *Isniocus Vitalis filius Torrici*. It is thought to be one of the most ancient Christian sepulchral monuments in this county; but the cross is judged to be of later date than the inscription. In a ditch about two miles north of Fowey, lies a stone, which not many years ago stood erect, at a place in the same neighbourhood, where two roads intersect one another. On the top of it is sunk a little trough, or pit, marked with dotted lines, four inches long, four wide, and two deep. On one side is an embossed cross, and on the side opposite an inscription, which Leland read thus: CUNOMOR & FILIUS CUM DOMINA CLUSILLA. But Mr. Lhuyd reads it as follows: CIRUSIUS HIC JACET — CUNOWORI FILIUS; and takes the W to be an M reversed.

About half a mile north-west of Lanyon, in the parish of Madern, lies a stone nine feet ten inches long, one foot eight inches wide, and one foot seven thick. It formerly stood upright, and has an inscription, which was read from the top downwards as follows: RIALOBRAN — CUNOVAL — FIL. signifying that Rialobran, the son of Cunoval, was buried here. At a place called Barlowena, not far from Madern, there is a stone seven feet nine inches long, one foot eight inches wide, and about one foot thick, lying across a brook, and inscribed thus: QUENATAU  $\equiv$  ICDINUI FILIUS; *i. e. Quenatarus Icdinui filius*. And in the high-way at Mawgon, near Hëlston, is a stone, called Mawgon Cross, with this inscription: CNEGUMI FIL — ENANS. At Worthyvale, about a mile and a half from Camelford, is a stone, nine feet nine inches long, and two feet three inches wide, inscribed thus: CATIN HIC JACIT — FILIUS MAGARI —. These, with several other inscribed stones, found in this county, are justly supposed to have been sepulchral monuments, erected before the Norman Conquest.

E C C L E;

## ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At Padstow, St. Petroc or Patrick, a religious man, born in Wales, arriving from Ireland, in this county, about the year 520, is said to have built a monastery, in which he was buried; but his body was afterwards removed to

Bodmyn, where a church was built to his memory; in which church the episcopal see for Cornwall was placed, by king Edward the Elder, about the year 905. Here king Ethelstan, about the year 926, is said to have met with old Saxon, or rather British monks, following the rule of St. Benedict, to whom he granted such great privileges and endowments, that he is accounted the founder of the monastery. About the year 1120, one Algar re-established this monastery, placing therein regular canons, of the order of St. Austin, who continued till the general suppression, when this house was styled the priory of St. Mary and St. Petroc; and valued at 270 l. 0 s. 11 d. *per annum*.

On the south side of the market-place in this town, was a house of Grey friars, begun by John of London, a merchant, and augmented by Edmund, earl of Cornwall. In the time of queen Elizabeth, this priory was made the house of correction for the county. About a mile from this town there was an hospital, dedicated to St. Laurence, well endowed, for nineteen leprous persons: and at the west end of the town, were a chapel and an almshouse.

At St. Germans was a collegiate church, founded in honour of St. German, one of the famous French bishops, who came over into Britain to oppose the Pelagian heresy. King Ethelstan is said to have made one Conan bishop here, in the year 936. This church was more amply endowed by king Canute: and about the year 1050, Leofric, bishop of St. Germans and Crediton, having united both bishopricks in the church of St. Peter, at Exeter, changed the seculars here into regular canons. The yearly revenue of this priory was valued upon the suppression at 243 l. 8 s.

At St. Burién, near the Land's End, king Ethelstan is said to have built and endowed a collegiate church, to which, among other privileges, he granted that of a sanctuary. It was dedicated to St. Burién, a religious woman from Ireland, who had an oratory, and was buried here. This church still continues an independent deanry of exempt jurisdiction, as a royal free chapel; and was valued at the suppression at no more than 48 l. 12 s. 1 d. *per annum*.

In the church of St. Stephen, about half a mile from Launceston, there was a college of secular canons, before the Conquest, which, being given to the bishop and church of Exeter, by king Henry the First, was suppressed before the year 1126, by William Warlewast, bishop of Exeter, who in place of it founded in the west suburb, under the Castle-hill, a priory for canons of the order of St. Austin, which was also dedicated to St. Stephen, and valued upon the general suppression at 354 l. 0 s. 11 d. *per annum*. Here was an hospital for Lepers, dedicated

ated to St. Leonard, in the time of Richard the Second; an hospital for lazars, dedicated to St. Thomas; and also a friary, of which there are no particulars upon record.

At St. Michael's Mount, near Penfance, was a priory of Benedictine monks, founded by king Edward the Confessor; but before the year 1085, it was annexed to the abbey of St. Michael in Periculo Maris in Normandy, by Robert earl of Merton and Cornwall. After the suppression of alien priories, it was given first to King's College, Cambridge, by king Henry the Sixth, and afterwards to Sion Abbey in Middlesex, by king Edward the Fourth. It had possessions at the general suppression, valued at 110 l. 12 s. 1 d. *per annum*.

At Karentoc or Krantoc, near Padfow, there was, in the time of Edward the Confessor, a collegiate church, dedicated to St. Carantocus, who is said to have been a disciple of St. Patrick. Its revenues were valued upon the suppression, at 89 l. 15 s. 8 d. *per annum*.

At St. Neots, north of Leskard, there was a monastery or college, dedicated to St. Neotus, brother of king Alfred, who was buried here. It continued till after the Conquest.

At St. Keveren, on the west side of Falmouth Haven, there were, in the time of king Edward the Confessor, a dean and canons, endowed with lands, and the privilege of a sanctuary. The church of this deanry was given by king Henry the First, to the bishop and church of Exeter; after which here was a cell of Cistercian monks, subordinate to Beaulieu Abbey in Hampshire.

At Constantine, near Keveren, there was a church, which appears to have been anciently of more than ordinary note.

At Iniscaw, one of the Scilly Islands, there was a poor cell of two Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. Nicholas, which belonged to Tavistock Abbey in Devonshire, even before the Conquest.

At St. Probus, north-east of Truro, there was a collegiate church of secular canons, before the Conquest, which was given to the bishop and church of Exeter, by king Henry the First.

At Trewardreth was an alien priory of Benedictine monks, belonging to the abbey of St. Sergius and Bachus in Angiers, founded before the year 1169, by Champensulphus, lord of the manor of Trewardreth. It was afterwards made denison, and continued to the dissolution, when its yearly revenues were rated at 113 l. 9 s. 3 d.

At a place formerly called St. Syriac, was a small religious house, of two Benedictine or Cluniac monks, as early as the time of king Richard the First. It was a cell to Montacute in Somersetshire.

At

At St. Anthony, not far from Hëlston, was a cell of Black monks, belonging to the priory of Trewardreth, as early as the time of Richard the First. And at another place, called St. Anthony, near St. Maws, there was a priory of two Augustine canons, subordinate to Plympton Abbey in Devonshire.

Gervase of Canterbury, among other Cornish monasteries in his time, reckons one of Black monks, at a place called Talcarn; and another at St. Mary de Valle; but there are now no places in Cornwall known by these names.

At Minster, not far from Padstow, there was an alien priory, subordinate to the abbey of St. Sergius and Bachus at Angiers.

At Trebigh, near St. Ives, there was a preceptory of Knights Hospitaliers of St. John of Jerusalem, valued upon the dissolution at 90 l. 1 s. 9 d. *per annum*.

At Hëlston there was a priory, or hospital, founded by one Kyllgrew, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and endowed upon the dissolution with only 12 l. 16 s. 4 d. *per annum*.

The parish church of Eshy, near Fowey, appears to have been formerly collegiate.

Walter Bronescomb, bishop of Exeter, about the year 1270, built a collegiate church on a moor, called Glasenith, near Penryn. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas of Canterbury; consisted of a provost, a sacrist, eleven prebendaries, seven vicars, and six choristers; and was valued upon the suppression, at 210 l. 13 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

At Lanfallos, south-east of Fowey, there was a cell belonging to the abbey of Hartland, in Devonshire.

At St. Martin's, near Hëlston, there was a nunnery; and in the parish church of Endellion, on the east of Padstow haven, there were three prebends, before the twentieth year of Edward the First, which subsist to this day.

In Kenwyn Street, in Truro, there was a convent of Black friars, about the end of the reign of king Henry the Third. At Leskard a house of lepers, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, before the year 1400. At Blaise, near Fowey, an almshouse. At St. Bennet's, south-west of Bodmyn, a nunnery, the tower of which is still standing; and there is mention of the abbey of Saltash, in the second year of the reign of Henry the Fourth; but there are no particulars concerning those religious houses upon record.

#### MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends no less than forty-four members to parliament, viz. Two knights of the shire for the county, and two burgesses for each of the following

bo-

## C O R N W A L L

boroughs; Bodmyn, Boffiney, Camelford, East Loo, West Loo, Fowey, St. Germans, Grampont, Hëlston, St. Ives, Kellington, Launceston, Lefkard, Lestwithiel, St. Maws, St. Michael, Newport, Penryn, Saltah, Tregony, and Truro.



p. 22.

CUMBER.



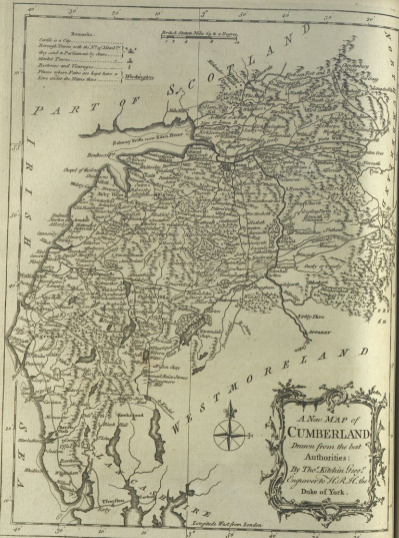
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Remarks.

Cells in a City  
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 they and a Parliament by Stone  
 Market Towns  
 Railways and Turnpikes  
 Places where Fairs are kept have a  
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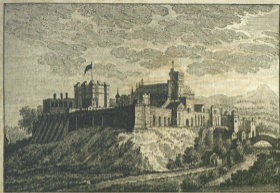
British Statute Miles to a Degree



A New MAP of  
**CUMBERLAND**  
 Drawn from the best  
 Authorities:  
 By Tho<sup>s</sup>. Kitchin Geog<sup>r</sup>  
 Engraver to H.R.H. the  
 Duke of York.

Engraved and Sold from London

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CARLISLE CASTLE

P. 145

# C U M B E R L A N D.

## N A M E.

**T**HIS county is generally supposed to have been called *Cumberland*, from *Cumbri*, a name given to the ancient Britons, who long maintained their ground in it, against the encroachments of the Saxons; but some have thought that Cumberland was derived from *Cumber*, to load, or obstruct, because it abounds with mountains and lakes, which render travelling tedious and inconvenient.

## B O U N D A R I E S, E X T E N T and S I T U A T I O N.

This county is bounded by the Irish sea on the west, by part of Scotland on the north, by Northumberland, Durham, and Westmoreland on the east, and by Lancashire and the Irish sea on the south. It is about 55 miles from north to south, 38 from east to west, and 168 miles in circumference; and Kewick, a market town, and the most central one in the county, is about 283 miles north-west and by-north from London.

Vol. I.

S

RIVERS.

## RIVERS.

Cumberland abounds with rivers and large bodies of water, which the inhabitants call meres: of the rivers the Derwent is the chief. It rises in Borrodale, a large valley south of Kewick, and running along the hills, called Derwent Fells, forms a large lake, in which are three small islands, and at the north side of which stands the town of Kewick; thence the Derwent runs through the middle of the county, and passing by Cockermouth, another market town, falls into the Irish sea, near a small market town called Workington.

The Eden, another considerable river in this county, rises at Mervel Hill, near Askrig, a market town of Yorkshire, and running north-west, cross the counties of Westmoreland and Cumberland, upwards of thirty miles, and being joined by several other rivers, turns directly west; and passing by the city of Carlisle, falls into that part of the Irish sea called the Solway Frith. Besides the two rivers already mentioned, here also are the Eln, the Esk, the Leven, the Irthing, the South Tyne, and several other less considerable rivers and brooks, which supply the inhabitants with plenty of fish.

## AIR, SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The air of this county, though cold, is less piercing than might be expected from its situation, being sheltered by lofty mountains on the north. The soil is in general fruitful, the plains producing corn in great abundance, and the mountains yielding pasture for numerous flocks of sheep, with which they are perpetually covered. The face of the country is delightfully varied by lofty hills, valleys, and water; but the prospect would be still more agreeable, if it was not deficient in wood, many plantations of which have been made, but without sufficient success to encourage the practice. The Derwent produces salmon in great plenty, and the Eden Char, a small fish of the trout kind, which is not found in any waters of this island, except the Eden and Winandermere, a lake in Westmoreland. At the mouth of the river Irt, on the sea coast, near Ravenglas, a market town in this county, are found pearl muscles; for the fishing of which, some persons obtained a patent not very long ago, but it does not appear that this undertaking has yet produced any considerable advantage. Several mountains here contain metals and minerals; and in the south part of the county, which is called Copeland, the mountains abound with rich veins of copper, as they do also in Derwent Fells, particularly at Newland, a village near Kewick, where it is said there was once found, a mixture of gold and silver. In this county there are also mines of coals, lead, lapis calaminaris, and black lead, a mineral, found no where else, called by the inhabitants wadd. The wadd mines lie chiefly in and about Derwent Fells, where this mineral may be dug up in any quantity.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into five principal parts, called wards, which is probably a district equivalent to the hundreds and wapentakes of other counties; though

no explanation of the word, as a division of a county, is to be found. The county contains one city and eleven market towns. It lies in the province of York, and diocese of Chester and Carlisle, and contains, according to some computations, 58 parishes; according to others 90.

## CITY and MARKET TOWNS.

The city is Carlisle; and the market towns are Brampton, Cockermouth, Egremont, Jerby, Kewick, Kirk-Oswald, Longtown, Penrith, Ravenglas, Whitehaven, and Wigton.

The city of CARLISLE derives its name from the British word *Caer*, which signifies a city, and the name of the founder, who was a petty king of this county, before the time of the Romans, and who at different periods was known by the various names Luul, Lucl, Lugubal, Leil, and Luil; so that Carlisle is *Luil's City*. This city is 301 miles distant from London, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, twenty-four common council men, a sheriff, two bailiffs, a recorder, chamberlain, and other officers; and here the assizes are generally held, as are also the county sessions, though these last are sometimes held at Penrith.

Carlisle is situated near the confluence of three rivers, two of which are considerable, the Eden on the north, over which it has a bridge, the Peterill on the east, and the Cauda, a smaller stream on the west. It is an episcopal see, and is also a sea port; and though without ships or merchants, yet it is wealthy and populous. It is the key of England on the west, as Berwick upon Tweed is on the east, and is strongly fortified, being surrounded with a wall, which is about one mile in compass, and broad enough on the top for three men to walk abreast. In this wall are three gates, the Caldre, or Irish Gate, on the south; the Richard, or Scotch Gate, on the north; and the Bother, or English Gate, on the west. The houses in general are well built, and there is a cathedral, and two parish churches, St. Cuthbert's and St. Mary's. The cathedral is in the middle of the city, and inclosed by a wall. The east, or upper part of this cathedral, is a curious piece of workmanship, and except the choir, was built in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, about the year 1520. It is no where said when the west, or lower part was built; but this part suffered much during the civil wars of 1641. The choir on the east part of the cathedral, was built in 1356, about the twenty-ninth year of Edward the Third. It is 137 feet long, and seventy-one broad, and has a stately window forty-eight feet high, and thirty broad, adorned with pillars of curious workmanship. The roof is elegantly vaulted with wood, and embellished with the arms of France and England, besides those of the Percies, Lucies, Mowbrays, and many others. The tower is 123 feet high. The chapter consists of four canons, a deacon, a sub-deacon, four lay clerks, six choristers, and six almsmen.

No description is to be found of St. Cuthbert's Church; but the situation of St. Mary's is different from that of every other parish church in England, for it stands in the body of the cathedral.

The principal manufacture of this city is fustian.

**BRAMPTON**, distant from London 287 miles, lies on the river Irthing, near its conflux with a less considerable stream called the Gelt, to the north-east of Carlisle. Here is an hospital for six poor men and six poor women, founded by a countess dowager of Carlisle.

**COCKERMOUTH**, or **COKARMOUTH**, is so called from its situation at the mouth of the Cokar, a small river, which here falls into the Derwent. It is 267 miles distant from London, and though not incorporated, is a borough, and is governed by an officer called a bailiff, who is chosen annually.

The town is situated in a valley, between two hills, and is nearly surrounded by the two rivers that meet near it: it is also divided by the Cokar into two parts, which communicate with each other by two good stone bridges. It consists principally of two streets, the houses of which are well built of stone, and slated on the top. It has an harbour for vessels of considerable burden, and had a castle, now mostly in ruins, which stands on the hill west of the Cokar; the walls of the castle are about six hundred yards in compass, and on the gates are the arms of the Moltons, Humfravilles, Lucies, and Percies. On the other hill, east of the Cokar, stands the church, which was anciently a chapel of ease to Bridgeham, a village about a mile distant; it is now parochial, and has two chapels of its own. It was first built by the Lucies, in the reign of Edward the Third, about the middle of the fourteenth century; and all, but the tower, was intirely rebuilt from the ground, by a national contribution, raised by a brief in the year 1711. In one division is the guild, or moot-hall, where the corn-market is kept; and in the other division, there is a market for cattle.

**EGREMONT** is distant from London 287 miles, and stands on the banks of a little river named Broadwater, that falls into the sea, near a promontory called St. Bees, about two miles south of Whitehaven. This town formerly had a castle; and before the time of king Edward the First, the middle of the twelfth century, it was a borough, and sent members to parliament, privileges which it lost in the reign of that prince. It has two bridges over the river Broadwater.

**JERBY**, called **MARKET JERBY**, to distinguish it from another town called Jerby, contiguous to it, which is not a market town, is distant from London 290 miles, and situated at the head of the river Eln.

**KESWICK**, as has been already observed, stands on the north side of the lake formed by the Derwent. It is situated in a fruitful plain almost encompassed with mountains, called Derwent Fells, against which the vapours that rise from below are perpetually condensed into water. It is sheltered from the north winds by a very lofty mountain called Skiddaw. Here is a work-house for the poor of the town and parish, built by Sir John Banks, knight, a native of this town, who was attorney general in the reign of king Charles the First. It has been long of considerable note for mines of black lead; and the miners, who are its chief inhabitants, have water-works by the Derwent, for smelting the lead and sawing boards.

KIAR-

KIRK-OSWALD, so called from a church dedicated to St. Oswald, is distant from London 248 miles, and is only remarkable for a ruined castle, built before the reign of king John.

LONGTOWN, distant from London 316 miles, stands near the conflux of the Esk, and a small river called the Kirkfop, on the borders of Scotland. It has an hospital and a charity school for sixty children.

PENRITH, commonly called PERITH, derives its name from the colour of the neighbouring soil, and of the stone with which it is built. *Pewitè* in the British language signifying *Red Hill, or Red Head*. It is distant from London 282 miles, and stands on a hill called Penrith Fell, not far from the conflux of two rivers, called the Eimot and the Loder. The town is large, wealthy, populous, and well built. On the west part of it are the ruins of a royal castle. In the market place there is a town-house of wood, about which is some carved work, representing bears climbing up a ragged staff, a device of the earls of Warwick, alluding to the exploits of one Sir Owen Caesarius, by whom the bears that once infested this country were destroyed. Here is a charity school for twenty boys, and another for thirty girls, maintained by 55l. a-year, the endowment of Mr. Robinson, a citizen of London; and by the sacrament money and parish stock. The church is a handsome spacious building, and has been lately rebuilt. The roof is supported by a great number of pillars, the shafts of which are of one entire stone of a reddish colour, hewn out of a quarry, at the entrance of the town. It carries on a very considerable trade in corn and cattle; and though neither a borough nor corporation, yet the county sessions are sometimes removed hither from Carlisle.

RAVENGLAS is generally supposed to derive its name from the Irish words *Ravigh* and *Glas*, which signify a braky green, such being the soil on which it stands; though some suppose the original name to be *Avouglas*, a word signifying a sky-coloured river. It is distant from London 272 miles, and stands between the river of Esk and a smaller stream, called the Mute; and not far from the river Ir: the Esk and Mute, falling here into the sea, form a good harbour for ships; and the inhabitants have a considerable fishery: they have also the privilege of taking wood from the royal forests or manors, to make the engines, or weirs called fish garths, in the river Esk, which was granted them by king John, and which they still enjoy.

WHITEHAVEN, thus called from the white cliffs which shelter it from tempests, is distant from London 250 miles. It is a populous and rich town, and owes many improvements to the family of which lord Lowther is now the head. Its chief trade consists in furnishing Ireland and part of Scotland with salt and coal; and next to Newcastle, it is the chief sea-port for coals in the kingdom, 200 sail of colliers being often seen to go off at once, for Dublin, in time of war or after contrary winds. The harbour and the roads to it have been lately much improved, by several acts of parliament; the shipping and trade have proportionably increased, and the wealth, which necessarily accrued to the inhabitants, has enabled them to build a new church, entirely at their own expence. As there is no navigable river falls into the sea at this place, the ships take in their coals in  
the

the road, which is very good. If it happens to overflow, they run into the haven with the flood, or stand away to St. Bees, where there is very sound anchorage, and safe riding. It does not appear that any of our pilots have given a description of the coast north of Whitehaven, or that there is any accurate survey of it extant, except such as are very ancient, which, however carefully executed, cannot now be exact, because the sands have shifted, and many other changes have taken place.

Widros, situated in a forest, called Allerdale, is 288 miles from London.

### NATURAL CURIOSITIES.

Remarkable  
high mountains,

Among the natural curiosities of this county we may reckon the mountains, some of which are remarkable for their height, particularly Hard-knot-hill, Wry-nose, and Skiddaw. Hard-knot-hill, at the foot of which rises the river Esk, is a ragged mountain, so steep, that it is almost impossible to ascend it; yet about a hundred and fifty years ago, some huge stones were discovered upon the very summit, which Camden supposed to have been the foundation of a castle, but which may with greater probability be considered as the ruins of some church or chapel; for in the early ages of Christianity, it was a work of most meritorious devotion, to erect crosses and build chapels upon the tops of the highest hills and promontories, not only because they were more conspicuous, but because they were proportionably nearer to Heaven; such buildings were generally dedicated to St. Michael, and it was from such chapels and crosses, that the ridge of mountains, which run along the east side of this county, on the borders of Northumberland, obtained the name of Cross Fells, for they were before called Fiend's or Devil's Fells; and a small town at the bottom of them, about two miles distant from Hexham, in Northumberland, still bears the name of Dillston, which is a corruption of Devil's Town, the name by which it is called in some ancient records still extant.

Wry-nose is situated about a mile south-east of Hard-knot-hill, near the high road from Penrith to Kirby, a market town in Lancashire. Near this road, and on the top of the mountain, are three stones, commonly called shire stones, which though they lie within a foot one of another, are yet in three counties; one in Cumberland, another in Westmoreland, and the third in Lancashire.

Skiddaw stands north of Kewick, and, at a prodigious height, divides like Parnassus into two heads, from whence there is a view of Scroffel-hill, in the shire of Annandale, in Scotland, where the people prognosticate a change of weather, by the mists that rise or fall upon the tops of this mountain, according to the following proverbial rhyme:

If Skiddaw have a cap,  
Scroffel wots full well of that.

Besides Hard-knot-hill, Wry-nose, and Skiddaw, there are two other mountains, Lauvellin and Castanand, which are joined in a couplet of the same age and kind:

Skid-



Skiddaw, Lauvelling, and Caftinand,  
Are the highest hills in all England.

Not far from Lanercoft, near Brampton, there is a medicinal spring that flows out of a rock, the water of which is impregnated with fulphur, nitre and vitriol. It is said to be of great efficacy in the stone, and all cutaneous disorders, and is therefore much frequented both by the English and Scots.

Among the herbs and plants which grow in this county, of English growth, there are some of those which in Dr. Nicholſon's Catalogue \* are called *the more rare plants*; and others of medicinal virtue, ſuppoſed, upon the credit of tradition, to have been procured from other countries, and planted here by the Roman Legions, who garriſoned the frontiers, for their own uſe: this tradition is ſo firmly believed, that ſeveral empiricks come hither out of Scotland every year, about the beginning of Summer, on purpoſe to gather them; and they affirm, that by long experience, they have found them to be of much greater efficacy, than plants of the ſame kind, which are found in other places.

In the church-yard of Penrith, on the north ſide of the church, are two pyramidal monuments, each about twelve feet high, and fifteen feet diſtant from the other, ſaid to have been ſet up in memory of Owen Crefarius, the bear killer, who is ſabled to have been of ſo enormous a ſtature, that his body reached from one pyramid to the other. On each ſide of his grave, which is ſuppoſed to have been between the pyramids, there are the figures of two bears, carved in ſtone, as trophies of his proweſs.

On the outside of the veſtry, in the wall of Penrith church, there is an inſcription importing, that in the year 1598, a plague raged in this county, of which 2266 died at Penrith, 2500 at Kendal, 2200 at Richmond, and 1106 at Carlifle, which is the more remarkable, as no mention is made of ſuch a diſtemper by any hiſtorian.

In Whitefield Park, near the borders of Northumberland, there were, not many years ago, the heads of a ſtag and a hound nailed upon a hawthorn tree. The hound chafed the ſtag from this park to Red Kirk, in Scotland, and back again, which cannot be leſs than 120 miles. The ſtag leaped the pale, and immediately dropped down dead on the inſide; the hound attempted to leap the pale after him, but not clearing it, fell down and died on the outſide.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

The firſt inhabitants of Cumberland called themſelves Kumbri, or Cumbri, or Kambri, but they were, in common with the inhabitants of Yorkſhire, Lancaſhire, Durham, and Weſtmoeland, called by Ptolemy the Brigantes. The name Brigantes is thought by ſome to have been given them upon a ſuppoſition that they came originally from the city of Brigantia, in Spain. Others imagine that *Brigantes* is formed of a Belgic word, which ſignifies *Free bands*; and Camden remarks, that in his time it was common to ſay of a reſolute, reſtleſs, and in-

\* In his Antiquities of Cumberland.

truding fellow, that *be played the Brigans*; *Brigand* is at this day French for *Robber*, whence a pirate's ship was called *Brigantine*, a name afterwards given to light vessels, that were built both for rowing and sailing, with two masts, and square sails.

That nation of the Brigantes, known by the name of Cumbri, are supposed not to have been subjugated by the Romans till the time of Vespasian, from which time their country was the constant residence of several Roman Legions, who not only kept the inhabitants from revolting, and prevented the incursions of the Scots, but greatly improved the country; for in times of peace they introduced their arts and manners; and in times of war, they raised monuments of their victories, and erected altars to their gods; so that there are more Roman antiquities in this county than in any other.

When Cumberland was subdued by the Saxons, upon the declension of the Roman power in Britain, it became a part of the kingdom of Northumberland, and was then, by its new lords, first called *Lumbra land*, or *Lumep-land*, the land or country of the Cumbri.

From the time when the power of the Saxons was broken by the Danes, till the year 946, this county had petty kings of its own chusing; but about that time, Edmond, brother to king Ethelstan, having, with the help of Leontine, king of South Wales, conquered the county, granted it to Malcolm, king of Scotland, upon condition that he should defend the northern parts of England against all invaders; and by virtue of this grant, the eldest sons of the kings of Scotland were stiled governors of Cumberland. The Saxons some time afterwards reduced it again under their government; but at the time of the Norman conquest it was so impoverished, that William the Conqueror remitted all its taxations, and for that reason it is not rated in Domesday book as other counties are.

Roman anti-  
quities.

The principal remain of antiquity in this county, and indeed in all Britain, is a wall built by the Romans, as a barrier against the incursions of the northern Britons. The Romans themselves called it *Vallum Barbaricum*, *Prætentura*, and *Claustra*, the Greeks *Ἀσπίδιον*, and the English the *Picts Wall*. It runs the whole breadth of Great Britain in this place, crossing the north parts of the counties of Cumberland and Northumberland, and extending above eighty miles, from that part of the Irish Sea called the *Solway Frith*, on the west, to the German Ocean on the east. This wall or fence was begun by the emperor Adrian, and built in the manner of a mural hedge, with large flakes driven deep into the ground, and wreathed together with wattles. It was faced with earth and turf, and fortified on the north with a deep ditch. It was repaired by the emperor Severus in the year 123, and strengthened with several stone fortresses and turrets, near enough to communicate an alarm one to another, by sound of trumpet.

The Romans being called from Britain, for the defence of Gaul, the North Britons broke in upon this barrier, and in repeated inroads, put all they met with to the sword. Upon this the South Britons applied to Rome for assistance, and a legion was sent over to them, which drove the enemy back into their own country; but as the Romans at this time had full employment for their troops, it became

became necessary for them to enable the South Britons to defend themselves for the future; they therefore assisted them to build a wall of stone, eight feet broad and twelve feet high, of equal extent with the mural hedge, and nearly upon the same ground. This wall was completed under the direction of Ælius, the Roman general, about the year 430, and the tracks of it, with the foundations of the towers or little castles, now called Castle Steeds, placed at the distance of a mile one from another, and the little fortified towns on the inside, called Chesters, are still visible. The neighbouring inhabitants say, that here are sometimes found pieces of tubes or pipes, supposed to be used as trumpets, and to have been artfully laid in the wall between each castle or tower, for giving the quickest notice of the approach of the enemy, so that any matter of moment could be communicated from sea to sea in an hour. In the rubbish of this wall was found, some time ago, an image of brass, about half a foot long, which, from the description the ancients have given us of the god Terminus, whose image they used to lay in the foundation of their boundaries, appears to be a representation of that deity.

In the years 1708, and 1709, the following observations were made upon the Picts Wall, in two journeys that were taken on purpose to survey it. From Stanwick, a little village north-west of Carlisle, where the wall crosses the Eden, it remains are easily traced westward, to its extremity at Bulnefs, a small town on the Solway Frith. From Stanwick it is also traced eastward, through a pleasant level country, agreeably variegated with great plenty of corn fields, meadows, and pasture ground, for eight miles; but in almost every part of this space, the wall has been taken away, and only the foundation of it can be traced, with the trench before it on the north, and some of the little towers, or mile castles, on the south. About eight miles east of Stanwick, it runs up a pretty high hill, which lies directly north of Naworth Castle, ten miles from Carlisle, and proceeds two miles through inclosed grounds, where the middle part of it between the two faces is still standing all the way: from hence to its crossing the river Irthing, where it enters Northumberland, the greatest part of it runs through a large waste, where it remains intire to the height of five feet, in some places, and in others eight.

Half a mile to the west of the river Irthing, at a place called Burdissel, there is the foundation of a large castle; and from a moor, called Irthington Moor, after Irthington, a town situated on this river, the traces of the stone wall, and the old wall of earth, are both visible, and continue the same rout parallel to each other, at the distance of about one hundred yards, the new wall being south of the old, quite to Newcastle, the county town of Northumberland. The wall enters Northumberland, not far from Irthington Moor, and soon after crosses a small river, called Tippall, at Thirlwall Castle; from Thirlwall Castle it is continued over a range of rugged, naked, and steep rocks, that extends about nine miles; and it is built in some places not more than six feet from the precipice, in none more than twenty-four. The highest part of it that is now standing, between Carlisle and Newcastle, is about half a mile from Thirlwall Bankhead, near Thirlwall Castle; it is there nine feet high, and at this place there are the vestiges of a Roman city, surrounded by a deep trench. From hence to Seaxen-shale, which is supposed to be about half way between the two extremities of the wall, it is removed to the very foundations, except in a very few places, where it still stands, to the height of about three feet. This part of the country, espe-

cially on the north side of the wall, has a dismal aspect, being all wild fells and moors, full of mosses and loughs.

At a place called the Chesters, two miles east of Thirlwall Bankhead, are the ruins of another Roman city; at Little Chesters, three miles farther, and at the distance of a mile south of the wall, are the ruins of a third; and at Housesteads, about one mile west of Seavenhale, are the ruins of a fourth, which is the largest of any along the wall. Great numbers of Roman altars, images, and coins have also been dug up here.

At Seavenhale, on the north side of the wall, is still to be seen the greatest part of a square Roman castle, curiously vaulted underneath. At Carrow-brough, one mile and an half from Seavenhale, are the traces of another Roman city, surrounded by a wall. At Portgate, half a mile north-west of Hexham, a market town of Northumberland, there are great ruins of ancient buildings, and a square tower is still standing, and converted into a dwelling-house. From Portgate to Halton-Sheels, being the distance of a mile and a half, there is only part of the middle of the wall remaining. From Halton-Sheels, for two miles farther east, the whole breadth of the wall is still standing, and the shier front of the wall is very discernible all the way to Walltown, which stands at the distance of eight miles from Newcastle; and about half a mile south of the wall. From Walltown to Newcastle, the wall runs over a great deal of high ground, and through variety of fine corn land and inclosures of meadow and pasture; and from the foot of Benwell-Hills to the end, being about two miles, it runs along the high road to Westgate, in Newcastle.

Before the wall on the north, there is a deep broad ditch, as before the mud wall, except between Thirlwall Bankhead and Seavenhale, where it is sufficiently secured by the steepness of the rocks on which it is built. The ditch is in most places thirty-six feet broad, and in none less than five feet deep. The remains of this wall serve at present either as a hedge between pasture, corn and meadow grounds, or to distinguish different possessions; and a great number of houses, and in some places whole towns, have been built over its foundations.

A military stone caufey, seems to have run at twenty or thirty yards distance from the wall on the south side, which between Portgate and Carrow, a small village, lying eastward of Seavenhale, is but little decayed.

Morebby, a sea port town near Whitehaven, is remarkable for many remains of antiquity. This place is supposed to be the ancient Morbium where the Equites Cataphractarii were quartered, because there appears some similitude between Morbium and Morebby; but it is more probable that Murebby, the name of the town, was derived from Maurice, or Moresee, the name of a person of note, who is known to have fixed his seat near this place, and may therefore be reasonably supposed to have given it his name, as many others have done to several towns of this county. The shore near this place appears to have been fortified by the Romans in all places convenient for landing, by the ruins of their works, which are still remaining. There are also many vaults, foundations of ancient buildings, and caverns, called Piets Holes.

Many

Many inscribed stones have been found here, and in the time of Mr. Camden, an altar was dug up, with a little horned image of Silvanus, and the following imperfect inscription :

DEO SILVAN --- COH. II. LING CVI PRÆES --- G. POMPEIVS  
M --- SATVRNIN ----

Another fragment was found much about the same time, inscribed -----  
OB PROSPERITATEM CVLMINIS INSTITVTI.

Near Moreby is a castle called Hay-Castle, a venerable piece of antiquity, of which however we have neither history nor description.

About two miles from Cockermouth, on the other side of the river Derwent, stands Pap-Castle, which appears to be a Roman antiquity, by several monuments; though we meet with no description of them in any account of the antiquities of this county. However here is a large open vessel of green stone like a font, with several little images curiously engraven on it; particularly that of a priest, dipping a child in water, which was the primitive mode of baptism; and a Danish inscription on it in Runic characters, signifying that Ekard, a Dane of high rank, was baptized here, whose example was followed by the rest of his countrymen. It is still used as a font in the neighbouring church of Bridkirk.

At Workington, a town on the coast, where the Derwent and Coker run in one channel into the sea, are the ruins of a wall, carried on from thence to the river Eln, about five miles northward, which some think was built by the Roman general Stilico, to prevent the landing of the Scots from Ireland. This opinion is founded on the following passage in Claudian:

*Mæ quoque vicinis perentem gentibus, inquit,  
Munivit Stilico, totam cum Scotus Hibernem  
Mœvit, et infesto spumavit remige Tæbis.*

Mr. Camden is of opinion that Jerby was the ancient Arbeia where the *Barbarii Tigrienses* were garrisoned.

Elmborough, or Elenborough, *i. e.* a borough upon the Eln, now a small village, situated near the mouth of the Eln, was anciently called *Volantium*, and was a Roman garrison, the station of the first cohort of the Dalmatians. There was also a town near this place, then called *Olenacum*, where the first Herculean wing was garrisoned, in the reign of Theodosius the Younger; and some have thought this the town that was afterwards called *Elmborough*. At *Elmborough* however have been found many altars, statues, inscribed stones, and other remains of Roman antiquity. One of the altars is inscribed thus :

GENIO LOCI FORTVNÆ REDVC -- ROMÆ ÆTERNÆ ET FATO  
BONO G. CORNELIVS PEREGRINVS TRIB COHORT EX PROVIN  
CIA MAVR. CÆS DOMOS ET EDS DECVR ----- This inscrip  
tion is imperfect at the bottom, and is by Mr. Camden restored thus: DECV  
RIONVM ORDINEM RESTITVIT. On the back side of this altar, and  
upon

upon the upper edge, are the words VOLANTII VIVAS, from which Mr. Camden conjectures, that the altar was votive for the life of G. Cornelius Peregrinus, who lived at Volantium, and was erected by the inhabitants, as an acknowledgment of his kindness and protection. Under this last inscription are the figures of several instruments used in sacrifices, as an ax and a chopping knife. On the left side are a mallet and a jug; and on the right a goblet, a dish, and a pear. Another of the altars now preserved at this place, was dug up at Carlisle, and has the following inscription in letters that had many ligatures, which made it difficult to be read.

JIVI OPTIMO MAXIMO. ALA AUGVSTA OB VIRTVTEM APPELLATA, CVI PRÆEST PUBLIVS ÆLIIVS, PVBLII FILIVS SERGIA MAGNVS DE MVRSA EX PANNONIA INFERIORE PRÆFECTVS. APRONIANO ET BRADVA CONSVLIBVS. A third altar is inscribed to the local deity Belatucadros, thus: BELATVCADRO JVLIVS CIVILIS OPTIO (i. e. Excubiis Præfectus) VOTVM SOLVIT LIBENS MERITO; and here is a fourth altar, very fair, which is inscribed thus: DIS, DEABVSQVE PVBLIVS POSTHYMIVS ACILIANVS PRÆFECTVS COHORTIS PRIMÆ DELMATARVM.

Besides these altars, there is a stone curiously engraved, upon which are two winged Genii supporting a garland, and inscribed VICTORIÆ AVGG D D N N. i. e. *Villaræ augustorum dominorum nostrorum.*

North of Elnborough, not far from an abbey, called Holm Abbey, or Holm-Cultrum, but nearer the sea, is Wulsty, a fortress, said to have been built by the abbots of Holm-Cultrum, for the security of their books and charters against the incursions of the Scots. Certain books of magic, supposed to have been written by Michael Scot, anciently a monk of this house, are said to have been kept here till they were mouldring into dust.

Below the monastery the bay receives the little river Waver, increased by the Wiza, another rivulet, at the head of which appear the ruins of an ancient city, called by the neighbouring inhabitants Old Carlisle, and thought to have been the Roman garrison, called by Antoninus Castra Exploratorum. The wing of the Roman army, called Ala Augusta, and Ala Augusta Gordina, was quartered here in the reign of Gordianus, as appears from several inscriptions, which have been found in and near this place.

In the high way at Wigton are several altars, which are said to have been brought from Elnborough and Old Carlisle. On the sides of them are representations of sacrificial vessels, as a pitcher, a melter, a mallet, and a platter, but the inscriptions are so defaced as not to be legible. Not far from hence was dug up a pillar of rough stone, with this inscription: IMP CAES M. IVL. PHILIPPO FIO FELICI AVG. ET. M. IVL. PHILIPPO NOBILISSIMO CÆS. TR. P. COS - - -

At Wardale, between Egremont and Ambleside, a considerable market town of Westmoreland, there was an altar dug up with this inscription: DEO SANCTO TO BELATVCADRO AVRELIVS DIATOVA \*ARAE X VOTO POSVIT

\* Fer Aram ex voto.

E. L. M. M. Another altar, dedicated to a local deity, was also found near this place, with the following inscription: DEO CEALLO AVR M. RTI. ET M. S. ERVRACIO PRO SE ET SVIS. V. S. L. L. M. Images of various kinds, equestrian statues, eagles, lions, ganymedes, and many other remains of antiquity, are still dug up, wherever the ground is opened in this district.

Boulnefs, or Bulnefs, now a small village, near the west end of the Picts Wall, is the place at which Antoninus begins his Itinerary, being then the utmost limits of Britain, as a Roman province. It was called by the Romans Blatum-Bulgium; either from the British word *Bulch*, which signifies a *partition* or *separation*, though we are not told what it separates, or from the word *Bulge*, still in use, which signifies a *jutting out*, because the land here bulges, or juts out. Boulnefs has now a fort, of which no account is extant; and many vestiges of streets and walls are often discovered in ploughing the common fields. There are also some remains of a causeway, which is said to have been carried along the shore from this place quite to Elnborough. Many Roman coins and inscriptions have also been found here; and a small brazen figure of Mercury or Victory, was dug up not many years ago.

Drumbugh Castle, situated on the Picts Wall, six miles from Carlisle, was formerly a Roman station; and some suppose this place, and not Old Carlisle, to have been the Castra Exploratorum; but the distances assigned to the Castra Exploratorum from other places well known, do not at all favour this opinion.

Near this place is a village called Burgh-upon Sands, where the Romans had another station; and here our great and warlike king Edward the First died, on his march in his last expedition to Scotland. On the spot in his camp where he expired, which has always been distinguished by some great stones that were rudely heaped upon it, there is now erected a square pillar, nine yards and an half in height, with these inscriptions, in large Roman letters. On the west side: MEMORIE ÆTERNÆ EDVARDI I. REGIS ANGLIÆ LONGE CLARISSIMI, QUI IN BELLI APPARATU CONTRA SCOTOS OCCUPATUS, HIC IN CASTRIS OBIIT, 7 JULIJ, A. D. 1307. On the south side: NOBILISSIMUS PRINCEPS, HENRICUS HOWARD, DUX NORFOLCIÆ, COMES MARESHAL, ANGLIÆ, COMES ARUND. &c. --- AB EDVARDO I. REGE ANGLIÆ ORIUNDUS P. 1685. On the north side: JOHANNES AGLIONBY J. C. F. C. i. e. *Juris consultus fieri fecit.*

Upon the banks of the little river Dacor, near its confluence with the Eimot, and on the south side of Penrith, there is a castle called Dacre Castle, which appears to have been once a magnificent building.

In this county there was a tenure called Cornage, by which the possessors of lands were obliged to sound a horn upon the approach of the enemy, and to serve in the wars against the Scots, marching in the van, and returning in the rear.

At Penrith are the remains of a Danish chapel; and at a little distance the ruins of a city, which is now called Old Penrith, from its vicinity to that town; and is thought to have been the Roman Petriana; for the Ala Petriana appears to have been quartered there, by the following fragment of an old inscription, which

which one Vlpus Trajanus, a pensionary of that Ala set up: GADVNO VLP  
 TRAI EM. AL. PET MARTIVS § F. P. C.

Here also have been found the following epitaphs:

1. D M. AICETVOS MATER VIXIT \* A XXXXV ET LATTIO  
 FIL VIX A XII. LIMISIVS CONIV. ET FILLÆ PIENTISSIMIS  
 POSVIT.

2. D M. FL MARTIO SEN IN † C CARVETIOR QVESTORIO  
 VIXIT AN XXXXV MARTIOLA FILIA ET HERES PONEN ‡ -  
 CVRAVIT

3. D M. CROTILO GERMANUS VIX ANIS XXVI GRECA VIX  
 ANIS IIII VINDICIANVS § FRA. ET FIL. TIT. PO.

Near Penrith, on the banks of the Eden, half a mile beyond its confluence with the Eimot, there is a grotto of two rooms, dug out of the solid rock, and called Isis Parlifh. The passage to this grotto is difficult and dangerous, and was formerly secured by iron gates, which were standing not many years ago. It was a place of great strength, and is thought to have been used as an asylum in time of war.

A small distance north of Isis Parlifh, on the banks of the Eden, are two inconsiderable villages, called Great Salked, and Little Salked. At Little Salked there is a circle, formed of seventy-seven stones, each of which is ten feet high. Two of these stones, standing at a greater distance from each other than the rest, form an entrance into this circle; and before the entrance is a single stone, fifteen feet high; this stone the common people call Long Meg, and the rest her daughters. Within the circle are two heaps of stones, under which it is thought dead bodies have been buried; and the circle is supposed to have been a monument of some victory, or of the investiture of some Danish king.

In a rock near Wetherall, a village upon the Eden, three miles east of Carlisle, there have been dug several dwellings, or hiding places, consisting of two rooms, one within another, each of them about six yards square. Camden supposes them to have been places of refuge, which the perpetual danger to which the ancient inhabitants of this county were exposed, made necessary; but as there was formerly a little monastery at Wetherall, belonging to the abbey of St. Mary, in York, Dr. Gibson thinks it more probable that they were cells for hermits, though it is certain that they were very difficult of access; a circumstance which seems rather to favour the opinion of Camden, than that of his commentator.

On the Caude near Inglewood Forest, stood an ancient castle, called Rose Castle, thought to be the old Congavata where the second Cohort of the Lergi were quartered, because *Congavata*, in the British language, signifies a vale upon the *Gavata*, as the Caude was anciently called. In this castle king Edward the First lodged, in one of his expeditions into Scotland, and dated his writs for

§ Faciendam procuravit. \* Anos. † Cohorte. ‡ Dem. § Frater & filie tualem possit.  
 sum-



summoning a parliament, *Apud la Rose*. It was burnt down during the civil wars in 1652; but it was restored and beautified by several successive bishops of Carlisle, who claim it for their seat, and it is still called Rose Castle.

Carlisle was by the Romans called Luguballium, Lugubalia, or Luguvallum and Carleolium. It is thought by some to be the place which Ptolemy calls *Leucopibia*; but the commentator upon Camden thinks this a corruption of *Ancocibia*, i. e. *White Houses*, and to be Ptolemy's name for Whitern, a town of Galloway, in Scotland. Though the founder, Lucl, was also called *Lugnabal*, yet it has been thought difficult to assign a reason why the Romans gave it the name of Luguballium; and some have left the name of the founder out of the question; and because *Lugn*, or *Lucus*, is the Celtic or British word for a *Tower*, and this city stands upon the Picts Wall or Vallum, they have conjectured that Luguballium was intended to signify a *tower or fort upon the Wall or Vallum*. This city has a strong stone castle and a citadel, and the arms upon the castle induced Mr. Camden to think it was built by king Richard the Third; but bishop Gibson, with more reason, affirms that it was built by king William the Second, and that Richard the Third, in his short and troublesome reign, though he had not leisure to erect such a building, might probably repair it; and this will account for the arms, which caused Camden's mistake. The citadel is fortified with several bastions or roundels, and was built by king Henry the Eighth. That this city flourished in the time of the Romans, is evident from many antiquities, which have been dug up near it, and from the frequent mention of it in Roman authors. It is recorded by William of Malmesbury, that in the reign of king William the Second a Roman triclinium, or dining room, was discovered in this place, built of stone, and arched over in such a manner, that it could not be destroyed even by fire. On the front of it was this inscription: *MARII VICTORIÆ*, or, as Camden believes, *MARTI VICTORI*. A large altar of red stone was dug up here not long ago, with this inscription, in very fair characters: *DEO MARTI BELATVCADRO*, which shews it to have been dedicated to Belas, or some other local deity, worshipped by the Roman legions that were quartered here. That the sixth legion was quartered in this place, appears from the following inscription, in beautiful characters, and supposed to be cut upon a stone, though that does not appear: *LEG. VI. VIC. P. F. G. P. R. F.* This is interpreted, *Legio Sexta Vindex, Pia, Felix*. The other letters are not explained.

At Drawdykes, a village upon the Picts Wall, is an altar with this inscription: *I. O. M. ALA AVG O. B. VRI. APPIA IVL. PVB. PS. T. TB. CETBERI* -----.

Near Netherby, a little village on the Esk, north-west of Brampston, there are the remains of a considerable city, which is judged to have been the old *Ælica*, where the tribune of the first Cohort of the Astures kept garrison against the Barbarians. In the walls of the mansion-house here, is this inscription, in memory of the emperor Adrian, set up by the second legion, called *Augusta*: *IMP. CÆS. TRA. HADRIANO AVG. LEG. II. AVG. F.* Several other inscribed stones have been discovered here, since Mr. Camden's time, and a gold coin of Nero. One of the stones is inscribed: *IMP. COMM. COS. i. e. Imperatoris Commodo Consul*. This seems to have been erected about the year 185, when Commodus was saluted by the title of Emperor Britannicus. On another is *DEO MARTI BELATVCADRO RO. VR. RP. CAII OKVSII. M.*

By which it appears that Belatucadrus was the same with Mars, who was worshipped in the eastern parts of the world, under the names of Bel, Baal, and Belinus.

Upon a small river, called the Leven, near Solum-Mofs, is a village called Bew Castle, or as in some ancient records, Bueth Castle, from one Bueth, who built a castle here in the time of William the Conqueror. As this castle is situated among the mountains, upon the borders of Scotland, queen Elizabeth kept a small garrison in it. In the church of this parish there is a grave stone with this inscription: LEG II AVG FECIT: and in the church-yard is a cross of one entire square stone, about fifteen feet high, washed over with a white oily varnish or cement, to preserve it from the weather. The perpendicular part of the cross is two feet broad at the bottom, and gradually diminishes towards the top. On the west side of it are carved several figures, and among others, a man in a sacerdotal habit, with a glory round his head, and another representing the Virgin Mary, with an infant Jesus in her arms, both circled with glories. The north side is covered with chequer work and characters. The chequer work Mr. Camden supposes to have been the arms of the Vaulxes; but the characters were so worn out that he knew not what to make of them. Dr. Nicholson is of opinion, that this inscription should be read RYNBURU, i. e. *the burial of the Rane*, or Runick characters, which had been so long subservient to the superstitions of Heathenism, and were now abolished by the conversion of the Danes to the Christian faith; or he thinks it may be read RYEEBURU, which in the Danish language signifies a *coemetery or burying ground*; and the chequer work is thought to countenance this conjecture, as being an emblem of the *tumuli*, or burying places of the ancients, and of greater antiquity than the family of the Vaulxes, whose arms Mr. Camden supposed it to be. On the east side are representations of birds and grapes, and other ornaments, with an inscription, which is so broken, that Dr. Nicholson is very doubtful of its purport, though he conjectures it might be GAG UBBO ERLAT, i. e. *Ubbo subdued the robbers*, which he says suits with the manners of the inhabitants, though not with the other inscription.

At Scalby Castle, of which we meet with no other account, than that it is five miles north of Carlisle, are preserved three altars, one of which was found near the castle, in the river Irthing. It is a stone, covered with a sort of yellow varnish, of a square figure, and having an imperfect subscription. The other was dug up at Cambeck, a village upon a small river of that name, from among the ruins of an old stone wall; it has an inscription which is likewise imperfect, as has the third also, but where it was found does not appear.

Brampton is thought to be the ancient Bremeturacum where the first cohort of the Tungri from Germany, and in the decay of the Roman empire, the *Coxae armatarum*, under the governor of Britain, were quartered. At Brampton there is a high hill called the Mole, ditched round at the top, from whence there is an extensive prospect over all the country round. In this neighbourhood are several Roman monuments, with imperfect inscriptions; and in a rock called Helbeck, is an imperfect inscription, set up by an ensign of the second Roman legion, called Augusta, under Agricola the propretor. In the same rock also are the words OFFICIVM ROMANORVM, in a more modern character.

At Naworth Castle, ten miles from Carlisle, are many stones with Roman inscriptions, of which a few only are legible: on one is IVL. AVG. DYO. -  
M.

M. SILV. - VM. On another, I. O. M.—II. ÆL. DAC. - C. P. - - EST - - RELIUS. FA. L. S. TRIB. PET. VO. COS. And on a third, COH. I. ÆL. DAC. CORD. - ALEC. PER - - There are several others, which have been brought from Williford, a village upon the Picts Wall, where Mr. Camden saw them.

At Burd-Ofwald, a village upon the Picts Wall, was found a fair votive altar, erected to the goddess Nymph of the Brigantes, for the health of the empress Plautilla, wife of M. Aurelius Antoninus Severus, and the whole imperial family, by M. Cocceius Nigrinus, treasurer to the emperor, when Lætus was a second time consul. The letters of the inscription are intricate, but may be thus read: DEÆ NYMPHÆ BRIGANTVM QVOD VOVERAT PRO SALVTE PLAVTILLÆ CONIVGIS INVICTÆ DOMINI NOSTRI INVICTI IMP M. AVREL. II. SEVERI ANTONINI PII FOELICIS CÆSARIS AVGVSTI TOTIVSQVE DOMVS DIVINÆ EJVS M. COCCEIVS NIGRINVS QVÆSTOR AVGVSTI NVMINI DEVOTVS LIBENS SVSCEPTVM SOLVIT LÆTO — — — — —

Below Burd-Ofwald stands Williford, whence the Picts Wall passed the river Irthing by an arched bridge. At this place, which was the station of the first Ælian Cohort of the Daci, there are several altars, which were erected by that Cohort, and inscribed to Jupiter Optimus Maximus.

At the head of South Tyne, may be seen the remains of a Roman causeway, called the Maiden Way, which is raised with stone, and is about ten yards broad; in this place it passes over a tract of wet spongy ground, and leads from Westmoreland.

At the confluence of the Alne and Tyne, not far from Allon-Moor, on the borders of Northumberland, there are, on the side of a gentle ascent, the remains of a large town, called Whitley Castle, which has evident marks of great antiquity; on the north side it appears to have been fortified with four ramparts, and on the west with one and a half. It appears, by a long inscription found here, that the third cohort of the Nervii built a temple in this place to Antoninus, the emperor, son of Severus.

## ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

St. Begagh, or St. Bega, a nun from Ireland, is said to have founded a small monastery in Copeland, about the year 650, where a church was afterwards erected to her memory, which gave occasion to build the town of St. Bega, now known by the name of St. Bees, situated within half a mile of Egremont. This monastery being destroyed by the Danes, was restored by William, son of Ranulph de Meschin, earl of Cumberland, in the reign of Henry the First, and made a cell to the abbey of St. Mary at York, for a prior and six Benedictine monks. It was endowed at the dissolution, with 143 l. 17 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

Bede mentions a monastery which was built near the river Dacor, and took its name from it, and over which one Suidbert, a religious, presided: but it does not appear from any records to have been standing since the Conquest.

Several writers of St. Cuthbert's life relate, that in the year 686 he founded at Carlisle a convent of monks, a school, and an abbey of nuns; but it appears from Bede's life of St. Cuthbert, that there was a monastery here before St. Cuthbert came to Carlisle. This city, with all its religious buildings, being destroyed by the Danes, was rebuilt by king William Rufus; and one Walter a Norman priest, who was made governor of it by Rufus, began a monastery to the honour of the Virgin Mary, which was finished and endowed by king Henry the First, who placed regular canons in it, of the order of St. Austin; and having afterwards established the bishop's see here, made the church of this monastery a cathedral; but it is observable, that this was the only episcopal chapter in England, of the order of St. Austin. At the suppression, the revenues of the bishopric were valued at 577 l. in the whole, and 531 l. 4 s. 11 d. clear. The revenues of the priory were then valued at 418 l. 3 s. 4 d. Here was a house of Grey or Franciscan friars, before the year 1290, as also a house of Black friars, founded before the fifty-third year of king Henry the Third; and near this city was built the hospital of St. Nicholas, for thirteen leproous people, founded before the twenty-first of Edward the First. It was granted to the prior and convent of the cathedral church here, in the seventeenth of Edward the Fourth.

At Armanthwate, or Armethwait, a village near Cocker-mouth, was a small Benedictine nunnery, built and endowed by king William Rufus, dedicated to Christ Jesus and his mother St. Mary. At the dissolution, here were a prioress and three nuns, who had lands for their maintenance valued at 18 l. 18 s. 8 d. *per annum*.

At Wetherall, upon the Eden, was a cell of a prior and eight Benedictine monks, belonging to the abbey of St. Mary at York, to which it was given by Ranulph de Meschin, earl of Cumberland, in the reign of William Rufus or Henry the First. It was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, St. Mary, and St. Constantine, and rated at the suppression, at 117 l. 11 s. 10 d. *per annum*.

At Calder, or Calore, in Copeland, near Egremont, Ranulph the second earl of Chester and Cumberland, in the year 1134, founded an abbey for a certain number of Cistercian monks, to the honour of the Virgin Mary, which was endowed at the suppression with 50 l. 9 s. 3 d. *per annum*.

At Holm-Cultrum was an abbey of the Cistercian order, founded by Henry, son of David, king of Scotland, in the year 1150. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the suppression valued at 427 l. 19 s. 3 d. *per annum*.

At Lanercoft, north of Naworth Castle, upon the Picts Wall, Robert de Valibus, lord of Gilleland, built in 1169, a monastery of the order of St. Austin, which was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and endowed at the suppression with the yearly revenue of 77 l. 7 s. 11 d.

At Seaton, called also Lekelay, upon the north side of the Derwent, near Workington, was a nunnery of Benedictines, dedicated to St. Leonard, and at the dissolution valued at 12 l. 12 s. 6 d. *per annum*.

At Penrith was a house of Grey friars, founded in or before the reign of Edward the Second, the value of which we are not acquainted with.

At Graystock, a town on the Peterel, to the west of Penrith, the parish church seems to have been collegiate in the year 1358, but the foundation of the provost and warden, and six secular priests, is ascribed to Ralph, lord of the barony of Graystock, in the year 1382. It was valued at 40l. 7s. 8d. *per annum*, clear, and 82l. 14s. total.

MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends six members to parliament: two knights of the shire, for the county; two members for the city of Carlisle, and two for Cockermouth.



P. 103.

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DERBY.

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CHATS WORTH.  
p. 4.

# D E R B Y S H I R E.

## N A M E.

**I**T is generally thought that this county was called Derbyshire from Derby, the name of the county town; but there are some reasons for believing, that the town rather took its name from the county; for the county is said to have been called *Deopbs-rycpe* by the Saxons, who at the same time called the town *Northporethig*, a name which the Danes afterwards rejected, denominating the town from the county, and calling it *Deoraby*, of which the present name Derby is manifestly a contraction. *Deoraby* or *Derby*, the name both of the shire and the town, some have derived from *Derwent*, the name of the principal river; and others have supposed it to be formed to express a park or shelter for deer; an opinion which the arms of Derby, the county town, seem to favour, being a buck couchant in a park.

## SITUATION, BOUNDARIES, FIGURE and EXTENT.

This county, which lies in the middle of England, inclining a little northward, is bounded by Nottinghamshire and a part of Leicestershire on the east, by

By another part of Leicestershire on the south, by Staffordshire and part of Cheshire on the west, and by Yorkshire on the north. It is of a triangular form; its length from south to north is about 40 miles; its breadth upon the north side is about 30 miles, and on the south side it is no more than six; its circumference is about 130 miles, and Wirksworth, a considerable market town, and the most central in the county, stands at the distance of 118 miles from London.

#### RIVERS.

The principal rivers in this county are the Derwent, the Dove, and the Erwasb. The Derwent rises in a rocky, mountainous, and barren tract of country, in the north-west part of this county, which the Saxons called *Peacond*, *i. e.* an eminence, and is now called the Peak of Derby; thence it runs south-east, through a soil which gives the water a blackish colour, quite cross the county, dividing it nearly into equal parts; and about eight miles south-east of the town of Derby, it falls into the Trent, a large river which rises in Staffordshire, and runs through the counties of Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, and York.

The Dove is said to derive its name from the glossy blue or purple colour of its water, which resembles the colour of the bird of the same name. This river also rises in the Peak of Derby, and running south-east, divides this county from Staffordshire, and falls into the Trent, a few miles north of Burton upon Trent, a considerable market town of Staffordshire.

The Erwasb separates the counties of Derby and Nottingham, and falls into the Trent, four or five miles north-east of the place where the Derwent empties itself into that river.

#### AIR, SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The two parts into which the river Derwent divides this county are very different, as well with respect to the air as to the soil, except just on the banks of the river, where the soil is on both sides remarkably fertile. In the eastern division the air is healthy, and its temperature agreeable. The soil is every where fruitful, and therefore well cultivated, producing grain of almost every kind, in great abundance, particularly barley. But in the western division, the air in general is sharper, the weather is more variable, and storms of wind and rain more frequent. The face of the country is rude and mountainous, and the soil, except in the vallies, is rocky and sterile; the hills however afford pasture for sheep, which in this county are very numerous. Along the banks of the river Dove this county is remarkably fertile, which is generally ascribed to its frequently overflowing them, especially in the spring, and leaving behind it a prolific slime, which it brings from the beds of lime among which it rises: this river is particularly famous for producing a fish called graylings, and for trouts reckoned the best in England.

The western part of this county, notwithstanding its barrenness, is yet as profitable to the inhabitants as the eastern part, for it produces great quantities of the best lead, also antimony, mill-stones, and grindstones, besides marble, alabaster, a coarse sort of crystal spar, green and white vitriol, alum, pitcoal, and iron.

TRADE.

## TRADE.

With these commodities, and with malt and ale, of which great quantities are made in this county, the inhabitants carry on a considerable trade; but it does not appear that they have any manufactory of note.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Derbyshire is divided into six hundreds, and contains eleven market towns, but no city. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Coventry and Litchfield, and has 106 parishes.

## MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are Alfreton, Ashborn, Bakewell, Bolsover, Chapel in the Frith, Chesterfield, Derby, Dronfield, Tideswall, Winster, and Wirksworth.

**ALFRETON**, which is thought to have been anciently called Alfred's Town, from its having been originally built by king Alfred, is situated 135 miles north-west of London, and is remarkable only for its ale, which, though very strong, has a good flavour.

**ASHBORN, or ASHBORNE**, is situated on the east side of the river Dove, and on the borders of Staffordshire. It is 108 miles distance north-west from London, and ten miles from Derby. It stands in a rich soil, and carries on a considerable traffic with cheese, great quantities of which it sends both up and down the Trent.

**BAKEWELL** was called by the Saxons *Baddecanpell*, and is supposed to have taken its name from the baths and springs of hot waters near it, now called Buxton Wells, because *Bade* or *Baden*, in the German language, signifies a well. It stands on a small river, called the Wye, near its conflux with the Derwent, and is distant from London 114 miles. It is a large town, and though it has only one church, it has seven chapels, and is exempt from episcopal jurisdiction. Its chief trade, which is very considerable, is in lead.

**BOLSOVER** is distant from London 104 miles. It has a castle, of which no description is extant, and is a large well built town, but is noted only for making fine tobacco pipes.

**CHAPEL IN THE FRITH** is situated in a hundred called the High Peak, about 149 miles north-west from London, and is so inconsiderable, as never to have been particularly described.

**CHESTERFIELD** is the chief town of a hundred in the north-east part of this county, called Scarsdale Hundred. It is distant 116 miles north-west from London, and is pleasantly situated in a fruitful soil on the side of a hill, between two rivulets, called the Ibber and Rother. It was made a free borough by king John, but is now only a corporation, governed by a mayor and aldermen. It is populous and well built; the market place is spacious, and a market house has been lately

ly erected. The church is a fine structure, but the spire, being built of timber, and covered with lead, is warped by the weather from its perpendicular direction. Here is a free school, which is said to be the most considerable in the north of England, and sends many students to the universities, especially to Cambridge. The market is well supplied with lead, grocery, mercery, malt, leather, stockings, blankets, and bedding, commodities in which it carries on a considerable trade with Yorkshire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire, Leicesterhire, and London, as well as with the neighbouring towns, the Peak, and the cities of Chester, Manchester, and Liverpool.

DERBY, which is the county town, and probably denominated from the county, is distant from London 122 miles. It is situated upon the western banks of the Derwent, and upon the south is watered by a smaller stream, called Mertin Brook, which falls into the Derwent, a little way east of the town. Over this brook there are nine bridges, and there is also a fair stone bridge of five arches, over the Derwent, upon which there is a dwelling house that was formerly a chapel, dedicated to St. Mary. This town was a royal borough in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and was afterwards incorporated by a charter from king Charles the First. It is governed by a mayor, a high steward, nine aldermen, a recorder, a town clerk, fourteen brethren, and fourteen common council men. It is large, well built, and populous, and is divided into five parishes, in each of which there is a church. The church of All Saints is the most remarkable: it appears by an inscription, to have been originally built by the contribution of the bachelors and maidens of the town, in the reign of queen Mary, but no part of the old building is standing, except the tower, which is a beautiful Gothic structure, 178 feet high: the chancel has been lately rebuilt. Near this church is an hospital for eight poor men and four women, founded by a countess of Devonshire. The town-hall, in which the assizes and sessions are kept, is a large beautiful building of free-stone, with a handsome court-yard, neatly paved, and planted with trees. Many gentlemen, who have estates in the Peak, reside here; and on a piece of ground called the Row Ditches, near this town, there are frequent horse-races.

In an island of the Derwent, facing the town, is a curious machine, the only one of the kind in Britain. It is a mill for the manufacture of silk, which was erected in 1734, by the late Sir Thomas Lombe, who brought the design of it from Italy, at the hazard of his life. This mill works the three capital engines for making organzine or thrown silk, which was before made only in Italy, and thence imported into England for ready money.

The mill has 26,586 wheels, and 97,746 movements, which are all worked by one water-wheel that turns round three times in a minute. By every turn of the water-wheel the machine twists 73,726 yards of silk thread, so that in twenty-four hours it will twist 318,496,320 yards. Of this complicated machine, any single wheel or movement may be stopt, without impeding the rest; and the whole is governed by one regulator.

The house which contains this mill is five or six stories high, and near a quarter of a mile in length; yet the whole of it is at once equally warmed by a fire engine, contrived for that purpose. The machine was thought of such importance



*The East View of Derby.*

*J. Russell del. & J. G. Cook sculp.*

VVA.BHSC

ence by the legislature, that on the expiration of the patent, which Sir Thomas had obtained for the sole use of it during fourteen years, the parliament granted him 14,000*l.* as a further recompence for the very great hazard he ran, and the expence he had incurred, by introducing and erecting it, on condition that he should suffer a perfect model of it to be taken, in order to secure and perpetuate the invention; and a model of it, being accordingly taken, is now kept in the Record Office, in the Tower of London.

The trade of this town is not very considerable; for though it is a staple, or settled mart, for wool, yet it depends chiefly upon a retail trade in corn, which is bought and sold again to the inhabitants of the Peak, and upon malt and ale, great quantities of which are sent to London. For the benefit of the trade, the Derwent has lately been made navigable to the Trent; but every avenue to the town by land, is rendered almost impassible by dirt and mire.

DRONFIELD is 124 miles north-west of London, and four miles west of Bolsover. It is situated among the mountains at the edge of the Peak, in so wholesome an air, that the natives commonly live to a very great age, and the neighbouring gentry resort much to it; so that it abounds with fine buildings. Here is a charity school, and a free grammar school. The grammar school was founded in 1567, by H. Fanshaw, Esq; a native of the place, who was remembrancer in the exchequer to queen Elizabeth.

TIDESWALL, or TIDESWELL, thus named probably from a well or spring, at the bottom of a hill near it, which constantly ebbs and flows with the tide of the sea, is 146 miles distant from London, and has a free school.

WINSTER is distant from London 133 miles, and is situated south-west of Bakewell, near some rich mines of lead.

WIRKSWORTH, or WORKSWORTH, is a large and much frequented town, the chief of an hundred of the same name in the Peak. Here is an handsome church, a free school, and an almshouse. Wirksworth is the greatest market for lead in England; for at a small distance from it, and at Creich, a village to the eastward of it, and on the east side of the Derwent, are the furnaces for smelting it. These furnaces are built on the hills east of the town, and on that part of them which is exposed to the west winds. They burn wood in them, and generally wait for a west wind, before they begin to smelt; for the fumes, which are extremely noxious, are then carried directly from the town; and though if they had been built west of the town, and worked with the wind at east, the fumes would have been equally blown from the town; yet the east situation was preferred, because it is found by experience, that the wind blows longer from the west quarter than from any other.

The produce of the mines in this hundred is very considerable. The king claims the thirteenth penny as a duty, for which the proprietors compound at the rate of one thousand pounds a-year: and it is said, that the tythe of Wirksworth alone has been worth as much yearly to the rector of the parish.

Mill-stones and grindstones are also dug up, and veins of antimony found near this place. Wirksworth is also remarkable for a court, called the barntoe, which is kept to determine controversies among the miners, and consists of a master and twenty-four jurors.

### C U R I O S I T I E S.

The most remarkable curiosities of this county are those of the Peak, which, being seven in number, are commonly called the seven wonders of the Peak.

Chatsworth  
House.

The first is the magnificent palace of the duke of Devonshire, called Chatsworth House, the only one of the seven wonders that is not the production of nature. It stands about six miles south-west of Chesterfield, on the east side of the Derwent, having the river on one side, and on the other a very lofty mountain, the declivity of which is planted very thick with firs. The heads of these trees gradually rising as the mountain ascends, might seem to a poetical imagination, to have climbed one above another, to overlook and admire the beauties of the building below. The front, which looks to the gardens, is a piece of regular architecture. Under the cornice of the frieze is the family motto, "Cavendo tutus," which, though but twelve letters, reaches the whole length of the pile; the sashes of the attic story are seventeen feet high; the panes are of ground glass, two feet wide, and the wood work of the frames is doubly gilt. The hall and chapel are adorned with paintings by Vario, an Italian master of great eminence; particularly a very fine representation of the death of Cæsar in the Capitol, and of the resurrection of our Lord. The chambers, which are large and elegant, form a magnificent gallery, at the end of which is the duke's closet, finely beautified with Indian paintings. The west front, which faces the Derwent, is adorned with a magnificent portal, before which there is a stone bridge over the river, with a tower upon it, that was built by the countess of Shrewsbury. There is also in an island in the river, a building like a castle, which, seen from the house, has a good effect. In the garden there is a grove of cypress, and several statues extremely well executed. There is also a very fine piece of water, in which there are several statues representing Neptune, his Nereids, and sea horses; on the banks is a tree of copper representing a willow, from every leaf of which water is made to issue by the turning of a cock, so as to form an artificial shower. Advantage has been taken of the irregularity of the ground to form a cascade; at the top are two sea nymphs with their urns, through which the water issues; and in the basin, at bottom, there is an artificial rose, so contrived, that water may be made to issue from it, so as to form the figure of that flower in the air. There are many other beauties both of art and nature, peculiar to the place, of which no bounds of this work will not admit a particular description, and of which no description, however minute and judicious, could convey an adequate idea. This palace was built by William, the first duke of Devonshire. The stone used in the building was dug from quarries on the spot, including the marble, which is finely veined, but is found in such plenty, that several people have used it to build houses.

From this house there is a moor, extending thirteen miles north, which has neither hedge, house, nor tree, but is a dreary and desolate wilderness, which no



stranger can cross without a guide. This plain however contributes not a little to the beauty of Chatworth; for the contrast not only renders it more striking, but it contains a large body of water, covering near thirty acres of ground, which is not only a common drain for the adjacent country, but supplies all the reservoirs, canals, cascades, and other water-works in the gardens of Chatworth House, to which it is conducted by pipes, properly disposed for that purpose.

Upon the hills beyond the garden is a park, where are also some statues and other curiosities; but even these hills are over-looked by a very high rocky mountain, from which the view of the palace, and the cultivated valley, in which it stands, breaks at once upon the traveller like the effect of enchantment.

In the house that was first built upon this spot, by Sir William Cavendish of Suffolk, Mary, queen of Scots, remained prisoner for seventeen years, under the care of Cavendish's widow, the countess of Shrewsbury, in memory of which, the new lodgings, that are built in place of the old, are still called the Queen of Scots Apartment. Marshal Tallard also, the French general, who was taken prisoner by the duke of Marlborough at the battle of Hockley, was entertained here a few days; and when he took his leave of the duke, he said, 'that when he returned to France, and reckoned up the days of his captivity in England, he should leave out those he had spent at Chatworth.'

The second wonder of the Peak is a mountain, situated nine or ten miles north-west of Chatworth House, called Mam-Tor, a name which signifies a *Mother Tower*. This mountain, though it is perpetually mouldering away, and the earth and stones are falling from the precipice above in such quantities, as to terrify the neighbouring inhabitants with the noise, is yet of such an enormous bulk, that the decrease is not to be perceived.

The third wonder is Eden-Hole, near Chapel in the Frith: Eden-Hole is a vast chasm in the side of a mountain, twenty-one feet wide, and more than forty feet long. In this chasm or cave appears the mouth of a pit, the depth of which could never be fathomed: a plummet once drew 884 yards, which is something more than half a mile, of line after it, of which the last eighty yards were wet, but no bottom was found. Several attempts to fathom it have been since made, and the plummet has sometimes stopped at half that depth, owing probably to its resting on some of the protuberances that stand out from the sides. That such protuberances there are, is proved by an experiment constantly made, to shew its great depth to those that visit the place, by the poor people that attend them, who always throw some large stones down into it, which are heard to strike against the irregularities of the side with a fainter and a fainter sound, that is at length gradually lost. The earl of Leicester, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, hired a poor wretch to venture down in a basket, who, after he had descended 200 ells, was drawn up again, but to the great disappointment of the curious enquirer, he had lost his senses, and in a few days after died delirious. The cavern in which this pit is found, is contracted within the rock, and water is continually trickling from the top, where it also forms sparry concretions.

The fourth wonder of the Peak is a medicinal water, which rises from nine springs, near Buxton, a little village, not far from the head of the river Wye,

whence they are called Buxton Wells. The bed or soil, from which the water issues, is a kind of marble; and it is remarkable, that within five feet of one of the hot springs there is a cold one.

The use of these waters, both by drinking and bathing, is much recommended, and the wells are therefore greatly frequented in the summer season. The water is said to be sulphureous and saline, yet it is not foetid nor unpalatable, because the sulphur is not united with any vitriolic particles, and but with few that are saline; for the same reason it does not tinge silver, nor act as a cathartic. When drank it creates a good appetite, removes obstructions, and if mixed with the chalybeate water, with which this place also abounds, it answers all the intentions of the celebrated waters of the Bath in Somersetshire, or those of the Hot well below Bristol. The use of this water by bathing, has been recommended by physicians in all scorbutic, rheumatic, and nervous disorders.

These wells are inclosed within a handsome stone building, erected at the charge of George earl of Shrewsbury. Here is a convenient house for the accommodation of strangers, built at the charge of the duke of Devonshire. There is a bath-room which is arched over head, and is rendered handsome and convenient. The bath will accommodate twenty people at a time to walk and swim in. The temper of the water is blood warm, and it may be raised at pleasure to any height. Mary, queen of Scots, who was here for some time, took her leave of it in the distich of Cæsar upon Feltria, varied thus:

*Buxtona, que callide celebrare nomine lymphæ,  
Forte mihi posthac non adeunda, Vale.*

#### Tideswell.

The fifth curiosity, called a wonder, is the spring called Tideswell, situated near the market town to which it has given its name. The well is about three feet deep, and three feet wide, and the water, in different and uncertain periods of time, sinks and rises with a gurgling noise, two thirds of the perpendicular depth of the well. Many conjectures have been formed to account for this phenomenon. Some have thought that in the aqueduct a stone stands in equilibrio, and produces the rise and fall of the water by vibrating backwards and forwards; but it is as difficult to conceive what should produce this vibration at uncertain periods, as what should produce the rise and fall of the water; others imagine that these irregular ebbings and flowings, as well as the gurgling noise, are occasioned by air, which agitates or presses the water from the subterraneous cavities; but these do not tell us what can be supposed first to move the air; others have imagined the spring to be occasionally supplied from the overflowings of some subterraneous body of water, lying upon a higher level.

#### Pool's hole.

The sixth wonder of the Peak is a cave, called Pool's hole, said to have taken its name from one Pool, a notorious robber, who being outlawed, secreted himself here from justice; but others will have it that Pool was some hermit, or anchorite, who made choice of this dismal hole for his cell. Pool's hole is situated at the bottom of a lofty mountain, called Coitmosf, near Buxton. The entrance is by a small arch, so very low, that such as venture into it are forced to creep upon their hands and knees, but it gradually opens into a vault more than a quarter of a mile long, and, as some have pretended, a quarter of a mile high.

It

It is certainly very lofty, and looks not unlike the inside of a Gothic cathedral. In a cavern to the right, called Pool's Chamber, there is a fine echo, though it does not appear of what kind it is; and the sound of a current of water, which runs along the middle of the great vault, being reverberated on each side, very much encreases the astonishment of all who visit the place. Here on the floor, are great ridges of stones; water is perpetually distilling from the roof and sides of this vault, and the drops, before they fall, produce a very pleasing effect, by reflecting numberless rays from the candles carried by the guides; they also, from their quality, form crystallizations of various forms, like the figures of fret-work; and in some places, having been long accumulated one upon another, they have formed large masses, bearing a rude resemblance to men, lions, dogs, and other animals.

In this cavity is a column, as clear as alabaster, called Mary Queen of Scots Pillar, because it is pretended she went in so far; and beyond it there is a steep ascent, for near a quarter of a mile, which terminates in a hollow in the roof, called the Needle's Eye, in which, when the guide places his candle, it looks like a star in the firmament. If a pistol be fired near the Queen's Pillar, the report will be as loud as a cannon. There is another passage by which people generally return. Not far from this place are two springs, one cold and the other hot, but so near one another, that the thumb and finger of the same hand may be put into both streams at the same time.

The seventh and last wonder of the Peak is a cavern, unaccountably called the Devil's arse, and sometimes the Peak's arse. It runs under a steep hill, about six miles north-west of Tideswall, by an horizontal entrance sixty feet wide, and something more than thirty feet high. The top of this entrance resembles a regular arch, chequered with stones of different colours, from which petrifying water is continually dropping. Here are several huts, which look like a little town, inhabited by a set of people who seem in a great measure to subsist by guiding strangers into the cavern, which opens at the extremity of this entrance. The outward part of this cave is very dark; it is also rendered very slippery, by a current of water which runs across the entrance, and the rock hangs so low, that it is necessary to stoop in order to go under it; but having passed this place, and another current, which sometimes cannot be waded, the arch opens again to a third current, near which are large banks of sand; after those are passed the rock closes.

These curiosities are very poetically described by the celebrated Mr. Hobbes, in Latin verse, and very particularly by one Cotton, in English doggrel.

Besides the wonders of the Peak, there are other curiosities in this county. Near a village in the High Peak, called Birchover, north-west of Tideswall, <sup>is a stone</sup> a large rock with two stones upon it, called rocking stones; one of them <sup>is twelve</sup> feet high, and thirty-six feet round, yet it rests upon a point in <sup>such an equi-</sup> poise, that it may be moved with a finger.

Near Bradwall, a village in the High Peak, <sup>about seven or eight miles north-</sup> west of Bakewel, a substance resembling <sup>an extraordinary substance</sup> a tooth was dug up, which, though <sup>one</sup>

one fourth of it was broken off, measured thirteen inches and a half round, and weighed near four pounds; and among other substances, supposed to be bones, there was a skull, which held seven pecks of corn. It is strange that if the skull was intire, there should be any doubt whether it belonged to a man or a brute; yet we are told some thought these supposed bones belonged to an elephant, and others to a man; it is however judiciously determined by later writers, that they are not bones, but formed of that genus of spars called the *stalactita*, by the dropping of water from the roofs of some subterranean caverns.

Swallows.

At the bottom of several mountains in this county, there are cavities, called by the inhabitants swallows, because they swallow up several streams which never re-appear. But some think that the subterraneous rivers in the Devil's Arse, and other rapid springs, that issue out of some mountains near Castleton, a town six miles north-east of Buxton, are formed from the conflux of waters in those cavities.

Medical  
springs.

At Stanley, a village on the north side of Boleover; and at Quarndon, another small village, near Derby, there are chalybeate springs, of the same kind with those of Tunbridge, in Kent, and the Scarborough Spaw, in Yorkshire. At Quarndon there is also a cold bath, and great numbers of people resort thither, at the season proper for drinking the waters.

At Kedleston, a small town near Derby, is a well, said to be of singular virtue in healing old ulcers, and curing the leprosy.

Near Wirksworth there are two springs, one hot and the other cold, not two feet distant from each other.

At Matlock, a village upon the banks of the Derwent, ten miles north-west from Derby, there are several warm springs, called Matlock Wells. The waters of these springs are used both internally and externally; used internally, they are said to attenuate, heat, and rarefy the blood; externally they are recommended in the rheumatism, and all disorders of the skin. To accommodate those who are directed to use them externally, a bath has been constructed, inclosed in a proper building, lined with lead, and large enough to receive eight or ten people at a time, who descend into it by steps made for that purpose. The water that supplies this bath, which is but just milk warm, issues from a rock in a most delightful plain, about a mile in circumference, surrounded by rocky hills, and a rapid stream.

These wells are much frequented, and would be more so, were it not for the stoney mountainous road that leads to them, as well as the want of accommodation on the spot. The traveller to Matlock is obliged to pass over barren moors of many miles extent, in perpetual danger of slipping into coal or lead pits, or to ride several miles on the edge of a steep rock, which is either smooth and slippery, or covered with loose stones, which endanger his falling into the valley beneath, the bottom of which is scarcely to be distinguished by the eye, nor is there any house of entertainment nearer to the wells than the distance of at least half a mile.

On

On the east side of the Derwent, over against Matlock Bath, is a vast pile of <sup>The Tor.</sup> rocks, 420 feet high, called the Tor, under which are several little cottages.

The river Dove sometimes swells in the space of twelve hours, to such a height, <sup>The floods</sup> that it carries away whole flocks of sheep and herds of cattle; and it returns <sup>as inundations of</sup> suddenly to its natural channel. These inundations are occasioned by shots of water <sup>the Dove.</sup> which this river frequently receives in its course through so mountainous a country.

In digging near a place where a chapel, dedicated to St. James, formerly stood, <sup>A gigantic</sup> in the town of Derby, a stone coffin was discovered, and in it a body of a prodigious <sup>skeleton.</sup> size, which the first motion shook into dust. The coffin was hollowed in the shape of a human body.

### A N T I Q U I T I E S .

The ancient inhabitants of Derbyshire, in common with those of Northampton- <sup>Ancient</sup> shire, Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, Lincolnshire, and Nottinghamshire, were by the <sup>inhabitants.</sup> Romans called Coritani; but whence that name was derived is not known. In the time of the Saxon Heptarchy, these counties were all included in the kingdom of the Mercians; and the inhabitants of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, from their situation on the north side of the river Trent, were called *Mercii Aggillones*, or the *Northern Mercians*.

Repton, a small town situated near the conflux of the Trent and Dove, was <sup>Roman</sup> called by the Romans Repandum, but by the Saxons Hrebandun, and was <sup>county.</sup> anciently a large town, and the burial place of several of the Mercian kings.

Little Chester, now a small village upon the Derwent, near Derby, but upon the other side of the river, was anciently a city. It was also a Roman station, as appears by a great number of Roman coins, of different metals, that have been found in it. When the water of the Derwent happens to be very clear, the foundation of a bridge may be seen, which crossed it in this place.

Melborn, a small town, about five or six miles south-east of Derby, was <sup>A royal man-</sup> formerly a royal mansion, and had a castle, now a heap of ruins, where John duke of <sup>dom.</sup> Bourbon, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Agincourt by Henry the Fifth, was confined nineteen years, and was then released by Henry the Sixth.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, which began in the year 1042, there <sup>Antiquities of</sup> were 143 burgesses in the town of Derby; but this place was so reduced in <sup>Derby.</sup> William the Conqueror's time, who began his reign in 1066, that the burgesses were only one hundred; and these, at the feast of St. Martin, were obliged to pay twelve thraves, or forty-eight flocks of corn to the king. The Danes, while they remained masters of this country, made the town of Derby their principal resort, till Ethelfleda, a princess of the Mercians, took it by surprize, and put all the Danes that she found in it to the sword. It is thought that there was <sup>for-</sup>

formerly a castle in the south-east quarter of this town, because in that part there is a hill, called Cow-castle-hill; and a street, leading to St. Peter's Church, which in ancient deeds, is called Castlegate; but no vestiges of a castle are now to be found.

**Roman altars.** Bakewell is thought to have been a Roman town, because an altar, of a rough sort of stone, has been dug up near it, inscribed thus: DEO MARTI BRACIACÆ OSITTIVS CÆCILIAN. PRÆFECT. TRO. ----- V. S. Two or three other altars have also been found near this place, but without any inscription.

**Tenure for destroying wolves.** Some lands in this county were anciently held by a tenure for destroying wolves. And at Wormhill, a small village near Bakewell, are certain lands, which to this day retain the name of Wolvehunt, which they originally acquired by being held under this tenure.

**An ancient castle.** Castleton, a small town in the High Peak, near Pool's Hole, had its name from an old castle adjoining to it, which, by its situation, must have been impregnable; being built upon a steep and dangerous rock, to which there is but one ascent, and that is so full of windings, that it is two miles to the top.

**A Roman causey and bath.** Burgh, a little village near Castleton, was frequented by the Romans, as appears from a causey, leading from it to the baths of Buxton, and therefore called Bathgate. Buxton baths are known to have been eminent in the time of the Romans, because Lucan, and other Roman writers mention them; and there is a Roman wall cemented with red Roman plaster, close to one of the springs, called St. Anne's Well, where also may be seen the ruins of an ancient bath, and its dimensions.

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At Repton there was before the year 660, a noble monastery of religious men and women, under the government of an abbeſs; but this being destroyed by the Danes, Maud, widow to Ranulph, the second earl of Chester, about the year 1172, built here a priory of Black canons, of the order of St. Austin, dedicated to the honour of the Holy Trinity and St. Mary, which was endowed at the general dissolution, by king Henry the Eighth, with the yearly revenue of 118 l. 8 s. 6 d.

At Greifley Church, about four or five miles south of Repton, there was a small priory of canons, of the order of St. Austin, founded by William, son of Nigel de Greifley, in the reign of Henry the First, dedicated to St. Mary and St. George, and endowed at the dissolution, with a revenue of 31 l. 6 s. *per annum*.

At Derby was a cell of Cluniac monks, dedicated to St. James, but belonging to the abbey of Bermondſey, in Southwark, near London, to which abbey the

the church of that saint in this town was given, by one Waltheof, before the year 1140, in which year king Stephen confirmed this grant. It was protected as a poor hospital, in the fourteenth year of the reign of Henry the Third, and in the next reign reckoned among the alien priories, but it continued to the general dissolution, when the king was accounted founder, and the yearly income thought to be about 10*l*.

Robert de Ferraris, second earl of Derby, partly out of some of the crowns, granted him by Henry the First, or king Stephen, and partly out of his own estate, founded a religious house near this town, dedicated to St. Helen; but pretty early in the next reign, the greatest part of these canons and their endowments, were translated to Little Derby, or Darley, a pleasant village, situated on the Derwent, a little way north of the town of Derby which was given them by Hugh the priest, dean of Derby, whereon an abbey, of the order of St. Augustine, was built, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary; the yearly revenues of which, at the suppression, were worth 25*l*. 13*s*. 5*d*.

At Derby was an hospital for leprous persons, called *Maison de Dieu*, or the House of God, under the government of a master, as old as the time of king Henry the Second.

The parish church of All Saints, in the town of Derby, being a royal free chapel, was collegiate, and had, besides the master or rector (who seems to have been the dean of Lincoln) seven prebendaries; but all their yearly revenues amounted at the suppression, to no more than 39*l*. 12*s*.

At Derby there was also an old hospital of Royal foundation, consisting of a master (whose place was in the gift of the crown) and several leprous brethren, dedicated to St. Leonard.

At Calke Abbey, now a little village, near Derby, Maud, countess of Chester, already mentioned, founded a convent of regular canons, of the order of St. Augustine, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Giles, before the year 1161, but afterwards she removed most of them to the priory of Repton, to which this house at Calke continued a cell till the dissolution.

At King's Mead, a village near Derby, an abbot of Derby founded a priory of Benedictine nuns, about the year 1160. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and valued on the dissolution at 18*l*. 6*s*. 2*d*. clear, or 21*l*. 13*s*. 8*d*. total, *per annum*.

At Dale, or Depedale, a village east of Derby, Serlo de Grendon, in the time of Henry the Second, founded a convent of Black canons, from the monastery at Calke; but they did not continue long, and were succeeded by two sets of Premonstratensians, or White canons, who also forsook the old place, upon which

William Fitz Rauf, senefchal of Normandy, and Jeffry de Salicosa Mara, who married Maud, the daughter of William Fitz Rauf, in the year 1204, upon part of the neighbouring park at Stanley, founded an abbey of the Premonstratensian order, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which at the suppression was endowed with estates to the yearly value of 144 l. 12 s.

At Beauchief, a village on the borders of Yorkshire, north-west of Chesterfield, there was an abbey of the Premonstratensians, founded in the year 1183, by Robert, the son of Ranulph, lord of Alfreton, one of those who murdered Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, to whom, after being canonized, this monastery was dedicated. It was valued upon the dissolution at the yearly income of 126 l. 3 s. 4 d.

At Yevceley, a few miles south of Ashborn, there was an hermitage, which Ralf Le Fun, in the reign of king Richard the First, gave, with all its revenues, to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John at Jerusalem, whereupon it became a preceptory to that order, and was dedicated to St. Mary and St. John Baptist. Its revenues upon the dissolution were valued at 93 l. 3 s. 4 d. *per annum*.

At Chesterfield was a very ancient hospital for lepers, founded before the tenth of king Richard the First, and dedicated to the honour of St. Leonard; but we are not told by whom it was founded, nor its value at the general dissolution, by king Henry the Eighth.

Here also was a college founded in the time of king Richard the Second, which maintained two or three priests. It was dedicated to St. Mary and the Holy Cross, and valued upon the dissolution at 19 l. *per annum*.

At Bradfald, near Derby, was an house of Friars Hermites, in the time of Henry the Third, after which it became a small priory of the order of St. Austin, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and continued such to the dissolution, when its yearly revenues were valued only at 13 l. 0 s. 8 d.

At Lokhay, near Derby, was a preceptory or hospital, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, said to be of the order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem, and subject to a foreign house in France; to which was annually paid from hence a yearly rent of 20 l. which, upon a war with France, was seized upon by the crown, and given by king Edward the Third, to King's Hall, in the university of Cambridge.

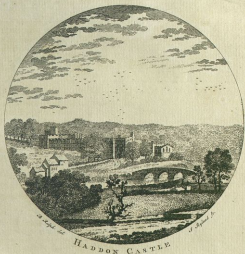
At Spittel, a village in the Peak, near Cattleton, there was an hospital, founded before the twelfth of Edward the Third, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The masterhip was in the gift of the crown, and it was valued on the dissolution at forty shillings *per annum*, clear.

M E M



## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends four members to parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, and two burgesies for the town of Derby.



Y 2

DEVON-

D E B E Y S H I R E

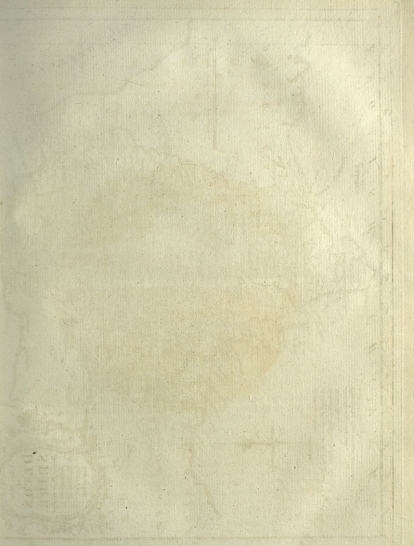
MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF THE COUNTY

The county has four members to parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, and two burgesses for the town of Debby.



DEB

17







DARTMOUTH CASTLE

p. 172.

## DEVONSHIRE.

### NAME.

**T**HE English Saxons called this county Deuonſſyre, or Devonshire, from the ancient British names *Deuman* and *Druffneynt*, which signify *Deep Vallies*, the greatest part of the towns and villages in this district being in a low situation.

### BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

Devonshire is bounded by the English Channel on the south, by the Bristol Channel on the north, by Cornwall on the west, and by Somersetshire on the east. It is about 69 miles in length, from south to north, 66 miles in breadth, from east to west, and 200 miles in circumference; and the center of it is about 153 miles west-south-west from London.

### RIVERS.

## RIVERS.

The principal rivers in this county are the Tamar and the Ex. The course of the Tamar has been already described in the account of Cornwall. The Ex rises in a barren tract of country, called Exmore, situated partly in Devonshire, and partly in Somersetshire, near the Bristol Channel, and runs directly south. After being joined by several less considerable rivers, it passes through Exeter, the only city in this county; and after a course of about nine miles to the south-east, falls into the English Channel in a very large stream.

The Ex is thought by some to have been so called from *Isaw*, a British word, which signifies *Elderwood*, which grows in great abundance on the banks of this river; others derive it from the British word *Hesk*, *Reeds*; but as no reeds grow about this river, the first derivation is the most probable. There are in this county so many considerable rivers, besides the Tamar and the Ex, that there are in it more than 150 bridges. Of these rivers the chief are the Tave, the Lad, the Oke, the Tame, the Touridge, and the Dart.

## AIR and SOIL.

The air of this county is mild in the vallies, and sharp on the hills; but in general it is pleasant and healthy. The soil is various; in the western parts it is coarse, moorish, and barren, and in many places a stiff clay, which the water cannot penetrate; it is therefore bad for sheep, which are here not only small, but very subject to the rot, especially in wet seasons. This part of the county is however happily adapted to the breeding of fine oxen, which the Somersetshire drovers purchase in great numbers, and fatten for the London markets. In the northern parts of this county the soil is dry, and abounds with downs, which afford excellent pasture for sheep, and which being well dressed with lime, dung, and sand, yield good crops of corn, though not equal to those produced in the middle parts of the county, where there is in some places a rich marl for manuring the ground; and in others, a fertile sandy soil. In the eastern parts of Devonshire the soil is strong, of a deep red, intermixed with loam, and produces great crops of corn, and the best peate in Britain. There are a few villages north-west of Dartmouth, a corporation town of this county, called South-Hams, which are famous for an excellent rough cyder, said to be the best in the kingdom, and so near wine, that the vintners mix it with port. The soil here being a reddish sand, produces also the best cabbages and carrots in the kingdom; nor does this part of the county fall short in meadow and pasture ground, for the most barren places are rendered fruitful by a shell-sand, such as that used in Cornwall, and in places remote from the sea, where this sand cannot be easily got, the turf, or surface of the ground, is shaved off and burnt to ashes, which is a good succedaneum. This method of agriculture, used first in Devonshire, has been practised in other counties, where it is called *Devilring* the land, a name which sufficiently denotes whence it was borrowed. The southern parts of this county are much the most fertile, and are therefore called the garden of Devonshire.

## N A T U -

## N A T U R A L P R O D U C T I O N S.

As this county abounds in fine rivers, salmon is here not only excellent, but in great plenty.

There are in this county mines of lead, tin, and silver. There has indeed been very little tin dug here of late times; yet in the reign of king John, when the tin coinage for the county of Cornwall was farmed but at 66l. 18s. 4d. a-year, that of Devonshire let at one hundred pounds; and though the silver mines are not now regarded, yet in the year 1293, they yielded no less than 370 pounds weight of fine silver; in the following year they produced 521 pounds weight, and in the next year 700 pounds. Veins of loadstone are also found here, and quarries of good stone for building, and of slate for covering houses, of which great quantities are exported.

## M A N U F A C T U R E S and T R A D E.

The manufactures of this county are kerseys, ferges, longells, shalloods, narrow cloths, and bonelace, in which, and in corn, cattle, wool, and sea-fish, the inhabitants carry on a considerable trade.

## C I V I L and E C C L E S I A S T I C A L D I V I S I O N S.

This county is divided into 33 hundreds, and contains one city and 37 market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Exeter, and has 394 parishes.

## C I T Y and M A R K E T T O W N S.

The city is Exeter, and the market towns are Ashburton, Axminster, Bampton, Barnstaple, Bearstofton, Biddiford, Bowe, Brent, Chimley, Chudleigh, Columpton, Comb-martin, Crediton, Culliton, Dartmouth, Dodbrook, Hartland, Hatherley, Honiton, Houllworthy, Ilfordcomb, Kingsbridge, Modbury, Moreton, Moulton-footh, Newton-Busbel, Okhampton, Otterey St. Mary's, Plympton, Plympton, Shepwash, Sidmouth, Tavistock, Tiverton, Topsham, Torrington, and Tornefs. Of these three are stannary towns, Ashburton, Plympton, and Tavistock; and there is a fourth stannary town in this county, which is Chagford, a small inconsiderable place near Moreton. A stannary town is one in which is kept a stannary court, that determines the differences concerning mines and among miners, or such as work in digging and purifying tin.

EXETER is a contraction of *Excester*, which signifies a *castle on the Ex*. This city is distant from London 172 miles; and was made a mayor town by king John, and a county of itself by king Henry the Eighth. It is governed by a mayor, twenty-four aldermen, four bailiffs, a recorder, a chamberlain, a town clerk, a sheriff, and four stewards; and the magistrates, at all public processions, are attended by a sword-bearer, four serjeants at mace, and as many staff-bearers. There are thirteen city companies, each of which is governed by officers, chosen yearly among them. The mayor, or his officers, hear, try, and determine all

pleas and civil causes, with the advice of the recorder, aldermen, and common-council of the city; but criminal and crown causes are determined by eight aldermen, who are justices of the peace. This city anciently had a mint; and as late as the reign of king William the Third, silver was coined in it, which is distinguished by the letter E, placed under the king's bust.

Exeter is a bishop's see, and is one of the first cities in England, as well on account of its buildings and wealth, as its extent and the number of its inhabitants. Including its suburbs, it is two miles in circumference, and is encompassed with a stone wall, in good repair, and fortified with turrets. It has six gates, and four principal streets, all centring in the middle of the city, which is therefore called *Carfax*, from the old Norman word *Quatre vois*, i. e. *the four ways*; one of these is called the High Street, and is very spacious and grand. Here is a long bridge over the Ex, with houses on both sides, except in the middle, where there is a vacancy. This city is well supplied with water, brought from the neighbourhood in pipes to several conduits; and there is one grand conduit, erected by William Duke, who was mayor of this city in the reign of king Edward the Fourth. In the north part of the city is an old castle, called *Rougemont*, from the red soil it stands in, where there is a pleasant prospect of the British Channel ten miles to the south, from a beautiful terrace walk, with a double row of fine elms. This castle is now much decayed, only a part of it being kept in repair for the assizes, quarter sessions, county courts, and a chapel. In the guild-hall of this city are pictures of general Monk, and the princess Henrietta Maria, daughter to king Charles the First, who was born here. There are sixteen churches, besides chapels, and five large meeting houses, within the walls of this city, and four without. The cathedral, which is dedicated to St. Peter, is a curious and magnificent fabric, and though it was 400 years in building, looks as uniform as if it had but one architect. It is vaulted throughout, is 390 feet long, and 74 broad; it has a ring of ten bells, reckoned the largest in England, as is also its organ, the greatest pipe of which is fifteen inches diameter. The dean and chapter have their houses round the cathedral, which form a circuit, called the *Cloſe*, because it is inclosed, and separated from the city by walls and gates. Within this inclosure are two churches for the service of the cathedral. The dean, chanor, chancellor, and treasurer, are the four dignitaries of this cathedral; and to these are added the four arch-deacons of Exeter, Totness, Barnstaple, and Cornwall. In the city and suburbs are prisons both for debtors and malefactors, a work-house, almshouses, and charity schools, and in 1741 an hospital was founded here, for the sick and lame poor of the city and county, upon the model of the infirmaries of London and Westminster.

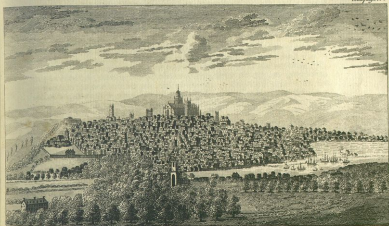
About a mile and a half without the East Gate of Exeter, is the parish of Heavy Tree, so called from the gallows erected there for malefactors, and near it is a burial place for them, purchased in the reign of Edward the Sixth, by the widow of Mr. Tuckfield, sheriff of Exeter, who also left money to procure them shrouds.

We must not omit to relate what this city suffered from the resentment of Hugh Courtney, earl of Devonshire. This nobleman, to revenge his disappointment of some fish from the market, by weirs choked up the river below Exeter, which before brought up ships to the city walls, so as entirely to obstruct the navigation of it. This injury has however in a great measure been remedied by the

chear-



T. G. Jones del.



*The South West View of Exeter.*

*W. H. Jones sculp.*

VVA.BHSC



cheerful contributions of the inhabitants, under the sanction of an act of parliament, for a channel is cut here, which, by the contrivance of sluices and gates, admits the largest barges, and vessels of 150 tons come up to the key.

Such is the trade of this city in ferges, perpetuanas, longells, druggets, kerseys, and other woollen goods, that it is computed at 600,000 l. a-year at least. There is a serge market kept weekly here, which is said to be the greatest in all England, next to the Brigg-market, at Leeds, a market town in Yorkshire; and as much serge is frequently bought up at this market, as amounts to 60,000 l. 80,000 l. or 100,000 l. for besides the vast quantities of woollen goods usually shipped for Portugal, Spain, and Italy, the Dutch give large commissions for buying up ferges, perpetuanas, and other woollen stuffs, for Holland and Germany.

ASHBURTON is 191 miles distant from London: it is an ancient borough by prescription, and is governed by a chief magistrate, called a portreeve,\* who is chosen yearly at the courts of the lords of the manor, and is the returning officer at elections for members in parliament. This town has only one good street, but that is of considerable length. It has however a handsome church, in the form of a cathedral, adorned with a tower ninety-one feet high, on which is a spire of lead. This church has a large chancel with several stalls in it, as in collegiate churches. It has also a chapel, which is used for a school, as well as for the parish meetings, and the elections of its members in parliament. Ashburton stands upon the river Dart, and is a great thoroughfare in the road from London to the Land's End, in Cornwall, being about half way between Exeter and Plymouth. This is a flannery town, and is remarkable for its mines of tin and copper, and a manufacture of serge.

AXMISTER, or AXMINSTER, derives its name partly from its situation upon a river, called the Axe, and partly from a mindar, established in this place by king Athelstan, for seven priests, to pray for the departed souls of some persons buried here, who were killed in his army, when he defeated the Danes in a bloody battle on a field in this neighbourhood, which is still called King's Field. It is distant from London 146 miles, and lies on the borders of Somersetshire and Dorsetshire, in the road to Exeter. It is an healthy, clean, considerable town; it carries on a small trade in kerseys, druggets, and other articles of the woollen manufacture, and is well supplied with fish from Lyme, a borough town of Dorsetshire, from Axmouth, a town at the mouth of the river Axe, and from several other coast towns in its neighbourhood.

BAMPTON, or BAUNTON, as it is commonly called, both being corruptions of BATHAMPTON, stands in a bottom, encompassed with hills, on a branch of the river Ex, at the distance of 160 miles from London, and 21 miles north of Exeter. It is governed by a portreeve, and formerly sent members to parliament.

BARNSTABLE is a name compounded of the British word *Bar*, which signifies the mouth of a river, and the Saxon word *Staple*, which denotes a mart of trade.

\* As the officer appointed to preside over a county or shire, was called a *shire-reeve*, or *sheriff*, so the principal officer or magistrate of our sea ports, was anciently called a *port reeve*, the word signifying one set over a port.

It is distant from London 194 miles, and is pleasantly situated among hills, in the form of a semicircle, a river called the Taw being the chord of the arch. It had walls formerly, with a castle, and enjoyed the liberties of a city, but having lost those privileges, it was incorporated by a charter of queen Mary, and is governed by a mayor, twenty-four common council-men, of whom two are aldermen, a high steward, a recorder, a deputy recorder, and other officers. The streets are clean and well paved, and the houses of stone. It has a fair stone bridge over the river Taw, of sixteen arches, and a paper-mill. Here are two charity schools, one for fifty boys, and another for thirty girls. It formerly had a haven, in which the water became at last so shallow, though at spring tides the neighbouring fields are overflowed, that most of the trade removed to Biddiford, yet it has still some merchants, and a considerable traffic to America, and to Ireland, from whence it is an established port for landing wool; it carries on also a great trade with the serge makers of Tiverton and Exeter, who come up hither to buy shad-fish, wool, and yarn.

BEARALSTON, or BERALSTON, or BORALSTON, is situated on a small river, called the Tave, at the distance of 200 miles from London. It is an ancient borough by prescription, and is governed by a portreeve. All persons who pay three-pence or more a-year to the lord of the manor, as an acknowledgment for land held in the borough, are called burghage holders, and are the only voters for representatives of this borough in parliament; and the portreeve, who is chosen yearly, at the court of the lord of the manor, returns them. This place is only an hamlet, not containing one hundred ordinary houses, in the parish of Bear Ferris, from the church of which it lies near two miles.

BIDDIFORD, or BEDIFORD, *i. e.* by the ford, is thus called from its situation upon the river Touridge, which a little farther north joins the river Taw, and falls with it into that part of the British Channel called Barnstaple Bay. This town is 197 miles from London, and is governed by a mayor and aldermen, a recorder, a town clerk, with sergeants and other officers. It has a particular court in which civil actions of any kind are brought and determined for any sum. It is a clean, well built, and populous town, and has a street three quarters of a mile long, running parallel to the river, with a noble key and custom-house, where ships can load and unload, in the very heart of the town. Here is also another street of considerable length, and as broad as the high street of Exeter, with good buildings, inhabited by wealthy merchants.

This town has a large church and a handsome meeting-house; it has also a very fine bridge over the Touridge, which was built in the fourteenth century, on twenty-four beautiful and stately Gothic arches; the foundation is still very firm, yet it shakes at the slightest step of a horse. There are lands settled for keeping it in repair, the rents of which are received and laid out by a bridge warden, chosen by the mayor and aldermen. The merchants of this town send fleets yearly to the West Indies, Virginia, Newfoundland, and Ireland, from whence it is an established port for wool, as well as Barnstaple. Forty or fifty sail, belonging to this port, are yearly employed to bring cod from Newfoundland, and other fleets are sent to Liverpool and Warrington for rock salt, which is dissolved here by sea-water into brine, and then boiled up into a new salt: this is justly called

called salt upon salt, and is used in curing herrings, which are taken here in great quantities.

**BOWE** is thought to have taken its name from its crooked figure. It is 153 miles from London, and the court of the dutchy of Lancaster is commonly kept here.

**BRENT** is situated 198 miles from London.

**CHEMLEY** is situated upon the river Taw, about half way between Exeter and Barnstaple, and is distant from London 184 miles.

**CHUDLEIGH** lies near a small river called the Teign, and is distant from London 182 miles, but no particulars of the present or ancient state of this or the three preceding towns are extant.

**COLUMBTON** derives its name from a small river called the Columb, upon which it is situated. It is distant from London 166 miles. The church here has a curious and rich gilded rood loft, which is still preserved as an ornament, though the image, worshipped in the days of popery, is removed. This town is the best upon the river Columb, and has a considerable woollen manufactory.

**COMB-MARTIN** takes its name from *Kew*, a British word, which signifies a *low situation*, and *Martin*, the family name of those who were lords of it for many ages. It lies upon the British Channel, at the distance of 182 miles from London. Here is a cove for the landing of boats. The adjacent soil not only produces plenty of the best hemp in the country, but has been famous for mines of tin and lead; the lead mines, in the reign of Edward the First, being found to have some veins of silver, 337 men were brought from Derby to work them, and the produce was of great service to king Edward the Third, in his war with France. Nevertheless they were neglected till the reign of queen Elizabeth, when Sir Beavis Bulmer, a virtuoso in refining metals, had them wrought, and extracted great quantities of silver from them, of which he caused two cups to be made, and presented one to the earl of Bath, and the other, probably the least, weighing 137 ounces, to Sir Richard Martin, lord mayor of London. A new adit has been lately dug here, which cost 5000*l.* but the mines have not been wrought since.

**CREDITON**, vulgarly called **KIRTON**, had its name no doubt from the river Creden, on which it stands. It is 183 miles from London. In the reign of Edward the First it sent members to a parliament at Carlisle. Its chief manufacture is serge, in which it carried on a great trade, and was a flourishing town till it was burnt, on the fourteenth of August 1743, when above 460 houses were destroyed, besides the market-house, and other public buildings. The loss of the inhabitants upon this occasion was computed at upwards of 60,000*l.* Here is a charity school.

**CULLITON** is situated 17 miles south-east of Exeter, and 159 west of London.

DARTMOUTH is so called from its situation at the mouth of the river Dart. It is 192 miles from London, and is a corporation, originally formed out of three distinct towns, Dartmouth, Clifton, and Hardocks; it had the name Clifton, from the cliffs on which most of the houses were built, and out of which many of them were dug. It is governed by a mayor, twelve masters, or magistrates, twelve common council men, a recorder, two bailiffs, a town clerk, and high steward; the town clerk and high steward are chosen by the mayor and magistrates, who have a power also to make freemen; the mayor, bailiffs, and a coroner are chosen yearly. Here is a court of session, and a water bailiffwick court, holden by a lease from the duchy of Cornwall for three lives, and for which fourteen pounds a-year chief rent is paid.

This town, which is a mile long, stands on the side of a craggy hill, a situation which makes the streets very irregular, rising in some places one above another, yet the houses are generally very high. Here are three churches, besides a large dissenting meeting house; but the mother church is at a village called Townfall, about three quarters of a mile from Dartmouth. This church stands on a hill, and the tower of it, which is 69 feet high, is a sea mark. Dartmouth has a harbour, where 500 sail of ships may ride safe in the basin; it is defended by three castles, besides forts and block-houses, and its entrance may, upon occasion, be shut up with a chain. Here is a large key, and a spacious street before it, inhabited chiefly by merchants, who carry on a considerable trade to Portugal and the plantations, but especially to Newfoundland, and from thence to Italy with fish. Here also is the greatest pilchard fishery of any part in the west, except Falmouth, in Cornwall; and the shipping and trade of this town in general were the most considerable of any in the county, except Exeter, till Plymouth's late increase in both. By a grant of Edward the Third, the burghesses of this town are toll free throughout all England; and in the reign of king Richard the Second, they obtained the exclusive right of exporting tin.

DODBROOK is situated on a little river called the Salcomb, at the distance of 198 miles from London. Here is a charity school; and the place is remarkable only for a custom of paying the parson tythe of a liquor called white ale.

HARTLAND stands upon a promontory that runs out far into the sea. It is the extrem part of the county to the north-west, and is called Hartland Point. This town is 197 miles from London, and is a great resort not only of people from Cornwall, but of the fisher boats of Barnstaple, Biddisford, and other towns upon the coast: these vessels lie here under the rocks, which shelter them from the south-east and south-west winds; and the sailors go ashore here and buy provisions, when these winds blow too hard for them to venture to sea. Hartland carries on a considerable herring fishery, and the cod taken here is the best in the world, though it is not near so plenty as on the banks of Newfoundland. A pier has been erected here to prevent the breaking in of the sea with violence. Here is a good key, the descent to which is very steep, being beaten out of the cliffs.

HATRELEY is situated on a branch of the river Touridge, near its conflux with the Oke, at the distance of 194 miles from London.

HONI-

**HONITON** stands near a small river called the Otter, at the distance of 156 miles from London, and in the road from London to Exeter. It is an ancient borough by prescription, and is governed by a portreeve, who is chosen yearly at the court of the lord of the manor. It is situated in the best and most pleasant part of the whole county, abounding with corn and pasture, and commanding a view of the adjacent country, which is perhaps the most beautiful landscape in the world. It has a bridge over the Otter, and is a populous well built town, consisting chiefly of one long street, remarkably well paved with pebbles, through which runs a small channel of clear water, with a little square dripping place at every door. The parish church stands half a mile above the town upon a hill, which being difficult and troublesome to ascend on foot, the gentry used to go to church on horseback, or in coaches; and stables were built near the church-yard to accommodate them; but in the year 1743, a new chapel was built in the town. A charity school for 30 boys was opened here at Christmas 1713; and about a quarter of a mile out of town, on the east side of the road to Exeter, there is an hospital, with a handsome chapel, which was founded and endowed for four lepers, by one Thomas Chard, an abbot. The governor and patients are put in by the rector, church wardens, and overseers of the parish; and by a regulation made in 1642, other poor patients are admitted, as well as lepers. The first serge manufacture in Devonshire was in this town, but it is now much employed in the manufacture of lace, which is made broader here than any where else in England, and of which great quantities are sent to London.

**HOULSWORTHY** is situated on the river Tamar, and on the borders of Cornwall, at the distance of 194 miles from London.

**ILFORDCOMB, ILFARCOMB, OR ALFRINCOMB,** is situated on the Bristol-Channel, at the distance of 178 miles from London. It is governed by a mayor, bailiffs, and other officers. It is a rich populous place, and consists chiefly of one street of scattered houses, almost a mile long. It is noted for maintaining constant lights to direct ships at sea; for its great convenience for building and repairing ships, and for a harbour and pier, which afford secure shelter to ships from Ireland, when it would be extremely dangerous for them to run into the mouth of the Taw, commonly known by the name of Barnstaple Bay, which is the next harbour. This advantage of the harbour has induced the merchants at Barnstaple to transact much of their business here, where the trade, and particularly the herring fishery, is very considerable. In the year 1731, the harbour and pier being much decayed, by length of time and the violence of the seas, an act of parliament passed for repairing and enlarging them.

**KINGSBRIDGE** is situated upon the river Salcomb, at the distance of 201 miles from London. It is a pretty town, and pleasantly situated. It has a harbour for boats, and a bridge over the Salcomb to Dodbrook; it has also a free school, founded and endowed by Mr. Crispin of Exeter.

**MODBURY** is distant from London 223 miles. In the reign of king Edward the First it sent members to parliament, and is now remarkable only for its ale.

MOOR-

MORETON, or MORETON-HAMSTED is 179 miles from London.

MOULTON. There are two towns of this name, situated upon a little river called the Moul, which falls into the Taw, and from which they derive their name. This place is the market town, and being fourth of the other, is distinguished by the name of South Moulton. It is distant from London 183 miles, and in the reign of Edward the First sent members to parliament. It is governed by a mayor, eighteen capital burgeses, a recorder, a town clerk, and two sergeants at law. It has a noble spacious church, a charity school for 30 boys, taught and clothed by subscription, and a free school, which was built and endowed in 1684, by a native of the place, who was a merchant of London. The chief manufactures of this town are serges, shalloons, and felts.

NEWTON-BUSHEL is situated on the river Teign, at the distance of 187 miles from London. It is a large town, but remarkable only for the meanness of its buildings.

OCKHAMPTON, vulgarly OCKINGTON, had its name from its situation upon the river Oke. It is distant from London 193 miles, and is an ancient borough, governed by a mayor, eight capital burgeses, and as many assistants, out of whom the burgeses are annually elected, a recorder, a justice, and a town clerk. The mayor has a great share in the choice of every succeeding mayor, because he nominates two of the burgeses, one of whom is chosen by other burgeses and their assistants. Here is a town hall and a chapel, but both are mean buildings, though in the reign of king James the First, one Trelawney added a little neat tower to the chapel, which has given it the form of a church. The chief manufacture carried on here is serges; but the principal support of the place is said to be the road between the towns of Launceston, in Cornwall, and Crediton, in this county, for the best houses in the place are inns.

OTTERY. There are three towns of this name, which they derive from their situation upon a small river called the Otter. They are distinguished by the respective names of Ottery-St. Mary's, Ottery-Mobuns, and Ottery-Up. Ottery-St. Mary's is the market town, and had this name as belonging anciently to St. Mary's Church, in Roan in France. It is a large town, and is distant from London 161 miles.

PLYMOUTH derives its name from its situation upon a small river called the Plym, which at a little distance falls into a bay of the English Channel called Plymouth Sound, on one side of the town, as the river Tamar does on the other. This town is distant 220 miles from London, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, twenty-four common council men, a recorder, and a town clerk, whose place is very profitable. The mayor is elected thus: the mayor in office, and the aldermen, chuse two persons, and the common council chuse other two; these four persons, whom they call alfurers, appoint a jury of thirty-six persons, which jury elects the new mayor; the officiating mayor, his predecessor, and the two senior aldermen, are justices of the peace.

Plymouth, from a small fishing town, is become the largest in the county, and is thought to contain near as many inhabitants as the city of Exeter. Its port, which



which consists of two harbours, capable of containing 1000 sail, has rendered it one of the chief magazines in England. It is defended by several forts, mounted with near 300 guns, and particularly by a strong citadel, erected in the reign of Charles the Second, before the mouth of the harbour. This citadel, the walls of which include at least two acres of ground, has five regular bastions, contains a large magazine of stores, and mounts 165 guns. The inlet of the sea, which runs some miles up the country, at the mouth of the Tamar is called the Hamouze; and that which receives the Plym is called Catwater. About two miles up the Hamouze are two docks, one wet, and the other dry, with a basin 200 feet square; they are hewn out of a mine of slate, and lined with Portland stone. The dry dock is formed after the model of a first rate man of war, and the wet dock will contain five first rates. The docks and basin were constructed in the reign of king William the Third; and in this place there are conveniencies of all kinds for building and repairing ships; and the whole forms as compleat, though not so large an arsenal, as any in the kingdom.

The ships that are homeward bound generally put into this port for pilots, to carry them up the Channel; and in time of war, the convoys for ships outward bound, generally rendezvous here.

Here are two handsome, large, and well built parish churches, one dedicated to St. Andrew, and the other to the memory of king Charles the First, which, though there are several meeting houses, have each so large a cure of souls, that the parish clerks, till very lately, took deacon's orders, to enable them to perform the sacerdotal functions: the profits of the pews go to the poor. Here is a charity school, four hospitals, and a work-house, in all which above 100 poor children are clothed, fed, and taught. Colonel Jory gave a charity to one of the hospitals for twelve poor widows; he gave also a mace worth 120*l.* to be carried before the mayor, and six good bells to Charles's church, valued at 500*l.*

This town, till the time of queen Elizabeth, suffered great inconvenience from the want of fresh water, but is now well supplied by a spring seven miles off, the water of which was brought hither at the expence of Sir Francis Drake, who was a native of this place. The town has a custom-house, and there is also a good pilchard fishery on the coast, and a considerable trade to the Streights and the West Indies.

PLYMPTON, name derived from the river Plym, is situated upon a small stream that runs into that river; and is called Plympton Maurice, or Earl's Plympton, to distinguish it from Plympton St. Mary, a small town half a mile distant. It is 220 miles from London, and was incorporated in the reign of queen Elizabeth, under a mayor, recorder, eight aldermen, or principal burgessees, who are called common council men, a bailiff, and a town clerk. This is a stannary town: it is populous, but consists chiefly of two streets, with ordinary buildings. It has the best free school in the county, being endowed with lands to the amount of 100*l.* a-year, and built on stone pillars in 1664, by Sir John Maynard, one of the trustees of Elizeus Hele, Esq; of Cornwood, near Plymouth, who gave 1500*l.* a year to such uses. Near the west end of the town is the guild-hall, standing also on stone pillars, where the corn market is kept.

SHIP-

**SHEPWASH** is at the distance of 193 miles from London; but no particular account of it is extant.

**SDMOUTH** is thus called from its situation at the mouth of a small river called the Side, that flows into the English Channel. It is 157 miles from London, and was formerly a considerable port, but the harbour is now so choaked up with sand, that no ships of burden can get in; yet it remains one of the chief fisher towns in the county, and supplies the eastern parts of it with much provisions.

**TAVISTOCK, OR TAVESTOCK,** is so called from its situation on the banks of the Tave. It is 201 miles from London, and is an ancient borough by prescription, governed by a portreeve, who is chosen yearly by twenty-four freeholders, at the court of the manor. It is a flannery town, large and well built, with a handsome parish church, covered with slate. It has two almshouses; and is supplied by the Tave with plenty of fish.

**TIVERTON, OR TWYFORD TOWN,** is so called from its situation near two fords, which were formerly at this place, one over the river Ex, and the other over a small river called the Loman, where there are now two stone bridges. It is situated between those two rivers, and near their conflux, at the distance of 165 miles from London. It is governed by a mayor, twelve principal burgessees, and twelve inferior burgessees, or assistants, a recorder, and a clerk of the peace. The mayor, by its charter of incorporation, granted by king James the First, is gaol keeper, and the gaol delivery is to be holden before him and the recorder. Here is a church and a chapel; the chapel, by an act of parliament passed in 1733, is made a perpetual cure; but the great ornament and advantage of this town is a noble, large free school, founded by Mr. Peter Blondel, a clothier, and native of the place, who gave 2000*l.* for lands to maintain six scholars at Oxford and Cambridge, to be elected from this school: they are now eight, and placed at Balliol college, in Oxford, and at Sidney college, in Cambridge: he also left an allowance for a yearly feast there on St. Peter's day, in remembrance of him: here are also two almshouses. There is in this place the greatest woollen manufactory in the county, except that of Exeter, and except that city, it is the largest, if not the most populous, of all the inland towns in Devonshire.

**TOPSHAM** is distant from London 175 miles, and three miles from Exeter, of which it is the port; it is almost encompassed with the river Ex, and a rivulet, called the Cliff. Both the horse road and foot way, from Exeter to this town, being very pleasant, many people resort hither for pleasure, as well as for business.

**TORRINGTON,** called Great Torrington, to distinguish it from another Torrington that has not a market, took its name from its situation upon the river Touridge, and was originally called Touridge Town. It is distant from London 192 miles, and is governed by a mayor, eight aldermen, and sixteen burgessees. The petty sessions and other meetings are generally held here by the gentlemen of the county. It has two churches, one of which has a library belonging to it. Here are almshouses, with eight of commonage for the poor, and a charity school for 32 boys. This town has a stone bridge over the Touridge; it is rich and populous, and carries on a great trade to Ireland, and other places to the west.

TOTNESS stands upon the river Dart, at the distance of 19.5 miles from London. It is a borough by prescription, and the most ancient in the county; king John made it a corporation, consisting of fourteen burgo-masters, of which one is a mayor, who, with his predecessors and the recorder, are justices of the peace: there are twenty common council men and a few freemen elected by the mayor and masters. The town consists chiefly of one broad street, three quarters of a mile long, and stands on the side of a rocky hill, declining to the river. It was formerly walled in, and had four gates, but only the south gate and some small parts of the rest are now remaining. Here is a spacious church, with a fine tower and four pinnacles, each above ninety feet high, a town hall, and a school house: the river, over which there is a fine stone bridge, supplies the inhabitants with trout and other fish in great plenty. Its chief trade is the woolen manufacture.

At Berry-Pomery, near Totness, is an ancient castle, originally built by the descendants of Radulph de Pomery, who held this, and about fifty other lordships, in the time of William the Conqueror.

## C U R I O S I T I E S.

In the church at Lamerton, or Lamberton, a village two miles from Tavistock, are the effigies of Nicholas and Andrew Tremauc, twins, of this parish, <sup>Surprising</sup> who in features, stature, voice, and every other particular, so exactly resembled <sup>twins.</sup> each other, that those who knew them best could not always distinguish them. But this similitude of person, however uncommon, was less wonderful than the sympathy that subsisted between them, for even at a distance, one from another, they performed the same functions, had the same appetites and desires, and suffered the same pains and anxieties at the same time. Of these remarkable persons nothing farther is related, but that in the year 1663, they were killed together at Newhaven, in France: but upon what occasion, or in what manner is not known.

In the entrance of Plymouth Sound there is a rock, called Edystone Rock, <sup>Edystone</sup> which is covered at high water, and on which a light-house was built, by one <sup>Rock.</sup> Winstanly, in 1696. This light-house was blown down by a hurricane that happened in November 1703; and the ingenious builder, with several other persons that were in it, perished in its ruins; another light-house however was erected in pursuance of an act of parliament, of the fifth of queen Anne: that too has been destroyed, and another light-house is now nearly finished.

Between Plymouth and the sea there is a hill called the Haw, that has a delightful plain upon the top, from which there is a pleasant prospect all round, and on which there is a curious compass for the use of mariners. Upon this hill one of our poets laid the scene of a combat, which he fabled between one Corinæus and a giant, Gogmagog. <sup>The Haw.</sup>

In the forest of Dartmore, between Tavistock and Chagford, is a high hill, called Crocken-Toer, where the tanners of this county are obliged by their charters to assemble their parliament, or the jurats, who are commonly gentlemen within the jurisdiction, chosen from the four stannary courts of coinage in this county, <sup>A parliament is a forest.</sup>

county, of which the lord warden is judge. The jurors being met, to the number sometimes of two or three hundred, in this desolate place, are quite exposed to the weather, and have no other place to sit upon but a moor-stone bench, and no refreshment, but what they bring with them; for this reason the steward immediately adjourns the court to Tavistock, or some other stannary town.

*Lay Well.* At Brixham, a village about three miles west of Dartmouth, is a spring, called Lay Well, which ebbs and flows from one to eleven times in an hour. The rise and fall of it at a medium, is about an inch and a quarter, and the area of the basin into which it is received, is about twenty feet. It sometimes bubbles up like a boiling pot: the water, which is as clear as crystal, is very cold in the summer, yet never freezes in winter. The neighbouring inhabitants have a notion that in some fevers it is medicinal.

*An onisus spring.* At Taunton North, a village near Barnstaple, there is a pit ten feet deep, out of which a spring of water sometimes issues, and forms a little brook that continues for many days together. The people here pretend that the appearance of this water prefigures some public calamity.

*Remarkable storms of thunder and lightning.* At Withicomb, a village near Ashburton, there happened in the fourteenth year of king Charles the First, a violent storm of thunder and lightning, during which a ball of fire broke into the church, where the people were assembled for divine service, killed three persons, wounded sixty-two, and damaged the church to the amount of more than 300 l.

At Cruse-Moorchard, a village west of Tiverton, a terrible storm of thunder happened in the year 1689, which not only rent the church steeple, but melted the bells, and even the glass, as well as the lead in the windows.

*Terrible fire.* The town of Tiverton is remarkable for its sufferings by fire. On the third of April 1598, the market day, a fire broke out, which burnt so furiously, that the whole town, consisting of more than 600 houses, was consumed, and nothing but the church and two almshouses escaped. It was scarce rebuilt, when it was again totally destroyed by fire, on the fifth of August 1612; and on the fifth of June 1731, another terrible fire happened here, which destroyed 200 of the best houses in the place, and most of the manufactures. The loss upon this occasion was computed at 150,000 l. and the parliament passed an act the year following for rebuilding the town, in which it was enjoined, that the new built houses should be covered with lead or tile, instead of thatch; that no trade likely to occasion fires should be exercised in the public streets, nor any stacks of corn, straw, or hay, erected there; that fire engines should be provided; that houses should be demolished to stop any future fire, and that particular houses should be pulled down for widening streets and other passages.

At Honiton a dreadful fire broke out on the nineteenth of July 1747, by which three fourth parts of the town were consumed, and damage done to the value of 43,000 l.

On the fourteenth of August 1743, a fire broke out at Crediton, which in less than ten hours consumed 460 dwelling houses, besides the market houses, wool-cham-

chambers, and other public buildings; eighteen persons perished in the flames, more than 2000 were reduced to the most deplorable distress; and the damages in houses and goods not insured, were computed at 60,000 l.

Totnes is remarkable for the peculiarity of its loyal address to king George the First, upon the union of Charles the Sixth, emperor of Germany, with the king of Spain, by the treaty of Vienna: the good people of this corporation assured his Majesty, they were ready to grant him, not only a land tax of four shillings in the pound, but, if his service required it, to give him the sixteen shillings that remained. Remarkable address.

### ANTIQUITIES.

This county, together with Cornwall, constitutes that district which was anciently inhabited by the Damnonii. That the Romans were in possession of this county, though we have no particular account of any of their transactions in it, appears by several remains of Roman antiquity which have been discovered here: the broken remains of two Roman causeways, both leading to the city of Exeter, are still visible in this county; one may be traced from Ilchester, a borough town of Somersetshire, and the other from Dorchester, the county town of Dorsetshire. A gold coin of Nero has been dug up at Exeter; and another of Theodosius, at a place near Barnstaple; and several silver coins of Severus, and other Roman emperors, besides a great many of brass, have been dug up in different parts of this county. Remains of Roman antiquities.

The river Ex is the Ica mentioned by Ptolemy; and the city of Exeter is the Ica Danmoniorum of the ancients. This city was for some time the seat of the West Saxon kings; and the walls, which at this day inclose it, were built by king Athelstan, who encompassed it also with a ditch. He it was who first gave it the name of Exeter, having before then been called Monkton, from the great number of monasteries in it, after driving the Britons that inhabited it into Cornwall. The castle of Rougemont in this city, is supposed to have been built by the West Saxon kings, and to have been the place of their residence. Antiquities of Exeter.

The ancient name of Plymouth we find was Sutton, *i. e.* *Seab Town*, and it appears to have been divided into two parts, one called Sutton Prie, because it belonged to the priory of Plimpton, and the other Sutton Vauort, because it belonged to the family of that name; and in the time of the Saxon Hierarchy, the whole town was known by the name of Tamerworth. Antiquities of Plymouth.

In the church at Tiverton was a chapel built by the earls of Devonshire, for their burial place. In this chapel, which is now demolished, there was a monument erected for Edward Courtney, earl of Devonshire, and his countess, with their effigies in alabaster. It was richly gilded, and inscribed as follows: Antiquities of Tiverton.

Ho, Ho, who lies here?  
'Tis I, the good Earl of Devonshire,  
With Kate, my wife, to me full dear.  
We liv'd together 55 year.  
That we spent, we had;

A a a

That

That we left, we lost ;  
That we gave, we have.

Antiquities of  
Crediton.

In the church at Crediton, which town was formerly an episcopal see, there is a monument of one of its bishops. The grave stone of this monument, not a century ago, had a brass fillet round it, inscribed as follows:

*Quisquis es, qui transferis, sta, perlege plura ;  
Suum quod eris, facram quod es ; pro me, precor, ora.*

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

Exeter, from the great number of monks in it, was by the Saxons called Monkton, and there is no doubt but that in a city so famous as this was in the times of the Romans, Britons, and Saxons, there were many societies of holy men and women, early after the conversion of the country to christianity; yet the silence of our historians renders the account of the old religious houses here very imperfect. It is not certain whether this was the seat of the famous monastery of Adulfancester, in which St. Boniface the apostle of the Germans, who was born at Crediton in this county, had his education under Abbot Wolfhard, about the year 690. We are told that within the precincts of what is now called the Close, round the cathedral of this city, there were three religious houses; one was a nunnery, which is now the dean's house; the other was a house of monks, said to have been built by king Ethelred in the year 868; and the third was a monastery of Benedictine monks, founded by king Athelstan, in 932, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and to St. Peter, and endowed with twenty-six villages. The monks however soon deserted this monastery for fear of the Danes; but king Edgar, in 968, replaced them: they were again forced to fly upon the devastation of this city and country by the Danes, in 1003, and were again settled by king Canute, who confirmed their lands and privileges in 1019; but upon the translation of the episcopal see from Crediton to this city in 1050, the eight monks remaining in this monastery were sent to Westminster Abbey, and some secular canons placed in their stead, by bishop Leofric. But the chapter of this cathedral was not fixed to a dean and twenty-four prebendaries, till the year 1225. The revenues of this bishopric were valued at the dissolution at 1566 l. 14 s. 6 d. *per annum.*

King William the Conqueror, or king William Rufus, gave the church of St. Olave, in this city, with some lands adjoining, to the abbey of Bartel, a market-town of Suffex; and not long after a priory of six Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. Nicholas, was built upon this foundation; the yearly revenues of which upon the dissolution were valued at 147 l. 12 s.

An old collegiate church or free chapel, for four prebendaries, in the castle of this city, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was given by William Avenell to the priory of Plimpton, in the reign of king Stephen.

Baldwin de Redveris, or Rivers, earl of Devonshire, gave the chapel of St. James, on the outside of this city, together with its tithes and other estates, to the head monastery of St. Peter at Cluny in France, and to the abbey of St.

Martin

Martin de Campis, near Paris, before the year 1146, upon condition that a prior and some monks of the same order, might be settled here, which was accordingly done, and it became subordinate to the abbey of St. Martin de Campis; but as it was an alien priory, it was often seized by the kings, in times of war with France, and was at last wholly suppressed. It was however, after its suppression, made part of the endowment of King's College, in Cambridge, by king Henry the Sixth.

There was a lazarus-house, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, without the South-Gate of this city, before the year 1163, when bishop Bartholomew Licanus made a grant to it.

Gilbert and John Long, merchants of Exeter, were accounted founders of the priory, or rather hospital, of St. John Baptist, within the East Gate of this city, about the year 1239. It was of the order of St. Augustine, consisted of five priests, nine choristers, and twelve poor, and was valued upon the dissolution at 102 l. 12 s. 9 d. *per annum*.

A house of Dominican or preaching friars, on the north side of the cathedral church in this city, built in the time of Edward the First, was upon the dissolution granted to John lord Russell, ancestor to the duke of Bedford, and is now called Bedford House.

There was a house of Franciscans or Grey friars, first seated near the town wall, between the north and west gates of this city, in a place called Freren Hay; but they were removed in the time of king Edward the First, by bishop Burton, to a house which he built for these mendicants, without the South Gate, where they continued till the dissolution. We are not acquainted with the yearly revenues of this house at that time.

Here was anciently an almshouse for twelve poor men, and as many poor women, who were called *Fratres Calendarum*. This house was by John Grandison, bishop of Exeter, who lived in the fourteenth century, converted into a college, for the vicars choral of the cathedral. These vicars became incorporated, and had at the dissolution clear revenues worth 204 l. 19 s. 3 d. *per annum*, which being twenty in number, were to be divided among them.

Richard Stapleton, in the fifth of Edward the Third, obtained the king's licence to build a house for Carthusian monks upon his own ground, any where within the diocese of Exeter, and to endow the same with rents and advowsons of churches, to the yearly value of one hundred marks, for the health of the soul of Walter Stapleton, bishop of Exeter.

Bishop's Tawton, a village situated upon the Taw, south of Barnstaple, was the first bishop's see in this county. Eadulphus, or Werstan, the first bishop, had this see about the year 905; and Putta, the second bishop, had his see here for some time, but was from this place removed to Crediton, and from thence the see was translated to Exeter.

At

At Crediton there was a collegiate church, dedicated to the Holy Cross, in the times of the Saxons, which was made the cathedral of the bishops of Devonshire, upon their being removed hither; and though the episcopal see was in the year 1050 translated to Exeter, yet in the church here remained a chapter, under the peculiar jurisdiction and patronage of the bishops of Exeter; the valuation of which at the dissolution was computed at 332 l. 17 s. 5 d. *per annum*.

At Pilton, a village joining to Barnstaple by a bridge, over a small stream called the North-Yeo, was a Benedictine priory, founded by king Athelstan, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was accounted a cell to Malmesbury Abbey, in Wiltshire, and consisted only of a prior and three monks, about the time of the dissolution, when its yearly revenues were valued at 561. 12 s. 8 d.

At Axminster king Athelstan founded a minster for seven priests, to pray for the souls of those who were slain in a battle, which he fought against the Danes at Bremsal Down, near this place. This minster was in after ages altered from seven to two priests, for whom a portion of land was allotted, known by the name of Priest Aller.

At Tavistock an abbey of Black monks was begun by Ordgar earl of Devonshire, in the year 961, and finished by his son Ordulf. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Rumon, and endowed at the suppression with 9021. 5 s. 7 d. *per annum*.

At Plimpton was a free chapel or college, founded by one of the Saxon kings, wherein were a dean or provost, and four prebendaries, with other ministers, which being dissolved by William Warlewast, bishop of Exeter, he settled here in the year 1121 a priory of canons regular of the order of St. Augustine, and dedicated the same to the apostles St. Peter and St. Paul. Its yearly revenues, by the benefactions of earl Baldwin, de Redveris, and others, exceeded any other monastery in the diocese of Exeter, being valued at 9121. 12 s. 8 d.

The manor and church of Ottery St. Mary's, were about the year 1060 given by Edward the Confessor, to the cathedral church of St. Mary at Roan, in France, and were farmed at sixty-six marks, in the seventh year of the reign of king John, and taxed in the twentieth of Edward the First, as worth 45 l. *per annum*. In the eighth year of Edward the Third, the dean and chapter obtained the king's leave, and next year actually sold this manor to John Grandison, bishop of Exeter, who in the year 1337 founded a college in the parish church here, for a warden, eight prebendaries, eight choristers, and two clerks, and dedicated the same to Christ Jesus, the Virgin Mary, St. Edward king and Confessor, and All Saints. This college was endowed at the dissolution with 3381. 2 s. 9 d. *per annum*.

At Hartland, Githa, wife to earl Godwin, is said to have placed secular priests in the church of St. Neetan, who enjoyed the prebends of it till the time of king Henry the Second, when Jeffrey de Dinham, by the authority of that king, and of Bartholomew, bishop of Exeter, changed the seculars into an abbot and convent



vent of Black canons, whose revenues were rated upon the general suppression at 306*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

At Totnefs was an alien priory, cell to the abbey of St. Sergius and St. Bachus, at Angiers in France. To this priory the church of St. Mary here, and several lands adjoining, were given by Johellus, the son of Alured, in the time of William the Conqueror. The monks here were of the Cluniac or Benedictine order; and the yearly revenues of this priory, which consisted of about fix religious, were rated upon the suppression at 24*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.*

At Sidmouth was an alien priory, given by William the Conqueror as a cell to the monastery of Mountbosow, in Normandy, or rather to the monastery of St. Michael in Periculo Maris, in that dutchy. It was sometimes reckoned as part of Otterton priory, and with that, after the dissolution of these foreign houses, was given to Sion Abbey, in Middlesex.

At Otterton was an alien priory of Black monks, founded by king William the Conqueror, and subject to the monastery of St. Michael in Periculo Maris, in Normandy. After the suppression of foreign houses, this estate was given in the first year of the reign of Edward the Fourth, to the monastery of Sion, being then valued at 87*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

At Barnstaple, Johellus, the son of Alured, founded a priory of five or six Cluniac monks, in the reign of king William the Conqueror, or king William Rufus. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and was a cell to the abbey of St. Martin de Campis, at Paris, but was afterwards made denison, and continued to the general suppression, when it was valued at 123*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.* *per annum.*

Richard Fitz Baldwin de Brionis, baron of Okhampton, and sheriff of Devonshire, in the year 1126 brought an abbot and twelve Cistercian monks to Brightly, a village lying south-west of South Moulton; but this being a barren place, and the monks not liking it, they removed to Ford, a village upon the river Ax, north-east of Axminster, which was given them in the year 1141, by Adelicia, sister and heiress to the said Richard. By the charity of these founders, and by other benefactions, this abbey, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was before the dissolution endowed with 374*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* *per annum.*

At Buckfastleigh, a village about three miles from Athburton, an abbey of the Cistercian order was founded in the year 1137, by Ethelwerd, son of William Pomeroy. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and its yearly income at the suppression was 466*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*

At Modbury was a cell of Benedictine monks, belonging to the abbey of St. Peter Sur Dieu, in Normandy, as early as king Stephen's time. It was founded by — Ruan, or — Exton, and was dedicated to St. Gregory. Its value was about 70*l.* *per annum.* Upon the dissolution of alien priories, king Henry the Sixth gave this to the college at Eaton; king Edward the Fourth gave it to Tavistock Abbey, and lastly it came to King's College in Cambridge.

William

William the son of \* Baldwin, in or before the time of king Henry the Second, gave the church and lands of Cowick, a village near Exeter, to the abbey of Bec Herlowin, in Normandy, to which place Cowick became a cell of Benedictine monks. It was dedicated to St. Andrew, and upon the dissolution of alien priories, was given to Eaton College; but in the third year of Edward the Fourth, it was granted to Tavistock Abbey, to which it was afterwards made a cell.

The manor of Iplepen, a village near Ashburton, was given by William the Conqueror to Ralph de Fulgeris; and by one of that family, the church of Iplepen, and some lands there, were given to the priory of St. Peter de Fulgeris in Brittany, to which house Iplepen became a cell. This alien priory was afterwards given by king Henry the Sixth, partly to the college of St. Mary Ottery, and partly to King's College in Cambridge.

At Legh, a village north-west of Tiverton, Walter Clavell, in the time of king Henry the Second, founded a monastery for canons of the order of St. Austin, who were changed by Maud de Clare, countess of Hereford and Gloucester, in the beginning of the time of king Edward the First, into an abbess and nuns or canonesse, of the same order. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. John the Evangelist, and St. Etheldreda, and valued upon the dissolution at 197 l. 3 s. 1 d. *per annum*; about which time there were eighteen religious in this monastery.

The manor of Axmouth, a town at the mouth of the river Ax, being given to the abbey of St. Mary, at Mountborow, in Normandy, by Richard de Redvers, or Rivers, earl of Devonshire, in the time of king Henry the Second, it was reckoned sometimes as a distinct alien priory, at other times as parcel of Loders, a priory near Bridport, a borough town of Dorsetshire, which priory of Loders was a cell to the monastery of Mountborow. After the dissolution of the foreign religious houses, Axmouth was bestowed on the monastery of Sion.

At Berdescomb, or Burlescomb, a village east of Tiverton, there was a priory of Black canons; but when, or by whom founded, we are not informed.

At Torr, a village on the coast, east from Totness, William Briwer, in the year 1196, founded an abbey of the Premonstratensian order, dedicated to our Saviour, the Virgin Mary, and the Trinity, which just before the suppression was endowed with 396 l. 0 s. 11 d. *per annum*.

At Polso, or Polleshoo, a village within one mile of Exeter, in or before the reign of Richard the Second, William Briwer founded a nunnery of the Benedictine order, dedicated to St. Catharine, which had a prioress and about thirteen nuns, whose yearly revenues were rated upon the suppression at 164 l. 8 s. 11 d.

At Dunkefwell, a village lying east of Columbton, William Briwer, in the year 1201, settled an abbot and convent of White monks, dedicated to the Vir-

\* Perhaps one of the earls of Devonshire.

gin Mary, who were found at the dissolution to be endowed with the yearly revenues of 294l. 8s. 6d.

At Frithelstoke, a village upon the coast, south of Hartland, there was a small house of Austin canons from Hartland, founded by Sir Robert Beauchamp, knight, before the eighth year of the reign of Henry the Third. It consisted only of a prior and four or five religious, about the time of the dissolution, whose yearly revenues were then valued at 127l. 2s. 4d. This monastery was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. Gregory, and St. Edmund.

At Kerefwel, near Newton-Bufhel, was a small monastery of Cluniac monks, for which reason it has been sometimes reckoned among the alien priories; but it was only a cell to Montacute, a religious house of that order, in Somersetshire.

At Marsh, near Exeter, was, in the time of king Henry the Third, a small priory of Black canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and a cell to Plympton.

In the twenty-eighth year of king Henry the Third, one Nicholas de Blakedon, gave lands in Blakedon, a village east of Totnes, to Ralph de Wulvelegh, prior of Torneford, chief minister in England, of the order of the Holy Trinity, for the redemption of captives, upon condition that before Michaelmas that year, or at farthest before Michaelmas the next year, there should be placed and maintained here, at Blakedon, at least seven brethren of the said order, who were to serve God and keep hospitality, according to the rules of the said order; but we cannot learn whether this agreement ever took effect, or whether such a monastery was ever founded.

At Cornworthy, a village between Dartmouth and Totnes, there was a priory of seven nuns, of the order of St. Austin, said to be founded by an ancestor of the Edgecombs, and valued upon the general suppression at 63l. 2s. 10d. *per annum*.

Reginald de Mohun, earl of Somerset, with leave from king Henry the Third, founded an abbey for Cistercian monks, at Newenham, a village near Axminster, in the year 1246. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the dissolution was endowed with 227l. 7s. 8d. *per annum*.

At Tunstall, a village near Totnes, was an alien priory, or cell of French monks, which afterwards belonged to Torr Abbey.

At Dartmouth was a little cell of monks in the chapel of St. Patrick, within the castle there, annexed to some great abbey.

Churchhill was for some time a priory.

At Indio there was once a priory.

At Yodby there was a monastery.

Redleigh was an alien priory, dedicated to St. James.

The names of any of the last four mentioned villages, do not occur in any register of the villages, or map of this county, therefore their situation, with respect to the market towns, cannot be ascertained.

At Little Totnefs, Delabout, lord of this place, erected a cell of brethren, of the order of the Trinity, which was suppressed by Oldham, bishop of Exeter, who gave the lands to the vicars of the cathedral church of Exeter.

The church of St. Mary Magdalen, at Chulmeleigh, was collegiate, consisting according to some of four, and according to others, of five prebendaries, founded, as the tradition goes, by the lady of the manor, for seven children, whom she saved from being drowned by their own father, who thought himself not able to maintain them. It was of the patronage of the Courtneys, earls of Devonshire, and probably founded by some of that family, before the time of king Edward the First.

At Buckland Monachorum, a village near Tavistock, Amicia, countess dowager of Devonshire, in 1278 founded an abbey of Cistercian monks, to the honour of the Virgin Mary and St. Benedict. Its yearly revenues were valued upon the dissolution at 241 l. 17 s. 9 d.

In the church of St. Blase, at Haccomb, near Chudleigh, was a college or large chantry of five priests, under the government of an archpresbyter, in the time of king Edward the Third.

At Werland, a village north-east of Columpton, was a house for a minister and friars, of the order of the Holy Trinity, dedicated to the Holy Spirit.

At Stoke, a village near Newton-Bushel, John de Stanford obtained leave of king Edward the Third, to found a religious house to the honour of the Virgin Mary and St. Andrew, for a warden and several chaplains, to whom he gave licence of Mortmain to hold the manor of Stoke and the advowson of the church, but it does not appear whether ever this house was built and endowed accordingly.

At Slapton on the Channel, south-west of Dartmouth, Sir Guy de Brien, knight, in the year 1373 founded a college or chantry, of a rector and four fellows, priests, within the chapel of our Lady, adjoining to the parish church here.

At Plymouth was a priory of White friars in the east part of the town; and a house of Grey friars was founded here in the seventh year of king Richard the Second.

At Clovelly, a village upon the coast, south-east of Hartland, William Cary had licence from the king to make the parish church collegiate, and therein to establish a warden and six chaplains, in the eleventh year of Richard the Second.

M E M

## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends twenty-six members to parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, two citizens for Exeter, and two burgesses for each of the following places: Totnes, Plymouth, Okehampton, Barnstaple, Plympton, Honiton, Tavistock, Ashburton, Dartmouth, Berrington, and Tiverton.



MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT for the COUNTY.

This county sends twenty-five members to parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, two citizens for Exeter, and two burgesses for each of the following places: Tavistock, Plympton, Okehampton, Barnstaple, Plymouth, Ilfracombe, Tavistock, Ashburton, Dartmouth, Boveham, and Tiverton.



VVA.BHSC



Dorsetshire, Somersetshire, and Devonshire  
 Counties of England. By Thomas Kitchin, Esq.  
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CORFE CASTLE.

P. 10.

## DORSETSHIRE.

### NAME.

**T**HE present name of this county is immediately derived from the Saxon name *Dorsetta*, which signifies a people living by the water or sea side, and is compounded of *Dwyr*, or *Dear*, the British name for *water*, and *Setta*, an *inhabitant*, from *Settan*, the Saxon verb signifying to *dwell* or *inhabit*.

### BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

This county is bounded by Devonshire and part of Somersetshire on the west, by Wiltshire and another part of Somersetshire on the north, by Hampshire on the east, and by the English Channel on the south. It is about 50 miles in length, from east to west, 40 in breadth, and 150 in circumference. Dorchester, the county town, which lies nearly in the middle of it, is 123 miles south-west from London.

### RIVERS.

## RIVERS.

The principal rivers of this county are the Stour and the Frome. The Stour rises in Somersetshire, and entering Dorsetshire, runs due south to Sturminster Newton, a considerable market town of this county, where, making an angle, it runs a course nearly east-south-east, and leaving Dorsetshire about five miles south-east of Wimborne-minster, another market town of this county, it falls into the English Channel at Christ-Church, a borough town of Hampshire. The Frome derives this name from the Saxon one *Frau*. It rises in the west part of Dorsetshire, near a little market town called Evershot, and running almost due east, falls into a bay of the English Channel, called Pool-harbour, near Warham, a very considerable borough town of this county. Other less considerable rivers of this county are the Piddle, the Lydden, the Dulish, and the Allen.

## AIR and SOIL.

The air of this county, which has been often styled the garden of England, is in general healthy. On the hills it is somewhat sharp, but mild and pleasant in the vallies, and near the coast. The soil is rich and fertile, the northern part, which was formerly overspread with forests, now affords good pasture for black cattle; and the southern part, which chiefly consists of fine downs, feeds an incredible number of sheep.

## NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The rivers of this county afford plenty of fish; but the perch and eels of the Stour are particularly famous. The port towns supply the inhabitants with all sorts of sea fish, and the rocks upon the coast abound with samphire and eringo. Here are swans, geese, and ducks without number, and great plenty of woodcocks, pigeons, pheasants, partridges, field-fares, and other game. This county also abounds with corn, cattle, wool, hemp, and timber.

There is in this county a peninsula, called Portland Island, the sea having formerly flowed round it, though it is now joined to the main by a beach, called Cheffil Bank, which the surge has thrown up. Whence Portland derived its name is not certainly known; some suppose from its situation opposite the port of Weymouth, and others from a Saxon, who possessed himself of it about the year 513. It is scarce seven miles in compass, and but thinly inhabited; for though it affords plenty of corn and pasture, yet wood and coal are so scarce, that the inhabitants are forced to dry the dung of their black cattle for fuel. The land here is so high, that in clear weather it gives a prospect above half way over the English Channel. The island is rendered inaccessible by high and dangerous rocks, except on the north side, where it is defended by a strong castle, that was built by king Henry the Eighth, called Portland castle, and another erected on the opposite shore, called Sandford-castle. These command all ships that come into the road, which for its strong current setting in from the English and French coasts, is called Portland Race. These currents render it always turbulent, and have frequently driven vessels not aware of them, to the west of Portland, and wrecked them on Cheffil Bank; on the two points of which there are

light-houses, to warn the mariner of his danger. This peninsula is famous for its quarries of excellent stone, called Portland stone, reckoned the best in the kingdom for duration and beauty.

There is another peninsula of this county, supposed also to have been once surrounded by the sea, called Purbeck Island. It is situated between Warham and the English Channel; and besides a very useful stone, called Purbeck stone, furnishes some fine marble, and the best tobacco pipe clay in the world.

### MANUFACTURES.

This county is remarkable for its linen and woollen manufactures, and its fine ale.

### CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Dorsetshire is divided into 34 hundreds, and contains 22 market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Bristol,\* and includes 248 parishes.

### MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are Abbotsbury, Bemister, Bere-regis, Blandford, Bridport, Cerne-Abbey, Corfe-castle, Cramborn, Dorchester, Everhot, Frampton, Lime, Melcomb-regis, Milton, Pool, Shaftsbury, Sherborn, Stalbridge, Sturminster-Newton, Warham, Weymouth, and Wimborn-minster.

ABBOTSBURY derives its name from an abbey, of which it was formerly the site, and is distant from London 133 miles.

BEMISTER is distant from London 132 miles, and has a good charity school, but nothing else that is remarkable.

BERE-REGIS stands upon a rivulet of its own name, near its influx into the river Piddle, at the distance of 92 miles from London.

BLANDFORD lies upon the Stour, at the distance of 107 miles from London. It is an ancient borough, governed by two bailiffs, chosen yearly out of the aldermen or capital burgesses. It is now a flourishing town, well built, with a bridge over the Stour, and is much frequented by the gentry, who have seats upon pleasant downs, extending from this town to Dorchester, and called Borsford Downs. Formerly its chief manufacture was band-strings, and afterwards straw-hats and bone-lace; but at present the principal traders here are maltsters and clothiers.

BRIDPORT is situated at the distance of 145 miles from London, upon a small river near the coast of the English Channel, and in the great western road. It is the capital of its hundred, and was made a borough by king Henry the Third, by whose charter it was leased to the inhabitants in fee-farm for a small quit-rent into the Exchequer, collected by the bailiffs of the town, and payable at  
Michael

Michaelmas. It was incorporated by king Henry the Eighth, and afterwards by queen Elizabeth; and by a charter of king James the First, two bailiffs were to be chosen yearly by the capital burghesses, who were to be fifteen, of whom the bailiffs were to be two; and the corporation was empowered to chuse a recorder and town clerk, who, with the bailiffs in office, and the two preceding bailiffs, were to be justices of the peace. The corporation had a power by this charter, to build a prison, to have a common seal, and to hold lands and tenements. The bailiffs were to have all fines, with other privileges, and to have two serjeants to carry maces before them. The town hall is a mean building, in which however the quarter sessions for the county are held once a-year. Here are two churches, but one of them is old and in ruins. This town has a harbour, which was formerly a good one, and while it was such, this was a place of great trade; but a mortality happened here, which carried off the greatest part of the inhabitants, and the harbour was so much neglected, that the entrance was barred by the sand which the tides threw up, and though an act of parliament passed in 1722, for restoring and rebuilding the haven and piers, it has not yet been executed.

This place was once famous for the manufacture of hemp into ropes and cables; and by a statute made in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, and confirmed by successive parliaments for about sixty years, it was enacted, that the cordage of the English navy should for a limited time be made in this town, or within five miles of it; but there is scarce any remains of this trade or indeed of any other at present, though the soil between this town and Bemister produces as good crops of hemp as any in England.

CERNE-ABBEY is at the distance of 99 miles from London.

CORFE-CASTLE stands in the middle of that part of the county called the Isle of Purbeck, at the distance of 116 miles from London. It derives its name from a castle, now in ruins, supposed to have been built by king Edgar, who kept his court here, and endowed the town with several privileges. It was a long time a borough by prescription, and afterwards incorporated by queen Elizabeth. King Charles the Second also, as a reward for the gallant defence the castle made for him, granted it an exemption from toll, arrests, suit, or service, without the borough; and besides every other privilege in common with the Cinque ports, the peculiar honour of baron to its principal members, the style of the letters of incorporation being the mayor and barons of Corfe-Castle; and all the barons that have served the office of the mayor, are justices of the peace, and can hold sessions, chuse coroners, and ale tasters during life. The lord of the manor is by inheritance lord lieutenant of the isle of Purbeck, has power to appoint all officers, to determine all actions by his bailiffs and deputies, has all shipwrecks in the isle, and a freedom from the court of admiralty. This town has a large and lofty church, which is a royal peculiar, not liable to any episcopal visitation or jurisdiction, and has a chapel of ease about a mile out of town.

CRAMBORN, distant 98 miles from London, is pleasantly situated in a healthy sporting country, near a very large chace: it is well watered, and is a pretty little town.

DOR-

DORCHESTER is distant from London 123 miles, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, six aldermen, and six capital burgesses, besides a governor, who is annually chosen by twenty-four common council men, and whose office is chiefly to look after the trade of the town. A court of common council, assisted by five of the capital burgesses, determines all matters belonging to the privileges of the freemen. In this place, being the county town, the assizes for the county and quarter sessions are held, and the knights of the shire are elected. It is situated upon a steep ascent, and commands a fine view of the river Frome, which lies north of the town. It consists chiefly of three streets, which are well paved and clean; and the houses, though they are old and low, are yet regularly built, and in general of stone. Here are three churches, a town-hall, a shire-hall, and the county gaol, with its chapel. St. Peter's church and the town-hall stand in one street, Trinity Church and the shire-hall in another, and All Saints Church, below which is the county gaol, with its chapel, in the third. St. Peter's Church is a handsome structure. There is a traditional rhyme which imports the founder of this church to have been one Geoffrey Van:

Geoffery Van,  
With his wife Anne,  
And his maid Nan,  
Built this church.

But there was long since dug up in a garden here, a large seal with indisputable marks of antiquity, and this inscription: SIGILLUM GALFRIDI DE ANN; it is therefore supposed, with great reason, that the founder's name was Ann. Here is a good free school house, and a handsome almshouse near it, besides two other almshouses, the donations of private gentlemen.

This town was once famous for a manufactory of broad cloth and serge; the manufactory of broad cloth is intirely lost, and the serge trade is now very inconsiderable. The principal business of the place at present is breeding sheep, of which it is said no less than 600,000 are fed within six miles of this town; the ewes generally bring two lambs, which is imputed to the wild thyme and other aromatic herbage, which grows upon the downs here in great plenty. The sheep and lambs are bought up by the farmers of Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire, Kent, and Surrey, to supply the east of England. This town also sends great quantities of malt every year to the city of Bristol, in Somersetshire, and it is noted for excellent cakes, as well as for incomparable beer.

EVERSHOT stands upon the borders of Somersetshire, about 123 miles from London, and is a little obscure town, in which there is nothing worthy of note.

FRAMPTON, or FROMETON, derives its name from its situation upon the river Frome, at the distance of 117 miles from London. It is remarkable only for its excellent trouts, and the mansion-house of Mr. Brown, which is a noble structure, of Portland stone, above eighty feet in front.

LIME was thus called from a little rivulet of the same name that runs by it; it is also called Lime-Regis, or King's Lime, probably from its having been annexed to the crown, in the reign of king Edward the First. It is distant from

London 144 miles. King Edward granted it every privilege that is enjoyed even by the city of London, with a court of huffings, and freedom from all tolls and laftage. Thefe privileges were confirmed by Edward the Second and Third, by king James the Firft, king Charles the Firft, and king William and queen Mary. The corporation now confifts of a mayor, a recorder, fifteen capital burgefles, a town clerk, and other officers. The mayor is a juftice of the peace during his mayoralty, and the year following, and in the third year he is both juftice and coroner; two of the capital burgefles are alfo juftices of the peace.

Here are fome fine houfes built of free-ftone, and covered with blue ftate; and as the town is fituated upon the declivity of a hill, the houfes, rifing gradually one above another, make a fine appearance at a diftance. The town has only one church, but it is one of the fineft harbours in the Englifh Channel. There is a rivulet runs through the middle of this town, but as it ftands on a high fteep rock, the merchants are under a neceffity to lade and unlade their goods at a place called the Cobb, a quarter of a mile from the town.

The Cobb is a mafly building, and confifts of a firm ftone wall, running out a confiderable way into the fea, and of a breadth fufficient to admit of ware-houfes and carriages on it, befides a houfe for the custom-houfe officers. Without this wall there is another of equal ftrength, which is carried round the end of the firft wall, and forms the entrance into the port, which for fafety is perhaps not to be equalled in the world. There are fome guns planted at proper diftances, both for the defence of the Cobb and the town. The mayor and burgefles are at the expence of keeping the Cobb in repair, for which end they are properly impowered to provide materials. That part of this town which lies at the foot of the rock, near the fea, is fo low, that at fpring tides the cellars are overflowed to the height of ten or twelve feet. The custom-houfe ftands upon pillars, and has the corn market underneath it.

This town had formerly a confiderable trade, particularly to Newfoundland, fo that the customs have produced fome years upwards of 16,000l. The merchants have lately begun to trade in the pilchard fishery, with good fuccefs.

Sir George Summers, who was fo eminent as a merchant and navigator, that the Bermudas Iflands have from him been called the Summer Iflands, was a native of this place, and reprefented it in parliament in the reign of James the Firft.

MELCOMB, called MELCOMB-REGIS, becaufe it was anciently the king's demefne, is feperated from Weymouth by a fmall river called the Wey. It is diftant from London 132 miles, and fent members to parliament in the reign of king Edward the Firft, before Weymouth had that privilege. In the reign of king Edward the Third it was in fo flourifhing a ftate, that it was by parliament appointed a ftaple; but for its quarrels with Weymouth, its privileges as a port were removed to Pool in the reign of king Henry the Sixth, but reftored in that of queen Elizabeth by act of parliament, which was confirmed in the next reign, on condition that Melcomb and Weymouth fhould make but one corporation, and enjoy their privileges in common; and to this union is owing the prefent flourifhing ftate of both. This united corporation confifts of a mayor, who is the

officer that returns the writs for electing members of parliament, a recorder, two bailiffs, twenty-four capital burgesſes, and a number of aldermen, which is neceſſarily uncertain, becauſe every perſon who is once a mayor, is an alderman ever afterwards.

Melcomb has four tolerable ſtreets: moſt of the houſes are built of ſtone, though not very high; and the place is better furniſhed with dwelling-houſes and ware-houſes than Weymouth. Here is a good market place and town hall, to which the members of the corporation of Weymouth come to attend the public buſineſs; the inhabitants of Weymouth alſo in general attend divine ſervice at Melcomb church. The port however generally goes by the name of Weymouth; it is ſaid to be the beſt frequented harbour in the county, and is defended by Sandfort and Portland caſtles. In the reign of king James the Firſt, a commodious bridge of timber, conſiſting of ſeventeen arches, was built from Melcomb to Weymouth, chiefly by the contribution of ſome citizens of London. This bridge having fallen to decay, was rebuilt ſome years ago by Sir Thomas Hardy, William Harvey, John Ward, and Reginald Marriot, Eſqrs; who then repreſented this corporation in parliament.

MILTON, or MIDDLETON, is ſituated ſouth-weſt of Blandford, at the diſtance of 110 miles from London, and has nothing worthy of note except its abbey, which was built by king Athelſtan, and great part of which is, or was lately ſtanding.

POOL is ſuppoſed to derive its name from a bay, called Luxford Lake, which ſurrounds it on every ſide but the north, and in a calm looks like a pool, or ſtanding water. It is diſtant 110 miles from London, and ſent members to parliament in the reign of king Edward the Third; and by a charter of queen Elizabeth, this town is ſeſtered from the county of Dorſet, and made a county of itſelf, with the privilege of a ſheriff keeping a court to determine all cauſes both civil and criminal, with divers other immunities, ſeveral of which it ſtill enjoys, particularly the right of trying malefactors within its own juriſdiction, by a commiſſion from the crown, which ſaves the expence of entertaining the judges on the circuit. This borough and county is governed by a mayor, recorder, aldermen, a ſheriff, a coroner, a town clerk, bailiffs, and common council men. The mayor, who is admiral within the liberty, is choſen from among the burgesſes, and after he has paſſed the chair is always an alderman, and the firſt year after his mayoralty, he is ſenior bailiff and a juſtice of the peace: from among the aldermen are choſen annually three juſtices, the mayor and recorder being of the quorum, and the election of the freemen or burgesſes muſt be made by the mayor, four aldermen, and twenty-four burgesſes. This town is ſuppoſed to contain about 400 houſes. The church, which is about 200 years old, is a large ſtructure, but the tower is low, and the wings larger than the body, and not equal one to another. Here is a beautiful town hall, built of ſtone, a charity ſchool, a cuſtom-houſe, and key; and there is a large warehouſe, called the town cellar, for keeping the merchants goods.

Pool is one of the moſt conſiderable ports in the weſt of England, and ſeveral of its merchants have repreſented it in parliament. It carries on a great trade to the Weſt-Indies, to Newfoundland, and, in time of peace, to France. Here

is great plenty of fish, with which this town supplies Wiltshire, and the inland parts of Somersetshire. This place is particularly remarkable for vast plenty of makrel in the season, and for the best and biggest oysters in all this part of England, which also contain larger pearls, and more in number, than any others in England; they are pickled and barvelled up here, and sent not only to London, but to the West-Indies, Spain, Italy, and other places. Great quantities of corn, pulse, and Purbeck stone, are also exported from this place.

SHAFTSBURY, or SHAFTON, stands on a hill in the post road from London to Exeter, and commands a prospect into Wiltshire and Somersetshire. Its distance from London is 103 miles, and it is governed by a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, bailiffs, and common council men. Here are about 600 houses, many of which are built of free-stone. On the top of a hill, called Park-hill, near the town, a fine grove has been lately planted, by a gentleman in the neighbourhood, for the inhabitants to walk in.

Water is so scarce in this town, that it used to be brought from Motcomb, a village at some distance, by horses; but in the year 1718, William Benson, Esq; one of its representatives, was at the expence of constructing engines, which raised the water of a well, about two miles off, to the height of above 300 feet, and conveyed it to a large cistern in the middle of the town. These engines however have for some reason been disused, and the inhabitants have dug pits at the doors of their houses for preserving the rain water, which not being sufficient for a constant supply, the poor get their living at this day by bringing water in pails, or upon horses, to the town from Motcomb; and as an acknowledgment to the lord of the manor of Motcomb, the mayor and burgesses of Shaftsbury used to go in procession every year, on the Monday before Holy Thursday, with a kind of garland, something like the May garlands, carried about by those who sell milk in London, consisting of plate, borrowed of the neighbouring gentry, and adorned with peacocks feathers. This garland, which is here called a prize becom, was carried to a green below the hill whence the water is taken, and presented, together with a raw calf's head and a pair of gloves, to the lord of the manor, who received the present by his steward, and at the same time distributed twelve penny loaves and three dozen of beer among the people. After the ceremony was over, the prize becom was restored to the mayor, and carried back to the town by one of the officers, with great solemnity.

SHERBORN is situated on the borders of a forest called White Hart Forest, at the distance of 118 miles from London, and in the post road from London to Exeter. This is an ancient town, and was once a bilhop's see, but never sent members to parliament. The houses here are computed to be above 300; the streets are spacious, and the town divided into two parts by a small river, called the Parret. One part is distinguished by the name of Sherborn, and the other by that of Castle Town. Castle Town was so called from a castle built here, by Roger, the third bilhop of Salisbury, when this county was part of that diocese. This castle was the first that was formally besieged in the civil wars, between king Charles the First and his parliament, and it was the last that held out for the king; but the present state of it does not appear.



Here was formerly an abbey, the church of which is still standing, and is a most magnificent structure, both within and without; it is by far the best building in this county, and was so much valued by the townsmen at the reformation, that it is said they bought it, and pulled down three churches and four chapels about the town, to save it. In a quarrel that happened formerly between the townsmen and the monks, a great part of this church was burnt, and the town was obliged to repair it. At the entrance from the porch lie interred Ethelbald and Ethelbert, two Saxon kings, who lived about 200 years before the Conquest. In one of its isles is a sumptuous monument for John Digby, earl of Bristol, who died in 1698, which is said to have cost upwards of 1500*l.* and in the tower of this church are six bells, so large that they require near twenty men to ring them. Here is a free school, founded by king Edward the Sixth, a fine almshouse by Richard Beauchamp, bishop of Salisbury, and in the neighbourhood many gentlemen seats. This town had formerly a good trade in the medley cloth, but at present its chief manufactures are buttons, bone-lace, and haberdashery wares, with which it supplies all the western parts of the kingdom.

STALBRIDGE is 115 miles distant from London, and is a small inconsiderable place, having nothing worthy of note besides a charity school.

STURMISTER-NEWTON took its name probably from its having been once a monastery, or minster, upon the river Stour, and joined by a stone bridge over that river to another town called Newton-castle, of which there are now scarce any remains. This town is distant from London 122 miles, and is a mean obscure place.

WARHAM is 108 miles from London, and stands in the most healthy part of the county, though surrounded with water on every side, having the river Frome on the south, the Piddle on the north, and the bay into which they fall on the east. The inhabitants say that it rose out of the ruins of Stowborough, now a village on the other side of the Frome. It is however reckoned the oldest town in the county, and was once the largest, having had seventeen churches. It was inclosed with walls, and had a castle, built by William the Conqueror: it was formerly washed by the sea, which has since retired from it, and it was then a harbour of considerable note. It is a corporation, which by a charter of queen Anne consists of a mayor, a recorder, a town clerk, six capital burgessees, and twelve common council men, and their assistants; the mayor, by an old prescriptive right, is coroner, not only of this place, but of the Isle of Purbeck, and another small island, on the south side of the bay of Poole, called Brankley Island: he has been supreme magistrate here ever since the time of king Henry the Sixth; and the mayor in office, the preceding mayor, and the recorder, are justices of the peace; the officiating mayor and recorder are of the quorum, and are empowered to hold their own sessions. Here are three churches, St. Martin's, Trinity church, and St. Mary's church, which are all three supplied by one minister, who preaches at St. Mary's, the great church, the summer half year, and at the two others alternately in the winter. The tower of St. Mary's is the chief ornament of the town. The soil in and about this place produces vast quantities of garlick; but the chief trade of the town is in tobacco pipe clay, of which the best in Great Britain is dug out of a hill in the neighbourhood, called Henger Hill.

Way-

WYMOUTH is part of the town and corporation of Melcomb, and as such has been already in part described. Its situation is low, yet it is a clean agreeable place. It has a custom-house, and a good key, and formerly carried on a considerable trade to France, Spain, Portugal, and the West-Indies; the Newfoundland trade still thrives here; the wine trade is also very considerable, and the place has a large correspondence in the country, for the consumption of its returns.

WINEBORN-MINSTER, or WINEBORN-MISTER, had formerly a monastery, whence *Minster* was added to the name *Wineborn*, or *Wineburn*, which is supposed to be compounded of a British word *Vin*, signifying *between*, and a Saxon word *burn*, signifying a small *river*, and is expressive of its situation between the rivers Stour and Allen, near their conflux, at the distance of 98 miles from London. This is the largest parish in the county: the church is a noble edifice, built in the manner of a cathedral, 180 feet long, with a fine tower in the middle, and a spire, said to have been taller than any in the kingdom, which fell down in 1610; there is another tower at the west end of the church, and each of these towers is 90 feet high. Here is the only choir in the county, consisting of four singing men, six boys, and an organist. A very fine free school was founded here by Margaret, countess of Richmond, mother to Henry the Seventh, the stipend of which queen Elizabeth augmented, and annexed it to the foundation. This is a populous, but poor place, and is chiefly supported by knitting stockings.

### C U R I O S I T I E S.

Remarkable  
subterranean  
heat.

In breaking up one of the little artificial mounds called a barrow, or tumulus, near Winford Eagle, a little to the north-east of Lime, not many years ago, there was discovered a cavity like an oven, regularly formed and coated on all sides with clay; in the middle of it was an urn filled with very firm bones, and under the bones a great quantity of black ashes; the cavity, when first opened, is affirmed to have been hot enough to bake bread. That it was hot in this degree, can scarce be believed, but a very considerable heat is often produced in subterraneous places, either by fermentation or mineral fumes, as the testimony of miners has abundantly proved. In digging further in the same tumulus, sixteen more urns were found, though not in cavities, with bones and black ashes in them, like the first.

Cheffil Bank.

Cheffil Bank is a continuation of Portland Island, reaching north-west to Abbotbury, near seven miles, and running parallel to the shore, between which and the bank there is an inlet of water which forms a lake, and which, in some places, is half a mile over; in the broadest part of it there is a swannery, where there are not less than seven or eight thousand swans.

Luxford  
Lake.

Among the curiosities of this county must be reckoned the rising and falling of the water in Luxford Lake, by Pool, which is said to ebb and flow four times every twenty-four hours.

Extraordi-  
nary effects of  
an earth-  
quake.

At Hermitage, a village about seven miles south of Sherborn, there is a chasm in the earth, whence a large plat of ground, with trees and hedges upon it, was

7c.

removed intire to the distance of forty rods, by an earthquake, which happened on the thirteenth of January 1585.

We have also an account that on the twentieth of June 1653, a shower of A shower of blood fell at Pool from a black cloud, and tinged the herbage with red, and that blood. in confirmation of the fact, a great number of the leaves so tinged, were sent to London for the inspection of the curious of that time.

At Dorchester a fire broke out on the sixth of August 1613, which consumed Great fires. 300 houses, with the two churches of Trinity and All Saints. The damage was computed at 200,000 l. but no life was lost.

In the reign of queen Elizabeth a fire broke out at Blandford which destroyed the whole town; and on the fourth of June 1731, it was again burnt, 600 houses with the church and other public buildings being destroyed, besides a village beyond the bridge, in which only twenty-six houses were left standing. The progress of this fire was so rapid, and the consternation of the people so great, that most of their goods and merchandize was destroyed with the houses: it happened also that the small pox raged at this time in the place, with great violence, so that many of the sick, who were taken out of bed to escape the flames, perished in the fields.

At Melplash, a village near Bemiler, lived Sir Thomas More, who being Extraordinary sheriff of Dorsetshire in the year 1533, ordered all prison doors in the county to break. be thrown open in a frolic, and the malefactors to be set at liberty; but afterwards reflecting upon the folly and danger of what he had done, he applied in a very penitent manner to Sir Thomas Powlet, who was then lord treasurer to Henry the Eighth, to intercede with the king in his behalf; Powlet consented, and one of More's daughters, who were concubines of his fortune, which was very great, soon after married Powlet's second son, and this is said to have been made the condition of his intercession.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

Dorsetshire is that district which in the time of the Romans was inhabited by the Durotriges, a name purely British, compounded of *Dour*, water, and *Trig*, Ancient inhabitants. an inhabitant, and signifying a people who dwell by the water or sea side. They were afterwards by the Britons called *Dowryweir*, a name synonymous with Durotriges; and lastly, by the Saxons *Dorsetra*. At the first settlement of the Saxons in Britain, this county was part of the West Saxon kingdom, and continued so till their monarch Egbert, having subdued the rest of the Heptarchy, became king of that part of the island called England. After the monarchy was settled in Egbert, most of the Saxon princes who succeeded him, admiring the beauty of this county, resided and were buried in it.

The inhabitants of Portland were formerly reckoned the best singers in England, and became as famous among their countrymen as the inhabitants of the islands of Majorca and Minorca, who acquired the name of Balears, were among the ancient Greeks and Romans.

Dor-

Antiquities of  
Dorchester.

Dorchester is by Antoninus called *Durnovaria*, that is, a *passage over a river*; and by Ptolemy *Durnium*. In the time of the Romans it was one of the winter stations of the legions quartered in these parts, and at about a mile distance from this town they had a summer station, now called Maiden Castle. It was then a camp, with five trenches, and included near ten acres of ground. In the neighbourhood of this town the Romans had also an amphitheatre 140 feet wide, and 220 long, now called Maumbury, having a terrace on the top, which is still used as a publick walk, and commands a prospect of the town, and the country round it.

The famous Roman causeway called Ickening Street, leading from this town to Maiden Castle, and the foundations of an old Roman wall, which surrounded the town, and a ditch, that surrounded the wall, are still visible.

A great variety of Roman coins have been dug up here at different times; some of silver and others of copper, called by the common people *king Dorn's pence*; for they have a notion that one king Dorn was the founder of Dorchester. The Romans had also a castle here, which was demolished by the Danes; but after the Norman conquest there was another castle erected in the same spot, of which the barons were governors for a long time. This town was very considerable before it was ruined by the Danes; and in the time of the Saxons there were two mints in it for the coinage of money.

Antiquity of  
Corfe-Castle.

The castle from which the town now called Corfe-Castle, derived its name, supposed to have been built by king Edgar, is thought to have been one of the strongest in the kingdom. That it was a place of great importance in the time of Henry the Third, is manifest from history; for when Simon Montfort took that prince prisoner, in the forty-second year of his reign, it was one of the three fortresses which he required to be delivered up to him, and it was afterwards chosen by Mortimer for the prison of king Edward the Second. It was repaired by king Henry the Seventh, and afterwards by king Charles the First, for whom it became a garrison; but being betrayed to the parliament forces, they plundered and demolished it. The site of this castle is near half a mile in circumference, and by the ruins, it appears to have been not only a strong but magnificent building.

Antiquities of  
Warham.

Warham had anciently a strong castle, of which time has left no traces, except that the hill on which it stood is still called Castle Hill. At this place lived a recluse, called Peter, a hermit, who, with his son, was hanged, in the reign of king John, because he had professed that the king should be deposed at a certain time, and offered to suffer death if his prediction was not accomplished; but it does not appear whether he was put to death before the time arrived, or after he incurred the penalty to which he submitted himself.

Ancient  
camps.

Near Shillington, a village upon the Stour, not far from Sturminster, there are two hills, one called Hamilton Hill, and the other Hodde Hill; Hamilton Hill is fortified with a triple rampart, and Hodde Hill with only a single one. It is certain they were both camps; but as they are neither of them mentioned by Antoninus in his *Itinerary*, they can scarce be supposed to have been thrown up by the Romans, and therefore are generally thought to be Danish or British.

Shafis

Shaftsbury was built by king Alfred about the year 880, as appears from the following inscription upon a stone, which Malmſbury, the historian, tells us was preferred here in his time: Antiquities of Shaftsbury.

ANNO DOMINICAE INCARNATIONIS AELFREDVS REX FECIT  
HANC VRBEM DCCCLXXX. REGNI SVI VIII.

It is ſaid to have been the reſidence of one Aquila, a prophet, who foretold that the government of Britain, after having been in the hands of the Saxons and Normans, would at length return to the ancient Britons, which prediction is thought to have been accompliſhed in the acceſſion of king Henry the Seventh, and afterwards of the kings of Scotland, to the throne of England. In this town was buried king Edward the Martyr, and a ſhrine having been erected to him in the church, it was fo frequented by the ſuperſtitious pilgrims of that age, that the town loſt its old name, and was for ſome time called St. Edward's town.

Wimborn-miſter is called by Antoninus in his Itinerary, *Vindogladia*, of which the firſt ſyllable is ſtill retained; the ſecond ſyllable *burn*, or *boupn*, is the Saxon name for a *river*, and answers to the word *gladia*, which is derived from the Britiſh word *cladian*, a *river*, ſo that the ancient and modern name of this town are both expreſſive of its ſituation between two rivers, the Stour and the Allen. In the time of the Romans it was one of the two winter ſtations for their legions in this county, Dorcheſter being the other; the ſummer ſtation was a hill, called Badbury, two miles diſtant from this town. This hill is entrenched with a triple ditch; and ſeveral Roman coins, urns, and ſwords have been dug up in it; and there is a ſolle-way from this hill to the city of Old Sarum, in Wiltſhire. In Wimborn the Romans left many relics of their magnificence, for which our Saxon anceſtors held the place in the higheſt veneration. Antiquities of Wimborn-miſter.

King Etheldred, brother of king Alfred, lies buried in the church of this town, under a marble tomb, on which is the eſſigy of a king crowned, a half length, and the following inſcription:

IN HOC LOCO QUIESCIT CORPVS S. ETHELDREDI REGIS WEST  
SAXONYM, MARTYRIS, QVI, ANNO DOMINI DCCCLXXXII. XXIII.  
APRILIS, PER MANVS DANORVM PAGANORVM OCCVBVIT.

There is a foreſt in this county, on the borders of Somerſetſhire, called White Hart Foreſt, as it is ſaid, from a white hart, which was chaced in it by king Henry the Third. The king was ſo pleaſed with the beauty of this creature, that he not only ſpared its life, but ordered that no other perſon ſhould kill it. It was however ſome time afterwards hunted and killed by one Thomas de la Linde, with ſeveral others, whoſe names are not mentioned; but the king was ſo much incenſed when he heard it, that he laid all their lands under a pecuniary mulct, which to this day is paid yearly into the Exchequer, by the name of White Hart ſilver. Ancient cuſtom.

The lands of Brienſton, a village near Blandford, were held by a tenure, which obliged the proprietor, when the king marched to war againſt either Scotland or Wales, to furniſh a man to walk before him, without any other cloths than his ſhirt

shirt and drawers, holding in one hand a bow without a string, and in the other an arrow without a feather. It is probable that these lands were forfeited to the king by some military fault, of which this condition was imposed as a memorial when they were restored, though tradition and history are both equally silent about it.

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At Sherborn a bishopric was erected by king Ina, about the year 705, and continued here till the time of William the Conqueror, who removed the see to Salisbury. Here was an house of secular canons, as early as the bishopric, if not earlier; but in the year 998, Wilkin, bishop of this see, by the consent of king Ethelred, changed these canons into Benedictine monks, and built an abbey for them, the revenues of which were confirmed by pope Eugenius the Third, in the year 1145. The abbey was dedicated to St. Mary, and the revenues of it upon the general suppression were rated at 68*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* *per annum.*

Not far from the church in this place an hospital was begun, in the fourth year of the reign of Henry the Sixth, by the townsmen, which, eleven years afterwards, was incorporated by king Henry the Sixth, by the name of the Master and Brethren of the Almshouses of St. John the Baptist, and St. John the Evangelist, and was to consist of twenty brethren, from whom a master was annually to be elected, twelve poor impotent men, four poor women, and a chaplain, to be governed by such ordinances as should be established, by Robert Nevil, bishop of Salisbury, Sir Humphrey Stafford, knight, Margaret Goghe, John Faunteroy, and John Baret, or any two of them.

There is mention of a house of friars of the order of St. Austin, which belonged to this town in the seventeenth of Edward the Third; and the hospital or free chapel of St. Thomas, upon the green here, is upon record as early as the eighteenth or nineteenth of Richard the Second.

At Winburn, or Wimboen-minster, before the year 705, St. Cuthburga, daughter to Kenred, king of the West Saxons, and sister to king Ina, founded an abbey of Holy Virgins, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This nunnery being destroyed by the Danes, one of our king Edwards put in secular canons, so that it became a royal free chapel and collegiate, consisting of a dean, four prebendaries, three vicars, four deacons, or secondaries, and five singing men, and a sort of choir has been preserved here since the suppression. The revenues were valued at 131*l.* 14*s.* *per annum.*

The Saxon king, Ethelbald, in the year 736, gave ten castles or hides of land, to the earl Cynberth, to found a monastery at Sturminster-Newton.

A nunnery is said to have been at Warham, in the time of the Saxons, before the year 876, when this town was assaulted and taken by the Danes. In the time of Henry the First, one or more of the churches in this town, with some lands in the neighbourhood, being given by Robert earl of Leicester, to the abbot and convent of Lira, in Normandy, they sent over and settled here a cell of their own Benedictine monks, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary. When the

the alien priories, during the war with France, were seized by the king, the revenues were given to the priory of Montgrace, near Northallerton, in Yorkshire, which continued to receive them several years; but when the foreign houses were dissolved by king Henry the Fifth, he gave this priory to the Carthusians of Shene, near Richmond, in Surry.

At Shaftsbury king Alfred, about the year 888, erected and endowed an abbey for Benedictine nuns, which at first was dedicated to the Virgin Mary; but after St. Edward the king and martyr was buried in it, it was called by his name. At the general suppression it was valued at 1166l. 8s. 9d. *per annum*.

The priory or hospital of St. John Baptist, *super montem de Shaftsbury*, was in the patronage of the crown, in the fifth year of king Richard the Second.

King Athelstan, to expiate the murder of his brother Edwin, about the year 933, built an abbey at Milton. It was dedicated to St. Mary, St. Michael, St. Samson, and St. Branwalader. The monks were of the Benedictine order, and their revenues rated on the dissolution at 578l. 13s. 11d. *per annum*.

At Cerne-Abbey, where the parish church now stands, there was anciently an hermitage, after which there was a small monastery of three Religious, founded pretty early in the Saxon times, by a rich man, named Egelward, and dedicated to St. Peter; but Ailmer, earl of Cornwall, in the year 987, erected a noble abbey here for Benedictine monks. It was first dedicated to St. Mary, St. Peter, and St. Benedict, and afterwards to St. Edwold, or Athelwold. It is said to have been destroyed by king Canute; yet at the general dissolution it was endowed with 515l. 17s. 10d. *per annum*.

At Horton, a village about half way between Cramborn and Wimborn-minster, Ordgar, earl of Devonshire, before the year 970, founded an abbey, the remains of which were, in the year 1122, annexed by Roger, bishop of Salisbury, to Sherborn, and it became a priory subordinate to that monastery.

At Cramborn one Ayldwardus Snew, about the year 980, built an abbey of Black monks, dedicated to St. Bartholomew, to which at first a priory at Tewksbury, a borough town of Gloucestershire, was subject; but in the year 1102, Robert Fitz Haimon having much augmented Tewksbury, both in building and revenues, Girald, the abbot of Cramborn, thought fit to remove thither, leaving at Cramborn only a prior and two monks; and it continued to the dissolution a cell to the abbey of Tewksbury.

At Abbotsbury, Orcius, or Orking, steward to king Canute, about the year 1026, instituted a society of secular canons, who were by him, or by his widow, named Tola, in the time of Edward the Confessor, changed into a monastery of the Benedictine order, and dedicated to St. Peter. The yearly revenues of this abbey amounted at the dissolution to 390l. 19s. 2d.

At Frampton was a priory of Black monks, subject to the abbey of St. Stephen, at Caen, in Normandy, to which it was given by William the Conqueror. During

ing the wars between England and France, this, with other alien priories, was seized by the king, and sometimes farmed at 120 marks *per annum*; but upon the suppression of foreign houses, it was given to the dean and canons of St. Stephens, Westminster.

Stower Provost, a village south-west of Shaftsbury, upon the river Stour, was given by Roger de Bellomont, father to Robert earl of Leicester and Mellent, in the time of William the Conqueror, to the nunnery of St. Leodegar, or St. Leuger de Pratellis, or Preaux, in Normandy, whereupon it became a cell to that foreign monastery. After the suppression of alien priories, king Henry the Sixth, and afterwards king Edward the Fourth, granted this priory to King's College in Cambridge.

At Lodres, a village not far from Bridport, was an alien priory, subordinate to the abbey of Mountburgh, in Normandy, to which this manor was given, by Benedict or Richard de Redveris, in the time of Henry the First, on which account the abbat of that foreign monastery was prebendary in the cathedral church of Salisbury, and had a house in the Close there. King Richard the Second bestowed this cell, being then worth 80*l.* *per annum*, on the priory of St. Anne, near the city of Coventry, in Warwickshire, during the war between England and France; but in the first year of Henry the Fourth, it was restored to its original institution. After the dissolution of foreign houses, in the reign of Henry the Fifth, Lodres was made part of the endowment of Sion Abbey, in Middlesex.

Robert earl of Mellent and Leicester, in the time of king Henry the First, gave the manor of Spesbury, or Speetisbury, near Blandford, to the monks of St. Peter de Pratellis, or Preaux, in Normandy, who placed here some of their convent, and made it an alien priory; but it was afterwards reckoned as part of their cell, at Monk Tostes, near Yarmouth, a large borough and sea-port town of Norfolk, and as such granted to the Carthusians at Witham, not far from Frome-Selwood, a market town in Somersetshire, by king Henry the Fifth.

At Bindon, a village six miles south-west of Warham, Robert de Novo Burgo, and Maud his wife, in the year 1172, built an abbey of the Cistercian order, for an abbat and nine monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which at the dissolution was valued at 147*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.* *per annum*.

At Camestrum \* there was a monastery of White nuns, dedicated to St. Mary, as early as the time of king Richard the First.

Richard Poor, bishop, first of Chichester, then of Salisbury, and after of Durham, being born at Tarrant Keynston, a village not far north-east of Blandford, founded an abbey of Cistercian nuns there, about the year 1230, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints. It had a yearly revenue at the dissolution of 214*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*

\* No place of this name occurs at present in this county, for which reason some have taken this to be the same with the seat monachery at Tarrant Keynston.



Posington was an alien priory to the abbey of Bec, in Normandy, and sometimes reckoned as a parcel of their cell, at Okeburn, in Wiltshire. It was given, in the twentieth year of king Henry the Sixth, to St. Anthony's hospital, in London, and seventh of Edward the Fourth, to Eaton College, for the maintenance of five scholars, bred in their school at Oxford; and afterwards, in the seventeenth year of the same king, to the dean and prebendaries of Windſor.

Winterborn Abbats, a village near Dorcheſter, was an alien priory to the abbey of Cluny, or to the monastery of that order de Vaſto, in - - - to which this manor, and other eſtates hereabouts were given, before the fifteenth year of the reign of king John.

At Mayne, or Fryer Mayne, was a preceptory, belonging to the Knights Hoſpitalers, and as ſuch recited among the lands reſtored to them, upon the new foundation of the priory of that order, in the fourth and fifth years of the reign of Philip and Mary.

At Eaſt Holme, upon the river Frome, near Warham, was, before the twentieth year of king Edward the Firſt, a cell of a prior and ſome few Cluniac monks, ſubordinate to the monastery of Montacute, in Somerſethire.

At Blakemore Foreſt, near Dorcheſter, was formerly a houſe of Friars Heremites, who were ſettled before the year 1300, in which died Edmund earl of Cornwall, who had been a great benefactor, if not the founder of it. But the convent ſeems to have forſaken this habitation about the year 1460; for after that time it is ſpoken of as a free chapel, the maſterſhip of which was beſtowed on ſeveral prieſts, till it was annexed to Cerne Abbey, in the fifth of Henry the Eighth. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At Dorcheſter was a houſe of Franciscans, or Friars Minors, founded by John Chidiok, before the fourth year of king Edward the Second.

The hoſpital of St. John Baptiſt, commonly called St. John's Houſe, in this town, was founded before the ſeventeenth year of king Edward the Second, and granted the twenty-ninth of Henry the Sixth, to Eaton College, which grant was confirmed the ſeventh of Edward the Fourth.

At Ruſhton, a village lying directly eaſt from Blandford, there was an old religious houſe, dedicated to St. Leonard, the patronage of which was granted to the prior and convent of Twinham, in Suffex, the ſeventh of Edward the Third.

Over the bridge weſt of the town of Bridport, is the chapel of St. John, which probably is the ſame with the hoſpital of St. John in this town, valued upon the diſſolution at 9l. 0s. 8d. *per annum*. Here was alſo a priory, valued upon the diſſolution at 6l. *per annum*.

At Melcomb, or Weymouth, in the eaſt part of the town, was a houſe of Black friars, founded by — — Rogers of Brianiſton, near Blandford.

M E M-

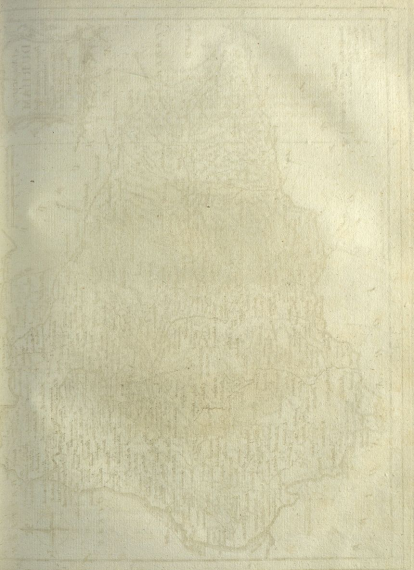
## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends twenty members to parliament, of which two are knights of the shire for the county, and the rest are burgesses, of which Dorchester, Pool, Lime, Bridport, Shaftsbury, Warham, and Corfe-Castle, send two each, and the united corporation of Weymouth and Melcomb-Regis, four.



7-40

DURHAM.



VVA.BHSC

**A New Map of  
DURHAM**

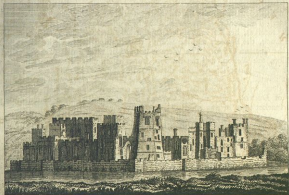
Distance from the City  
of Newcastle, County  
of Northumberland  
to the City of Durham  
about 25 Miles  
Date of Year.

**Remarks.**

English Towns with the *Sr* or *Baron*  
the *and* the *Baron* of the *Baron*  
Market Towns .....  
Boroughs and Parishes .....  
Bridges in a *City* .....

English Miles from London.





R A B Y C A S T L E

*p. 108.*

D U R H A M.

N A M E.

**T**HIS county takes its name from the city of Durham, and is sometimes called the Bishopric, and sometimes the County Palatine of Durham, having formerly been a kind of royalty, under the jurisdiction of a bishop, subordinate to the crown.

B O U N D A R I E S, E X T E N T and S I T U A T I O N.

This county is bounded by Northumberland on the north, by the river Tees, which divides it from Yorkshire on the south, by the German Ocean on the east, and by parts of the counties of Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Northumberland on the west. It is of a triangular figure, measures thirty-nine miles in length, from east to west, thirty-five in breadth, from north to south, and 107 in circumference; and the city of Durham, which is situated nearly in the middle of it, is 262 miles north of London.

R I V E R S.

## RIVERS.

In this county there are sixteen rivers, the chief of which are the Tees and the Were. The Tees rises on the borders of Cumberland, and running east-fourth-east, receives, besides several less considerable streams, the Laden, the Hude, the Lune, the Bauder, and the Skern; then running north-north-east, it falls into the German Ocean. The Were is formed of three small streams, called the Kellop, the Wellop, and the Burdop, buras rising near one another in the west part of this county, and within three miles of the head of the Tees. The Were thus formed, runs eastward, and receives the Gaunlefs, and several smaller streams, and then, by many windings, it directs its course north-east, and passing by the city of Durham, falls into the German Sea at Sunderland, a considerable port and market town of this county.

## AIR, SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The air of this county is healthy, and though sharp in the western parts, is yet mild and pleasant towards the sea, the warm vapours of which mitigate the cold, which, in a situation so far north, must be severe in the winter season. The soil is also different; the western parts are mountainous and barren, the rest of the county is fruitful, and, like the southern counties, beautifully diversified with meadows, pastures, cornfields, and woods. It abounds with inexhaustible mines of lead and iron, and particularly coal, called Newcastle coal, from Newcastle upon Tyne, a large borough town in Northumberland, the port where it is shipped to supply the city of London, and the greatest part of England. The rivers abound with fish, particularly salmon, known in London by the name of Newcastle salmon; and these two articles include the whole traffic of the place. The coal trade of this county is one great nursery for seamen; and the ports of Durham supply the royal navy with more men than any other in the kingdom.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided not into hundreds, but, like the county of Cumberland, into wards or wakes, of which it contains four. It has one city and seven market towns. It lies in the province of York, is a diocese of itself, and contains fifty-two parishes.

## CITY and MARKET TOWNS.

The city is Durham; and the market towns are Auckland-Bishop's, Barnard-Castle, Darlington, Hartlepool, Marwood, Stockton, and Sunderland.

The city of DURHAM was originally by the Saxons called Dunholme, a word compounded of *Dun*, a hill, and *holme*, an island in a river, and expressive of its situation upon a hill, almost surrounded by the river Were. The Saxon name *Dunholme* was changed by the Normans into *Durholme*, which was afterwards corrupted into the present name Durham. This city is said to have been first incorporated by king Richard the First, and was anciently governed by bailiffs, appointed by the bishops, and afterwards by an alderman and twelve burgessees. Queen  
Eliza-

Elizabeth gave it a mayor, aldermen, and common council; but it is now governed under a charter procured by bishop Crew of king Charles the Second, by twelve aldermen, twelve common council men, a recorder, town clerk, and other officers, who can hold a court-leet and court-baron within their city, under the stile of the bishop, for the time being. They keep also a court instituted to regulate disorders at fairs, called a *pye powder court*, from *pye*, foot, and *powder*, dusty, because it was held only during the fair, and made its determinations after a summary examination, before the dust was shaken from the feet of the suitors. The fairs pay about twenty pounds a-year toll, to the bishop or his lessee. The bishop of Durham is a temporal prince, being earl of Sadbergh, a small town near Stockton, which he holds by barony; he is sheriff paramount of this county, and appoints his deputy, who makes up his audit to him, without accounting to the Exchequer. He is also as count palatine, lord of this city, and appoints all officers of justice, and other inferior magistrates.

The situation of this city is so pleasant and healthy, and the country in which it stands so plentiful, that it is much frequented by the neighbouring gentry. It is surrounded with a fortified wall, and is about one mile long, and one mile broad; the form of it is compared to that of a crab, the market place resembling the body, and the streets the claws. The principal building in it is the cathedral, which is dedicated to Christ and the Virgin Mary. It is a magnificent pile, 411 feet long, and eighty broad, with three spacious isles, one in the middle, and one at each end; that in the middle is 170 feet long, the eastern isle is 132 feet long, and the western 100 feet. In the western isle was a chapel of the Virgin Mary, called Galilee, the outside of this chapel was adorned with two handsome spires, covered with lead, the towers of which are still standing. In the north tower there were four large bells, three of which, soon after the reformation, were added to three in the middle tower, but they have been since cast into eight. The eastern isle was formerly called the Nine Altars, because in the front facing the church, there were so many erected, that is, there were four in the north part of the isle, four in the south, and one in the middle. The middle one, which was dedicated to St. Cuthbert, the patron of the church, was the most beautiful, and near it was a rich shrine of that saint. The whole building is strongly vaulted, and supported by large pillars. The wainfoot of the choir is well wrought, the organ large and good, and the font of marble. There is a handsome screen at the entrance into the choir, which is one hundred and seventeen feet long, and thirty-three broad. Many of the windows are very curious, particularly the middle window, to the east, which is called the Catharine Wheel, or St. Catharine's window; it comprehends all the breadth of the choir, and is composed of twenty-four lights; in the south end of the church was a window called St. Cuthbert's, in which was painted the history of the life and miracles of that saint; on the north side was a third window, on which the history of Joseph was painted, and which was therefore called Joseph's window. In the chapel called Galilee, the women, who were not allowed to go farther up than a line of marble, by the side of the font, used to hear divine service, and it then contained sixteen altars, for the celebration of the mass, but it is now used for holding the consistory court. The chapter-house, in which sixteen bishops are interred, is a stately room seventy-five feet long, and thirty-three broad, with an arched roof of stone, and a beautiful seat at the upper end, for the instalment of the bishops. The decorations of this church are said to be richer than those of any other church

in England, it having suffered less by the alienation of its revenues, than any other cathedral. King Henry the Eighth established the present endowment of this church, for a dean, twelve prebendaries, twelve minor canons, a deacon, sub-deacon, sixteen lay singing men, a school master, usher, master of the choristers, a divinity reader, eight almsmen, eighteen scholars, ten choristers, two vergers, two porters, two cooks, two butlers, and two sacristans.

This cathedral is adorned with a fine cloyster on the south side, formerly glazed with painted glass; on the east side is the chapter-house, the deanery, and a building called the Old Library; on the west side is the dormitory, and under that are the treasury and song house; on the north side is the new library, which is a large lightsome building, begun by dean Sudbury, on the site of the old common refectory of a convent. Besides the cathedral there are six parish churches, three of which stand in the principal or middle part of the town, and the other three in the suburbs. Those in the town are St. Nicholas, or the City Church, which stands in the market place, St. Oswald's, commonly called Elvet Church, and St. Margaret's, called Cross-gate Church, which is a parochial chapel to St. Oswald's. Those in the suburbs are St. Giles's, commonly called Gilly-gate Church, St. Mary's the Great, commonly called North Bailey Church, and St. Mary's the Less, called South Bailey Church; St. Mary's the Great is also called Bow Church, because before it was rebuilt its steeple stood on an arch crossing the street.

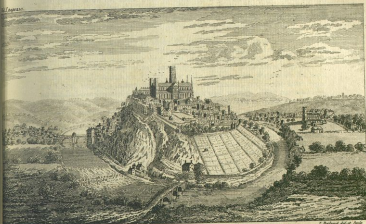
South of the cathedral is the college, a quadrangular pile of building, inclosing a spacious court; it consists at present of houses for the prebendaries; and the greatest part of it has been either new built, or very much improved since the restoration. Opposite to the college gate, upon the east side, is the exchequer; at the west end was the guest-hall, for the entertainment of strangers, and near it the granary, and other offices of the convent. On the north side of the cathedral is the college school, with a house for the master; and between the church-yard and what is called the castle, or the bishop's palace, is an area, called the Palace Green; to the west of this is the shire hall, where the assizes and sessions are held for the county, and near it is a fine library, built by doctor Cofin, who was bishop of this see in the time of Charles the Second, and the exchequer built by doctor Nevil, who was bishop afterwards. In the exchequer are the offices belonging to the county palatine court. On the east side of the cathedral is an hospital, built and endowed by bishop Cofin; and there are two schools, one at each end of it, founded by bishop Langley, and new built by bishop Cofin. On the north side of the cathedral is the castle, which afterwards became the bishop's palace; it was built by William the Conqueror, and the outer gate of it is now the county gaol.

The other public buildings of this city are the tolbooth, by which may be understood the custom-house, which stands near St. Nicholas's church; the cross, and a conduit, both in the market place; there are also two stone bridges over the river Were.

AUKLAND BISHOP'S was formerly called North Aukland, to distinguish it from another town called Aukland; both are situated in a district of this county called Auklandshire, from which they derive their name. Aukland is probably a

cor-





*The South West View of Durham.*

*J. England del. & J. G. Jones sculp.*

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corruption of Oakland, the land of Oaks, this part of the country containing several fine forests, and abounding in oak trees. This town afterwards becoming a market town, was called Market Aukland, and it is now called Bishop's Aukland, from a palace which belongs to the bishops of this see. It is situated near the conflux of the rivers Were and Gaunlefs, at the distance of 184 miles from London. It is reckoned one of the best towns in the county, and has a stone bridge over the Were. The palace was built, or rather improved, by Anthony Beck, who was bishop of Durham in the reign of Edward the First. In the civil war of 1641, it fell into the hands of Sir Arthur Haslerig, baronet, a commander in the parliament army, who pulled most of it down, and built a new house with the materials. Upon the restoration it came into the hands of bishop Cofin, who pulled down the house built by Haslerig, and added a large apartment to what remained of the old building. He also erected a chapel in it, where he lies buried, from which time it was called Bishop's Aukland, and founded and endowed a hospital for two married men, and two married women.

**BARNARD CASTLE** takes its name from Barnard Baliol, great grandfather to John Baliol, king of Scotland, who erected a castle here, and built the town. It lies on the north side of the river Tees, at the distance of 253 miles from London, and consists chiefly of one handsome street, with lanes branching from it. In the reign of Edward the Fourth, the duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard the Third, erected a college here for a dean and canons; and in the same reign an hospital was founded for a master and three poor women. The manufactures of this town are stockings, bridles, reins, and belts, and it is famous for the best white bread in all the country.

**DARLINGTON** is situated upon the river Skern, at the distance of 243 miles from London. This is one of the four ward towns in the county of Durham, and consists of several streets, which, not being paved, are in the winter very dirty. It has a spacious market place, a handsome church, with a tall spire, and a free school. It is a post town, and a great thoroughfare in the road from Berwick to London; and it is one of the most considerable places in the north of England for the manufacture of linen, particularly that sort called huckabacks, used for table cloths and napkins, of which great quantities, some ten quarters wide, are sent to London and other places; some other fine linen cloth is also made here, and the water of the Skern is so famous for bleaching, that linen is sent from Scotland to this town to be bleached.

**HARTLEPOOL** is distant from London 236 miles, and stands on a promontory, encompassed on the north, the west, and the south sides, by the sea. It is an ancient corporation, governed by a mayor and aldermen, with other subordinate officers. It depends chiefly on the fishing trade, and its harbour, which is much frequented by colliers passing to and from Newcastle.

**MARWOOD** is situated upon the river Tees, at the distance of 255 miles from London. It has nothing of note but a stocking manufactory, and a park, which reaches from this town to Barnard Castle.

**STOCKTON** is situated on the river Tees, about two miles from its mouth, at the distance of 220 miles from London. It is a corporation town, governed by

a mayor and aldermen, and is one of the four ward towns of the county. It is well built, is a place of great resort and business, and its trade, and the number of its inhabitants are so much increased of late, that a church has been erected in the place of a little old chapel. The river Tees is capable of bearing ships of good burden at this place, but the current is frequently dangerous. For the management of the port there are a collector of the customs, and other inferior officers. Here is a good trade to London for lead, butter, and bacon; and there is a course near the town where there are frequent horse races. The port of Sackton is a member of the port of Newcastle, as appears by a commission returned into the Exchequer in the reign of king Charles the Second, and by a report made in the third year of king George the Second, of the dimensions of its three lawful quays for shipping and landing goods.

SUNDERLAND according to some writers has been thus called from its situation at the mouth of the river Were, which, together with the sea, almost surrounds it, rendering it a peninsula, or a piece of land almost *sundered* from the continent; others, with more probability, think the name derived from the Saxon word *Sontepland*, which signifies a particular precinct, with privileges of its own. It is 263 miles distant from London, and is a borough and sea port. How it is governed does not appear, but it is a populous well built town, and has a very fine church. It has a coal trade, from which it derives great wealth; and the coal of this place is so remarkable for burning slowly, that it is said to make three fires. The port is so shallow, that the ships are obliged to take in their loading in the open road, which is sometimes very dangerous to the keelmen or lightermen that bring the coals down to the ships; the ships therefore which load here, are generally smaller than those in the neighbouring ports, but as they ride in the open sea, they are ready to sail as soon as they can get in their loading, which is a very considerable advantage, for they have been known to fail, to deliver their coals at London, to beat up against the wind in their return, and to get back before the ships at Shields, a considerable port at the mouth of the Tyne, which was loaded before them, had been able to get over the bar.

#### C U R I O S I T I E S.

*A flood.* Near the confluence of the rivers Tees and Bauder, about midsummer 1689, there happened an eruption of water, which, in forcing its passage from below, carried away a quantity of earth that left a chafin of one hundred and sixty yards long, eighty yards broad, and six or seven deep, choked up both the rivers, and killed great quantities of fish. The meadows over which the flood passed, were also spoiled for a time, by the mud which it left behind.

*Hell-kettles.* At Oxenhall, a hamlet between Darlington and the Tees, are three large deep pits full of water, called Hell-kettles, and by the common people thought to have no bottom. Some suppose these pits to have been sunk by an earthquake, because from an ancient book entitled *the Chronicle of Timasurb*, it appears that on Christmas day, in the year 1179, the earth at this place rose to a great height above the level, in which state it continued till the evening, and then sinking down with a horrid noise, was swallowed up, and left a pit full of water, which has continued ever since. The people here have an opinion that these pits communicate with the river Tees, and with each other, by subterraneous passages.

This

This opinion Mr. Camden seems to have adopted, and as a proof of the fact, he relates, that one Cuthbert Tonfall, a bishop of Durham, having put a goose, which he marked for the purpose, into one of these wells, found it again in the river Tees. This story however is not now credited, and by a later account of the pits it appears, that the depth of the deepest is not above thirty yards; the most probable opinion seems to be that they are old coal pits, rendered useless by the rising of water in them, which is always cold, though Mr. Camden says it is hot. It is remarkable that the pits are always full to the brim, which is upon the same level with the river Tees; there seems therefore to be good reasons to believe that the water in the pits is supplied from the river, whether the passage of communication would permit a goose to go through it or not; nor does this communication make it necessary that the pits should be deeper than they are.

In the channel of the Were, a little below Branspeth, a village near Durham, <sup>Salt springs</sup> there are many very large stones, which are never covered but when that river overflows, and over which if water is poured, it will in a short time become brackish; and at Saltwater Haugh, not far distant, there is a salt spring in the middle of the Were, which is best perceived in the summer, when the water of the river is low, then it is seen bubbling up. The water of this spring tinges all the stones near it with a red colour; it is as salt as any brine, and when boiled, it produces a great quantity of bay salt, though not so palatable as common salt.

Near Branspeth there is a medicinal spring strongly impregnated with sulphur, <sup>Medicinal</sup> and between that spring and the city of Durham is a mineral water, upon which <sup>springs</sup> Dr. Wilson wrote a treatise entitled *Spadocrenæ Dardlowensis*.

Hunwick, a village upon the Were, south-west of Durham, is remarkable for its wells, the water of which, though very sweet, is strongly impregnated with sulphur. It is in high repute, and much frequented.

Nesham, a village upon the Tees, south-east of Darlington, and in the road <sup>Remarkable</sup> from London to Durham, is remarkable for a ford over the river, where the <sup>catton.</sup> bishop, at his first coming to take possession of his see, is met by the country gentlemen, and where the lord of the manor of Sockburn, a village south-east of Nesham, upon the same river, advances into the middle of the stream, and presents him with a falchion, as an emblem of his temporal power, which he returns to him again, and then proceeds on his way.

Sheales in this county is of considerable note for its salt works, there being in <sup>Salt works</sup> this place above 200 pans for boiling the sea water into salt, which are said to require 100,000 chaldrons of coals every year. The salt made here supplies London, all the intermediate country, and every place that is supplied with that commodity by the navigation of the river Thames.

A woman of Weremouth, called also Monk Weremouth, a village upon the <sup>Remarkable</sup> north bank, at the mouth of the river Were, opposite to Suaderland, being <sup>born.</sup> safely delivered of a fine boy, was seven weeks afterwards, on the nineteenth of April 1744, taken ill while she was in her usual health, and employed in her <sup>house-</sup>

household affairs, and brought to bed of another boy, who was a fine child, and likely to live.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

Ancient inhabitants.

The bishopric of Durham was anciently a part of the country inhabited by the Brigantes; upon the establishment of the Saxon heptarchy it became a part of the kingdom of Northumberland, and was one of the counties which, being on the south side of the Tine, were called Deira, to distinguish them from the northern division of the kingdom of the Northumbers, known by the name of Bernicia. Soon after the Saxons were converted to Christianity, this county was given by their kings, to St. Cuthbert, bishop of Lindisfern, an island in the county of Northumberland, now known by the name of Holy Island, and to his successors for ever; the monkish writers therefore called this county the Patrimony of St. Cuthbert, in the same sense as the Romish ecclesiastical state is to this day called the Patrimony of St. Peter. The Danes and Normans confirmed this grant of the Saxon kings, and added several other liberties and privileges to the church of St. Cuthbert. In the reign of William the Conqueror, one Walcher, a native of Lorrain, being bishop of Durham, bought the earldom of Northumberland of the king, and then assuming the office of a secular judge, sat in court, and with unlimited authority determined all causes at his pleasure. This is supposed to have been the origin of the temporal power of the bishops of Durham, and upon this purchase it is supposed to have been made a county palatine.

The ancient privileges of Durham as a county, and of its bishop as a count palatine.

The bishops of Durham, as counts palatine, have borne in their seals a knight armed on horseback, brandishing a sword with one hand, and holding out the arms of the bishopric in the other. The common people insisting on their privileges, have refused to march into Scotland in time of war, pretending that they were *Holywork men*, that is men bound to do nothing but holy works, that they held their lands to defend the body of St. Cuthbert, and that they were not to serve out of the confines of the bishopric, either for the king or for the bishop. King Edward the First seized the prerogatives of one of these bishops, and took away many of the privileges of the see, some of which however the succeeding bishops recovered, and so great was their power even after its abridgment by king Edward the First, that it became a maxim, *Quicquid rex habet extra comitatum Dunelmensem episcopus habet intra, nisi aliquis sit concessio aut prescriptio in contrarium*, i. e. whatever prerogative the king has without the county of Durham, the bishop has within it, unless there be some concession or prescription to the contrary. Though the canons forbid any clergyman to be present when judgment of blood was given, yet the bishop of Durham might on those occasions sit in court in his purple robes, whence came the old saying *Solum Dunelmense solum jus dicit et ense*.

The bishop of Durham had power to call a parliament, and to create barons to sit in it, of which parliaments, and the subsidies granted by them, the ancient rolls of Durham give an account. The bishop had also power to raise taxes, and to coin money: the courts were kept in his name, he appointed all judges and justices of the peace, and all writs ran in his name. All recognizances entered upon the bishop's close rolls in his chancery, and made to him or in his name, were as valid within this county, as those made to the king were in other counties;

ties; and the bishop had a register of writs of as much authority, as that in the king's courts. They who alienated freehold lands without his leave, were obliged to sue to him for a pardon, which he might grant not only for intrusions and trespasses, but also for felonies, rapes, and other crimes. He had power to grant licences for building chapels, founding chauntries and hospitals, for making boroughs and corporations; he also granted markets and fairs, created officers by patent, either for life or during his pleasure; but these grants were valid no longer than the life of the bishop who made them, except they were confirmed by the dean and chapter.

The bishop had several forests, chaces, parks, and woods in this county; he was lord admiral of the seas and other waters belonging to the palatinate, had his vice-admirals, his courts of admiralty, and his officers of beaconsage, and commissioners of water passages; he directed commissioners of array; a great part of the lands in the palatinate belonged to him, and was held of the see in capite; to him belonged all moors and wastes, and he had copyhold and hallmot courts, and the tenure of the lands is much the same to this day: the lands, goods, and chattles of such as were convicted of treason, fell to the bishop, and he still claims all forfeitures upon outlawries and felonies. Such were the privileges of the bishops of Durham, when they were abridged by a statute of the twenty-seventh year of the reign of king Henry the Eighth, which in effect stripped them of their palatine power, particularly that of granting pardons, creating judges, and making out judicial writs and indictments; but the bishops and their temporal chancellors were still permitted to act as justices of the peace.

In the reign of king Edward the Sixth, this bishopric was dissolved, and the parliament gave all its revenues and immunities to the crown; but queen Mary repealed this act, and restored the see to the state in which king Henry the Eighth left it.

As this county was a kind of principality, distinct from the rest of the kingdom, it never sent representatives to parliament till the reign of king Charles the Second.

The city of Durham owes its origin to the monks of Lindisfern, a monastery in a small island south-east of Berwick upon Tweed, a borough town of Northumberland, who being with Eardulfus, their bishop, driven from their habitation by the Danes, retired first to Chester in the Street, a small town north of Durham, about the year 883, carrying with them the relics of their bishop, St. Cuthbert, having continued there 113 years, they removed to this place about the year 995, and deposited their relics under a small oratory, which they built of sticks and twigs, wattle together: this oratory, Aldwin, the bishop, who then transferred the episcopal see from Chester in the Street to Durham, afterwards improved into a cathedral. This cathedral William de Careleph, who was bishop of Durham about the year 1083, pulled down, and began a more stately church, which was finished by his successors. In a chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, at the west end of this cathedral, stands the tomb of Venerable Bede, a monk, and an ancient British historian, and over it hangs an old parchment scroll, enumerating his virtues, where, among other encomiums it is said, that he was *omni major, & angelus in orbis angulo*; and it concludes with *huc fuit in fossa Bede Venerabilis ossa*. In

Antiquities of  
the city of  
Durham.

In this cathedral are still preserved many old records of Scotland, the kings of that country having been very great benefactors to it.

A Roman  
caufway.

Near this city may still be seen the remains of a Roman military way, which by some writers is supposed to be part of the caufway called Ikenild Street, reaching from the mouth of the river Tine, to St. Davids in Wales.

Antiquities of  
Chester in the  
Street.

Chester in the Street, a small town near Durham, in the way to Berwick, was called by the Saxons *Lonceycep*, and is therefore supposed by Mr. Camden to have been the Roman *Condercum*, a station, *ad lineam vall*, where the *Notitia* tells us the first wing of the *Astures* kept garrison; others think the *Condercum* must have been nearer to the *Picts* Wall, and therefore suppose it to have been *Sunderland*.

In the year 1057, Egelric, then bishop of Durham, laid the foundation of a church here, in memory of the residence of his successors, the monks of Lindisfern and their bishop, in this place; and while the work was carrying on, he dug up so large a sum of money, supposed to have been buried by the Romans, that thinking himself sufficiently enriched, he resigned his bishopric, and retired to a monastery at Peterborough, a city in the county of Northampton, where he had formerly been abbot, the buildings of which he very much improved and enlarged. He constructed several other publick works of great expence, particularly a caufway from Deeping to Spalding, which are two market towns in Lincolnshire, over a marshy country, with several bridges in proper places. This caufway is still called Egelric Road.

Roman anti-  
quities.

Lanchester, a town standing north-west of Durham, upon the Roman highway called *Wartling Street*, is supposed by Mr. Camden to be the Roman *Longovicum*, several inscriptions having been dug up here which favour that opinion, and it appearing by many ruins, to have been fortified with a strong thick wall, and adorned with temples, palaces, and other publick buildings.

Binchester, a town upon the river *Were*, south-west of the city of Durham, is supposed to have been the *Vinovium* of Antoninus, and the *Bioovium* of Ptolemy. Here are still visible the ruins of walls and castles; a variety of seals, urns, and other antiquities have been dug up in this place, particularly some Roman coins, called *Binchester pennies*; and two altars, one of them inscribed *DEAB. MATRIB. Q. LO. CL. QVINTIANVS. COS. V. S. L. M.* and the other  
----- *TRIB. COHORI. CARTOV. MARTI VICTORI GENIO*  
*LOCI ET BONO EVENTVI*; the inscription being imperfect.

At *Wishton*, a village upon the *Tees*, about four miles east from *Bernard-Castle*, are seen the remains of a Roman highway, which may be traced from *Binchester* to *Cattarick*, a village near *Richmond*, a considerable borough town of *Yorkshire*.

*Perfebridge*, or *Preshriggs*, a village upon the *Tees*, west of *Darlington*, is supposed by *Dr. Gibson* to have been originally called *Priest-bridge*, either from two neighbouring priests, who built a bridge of stone over the river here, instead of a wooden bridge which they found there; or from some priests, who were appointed



appointed to officiate in a chapel, the ruins of which are still to be seen, near the bridge. A Roman altar, with a fair inscription, was dug up here not long ago, and several urns, coins, and other antiquities, have been found in this neighbourhood. It is generally believed that the Roman highway from Cattarick to Blinchester, enters the county of Durham at this town.

Near Whitborn-Lefard, a small town upon the banks of the river Tine, near its mouth, a great number of copper coins were dug up some years ago, most of them of Constantine, with the sun on the reverse, and the words SOLI INVICTO COMITI. Two were of the emperor Lacinus, two of Maximianus, and one of Maxentius, having a triumphal arch on the reverse, and the words CONSERVATORI URBIS.

Ebchester, a town lying north-west of Chester in the Street, upon a small river called the Darwent, which runs into the Tine, derives its name from Ebba, a Saxon saint, the daughter of Ethelfrid, king of Northumberland, who lived here about the year 630. Here were discovered, not many years ago, the traces of a Roman station, about 200 yards square, with large suburbs, where a variety of ancient remains have been dug up, among which was an altar and an urn, with a little cup in it.

Gatehead, lying on the south side of the Tine, is as it were the suburb of Newcastle, in Northumberland, from which it is divided by the river only, and over that there is a stately stone bridge, with an iron gate in the middle of it, having the arms of the bishopric of Durham upon the east, and those of Newcastle upon the west side, and serving as the boundary between the county of Durham and that of Northumberland. This town, in time of the Romans, was called Gabrofontum, a name derived from two British words, *Gafir*, a goat, and *Pes*, a head; the Saxons also called it *Laerfhevet*, and the ancient historians *Capre Caput*, i. e. *Goat's head*, a name which Mr. Camden supposes it to have derived from some neighbouring inn, known by the sign of a goat's head. When king Edward the Sixth suppressed the bishopric of Durham, he annexed this place to the town of Newcastle; but queen Mary soon after restored it to the church. It is thought to have been built before Newcastle, which yet is very ancient, and to have been a frontier garrison against the Scots and Picts. In the time of the Romans it was defended by the second cohort of the Thracians.

Jarro, Yarro, or Girwy, a village near the mouth of the Tine, is remarkable for having been the birth-place of Venerable Bede. In this place he also died, and was buried, in the year 734, and his body continued here till it was removed to Durham. Antiquities of Jarro.

The church of this town was founded by king Egfrid, as appears by the following inscription on the church wall: DEDICATIO BASILICAE SCI PAVLI VIII KL MAI ANNO XVI ECFRIDI REG. CEOLFRIDI ABB. EIVSDEMQ, ECCLES. DO AVCTORE CONDITORIS ANNO III. but the XVI. in this inscription should be XV. because king Egfrid reigned no more than fifteen years.

Roman antiquities.

At Sheales, in this county, was dug up some years ago, a large Roman altar, of an intire coarse rag stone, four feet high: the front of it had an inscription, which, by what remains of it, we have reason to believe should be read thus: DIS DEABVSQ; MATRIBVS PRO SALVTE M. AVRELIJ ANTONINI AVGVSTI IMPERATORIS - - VOTVM SOLVIT LVBENS MERITO OB REDITVM. On the backside of this altar was engraved in bas relievo, a flower-pot; on one side was a cutting knife, and the ax, used in sacrifice, in bas relievo; and on the other side was an ewer and a ladle. It is supposed that this altar was erected upon Caracalla's return from his expedition against the Scots.

The rivers Tees and Were, in this county, are without doubt the *Tæcis* and *Vedra* of Ptolomey; the river Were is also the same that Bede calls *Wirus*.

Ancient castles.

Raby-Castle, north-east of Bernard-Castle, is an ancient building, erected by the family of Nevil; and Norham Castle, near Berwick, upon the river Tweed, belongs to this county, having been built by Ralph, bishop of Durham, on a steep rock that he moated round, for the security of this part of his diocese against the incursions of the Scots moss-troopers.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At or near Hartlepool was an ancient monastery, called *Heorðu*, founded upon the first conversion of the Northumbrians to Christianity, about the year 640, as some suppose by a religious woman, named *Hieu*; or, according to others, by *St. Bega*. At this place was also a house of Grey friars, founded before the year 1275, but by whom, or what its revenues were at the dissolution, we are not told.

At Gateshead there was a monastery, of which nothing more is known than that *Uttan* was abbat of it before the year 653.

In the reign of king Henry the Third here was also an hospital dedicated to the Holy Trinity, for a chaplain and three poor men. Here also was an hospital for four chaplains, founded by *Nicholas de Farnham*, bishop of Durham, about the year 1247, and dedicated to *St. Edmund*, the bishop. It was granted, with all the lands belonging to it, in the twenty-seventh year of the reign of king Henry the Sixth, to the prioress and nuns of *St. Bartholomew*, in Newcastle, and was valued upon the dissolution at 5l. 9 s. 4 d. *per annum*.

At Ebechester, *St. Ebba* built a monastery, before the year 660, which was afterwards destroyed by the Danes.

Weremouth, called also *Monk Weremouth*, a town situated on the north bank, at the mouth of the *Were*, opposite to *Sunderland*, was given by king *Egfrid* to abbat *Benedict Biscopius*, who founded a monastery here, and dedicated it to *St. Peter*. It suffered in the Danish wars, and was burnt down in an inroad made by *Malcolm*, king of Scotland, in the year 1070; it was afterwards begun to be rebuilt by *Walcher*, bishop of Durham, but his successor, *William de Carlepho*, about the year 1083, removed most of the monks to Durham, to which

which Weremouth became a cell for three or four Benedictine monks. It was valued upon the dissolution at 25 l. 8 s. 4 d. *per annum*.

At Jarro, a monastery was founded by king Egfrid, about the year 684. It was dedicated to St. Paul, and appropriated to monks of the same order, under the same abbat as that of Weremouth; like that also, it became at last a cell to Durham. It was valued upon the dissolution at 38 l. 14 s. 4 d. *per annum*. At this house Venerable Bede received his education.

In the year 1286, Anthony Beck, who was then bishop of Durham, made the church, which had been left at Chester in the Street by the monks of Lindisfern, when they removed to Durham, collegiate, consisting of a dean, seven prebendaries, five chaplains, three deacons, and other ministers. The vicarage and prebends of this church were valued upon the dissolution at 77 l. 12 s. 8 d. *per annum*.

At Durham there was a provost and secular canons settled in the cathedral soon after it was built, by Aldwin; but these being expelled by bishop William de Carlepho, with the consent of the pope and king, a prior and convent of Benedictine monks were placed in their stead, who continued till the general dissolution, when the bishopric was valued in the whole at 3138 l. 9 s. 8 d. *per annum*, and 2821 l. 1 s. 5 d. clear, and the revenues of the church at 1366 l. 10 s. 9 d. *per annum*.

At Kepeyre, a village near Durham, bishop Randal built an hospital, dedicated to St. Giles, for a master and brethren, which by the bounty of Hugh Putaceo, Pufar, or Pudsey, a succeeding bishop of Durham, and other benefactors, was so well endowed, as upon the dissolution to be rated at the yearly revenues of 186 l. 0 s. 10 d. in the whole, and 167 l. 2 s. 11 d. clear.

At Finchale, a village near Durham, there was an hermitage, which bishop Randal gave before the year 1128, to the monks of Durham, by whose consent the holy man Godric, afterwards canonized, enjoyed the same many years, and devoted the place particularly to the service of St. John Baptist. Upon Godric's death, in the year 1170, some monks of Durham retired hither, and had an allowance made them towards their support, by Hugh, bishop of Durham, in the time of Henry the Second. Henry de Putaceo, son to bishop Hugh, about the year 1196, having very much increased the revenues, a prior and monks of the Benedictine order, subordinate to Durham, were settled here. At the dissolution this house consisted of a prior and eight monks, whose yearly revenues were valued at 122 l. 15 s. 3 d.

At Sherburn, a village near Durham, there was an hospital for lepers, founded by bishop Hugh, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. The yearly revenues of this house at the dissolution, amounted to 135 l. 7 s. clear; it then maintained sixty-five lepers, besides a master and several priests. It is still in being, and the mastership is in the gift of the bishop of Durham.

At Darlington was a collegiate church of a dean and three prebendaries, founded by the same bishop Hugh, and dedicated to St. Cuthbert. It was valued at the dissolution at 51 l. 8 s. 4 d. clear, *per annum*.

At Baftanesford, a village of this name said to have been formerly in this county, was a monastery of Black canons from Gisborn, a market town of Yorkshire, begun by Henry, son to bishop Hugh, but the monks of Durham opposed it so much, that after his father's decease he desisted, and gave what he designed for this house to the establishing a cell at Finchale, in the year 1196.

At Norton, a village somewhat to the north-west of Stockton, was an ancient collegiate church, dedicated to St. Mary, consisting of eight prebendaries or portionists, before the year 1227, and then in the patronage of the bishop of Durham. It was valued upon the dissolution at 34 l. 13 s. 4 d. a year.

At Gretham, a village about half way between Hartlepool and Stockton, Robert de Stichill, bishop of Durham, in the year 1262 built and endowed an hospital for a master and brethren, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Cuthbert. Its yearly revenues were valued upon the dissolution at 97 l. 6 s. 3 d. clear. It is still in being, and the mastership of it in the gift of the bishop of Durham.

At Lanchester was a collegiate church for a dean and seven prebendaries, founded by Anthony Beck, bishop of Durham, in the year 1283, and valued upon the dissolution at 49 l. 3 s. 4 d. *per annum*.

The church or chapel of St. Andrew, at Bishop's Auckland, was made collegiate, and well endowed, by Anthony Beck, bishop of Durham. At the dissolution it had a dean and eleven prebendaries. The deanry was rated at 100 l. 7 s. 2 d. *per annum*, and the eleven prebends at 79 l. 16 s. 8 d.

The provincial of the Friars Heremites, obtained leave of archbishop Nevil, in a vacancy of the bishopric of Durham, to build a friery and chapel, upon ground given by Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, in his lordship of Castle-Barnard, in the parish of Gaynford; but whether or no this friery was built, does not appear.

Richard duke of Gloucester, afterwards king Richard the Third, obtained licence from king Edward the Fourth, in the seventeenth year of his reign, to found a college in the castle here, for a dean and twelve secular priests, ten clerks and six choristers, dedicated to Jesus Christ, the Virgin Mary, St. Margaret, and St. Ninian, and to purchase lands not exceeding the yearly value of 400 marks; but what was done in consequence of the grant does not appear.

Here was an hospital of St. John, valued upon the dissolution at 5 l. 9 s. 4 d. *per annum*, clear; and it is yet in being, and the gift of the mastership is in the lord chancellor of Great Britain.

At Staindrop, a small town, five or six miles north-east of Barnard-Castle, Ralph Nevil, earl of Westmoreland, in the time of Henry the Fourth, founded

a college for a master or warden, six priests, six clerks, six decayed gentlemen, six poor officers, and other poor men, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed at the dissolution with the yearly revenues of 170*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* in the whole, and 126*l.* 5*s.* 10*d.* clear.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

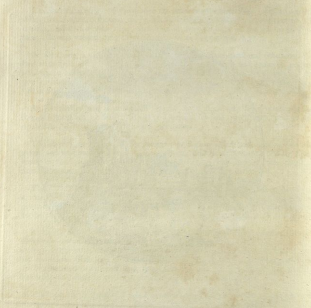
This county sends four members to parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, and two citizens for the city of Durham.



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ST OSYTH'S PRIORY.

1747

E S S E X.

NAME.

**T**HE name *Essex* is a contraction of the ancient Saxon names *Eart-beara* and *Eart-bea-ripe*, which were derived to this county from its *easterly* situation, and which the Normans changed into *Esseſſe*.

BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

This county is bounded by Suffolk and Cambridgeſhire on the north, by the German ocean on the eaſt, by the river Thames, which ſeparates it from the county of Kent on the ſouth, and by the counties of Middleſex and Hertford on the weſt. It meaſures 47 miles from eaſt to weſt, 43 miles from north to ſouth, and 150 miles in circumference; and Chelmsford, a conſiderable market town, nearly in the middle of the county, is ſituated 23 miles north-eaſt from London.

RIVERS.

§

## RIVERS.

The principal rivers in this county are the Stour, the Lea, the Coln, the Blackwater, and the Chelmer. The Stour rises in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-east, separates it from Suffolk, and falls into the German Ocean at Harwich, a borough town of this county. The Lea, rising in the north-west of the county, runs almost directly south, and separating Essex from the counties of Hertford and Middlesex, falls into the river Thames at Blackwall, a village on the east side of London. The Coln rises also in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-east to Halsted, a considerable market town, runs parallel to the river Stour, and passes by Colchester, a large borough town, where, forming an angle, it runs south-south-east, and falls into the German Ocean about seven or eight miles south-east from that town. The Blackwater rises likewise in the north-west part of Essex, and running south-east, passes by Braintree, a market town, and falls into the Chelmer at Maldon, a borough town of this county. The Chelmer rises within two or three miles of the source of the river Blackwater, and running nearly parallel to it, passes to Chelmsford, where, forming an angle, it runs directly east, and receiving the Blackwater, falls into the German ocean near Maldon.

## A I R.

The air of this county in general is unhealthy, especially to strangers. Some parts of it, particularly the hundreds of Rochford and Dengy, border upon the sea and the Thames, and are a rotten oozy soil; the country is besides full of marshes and fens, which produce noisome and pernicious vapours, and subject the inhabitants to agues and such other disorders as usually rise from a moist and putrid atmosphere. But great part of the western and northern divisions of the county is as healthy as any other district in the island.

## SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

It is observed of this county that the soil is generally best where the air is worst; for the fenny hundreds that border upon the sea and the Thames, abound with rich pastures and corn lands; but in most of the inland parts the soil is chiefly gravel and sand, and fit neither for corn or grass. The northern parts of this county are remarkable for the production of saffron; and in some of these parts the soil is so rich, that after three crops of saffron, it will yield good barley for twenty years together, without dunging. Other parts of Essex yield hops in great abundance; in general it has plenty of wood; and no county in England is better stored with provisions of every kind.

It furnishes the markets of London with corn, fat oxen, and sheep. There is always a good breed of serviceable horses in the marshes of this county, and great plenty of all sorts of sea and river fish, but especially oysters. It abounds with wild fowl, and by the sea side the inhabitants have decoys for ducks, that in the winter season are generally of great emolument to the owners.

M A N U-

## MANUFACTURES and TRADE.

The principal manufactures of this county are cloths and stuffs, but particularly baize and fays, of which, not half a century ago, such quantities were exported to Spain and the Spanish colonies in America, to cloath the nuns and friars, that there has often been a return from London of 30,000 l. a-week in ready money, to Colchester only, and a few small towns round it.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into twenty hundreds, and contains twenty-four market towns, but no city. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of London, and contains 415 parishes.

## MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are Barking, Billericay, Braintree, Burntwood, Chelmsford, Chipping-Ongar, Coggeshall, Colchester, Dunmow, Epping, Grays-Thurrock, Halded, Harwich, Hatfield-Broad oak, Ingersstone, Maldon, Manningtree, Rayleigh, Rochford, Rufford, Thaxted, Walden, Waltham-Abbey, and Witham.

**BARKING** is so called from a stream of the same name, upon which it is situated. It is distant ten miles from London, and stands upon a creek where the Barking falls into another stream called the Roding, about two miles beyond their confluence with the Thames. The town is large and chiefly inhabited by fishermen, whose boats, called smacks, lie at the mouth of the creek, in the Thames, from whence their fish is sent up in boats to Billingsgate, the great fish-market at London. The town is included in one parish, which is large, and has been much improved by lands, which the rivers Thames, Barking, and Roding have left dry: the small tithes are computed at above 600 l. a-year. It has a church and two chapels of ease, one at Ilford, a small neighbouring village, and the other on the side of Epping-Forest.

**BILLERICAY** is distant from London 23 miles. It is only a chapelry to a parish called Great Bursted, and has nothing worthy of note.

**BRAINTREE**, or **BRAINTREE**, distant 42 miles from London, is a large town, with some good houses, lately built. It abounds with dissenters, and one of their community, Henry Smith, esq, left 2800 l. to be laid out in land for the relief of the poor of this and some neighbouring parishes. Here is a charity school, and this town was, not many years ago, famous for a great manufacture of baize and fays.

**BURNWOOD**, or **BRENTWOOD**, distant from London 17 miles, is only a hamlet to, or division of a parish called Southwold cum Brent. It stands on a hill in the road to Harwich, has good inns, and is a populous place: the county assizes have been frequently held here, and there are often horse races on a neighbouring plain, called Parlow-wood Common.

CHELMSFORD derives its name from its situation in a beautiful plain on the river Chelmer, near its confluence with a small stream called the Cann, in the London road to the city of Norwich, the borough of Yarmouth, and other places in Norfolk. It has a bridge over the Chelmer, and probably in this place was the ford. It is a large and populous town, being a great thoroughfare, and near the center of the county, for which reason it is generally chosen for the general quarter sessions, the petty sessions, and county courts, the meetings of the commissioners of the land and window taxes, and the elections for knights of the shire. Chelmsford has one church, which appears to have been rebuilt almost four hundred years ago; it has also a free school, founded and liberally endowed by king Edward the Sixth, and a charity school for 45 boys and 25 girls, who are taught, clothed, and put out apprentices by private donations. The chief support of this place is the business of the county, and the numerous carriages and droves of cattle, and vast quantities of provisions and manufactures that are constantly going through this place to London.

CHIPPING-ONGAR, 20 miles distant from London, has two charity schools, one for 26 boys, and the other for 12 girls.

COGGESHALL, or COXALL, is by some thought to have derived its name from a Roman called Coccillus, who was buried here. It is situated on the river Blackwater, at the distance of 47 miles from London. It had once a very considerable manufacture of baize and says, and a peculiar kind of stuff called Coggeshall whites, said to be finer than any other woollen cloth. This manufacture, though much diminished, is still considerable.

COLCHESTER derives its name from the river Coln, which washes the north and east parts of the town. It is distant 58 miles from London, and governed by a mayor, a high steward, a recorder, or his deputy, eleven aldermen, a chamberlain, a town clerk, eighteen assistants, and eighteen common council men. It was last incorporated by king William the Third, and is a liberty of itself, having four wards and sixteen parishes, eight of which are within the walls, and eight without. It is a populous place, and the chief town in the county: it is about three miles in circumference, pleasantly situated on the side of a hill; the streets, of which two run from the top of this hill to the bottom, are spacious, and though not in general remarkably well built, yet there are a great many good houses in it, besides the guild-hall, adjoining to which is the town gaol, and a hall called Dutch-baize-hall, belonging to a corporation for the support of the baize and say manufactures, both which are fine buildings. Here are ten parish churches, one Dutch church, and one French church, and five meeting-houses, of which two are for the quakers. It was anciently surrounded by a strong wall, and defended by a castle, of which the ruins are still to be seen. Here is a particular corporation for maintaining the poor, consisting of the mayor and aldermen, for the time being, and forty-eight guardians. Here are also two charity schools, one for 70 boys, and the other for 50 boys and girls, a work-house, and two free grammar schools, and there are three bridges upon the river Coln, which was made navigable by act of parliament for small craft, up to a long street next the water side, called the Hith, where there is a key, and for ships of large burden, to a place called the Wyvenhoe, within three miles of the town.

Vol. 1. page 20



*The South East View of Colchester.*

J. B. Kneller del.

UVA.BHSC



*View of the Bay of Biscaya*

town, where there is a custom-house, and a little further towards the sea, the water may receive a royal navy.

This town has the greatest manufacture of baize and fays of any in England; it is also remarkable for candying eringo roots, but much more for its oysters: they are taken near the mouth of the Coln upon sands called the Spirits, and are carried up to the Wyvenhoe, where they are laid in beds or pits on the shore to feed; after they have continued in these pits some time, they are barrell'd and brought to Colchester, from whence they are sent in great quantities to London and other places. Such shoals of sprats are caught and consumed by the woollen manufacturers here, that the common name for this fish in Essex, is the weavers beef of Colchester.

DUNMOW is called also Dunmow Magna, or Great Dunmow, to distinguish it from a village in its neighbourhood, known by the name of Dunmow Parva, or Little Dunmow. The name Dunmow is supposed to have been originally formed of two British words, *dunum*, a gravelly hill, and *magnus*, a town, it having been very common in the gradual mutation of our language, to change *a* into *e*, and at the end of words *g* into *w*. This town is situated on a hill of gravel, as the name imports, and is washed by the Chelmer. It is distant 38 miles from London, and gives name to its hundred, the bailiff of which is appointed by the high sheriff of the county. It is an ancient town, and is governed by twelve headboroughs, out of which a bailiff or chief officer is chosen every year. Its trade is confined to a manufacture of baize.

EPHING, anciently called Eppinges, is situated at the distance of 17 miles from London, on the side of a forest, called from this town Epping Forest, which is a royal chace, and reaches from the town to within five miles of London. This forest was anciently called the Forest of Essex, and afterwards the Forest of Waltham. The market of this town is kept in a hamlet called Epping Street, about one mile and a half from the church.

GRAYS THURROCK, or THURROCK MAGNA, is a little obscure town, about 19 miles from London, of which no other account is extant.

HALSTED is pleasantly situated on a hill, upon the bank of the river Coln, at the distance of 45 miles from London. Here however is nothing worthy of any particular note.

HARWICH derives its name from the Saxon word *Hape-pic*, a Haven or bay where a navy may ride, and is supposed to have been so called from a sea fight between the Saxons and the Danes, in the harbour on which the town stands, in the year 884. It is distant from London 71 miles, and was first made a borough by king Edward the Second. It was afterwards incorporated by king James the First, and the corporation now consists of a mayor, chosen annually on the thirtieth of November, eight aldermen, twenty-four capital burgeses, and a recorder. The mayor has a power to keep courts of admiralty, which have a jurisdiction over all naval affairs.

The town is not large, but well built and populous; it is surrounded by a wall, and the streets are well paved. Between the town and a high hill, called Beacon-hill, not far distant, there is a cliff consisting of a kind of clay, parts of which are continually falling down into a petrifying water at the bottom, which they imbibe, and being afterwards taken out and dried, they become an impenetrable and durable stone, and of this stone the walls and pavement of Harwich consist. The church, ever since the reformation, has been a chapel to the mother church, which is at a neighbouring village, called Dover Court.

The harbour is very safe, and so spacious, that a hundred sail of men of war, with their tenders, besides three or four hundred sail of colliers, have frequently been seen here at the same time. The mouth of the harbour at high water, is near three miles wide, but the channel, by which alone the ships can come into the harbour, is deep and narrow, and lies on the Suffolk side, so that all the ships that come in or go out, are commanded by a strong fort, called Landguard Fort, which was built by king James the First, on a point of land, so surrounded by the sea at high water, that it looks like an island, lying about a mile from the shore. The town was formerly fortified on the land side, but in the reign of king Charles the First the fortifications were demolished. An act of parliament has since passed for fortifying this town anew, and ground has been purchased for that purpose, but little or no progress has been made in the work.

Here is a very good yard for building ships, with store-houses, cranes, launches, and other necessaries. The packet-boats, which carry the mails between England and Holland, are stationed here; and this is the port to pass to and from Holland and Germany: the inns are very good, but the great concourse of passengers made accommodations so dear, that sloops were some time since fitted up to sail directly for Holland and Germany from the Thames; and the stage coaches that used to pass two or three times a-week, between this place and London, were after this regulation laid down.

On Beacon-hill, south of the harbour, and opposite to the fort, there is a large high built light-house, whence there is an extensive view of the coasts of Suffolk and Essex. Beacon-hill is about half a mile distant from the town, and there is a walk to it, which in fine weather is extremely pleasant.

There are three islands south-west of Harwich, called Pewet, Horsey and Holmes, which however are separated from the main land only by the winding of a stream, and the influx of the sea into that stream. Upon these islands there is found a sea fowl, which, when fat, is very delicious food: south of these islands there are three villages, which are included within a liberty or lordship, anciently called the liberty of the Soke, in which the sheriff of the county has no power, and in which no writ can be executed but by the bailiff of the liberty, nor by him, without the consent of the lord.

**HATFIELD BROADOAK.** Hatfield is formed of the Saxon word *Hat*, (i. e.) hot, and *field*, and this place was probably so called, because it stands on a hot sandy spot: the name Broadoak is borrowed from a large spreading oak that grew  
in



in it, a second name being necessary to distinguish it from other Hatfields. It is also called Hatfield-Regis, or King's Hatfield, because it was held by knights service of the king. It is distant from London 28 miles.

INGERSTONE, or INGATSTONE, is distant 23 miles from London, in the road to Harwich. Here is an almshouse for twenty poor people, with a chaplain to read service to them every day, founded in the reign of King Henry the Eighth, by Sir William Petre, and a church, in which Sir William lies buried, under a stately monument.

MALDON, or MALDEN, stands on an eminence, near a bay called Blackwater-Bay, formed by the influx of the rivers Chelmer and Blackwater into the sea. It is distant from London 38 miles, and is a borough and corporation, governed by two bailiffs, six aldermen, eighteen headboroughs, a steward, a recorder, and above four hundred commonalty and burgesses, who have all a vote for its members in parliament. The town is large and populous, but consists chiefly of one street, but that street is near a mile long, and branches out into many lanes. It formerly had three parish churches, but now has only two. It has a large library for the use of the minister of the place, and the clergy of the neighbouring hundreds, who generally reside here, because the air where their churches stand is much more unwholesome.

Here is a grammar school and a workhouse, in which the poor weave sackcloth. The town has a convenient haven for ships of about 400 tons, and some of the merchants carry on a considerable trade in coal, iron, deals, and corn: Blackwater Bay is famous for excellent oysters, called Wallfleets, from a sea wall of earth, which extends five miles along the shore where they lie. Mr. Camden thinks that the Wallfleet oysters are those which Pliny says served the Roman kitchens, and the same that Ausonius means in the following verse to Paulinus:

*Mira Caledonius nunquam detegit ostras.*

MANNINGTREE, or MAINTREE, distant 59 miles from London, is situated on the river Stour, over which it has a bridge. It is a little dirty town, but has a good market: the church is a chapel of ease to a neighbouring village, called Mistley.

RAYLEIGH is distant from London 35 miles, and is an ancient honour (with a court leet and baron; and many other privileges belonging to it) but greatly decayed, many of the buildings being gone to ruin, though one broad handsome street is still standing.

ROCHFORD is distant 40 miles from London, and situated on a small stream that falls into a river called the Crowch. It gives its name to the hundred in which it lies, and has an almshouse, founded and endowed by lord Rich: to the statutes of this almshouse are subject six other houses, built by the earl of Warwick, for five men and one woman, who receive each of them three shillings and sixpence a week, a gown at Christmas, to the value of a guinea, and two loads of wood annually, out of the earl's wood.

RUM-

RUMFORD, distant 12 miles from London, is a great thoroughfare between that city and Harwich, and most towns of note in Suffolk and Norfolk. It is governed by a bailiff and wardens, who, though not incorporated, are impowered by patent to hold a court every week, for the trial of civil and criminal causes. Here is a charity school for fifty boys and twenty girls, and a church, but the church is only a chapel to Horn church, a neighbouring village.

THAXTED, anciently called Tachteda, and sometimes Tasted, stands upon the river Chelmer at the distance of 42 miles from London, and was incorporated by Philip and Mary. The corporation consists of a mayor, bailiff, and commonalty; queen Elizabeth confirmed the charter, and king James the First added several privileges, and granted the corporation a recorder. The church is a regular and stately building.

WALDEN was anciently called Waleduna, afterwards Walden-Burgh, after that Chipping-Walden, and it is now called Saffron-Walden, the neighbouring fields being appropriated to the cultivation of saffron. It is situated on the borders of Cambridgeshire, about 42 miles from London; it was incorporated by king Edward the Sixth, and governed by twenty-four aldermen, out of whom a principal officer was annually chosen, called a treasurer, and two assistants, who were called chamberlains; but by a charter of king William and queen Mary it has a mayor. Here is a good church, an almshouse, well endowed, and a free school, on a royal foundation. The saffron raised in the fields about this town, is generally allowed to be greatly superior to any other, though it has not been so much cultivated of late as it was formerly. The plant which yields the saffron is of the bulbous kind, and the usual way of propagating it is by the bulbs, of which every year produces a new succession. These bulbs are planted out in trenches, at about five inches distance, and seldom fail; they produce only leaves the first year, but in September or October of the year following they flower; the flower is blue, and in the middle of it are three yellow chives: these flowers are gathered in the morning before sun rise, and the chives, which are the saffron, being picked out, are dried by a gentle fire, and formed into cakes by a very careful press. At the end of October, when the flowering season is over, the bulbs are taken out of the ground and hung up in a dry place, and in spring they are put into the ground again. The increase of this plant is so wonderful, that though the quantity of saffron yielded by a single flower is very small, yet an acre of ground will produce eighty or an hundred pounds weight of wet saffron, which will weigh twenty pounds when it has been dried. The saffron is seldom planted more than three years in one piece of ground.

WALTHAM-ABBEY is distant from London 13 miles, and is situated on the river Lea, which, dividing into divers channels, forms several small islands, that are often overflowed.

WITNAM is 37 miles from London, and stands in the great road from London to Colchester, Harwich, and the farthest parts of Essex and Suffolk. This is a pleasant town, neatly built; it has several fine inns, and in the neighbourhood there are many elegant seats. Many people resort hither in the summer to drink a chalybeate water called the spaw, and the neighbouring gentry have assemblies in the town once a month.

CURL

## C U R I O S I T I E S.

In the marshy parts of Essex the farmers are said to drive a sort of trade in <sup>A trade in</sup> wives, by going into the inland parts of the county to marry, and then bringing <sup>wives.</sup> their wives home into the fens, where they know the change of air so much for the worse, will in a short time dispatch them; it is even said that some have boasted of having by this method obtained the pleasant variety of half a score wives, and the comfortable enjoyment of so many fortunes.

It is however to be hoped, for the honour of human nature, that these reports are not true; for he that marries a wife with a view to destroy her, by carrying her into a fen, and the hope of enriching himself by successive fortunes, is not less a murderer and a robber, than he who deliberately cuts a throat, that he may plunder a house; he is indeed guilty of more complicated villainy, as he perpetrates it under the mask of affection, and as it can succeed only against those who are supposed to have an affection for him, and whom he is under the most tender and the most solemn obligation to cherish and protect.

At Dagenham, a village near Barking, the river Thames broke in some time <sup>An inundation.</sup> ago, and overflowed a tract of near 5000 acres of land, since called Dagenham Breach; but after ten years inundation, and several fruitless attempts to drain the land, and reduce the water to its former channel, it was at length happily effected by captain Perry, a gentleman who had been several years employed by Peter the Great, Czar of Muscovy, in his works at Veronitza, a city upon the river Don.

The spring at the bottom of the cliff, between Beacon Hill and the town of <sup>Petrifications.</sup> Marwich, petrifies not only the earth, that falls into it from the top of the cliff, but wood also; and a large piece of wood thus petrified, is preserved in the repository of the royal society.

At the bottom of this cliff, in a stratum of stone, have been found a great va- <sup>Shells and</sup> riety of shells, both of the turbinated and bivalve kinds; and upon the shore, <sup>copperas-</sup> under the hill, is found the stone from which our common copperas is prepared, <sup>stones.</sup> and which the people here for that reason call copperas stone. To prepare copperas from these stones, they are mixed with earth, and disposed into light beds, above ground, where they dissolve by the rains and dews; this solution is received into trunks, properly disposed, which conduct it into a large leaden cistern, whence it is again conveyed into a leaden boiler, where, after boiling some time, it is drawn off into coolers, where it shoots into crystals. These stones are also found in some places on the coast of Kent, where there are works of the like kind for making copperas from them.

At East Tilbury, a little town upon the banks of the Thames, about twenty <sup>Caverns.</sup> miles from London, there is a chalky cliff, in which are several spacious caverns about twelve feet high, growing gradually narrower at the top: they are very skilfully lined with stone, and are thought to be the work of the ancient Britons, who probably used them for granaries, in the manner of the Germans, mentioned by Tacitus.

*Tilbury fort.* At a little distance is West Tilbury, where there is a fort close to the river Thames, and directly opposite to a block-house at Gravesend, a considerable market town in Kent, which may be considered as the key of the port of London. It is a regular fortification, planned by Sir Martin Beckman, chief engineer to king Charles the Second, and is kept constantly garrisoned; the esplanade is very large, and the bastions, which are faced with brick, are the largest in England. It has two moats or ditches, one within the other; the innermost is 180 feet broad; it has also a good counterescarp, and covered way, marked out with ravelines and tenailles: on the land side are two small redoubts of brick, and the garrison can lay the whole level under water: on the side next the river is a very strong curtain, with a noble gate, called the Water Gate, in the middle; before the curtain is a platform, on which are mounted above 100 guns, from 24 to 46 pounders, besides smaller pieces, which are planted between those that are mounted on the bastions and curtain.

*Audley-End palace.* At Audley-End, about a mile south of Saffron Walden, is a seat of the earl of Suffolk. It was built out of the ruins of a monastery, by Thomas lord Audley of Walden, who was created earl of Suffolk by king James the First, to whom he was treasurer. The earl designed it as a palace for his majesty, and when it was finished presented it to him; but the king, when he saw its vast extent and magnificence, said that it would suit very well a lord treasurer, but that it was too much for a king. It remained therefore in the possession of the earls of Suffolk during that and the succeeding reign; but it was afterwards purchased by king Charles the Second; but not being able to pay for it, he mortgaged the hearth tax to the then earls, as a security for the money. This tax was taken off soon after the revolution, but the state not being then in a condition to pay the money for which it had been pledged, the house was granted back again to the family. It was then the largest royal palace in the kingdom, but Henry earl of Suffolk soon after pulled down a great part of it, one court only being now standing, which however is itself worthy to be called a palace.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

*Ancient inhabitants.* Essex is part of the country anciently inhabited by those Britons whom Cæsar calls Trinobantes, and Ptolemy Trinoantes; whence this name was derived there is no probable conjecture; some have thought it might come from *Treja Nevs, New Trej,* and others from the British word *Tre-nant,* which signifies *towns in a valley.* Cæsar says that he found the Trinobantes the most warlike people in the Island. Cunobeline, who was governor of the Trinobantes, not long after Cæsar's invasion, was the first who stamped the British coins after the Roman manner, and of these coins several have been dug up at Maldon, the place of his residence.

*A Roman Station.* Layton, a village five miles north-east of London, was the ancient Durolitum mentioned in the *Itinerary* of Antoninus, and was a Roman station, as appears from the great variety of antiquities that have been dug up here, particularly a large Roman urn found in the church-yard, with some ashes in it, and coals sticking to the sides of it, and several other urns of various sizes and figures, with ashes in them, and small pieces of bones, that escaped the funeral fires, which have been found at Rackholt-house, not far from this town.

Near

Near Layton there was formerly a passage or ford over the river Lea, as appears from the name of a village in the neighbourhood called Oldford; but queen Maud, wife to king Henry the First, having narrowly escaped drowning in this place, caused a bridge to be built over the river a little lower, at Stratford. Stratford bridge.

King Harold, being killed in battle against William the Conqueror, was buried at Waltham Abbey, which he himself built; and some men who were at work there in the reign of queen Elizabeth, found his coffin, over which was a grave stone, with no other inscription than INFOELIX HAROLD. Waltham Abbey.

Upon a grave stone in the church of Newport, a village near Walden, is the following inscription: An ancient epitaph.

Here under this marble stone,  
Lyeth the body of Maister Jon  
Heynes, B. L. L. vicar of this church,  
Who died MCCCC.

At Chesterford, a village four miles north of Walden, were discovered some years ago the ruins of a Roman city; the foundations of the walls take in a compass of about fifty acres; and the foundations of a Roman temple are still very visible. A Roman city.

At Ashdon, about three miles north-west of Walden, there are four barrows, or pyramidal hillocks, erected by Canute the Dane, in memory of a battle which he fought there, and in which he totally defeated the army of Edmund Ironside, and took most of the nobility that attended him prisoners. A Danish monument.

Near Coggeshall was found in a grotto by the road side, a phial, containing a lamp, covered with a Roman tile near fourteen inches long; also some urns with ashes and bones in them; one of the urns, resembling coral, had this inscription: COCCILLI M. i. e. *to the manes of Cocillus*, from whom it is thought this town derived its name. Pensins of Roman antiquity.

Dunmow is a place of great antiquity, and supposed by some to be the Casaromagus of the Romans; in several parts of the road between this place and Colchester, there are still to be seen the remains of an old Roman way, which the inhabitants call the Street, probably from *Strata*, a word by which Bede and some other ancient writers denominate a Roman road. Here was formerly a priory; and it is recorded that in the reign of king Henry the Third, the lord Fitzwalter instituted a custom, that whatever married man made oath, kneeling upon two sharp pointed stones in the church-yard of the priory, that for a year and a day after marriage, he neither directly nor indirectly, sleeping or waking, repented his bargain, had any quarrel with his wife, or any way transgressed his nuptial obligation, such married man should be intitled to a fitch of bacon. The records of this place mention no less than four persons who have claimed and received the bacon; one of them was so lately as the year 1748. Antiquities of Dunmow.

At Tilbury Fort the four proconular ways made by the Romans in Britain, crossed each other. Roman ways.

An ancient  
grant.

In the time of Edward the Confessor all the tract of ground now known by the name of Dengy Hundred, was a forest, as appears by a grant of that prince to Randolph Peperking, still to be seen in the records of the Exchequer,\* which is transcribed as a specimen of the undefinishing simplicity of those times:

Iche Edward Koning  
Have geven of my forrest the keeping,  
Of the hundred of Chelmer and Dancing,  
To Randolph Peperking and to his kindling:  
With beorte and hinde, doe and bocke,  
Hare and foxe, cat and brocke,  
Wilde fowell with his flocke,  
Partriche, fesant hen, and fesant cock:  
With greene and wilde frob and stock,  
To keepen and to yemen by all her might,  
Both by day and eke by night:  
And hounds for to holde  
Good and swift and bolde:  
Fower greyhounds and six ratches,  
For hare and fox, and wild cattes.  
And therefore ich made him my booke:  
Witnesse the bisshop Wolfston  
And booke ylered many on,  
And Sweyne of Essex our brother,  
And taken him many other,  
And our shiward Howelin,  
That by fought me for him.

Antiquities of  
Maldon.

Maldon was the ancient Camalodunum, a city of the Romans, and the seat of the kings of the Trinobantes, as appears from some coins of Cunobeline dug up here, with *Casa* upon one side, and *Casa* on the other. This was the first Roman colony in Britain, being taken by the emperor Claudius in the year 43, who placed a stout band of veterans in it, and called it *Colonia VUltriciensis*; he also coined money in memory of this exploit, on which was inscribed COL. CAMALODUN. Here was a temple erected to Claudius, in which was an altar called the altar of eternal dominion, and certain priests called *Sodales Augustales*, were appointed to attend it; but the cruelty and oppression of the Roman soldiers of this station so exasperated the Britons, that a few years afterwards they besieged, plundered, and burnt this city. It appears however to have been afterwards rebuilt by the Romans; for Antoninus mentions it as being a city in a much later time.

In a garden of this town was found a piece of gold almost as large as a guinea, having a bust of Nero upon one side, and of Agrippina on the other, not ill executed.

There is a custom in this place, that if a man dies intestate, his lands and regiments descend to his youngest son, or if he dies without issue, to his youngest

\* Hilary Term, 17th Edward the Second.

brother.

brother. This custom is called borough English, and is said to have been originally much more general, and to have taken its rise from the wanton and diabolical tyranny of the ancient feudal lords, who, when any of those who held under them married, claimed the first night with the bride: as some doubt therefore naturally arose whether the first born child was legitimate, a custom was established to cut such child off from its inheritance, and as the most distant from suspicion, the youngest was preferred in its stead.

Upon the outside of the south wall of Chelmsford church, is the following inscription: \* Prey for the good estate of the township of Chelmsford, that hath <sup>Antiquities of Chelmsford.</sup> been willing and prompt of helpys to build this church, M.CCC.LXXXIX.

It is generally thought that the town of Colchester, and the river Coln, which runs through part of it, took their names from *Colonia*, the Latin word for a *Colony*, supposed to have been planted here from London. That this town flourished under the Romans is manifest, not only from the abundance of their coins frequently found here, but from several of their buildings still standing. At the Queen's Head inn in the market place, the stable and room over it is a Roman structure; the churches of this town and their towers, seem to have been built of Roman bricks and ruins; and there was a Roman military way that led from hence westward, by Braintry, Dunmow, and other towns, quite across the county to Hertfordshire.

At Chipping-Ongar, Richard Lucy, who was protector of England while king <sup>Ancient castles,</sup> Henry the Second was in Normandy, built a castle upon an artificial mount, of great height, and surrounded it with a moat and other fortifications; the greatest part of these fortifications are still to be seen, though the castle has been pulled down, and a good house built in the room of it.

At Hadleigh, not far from Rayleigh, are the remains of an ancient castle, built soon after the Conquest.

Near Rochford there is a hill called King's Hill, where the lord of the honour <sup>Lawless court,</sup> of Rayleigh holds a court on the Wednesday morning after Michaelmas, at cock-crow. This court is called lawless court; the steward and suitors are obliged to whisper to each other; they are not allowed either fire or candle; a piece of coal supplies the place of pen and ink; and he who owes service to the court, and does not attend, forfeits double his rent for every hour. Camden says this attendance is a punishment imposed on the tenants, for having met at the like unseasonable hour in a conspiracy against their lord.

## ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

We are told by Bede, that Cedda, bishop of the East Saxons, about the year 630, converted the inhabitants of this county to the Christian faith, built churches in several places, and ordained priests and deacons to assist him; that he crossed his episcopal see at West Tilbury, and founded monasteries in this county,

county, particularly at Ythancester, an ancient town, which once stood upon the bank of the river Blackwater, but has been long since swallowed up by it.

At Barking, a monastery of religious virgins of the order of St. Benedict, was founded about the year 675, by Erkenwald, son of Anna, king of the East Angles, and afterwards bishop of London. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Ethelburgha; the first abbess was sister to the founder. It continued to the general dissolution, when its yearly revenues amounted to 862*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.*

Adelicia, the abbess of the convent in this place, about the year 1190 founded here, upon the road to London, an hospital, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for the leprous tenants or servants of the convent, which consisted of two masters and thirteen brethren lepers, two chaplains, and one clerk. It was valued upon the dissolution at 16*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* clear, *per annum*.

The manor of West Mersey, in an island called Mersey Island, situated at the mouth of the Coln, below Colchester, was given by Edward the Confessor to the monks of St. Audoen, at Roan, a town in Normandy, who settled here a convent of Benedictines, that became a cell to that foreign abbey. It is thought to have been dedicated to St. Peter. Upon the dissolution of alien priories, king Henry the Fifth granted this to Henry Chichely, archbishop of Canterbury, who made it part of the endowment of a collegiate church founded by him at Higham Ferrers, a borough town of Northamptonshire, the place of his nativity.

At Waltham, in the year 1062, Harold earl of Kent, founded a monastery for a dean and eleven secular canons, who were in 1177 changed by king Henry the Second into an abbat and regulars of the order of St. Austin, and their number increased to twenty-four. It was dedicated to the Holy Cross, and its yearly revenue at the general dissolution was 900*l.* 4*s.* 3*d.*

Here was an hospital built by the abbat and convent within the precincts of that monastery, about the year 1218.

The manor of Panfield, a village near Braintry, was given by Waleran Fitz Ranulph, in the fourth year of William the Conqueror, to the abbey of St. Stephen at Caen, in Normandy, upon which here was an alien priory of Benedictine monks; but in the first year of Henry the Fifth, the abbat and convent of Caen granted it in fee to John Woodhouse, Esq; who sold it to Thomas Bourchier, archbishop of Canterbury, and he gave it in the year 1473 to the prior and convent of his metropolitan church at Canterbury.

At Thremhall, a village north-west of Hatfield-Broadsok, was a priory of Black canons, founded by Gilbert de Montefixo, or Mountfichet, who came into England with the Conqueror. It was dedicated to St. James, and rated upon the dissolution at 60*l.* 18*s.* 7*d.* *per annum*.

At Hatfield Peverell, a village situated between Witham and Chelmsford, Ingalrica, the wife of Runulph Peverell, and concubine to king William the Conqueror,



queror, founded a college of secular canons in the time of William Rufus. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and was changed in the time of Henry the First, by her son William Peverell, into a priory of Benedictines, subordinate to the abbey of St. Albans, a borough town of Hertfordshire, upon which it was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the suppression had a prior and four monks, and a yearly revenue of 60*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*

At Colchester, Eudo, a great officer in the courts of king William the Conqueror, and his two sons and successors, built an abbey of Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It was begun in the year 1096, and finished in 1104. Its yearly revenue at the dissolution was 523*l.* 17*s.*

Eudo also, at the command of king Henry the First, erected just without the town, on the south-east side, an hospital for a master and several leprous people, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and valued upon the dissolution at 11*l.* 2-year.

One Eynulphus, or Ernulphus, in the beginning of the reign of Henry the First, founded on the south side of this town, a monastery for Austin canons, dedicated to St. Julian and St. Botolph, and became prior of it himself. It was deemed the first house of this order in England, and at the suppression was valued at 113*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

On the south-west of Colchester was an hospital or priory of Crossid or Crouched friars, who came into England in the year 1244. This is said to have been the first house of the order in this island, and was valued upon the suppression at 7*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

About the year 1309, Robert lord Fitzwalter built a priory near the East Gate of this town, for Franciscan or Grey friars, and afterwards took the habit himself. The revenues upon the suppression are not known.

At Earl's-Colne, Colne-Engame, Colne-Wake, or Colne-White, a village upon the river Coln, between Colchester and Hatfield, Albericus de Vere, the first of that name, erected a priory for Black monks from Abingdon, in Berkshire, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the First, and became himself a monk in this house, which he made subordinate to that abbey. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. John the Evangelist, and had at the dissolution a prior and ten monks, possessed of yearly revenues worth 156*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.*

At Dunmow Parva, the lady Juga, sister to Ralph Baynard, in the year 1104 built a church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in which Jeffrey, her son, two years after placed canons, who observed the rule of St. Austin. Upon the suppression here were a prior and ten or eleven religious, who had a yearly revenue of 150*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

At Chich, a village some miles south-east of Colchester, was a monastery, said by legendary writers to be the most ancient in this county: they tell us that a  
ann-

nunnery was built here by Ofitha, daughter of king Frithwald, and queen to Sig-ber, king of the East Saxons; that she dedicated it to St. Peter and St. Paul, and lived in it till she was martyred by the Danes in 653; but it appears from better authority, that before 1118 Richard de Belmeis, bishop of London, in honour of the apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, and of St. Ofitha, the supposed original foundress, built a religious house here for canons of the order of St. Austin, which at the suppression was endowed with 677*l.* 1*s.* 2*d.* a-year.

At Wicke, a village near Witham, Walter Macherell, Alexander his brother, and his sister Edith, in the reign of Henry the First, built a nunnery of Benedictines, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which upon the suppression had yearly revenues to the value of 261. 16*s.* 8*d.* in spiritualities, and 651. 15*s.* 7*d.* in temporalities, in the whole 921. 12*s.* 3*d.* *per annum*, and was one of the small monasteries suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey, towards erecting his colleges.

At Takely, a village north of Hatfield-Broad oak, was a priory, given by king Henry the First to the abbey of St. Valery, in Picardy, which upon the dissolution of such alien priories, was made part of the endowment of New College in Oxford.

At Horley Parva, a village north-west of Colchester, was a priory of Cluniac monks, subordinate to the monastery of the same order at Thetford, a borough town of Norfolk, founded by Robert Fitz Godebold and Beatrix his wife, in the time of Henry the First. It was dedicated to St. Peter, and suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey, when the yearly revenues of it were rated at 271. 7*s.* 11*d.*

At Stratford, a village three miles east of London, William of Montfitchet, built in the year 1134, or 1135, an abbey for monks of the Cistercian order, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints. This house being in a low situation, among the marshes, the religious were obliged to remove to a cell or grange called Burghsted, near Billericay, to avoid the floods; but by the care of one of the king Richards, their damages were repaired, and they were brought back to Stratford, which was endowed at the dissolution with 511*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.* *per annum*.

In this town Ralph de Stratford, bishop of London, in the twenty-sixth year of Edward the Third, obtained the king's licence to found and endow a college or large chantry of secular priests, to be governed by a provost, within the chapel of St. Paul, in his castle here.

At Saffron Walden a priory of Benedictine monks was founded by Jeffry Mandevil, the first earl of Essex, after the Conquest, in the year 1136, dedicated to St. Mary and St. James. In the time of king Richard the First it became an abbey, and was valued at the dissolution at 372*l.* 18*s.* 1*d.* *per annum*.

The church of St. Mary's at Hatfield Broad oak, was given before the year 1140, by Aubrey de Vere, the second of that name, and father to the earl of Oxford,

Oxford, to the monks of the abbey of St. Melanius, at Redon, in Brittany, to which it became a cell; but Aubrey Vere the third, or his son the earl of Oxford, is thought to have increased its revenues, and made it an independant priory of Black monks, for such it was at the suppression, when it contained nine monks, whose yearly income was 122 l. 13s. 2d.

At Coggeshall king Stephen, and Maud his queen, in the year 1142, founded an abbey for Cistercian or White monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed at the dissolution with a yearly revenue of 251 l. 2s.

At Thoby, near Ingerstone, was placed a priory of Aulfin canons, in the time of king Stephen, by Michael Capra, Roife his wife, and William their son. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Leonard, and was suppressed in the seventeenth year of king Henry the Eighth, when it was worth in spiritualities 181. 13s. 4d. in temporalities 561. 13s. 6d. and in all 751. 6s. 20d. *per annum*.

The manor of Cressing, or Cressing Temple, a village near Braintry, was about the year 1150 granted by king Stephen to the Knights Templars, who had a preceptory here: it was afterwards granted to the Hospitallers.

At Tiltey, a village near Dunmow, Robert Ferrers earl of Derby, and Maurice Fitz Jeffrey, about the year 1152, founded an abbey of White monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which at the dissolution had seven monks, and yearly revenues rated at 167 l. 2s. 6d.

At Woodham Ferris, a village north-east of Billericay, was first an hermitage before the year 1156, and then a priory of Black canons, dedicated to St. John Baptist, built and endowed by Maurice Fitz Jeffrey, of Tretai, sheriff of Essex, for the most part at the charge of king Henry the Second, who forgave him on this account several sums of money which otherwise he must have paid into the Exchequer, out of the farms and profits of his bailiwick. This house being almost forsaken, was, about the latter end of the time of king Henry the Seventh, annexed to St. Mary Spittle without Bishopsgate, London.

The church of Prittlewell, a village south of Rochford, was given to the monastery of Lewes, a borough town in Suffex, by Robert Fitz Swain, in the time of Henry the Second, when it became a priory of Cluniac monks, subordinate to that great monastery. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and in the time of king Edward the Third made denison. Here were about seven monks, whose yearly income was valued upon the dissolution at 155 l. 11s. 2d.

At Parndon Magna, or Great Parndon, a village upon the river Lea, a few miles north of Waltham Abbey, there was anciently a house of Premonstratensian canons, who removed to Bileigh, a village near Maldon, where, in the year 1180, Robert Mantell built a monastery for them, dedicated to St. Nicholas, which upon the general dissolution maintained nine canons, whose revenues were rated at 157 l. 16s. 11d. a-year.

At

At Stanefgate, a village between Maldon and the sea, on the south side of the gulph, was a priory of monks of the Cluniac order, founded by the predecessors of the priors of Lewes, to which monastery it was subordinate. St. Mary Magdalen was the tutelary saint of this house, which was in being in the year 1176, and made prioratus indigena in the time of Edward the Third, but was suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey in the eighteenth of Henry the Eighth, when its spiritualities were valued at 5*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* and its temporalities at 38*l.* 8*s.* 3*d.* in the whole 43*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* *per annum*. Upon the Cardinal's attainder, this cell was granted, in consideration of the exchange of some other lands, to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

At Henningham Castle, a village upon the Coln, north-west of Haldes, and directly north of Braintry, Aubery de Vere, third of that name, and first earl of Oxford, or as some think, rather his countess, Lucia, who became first prioress, built a small Benedictine nunnery before the year 1190, dedicated to the Holy Cross, St. Mary and St. James. It had five nuns about the time of the suppression, and lands valued at 29*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* *per annum*.

The lands of Horn Church, near Rumford, with some other revenues in this neighbourhood, being given to the great hospital de Monte Jovis, in Savoy, a cell for a prior or master and poor brethren, subordinate to that foreign house, was settled here, and dedicated to St. Nicholas and St. Barnard. This house was in the time of Richard the Second, by leave of the pope and king, bought by William Wickham, bishop of Winchester, for his New college at Oxford.

At Blakemore, a village a little way north-west of Ingerstone, was an hermitage or priory of Black canons, built by Adam and Jordan de Samford, and dedicated to St. Lawrence, before, or in the beginning of king John's reign. This was one of the small monasteries which Cardinal Wolsey procured to be dissolved, in order to the endowment of his two colleges at Oxford and Ipswich. It was valued at 85*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* a-year, and upon the Cardinal's attainder, was granted in exchange to Waltham Abbey.

The church of Writtle, a village about a mile west of Chelmsford, is said to have been given by king Stephen to the priory of Bermondsey, in Surrey, but king John gave it to the hospital at the church of St. Mary in Saxia, otherwise called the hospital of the Holy Spirit, in Rome, belonging to the English, for the maintenance of the poor and infirm there, and they enjoyed it till the fourteenth of Richard the Second, when it was purchased of them for the warden and fellows of New College in Oxon.

At Birchanger, a hamlet, a little way north-west of Hatfield Broadoak, was founded a hospital by Richard, son of Serlo de Newport, in the time of king John, for a master and two chaplains. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Leonard, and under the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean of St. Martin's in London. The revenues of it were rated upon the suppression at 31*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* *per annum*.

At Berden, near the source of the river Lea, upon the borders of Hertfordshire, there was in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Third, an hospital or priory of canons and brethren of the order of St. Austlin, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. William Bohun, earl of Northampton, and Elizabeth his wife, obtained licence of Edward the Third, in the seventeenth year of his reign, to give the advowson of this priory to the abbat and convent of Walden. Its yearly revenue at the dissolution was 29l. 6s. 4d.

At Leighs, south-west of Braintry, Sir Ralph Gernoun, in the time of king Henry the Third, is said to have founded a priory of Black canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John the Evangelist. It had ten religious in it about the time of the dissolution, when it was valued at 114l. 1s. 4d. *per annum*.

At Tiptry, a village to the east of Witham, there was a priory of Black canons, dedicated to St. Nicholas, to which Ralph de Munchensi, and Albretha his wife, were great benefactors, in the time of Edward the First. It was one of those small monasteries which were dissolved by Cardinal Wolsey, at which time Anthony Darcy claimed to be founder. It was valued at 22l. 16s. 4d. the spiritualities 4l. and the temporalities 18l. 16s. 4d. After the forfeiture of the Cardinal, it was granted with Stanefgate, in the twenty-fourth year of Henry the Eighth, in exchange to the Hospitalers.

At Laxton, a village lying a few miles north-east of Waltham Abbey, there was a priory of Black canons, whose founder and time of foundation are unknown, but it must have been long before the twentieth of Edward the First, because it is mentioned in the Lincoln taxation. It was dedicated to St. John the Baptist.

At Barrow was a cell of one Benedictine monk, belonging to the abbey of St. John in Colchester.

At Henningham, near Henningham Castle, Hugh de Vere, earl of Oxford, about the year 1250, founded an hospital, wherein were two or three chaplains, besides a clerk, servant, and the sick and decrepit poor people.

At Moultham, a village near Chelmsford, there was an house of Black or Dominican friars, which might be very ancient, but could not be founded by Malcolm king of Scotland, as Camden, Speed, and other writers affirm, because the last king of that name died long before these friars were known in England. At the dissolution it was valued at 9l. 6s. 5d. a-year.

At Brookstreet, near Brentwood, there was a free chapel and an hospital, consisting of a master or warden, and divers poor lepers, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, fixed here before the twentieth of Edward the First.

At Maldon, Richard Gravefend, bishop of London, and Richard Ielham, priest, are said to have founded a priory for Friars Carmelites, about the year

1292, which continued till the general dissolution, when it was valued at no more than 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

At Little Maldon, near the borough town of that name, was an hospital for the leprous townsmen of Maldon, dedicated to St. Giles, founded by one of the kings of England before the sixteenth of Edward the Second: the mastership or wardenship of this hospital was in the gift of the crown, and king Richard the Second granted the house to the prior of Bicknacre, near Chelmsford; and afterwards, by leave of king Edward the Fourth, it was united to the abbey of Billeigh.

At Alben, or Effc, a village on the river Stour, and the borders of Suffolk, directly north of Henningham, there was a priory of Austin friars in the seventeenth of Edward the Second.

At Layer Marney, a village south of Colchester, there was a small college of chantry, for a warden and two priests, founded in the church of St. Mary, about the year 1330, by William Marney, lord of the manor.

At Halfed, a college was begun by Robert de Bourchier, lord chancellor of England, in the fourteenth year of Edward the Third, and intended for eight priests, but had never in all probability so many in it, for the endowment of this society was rated at no more than 26*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

At Pleiby, a village about half way between Chelmsford and Dunmow, Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, in the seventeenth year of Richard the Second, built a college for a master and eight secular priests, dedicated to the Holy Trinity. At the suppression it was valued at 143*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* *per annum.*

At Bocking, near Braintree, John Doreward, Esq; founded an hospital called *Le Maisen Dieu*, or *God's House*, for a provost and master and six poor persons.

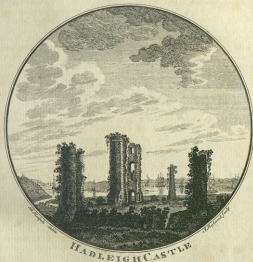
At Little Horckesby, a village north-west of Colchester, was an hospital, mentioned in a letter of commissioner Kinglton's to Bonner, bishop of London, in the year 1557.

At Walshamslow, a village on the river Lea, about four miles north-east of London, George Monnox, lord mayor of London, about the year 1515, built an hospital for thirteen poor people.

M E M-

## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends eight members to Parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, two burgesses for the town of Colchester, two for Harwich, and two for Maldon.



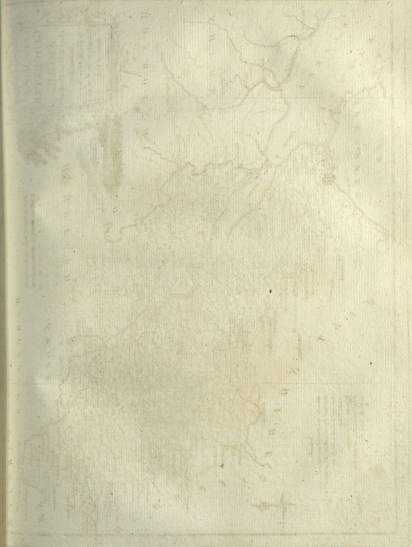
P. 455

MEMBERS PARLIAMENTARY COUNTY

The names of the members of Parliament for the County of ... are ...







**ALTON, ALP of  
GLOUCESTER  
SHIRE,**

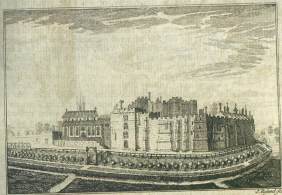
*Drawn from the best  
Authorities:  
By the Rev. John G. ...  
of ...  
Duke of York.*



Actual Scale, 10000 to 1  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



**Towns.**  
*Gloucester and Alton are the  
 principal towns, and the ...  
 the ...  
 ...  
 ...  
 ...*



BERKELEY CASTLE.

p. 248

## G L O C E S T E R S H I R E .

### N A M E .

**G**LOCESTERSHIRE, or GLOUCESTERSHIRE, took its name from the city of Gloucester.

### B O U N D A R I E S , E X T E N T and S I T U A T I O N .

This county is bounded by Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire on the east, by Herefordshire and Monmouthshire on the west, by Worcestershire on the north, and by Wiltshire and Somersetshire on the south. It measures in length, from north-east to south-west, about 56 miles; in breadth, from south-east to north-west, about 22 miles, and 156 miles in circumference: the city of Gloucester, which is nearly in the middle of the county, is 102 miles north-west of London.

### R I V E R S .

## RIVERS.

There are several large rivers in this county, of which the principal are the Severn, the Wye, the Stroud, and two Avons. The name Severn is probably a corruption of *Sabrina*, the name given to this river by the Romans, but the derivation of *Sabrina* is not known. The Severn, which is esteemed the second river in England, rises on the east side of a vast mountain called Plyn Lymmon, in the south-west part of Montgomeryshire, in Wales, from whence, by a variety of windings, it runs north-east and enters Shropshire, where being joined by a great number of smaller streams, it runs through that county and Worcestershire, in the direction of south-east; it enters the county of Gloucester at Tewkesbury, a borough town, whence running south-west by the city of Gloucester, it falls into that part of the western sea called the Bristol Channel. The tide flows up the Severn as far as Tewkesbury, which is near seventy miles from the sea; and from Newnham, a considerable market town upon this river, upwards of fifty miles from the sea to its mouth, it has more the appearance of a sea than a river; the flood tide advances with such impetuosity, that in one swell it sometimes rises near four feet.

The name Wye is supposed to have been an appellative, which in the ancient British language signified a *river* or *water*. The Wye rises within half a mile of the source of the Severn, and running south-east, separates Radnorshire and Brecknockshire, two counties in Wales, from each other; it then passes through Herefordshire, and parting Monmouthshire from Gloucestershire, falls into the Severn near Chepstow, a market town of Monmouthshire.

The Stroud rises not far east of Painwick, a market town, and running westward, falls into the Severn about five miles south of the city of Gloucester. The water of this river is remarkably clear, and fixes the colours mixed with it for dying broad cloth, scarlet, or any grain colour, better than any other; for this reason several clothiers have settled along the banks for twenty miles together, and have erected a vast number of fulling-mills upon it: of these clothiers some used formerly to make each a thousand pieces of cloth a-year. No part of this river was navigable till the year 1730, when it was made so by act of parliament, quite from Stroud, a market town, to its conflux with the Severn.

One of the rivers Avon rises in Northamptonshire, and running through Warwickshire, and separating Gloucestershire from Worcestershire, falls into the Severn near Tewkesbury. The other Avon, distinguished by the name of Avon-Well, rises not far from Tetbury, a market town, near the borders of Wiltshire, and separating Gloucestershire from Somersetshire, falls into the Severn, near Bristol, a city in Somersetshire.

## GENERAL DIVISION of the COUNTY.

This county is generally divided into three districts. The eastern part of the county, bordering upon Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire, is called Cotswould; the middle part, the Vale of Gloucester; and the triangular part, included between the Wye, the Severn, and a small river called the Ledon, is called

led the Forest of Dean. The Vale of Gloucester manifestly derived its name from its situation, and the Forest was probably called the Forest of Dean, from Dean, the principal town in the district; some have supposed the word *Dean* to be a corruption of *Arden*, a name used both by the ancient Gauls and Britons to signify a wood; and there is a wood in Warwickshire called Arden to this day.

## A I R .

Though the air of this county is equally healthy throughout, yet it is in other respects very different; for Cotswould being a hilly country, the air there is very sharp, but in the Vale it is soft and mild, even in winter; such indeed is the difference, that of Cotswould it is commonly said, eight months in the year are winter, and the other four too cold for summer; and of the Vale, that eight months are summer, and the other four too warm for winter.

## SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

Cotswould being thus exposed, is not remarkable for its fertility, and the corn is so slow in coming up, that, 'as long a coming as Cotswould barley,' is become a proverb of the county; the hills of Cotswould however afford excellent pasture, and great numbers of sheep are fed upon them, whose wool is remarkably fine; the breed of sheep which produce the fine Spanish wool, is said to have been raised from some of these sheep, which were sent as a present by one of our kings to a king of Spain.

In the Vale the soil is very fertile, and the pastures are also very rich. The cheese, called Gloucester cheese, is made in this part of the county, and next to that of Cheshire, is the best in England. The Forest of Dean, which contains 30,000 acres, being twenty miles long and ten broad, was formerly covered with wood, and was then a harbour for robbers, especially towards the banks of the Severn, so that in the reign of king Henry the Sixth, an act of parliament was made on purpose to suppress them. The woods have been since reduced to narrower bounds, by clearing great part of the ground, where many towns and villages have been built. The oaks that grow where the woods are still preserved, are reckoned the best in England; and from this forest most part of the timber formerly employed in ship building, was brought, which was so well known to the Spaniards, that when they fitted out their famous Armada in 1558, to invade England, the people who had the direction of that expedition, were expressly ordered to destroy this forest, as the most speedy and effectual way to ruin our marine; on the other hand, to cultivate and preserve the wood in a sufficient part of this district, has been the constant care of our legislature. Great part of it was inclosed by an act of parliament passed in the reign of king Charles the Second; and some time ago, many cottages which had been built in and near the woods, were ordered to be pulled down, because the inhabitants damaged the trees, by cutting or lopping them for fuel. In this part of the county there are also many rich mines of iron and coal, for the working of which several acts of parliament have passed; and at Taynton, a little village near Newent, a market town of this county, a gold mine was discovered about the year 1700, of which a lease was granted to some refiners, who extracted some gold from the ore, but did not go on with the work, because the quantity of gold was so small, as  
not

not always to answer the expence of the separation. The king has a swanimote court here, as in all royal forests, to preserve the vert and venison, of which the verdurers are the judges, who are chosen by the freeholders of the county. The miners too have a court here, in which a steward, appointed by the constable of the forest, presides, and juries of miners, who have their particular laws and customs, by which they are governed, determine all differences and disputes that arise between them.

This county abounds with grain, cattle, fowl, and game; the inhabitants have also bacon and cyder in great plenty, each excellent in its kind, and the rivers afford great quantities of fish, especially the Severn, which abounds with salmon, lampreys and conger eels.

#### MANUFACTURES.

The principal manufacture of this county is woollen cloth; and it was computed, that before our wool began to be clandestinely exported to France, 50,000 pieces of cloth were made yearly in this county, which being estimated at ten pounds a-piece, the fine with the coarse, amounts to 500,000*l*.

#### CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into thirty hundreds, and contains one city and twenty-five market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury, is a diocese of itself, and has 280 parishes.

#### CITY and MARKET TOWNS.

The city is Gloucester; and the market towns are Berkeley, Campden, Cheltenham, Cirencester, Colford, Great Dean, Dursley, Fairford, Litchlade, Marshfield, Minching-hampton, Morton in Marsh, Newent, Northleece, Painwick, Sodbury-Chipping, Stanley-Leonard, Stow on the Woud, Stroud, Tetbury, Tewksbury, Thornbury, Wickware, Winchcomb, and Wotton under Edge.

GLOUCESTER, or GLOUCESTER, was originally called by the ancient Britons *Caerglow*, *the Fair City*, from the beauty of its situation and buildings: the British name *Caerglow* was by the Romans changed into *Clevum*, or *Glevum*, to which the Saxons afterwards, as was usual with them, adding *Cester*, which signifies a *castle* or *fortification*, it was called *Gleaucęterę*, whence the present name is immediately derived.

The city of Gloucester was made a bishop's see by king Henry the Eighth, and on resigning its charters in 1672, to king Charles the Second, he granted it a new one, in consequence of which it is governed by a steward, a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, out of whom the mayor is elected, twenty-six common council men, a town clerk, two sheriffs, chosen yearly out of the common council men, a sword-bearer, and four serjeants at mace. It has twelve incorporated companies, and king Edward the First held a parliament here in the year 1272, in which several useful laws were made, now called the Statutes of Gloucester; king Richard the Second also held a parliament here, and king Richard the

Third,



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*The North West View of Gloucester.*





Third, in consideration of his having borne the title of duke of Gloucester, before he acquired the crown, added the two adjacent hundreds of Duddeston and Kingbarton to it, gave it his sword and cap of maintenance, and made it a county of itself, by the name of the county of the city of Gloucester: but after the Restoration, the hundreds were taken away by act of parliament, and the walls of the city razed, because in 1643 it shut its gates against king Charles the First, who besieged it. Before that siege it had eleven parish churches, but six of them were then demolished, and the remaining five, with a cathedral, are still standing.

The town, which is well built, clean and healthy, stands upon a pleasant hill, secured on the west side by a branch of the Severn, navigable by large ships to the very key. The cathedral is an ancient but magnificent fabric, and has a tower, said to be one of the neatest and most curious pieces of architecture in England; and in this church are twelve chapels, adorned with the arms and monuments of many great persons, and the tombs of king Edward the Second, and of Robert duke of Normandy, son of William the Conqueror. There is also a gallery over the east end of the choir, leading from one side of it to the other, which is deemed a great curiosity, as a whispering place; it is of a hexagonal form, consisting of six sides and six angles, and is twenty-five yards over, in the widest place: one of the sides is a window, yet if two persons go to the most distant parts and whisper, they will be perfectly heard by each other in their turns. This cathedral has beautiful cloysters, and there are a dean and six prebends belonging to it.

The city of Gloucester is well provided with hospitals; it has an infirmary and a charity school for above eighty children, seventy of whom are also clothed. Here is also a castle, which was erected in the time of William the Conqueror, but is now very much decayed; part of it is leased out by the crown, and the rest serves for a prison, which is indeed one of the best in England. There are several market houses, supported with pillars, and a town hall, which is called the booth-hall. There is a good stone bridge over the river, besides a key, a wharff, and a custom-house; and under the bridge is a machine which supplies the whole place with water.

The trade of this city was formerly considerable, but it has greatly decayed since that of Bristol became so great; and now pinmaking is one of its chief manufactures.

BERKELEY is distant from London 111 miles, and is an ancient borough, governed by a mayor and aldermen. It has a church, which is a large, handsome building, and a charity school; it has also a castle, where king Edward the Second was imprisoned, and the room in which he was confined is still to be seen. The manor in which this town lies is called in old records the Honor of Berkeley, and is one of the largest in England: most of the towns in Berkeley hundred, and many other places in the county, including near thirty parishes, depending upon it; and the lands that are held of it are reckoned to be worth 30,000*l.* a-year.

Vol. I.

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CAMP-

CAMPDEN, or CAMDEN, is situated on the borders of Worcestershire, at the distance of 87 miles from London. It was incorporated by king James the First, and is governed by two bailiffs, twelve burgesses, and a steward. It has a church, in which there are many fine marble monuments, the most sumptuous of which is supported by twelve pillars, and was erected in memory of Sir Baptist Hicks Viscount Campden, who erected an almshouse for six poor men and six women, and rebuilt the market place. Here are also two charity schools, one for cloathing thirty girls and teaching them to read, knit and spin; the other is for teaching twenty-four poor children to read; there is likewise a grammar school in this town, endowed with sixty pounds a-year, for the master and usher. There are some remains of a feat built here by lord Campden, which the Royalists burnt down in the civil wars, that it might not be a garrison for the parliament. This town is famous for its manufacture of stockings.

CHELTENHAM takes its name from a brook called the Chilt, which falls into the Severn, and upon which it is situated, at the distance of 95 miles from London. Here is a charity school and an hospital, founded in 1578, for six poor people, of which the society of Jesus College in Oxford are governors. This town carries on a considerable trade in malt, and is much frequented on account of its mineral waters, which were discovered not many years ago, and are purgative and diuretic.

CIRENCESTER, commonly called CISTER, took its name from having been a *cester* or *castle*, upon a small river called the Churn, that falls into the Thames at Crekelade, a borough town of Wiltshire. It is distant from London 85 miles: it is divided into seven wards, and is by some thought to be the oldest, and to have been formerly the largest town in the county. King Henry the Fourth gave it a charter and several privileges, and queen Elizabeth gave it another, by which it was governed with a steward and bailiff, and now it is governed by two high constables and fourteen wardmen, who are appointed yearly at the court leet; it is a post town, and maintains a stage coach to London. It had once three parish churches, but now has only one, in which are twenty-eight windows of painted glass, representing scripture history, and the history of several fathers, martyrs, and persecutors of the Christian church, and exhibiting the several religious orders of the church of Rome, from the pope to the mendicant friar. Here is a free school and a charity school for about ninety children, with several hospitals and almshouses. In this town is one of the greatest markets in the kingdom for wool and woollen manufactures, there having been some years no less than 5000 packs of wool brought hither from Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, and Lincolnshire, and sold to the clothiers of Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.

COLFORD, or COVERD, is situated in the Forest of Dean, in the road from Gloucester to Monmouth, the chief town of Monmouthshire, at the distance of 121 miles from London. Here is a charity school, but nothing else that deserves notice.

GREAT DEAN, or MICHAEL DEAN, is the principal town in the Forest of Dean, and is distant 113 miles from London. It consists chiefly of one street, and has a good church, with a handsome spire; its principal manufacture was formerly

Formerly cloth, but now it is pins; the hills round this town abound with iron ore, and there are several furnaces for melting it, and forges for beating the iron into flats: the workmen are very industrious in discovering the beds of the old cinders, which not being fully exhausted of the metal, are purchased of the owners of the land at a good price, and being burnt again in the furnaces, afford better iron than the ore new dug from the mines.

DURSLEY is distant from London 97 miles, and is a corporation, governed by a bailiff and four constables. It is only remarkable for having a manufacture of woollen cloth.

FAIRFORD took its name from a ford which was formerly in this place, over a small river that runs into the Thames, called the Coln, on which this town stands. It is distant 78 miles from London; has two good bridges over the Coln, and a large handsome church, with twenty-eight windows of the finest painted glass in England, representing some of the principal events related in the Old and New Testament, designed by the famous Italian Albert Durer. The glass was found on board a ship bound to Rome, that was taken as a prize by one John Tame, a merchant: when he brought it home to England, he purchased the manor of king Henry the Seventh, and built this church on purpose to put the glass in it, where, by much care, it has been preserved to this day.

LETCHLADE takes its name from the piece of ground it stands upon, formerly called the Lade, and a small river that runs near it, called the Lech. It stands upon the river Thames, on the borders of Oxfordshire and Berkshire, at the distance of 74 miles from London. The Thames, after having been formed by the several streams of the Lech, the Coln, the Churn, and the Isis, begins to be navigable at this town, and barges come to its quay to take in butter, cheese, and other goods for London, which renders this place not inconsiderable.

MARSHFIELD is situated at the distance of 103 miles from London, in the road to Bristol, and on the borders of Wiltshire. It is governed by a bailiff, and consists chiefly of one street of old buildings, near a mile long; it has a large church, and an almshouse, with a chapel belonging to it, well endowed, for eight poor people. Here is also a charity school, maintained by the lord of the manor. This town carries on a considerable trade in cloth and malt, and is famous for its cakes.

MINCHING-HAMPTON took its name from an order of nuns at Caen, in Normandy, called Minchings, to whom it formerly belonged. It is distant from London 90 miles, and is remarkable only for a large church, built in the form of a cross.

MORTON IN MARSH is distant from London 83 miles, and within a mile of the town in the great road from London to Worcester, are the four shire stones, where the counties of Gloucester, Warwick, Oxford, and Worcester meet.

NEWENT took its name from an inn called New Inn, which was set up here for the accommodation of passengers, on their journey to and from Wales. It is situated on a small river, navigable by boats, in the Forest of Dean, at the distance

ance of 104 miles from London. It has a handsome church, three almshouses, and two charity schools.

**NORTHLECH**, or **NORTHLECH**, so called from its situation upon the river Leche, about 80 miles from London, is governed by a bailiff and two constables. It has a neat church, and several almshouses, and a good grammar school, which is free to all the boys of the town, and endowed with eighty pounds a-year, by Hugh Westwold, Esq; who being afterwards reduced, is said to have solicited the trustees to be master of it, but was denied. By a decree of Chancery, in the reign of king James the First, this school was settled on Queen's college Oxford.

**PAINSWICK** took its name from the ancient lords of it, whose names were Paine. It is pleasantly situated in the best air in the county, at the distance of 94 miles from London. It has a large handsome church, with a neat spire, a charity school, and a manufacture of broad cloth.

**SODBURY-CHIPPING** is distant from London 103 miles, and is an ancient borough, originally governed by a bailiff, but in 1681 it was made a corporation, with a mayor, six aldermen, and twelve burgesses; it was again disincorporated by a proclamation of January 2d, 1688. The bailiffs and burgers are still empowered to distribute eighty-eight cow pastures to as many of the inhabitants, and eight acres of meadow for their own lives and those of their widows, and as they fall, to grant them again in the like manner. This town being a great thoroughfare in the road from Bristol to Cirencester and Oxfordshire, is well provided with large inns. Here is a spacious church, though it is but a chapel of ease to Old Sodbury, a village in the neighbourhood; here is also a free school, and the greatest cheese market in England, except Atherston on the Stour, a market town of Warwickshire.

**STANLEY-LEONARD** took its name from having been a priory, dedicated to St. Leonard. It is distant from London 95 miles, and besides a charity school, has nothing worthy of note.

**STOW ON THE WOULD**, called in all records, Stow St. Edward, is 77 miles distant from London. It stands so high, and is so exposed to the winds, that the inhabitants are said to have but one element, air, there being neither wood, common, field, nor water, belonging to the town. It has a church, which is a large building, with a high tower, and contains several monuments; it has also an hospital, almshouse, and free school, besides other charitable institutions, all well endowed, the poor here being very numerous. The fairs of this town are famous for hops, cheese, and especially sheep, of which it is said that 20,000 were sold in one October fair.

**STROUD** stands upon a hill, at the foot of which runs the water called Stroud. It is at the distance of 93 miles from London, has a handsome church, a free school, a charity school, and a workhouse.

**TETBURY**, situated between Chipping-Sodbury and Cirencester, at the distance of 93 miles from London, is a handsome, populous town, in a healthy air, and

on a rising ground, but water is so scarce in some dry summers, as to be sold for 1s. 6d. a hoghead. The revenues of this town are managed by a bailiff, chosen yearly: it has a large handsome church, a free school, and an almshouse for eight poor people; and in the middle of the town is a large market-house, for the conveniency of the yarn trade, which is the chief article, and a small market-house for cheese, bacon, and other commodities.

TEWSBURY is situated at the conflux of the Severn with the Avon, that runs out of Warwickshire, and these rivers, with the smaller streams of the Carron and the Swallgate, almost surround the town. It is distant from London 96 miles, and had its first privileges from king Edward the Second; they were confirmed by several succeeding kings, and the town was at length reincorporated by James the First. It is governed by twenty-four burgesses, two of whom are chosen bailiffs yearly, who are the ruling magistrates, and have jurisdiction within the borough, exclusive of the justices of the peace for the county; this corporation was dissolved by proclamation of king James the Second. It is a large, beautiful, and populous town, consisting of three well built streets, and many lanes; it has a bridge over three of the four rivers that run by it, and a church, which is one of the largest in England, that is neither collegiate nor cathedral; it is adorned with a stately tower and funeral monuments, particularly several of the earls of Gloucester and Warwick, prince Edward, son of Henry the Sixth, and the duke of Clarence, brother to Edward the Fourth. Here is a free school, besides an hospital, endowed with forty pounds a-year, by the late queen Mary, to be paid out of the Exchequer, for the maintainance of thirteen poor people, and a reader, who is appointed by the corporation. Near this town is a piece of ground called the Ham, which is a course for horse races. The chief manufacture here is woollen cloth and stockings, but the town has long been famous for mustard balls, which are sent in great quantities into other parts.

THORNBURY is situated two miles from the eastern bank of the Severn, on a rivulet that runs into it, and at the distance of 106 miles from London. The town, which gives its name to the hundred, has a customary, or titular mayor, twelve aldermen, who must previously have been mayors, and two constables. In the civil wars it was fortified for king Charles the First, as a check upon the garrison of Gloucester. The church here is large, in form of a cathedral, with spacious isles on each side, together with a cross, and a beautiful high tower at the west end. Here are four small almshouses, and a free school.

WICKWARE is distant from London 101 miles. It is a very ancient corporation, governed by a mayor and aldermen; the mayor is an alderman ever after. The town is well watered by two brooks, over one of which is a handsome stone bridge. It has a free school, and the neighbouring wales afford it plenty of coal.

WINCHCOMB is distant 87 miles from London; it was anciently a county or sheriffdom of itself, and was a borough in the reign of Edward the Confessor. Here is an almshouse for twelve poor women. The inhabitants of this town planted tobacco to a very good account, till they were restrained in the twelfth year of king Charles the Second, after which the town by little and little decayed, and is now poor and inconsiderable.

WOTTON

Worron under Edge stands on a pleasant and fruitful eminence, at the distance of 99 miles from London. The chief magistrate, who is chosen yearly at the court leet, is called a mayor, and is ever after an alderman. It is a pretty town, and has a handsome church, with several monuments in it of the family of Berkeley. There is at this place a free school, and an almshouse for six poor men and six women. The town is supplied with water which was brought hither at the expence of Hugh Perry, Esq; who was alderman of London in 1632.

## C U R I O S I T I E S.

- Remarkable tides.** It is remarkable of the river Severn, that the tides are higher one year at the full moon, and the succeeding year at the new moon; and that one year the night tides are higher than the day tides, and the next year the day tides higher than the night tides: it is also remarkable that the tide of the river Wye, at Chepstow bridge, frequently rises to the height of seventy feet above low water mark; and in 1738 the bridge was much damaged by the swell of the river greatly above that height.
- A remarkable family.** At Slymbridge, a little village on the banks of the Severn, about ten miles south of Gloucester, there is a family of the surname of Knight, which has been distinguished for many generations by having five fingers and a thumb on each hand.
- An extraordinary tree.** In the garden of the manor-house of Wickware, is a chestnut tree, which measures nineteen yards or fifty-seven feet in circumference, at the height of six feet above the ground, and is supposed to have been planted in the reign of king John, and about the year 1216.
- Pen Park Hole.** About half way between the Severn and Bristol, there is a pit in a rock, whence lead ore was formerly dug, called Pen Park Hole; the descent is narrow, in form of a tunnel, being about two yards wide, and nearly forty deep; having passed through the rock, it opens into a cave seventy-five yards long, forty-one broad, and nineteen high. In this cave there is a pool of sweet water, twenty-seven yards long, twelve broad, and five and a half deep.
- Gigantic skeleton.** At Cirencester is a monument of earth called Grifmund's Tower, in the inside of which there were found human bones, said to have been of an extraordinary size, with some ashes, in a vessel of lead.
- St. Vincent's Rock.** On the bank of the river Avon, near Bristol, is a very high and steep rock, called St. Vincent's Rock; and on the opposite bank is the county of Somerset. There are other rocks of an equal size, which, with the river flowing below them, afford a very striking and romantic prospect, which is heightened by the ships and other vessels that are continually passing between them to and from Bristol. In St. Vincent's rock is found a kind of spar, commonly called Britol stones, which, before the composition called French paste was invented, were prized for their lustre, which came nearer to that of a diamond than any thing then known.

At the bottom of this rock is a village called Clifton, where there is a hot medicinal spring, famous for curing the diabetes and other disorders of the reins and bladder. At a little distance is a cold spring, called Jacob's Well, very much esteemed in a variety of complaints. Clifton wells.

At Laffington, a village near Gloucester, are found certain stones, called astroites Star stones or star stones, from their resemblance to a star. Some have supposed them to be parts of a petrified marine animal; but the general and most probable opinion is, that they are species of corals. They are striated from the center to the circumference, and their radii are sometimes prominent above the surface of the mass; sometimes they are level with it, and sometimes sink below it. They are of a greyish colour, and when put into vinegar, will move about for a considerable time.

At Alderley, near Wotton under Edge, there are some hills, upon which a great number of stones are to be found, in form of cockle and oyster shells. A variety of conjectures have been formed concerning these stones; some are of opinion that they are a lusus nature, and others that they are really the shells of fish, thrown up here by the sea at the universal deluge. A and scology of stones.

At Dursley there is a rock of an incredible durability, and yet easily hewed, Puff stones, called puff stone by the people in this neighbourhood, who, as a specimen of its durable quality, say, that the walls of Berkeley Castle, which have very little appearance of decay, though they are near 700 years old, have been built with it.

At Bisley, a village near Stroud, was born and educated the famous Friar Extraordinary Bacon, who, from his superior learning, and in particular his mathematical knowledge, gained the reputation of a conjurer. He died in the year 1284. 77 persons.

In this county was also born one Thomas Bright, who in 1708 died, at the age of 130 years, having retained his eye sight, and being able to walk about, till a few days before his death. In what particular part of the county he resided does not appear.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

The ancient inhabitants of this county, in common with those of Oxfordshire, were by the Romans called Dobuni, a name generally supposed to have been derived from *Duffen*, a British word, which signifies *deep* or *low*, and alludes to the situation of these counties, which consist chiefly of plains and vallies. Some however have thought that it was derived from *Dofa*, a British word, which expressed the richness of the soil. Soon after the Saxons arrived in Britain the name Dobuni was lost, and the inhabitants of this county were called *Wicil*, which is supposed to be derived from the Saxon word *Wic*, signifying the creek of a river, and to have been applied to these people as bordering upon the Severn, a river full of windings and creeks. Ancient inhabitants.

The inhabitants of this county have a proverb, 'the father to the bough, the son to the plough,' which alludes to an ancient privilege, by which the estate of a father, though a felon, descended to the son. This privilege was confirmed Ancient custom.

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to them by a statute of the seventeenth of Edward the Second, but it has not been claimed many years. The custom called Borough English still remains in many parts of this county. It is also a custom at the miners court, in the Forest of Dean, for a miner who gives testimony as a witness, to wear a particular cap; and that he may not defile Holy writ with unclean hands, he touches the Bible, when the oath is administered to him, with a stick.

**Antiquities of Gloucester.** The city of Gloucester was a Roman colony, called Colonia Glevum, and was governed by a consul. The Saxons got possession of it about the year 570, and then it became a part of the kingdom of Mercia. The Roman way called Erming Street, reaching from St. David's in Pembrokeshire, to Southampton, the county town of Hampshire, passes through this city. Forging of iron seems to have been the business of this town as early as William the Conqueror, when the tribute required of it was a certain quantity of iron bars.

**Antiquities of Cirencester.** Cirencester was a town of eminence in the time of the Romans, as appears by the many remains of Roman antiquities that have at different times been dug up in and near this place, particularly several pillars and pavements, supposed to have been those of a temple and bath. It is thought to have been the Corinium mentioned by Ptolemy, and the Durocornovium of Antoninus. Two Roman consular ways cross each other at this place, one of which is still visible, with a high ridge all the way to Birdlip-hills, south of Cheltenham, and the other may be traced to Creklade, a borough town of Wiltshire.

**Roman pavements.** At Woodchester, a village near Stanley Leonard, a curious Roman pavement of mosaic work was discovered in the year 1722. It is of a considerable extent, and represents birds and beasts in their natural colours, besides a variety of other devices beautifully executed. And at Cromhall, a village between Wickware and Thornbury, was found not long ago another pavement of the same kind, eighteen feet and a half long, and near fifteen feet and a half broad, composed of cubical stones of beautiful colours strongly cemented.

**Antiquities of Tetbury and its neighbourhood.** The town of Tetbury was once fortified by a castle, said to have been built by a king of the Britons, above 2000 years ago, but the ruins of it are now scarce visible.

At Kingfoot, in the neighbourhood of Tetbury, it has been common after a shower of rain, to find Roman coins in the fields, which the people call Chesse-money; and not far from this village are still to be seen the traces of a large camp, now called Bury-hill.

Beverstone Castle, about a mile north-east of Tetbury, was built in the reign of Edward the Third, by Thomas earl of Berkeley, out of the ransom of the prisoners he took at the battle of Poitiers, under the Black Prince.

**Antiquities of Fairford.** At Fairford many medals and urns are often dug up, and in the adjoining fields are several barrows, supposed to have been raised over some considerable persons, who have been slain here in battle, though it does not appear from history that any battle was fought in or near this place.

At



At Thornbury are still to be seen the foundations of a magnificent castle, begun, but never finished, by Edward duke of Bucks, who was beheaded in the reign of king Henry the Eighth.

Antiquities of  
Thornbury  
and its neighbourhood.

Oldbury, upon the river Severn, and near Thornbury, was a Roman station; and Antoninus says that here was the *trajectus* or passage over the Severn. In this place are two large Roman camps; and at Alveston, not far from Oldbury, is a large round camp on the edge of a hill, from whence there is a pleasant prospect of the Severn: near the camp is a large barrow, in which were found several stone coffins with bones in them; and at a place called Castlehill, not far from hence, is another camp still to be seen, being an oblong square with a single ditch.

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

The city of Gloucester was one of the sees of the ancient British bishops, and one Eldad is said to have been bishop of it in the year 490.

Wulphere the first Christian king of Mercia, is said to have begun a church and monastery here, which were finished by his brother and successor, Ethelred, about the year 680, through the care of Ofrie his nephew, and at that time his viceroy in these parts, but afterwards king of Northumberland. It was dedicated to St. Peter. Over this monastery three successive queens presided during more than ninety years; in the time of the civil wars that followed, it became desolate, and continued so fifty years, but some secular priests were placed in it about 823, by Bermulph king of Northumberland; these priests were turned out, and Benedictine monks put in about the year 1022, by command of king Canute, and at the instigation of Wulfstan bishop of Worcester. His successor, bishop Aldred, about the year 1058, new built the abbey church in a place nearer the city where it formerly stood, and after the Conquest, abbat Serlo, the Conqueror's chaplain, much increased the number of monks, and the revenues, which amounted at the dissolution to 1946*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.* *per annum.*

Some of the legendary writers report that a stately monastery was built here in honour of St. Oswald the king and martyr, about the year 660, by Merwald, viceroy of the western part of Mercia, and Donneva his wife; it is also reported upon better authority, that in the year 909, Ethelred, earl of Mercia, and the famous Elfreda, daughter of king Alfred, his countess, translating the relics of St. Oswald from Bardney, near Lincoln in Lincolnshire, to this place, founded here a religious house, which being deserted by the monks in the Danish wars, became a college of secular priests: it was then accounted a free chapel royal, exempt from the jurisdiction of the archbishop of Canterbury, or the bishop of Worcester, but king William Rufus gave it to the archbishops of York, in lieu of their claims to Lindisay, one of the three divisions of Lincolnshire, and to other parts in that county, which they quitted to the bishop of Lincoln. Henry Murdax, archbishop of York, in the year 1153, placed here a certain number of

Vol. I.

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regular canons of the order of St. Austin, seven of whom continued till the dissolution, when the revenues were valued at 90*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

Here was a priory of Black canons of the order of St. Augustine, founded by king Ethelstan.

King Henry the Third founded in the parish church of St. Nicholas, near the West Bridge, in this city, a priory or hospital dedicated to St. Bartholomew, for four infirm brothers and sisters, under the government of a prior or master. In this hospital were once maintained fifty-two poor men, but afterwards it consisted of a master, three brethren, and thirty-two poor men and women. In Dugdale and Speed's valuations there are two hospitals of the name of St. Bartholomew in the city of Gloucester, one rated at 44*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.* *per annum*, and the other at 25*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

A house or college of Black friars was founded near the Castle Yard of Gloucester, by king Henry the Third and Sir Stephen de Hernelshull, about the year 1239.

One of the lord Berkeleys founded here, not far from the South Gate, in the parish of St. Mary Cript, an house of Grey friars before the year 1268.

There was a priory of Carmelite or White friars, in the suburb, without the North Gate, said to be founded by queen Eleanor, Sir Thomas Gifford, and Sir Thomas Berkeley, in the time of king Henry the Third.

North of St. Margaret's Church, in the parish of St. John Baptist of this city, there is an hospital dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, but now called St. James's Hospital, which maintains nineteen poor people, at 1*s.* 6*d.* per week each.

At Tetbury there was a religious house before the year 680, but no account of it is extant.

At Tewksbury there was a monastery first built and endowed by two brothers, Oddo and Dodo, dukes of Mercia, about the year 715. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and having suffered much during the civil and Danish wars, became a priory to Cramborn, in Dorsetshire, about the year 980; but Robert Fitz Haimon, a noble Norman, who came in with William the Conqueror, enlarged the buildings and increased the possessions so much, that about the year 1102, the monks of Cramborn chose to remove hither, and make this their principal house. After that it became a great abbey of Benedictine monks, who at the suppression were possessed of revenues worth 1598*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* 2-year. Here was a house of lepers before the first year of king John.

Doddo, the duke or chief nobleman of Mercia, one of the founders of the monastery at Tewksbury, who became himself a monk at Parthore, a market town

of Worcestershire, is said to have built a monastery at Deerhurst, two miles south of Tewksbury, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in memory of his brother Almaric, buried in this place. It was afterwards destroyed by the Danes, but rebuilt and again inhabited before the year 980. King Edward the Confessor gave it, with all the lands belonging to it, to the Benedictine monks of the abbey of St. Dennis, in France, to which it became a cell; by these monks it was sold to Richard earl of Cornwall in the year 1250, when it had eight lordships, and was accounted worth 300 marks a-year. After many alienations it at last became a cell to Tewksbury Abbey, and so continued till the dissolution.

At Winchcomb king Offa is said to have built a nunnery in 787; and in 798 king Kenulph laid the foundation of a stately abbey for 300 monks, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. Its lands being afterwards alienated, and its bishopric become corrupt, Oswald, who was bishop of Worcester in 985, reformed the discipline, recovered the lands, and dedicated the house to St. Kenulph, the martyred son of the founder. At the general dissolution it was in the possession of Benedictine monks, and valued at 759*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* *per annum.*

At Cheltenham was a monastery in the year 803, of which no particulars are recorded.

At Henbury, a village about two miles from St. Vincent's Rock, was also a monastery in very early times, of which there is no account extant.

At Westbury on Trin, two miles north-west of Bristol, there was a monastery before the year 824, but being forsaken and in ruins, in the year 1093 it was rebuilt, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary; the old possessions were recovered, new ones were added, and the monks restored, by Wulfstan bishop of Worcester, who made it a cell to the priory of Worcester: the monks were again removed by his successor bishop Sampson, in the time of king Henry the First; but in 1288, Godfrey Giffard, bishop of Worcester, established a college for a dean and canons. It was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and was afterwards augmented by many benefactions, so that at the dissolution it was valued at 332*l.* 14*s.* *per annum.*

At Beckford, upon the borders of Worcestershire, was a monastery before the year 803, which was given by king Henry the First to the Augustine monks of the abbey of St. Martin and St. Barbara, in Normandy, to which it became a cell.

At Berkeley there was a nunnery long before the Conquest, which was suppressed by the villainous contrivance of Godwin earl of Kent, who procured many of the nuns and the abbess herself to be debauched, in the time of king Edward the Confessor.

An hospital of St. James and St. John in this place, is mentioned in a deed of the twelfth year of king Henry the Third, but no particulars are known about it.

## G L O C E S T E R S H I R E.

At Boxwell, a village near Wotton under Edge, there was a nunnery, which is said to have been destroyed by the Danes.

At Cirencester there was a rich college of prebendaries before the Conquest; and in 1127 king Henry the First built here a stately abbey for Black canons; he dedicated it to the Virgin Mary, and it was so liberally endowed by him, and by several succeeding kings, that at the dissolution it was valued at 1051*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* *per annum.*

An hospital dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, was also founded here by king Henry the First, for three poor men and three poor women. It is yet in being, and these six poor persons have each an allowance of 1*s.* 8*d.* weekly, and a share of the fines for the renewal of leases of the lands with which the hospital is endowed, when they happen.

St. Laurence's hospital in this town was founded in the time of Edward the Third, by Edith, lady of one Wigold, for a master and two poor women. The master formerly was nominated by the abbat, but is now presented by the king. The two poor women have now about 2*s.* 6*d.* per week each.

St. Thomas's Hospital was founded for four decayed weavers, by Sir William Nottingham, who died in the year 1427. This also is yet in being, under the government of the weaver's company.

At Stow on the Would there was an hospital, said to have been founded by Ailmar, who was earl of Cornwall and Devonshire, about the year 1010. It was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and intended for the maintenance of poor women and a chaplain. The revenues of it amounted to 25*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* yearly.

At Kinley, south of Stanley, there was an ancient priory, endowed with the manor. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at length became a college or free chapel of secular priests.

At Woodchester, probably in the time of Edward the Confessor, Gueta, wife to Godwin earl of Kent, is said to have built a religious house, to atone for her husband's guilt in corrupting the nuns at Berkeley.

King William the Conqueror gave the manor of Newent to the abbat and convent of Corneille, in Normandy, who sent over a prior and some Benedictine monks, and here was a cell subordinate to that foreign monastery.

Roger Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury, in the time of William the Conqueror, endowed the abbey of St. Martin, which he founded at Troarn, in Normandy, with the manor of Horsley, north-east of Dursley, and a prior and monks were settled here, dependant upon that foreign monastery. This house afterwards

wards became a cell to the convent of Bruton, in Somersetshire: it was at length totally destroyed, but continued to be a parcel of the estate of Bruton monastery till the dissolution.

At Lanthony, near Gloucester, Milo, earl of Hereford, in the year 1136, founded a monastery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John Baptist, for the Black canons of Lanthony, in Monmouthshire, who were driven out of their habitation by the Welch. At the dissolution it was endowed with 748 l. 19 s. 11 d. a-year.

At Flaxley, a village in the Forest of Dean, Roger, the second earl of Hereford after the Conquest, built an abbey in the time of king Stephen, for Cistercian monks. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the suppression had nine monks in it, whose yearly revenues were rated at 112 l. 3 s. 1 d.

In the church of St. Leonard at Stanley, there was a small monastery of a prior and canons, which being given by Roger Berkeley, in the year 1146, to St. Peter's in Gloucester, became a cell of Benedictine monks to that abbey. At the time of the dissolution here were only three monks, and the annual revenues of the house amounted to 71 l. 6 s. 8 d.

The Cistercian monks of Kingswood, in Wiltshire, north-east of Bristol, having obtained Haselton, near Cheltenham, about the year 1153, translated their abbey thither; but in the time of Henry the Second they returned to Kingswood.

At Brimsfield there was an alien priory of Benedictine monks, which was a cell to the abbey of St. Stephen at Fountenay, in Normandy.

At Longbridge, near Berkeley, a priory or hospital was founded by Maurice, lord Berkeley, in the time of king Henry the Second. It was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and afterwards augmented with two chantry priests, by William marquis of Berkeley.

At Lorwing, near Berkeley, the same Maurice lord Berkeley is said to have founded an hospital in the time of king Henry the Second.

At Quavington, near Fairford, there was a preceptory of Knights hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem, to whom this manor was given, by Agnes de Laico, or Lacy, and her daughter Sibylla, before the reign of king John. It was valued upon the dissolution at 137 l. 7 s. 1 d. *per annum*.

William Longefine, earl of Salisbury, in the year 1222 gave the manor of Hethorp, somewhere in this county, to certain monks and brethren of the Carthusian order, assigned part of his revenues towards the building of a monastery for them here; and by his will, made in the year 1225, he bequeathed to them church-

## G L O C E S T E R S H I R E.

church-plate, vestments, relics, and a flock of cattle; but the religious here, after some few years stay, not liking their habitation, prevailed with the countess Ela, relict of their founder, to remove them to Henton, near Bath, a city of Somersethire.

At Hales, near Winchcomb, Richard earl of Cornwall, and afterwards king of the Romans and emperor of Germany, began in the year 1246, and, at the expence of ten thousand marks, finished in the year 1251, a noble abbey for monks of the Cistercian order, brought from Beaulieu, near New Forest, in Hampshire. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saines, and valued upon the dissolution at 357l. 7s. 8d. *per annum*.

At Letchlade a priory of black canons, or rather an hospital, for a master or prior, and certain poor and infirm brethren, dedicated to St. John Baptist, was founded upon a piece of ground called Lade, near a bridge over the Thames, from hence called St. John's Bridge, given to this use by the lady Isabel Ferrers, wife of Hugh Mortimer, before the thirtieth of king Henry the Third; but this house being decayed, king Edward the Fourth, in the twelfth year of his reign, gave his mother, Cicely, dutchess of York, leave to get it dissolved, and then to apply the revenues of it to the endowing of a perpetual chantry of three priests, at the altar of St. Mary, in the parish church here, which continued till Dean Underwood, in the time of Henry the Seventh, found means to place two of these chantry priests at Wallingford College, in Berkshire, while the third remained at Letchlade.

At Mangersfield, south of Chipping-Sodbury, there was a nunnery, of which no accounts are extant.

At Minching Hampton it is said that there was a nunnery before the Conquest, but there are no accounts of it.

The manor of this place was given by William the Conqueror to the nunnery of the Holy Trinity, at Caen, in Normandy; and after the seizure of the lands of the foreign monasteries, it was given by king Henry the Sixth and king Edward the Fourth, to the nuns of Sion, in Middlesex, and as a part of that nunnery, was valued upon the dissolution at 127l. 16s. 11d. *per annum*.

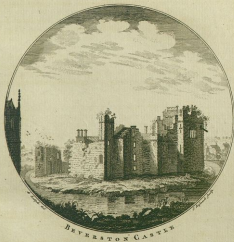
At Marshfield, north-east of Bristol, upon the borders of Wiltshire, it is said there was a nunnery, of which we have no accounts.

At Wotton under Edge, licence was granted in the twenty-third year of king Edward the Third, for founding a house of Crossed or Crouched friars, and endowing it with lands to the yearly value of ten pounds.

M E M-

## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends eight members to Parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, two members for the city of Gloucester, two for the borough of Cirencester, and two for Tewksbury.



p. 260.

HAMP.

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MEMBERS' HALL

The county clerk's office is in the building on the corner of the  
the street, the number of the street is 1000, and the number of the  
building is 1000.



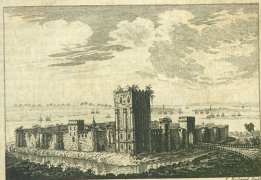
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*A New Map of  
HAMP SHIRE,  
Drawing from the best  
Authenticities,  
By Tho: Kitchin, Clerg.<sup>s</sup>  
Surveyor of His Majesty's  
Tide of Bath.*





PORCHESTER CASTLE

p. 272.

# H A M P S H I R E.

## NAME.

**T**HIS county was anciently called Hamcunrcyrc, from Hampton, since called Southampton, the name of the county town. It was afterwards called *Homesbyrc*, whence the present names Hanns and Hampshire are immediately derived.

## BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

Hampshire is bounded by Dorsetshire and Wiltshire on the west, by Berkshire on the north, by the counties of Surry and Sussex on the east, and by the English Channel on the south. It extends 64 miles from south to north, 36 from west to east, and is, exclusive of an island called the Isle of Wight, of which a separate account will be given, 150 miles in circumference: the city of Winchester, which is situated nearly in the middle of the county, is 67 miles south-west of London.

Vol. I.

M m

RIVERS

## RIVERS.

The chief rivers of this county are the Avon, the Test, and the Itching. The Avon was by Ptolemy called the Alaun, and this probably was the original name of it; for the names of several neighbouring villages still bear some similitude to the name Alsun, as Allinston and Allingham; and *Avon*, being the appellative name for a river in the ancient British language, cannot be supposed to have been then the proper name of any. The Avon rises in Wiltshire, and passes through Salisbury, where it begins to be navigable; it enters Hampshire at Charford, a village near Fordlingbridge, a market town of this county, and runs southward by Ringwood, another market town, to Christ-Church, a large and populous borough, near which it receives the Stour, a considerable river from Dorsetshire, and falls into the English Channel.

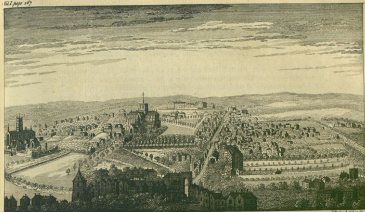
The Test, or Tese, called also the Anton, was by Ptolemy called the Tri-fanton, which should be read *Traist Anton*, or the *Bay of Anton*. This river rises in the north part of Hampshire, and running southward, forms several islands at Stockbridge, a borough town of this county, and then passing by Rumsey, a market town, it falls into an arm of the sea, which reaches several miles up the country, and is called Southampton Bay.

The Itching, called also the Alre, rises at Chilton Candover, a village near Alresford, a market town of this county; from thence it runs south-west to the city of Winchester, and from that city directly south, till it falls into Southampton Bay; having been made navigable from Winchester to Southampton in the time of William the Conqueror.

## AIR, SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The air of this county is for the most part pure and healthy, especially upon the downs, which cross the county from east to west, dividing it nearly into equal parts; and it is observed, that the vapours in the low grounds that are next the sea, are not so pernicious as in other countries. The hilly parts are barren, and fit only for sheep, but the lower grounds produce a great quantity of grain, particularly wheat and barley. In the breed of horned cattle here, there is nothing particular; but in sheep and hogs this county excels all others. The sheep are remarkably fine, both in their flesh and their wool, and as the hogs are never put into styes, but supplied with great plenty of acorns, the bacon is by far the best in England. Hampshire is also particularly famous for its honey, of which it is said to produce the best and the most in Britain; the honey collected upon the heath is reckoned the worst, and that of the champaign country the best. This county is abundantly supplied with sea and river fish, as well as with game of all kinds. It has more wood than any other county in England, especially oak, and the greatest part of the English navy is built and repaired with the timber of this county.

M A N U-



*The East View of Winchester.*



## MANUFACTURES and TRADE.

The chief manufacture is kerseys and cloth, in which a good foreign trade is carried on, from the many ports and harbours with which this county abounds.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Hampshire, exclusive of the Isle of Wight, is divided into thirty-nine hundreds, and has one city and twenty market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Winchester, and contains 253 parishes.

## CITY and MARKET TOWNS.

The city is Winchester; and the market towns are Alresford, Alton, Andover, Basingstoke, Christ-Church, Farham, Fordingbridge, Gosport, Havant, Kingclere, Lemsington, Odiham, Petersfield, Portsmouth, Ringwood, Rumsey, Southampton, Stockbridge, Waltham, and Whitechurch.

WINCHESTER, or WINTON, was by the old Saxons called Wintonceaster, from the British name Gwent-Caer, a word compounded of *Gwent* or *Gwaith*, white, and *Caer*, a city; and this name it probably acquired from its situation in a valley, surrounded with hills of chalk or whitish clay.

This city is governed, according to a charter of queen Elizabeth, by a mayor, a high steward, a recorder, an unlimited number of aldermen, (out of whom are chosen six justices) two coroners, two bailiffs, twenty-four common council men, a town clerk, four constables, and four sergeants at mace.

Winchester is about a mile and a half in compass, and almost surrounded with a wall built of flint, having six gates in it, with suburbs leading to each from the adjacent country. The buildings in general are mean, but the streets are broad and clean; there is also a great deal of void ground within the walls, some part of which is laid into gardens, that are supplied upon occasion with water from little canals on each side of the high street. In this street is the guild-hall, which was rebuilt not many years ago, and the statue of queen Anne set up in the front of it. In this hall are held two courts of record, on every Friday and Saturday. At the east gate of the city there is an hospital dedicated to St. John, in the hall of which hospital the mayor and bailiffs give their public entertainments. At one end of this hall is the picture of king Charles the Second, by Sir Peter Lilly, and at the other, a large table of all the mayors and bailiffs of Winchester, from the year 1184; and here are also tables of benefactions to this city during the Saxon reigns, and from Henry the Second to Charles the Second. On the west side of this city there was a castle, part of which now is the town-hall, supported upon marble pillars, where the assizes are kept. On this side of the city king Charles the Second set Sir Christopher Wren upon building a royal palace, the situation being extremely fine for such a purpose: the building was almost completed, but the king dying before it was finished, it lay neglected, so that now nothing remains of it but the shell. The south side of this palace measures 216 feet, and the west front 326.

The episcopal palace in this city was built by bishop Blois in the time of king Stephen; it was almost surrounded by the river Itching, and was adorned and fortified with several turrets. It was demolished by the parliament army in the reign of king Charles the First, but rebuilt by bishop Morley, in the reign of Charles the Second, and fitted up by Dr. Trelawney, the succeeding bishop.

The see of Winchester is one of the richest in the kingdom, and was first founded by Kingulfe, a king of the Mercians, whose son translated the see of Dorchester hither in the year 663, and although the diocese of Sherborn was taken out of this see by king Ina, yet it became afterwards so rich, that when Edward the Third would have preferred its bishop, Edendon, his favourite, to the see of Canterbury, he refused it, saying, that 'though Canterbury was the 'highest rack, Winchester was the better manger.' There are some privileges and immunities appendant to this see, obtained by William of Wickham, when he was bishop of it, in the reign of king Edward the Third, such as, that the bishops of Winchester should be prelates of the most noble order of the garter, and chancellors to the archbishops of Canterbury.

The city of Winchester had formerly no less than thirty-two parish churches, of which at present six only remain. The cathedral is a large and venerable fabric, begun by bishop Walkelin about the year 1070, and finished by William of Wickham, of whom there is a statue in a nich over the great window, opposite the choir. Instead of a steeple or spire, this church has only a short tower with a flat covering, as if the top of it had fallen away, and it had been covered in haste, to keep out the rain. The length of this cathedral from east to west is 545 feet, including a chapel at the east end called Our Lady's Chapel, which is fifty-four feet long; and the breadth of the body and cross rises eighty-seven feet: the choir is 136 feet long, and forty broad; the length of the great cross isle is about 186 feet, and the tower in the middle is 150 feet high; the nave or western body of the church is above 300 feet long, and is reckoned the most spacious in England. The roof of the choir is adorned with the coats of arms of the Saxon and Norman kings, the gift of bishop Fox. The font in this church was erected in the time of the Saxons; it is of black marble, and of a square figure, and is supported by a plain stone pedestal; the sides are ornamented with sculptures in basso relievo, representing the miracles of some saint belonging to this church. The ascent to the choir is by eight steps, at the top of which are two copper statues finely cast, one of king James the First, on the right hand, and the other of king Charles the First, on the left. The bishop's throne is the gift of bishop Trelawney; the pediment of it is adorned with a mitre; and the arms of the see, supported by fluted columns of the Corinthian order. The stalls of the dean and prebendaries are adorned with gilt spire work, before which stands an eagle with its wings expanded, on a brass pedestal. The ascent to the altar is of marble steps, and the pavement is very curious, being inlaid with marble of different colours, and forming a variety of figures. The altar-piece, which is by much the noblest in England, is the gift of bishop Morley; it consists of a lofty canopy of wood-work, projecting over the communion table like a curtain, with gilt festoons hanging down from it, and other ornaments. The communion rail is neat, and on each side of the altar are stone vases with golden flames issuing out to the roof of the church. The great east window is remarkable for the fine paintings upon the glass, representing several saints and bishops of  
this



this church; it is still intire, so also is the west window, which is of painted glass, though inferior to the other.

In this cathedral were buried several of our Saxon kings, whose bones were collected by bishop Fox, and put into six gilded coffins, which he placed upon a wall in the south side of the choir. Here lies the marble coffin of William Rufus, which being opened by the soldiers in the civil wars under king Charles the First, they found on his thumb a gold ring adorned with a ruby. Bishop Langton built a neat chapel on the south side of Our Lady's Chapel, in this cathedral, in the middle of which he lies interred under a stately marble tomb; and bishop Fox, who lies buried on the south side of the high altar, has a fine monument erected over him. Here are several other pompous monuments, among which is that of William of Wickham, which is of white marble richly gilt; it was erected by himself about thirteen years before his death, in the body of the church, and is adorned with the ensigns of the order of the Garter, of which he was the first prelate, joined with his episcopal robes, all painted in their proper colours. Here also is a very fine monument over the earl of Portland, who was lord high treasurer of England in the reign of king Charles the First. This monument consists of a statue of the earl, in copper, at full length, armed, with his head raised on three cushions of the same metal. On the south side of the nave is a marble statue of Sir John Cloberry, who, when he was only a private centinel, had a good estate given him, and was raised to the dignity of knight-hood by king Charles the Second, for his fidelity when he was employed as messenger between general Monk and the king's friends, relative to the restoration. The clergy of this city have pleasant and elegant lodgings in the close belonging to this cathedral; the deanry in particular is a very handsome building, with large gardens, which are very pleasant, but are subject to be overflowed by the river, which runs through the middle of them.

Near the bishop's palace is the college of St. Mary, commonly called Winchester College, the foundation of which was laid in 1387, by William of Wickham, and it was finished in 1393. By his charter of foundation he appointed a custos or warden, seventy scholars, students in grammar, ten perpetual chaplains, now called fellows, three other chaplains, three clerks, a schoolmaster, an usher, an organist, and sixteen choristers, who, with their tenants, were freed for ever from all taxes. The allowance to the wardens, masters, and fellows, is very considerable, and they have handsome apartments joining to the college. The college consists of two large courts, in which are the school, a chapel, and lodgings for the masters and scholars; and beyond the courts there is a large cloister, with some ground inclosed for the scholars to play in. Upon the glass of one of the chapel windows, there are excellent paintings, and in the middle of the cloisters is a library; the building is of stone, and well contrived, to prevent any accident by fire. Over the door of the school is an excellent statue of the founder, made by Mr. Cibber. Many learned and great men have been educated in this school, where, after a certain time, the scholars have exhibitions, if they are inclined, to study in the New College at Oxford, founded by the same benefactor.

There is also in this city a magnificent hospital, called the Hospital of the Holy Cross. The church of this hospital is in form of a cross, and has a large square tower

tower. By the institution of the founder, every traveller that knocks at the door of this house in his way, may claim the relief of a manchet of white bread and a cup of beer, of which a good quantity is set apart daily, to be given away, and what is left is distributed to other poor, but none of it is kept to the next day. The revenues of this hospital were to be appropriated to the maintenance of a master and thirty pensioners, called fellows or brothers; for these handsome apartments were allotted, but the number is now reduced to fourteen, though the master has an appointment of 800*l.* a-year. The pensioners wear black gowns, go twice a-day to prayers, and have two hot meals a-day, except in Lent, when they have bread, butter, cheese, and beer, and twelve shillings in money, to buy what other provisions they chuse. These pensioners used formerly to be decayed gentlemen, but of late they are broken tradesmen, put in at the pleasure of the master.

An infirmary was lately established in this town by voluntary subscriptions, procured chiefly by the reverend Dr. Alured Clarke.

In the north quarter of this town is part of an old monastery still standing, now called Hide-house, where some Roman catholics reside, have a chapel, and behave so well that they are not molested.

Here are three charity schools, two of them supported by a subscription of 220*l.* a year, of which one is for fifty boys, and the other for thirty girls, who are all clothed and put out apprentices; the third, which is supported by the bounty of a single person, is for teaching 250 boys, who are not clothed nor apprenticed. In the cathedral church-yard there is a college erected and endowed by bishop Morley in 1672, for ten widows of clergymen.

The plains and downs about this city, which continue with very few interfections of rivers or valleys for above fifty miles, render this country very pleasant to those who love an open situation and extensive prospect. The city and neighbourhood abound with persons of fortune, though there is neither trade nor manufacture that deserves notice.

ALRESFORD probably took its name from its situation near the river Alre, now called the Itching. It is distant from London 60 miles, in the road to Winchester, and is an ancient borough town, governed by a bailiff and eight burgesses: the buildings are said to be great, but are no where particularly described.

ALTON is distant from London 50 miles, in the road from that city to Winchester and Southampton. Here is a charity school for forty boys and twenty girls, but nothing else worthy of note.

ANDOVER derives its name from its situation on a small river called the Ande. It is distant from London 66 miles, and is said to have had its first charter from king John; it was last incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and is governed by a bailiff, a steward, a recorder, two justices, and twenty-two capital burgesses, who annually chuse the bailiff, and the bailiff appoints two sergeants at mace to attend him. This town is large, handsome, and populous, and is pleasantly situated on the edge of the downs, in the great road from London to Wiltshire.

Here is an almshouse for the maintenance of six poor men; there is also a free school, which was founded in 1569, and a charity school for thirty boys. In this town are made great quantities of malt, but its chief manufacture is shal-loons.

BASINGSTOKE stands at the distance of 48 miles from London, in the road to Andover. It is a large populous town, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, seven aldermen, seven capital burgesies, with other officers. In this town is the parish church; here are also the ruins of a chapel, built by William the first lord Sandys, in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, a free school, and three charity schools, in one of which twelve boys are taught, clothed, and maintained, by the Skinners company in London. This town has a great market for all sorts of corn, especially barley, and a considerable trade in malt. The chief manufacture is druggets and shal-loons.

CHRIST-CHURCH was anciently called Twinam-bourne, from its situation between the two rivers Avon and Stour, near their conflux, and has borrowed its present name from the dedication of its church to Christ. It is distant from London 100 miles, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, aldermen, bailiffs, and common council men. The chief manufactures are silk stockings and gloves.

FARHAM stands at the distance of 65 miles from London. It is a pleasant town, but of very little note.

FORDINGBRIDGE is another obscure town, situated on the river Avon, at the distance of 85 miles from London. It was once much larger, having suffered greatly by fire.

GOSPORT is situated over against Portsmouth, on the other side at the entrance of Portsmouth-harbour. It is distant from London 74 miles. This town, though on a different side of the harbour, and in a different parish, generally goes by the name of Portsmouth, being considered, in regard to Portsmouth, as Southwark is to London, except that there is no bridge to unite them; boats however are continually passing from the one to the other. Gosport is a large town, and has a great trade; it is inhabited chiefly by the sailors and their wives, and the war-rant officers; and travellers generally chuse to lodge here, on account that every thing is considerably cheaper and more convenient than in Portsmouth. Here is a noble hospital for the cure of the sick and wounded sailors in the service of the navy, and there is also a free school in this town.

HAVANT is a little town, about 63 miles from London, of no note but for its market.

KINGSCLERE is pleasantly situated on the downs, bordering upon Berkshire, at the distance of 52 miles from London, and was once the seat of the Saxon kings of this county, as its name seems to import.

LEMINGTON, or LYMINGTON, is pleasantly situated upon a hill that commands a fine prospect of the Isle of Wight, at the distance of 85 miles from London. This is a corporation by prescription, consisting of a mayor, aldermen, and

and burgesſes, without limitation; the mayor is choſen by the burgesſes, and ſworn at the court of the lord of the manor. The town is ſmall, but populous; it ſtands within a mile of the ſea, and has a key, with cuſtom-houſe officers and ſhipwrights. Great quantities of ſalt are made here, which is ſaid to exceed moſt in England for preſerving fiſh, and the ſouth parts of the kingdom are chiefly ſupplied with it.

ODIHAM, ſituated in the road to Baſingſtoke, at the diſtance of 41 miles from London, is a corporation town, and was formerly a free borough of the biſhop of Wincheſter; it has now a charity ſchool for thirty boys.

PETERSFIELD ſtands at the diſtance of 55 miles from London, in the road to Portſmouth: it is a borough, and governed by a mayor and commonalty, who, though incorporated by a charter of queen Elizabeth, have ſhamefully given up all their privileges to the family of the Hamborrows, who are lords of the manor, and at whoſe court the mayor is now annually choſen. The town is populous and not ill built; and, being a great thoroughfare, is well accommodated with inns. The church here is only a chapel of eaſe.

PORTSMOUTH derives its name from its ſituation at the port or mouth of a creek that runs up a part of the coaſt, which at high tide is ſurrounded with the ſea, and is therefore called Portſea Iſland. It is about fourteen miles in circumference, and is joined to the continent by a bridge a little above the town. At this bridge there was formerly a ſmall caſtle, the ruins of which are ſtill remaining, and a town called Port Peris, which is now known by the name of Porcheſter, and was then cloſe upon the ſtrand, but the ſea retiring from Porcheſter, many of the inhabitants followed it, and ſettling below Port Peris, built Portſmouth.

This town is diſtant from London 73 miles, and is a borough, governed by a mayor, aldermen, recorder, bailiff, and common council. In the reign of king Richard the Second the French burnt and deſtroyed Portſmouth, but it recovered ſo much in ſix years time, that the inhabitants fitted out a fleet, which beat the French at ſea, as they were returning to inſult the coaſt a ſecond time, and then proceeded to France, entered the river Seine, ſunk ſeveral ſhips, and brought off a great booty.

Portſmouth may be called the key of England, and is the only regular fortification, which was begun by king Edward the Fourth, and augmented by kings Henry the Seventh and Eighth; and queen Elizabeth was at ſo great an expence in improving the works here, that nothing was thought wanting to complicate them: but king Charles the Second added very much to their ſtrength, extent, and magnificence, and made this one of the principal harbours in the kingdom, for laying up the royal navy; he furniſhed it with wet and dry docks, ſtores-houſes, rope-yards, and all materials for building, repairing, rigging, arming, victualling, and compleatly fitting to ſea ſhips of war of all rates. At this place all our fleets of force, and all ſquadrons appointed as convoys to our trade, homeward or outward bound, conſtantly rendezvous, and a thouſand ſail may ride here in perfect ſecurity.

The

The mouth of this harbour, which is scarce so broad as the river Thames is at Westminster, is upon the Portsmouth side defended by a castle called South Sea Castle, built by king Henry the Eighth, and situated about a mile and an half south of the town. This castle is fortified with a good countercarp and double moat, with ravelins, and double palisades, besides advanced works to cover the place from any approach, where it may be practicable: but part of this fort was accidentally blown up, and greatly damaged, in August 1759. The mouth of the harbour is, on the Gosport side, defended by four forts, and a platform of above twenty great guns, level with the water.

The town of Portsmouth is fortified on the land side by works raised of late years, about the docks and yards; and within these few years the government has bought more ground for additional works, and no doubt this town may be made impregnable, as well by land as by sea, since a shallow water may be brought quite round it.

Here are dwelling houses, with ample accommodations for a commissioner of the navy, and all the subordinate officers and master workmen, necessary for the constant service of the navy in this port day and night; and the contents of the yards and store-houses are laid up in such order, that the workmen can readily find any implement even in the dark. The quantities of military and naval stores of all kinds that are laid up here are immense. The rope-house is near a quarter of a mile long, and some of the cables so large, that one hundred men are required to work upon them at a time; and this labour, though divided among so many, is notwithstanding so violent, that the men can work at it only four hours in a day. The number of men continually employed in the yard is never less than a thousand. The docks and yards resemble a distinct town, and are a kind of marine corporation within themselves.

On the 3d of July 1760, a fire broke out in the dock-yard here, which consumed the rope-house, the spinning-house, the hemp-house, and one of the store-houses, with several stores, to the value of more than 50,000l.

The situation of this town being so near the level of the sea, it is full of ditches, which it was found necessary to cut as drains, and the inhabitants are very liable to agues; the streets are generally very dirty, and the inns and taverns are perpetually crowded with seamen and soldiers. The church of this town is a large and handsome building; a bell at the top of the church tower is rung to give an account of the number of ships that enter the harbour; and from a watch-house at the top of the steeple, there is a fine prospect of the several ships in the harbour, as well as of those at Spithead, a point between Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight, where ships generally ride before they come into the harbour, or after they sail out of it, and before they put to sea. The deputy governor has a beautiful house, with a neat chapel, and there is a very fine new key for laying up the cannon. This place is however in great want of fresh water, and though the adjacent country abounds with all sorts of provisions, yet the consumption of them at Portsmouth is so great, that they are very dear, and so also are lodging and firing. It is observed, much to the credit of the civil and military government of this place, that the military does neither corrupt the civil, nor the civil interrupt the military.

Such has been the late increase of business at Portsmouth, and so great the confluence of people, that as the town does not admit of any enlargement, a fort of suburb has been built on the heathy ground adjoining, which is like to become larger and more populous than the town, not only because the situation is more pleasant and healthy, but because it is not subject to the laws of the garrison, nor incumbered with the duties and services of the corporation.

RINGWOOD, or REGENWOOD, was formerly called Regnum, from its ancient inhabitants, whom the Romans called *Regni*, and from whom the present name is derived, which signifies the *wood of the Regni*. This town is situated near the river Avon, at the distance of 96 miles from London, and is large and well built, but the valley in which it lies is frequently overflowed by the river, which here divides into several streams; it is however a thriving town, and has a good manufacture in druggets, narrow cloths, stockings, and leather.

RUMSEY is situated on the river Test, at the distance of 78 miles from London, in the road from Salisbury to Southampton. It is a pretty large old town, governed by a mayor, a recorder, six aldermen, and twelve burgesses. The church is a noble pile, arched with stone, in form of a cross, and has semicircular chapels in the upper angles or corners, where the two sides of the walls meet. This place is chiefly inhabited by clothiers.

SOUTHAMPTON was formerly called Hantun, from its situation upon a bay, anciently called Trifanton, or the Bay of Anton, the old name of the river Test. Afterwards it took the name of South-Hanton, or Hampton, to distinguish it from Hampton, Northampton, and other towns of that name. It stands between the rivers Test and Itching, at the distance of 78 miles from London, was incorporated by king Henry the Second, and king John, and made a county of itself by king Henry the Sixth, which renders it independant of the lord lieutenant of the shire. According to its last charter, which was granted by king Charles the First, the corporation consists of a mayor, nine justices, a sheriff, two bailiffs, twenty-four common councilmen, and as many burgesses. The mayor is admiral of the liberties from South Sea Castle to another called Hurite Castle, which is situated on that neck of land, which, running farthest into the sea, makes the shortest passage to the Isle of Wight, the distance not being above two miles.

This town was greatly harassed by the Danes, who took it in 980, and in the reign of king Edward the First it was plundered and burnt to the ground by the French, but it was soon after rebuilt in a more convenient situation, and fortified with double ditches and strong walls, with battlements and watch towers; as it soon became populous, king Richard the Second built a strong castle on a high mount, for the defence of the harbour. It is said that by some privilege anciently granted to this place, all the Canary wine brought to England was obliged to be first landed here, which brought great wealth to the inhabitants, but the merchants of London suffering great inconvenience by this delay, gave money to the corporation as an equivalent for their privilege, and had their wines brought directly to London.

This

This town at present is surrounded by a wall built of very hard stone, resembling those little white shells, like honeycombs, that grow on the back of oysters. These stones seem to have been gathered near the beach of the sea, which encompasses almost one half of the town, and is so deep, that ships of 500 tons burden have frequently been built here: to defend this part of the town from the force of the waves, a strong bank is built of what is called sea ore, a substance composed of long and slender, but strong filaments, somewhat resembling undressed hemp: this bank is said to be a better defence than a wall of stone, or even a natural cliff; that it is better than any other work of art, must be thought strange, but that it is better than the everlasting bulwark of nature, no reasonable creature can possibly believe.

The principal street is one of the broadest in England, and near three quarters of a mile long, well paved on each side, and ending in a very fine key. On the south-east corner near the key, is a fort with some guns upon it, called the Tower, which was erected by Henry the Eighth in 1542. This town has a public hall, in which the assizes are usually kept, but its chief ornaments are its churches, of which there are five, besides a French church. Here is a hospital, called God's House, and a free school, founded by king Edward the Sixth; a charity school was also opened in the year 1713, and a subscription completed of above eighty pounds a-year, for thirty boys, who are clothed, and taught reading, writing, arithmetic, navigation, and the church catechism.

There were formerly many merchants here, and there are still some who carry on the Port and French wine trade, but the principal dealings are with Guernsey and Jersey: there are others who trade to Newfoundland for fish.

STOCKERIDGE is situated in the road to Weymouth, and other parts in the west, at the distance of 69 miles from London, and is a borough by prescription, governed by a bailiff, constable, and serjeants. The bailiff, who is generally an inn-keeper, or an inn-keeper's dependant, is the returning officer at elections for parliament; for the inn-keeper, that he may have an opportunity of receiving bribes upon these occasions, without incurring the penalty, has frequently procured one of his own ostlers to be elected bailiff, and has himself carried the mace before him. The celebrated Sir Richard Steel, who represented this borough in the time of queen Ann, carried his election against a powerful opposition, by sticking a large apple full of guineas, and declaring it should be the prize of that man whose wife should first be brought to bed after that day nine months; this merry offer procured him the interest of all the ladies, who, it is said, commemorate Sir Richard's bounty to this day, and once made a vigorous effort to procure a standing order of the corporation, that no man should ever be received as a candidate, who did not offer himself upon the same terms. The town in general is but a mean place, though there are some good inns in it, and the best wheelwrights and carpenters in the county.

WALTHAM, called also BISHOP'S WALTHAM, and by a corrupt abbreviation, BUSH WALTHAM, from a palace which the bishop of Winchester had formerly here, is distant from London 65 miles, and has a charity school, but nothing else worthy of note.

WITCHBURCH is pleasantly situated in the great western road through Andover, on the skirts of a forest, called the Forest of Chute, at the distance of 58 miles from London. It is an ancient borough by prescription, and governed by a mayor, chosen yearly at a court leet of the dean and chapter of Winchester, who are lords of the manor. The freeholders chuse their representatives in parliament, who are returned by the mayor. The chief trade of this town is in shalloons, ferges, and other articles of the woollen manufacture.

## C U R I O S I T I E S.

**New Forest.** Between the east side of the river Avon and Southampton Bay, is a forest, called New Forest, which is at least forty miles in circumference. This tract of country originally abounded with towns and villages, in which there was no less than six and thirty parish churches, but the whole was laid waste, and the inhabitants driven from their houses and estates, by William the Conqueror, that it might be made a habitation for wild beasts for him to hunt. It is remarkable that in this forest, the monument of his oppression and cruelty, two of his sons, Richard and William Rufus, and his grandson, Henry, lost their lives. Richard was killed by a pestilential blast, and William Rufus by an arrow, which was shot by Sir Walter Tyrrel at a stag, and Henry, while he pursued his game, was caught by the hair of his head in the boughs of a tree, and suspended there till he died. There is an oak still to be seen, which king Charles the Second paled in, upon a tradition that it was the very one which Sir Walter Tyrrel's arrow glanced when it killed Rufus. There is also a tradition, that every Christmas day this oak puts out buds in the morning, which wither before night. The fact, if true, is very extraordinary; and if not true, it is equally extraordinary, that a tradition should still continue which every Christmas day proves to be false.

**Terrible fire.** On May 18, 1690, a fire broke out at Alresford in several places, almost at the same time, and consumed the whole town, sparing neither church or market house; and since that time it has been twice totally reduced to ashes.

**Extraordinary will.** Southwick, a town about five miles from Portsmouth, is remarkable for having been the residence of colonel Norton, who dying in December 1732, left a real estate of 6000*l.* a year, and 60,000*l.* in money, to the poor, hungry, and thirsty, naked and strangers, sick and wounded, and prisoners, to the end of the world: he left his pictures and other valuable effects to the king, appointed the parliament of Great Britain his executors; if the parliament should refuse the trust, he directed that it should devolve to the bishops. Trustees were soon appointed by proper authority, to take care of this extraordinary legacy, but the will carried such strong marks of insanity, that it was afterwards set aside.

**Fate of Basinghouse.** Near the town of Basingstoke there was formerly a seat of John, marquis of Winchester, called Basinghouse, which the marquis in the great civil war turned into a fortress for the king, and having a resolute band of soldiers under him, held it a long while, to the great annoyance of the parliament army; but after having resisted many attacks, Cromwell at last took it by storm, and being provoked by the marquis's zeal, and the obstinacy of his defence, he put many of the



the garrison to the sword, and burnt the house to the ground. It was a building rather fit for a prince than a subject, and among other furniture that was destroyed with it, there was one bed worth 1400*l.* yet the plunder was so considerable, that a private soldier got 300*l.* for his own share.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

This county was in time of the Romans inhabited by the Regni and the Belgæ: Ancient inhabitants. the Regni were a tribe of the ancient Britons, and inhabited the sea coast, but from what origin they derived their name is not known: the Belgæ were a people of Germany, who having passed the Rhine, and possessed themselves of part of Gaul, sailed over to this coast to plunder the inhabitants and carry off the spoil, but liking the country they drove the Britons out of Somersetshire, Wiltshire, and the inland parts of Hampshire, of which they took possession for themselves, and were found there by Cæsar when he made his expedition into Britain. Besides these, the northern part of this county was inhabited by a people called the Segontiaci, and the eastern by the Meanvari, whose territories are now divided into three hundreds, called Meanstoke, Eastmean, and Westmean, from the name of their ancient inhabitants.

The city of Winchester is supposed to have been built nine hundred years Antiquities of Winchester. before the Christian æra, and to have been the metropolis of the Belgæ, and is therefore called Venta Belgarum, both by Ptolemy and Antoninus. In this city the Romans had looms to weave cloth for the emperors and their army, and king Athelstan granted it the privilege of six mints for coinage of money.

Near the west gate of the cathedral there is still the remains of an old wall, very thick, with several windows in it, built of small flints, cemented by mortar as hard as stone, and supposed to have been a work of the Romans.

On a hill near this city, called St. Catharine's hill, there are the traces of a camp; and on the side of the west gate there was a castle where the West Saxon kings are supposed to have kept their court; in the castle-hall, which is now the town-hall, a round table is still preserved, called king Arthur's round table; it consists of one piece of wood, and is pretended to be above 1200 years old; it has some illegible Saxon characters upon it, which are said to be the names of twenty-four knights, with whom king Arthur used to carouse, and who are called knights of the round table. There is however great reason to believe that the exploits of king Arthur in these parts are fabulous, and that this table is of a much later date.

At the hamlet of St. Mary's, a little to the north-east of Southampton, stood Roman town. an old Roman town, called Clausentum, a name which in the ancient British language signifies the *Part of Estum*. The ruins of this town may be traced as far as the haven on one side, and beyond the river Itching on the other; and the trenches of a castle half a mile in compass, are still visible in St. Mary's Field. This castle is supposed to have been one of the forts frequently erected by the Romans to keep out the Saxons.

Stock-

Stockbridge is supposed to have been the *Brige*, or *Brage* of the ancients, which Antoninus places nine miles from *Sorbiadunum*, or Old Sarum, a borough town of Wiltshire.

Ancient castles.

On the extremity of a narrow neck of land, that runs two miles into the sea from the New Forest, stands a building called *Hurtle Castle*, which is one of the forts built by Henry the Eighth, to defend that forest against invasions, to which it had been many ages exposed.

At *Odiham* was formerly a royal palace and a strong castle, which in king John's time was defended for fifteen days, by thirteen men only, against Lewis the dauphin of France, and the army of the barons. In this castle David king of Scotland was kept prisoner in the reign of Edward the Third.

Roman antiquities.

At *Silchester*, a hamlet, consisting of only one farm house and a church, situated north-east of *Kingclere*, upon the borders of Berkshire, are to be seen the remains of the celebrated *Vindonia*, or *Vindonum*, of the Romans, and the *Caer Segont* of the Britons, once the chief city of the *Segontiaci*; and said to be built by *Constantius*, the son of *Constantine the Great*, who is reported to have sown corn in the traces for the walls, as an omen of their perpetuity. These walls, which are two Italian miles in circumference, and built of flint and rag-stone, are still standing. They were surrounded by a ditch, which is still impassible, and full of springs. At the distance of five hundred feet without these walls, to the north-east, are the remains of an amphitheatre, which has long been a yard for cattle, and a watering pond for horses. In this place several Roman roads, which are still visible, concur; and in the neighbouring fields a vast number of Roman coins, bricks, and other relics, are daily found; among the rest was a stone with the following inscription: *MEMORIE FL. VICTORINAE T. TAM. VICTOR CONIVX POSVIT*; and some coins of *Constantine*, on the reverse of which there is the figure of a building, and this inscription: *PROVIDENTIAE CAESS*. Some British coins are also found here, which the common people call *Onion pennies*, from one *Onion*, whom they will have to be a giant, and an inhabitant of *Vindonia*.

About a mile from *Andover*, there is a Roman camp, called *Berehill*; at the distance of half a mile, another of great extent, with double works; and some miles to the north, near a village called *Egbury*, there is a third. At *Quarley-hill*, north-west of *Stockbridge*, upon the borders of Wiltshire, there are the remains of a fourth, still larger than either of the others. The works on one side are quadruple, and the two outward trenches are farther distant from each other than usual. This is answered by another great camp, at a place east of *Quarley-hill*, called *Danbury-hill*. At *Okebury*, about six miles from *Andover*, is a large Roman camp, which seems to be answered by another at *Frippsbury*, about five miles distance; and at *God's-hill*, near *Fordingbridge*, is an old camp, now overgrown with oaks, but the sleepers of one side of it, and a double trench on the other, must have made it a place of great strength.

The great Roman highway leads from the city of *Winchester* to *Alton*, and as is supposed from thence to *London*, though the remains of it are not visible beyond *Alton*.

In

In the church at Warnford, a town situated north-east of Bishop's Waltham, there are two remarkable inscriptions; one upon the north side, shewing that this church was rebuilt by Adam de Portu, a man of great wealth, in the time of William the Conqueror, is as follows: Antiquity of  
Warnford  
church.

*Adde hic Portu, benedicat solis ab ortu,  
Geni Deo dicata, per quem sic jam reuocata.*

The other inscription, on the south side, intimates that this church, which was rebuilt by Adam de Portu, was founded by Wilfrid:

*Fratres orate, precæ vestra sanctificate,  
Templi Fallores, seniores & iuniores,  
Wilfrid fundavit, bonus Adam sic reuocavit.*

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At Winchester, a monastery is said to have been very early founded by king Lucius, a British king, for monks following the rule of St. Mark, which, after several changes, was totally destroyed by a king of the West Saxons.

Kynegeise, the first Christian king of the West Saxons, began a cathedral church here, which was finished by his successor Kinewalcus, and at length became a priory called St. Swithin's. It was endowed at the general suppression with a yearly revenue of 1507l. 17s. 2d. great part of which was settled by king Henry the Eighth on a dean and twelve prebendaries, for whom, and six minor canons, ten lay clerks, eight choristers, and other members, the cathedral in this city was then refounded, and dedicated to the Holy and undivided Trinity.

In the east part of this city a nunnery was begun by king Alfred, or his queen Alswitha, about the end of the ninth century, and finished by their son, king Edward the Elder. This house was also new modelled and enlarged by bishop Ethelwold. The nuns were of the Benedictine order, and the house dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Edburg, daughter of king Edward, who was a nun, and, as some say, abbess here. The yearly revenue of this abbey, in the twenty-sixth year of Henry the Eighth, was 179l. 7s. 2d. and three years afterwards, when it was dissolved, the king granted pensions to the abbess and twenty-one nuns.

King Alfred also founded here a house and chapel for the learned monk Grimbold, whom he had brought out of Flanders, and by his will ordered a noble church or religious house to be built in the cymetry, on the north side of the old minster or cathedral, over which he intended that Grimbold should preside. This building was erected by his son, king Edward, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, and St. Peter; but the religious of the new monastery being disturbed by the ringing and the bells of the old, which was very near them, thought fit, in the year 1110, to remove to a place called Hyde, without the walls, on the north part of the city, where king Henry the First, at the in-  
stance

stance of William Gifford, bishop of Winchester, founded a stately abbey for them, which was sometimes called the monastery of St. Grimbald, and sometimes of St. Barnabas, though it is said to have been dedicated to St. Peter. Its revenues at the dissolution were 865*l.* 18*s.* *per annum.*

An hospital was founded near one of the gates of the city, by bishop Britan, who died in the year 935.

Without the walls of this city, towards the south, is the hospital of St. Cross, founded by bishop Henry de Blois, brother to king Stephen, in the year 1132, for the whole maintenance of thirteen poor brethren, in lodging, cloathing, and diet, and for the dining of one hundred poor persons every day. It was at first governed by a prioress, and put under the management of the master and Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, who, in the year 1185, quitted their interest in it, upon valuable considerations, when Richard bishop of Winchester made provision for the dining of another hundred poor persons. There were then in it, besides the poor, a master and four chaplains, in the nomination of the bishop of Winchester. In the time of king Henry the Sixth, cardinal Beaufort, or his executors, added 158*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to the revenue of this place, for a rector, two chaplains, thirty-five poor men, and three poor women; yet the whole annual income at the dissolution was returned but 84*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* This house is still in being, and the present state of it has been described in the account of the city of Winchester.

In the north part of the town stood a house or college of Dominican or Preaching friars, who were first placed here by Peter de Rupibus, or de la Roch, bishop of Winchester, in the reign of king John, and it was granted by Henry the Eighth to the warden and fellows of Wickham College. He also granted to the same college, a house of Grey friars, on the north side of the street, just within the east gate of the city.

Here was an hospital for nine poor brethren and sisters, before the time of king Edward the First, when it was reckoned to be in the patronage of the bishop of Winchester. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and valued upon the dissolution at 42*l.* 16*s.* in the whole, and at 16*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* clear, *per annum.*

There was also in this city an house of Carmelite or White friars, said to have been founded by Peter, rector of St. Helen's, Winchester, in the year 1278.

Without the south gate stood an house of Augustine friars, built in the time of king Edward the First, and rebuilt about the fifteenth year of Edward the Third.

In the meadow of St. Stephen, over against the gate of the bishop's palace, called Wolvesey, John de Pontoys, bishop of Winchester, about the year 1300, built a college for a provost, six chaplains, priests, six clerks, and six choristers, to the honour of St. Elizabeth, daughter to a king of Hungary. It was endowed at the dissolution with 112*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

At

At a little distance without the King's Gate, there was an hospital for poor people, maintained by the monks of St. Swithins.

Here was also a monastery, said to have been built by one Adam Martin, dedicated to St. James.

A warden and several priests were settled in the chapel of the Holy Trinity, on the north side of the church-yard of St. Mary Abbey, by John or Roger Inkenne, a citizen of Winchester, about the year 1318.

The prior and brethren of the fraternity of St. Peter, in the church of St. Maurice and the college of St. Mary Kalender, are mentioned in the twenty-fifth year of king Edward the Third.

The college of St. Mary, called Wickham or Winchester college, still in being in this city, and particularly excepted in the act of the first of king Edward the Sixth, for the dissolution of colleges, was in the twenty-sixth year of king Henry the Eighth, endowed with lands worth 628*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* *per annum.*

At Redbridge, a village situated near the place where the river Test falls into Southampton Bay, was an ancient monastery, under the abbat Cimberth, about the year 680.

At Rumsley, king Edward the Elder, or Ethelwald, a Saxon nobleman, built a monastery, in which king Edgar, about the year 967, placed Benedictine nuns, under the government of the abbess Mtrwenna. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Elfrida, daughter of Ethelwald, who was sometime a nun and abbess here, and valued upon the suppression at 393*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* *per annum.*

At Wherwell, near Andover, upon the river Test, Elfrida, the widow of king Edgar, about the year 986, founded a Benedictine nunnery, to atone for her having murdered her first husband, Ethelwold, that she might be queen, and her son in law, king Edward, that her own son, Ethelred, might be king. In this abbey she is said to have spent the latter part of her life very penitently. It was dedicated to the Holy Cross and St. Peter, and was endowed at the suppression with 339*l.* 8*s.* 7*d.* *per annum.*

In the church of the town of Christ-church, there was a dean and twenty-four secular canons, in the time of king Edward the Confessor. Their college was new built after the Conquest, by Ranulph Flambard, bishop of Durham, who was sometime dean here, and their revenues were much increased by the elder Richard de Redvers, earl of Devon, in the time of king Henry the First: but earl Baldwin, son to the said Richard, about the year 1150, procured that the seculars should be changed into regular canons, of the order of St. Austin. The yearly revenues of this priory were valued on the suppression at 312*l.* 7*s.*

The church of St. Mary at Andover, being given to the French abbey of St. Florence at Salmar in Anjou, by king William the Conqueror, became a cell to that monastery. It was finally dissolved by statute in the second year of Henry the Fifth, and the same year granted to Winchester college.

Here was an hospital dedicated to St. John and St. Mary Magdalen, as early as the reign of king Henry the Third, for a maister and a certain number both of brothers and sisters.

At Wintney-Hartley, near Odiham, a Cistercian nunnery was built by some of the family of Colrith, in the time of William the Conqueror, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalen, or Mary Magdalen and John the Baptist. At the dissolution there was a prioress and seventeen nuns, with a revenue of 43*l.* 3*s.* *per annum.*

King William, and afterwards king Henry, the First, having given the church, tithes, and great part of the land in the island of Hailing, situated east of the Isle of Portica, to the abbey of St. Peter at Gymege, in Normandy, it became a cell of Benedictine monks to that abbey; and after the suppression of the alien priories, king Henry the Fifth bestowed this on his new foundation of Carthusians at Shean, in the Isle of Wight.

At West Sherborn, near Alton, there was a priory of Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. Mary and St. John, which became a cell to the abbey of St. Vigor, at Cersy, in Normandy, to which it was given by Henry de Port, one of the barons of the exchequer, in the time of king Henry the First. It was afterwards given by king Edward the Fourth to the hospital of St. Julian in Southampton, and is now enjoyed by the provost and fellows of Queen's College in Oxford, as masters of that hospital.

King Henry the First built a priory of Black canons upon the river Itching, about two miles from Southampton, dedicated to St. Diones, or Dennis, about the year 1124, in which there were a prior and nine religious, who, at the dissolution, were endowed with 80*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* *per annum.*

At Southampton there was an hospital for lepers, before the year 1179, valued on the dissolution at 16*l.* 16*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

In the time of Henry the Third, two brothers, who were merchants, one called Gervasius, and the other Protasius, converted the house in which they lived in the south-east corner of this town, into an hospital for poor people, and endowed it with some lands, to which several benefactions were afterwards added. Its chapel is dedicated to St. Julian, for which reason it is often called the hospital of St. Julian, but generally God's House. The patronage and mastership was given by king Edward the Third, at the instance of his queen, Philippa, to the provost and fellows of Queen's College in Oxford, which she had founded, in whose possession it continues to this day.

In the south-east part of this town, near the wall, there was an house or college of Franciscan or Grey Friars, who were settled here in the year 1240.

At a place called Broener, Baldwin de Redveris, or Rivertis, earl of Devon, and his uncle Hugh, founded a priory of Black canons, about the latter end of the reign of king Henry the First, dedicated to St. Michael. At the suppression,

it consisted of a prior and nine canons, and was endowed with 154*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.* *per annum.*

At Porchester, near Portsmouth, Henry the First, in the year 1133, founded a priory of canons, of the order of St. Austin, which seems to have been not long after removed to Southwick, near the same place, where it continued till the dissolution, when it was valued at 257*l.* 4*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

The knights of St. John of Jerusalem had an hospital or preceptory, at a place called Godes Field, which was given them by Henry de Blois, who was bishop of Winchester about the year 1130.

At Hamble, near Southampton, there was a priory of Cistercian monks, which became a cell to the abbey of Tirone, in France. It was dedicated to St. Andrew, and afterwards given to New College in Oxford.

The tithes of the parish church of All Saints, with the chapel of St. Mary at Ellingham, north of Ringwood, were given to St. Saviour's le Vicomte, in the diocese of Constances, in Normandy, by William de Solaris, in the year 1163, upon which, here was founded a cell subordinate to that foreign house, but this cell was afterwards, with the rectory of Ellingham, given to Eaton College.

At Beaulieu, on the New Forest, north-east of Lymington, king John, in the year 1204, built and endowed an abbey for thirty Cistercian monks, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. Its value at the dissolution was 326*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

At Motesfont, south of Stockbridge, there was a priory of Austin canons, founded by William Briwere, in the beginning of the reign of king John, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity. This house continued till the general suppression, when there was a prior and ten canons in it, and it was endowed with 124*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.* *per annum.*

At Portsmouth Peter de Rupibus founded the hospital called God's House, dedicated to St. John the Baptist and St. Nicholas, valued on the dissolution at 33*l.* 19*s.* 5*d.* *per annum.*

The same Peter having obtained of king Henry the Third, a grant of the manor of Titchfield, east of Southampton, built an abbey there for Premonstratensian canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in the year 1232. At the suppression there was an abbot and twelve canons in it, and it was endowed with a yearly revenue of 249*l.* 16*s.* 1*d.*

At Selborn, near Alton, a priory of Black canons was founded by the same Peter, in the year 1233, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, but it was suppressed and granted to William Wainfleet, bishop of Winchester, who made it part of the endowment of St. Mary Magdalen College in Oxford.

At Netley, near Southampton, king Henry the Third, in the year 1239, founded an abbey for Cistercian monks, from Beaulieu, and dedicated it to St.

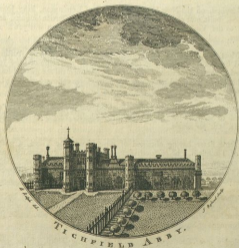
Mary and St. Edward. At the dissolution here was an abbat and twelve monks, whose revenues were valued at 100*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

At Basingstoke king Henry the Third founded an hospital in the year 1261, for the maintenance of aged and helpless priests, in pursuance of the will of Walter de Merton; and after the foundation of Merton College in Oxford, the scholars or fellows of that college, who should become objects of that charity, were to be preferred. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. John Baptist, and the mastership of it was very early annexed to the wardenship of Merton College, Oxon.

At Eordingbridge there was an hospital, dedicated to St. John, annexed to St. Cross in Winchester, or given to King's College, in Cambridge.

At Andewell, or Enedwell, near Basingstoke, there was an alien priory, cell to Tyrone, of the order of St. Benedict.

At South Badefley, near Lemington, there was a preceptory of the Knights Templars, and afterwards of St. John of Jerusalem, valued at 1181. 16*s.* 7*d.* *per annum.*



The







## The I S L E of W I G H T.

## N A M E.

THE present name of this island appears to have been immediately derived from the Saxon names *part-land* and *pacp-*ea**, which were easily formed from the Roman names *Vella*, *Vellis*, and *Villigis*; but the origin of the Roman names does not with any certainty appear, though some writers have endeavoured to derive them from *Gairb*, the name by which the ancient Britons called the Isle of Wight, and which signifies a *separation*, having been applied to denote the separation of this country from the continent of Britain, to which, as is supposed, it was formerly joined.

## S I T U A T I O N, F O R M, and E X T E N T.

This island lies south of that part of the British continent called Hampshire, from which it is separated by a narrow rapid channel, formerly called the Solent, though not distinguished now by any particular name. The greatest breadth of this channel is not above four or five miles; and between Hurst Castle, in Hampshire, upon the continent, and Yarmouth, a borough town of the Isle of Wight, where the channel is narrowest, the distance is only two miles. This island is of an elliptical or oval form; its greatest extent from east to west is 20 miles, from north to south 12 miles, and 60 miles in circumference; and Newport, the capital town on the island, which stands nearly in the center of it, is about 80 miles distant from London.

## R I V E R.

The only stream in the Isle of Wight, worthy of notice, is that called Cowes river, a name given it from two towns standing near its mouth, one on the west bank of it, called West Cowes, and the other on the east bank, distinguished by the name of East Cowes; it is sometimes called Newport river, from Newport, situated on the west bank of it. This river rises near the extremest angle of the island southward, and running north, and dividing it into two almost equal parts, falls into the sea at the northernmost point of land here, seven miles from Newport.

## A I R, S O I L, and N A T U R A L P R O D U C T I O N S.

The air of this island is pleasant and healthy, and the inhabitants in general are stout and vigorous, and live to a great age.

The soil is very fruitful, the north part of the island being excellent pasture and meadow ground, and the south part a fine corn country. Through the middle of the island, from east to west, there runs a ridge of mountains, which yield plenty of pasture for sheep, and the wool of the sheep fed in these mountains,

tains, being reckoned as good as any in England, turns out much to the advantage of the inhabitants. Here is found the milk-white tobacco pipe clay, called *Creta*, by writers of natural history, of which great quantities are exported from hence, together with very fine sand, of which drinking glasses are made. Here is abundance of sea fish of all kinds, great plenty of hares, rabbits, partridges, pheasants, lapwings, and other wild fowl. In this island are two parks, well stocked with deer, but there being only one forest, wood is so scarce, that it is imported hither in great quantities from the continent. It has been observed of this island, that it yields more corn in one year, than the inhabitants consume in seven; and therefore great quantities of corn are annually exported from this place.

Nature has fortified this island almost all round with rocks, and where these are wanting, art has supplied the deficiency with castles, forts, and block-houses, to defend it against any hostile invasion. The most dangerous of these rocks are the Shingles and the Needles upon the west side of it; the Bramble and the Middle on the north, and the Mixon on the east.

#### CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

The two parts into which the river Cowes separates this island, are the hundreds, or civil divisions of it, which are called the *Medina's*, from *Medina*, the ancient name of the town of Newport, and are distinguished, one by the name of the East, the other of the West *Medina*, in respect as each is situated, east or west of Newport. It contains three market towns, and has fifty-two parishes.

The military government of this island, which is a post of the highest trust and honour, is always vested in a general of the army, admiral of the fleet, or some other person of the first military rank, and under him are the respective governors of the forts and castles of the island, where there is always a whole regiment in garrison, and sometimes more. In ecclesiastical matters it is subject to the jurisdiction of the bishop of Winchester, and in civil affairs to the county of Southampton.

#### MARKET TOWNS, FORTS and CASTLES.

The market towns, which are also three boroughs, are those of Newport, Newton, and Yarmouth.

**NEWPORT** is a very ancient borough by prescription, but did not send members to parliament before the reign of queen Elizabeth. By a charter of king James the First, it is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, a recorder, and twelve common council men. This is a large populous town, with a church, which however is only a chapel of ease to Carebrook, a village in the neighbourhood. Here is a charity school, and a key, to which vessels of a small burden can come up; but larger vessels are forced to load and unload at Cowes.

**NEWTON** is governed by a mayor and burgesses, but is a very inconsiderable place, having nothing worthy of any note, except a convenient haven, or creek, in the north side of the island, between Yarmouth and West Cowes.

YARMOUTH, called also South Yarmouth, to distinguish it from the town of Yarmouth in Norfolk, stands upon a creek about one mile from the sea, and at the distance of 86 miles from London. It was incorporated by king James the First, and is governed by a mayor and twelve burgessees. Here is a castle and a garrison, and about eighty handsome houses, most of which are built of free stone.

The principal forts or castles in this island are those following :

Carebrook Castle, on the south side of Newport, was originally built by one Whitgar, a Saxon of high rank, to whom Cerdic, the first king of the West Saxons, gave this island. It was several times repaired, and about the beginning of the sixteenth century, magnificently rebuilt by the governor of the island, though probably at the charge of the crown. This castle is still the seat of the governor: it was formerly much used as a place of confinement for prisoners of the highest quality, and king Charles the First was a prisoner here thirteen months.

At West Cowes there is a castle to defend the mouth of the river. It was built by king Henry the Eighth, and has a garrison, under the command of the deputy governor of the island. There was also a castle at East Cowes, but that has been for a long time neglected.

Sandown Castle, or Sanham Castle, in the East Medina, stands on the north end of a bay, hence called Sandown Bay, at the distance of three leagues from Portsmouth; this is the strongest castle in the island, and here is always a garrison, with a governor and captain, and thirty wardens, besides gunners.

Sharpnor Castle stands directly opposite to Hurst Castle, in Hampshire. Here used to be a small garrison under a governor.

#### A N T I Q U I T I E S.

The Isle of Wight was in all probability part of the territories which were anciently inhabited by the Belgæ. It was subjected to the power of the Romans by Vespasian, under the emperor Claudian, about the year of our Lord 45. Cerdic, king of the West Saxons, was the first Saxon prince who subdued it; he bestowed it on Whitgar, who put all the British inhabitants to the sword, and peopled it with a tribe of foreigners, called the Jutes, who followed the Saxons into England, and are supposed to have been originally Goths. This island remained subject to the Jutes, till about the year 650, when it was conquered by Wulfer, king of the Mercians, and given to Edelwalch, king of the South Saxons; though some historians affirm that it was given to Sigebert, king of the East Angles, on condition of his embracing the Christian religion. Cadwalla, king of the West Saxons, is said some time afterwards to have invaded this island, and to have reduced it to his obedience, by putting the inhabitants to the sword. The Isle of Wight, together with the neighbouring islands of Guernsey and Jersey, situated near the coast of France, was erected into a kingdom by king Henry the

Ancient inhabitants.

Sixth,

Sixth, and bestowed on Henry de Beauchamp, duke of Warwick, whom he crowned king with his own hands, but the duke dying without issue, these islands lost their regality.

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

In Carebrook is a church dedicated to St. Mary, which William Fitz Osbern, kinsman and marshal to king William the Conqueror, and earl of Hereford, gave, with several other possessions in England, to the abbey of *Lyre*, in Normandy, upon which a prior and some Black monks, from that foreign monastery, were settled here.

At Quarrer, or Arreton, south-east of Newport, in 1132, Baldwin de Redvers, afterwards earl of Devonshire, built an abbey of Cistercian monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its yearly revenues upon the suppression were valued at 134l. 3s. 11d.

At Marvel, not far from Newton, a college of four priests was founded by Henry de Blois, bishop of Winchester, and augmented by Peter Roch and Henry Woodlock, two of his successors; and in the park near this place, there is a church, in which was a chantry at the dissolution.

At St. Helens, upon the coast, south-east of Newport, there was an alien cry of Cluniac monks, before the year 1155.

At St. Cross, near Newport, before the year 1155, there was a priory or hospital, dedicated to the Holy Cross, which was a cell to the abbey of Tironc, in France.

At Appledurcomb, near the coast, south-east of Newport, there was a cell of Benedictine monks, subordinate to the abbey of St. Mary de Montisburg, in Normandy. It was founded about the end of the reign of king Henry the Third, by Isabella de Fortibus, and was dissolved with the rest of the alien priories, by king Henry the Fifth.

At Burton, near East Cowes, as early as the time of king Edward the First, there was a priory of canons, of the order of St. Austin, dedicated to the Holy Trinity. It consisted of several chaplains, under the government of an archpriester, who, in the nineteenth of Henry the Sixth, gave away the estate of the priory to St. Mary's college in Winchester.

At Godhill, north of Appledurcomb, there is a church, which was early appropriated to the abbey of *Lyre*, in Normandy.

In the registers of Winchester church, there is mention of an hermitage at Chale, upon the coast south-west of Appledurcomb, as early as the year 1312.

M E M.

## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for HAMPSHIRE.

This county sends twenty-six members to Parliament: two knights of the shire for the county, two citizens for Winchester, and two burgesses for each of the following corporations, Southampton, Portsmouth, Newport, Yarmouth, Newton, Lemington, Christ-church, Andover, Whitchurch, Petersfield, and Stockbridge.









Longitude West from London

# A New MAP of HEREFORD SHIRE.

Drawn from the best  
Authorities  
By Tho: Kitchin Esq:  
Geographer to H. R. H. the  
Duke of York.



**Remarks.**

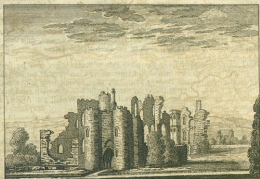
- Shaded in a Circle*
- Strengthened Towns with the 1<sup>st</sup> of March*
- They used to be Fortified by Rivers*
- Market Towns*
- Rivers and Navigations*
- Places where Fairs are kept have a Line under the Name thus*

British Scale Miles by a Degree.



UVA.BHSC

HEREFORDSHIRE  
RIVERS



BROMPTON BRYAN CASTLE

p. 298

# HEREFORDSHIRE.

## NAME.

**T**HIS county takes its name from the city of Hereford, a bishop's see, and the county town.

## BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

Herefordshire is bounded on the north by Shropshire, on the south by Monmouthshire, on the east by Worcestershire and Gloucestershire, and on the west by the Welch counties, Brecknockshire and Radnorshire. It is almost of a circular form, measuring 35 miles from north to south, and 30 miles from east to west, and 108 miles in circumference; and the city of Hereford, which stands nearly in the middle of the county, is 130 miles north-west of London.

P p 2

RIVERS.

## R I V E R S .

This county is watered by several rivers, the chief of which are the Wye, the Monow, and the Lug. The course of the Wye has been already described in the account of Gloucestershire. The Monow rises in a chain of mountains called Hatterel Hills, which on the south-west separate this county from Radnorshire; then it runs south-east, dividing Monmouthshire from Herefordshire, and after having been augmented by several less considerable streams, falls into the Wye at Monmouth, the county town of the shire of that name.

The Lug rises in the hills in the north-east of Radnorshire, runs by several windings east, through Herefordshire to Leominster, a considerable borough town of this county, and thence running south-east, after having been joined by several smaller rivers, falls into the Wye, near Hereford. Other less considerable rivers in this county are the Frome, the Loden, the Wadel, the Arrow, and the Dare.

## A I R , S O I L , and N A T U R A L P R O D U C T I O N S .

The air of this county is pure, and consequently healthy, particularly between the rivers Wye and Severn, which has given occasion to a proverb very common among the inhabitants of the county: 'Blessed is the eye between Severn and Wye.' The soil of Herefordshire is extremely fertile, yielding fine pasture, and great quantities of corn; it is also well stocked with wood, and there are some apple trees, particularly the redstreaks, which thrive here better than in any other county; the hedges on the high ways are full of them, and the hogs grow fat by feeding on the windfalls, which give a reddish colour and sweet taste to their flesh: but from these apples a much greater advantage arises to the inhabitants, for they afford such quantities of cyder, that it is the common drink all over the county; and a few years ago, when the smooth cyder was preferred to the rough, it was esteemed the best in England; and a great quantity of rough cyder has been made here since the rough was preferred to the smooth. The county abounds with springs of fine water, and the rivers afford abundance of fish.

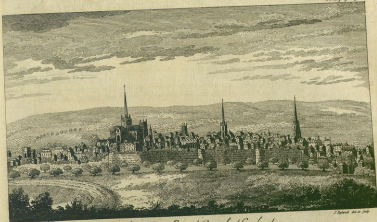
## C I V I L and E C C L E S I A S T I C A L D I V I S I O N S .

This county is divided into eleven hundreds, and contains one city and seven market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Hereford; and includes 176 parishes.

## C I T Y and M A R K E T T O W N S .

The city is Hereford; and the market towns are Bromyard, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster, Pembridge, Ross, and Weobley.

HEREFORD is written in our most ancient annals, exactly as it is now, except the form of the letters, *Deperford*: the word is said to be pure Saxon, and to signify *the feed of the army*; a name that agrees well with the situation of this place, which



*The North East View of Hereford.*

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

which stands on the Wye, that falls into the Severn, and makes part of the barrier between England and Wales. As the two nations were almost always at war one with another, this town was generally the head quarters of such Saxon or English forces as were stationed in the county; and at this place both armies probably forded the river, when they passed out of Wales into England, or out of England into Wales. There is however some reason to suspect this account to be more plausible than true, for the ancient British name of the county was *Ersinc*; and there can be little doubt but that *Here*, the first part of the Saxon name, was implicitly borrowed from *Erci*, the first part of the British; so that except *Erci* in British, and *Here* in Saxon, have the same signification, Hereford was not intended to express the ford of the army. What *Erienc* signifies, is not known, but the Saxons probably only changed the termination, and called the place the Ford of *Erie*, considering *Erie* not as a significant word, but the proper name of the place. Some however have supposed, that both the British and Saxon names were derived from *Ariconium*, the name of an ancient town near this place, mentioned by Antoninus, which is said to have been destroyed by an earthquake, and Hereford to have been built in its stead.

Hereford is governed by a mayor and twelve aldermen, a high steward, a deputy steward, recorder and town clerk, with thirty-one common council men, among whom are reckoned the mayor, and five of the aldermen, who are justices of the peace; the mayor has a sword-bearer, and four serjeants at mace.

The trading companies have their distinct halls, laws, and privileges; and here are held the assizes, quarter sessions, and county courts. A small river that appears to have no name, running by the north side of this city, falls on the east side of it into the Wye, which flows by the south side, so that this city is surrounded by rivers, except on the west side. It often suffers by the swell of the Wye on the south, over which it has a good stone bridge of eight arches. It is about a mile and a half in circumference; the houses are old, the streets dirty, and the inhabitants few. It has now a cathedral, and four parish churches; before the civil war in the last century, it had six, but two were then destroyed. The cathedral is a beautiful and magnificent structure, adorned with the monuments of several of its ancient prelates. It has a bishop, a dean, a chancellor, sixteen canons, twenty-seven prebendaries, a chanter, a treasurer, and twelve vicars choral, with deacons, choristers, and other officers. The bishop has a palace called the castle, and the other dignitaries have houses in a place called the Close; the vicars and choristers also have a college in which they live, in a collegiate or academical way, under a governor or president: the situation is pleasant, but the buildings are mean.

Here is an hospital, which was founded in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and well endowed, for twelve poor people, and two charity schools, one for sixty boys, the other for forty girls, who are all taught and clothed by subscription.

The only manufacture is gloves, and some other leathern wares.

**BROMYARD** stands in a country full of orchards, near a river called the Frome, at the distance of 124 miles from London. It is a little obscure town, of which nothing is recorded worthy of notice.

KINGTON,

## H E R E F O R D S H I R E

KINGTON, or KYNEYON, stands upon a small river called the Arrow, at the distance of 146 miles from London. It is a pretty large well built old town, inhabited chiefly by clothiers, who carry on a considerable trade in narrow cloths. Its market is one of the most considerable in the county; and it has a free school and a charity school.

LEDBURY stands at the south end of a ridge of mountains called Malvern-hills, on the east side of this county, at the distance of 118 miles from London. It is a well built town, inhabited chiefly by clothiers, and has a hospital, liberally endowed, besides a charity school for twenty-three poor children.

LEOMINSTER, or LEMSTER, is said to have been originally called Monasterium Leonis, from a monastery built here by king Merwald, after he had seen a lion in a vision. Others are of opinion that the present name is a corruption of *Llan Llani*, a name given it by the ancient Britons, signifying a church of lions; and there are some who derive Lemster from *limus*, the Latin name for flax, of which the best kind is said to grow here.

Leominster is distant from London 136 miles; it was incorporated by queen Mary, and is governed by a high steward, a bailiff, a recorder, twelve capital burgessees, out of whom the bailiff is chosen, and a town clerk. It is a large, handsome, populous town, with several bridges over the river Lug, and is a great thoroughfare between South Wales and London. It has a large beautiful church, and an almshouse, founded by the widow of a man who is said to have given away the greatest part of his estate in his lifetime, and to have been afterwards treated with a disrespect, from which his money would have preserved him: this is probably alluded to by the figure of a man, holding up a hatchet, in a nich over the entrance to the house, with the following lines underneath:

- ' Let him, that gives his goods before he is dead,
- ' Take this hatchet and cut off his head.'

At the fairs of this town are sold many horses and black cattle, and it had so considerable a trade in wool, at its market which was held on a Thursday, the same day as the market was held at Hereford and Worcester, that those cities petitioned to have the day changed, complaining of their loss of trade. Upon this petition Lemster market-day was changed from Thursday to Friday, and since that time the trade has greatly decreased. The wool brought to this market has been reckoned the best in all Europe, except that of Apulia and Tarentum, and was deservedly called Lemster ore, because it greatly enriched the town. This town has also the best flax, wheat, and barley, in England, carries on a considerable trade in wool, gloves, leather and hats, having many mills and other machines constantly working on the rivers that flow through the valley on which it stands.

PEMERIDGE is a small town upon the river Arrow, at the distance of 130 miles from London, where there is a manufacture of woollen cloth.

ROSSE stands upon the river Wye, at the distance of 117 miles from London. It was made a free borough by king Henry the Third, and is a populous



lous well built town, consisting chiefly of two streets, each about half a mile long, crossing each other in the middle. Here are two charity schools, one for thirty boys, the other for twenty girls, who are taught and clothed by subscription. This town is much frequented on account of its markets and fairs, which are well stored with cattle and other provisions. It is famous for cyder, and Mr. Camden says that in his time it had a considerable manufacture of iron wares.

WOBLEY, or WEBLEY, situated at the distance of 130 miles from London, is an ancient borough by prescription, but no corporation. Here are two charity schools, supported by subscription, one for twenty-five boys, and another for girls.

C U R I O S I T I E S .

As an extraordinary instance of the longevity of the inhabitants of this county, Extraordinary instance of longevity. Mr. Sergeant Hopkins, a gentleman of considerable estate in these parts, invited King James the First, while he was on a progress this way, to his house, where, having elegantly entertained him, he procured ten old men and women, whose ages put together amounted to more than one thousand years, to dance the morrice before him.

In Wethyde, near Hereford, June 6th, 1697, there fell such a prodigious A prodigious shower of hail. shower of hail, as broke all the windows, destroyed all the poultry, corn, grass, and most of the fruit trees in the village, several of the stones measuring full nine inches round.

Below a hill on which stands Richard's Castle, about five miles north of Leominster, is a well, called Bone Well, in which a great quantity of small bones Remarkable well. is always found, and of which there is constantly a fresh supply, in a very short time after it is cleared of them. Some imagine these to be the bones of some small fish, and others the bones of frogs; but whence or how they came to be collected here, it is not easy to conjecture.

On the top of one of the hills called Malvern-hills, there is a spring, the water of which is said to be a remedy for many disorders of the eyes; and at about Medicinal springs. a furlong distance is another, said to be of great efficacy in the cure of cancers.

About two miles and a half from these hills, there is a spring, which the people in the neighbourhood call Holy Well. It is situated on the side of a hill, in an arable field; and besides several medical qualities, it is said to clear the skin from sunburns and freckles, if washed with it two or three mornings successively. This spring passes through a light sand, appears to ferment, and is full of very small thin lamina, of a metalline appearance, and as bright as the purest silver; from which however the refiners could extract nothing of value. Within two miles of this spring is another, called also Holy Well, situated on the brow of a hill, which stands also in a corn field; the water of this well is said to be good in disorders of the eyes, and to have performed many extraordinary cures upon persons affected with putrid ulcers.

At

A gigantic  
skeleton.

At Doward-hill, in the parish of Whitchurch, not far from Ross, some men who were digging, found a cavity, which seemed to have been arched over, and in it a human skeleton, which appeared to have been more than double the stature of the tallest man now known. These bones were, not many years ago, in the possession of a surgeon at Bristol, in Somersetshire.

A hill re-  
moved by an  
earthquake.

In the year 1575, Marcle-y-hill, about six miles east of Hereford, after shaking and roaring in a terrible manner, for three days together, was, about six o'clock on Sunday evening, put in motion, and continued moving for eight hours, in which time it advanced upwards of 200 feet from its former situation, and mounted twelve fathoms higher than it was before. In the place whence it set out, it left a gap 400 feet long, and 320 feet broad, and in its progress it overthrew a chapel, belonging to a village called Kinnaston, together with all the trees, houses, and every other thing that stood in its way, carrying with it the trees that grew upon it, with sheep folds, and some flocks of sheep that were grazing on it. Mr. Camden observes, that the earthquake which removed this hill, was of that kind which the naturalists call *Braumatia*, being a motion up and down, or perpendicular to the horizon.

Large stones  
removed in  
an extraordi-  
nary manner.

In a common meadow, called the Wergins, to the east of Hereford, two large stones set on-end for a water-mark, were, about the year 1652, removed 240 paces, no body knew how; though they were so large, that when they were removed back again, one of them required nine yokes of oxen to draw it.

#### A N T I Q U I T I E S .

Ancient inhabi-  
tants.

This county, together with Radnorshire, Brecknockshire, Monmouthshire, and Glamorganshire, in Wales, constitute that district, which in ancient times was inhabited by the Silures, a people whom Tacitus and some others, from their ruddy complexion, curled hair, and situation over against Spain, have supposed to come originally from that country. The derivation of their name is uncertain; but we are told by Pliny and Tacitus, that they were a stout, bold, and warlike people, impatient of servitude, and inflexibly obstinate. They long opposed the Roman power under their king Caratacus, being made desperate by a declaration of the emperor Claudius, that they should be totally exterminated. During this war, they were at length defeated by Aulus Plautius, and their king Caratacus taken and sent to Rome, where he was led in triumph; but they were not intirely subdued till the reign of Vespasian. A Roman legion was then placed in garrison among them, which effectually prevented a revolt.

This county remained under the jurisdiction of the Britons several ages after the Saxons came into this island, but was at last subdued by a king of Mercia, and annexed to his own dominions. After this, it was perpetually harassed by the Welch, on whose country it borders; and to secure it from these incursions, Offa, who succeeded to the kingdom of Mercia, made a broad ditch, one hundred miles long, which was called Offa's Ditch, some traces of which are still visible. This county was also fortified with no less than twenty-eight castles; but the greatest part of them are now totally demolished.

Here-

Hereford is thought by some to have been founded by king Edward the Elder, Antiquities of Hereford. though others suppose it to have sprung up about the time that the Saxon heptarchy was at its height, and first to become considerable about the year 825, by a church built here by Mlfrid, king of the Mercians, to the memory of Ethelbert, king of the East Angles, who was murdered by the queen of king Offa, while he was courting their daughter. This church soon after became a cathedral, and Hereford was made the see of a bishop; but in the time of Edward the Confessor, Griffin, prince of South Wales, sacked the city, destroyed the cathedral, and carried the bishop away prisoner. This city was therefore at the Norman invasion almost in ruins; the Conqueror however rebuilt both the city and cathedral, and erected a castle, which, though now in ruins, Leland says was in his time the fairest, largest, and strongest in England; it was surrounded by a double wall, each of which was surrounded with water, part being the river, and part a ditch; the donjon was high, and extremely well fortified, having ten semicircular towers in the outward wall, and one very large tower in the inward.

A small village called the Old Town, situated at the foot of Hatterel-hills, Roman station. and on the river Monow, in the south-west corner of this county, is thought to be the town called Blestium, in the Itinerary of Antoninus, and appears from several remains of antiquity in and about it, to have been once a place of some note and strength.

Kenchester, four miles north-west from Hereford, is thought to be the ancient Ariconium; and about the year 1669, a great vault paved with stone, and a table of plaster in it, was discovered in a neighbouring wood; and near the same place were frequently dug up Roman coins and urns, with bones and ashes in them. Here was also discovered a bath, and the pipes of brick which heated it, were in a perfect state of preservation.

At Creden-hill, about a mile from Kenchester, there is a very large camp, strongly fortified, the ditch being double, and the whole taking up no less than forty acres of ground.

At Eaton Wall, a village upon the Wye, two miles from Hereford, is a camp, with single works, which includes near forty acres.

Within a mile of Hereford is a Roman camp, now called Oyfter-hill, supposed by some etymologists, to have taken its name from Ostorius, who was the Roman general when the army encamped here.

On the borders of Shropshire is a perfect Roman camp, called Brandon: it is a single square work, with four ports, near which are two barrows, where, in the year 1662, an urn was found, with ashes and bones in it; and half a mile from thence, on the outside of a small stream, called Bardfield, was a British camp, now covered with great oaks, and called Coxal.

In a park belonging to Croft Castle, on the north-west of Leominster, is a large camp, with two ditches, called the Ambry.

Ancient  
buildings.

On a hill in the neighbourhood of Leominster, there are the ruins of a palace, now called Comfor Castle; and at the east end of the church of Leominster, there are some few remains of a priory.

Brampton Brian Castle, about seven miles from Ludlow, is a stately ancient pile of building; and at Goodrich, near Ross, is an old castle, now in ruins.

An ancient  
camp and  
other remains  
of antiquity.

Upon Capellar hill, near Brockhampton, a village lying south-east of Hereford, there is a very fine square camp, called Wobury, double trenched, and near half a mile long, but narrow.

At Colwall, about two miles north of Ledbury, a poor cottager found a coronet of gold, adorned with diamonds: he sold it to a goldsmith in Gloucester for thirty-one pounds, who sold it again to a jeweller in London for 250*l.* and the jeweller is said to have sold it a third time for no less than 1500*l.* profit.

At Doward are still to be seen the remains of some old fortifications; and in digging here for iron ore, they have frequently found broad arrow heads.

At Sutton Walleys, on the river Lug, north of Hereford, are still to be seen some remains of king Offa's palace.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At Hereford the cathedral built by the Conqueror is still standing. The revenues of the bishopric were valued upon the dissolution at 768*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* clear, and the revenues of the dean and residentiaries at 423*l.* 17*s.* 2*d.* *per annum*, besides an annual sum of 88*l.* 14*s.* 9*d.* to be divided amongst twenty vicars choral.

There is also in this city a chapel dedicated to St. Cuthbert, where anciently there were prebendaries, who were afterwards translated to the church of St. Peter, built by Walter de Lacy, in the time of William the Conqueror, and endowed by him with several estates. This collegiate church, with all the revenues belonging to it, being given in the year 1101, by Hugh de Lacy, son of Walter, to the abbey of St. Peter at Gloucester, the provost and secular canons were changed into a prior and Benedictine monks, who were removed into the east suburb, without Bishopsgate, where Robert Betun, bishop of Hereford, gave them ground, on which was built the monastery of St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Guthlac, which was valued upon the dissolution at 1211. 3*s.* 3*d.* *per annum*.

In Wydmer-street, or the suburb, without the north gate of this city, there was an hospital of St. John, which Leland says was sometimes a house of Templars, and when he wrote, an almshouse, with a chapel; but bishop Tanner is of opinion that this is the hospital which king Richard the First gave to the preceptory at a place called Dynmore (though there appears to be no place now of this name in the county) which was of Hospitalers, not of Templars, and was, as a parcel of Dynmore, restored to those knights, in the reign of Philip and Mary.

The

The hospital of St. Anthony at Vienna, had a grant of the church of All Saints and the chapel of St. Martin, in Hereford, by a charter dated the thirty-third of king Henry the Third.

Without Frere-gate, in Hereford, is a college of Grey friars, which was founded by Sir William Pembridge, in the time of Edward the First, and dedicated to St. Guthlac. The revenues at the dissolution were valued at 1211. 3s. 3d. *per annum*.

The Friars Preachers came hither first in the time of St. Thomas Cantilupe, bishop of Hereford, about the year 1280, and set up a little oratory at Portfield, in the Inn-gate suburb, where Sir John Daniel, or Deinville, knight, began a new priory and church for them, which was finished by king Edward the Third.

In the suburb, without St. Andrew's Gate, as Leland calls that which in Speed's map is called St. Owen's Gate, there was an hospital of St. Giles, which once had friars of Grisey, or Savignian monks, and then Templars. King Richard gave this chapel to the town, upon which it was made an hospital.

There was also in the suburb, without Inn-gate, a chapel of St. Giles, first founded for lazars, but afterwards converted to the use of other poor, of which the burgesses are patrons.

The vicars of the cathedral church here, were, in the time of Richard the Second, incorporated and made a college; and it is said, continue so at present, having a common hall, a warden, and other officers.

It appears by some manuscript collections, made by St. Lo Kynveton, Esq; from ancient records, that there was a priory in this city called the Hospital of St. Thomas.

There was an hospital near the bridge over the Wye, in Hereford, as early as the year 1226.

At Leominster, Merwald, king of the western part of Mercia, first built a monastery to the honour of St. Peter, about the year 660, which was destroyed in the Danish wars. Here was afterwards a college of prebendaries, and then an abbey of nuns, who were all dispersed, and most of their lands possessed by laymen, long before the year 1125, when king Henry the First gave this monastery, with every thing belonging to it, to the new abbey which he had founded at Reading, in Berkshire, to which it became a cell. In the year 1536, it was endowed with the yearly revenue of 660l. 16s. 8d. out of which there was paid to Reading, and in other reprises, to the value of 443l. 4s. 8d. *per annum*.

Near Pembridge were the manor and church of Lena, or Monkland, which in the reign of William Rufus, was given to the Benedictine monks of the abbey of St. Peter, at Castellione, or Conches, in Normandy, to which it became a cell, but it was afterwards given to the Carthusians at Coventry.

At Harold's Ewias, a village south-west of Hereford, there was a church, dedicated to St. Michael, which was given by Harold, lord of Ewias, to the abbey of St. Peter, in Gloucester, in the year 1100, upon condition that they should settle here a prior and small convent of Black monks. This settlement was accordingly made, but the revenues falling short, it was, in the year 1358, incorporated with the great abbey of Gloucester.

In the year 1100, a small college of three prebendaries, was founded in the parochial church of Wigmore, a village north of Pembridge, by Ralph de Mortimer. Hugh de Mortimer, son of Ralph de Mortimer, founded and endowed an abbey, within a mile of Wigmore, for monks of the order of St. Austin, and dedicated it to St. James. The revenues of this abbey at the suppression, amounted to 267*l.* 2*s.* 10*d.* *per annum.*

At Clifford, a village upon the river Wye, on the borders of Radnorshire, Simon Fitz Richard Fitz Ponce, in the time of Henry the First, founded a priory of Cluniac monks, subordinate to a monastery at Lewis, a borough town of Suffex. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and continued till the suppression, when it was valued at 57*l.* 7*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

At Kilpecke, south of Hereford, there was a church, dedicated to St. David, which was given by Hugh, the son of William, the Norman, whose family afterwards assumed the name of Kilpecke, to the abbey of St. Peter at Gloucester, to which it became a cell, in the year 1134, and so continued till the time of Thomas Spofford, bishop of Hereford, when it was altogether united to Gloucester, about the middle of the fifteenth century.

At Dowre, near Harold's Ewias, Robert de Ewias, youngest son to Harold, lord of Ewias, in the time of king Stephen, built an abbey of White monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which, at the dissolution, consisted of an abbat and eight religious, and was valued at 101*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

The manor of Ocul, near Hereford, being given to the abbey of Lira, in Normandy, by one of the ancestors of Robert Chandos, before the year 1160, it became an alien priory of Benedictine monks.

At a hill, near the place called Dynmore, about half way between Leominster and Hereford, there was a commandry, which belonged to the order of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem in London, to whom it was given by a brother of the order, in the time of king Henry the Second.

At Limbrook, near Wigmore, there was a cell of Aveney in Normandy; and about a quarter of a mile from the left bank of the river Lug, in this place, was a priory of nuns, of the order of St. Austin, founded by some of the Mortimers, as early as Richard the First, which continued till the general suppression, when it had six nuns, and was valued at 22*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

A priory of Benedictine monks is mentioned by Gervase of Canterbury, who flourished in the time of king Richard the First, to have been at Barrone, in this county, but no such place as Barrone is now to be found.

Margery, the wife of Walter de Lacy, founded a nunnery in the forest of Acornbury, which was given her by king John for that purpose, and dedicated it to the Holy Cross. In this house there was a prioress and seven nuns, of the order of St. Austin, whose revenue at the suppression was 67*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

At Wormsley, situated south-east of Weobley, Gilbert Talbot founded a priory of Black canons, of the order of St. Victor, and dedicated it to St. Leonard, about the reign of king John. At the dissolution it had seven canons, and was endowed with 83*l.* 10*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

At Crasswell, near the foot of Hatterel-hills, on the borders of Brecknockshire, was a monastery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for a prior and ten religious, of the order of Grandmounat in Normandy. They were settled here about the time of king John, by Walter de Lacy, and the revenue of 40*s.* *per annum* was in the second year of king Edward the Fourth, granted to God's House college, now Christ's college, in Cambridge.

At Ledbury was an hospital for a master, rector or prior, and several poor brothers and sisters, built by Hugh Foliot, bishop of Hereford, in the year 1232, and dedicated to St. Catharine. At the suppression its yearly revenues amounted to 22*l.* 5*s.* clear. It still exists, having been refounded by queen Elizabeth in the year 1580, for a master, who is appointed by the dean and chapter of Hereford, seven poor widowers, and three poor widows, who are nominated by the master, and have each an allowance of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* *per annum*, besides cloaths and fire.

The rectory of this town was anciently divided into several portions or prebends; but about the year 1400, a college for a master and eight secular priests, was founded in the parish church, by John Trevenant, bishop of Hereford.

At Home Lacy, upon the river Wye, three miles south of Hereford, William Fitz-wain, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Third, founded an abbey for Premonstratensian canons, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas a Becket. It was endowed with several lands in the neighbouring country, but the revenues of it at the suppression do not appear.

In the church of Bromyard there were three canons, prebendaries, or portionists, as early as the fifty-third of king Henry the Third. The bishopric of Hereford nominated to this charity, and the church was frequently called a collegiate church, or college.

At Titeley, on the river Arrow, north-west of Pembridge, there was a cell to the abbey of Tyrone, in France.

At Flanesford, said to be a village upon the river Wye, a little to the south of Rossie, though no such place is now to be found, Richard Talbot, lord of Castle Gocheridge, or Goodrich, near Rossie, built and endowed, in the year 1347, a small priory of Black canons, dedicated to St. John Baptist, which at the dissolution was valued at 14*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* *per annum.*

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## H E R E F O R D S H I R E .

## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends eight members to parliament; two knights of the shire for the county, two members for the city of Hereford, two for the borough of Leominster, and two for that of Weobley.

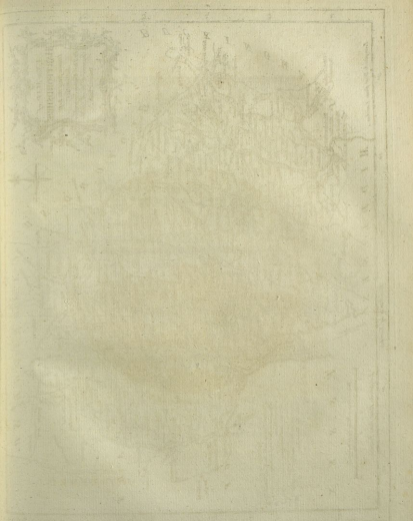


GOODRICH CASTLE

P. 298

HERTFORD.









*St. Albans Abbey*

*p. 206.*

## HERTFORDSHIRE.

### NAME.

**T**HIS county takes its name from Hertford, or Hartford, the county town.

### BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

Hertfordshire is bounded by Cambridgeshire on the north, by Middlesex on the south, by Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire on the west, and by Essex on the east. It measures 28 miles from east to west, 36 miles from north to south, and 130 miles in circumference, and St. Albans, a considerable borough town, nearly in the center of the county, is distant 21 miles north-west of London.

### RIVERS.

This county is watered by several rivers, the chief of which are the Lea, the Coln, the Stort, the Ver, and the New River. The course of the Lea has been

been described already, in the account of Essex. The Coln rises not far from Bishop's Hatfield, a considerable market town of this county, and running south-west, passes by Watford, another market town, a few miles south-west of which it runs almost directly south, and separating Buckinghamshire from Middlesex, falls into the river Thames near Stanes, a market town of Middlesex.

The Stort rises in the north-east part of the county, and passing by Bishop's Stortford, a market town, and separating the counties of Hertford and Essex, falls into the river Lea not far from Hoddeston, another market town of this county.

The river Ver, More, or Moore, rises in the west part of the county, and running south-east, passes by St. Albans, and after running two or three miles due south, it falls into the river Coln.

The New River rises near Ware, a considerable market town of this county, whence it is conveyed in an artificial channel, not more than ten feet wide, to London. This channel is cut through several rising grounds, and lined with bricks and stones, and it is carried cross several vallies in a trough of wood, the bottom of which is in some places so much above the surface of the ground, that a man, by stooping, may pass under it. The whole length of its course is about thirty-six miles, and being collected in a large basin, on a considerable rising ground, near Ilington, at about a mile distance from London, it is conveyed in a great variety of directions, through fifty-eight wooden pipes, each of which is seven inches diameter, to different quarters of the city. In these pipes of wood an almost infinite number of leaden pipes, of one inch bore, are inserted, and conducted under ground, one to every house, the possessor of which chuses to be supplied, in all the streets, lanes, courts, and alleys of that vast metropolis. Before this stupendous work was undertaken, the city was supplied with water chiefly by conduits, which were erected in such public places as were thought most convenient, whence the neighbouring inhabitants fetched it in buckets, and filled their cisterns for use; but this method being attended with great labour, and upon other accounts being found troublesome and inconvenient, a scheme was projected to conduct the water now called the New River, to London, for the water of the Thames was too low for the purpose; the scheme having been approved by the government, the city of London was impowered to carry it into execution, by two acts of parliament, passed in the reign of king James the First; but after some progress in the work, the magistrates being discouraged by the expence, ordered that it should be discontinued; but the work that was given up by the most opulent city in the world, because the charge of it was thought too great, was resumed by a private gentleman, Mr. Middleton, a goldsmith of London, who, at his own expence, and to the total ruin of his fortune, persevered in the undertaking, till he had accomplished it. He had indeed a small stipend allowed him out of the prodigious gain which afterwards accrued from it, and received also the honour of knighthood; several persons were then formed into a corporation for directing and preserving the works, which still subsists, by the name of the governors and company of the New River.

## AIR and SOIL.

The air of this county is very pure, and consequently healthy, and is often recommended by physicians to valetudinarians, for the preservation or recovery of health. The soil is for the most part rich, and in several places mixed with a marle, which produces excellent wheat and barley. The pastures however are but indifferent; such as are dry, generally producing fern and broom, and those that are wet, rushes and moss; but by an invention, not many years practised, called bush draining, the wet lands are greatly improved.

## NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The chief produce of this county is wood, wheat, barley, and all other sorts of grain; but the wheat and barley of Hertfordshire are so much prized in London, that many thousand quarters, both of barley and wheat, are sold every year, as the produce of this county, of which not a grain ever grew in it.

## MANUFACTURES and TRADE.

The inhabitants are chiefly maltsters, millers, and dealers in corn; no manufacture worth notice, being established in any part of the county.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Hertfordshire is divided into eight hundreds, and the justices of the peace, for the greater convenience of themselves and the people, have divided the whole shire into three parts, in each of which they have their several courts, or petty sessions. It has no city, but contains nineteen market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and partly in the diocese of London, and partly in that of Lincoln, and has 120 parishes.

## MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are St. Albans, Baldock, Barkway, Barnet, Berkhamsted, Buntingford, Hatfield-Bishops, Hempsford, Hertford, Hitchin, Holdeifson, Rickmanworth, Royston, Seandon, Stevenage, Stortford-Bishops, Tring, Ware, and Watford.

ST. ALBANS derived its name from an abbey, built there in 703, to the memory of Albanus, the first martyr of Britain, who suffered in the persecution under the emperor Dioclesian, was canonized as a saint, and buried on a hill in the neighbourhood of this town. It is considered as having risen out of the ruins of an ancient Roman town, called Verulam, though Verulam was situated on the other side of the river Ver. It sent members to parliament as early as any borough in the kingdom. It is incorporated by charter, and governed by a mayor, high steward, recorder, twelve aldermen, a town clerk, and twenty-four assistants. In this borough there is a district called a liberty, which has a jurisdiction both in ecclesiastical and civil matters, peculiar to itself; it includes the parishes of Watford, Rickmanworth, Norton, Ridge, Hoxton, Walken Ab-

Vol. I.

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bots,

hots, Sarret, Langley-Abbots, Elitre, Bushy, Cudicot, Shepebele, Sandridge, Redburne, and Barnet. This liberty has a gaol, and a gaol delivery at St. Albans, four times a-year, on the Thursday after the quarter sessions at Hertford. There are four wards in this town, in each of which there are a constable and two church wardens.

Though St. Albans is not one of the most beautiful towns in the kingdom, yet the country round it is very pleasant, and abounds with fine seats. The town is large and populous, and has four parish churches, St. Albans, St. Peter's, St. Stephen's, and St. Michael's. St. Albans was the abbey church, founded by Offa, king of the Mercians, in the year 793. After the dissolution, the corporation bought it of king Edward the Sixth, for 400l. and converted it into a parish church, by the name of St. Albans. It is a large pile of building, which may justly claim a particular regard, both for its antiquity and beauty. It was built out of the ruins of the walls of Old Verulam, and though time has made the outside of it appear like stone, yet it may be easily discovered that the building is of brick. Within it are many remarkable inscriptions and monuments. St. Peter's church is situated on the north side of the town, St. Michael's stands in the north-west, and both are handsome edifices. Here are two charity schools, one for twenty-eight boys, who are all clothed, the other for twenty-one girls, of whom fourteen only are clothed. Some almshouses were also built at the entrance of the town, by John Churchill, duke of Marlborough, who erected a feat here, called Holloway-house, upon the river Ver, which runs through the garden; and here his dutchefs dowager caused a fine statue of the late queen Anne, carved by Mr. Ryfbrack, to be erected, on the pedestal of which she inscribed a character under it: 'All this I know to be true, SARAH MARLBOROUGH, 1738.' This town has no particular manufacture, but it has one of the greatest weekly markets in England for wheat.

BALDOCK is 38 miles distant from London, and stands between two hills, in a chalybeit soil, fit for corn. It is a pretty large town, and in the middle of it is a handsome church, with three chancels, and a beautiful tower, in which is an excellent ring of six bells. Among other considerable benefactions to the poor of this place, Mr. John Winne gave 11,000l. to build six almshouses; and purchase lands to raise an annuity of forty shillings a-piece to every poor person settled in them. Here are many malsters, and the market of this town is very considerable, both for corn and malt.

BARKWAY, from the Saxon name *Beygrant*, which signifies *over the hill*, is 35 miles distant from London, and being a considerable thoroughfare in the north road, has several good inns, and is a populous and flourishing town. It has a church, in which there are several handsome monuments; and there is a chapel of ease called Northamsted, about a mile from it, to which the vicars are instituted with the church.

BARNET is called also HIGH BARNET, from its situation on a hill, and CHEAPING BARNET, from a market, to distinguish it from a village in its neighbourhood, called East Barnet. It is ten miles distant from London, in the great

north road, and is therefore well supplied with inns. The church here is a chapel of ease to the village of East Barnet. There is in this town an almshouse, founded and endowed by James Ravencroft, Esq; for six widows, and there is a free school, founded by queen Elizabeth, and endowed partly by that queen, and partly by alderman Owen, of London, whose additional endowment is paid by the fishmongers company, who appoint twenty-four governors, by whom the master and usher are chosen, to teach seven children gratis, and all the rest of the parishes for five shillings a-quarter. Here is a famous market for corn and cattle, but especially for swine.

BERKHAMSTED, is a name which signifies a *village among hills*, being compounded of three Saxon words, *Bergh*, a hill, *Haw*, a town, and *Sted*, a place or seat. It is the capital of a hundred called Dacorum, from its having been much inhabited by the Danes. The town stands upon the borders of Buckinghamshire, at the distance of 30 miles from London: king Henry the Second kept his court in it, and granted it several privileges, particularly that its merchandise should pass free of toll and custom through England, Normandy, Aquitaine, and Anjou, and that no judicial process should be executed by any of the king's officers within its liberties, but only by its own high steward, coroner, and bailiffs; that no market should be kept within seven miles of it, and that the inhabitants should not be obliged to attend at any assizes or sessions. In the reign of Henry the Third it was a borough, and in the fourteenth of king Edward the Third sent members to parliament. There are no less than fifty-three townships belonging to the manor, which derives its name from this town, which are obliged to pay homage, and chuse constables here. Of these townships there are eleven in this county, fifteen in Buckinghamshire, and twenty-seven in Northamptonshire. King James the First, to whose children this place was a nursery, made it a corporation, by the name of bailiff and burgesses of Berkhamsted St. Peter; the burgesses to be twelve, to chuse a recorder and town clerk, and to have a prison: but the corporation was so impoverished by the civil wars, in the next reign, that the government dropped, and has not since been renewed.

The town, which stands on the side of a hill, is pretty large, with a handsome broad street of a good length. The church, which stands in the middle of the town, is a spacious edifice, dedicated to St. Peter, and has many chapels and oratories. On the pillars of the church are representations of eleven of the apostles, with each of them a sentence of the creed, and on the twelfth pillar is a figure of St. George killing the dragon. Here is an almshouse, built by Mr. John Sayer and his wife, who endowed it with 1300*l.* for the maintenance of six poor widows. Here is also a charity school, and a free grammar school: the grammar school is a handsome brick structure, and is well endowed, the king being patron, and the warden of All Souls College in Oxford, visitor. One of the chapels in the church, called St. John's Chapel, is used only by the master, ushers, and scholars of this free school.

Mr. Norden, who wrote in the reign of queen Elizabeth, tells us, that in his time this town was noted for making of malt.

BUNTINGFORD is a small town, situated at the ford of a little river, called the Rib, in the post road to Cambridge, at the distance of 32 miles from London.

It stands in four parishes, to one of which, called Layton, it is a chapelry. The chapel is a handsome brick structure, finished in 1626. Here is a sumptuous almshouse, founded and endowed by Dr. Seth Ward, bishop of Sarum, in Wiltshire, for four ancient men and as many ancient women, who, from a state of affluence, were reduced by misfortunes to poverty. A school-house was built in 1630, by the widow of William Freeman, Esq; who gave seven pounds a-year to teach seven poor children. Bishop Ward, who was brought up at the free school here, gave also four scholarships of twelve pounds a-year, to Christ's College in Cambridge, to be enjoyed by four scholars, natives of Hertfordshire, that were educated at this school, till they are masters of arts.

HATFIELD-BISHOP; was originally called Heathfield, from its situation on a barren heath, and was distinguished by the name of Bishop's Heathfield, now corrupted into Hatfield, because it belonged to the bishops of Ely. It stands in the great north road, at the distance of 20 miles from London, and had once a royal palace, from whence both king Edward the Sixth, and queen Elizabeth were conducted to the throne; king Edward was educated here, and queen Elizabeth bought the manor of the bishop of Ely. There are two charity schools in this town.

HEMPSTED, called by the Saxons *Henansted*, or *Heban Hempsted*, that is *High Hempsted*, is supposed by some to have derived its name from the great growth of hemp in that place. It is 29 miles distant from London, and was incorporated by king Henry the Eighth. It is governed by a bailiff, and the inhabitants are impowered to have a common seal, and a pye powder court, during its market and fairs. It stands among hills, upon a small river called the Gade, and is pretty populous. There is a handsome church near the town, with a good ring of bells, and a tall spire, which is a great ornament to the place. The market has been reckoned one of the greatest in the county, if not in all England, for wheat, and 20,000*l.* a-week is often returned here only for meal; eleven pair of mills stand within four miles of the place, which bring a great trade to it; but the road is so continually torn by carriages, that it is one of the worst turnpike ways to London. Besides its trade in corn and meal, some thousand pounds a-week are returned for the mean manufacture of straw hats.

HERTFORD, or HARTFORD, was by the ancient Britons called *Durocorvia*, which in their language signifies a *red ford*, from a supposition that the gravel at the ford over the river Lea, upon which this town stands, was red; thence some have supposed the present name to have been derived from the Saxon name *Herulford*, as some copies of Bede have it, or *Heratford*, which is said to have been given it in analogy to the British name, and to signify a *red ford*; but the most probable conjecture is that of Dr. Gibson, who derives *Hertford* from a *hart*, this county having formerly abounded in deer, and the arms of the town, as represented by Mr. Speed, being a hart couchant in the water; besides, the soil in this part of the county is not red, as in the south and west parts, and these reasons have induced some to write the name of this town Hartford, and not Hertford.

It is distant 23 miles from London, and was of some note in the time of the ancient Britons; the East Saxon kings often kept their courts here, and upon the first division of the kingdom into counties, it was made the county town; it

sent



sent members to parliament in the reign of king Edward the First, but after the seventh of Henry the Fifth, on the petition of the bailiff and burgesſes to be excuſed, on account of their poverty, that privilege was diſcontinued till the twenty-second of James the First. In the time of Henry the Seventh, the ſtandard of weights and meaſures was fixed here, and queen Mary made this a corporation, by the name of bailiffs and burgesſes; and by her charter, the number of burgesſes was to have been ſixteen. In the twenty-fifth and thirty-fifth years of queen Elizabeth, Michaelmas term was kept here, by reaſon of the plague at both times in London, and that queen granted this town a new charter, by the ſtile of a bailiff, eleven capital burgesſes, and ſixteen aſſiſtants. King James the First granted it another charter, with the ſtile of mayor, burgesſes, and commonalty, to have ten capital burgesſes, and ſixteen aſſiſtants; and the mayor to be choſe out of the burgesſes, by both the burgesſes and aſſiſtants; but now this town is governed by a mayor, high ſteward, who is generally a nobleman, a recorder, nine aldermen, a town clerk, chamberlain, ten capital burgesſes, and ſixteen aſſiſtants, together with two ſerjeants at mace.

The town of Hertford ſtands pleaſantly in a ſweet air, and dry vale; it is built after the figure of a Roman Y, and has a caſtle, placed between the two horns, in which is the ſeſſions houſe for the county: it has alſo a county goal, and formerly had five churches, which now are reduced to two, All Saints and St. Andrews. All Saints is ſituated on the ſouth ſide of the town, and has a tall ſpire, covered with lead, and eight good bells, beſides an organ, and a handſome gallery for the mayor and aldermen of the borough, and for the governors of Chriſt's Church Hoſpital, in London, who have erected a good houſe in this town to receive ſick and ſupernumerary children; they have alſo built a large gallery in the church, in which 200 of their children may be accommodated. St. Andrews is only remarkable for giving its name to one of the ſtreets. Here is a free grammar ſchool, founded by Richard Hale, Eſq; in the reign of king James the First, and endowed with forty pounds a-year; the corporation are governors of it, but the maſter is appointed by the heirs or representatives of Mr. Hale. The houſe is a handſome ſtructure, and was not many years ago rebuilt. Here are alſo three charity ſchools, one erected by the inhabitants, for forty boys, who are cloathed and taught by ſubſcription; another for twenty-five children, and a third for twenty children, both taught at the expence of private perſons.

The chief commodities of this town are wheat, malt, and wool; and it is ſaid to ſend no leſs than 5000 quarters of malt to London weekly, by the river Lea. It is however obſerved, that the magnificence of this town is much diminiſhed ſince the north road from London, which went through it, was turned through the town of Ware.

HERTIN, or HITCHING, is a corruption of *Hitch-end*, the original name of this town, ſo called from its ſituation at the end of a wood, named *Hitchwood*, which now does not reach ſo far as the town. It ſtands in a pleaſant valley, at the diſtance of 35 miles from London, is the capital of a hundred of its own name, and is governed by a bailiff and four conſtables, two for the town, and two for the out-parts. It is divided into the three wards of Bancroft, Bridge, and Tilthouſe, and is reputed the ſecond town in the ſhire, for number of houſes and inhabitants. It has a handſome church, 153 feet long, and 67 broad, with three

three chancels, and a tower twenty-one feet square, in which is a deep ring of six bells. Here is a free school, a charity school, and eight almshouses. Great quantities of malt are made in this town, and it is a great market for all sorts of grain. In this neighbourhood there is a stoney sort of marle, fitter for lime than manure, which however being mixed with a softer marle, that also abounds here, greatly improves the corn fields.

HODDESDON, or HODSDON, is a great thoroughfare in the north road, at the distance of 19 miles from London. Queen Elizabeth, by charter, granted a grammar school to this town, and endowed it with certain privileges; and an almshouse was founded here in the reign of king Henry the Sixth, by Richard Rich, sheriff of London and ancestor to the late earls of Warwick. Here are the remains of an ancient chapel, in which is a clock; and though this is but a small town, it is a considerable market for all sorts of corn.

RICKMANSWORTH is a corruption of the ancient name Rickmearefwearth, supposed to be thus denominated from its situation upon a neck of land almost surrounded by a nameless river, which runs into the Coln, and forms a considerable pool of water. It stands low, in a black moorish cold soil, at the distance of 22 miles from London. It is governed by two constables and two headboroughs, has a handsome church, and a charity school for twenty boys and ten girls; and two almshouses, one for five widows, and the other for four. There are several mills upon the neighbouring streams, which occasion a great quantity of wheat to be brought hither.

ROYSTON is situated partly in Cambridgeshire, and partly in this county, and, as a town of Cambridgeshire, has been already described.

STANDON, or STANDLOW, is a small town on the river Rib, at the distance of 29 miles from London, and has a handsome church, and several endowments for a school and for the poor.

STEVENAGE stands at the distance of 31 miles from London, in the great north road. It has a church, situated on a dry hill; the spire is large, and covered with lead, and has a ring of six bells. Here is a free school, an hospital, called All Christian Souls House, and several other charitable foundations for the poor.

STORTFORD BISHOPS took its name from a ford over the river Stort, at the bottom of the town, which, ever since the time of William the Conqueror, belonged to the bishops of London. It stands in a dry soil and healthy air, on a hill, declining to the river, at the distance of 28 miles from London. King John made this a corporation town, with power to chuse its own officers, and it formerly sent members to parliament, but has long ago lost that privilege. The bishop of London appoints a bailiff here, for what is called his liberty, and to him are directed sheriff's warrants, to be executed in this and several of the neighbouring parishes. The bailiff has a right to strays, and the toll of corn and cattle in its market and fairs. The bishop holds his courts leet and baron at the manor of Padmore, at the north end of the town.

It

It is a considerable well built place, full of good inns, being a thoroughfare to Cambridge, New-Market, and several towns in Suffolk. It consists of four streets, in the form of a cross, pointing east, west, north, and south. It has a church, which stands on a hill, in the middle of the town, with a handsome tower, a fine ring of eight bells, and a spire, covered with lead, fifty feet high. This church had an organ so long ago as the time of Henry the Seventh, and is thought to be very ancient, because in one of the windows were the names and pictures of king Athelstan, St. Edward, and king Edward. Here are two almshouses, and a grammar school; the school was built about half a century ago, by the contribution of the gentry, both of this county and Essex. It stands in the high street, upon arches, under which are shops, and a market; it fronts the church-yard, and consists of three rooms, which, with the stair-case, make a square building; the front to the street is the grammar school, and the two wings are the writing school, and library, to which every scholar, when he leaves the school, gives a book.

TRING, or TROUNO, is the most western town in this county, at the distance of 33 miles from London. In the Saxon time it gave name to a hundred, of which it was the capital. It is now small, but neat: it has a handsome church, with a ring of six bells, which not very long ago was beautified and waincoated by Mr. Gore and Sir Richard Anderfon. Here is a charity school for teaching and cloathing twenty boys, supported by subscription. Near this town is a park of 300 acres, and a beautiful wood. At a village called Little Tring, in this parish, rises one of the heads of the river Thames. Tring is a considerable market for corn, of which there are here very large granaries.

WARE is thought to have derived its name from a sort of dam, anciently made to stop the current of streams, which was called Wayre, or Wear, a conjecture that seems to be confirmed by the abundance of water here, which frequently obliged the inhabitants to make wears and sluices to preserve their town and the grounds belonging to it, from inundations. This town stands at the distance of 22 miles from London, in a valley on the east side of the Lea, and as a thoroughfare, is one of the most considerable in the county, being one of the best post towns on the north road. Ware was founded in the year 914, by order of Edward the First, and began to be of some note in the reign of king John, when the high road to the north, which before went through Hertford, was by the procurement of Sayer de Quincy, then lord of the manor, turned through this town.

It consists of one street, about a mile in length, with several back streets and lanes, well inhabited. The church is large, built in the form of a cross, and has a handsome gallery, erected by the governors of Christ's Hospital in London, who send several of the children of that hospital hither, either for health or education. Besides a charity school, here are seven almshouses, well endowed. At one of the inns in this town there is a famous bed, much visited by travellers from London and other places; it is said to be twelve feet square, and capable of containing twenty couple. This town is a great market for corn and malt; 5000 quarters of malt are often sent in a week to London by the barges, which generally return with coals.

WAT-

WATFORD, or WETFORN, by some supposed to have been *Wallingford*, stands where there was formerly a *ford* over the river Coln; and the prætorian or consular highway, made by the Romans in this county, called *Walling-street*, crosses the Coln near it, and passes on to Verulam, near St. Albans. Watford is distant 17 miles from London, and consists of one very long street, which is extremely dirty in the winter, and the waters of the river at the entrance of the town, are often so much swelled by floods as to be impassible. Here are several almshouses, and other funds for the poor, particularly a charity school for forty boys, who are both taught and clothed; and a handsome free school, built in 1709, by Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller.

## CURIOSITIES.

**Remarkable echoes.** In the neighbourhood of Rickmanworth is a warren hill, which has an echo that repeats twelve times to a trumpet.

**Extraordinary veins of earth.** About three miles north-east of Rickmanworth, in cutting a viſta through a hill, there were discovered, not many years ago, several veins of sea sand, mixed with muscle and other shells.

**A prodigious walnut tree.** At Siffivernes, a village near Stevenage, there stood a walnut tree, in the year 1627, which covered seventy-six poles of ground, but the weight of the boughs was such, as at length cleft the trunk in twain; Mr. Penn, who was at that time lord of the manor, refused fifty pounds for it; he had nineteen loads of planks out of it, and a gun-stock maker at London had as much of its wood as cost ten pounds carriage, and there were thirty loads more of roots and branches.

**Extraordinary accident.** In the year 1408, the town of Ware was almost destroyed by an inundation.

In the year 1250, there happened an earthquake at St. Albans, and the parts adjoining, attended with a subterranean noise like thunder, which however did no damage.

Near Redborn, a village about three miles north-west of St. Albans, there is a brook, called Wenmer, or Womer, that sometimes swells so high as to overflow, which the common people think is a preface of some public calamity.

**Medicinal spring.** Near Stortford Bishops is a spring called St. Olyth's Well, the water of which is recommended for sore eyes.

**Celebrated men of this county.** At Abbats Langley, a village three miles south-west of St. Albans, was born Nicholas Breakſpear, who became pope, by the name of Adrian the Fourth, the only native of England that ever filled the papal chair. And at Gorambury, near St. Albans, in this county, was born Francis Bacon, afterwards lord viscount Verulam, that amazing genius, so justly celebrated for having planned, or laid the foundation of most of the many improvements that have been since made in the sciences.

## ANTIQUITIES.

This county, in the time of the Romans, was inhabited partly by the Cat-<sup>Ancient in-</sup>teuchlani, partly by the Trinobantes, and partly by the Cassi, a people men-<sup>habitant.</sup>tioned by Cæsar, from whom the district now called Cassio hundred, in the south-west division of Hertfordshire, immediately derives its name. During the Saxon heptarchy this county was divided among the Mercian, East Saxon, and Kentish kings, and the Saxons did all in their power to destroy every vestige of antiquity, that nothing might discover to future ages that any other nation had possessed this country; yet there are several remains of Roman antiquity still remaining in Hertfordshire.

When Julius Cæsar invaded Britain, Verulam was a large and populous city, <sup>Roman anti-</sup>though nothing remains of it now but the ruins of walls and some tessellated pave-<sup>ments.</sup>ments and Roman coins, that from time to time have been discovered by digging; Camden says, that he saw several coins in this place, with the inscription TASCIA, on one side, and VER, on the other; and as *Tase* in the British language signifies *tribute*, and *Ver*, is put for *Verulam*, he supposes this to have been money paid here for a poll or land tax.

About the year 1666 there was dug up in this place a copper coin, which on one side had Romulus and Remus, sucking a wolf, and on the other, the word ROMA, much defaced; and near the town of St. Albans are still the remains of a fortification, which the common people call *Oyster-hills*, whence it is supposed to have been a camp of Ostorius the Propætor.

When the Romans drove from thence the powerful Cassibelinus, whom Camden supposes to have been king of the Cassi, they plundered the town of Verulam, but the inhabitants living quietly under their government, they were rewarded with the privileges of citizens of Rome, and their town made a municipium, or city. This is one of the two Roman cities that were taken and sacked by the Britons, under the conduct of Boadicea, queen of the Iceni, in the reign of the emperor Nero, when there was a most dreadful slaughter made of the Romans and their allies. The other Roman city destroyed upon this occasion was Maldon, in Essex; but both these cities were afterwards built, and flourished under the Romans.

Berkhamsted was a Roman town, as appears from coins and other remains of antiquity frequently dug up in this place.

Three of the Roman military ways lead through this county, which cannot be said of any other in England.

Elstree, Idlestree, or Eaglestree, near Barnet, upon the borders of Middlesex, is thought by Norden to have been the station of Sulloniace, mentioned by Antoninus in his Itinerary, as at the distance of twelve miles from London: but Mr. Camden and bishop Gibson think it was at Brockley-hill, in this neighbourhood, many coins, urns, Roman bricks, and other antiquities, having been dug up there: and at a place called Pennywell, near Brockley-hill, there are still visible

the foundations of several walls, which tradition informs us are the remains of a city.

In Lemmon Field, near West Mill, or Wades-mill, not far from Ware, three Roman wine vessels were dug up in 1729. These vessels were of a pale redish earth, and of the form of the Roman amphora, with two handles, and pointed at the bottom, for the purpose of fixing them in the ground. They were eighteen inches below the surface, and full of earth and chalk stones of the neighbouring soil. Many human bodies have been dug up hereabouts, but tho' the ground around them is black, they appeared not to have been burnt, and seem'd by their shallow burial to have been the relics of a battle.

At Roundwood, near West Mill, there is about an acre of ground entrenched, as there is also at Campwood, not far distant; and near Westleton Green, in the neighbourhood of Bishop's Stortford, there is another fortification, which seems to be a Roman work, there being about seven acres of rising ground inclosed with a rampart, and the ditch is in some places still remaining.

Chestnut, near Hoddesdon, is thought by some to be the Durolitum of Antoninus, which in his Itinerary he places fifteen miles from London, and which stands near the military way called Ermine Street. In Killmore field, west of Chestnut, are the remains of a camp; the angle of the square, or rather oblong fortification, is yet remaining, and the rampart and ditch are very visible for above one hundred yards.

Between Caldecot and Hinxworth, two villages a little north of Baldock, upon the borders of Cambridgeshire, several Roman antiquities were discovered in 1724, particularly earthen vessels or urns, full of ashes and burnt bones; several human skeletons, not above a foot below the surface of the earth, pateras of fine red earth, glass lachrymatories, a brass tribulus, six small glasses, two large green beads, and some other things; and at Ashwell, in the neighbourhood of this place, is a spot of ground consisting of twelve acres, called Arbury Banks, fortified, and thought to be one of the castra exploratorum of the Romans.

Antiquities of Hertford.

The castle of Hertford was built by king Alfred, to defend the town and neighbourhood against the Danes, who came up in their light pinnaces from the Thames by the river Lea, as far as Ware, and erected a fort there, whence they made frequent sallies to plunder and destroy the country.

The manor of Hertford being vested in king Edward the Elder, in the eleventh century, he built a borough there, which was fortified with a wall of turf, for the defence of his tenants. The manor of Hertford continued to vest in the king, but the bailiff, under bailiff, and other officers, were chosen every year by the burgesses of the town; the bailiff was allowed by the king twenty shillings a-year, for a livery-gown, and the porter of the castle was put in by the king, at the wages of two pence a-day; the burgesses chose a steward, to keep courts for the borough, where wills were proved, rents paid, controversies determined, by-laws made, offenders punished, fines assessed, and services performed; and the sheriffs of Hertfordshire and Essex used to be governors of the castle.

In

In the middle of the town of St. Albans, king Edward the First erected a very <sup>Antiquities of</sup> stately cross, in memory of queen Eleonar, who dying in Lincolnshire, was car- <sup>St. Albans.</sup> ried through this town to Westminster, in order to be interred there.

In the church of St. Albans, in this town, not many years ago was discovered the tomb of Humphrey duke of Gloucester, brother to king Henry the Fifth, containing a leaden coffin, in which was the duke's corpse preserved, almost intire, by a sort of pickle, in which it lay. On the wall at the east end of the vault, is a crucifix painted, with a cup on each side of the head, another about the middle, and a fourth at the feet. In this church are also several other funeral monuments and remarkable inscriptions: among the rest is the effigies of king Ossa, the founder of the church, on his throne; one of St. Alban the Martyr, and another of Humphrey duke of Gloucester, already mentioned, with a ducal coronet, and the arms of France and England quartered; and in niches on the south side of the church, are the effigies of seventeen kings of England.

In this church there was a very noble font of solid brass, given it by Sir Richard Lea, master of the pioneers, who took it, among other plunder, out of Scotland in the year 1543, where it served as a font for baptizing the children of the royal family, but was here placed for the common baptistry, and carried away in the civil wars, in the time of king Charles the First, when it was converted into money, by those men whose religion consisted much in a zeal for demolishing and plundering churches.

In St. Michael's church, among other monuments, there is one in memory of the famous Bacon, lord Verulam, with his effigy in alabaster, seated in an elbow chair.

On the east side of the river Stort, near Bishop's Stortford, are the ruins of a <sup>Ancient</sup> castle, built by William the Conqueror, who gave it, with the town, to the see <sup>castles, &c.</sup> of London, and that the bishop might be the better able to maintain it, granted several lands and manors with it, which he charged with certain rents yearly, for castle guard, that are still paid to the bishop by several places; for though the castle was demolished by king John, because the bishop of London was one of the three prelates that executed the pope's interdiction against the realm, yet when he restored the exiled bishops to their sees, to make his peace with the pope, he suffered the bishop to resume that possession, which his successors have enjoyed here ever since, appropriating the ruins of the demolished castle to their own benefit. In this castle there was a deep dungeon, into which bishop Bonner put many protestants that had been convicted of heresy, whence it acquired the name of *The Covells Prison*.

At Berkhamsted was a castle built by Robert earl of Morton, half brother to William the Conqueror, two thirds of which castle were burnt down in the reign of king Charles the First, and are only to be known now by the moats and walls. The remains of it are converted into a gentleman's seat.

At Hexton, west of Hitchen, upon the borders of Bedfordshire, there is an oval camp of great strength, situated on a high hill, near which, on another hill,

is a barrow, or mount, such as the Romans used to raise for their foldiers that were killed in battle, in which many bones have been found. Near this place a battle was fought between the Danes and Edward the Elder; and a piece of ground near this camp, in which are remarkable long barrows, is to this day called Dane Furlong. Ravensborough Castle, a little way to the south of Hexton, is an oblong camp of about sixteen acres, with an intire fortification, and defended so well by nature, that 1000 men may stand their ground in it against a great army.

Redborn, a village about three miles north-west of St. Albans, was anciently very famous for the pretended relicks of Amphibalus the martyr, who converted St. Albanus to Christianity.

At Kingbury, about a mile north-west of St. Albans, the Saxon monarchs had a palace, with a castle, which was demolished in the reign of king Stephen.

A little to the west of Baldock, the Roman military road, known by the name of Ickening Street, runs through an intrenchment, the remains of a British town, now called Wilbury hill.

Ancient cus-  
tom.

The manor of Wimley, or Wimondley Magna, near Hitchin, is held by the lord, upon condition that on the coronation day he performs the office of cup-bearer to his sovereign: the cup is to consist of silver gilt, and is returned to the cup-bearer, as the fee of his office, which has been appendant to this manor ever since the Conquest.

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At Holmhust, near St. Albans, king Offa, in the year 793, founded a noble abbey for one hundred Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. Alban, the proto-martyr among the Christian Britons, who suffered in this place. The monastery had very great privileges and exemptions, and yearly revenues that were valued upon the suppression at 2102 l. 7s. 1 d.

Jeffrey, the sixteenth abbat, in the time of king Henry the First, founded near St. Albans, on the London road, at a place then called Heved, or Eywode, an hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Julian. It consisted of a master, four chaplains, and six poor lepers, and was in St. Stephen's parish.

At Hertford was a priory of Benedictine monks, subordinate to the abbey of St. Alban, built in the latter end of William the Conqueror's reign, or the beginning of William Rufus, by bishop de Limesie, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was endowed at the dissolution with 72 l. 14 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

At Sopwell, near St. Albans, was a Benedictine nunnery, subject to the abbey of St. Alban, built by the above-mentioned Jeffrey, about the year 1140, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Here were formerly thirteen nuns, but about the time of the suppression only nine, who then had yearly revenues valued at 40 l. 7 s. 10 d.



In the parish of Flamsted, at a place formerly called Wodechurche, afterwards St. Giles in the Wood, and lately Beachwood, about five miles north-west of St. Albans, Roger de Toney, in the time of king Stephen, founded a small priory for nuns of the order of St. Benedict, which was dedicated to St. Giles, and rated upon the dissolution at 30*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

Edward Baliol, in the reign of king Stephen, gave several lands in Wedle, Preston, and other hamlets belonging to Hitchin, to the Knights Templars, whereupon Temple Dunsey, near Hitchin, became a preceptory of that order, and afterwards of the Hospitallers, who enjoyed it to the dissolution.

Gilbert de Clare having given the church of Standon, with one hundred and forty acres of land, and his vineyard, to the Knights Hospitallers, in the reign of king Stephen, here was a preceptory or place of residence for some of the sisters of that order, till they were all collected together, at Buckland in Somersetshire, in the year 1180.

There was an hermitage in this parish, founded by William, an Anchorite, which Richard de Clare, earl of Hertford, gave to his monks of Stoke by Clare, a market town of Suffolk, in the time of king Henry the First, who are said to have had a cell here, which seems in after-times to have been a secular free chapel, and the same which was at Salburn, in this parish, dedicated to St. Michael, and in the patronage of the earl of March.

In the church of Sabridgeworth, a village south of Bishop's Stortford, in the road to London, there were monks about the latter end of king Henry the First, or king Stephen's reign. This church is thought to have been a cell to Westminster Abbey.

At Rowney, near Standon, Conan duke of Britain, and earl of Richmond, founded a nunnery, of the order of St. Benedict, dedicated to St. John Baptist, about the tenth of Henry the Second, whose lands and revenues were, in the thirty-sixth of Henry the Sixth, found to have been so wasted, that they were not then sufficient to keep the buildings in repair, and to maintain the prioress and convent, who thereupon resigned the same into the hands of their patron, John Fray, then lord chief baron of the Exchequer: upon that, Fray, with the king's licence, appropriated the lands to the maintenance of a chantry priest, who continued till the dissolution, when the hospital or free chapel of Rowney was valued at 13*l.* 10*s.* 9*d.* *per annum.*

Having omitted the ecclesiastical antiquities of Royston, in the account of Cambridgehire, we shall, in imitation of most other writers of ecclesiastical antiquities, consider them as pertaining to this county.

At Royston was a priory of Black canons, of the foundation of Eustace de Mere, and his nephew, Ralph of Rochester, in the time of king Henry the Second: it was dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, at that time a newly canonized martyr. At the dissolution here were ten canons, who had a revenue of 89*l.* 16*s.* *per annum.*

Here

Here was an hospital dedicated to St. Nicholas, in the time of king John, and as old as the time of king Henry the Third, there was a free chapel or hospital in this town, dedicated to St. John and St. James, in which was a master or warden, and several brethren. Richard de Argenstein was patron in the year 1388. At the suppression this house was valued at 6*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.* *per annum* in the whole, and 5*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* clear.

As there had been built at St. Julian's, near St. Albans, a place for leprous men, so about the year 1190, Garinus, or Warine, abbat of St. Albans, thought fit, in the fields adjoining, to found a house or hospital for poor, sick, and leprous women, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and called St. Mary de la Pray, de Pree, or de Pratis, which, in course of time, became so well endowed, that in it were maintained a prioress and several nuns, of the order of St. Benedict. Cardinal Wolfey, commendatory abbat of St. Albans, about the year 1528, procured a bull from pope Clement the Eighth, for the suppression of this nunnery, and annexing the same to the monastery of St. Albans; but on the sixth of June, in the twentieth year of Henry the Eighth, he obtained a grant of it, with all the lands belonging to it, for himself. After the Cardinal's attainder, the king put it off, by way of exchange, to St. Alban's Abbey.

At Redborn was a cell of a prior and some few Benedictine monks from St. Albans, dedicated to St. Amphibalus the Martyr and his companions. It was inhabited by religious in abbat Warine's time, that is, before the year 1195.

Chille and Chiltre are two houses of Black nuns, which are mentioned in the old catalogue of religious houses, ascribed to Gervase of Canterbury, to have been in this county; but there is no mention of them any where else but in Speed.

At Berkhamsted, in the time of king John, there were two hospitals of poor and infirm persons, one dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and the other, which was of both brothers and sisters lepers, to St. John the Evangelist, the custody of both which was granted by Jeffrey Fitz Pierce, earl of Essex, to the house of St. Thomas of Acon, in London. There was also in this town, in the time of king Edward the Second, an hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr. Sir Henry Chauncy mentions also an old hospital called St. James's, from St. James's Well, at the farther end of the high street.

At Chestnut, near Hoddesdon, there was a Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was founded before the year 1187, and augmented with the lands and tenements of the canons of Cathale, in the twenty-fourth year of king Henry the Third: but yet upon the general dissolution, it was valued only at 14*l.* 1*s.* *per annum*.

Hugo de Grentemaisnil, who was lord of the town of Ware, gave, before the year 1081, to the monks of St. Ebrulf at Utica, in Normandy, the church of St. Mary here, with all the tithes belonging to it, and two carucates of land, whereupon it became a cell to that abbey, and in course of time was so well endowed, that upon the seizure of alien priories by king Edward the Third, during the wars with France, this was farmed at 200*l.* *per annum*. After the suppression of these foreign houses, this was given in the third year of Henry the

Fifth,

Fifth, to the monks of Shene; king Henry the Sixth annexed it for some time to the abbey of St. Mary, near Leicester, the chief town of the county of that name, but it was afterwards restored to Shene, and as a parcel of its possessions, granted by king Henry the Eighth to Trinity College in Cambridge. In the north part of this town there was an house of Gray or Franciscan friars.

At Wimley Parva, near Wimley Magna, there was an hospital or small priory of Black canons, built by Richard Argenstein, in the time of king Henry the Third, and dedicated to St. Laurence. It was rated upon the suppression at 29l. 19s. 11d. *per annum*.

At Baldock there was an house of leprous brethren, in the time of king Henry the Third: these brethren might perhaps be Templars, to whom this manor belonged, by the gift of Gilbert earl of Pembroke.

On a piece of land called New Bigging, near the church in Hitchin, there was a small priory of Gilbertine nuns, endowed at the suppression with 13l. 16s. *per annum*. It is now the school-house.

At the end of this town there was an house of Friars Carmelites, founded by king Edward the Second, about the year 1316, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was rated on the general suppression at 4l. 9s. 4d. a-year.

At Clothall, south-east of Baldock, there was a free chapel, college or hospital, consisting of a master, brethren and sisters, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, of an ancient foundation, which was valued on the general dissolution at 4l. 2s. 8d. *per annum*.

At King's Langley, south-east of Berkhamsted, there was a house of Friars Preachers, said to be first founded by Roger, the son of Robert Helle, an English baron, but certainly enlarged in buildings, and increased in revenues, by the munificence of kings Edward the First, Edward the Second, Edward the Third, and Edward the Fourth, so as to exceed all houses of this order in England, being valued on the suppression at 122l. 4s. *per annum*. Queen Mary restored this house to a prioress and nuns, who were dissolved in the first year of queen Elizabeth.

At Puckeridge, near Standon, there was a free chapel, with a chantry in it, in the time of king Edward the Second.

At Stansted Thiel, near Ware, Sir William de Goldington, in the year 1315, founded a college or chantry, for a master and four secular priests, at the altar of St. Mary, in the church of St. Margaret; but William Grey, bishop of London, finding in his visitation, about the year 1429, that the revenues were alienated, and divine service neglected, obtained the king's leave to dissolve this college, and annex all its possessions to the priory of Elsing Spittle in London, from which house afterwards were sent two regular canons to reside here and perform divine offices.

At

## H E R T F O R D S H I R E.

At Giggling, or Bigging, as we otherwise meet with it, near Barkway, there was an old priory or hospital for a master and chaplains, besides poor people. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At Hoddefdon, there was an hospital for leprous persons, dedicated to St. Landus and St. Antony.

## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends six members to parliament; two knights of the shire for the county, two burgessees for the town of Hertford, and two for the borough of St. Albans.



HUNT.



30

25

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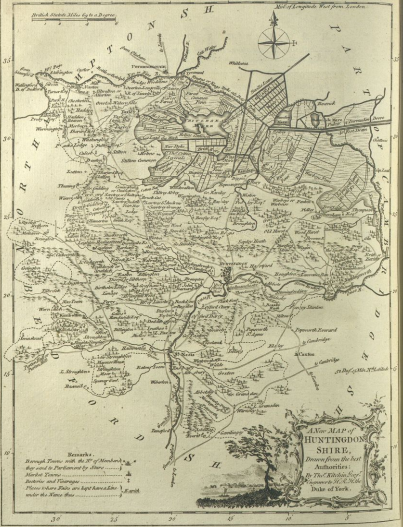
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North is Double Merid. by a Degree

Merid. of Longitude West from London



Remarks.

- Borough Towns with the R<sup>o</sup> of Merchant*
- they and its Parishes by Stone*
- Market Towns*
- Historic and Picturesque*
- Places where Fairs are kept have a Star*
- under the Name Star*

A New MAP of  
**HUNTINGDON**  
**SHIRE.**

*Drawn from the best Authorities!*

*By Tho: Kitchin Esq<sup>r</sup> Surveyor to H. R. H. the Duke of York.*



BUCKDEN PALACE

P. 343

## HUNTINGTONSHIRE.

### NAME.

**H**UNTINGTONSHIRE takes its name from Huntington, or Hunting-  
doe, the county town.

### BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

It is one of the least counties in England, and is bounded on the north and west sides by Northamptonshire, on the east by Cambridgeshire, and on the south by Bedfordshire. It measures 24 miles from north to south, 18 miles from east to west, about 67 miles in circumference, and the town of Huntington, which is nearly in the center of the county, is distant 57 miles north of London.

VOL. I

T 4

RIVERS

## RIVERS and MEERS.

The chief rivers of this county are the Ouse and the Nen. The Ouse derives its name from Isis\*. It rises near Brackley, a borough town of Northamptonshire, and running north-east through Bedfordshire, enters this county at St. Neots, a market town; thence, in the same direction, it runs by Huntingdon, and some other towns, and traversing Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk, and being joined by several other rivers in its course, it falls into the German Ocean near Lynn Regis, a considerable borough of the county of Norfolk.

The Nen rises near Daventry, a market town of Northamptonshire, and running north-east, and almost parallel to the river Ouse, winds round the north-west and north boundaries of this county, where it forms several large bodies of water, called by the inhabitants meers. The first of these meers or lakes is that called Wittlesey Meer, not far from Peterborough, a city and bishop's see in Northamptonshire. This meer is no less than six miles long and three broad. Other considerable meers, formed here by this river, are Ug meer, Brick meer, Ramfey meer, and Benwick meer, from whence the river Nen, continuing its course through Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire, falls into the German Ocean not far from Wisbich, in the county of Cambridge.

## AIR, SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The air of this county is rendered less wholesome than that of some other counties, by the great number of fens, meers, and other standing water, with which it abounds, especially in the north part.

The soil is in general very fruitful. In the hilly parts or dry lands, it yields great crops of corn, and affords excellent pasture for sheep; and in the lower lands, the meadows are exceeding rich, and feed abundance of fine cattle, not only for slaughter, but for the dairy; and the cheese made at a village called Scilton, near Yaxley, a market town, known by the name of Stilton cheese, is usually stiled the parmesan of England. The inhabitants of Huntingdonshire are well supplied with fish and water fowl, by the rivers and meers, but they have scarce any firing besides turf.

## TRADE.

This county is not remarkable for any manufacture, so that its trade must chiefly consist in such commodities as are its natural productions.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into four hundreds, and with Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely, is under one sheriff. This sheriff is chosen out of each of these

\* See the account of Bedfordshire.

places



places by rotation. It has no city, and contains no more than six market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Lincoln, and has seventy-nine parishes.

## MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are Huntington, St. Ives, Kimbolton, St. Neots, Ramsey, and Yaxley.

HUNTINGTON, or HUNTINGDON, is a name immediately derived from the Saxon *Huntanbune*, or *Hunter's Down*, a name which is acquired from the convenience of this district for hunting, which was one entire forest, till it was disforested by kings Henry the Second and Third, and finally by king Edward the First, who left no more of it forest than his own ground. To this town king John granted by charter, a coroner, toll and custom, a recorder, town-clerk, and two bailiffs; but it is at present incorporated by the stile of a mayor, twelve aldermen and burgeses. The assizes are always held here, and in this place is the county gaol. It had once fifteen churches, which in Mr. Camden's time were reduced to four, and it has now but two. It is said to have suffered by the villainy of one Grey, who, according to Speed, maliciously obstructed the navigation of the river Ouse to the town. This river is however still navigable by small vessels as high as Bedford. The town stands on a little hill, that rises on the north side of the river, over which it has a fine stone bridge. It is a thoroughfare in the great north road, and is still a populous trading town. It consists chiefly of one long street, pretty well built, and has a handsome market place. Here is a good grammar school, and one Richard Fishbourn, a citizen of London, and a native of this place, gave the town 2000*l.* to be laid out in charitable uses.

The meadows on the banks of the river near Huntington, are equal in beauty to any in the world, and in the summer are covered with innumerable herds of cattle and flocks of sheep.

This town is remarkable for having given birth to Oliver Cromwell, the usurper.

At Bugden, not far from Huntington, is a handsome palace, belonging to the bishop of Lincoln, called Bugden Palace.

ST. IVES had its name, according to Camden, from one Ivo, a Persian bishop, who, about the year 600, came over to England, where he preached the gospel, and died at this place. It was formerly called *Slepe*. It is 57 miles distant from London, and stands upon the Ouse, over which it has a fine stone bridge. In the ninth century it had a mint, as appears by a Saxon coin found here, and was a flourishing town not many years ago, when great part of it was burnt. It was however rebuilt, and here is still a very good market for fatted cattle, brought from the north.

KIMBOLTON is the *Kimboldunum* of the Romans, and the modern name is probably a variation of the ancient. It is distant 62 miles from London, and has a

castle, which is reckoned a great ornament to the west part of this county. When this castle was built, we are no where informed; but it was very strong, and had a double ditch. Sir Richard Wingfield built new lodgings and galleries on the old foundations; Henry earl of Manchester beautified it at a great expence, and his great grandson, Charles duke of Manchester, in a manner new built it. We find nothing else in this place worthy of any note.

ST. NEOTS, commonly called St. NEEDS, and in the Saxon Annals S. Neob, was denominated from a monastery of the same name, in this place, which was burnt by the Danes. It is 56 miles from London, and is a large, well built, populous town. It has a handsome church, with a remarkably fine steeple, and an excellent stone bridge over the Ouse, by which river coals are brought to it, and sold through the county. Here is a charity school, which was opened in 1711, for twenty-five poor children.

RAMSEY, OR RAMS ISLE, called by the Saxons Ramegrize, is every where encompassed with fens, except upon the west side, where it joins the *Terra firma* by a causey, two miles long, inclosed with alders, reeds, and bulrushes, that in the spring make a beautiful appearance, to which the gardens, corn fields, and rich pastures adjoining, are no small addition. It is 67 miles distant from London, and was of extraordinary note, being proverbially called *Ramsley the Rich*, before the dissolution of a wealthy abbey, which stood in this place, the abbats of which were mitred, and sat in parliament. Here is a charity school for poor girls. The meers in the neighbourhood of this town abound with water fowls, fish, particularly eels, and large pikes, called hakeds; an advantage which renders the market at this place one of the most plentiful and cheapest in England for such commodities.

YAXLEY stands at the distance of 72 miles from London, in the fens, and there is a fen of its own name lying upon Wittlesey Meer. It is a neat little town, has a church, with a handsome and lofty spire, and the houses in general are well built.

### CURIOSITIES.

General decay of ancient families of note in this county.

This county formerly abounded with ancient families of great property, yet they are so worn out, that few surnames can be traced higher than the time of king Henry the Eighth. Various conjectures have been made to account for the cause of such a decay; but all are trifling, and the greatest part absurd.

Strange events of the meers.

Those large bodies of water called meers, in the north part of this county, particularly Wittlesey meer, are frequently thrown into the most violent agitations, without the least breath of wind, to the great terror and danger of the fishermen and others that pass the lake. These agitations are generally supposed to arise from eruptions of subterranean winds.

Extraordinary discovery.

At Conington, or Cunnington, a village south of Yaxley, in digging a pool, there was found the skeleton of a fish, near twenty feet long, lying six feet below the surface of the ground, and as much above the level of the fens.

At

At Hailweston, near St. Neots, there are two springs, one of which has a medicinal brackish taste, and is recommended in all cutaneous disorders; the other is spring-fresh, and is said to be good against dimness of sight. The town of St. Ives was once remarkable for medicinal waters.

Upon May 21st, 1731, a fire happened in the town of Ramsey, which destroyed upwards of a hundred houses.

Near St. Ives is a farm, which was rented by the usurper, Oliver Cromwell, where, before he obtained a seat in parliament, he endeavoured to repair his fortune, said to have been much diminished by his profligate life.

Opposite to Huntington, on the other side of the Ouse, is Godmanchester, thought to be the largest village in England, and so remarkable for husbandry, that no town employs so many ploughs. Near this place in the road from London to Huntington, is a tree, well known to travellers, by the name of Beggar's Bush. How it came by this name is uncertain; but we are told that king James the First, being on a progress this way with his chancellor, lord Bacon, and hearing that Bacon had lavishly rewarded a man for some mean present, told him, 'he would soon come to Beggar's Bush, as he should himself too, if they continued both so very bountiful.' It is now a proverb common in the county, that when a man is observed to squander his fortune, 'he is in the way to Beggar's Bush.'

This county has produced several eminent men, among others, Sir Robert Cotton, a learned antiquarian, and founder of an excellent library, called after him the Cotton Library; John Dryden, the poet; Sir Oliver Cromwell, elder brother to Oliver, the usurper's father, whose loyal attachment to the crown was such, that when under sequestration, he would not accept any favour through the interest of his rebellious nephew.

## ANTIQUITIES.

This county is part of that district anciently inhabited by the Iceni, who extended their dominion also over the counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, and Cambridge-shire\*. Under the Saxons however Huntingtonshire was separated from that tract of country formerly possessed by the Iceni, and became part of the kingdom of Mercia.

Antiquarians have almost all agreed, that Godmanchester, or Godmancester, is the same city which Antoninus in his Itinerary calls *Durolopete*, by the mistake only of one letter for *Durolopete*, which in the British language signifies a bridge over the Ouse, and such bridge Godmanchester has at this day. In the time of the Saxons this town lost the British or Roman name, and acquired that of Gormonchester, from a castle built here by Gormon, the Dane, to whom these parts were ceded, by the peace with king Alfred; and from the Saxon name Gor-

\* See Cambridgeshire.

moncester, is the present name immediately derived. Many Roman coins have been dug up in this place, and some human skeletons, said to have been of a gigantic size.

The inhabitants of this town have improved the art of husbandry more than those of any other place in England, and they are said to hold their lands by a tenure, which obliges them, when any king of England passes that way, to attend him with their ploughs and horses, adorned with rustic trophies. They have boasted that upon some such occasion, they presented a train, consisting of no less than nine score of ploughs. When king James the First passed through this town, on his journey from Scotland, the farmers of Godmanchester met him with a cavalcade of seventy new ploughs, each drawn by a team of horses, which so pleased the king, that he incorporated them by the name of two bailiffs, twelve assistants, and the commonalty of the borough of Godmanchester.

Antiquities of  
Dorsetford.

Dorsetford, a village upon the river Nen, north-west of Yaxley, was the city of Durobrivæ, mentioned by Antoninus. Here are many remains of a city, and a Roman portway, leading directly to Huntington, which, near Stilton, appears with a very high bank, and in an old Saxon charter is called Ermin Street. At Stilton it runs through the middle of a square fort, defended by a wall on the north, and on the south by ramparts of earth, near which several stone coffins have been dug up. Some think that the city Durobrivæ stood upon both sides of the river Nen, and that the little village Caster, upon the other side of the river, was part of this city, a conjecture, which ancient history seems to justify. A great number of Roman coins have at different times been dug up at this place.

Ancient  
castles.

Near Huntington bridge there is a mount, and the ground plot of a castle, built by king Edward the Elder, in the year 917, and enlarged with several new works by David king of Scotland, to whom king Stephen gave the borough of Huntington, for an augmentation of his estate; but this castle was demolished by king Henry the Second, to put an end to the frequent quarrels that arose from a competition for the earldom of Huntington, between the Scottish kings and the family of St. Liz.

At Somerham, a village about three miles north-east of St. Ives, is a house, called Somerham Place, which was formerly a palace, belonging to the bishops of Ely, and was given to that church by earl Brithnot, in the year 991. It is now a gentleman's seat.

Ramsey Ab-  
bey.

At Ramsey there was once a famous and wealthy abbey, of which some part of the old gate-house, together with the tomb of Ailwin, the founder, is still standing. This tomb is decorated with a statue of him, which is thought to be the most ancient piece of English sculpture now extant, and has the following remarkable inscription: HIC REQUIESCIT AILWINVS INCLITI REGIS EADGARI COGNATVS, TOTIVS ANGLIÆ ALDERMANNVS, ET HVIVS SACRI COENOBII MIRACVLOSVS FVNDATOR. Ailwin is represented holding two keys and a ragged staff in his right hand, as the ensigns of his offices.

In the year 1721, a great quantity of Roman coins was found here, thought <sup>Roman coins.</sup> to have been hidden by the monks on some incursion of the Danes.

Mr. Camden says, that the Danish king, Canute, raised a paved causey, at a <sup>King's Delf.</sup> vast expence, from Ramsey to Peterborough, which run ten miles: he thinks it was called *Langerwalsp*, or King's Delf, but the author of the additions to Camden observes, that the name of King's Delf appears upon record in Edgar's time, and that *Delf* does not signify *paved way*, but *ditch*.

Between Ramsey and Wittlesey Meer, there is a ditch, sometimes called Swerdes <sup>Steed's Dike.</sup> Delf, and sometimes Knour's Delf, but now Steed's Dike. It parts this county from Cambridgeshire, and is said to have been occasioned by the following accident. As king Canute's family were passing over Wittlesey Meer, in their way from Peterborough to Ramsey, their vessel was cast away in one of the commotions that frequently happen in these meers, and several lives were lost; upon this the king, to prevent the like disasters in time to come, ordered his army to mark out a ditch with their swords and spears, which gave occasion to the name of Swerdes Delf, and afterwards employed labourers to dig clean and perfect this undertaking.

At Conington are to be seen, within a square ditch, the relics of an <sup>Conington</sup> ancient castle, which was given by king Canute to Turkill, a Danish lord, who <sup>Castle.</sup> called in Sueno, king of Denmark, to plunder the nation.

## ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

If credit may be given to the Ely historian, St. Neot first placed monks in the town, which goes still by his name, who being dispersed by the Danes, were afterwards restored, and the monastery again endowed, by the bounty of one Leofric, and his wife, Leofleda, upon the encouragement of Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, and Brithnod, abbat of Ely. It was a priory of Black monks, subordinate to Ely, till after the Conquest, when Gilbert, earl of Clare, violently expelled those religious; but about the year 1123, Rohesia, wife of Richard, son to the said earl Gilbert, gave this manor to the abbey of Bec, in Normandy, to which it became a cell. It was seized during the wars with France, among other alien priories, but made *prioratus indigena* by king Henry the Fourth, being then in the patronage of the earl of Stafford. Its revenues were valued upon the suppression at 256*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.* *per annum*.

At Ramsey an abbey of Benedictine monks was built by Ailwin, alderman of all England, and duke and earl of the East Angles, in the year 969, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Benedict. Its yearly revenues, about the time of the dissolution, were rated at 176*l.* 12*s.* 4*d.* *per annum*.

At Huntington there was a priory of Black canons, dedicated to St. Mary, and founded in or near the parochial church of that saint, before the year 973, which

was removed to a place without the town, by Eustace de Luvetot, in the time of king Stephen, or Henry the Second, where it continued till the dissolution, when it consisted of a prior, eleven canons, and thirty-four servants; and the revenues of it were valued at 187*l.* 13*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

Here was an ancient hospital, dedicated to St. Margaret, for a master and brethren, and several leprous and infirm persons, to whom Malcolm, king of Scotland, and earl of Huntington, who died in the year 1165, was a great benefactor, if not the founder. This was annexed by king Henry the Sixth, in the twenty-fourth year of his reign, after the death or cession of the master, to Trinity-Hall in Cambridge, and confirmed by king Edward the Fourth, in the first year of his reign.

The hospital of St. John in this town, is said to have been founded by David earl of Huntington, in the time of Henry the Second. It was valued upon the suppression at 9*l.* 4*s.* *per annum*, in the whole, and 6*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* clear.

At the north end of the town, there was a house of Friars Augustines, founded before the nineteenth year of king Edward the First.

About the year 1001, the relics of St. Ivo, a Persian bishop, being discovered in the place now called St. Ives, then belonging to the abbey of Ramsey, Ednoth, the abbat, built a church here, dedicated to that saint, in which he placed a prior and some Benedictine monks, subordinate to Ramsey.

To Hinchingbrooke, near Huntingon, William the Conqueror is said to have removed the nuns of Elstsey, in Cambridgeshire, and is therefore reckoned the founder of the little priory here, which was of the Benedictine order, dedicated to St. James, and valued upon the dissolution, when there were only four nuns in it, at 17*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

To Salry Abbey, a village about a mile south-east of Conington, Simon earl of Northampton, in the year 1146, brought a convent of Cistercian monks, out of the abbey of Warden, or Sarris, in Bedfordshire, and erected a monastery for them in this place, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Here were an abbat, twelve monks, and twenty-two servants at the dissolution, who were endowed with the income of 141*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

At Stonely, a small way east of Kimbolton, William earl of Essex, who lived about the year 1180, is said, by Leland, to have founded a priory of canons of the order of St. Austin, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This house consisted of seven canons, and was valued upon the dissolution at 46*l.* 5*s.* *per annum*, which bishop Tanner's manuscript makes to be the sum clear, and 62*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* to be the sum total.

## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends but four members to parliament; two knights of the shire for the county, and two burgeses for the town of Huntingdon.



NEW YORK  
MAY 18 1864

The undersigned do hereby certify that the within and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the Board of Education of the City of New York.







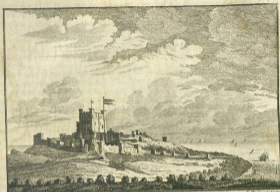


# KENT

A New Map of  
Showing from the Survey  
Authenticity:  
By the Hon. Robert Lloyd  
Esq. Surveyor-General to H.R.H. the  
Duke of York.



Barrels,  
Average Tonnage and Salt (2500000) Tons,  
of Lead is Zirconium by Stone.....  
Rivers, and Inlets.....  
Places where there are kept have a double  
under the Stone River.....  
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D O V E R C A S T L E

p. 35.

K E N T.

N A M E.

**T**IME has not yet deprived this country of its ancient name. Cæsar, Strabo, Diodorus Siculus, Ptolemy, and others, call it *Cantium*, or *Kæntium*; and some are of opinion that the *Κέντρα* of Herodotus were the *Cantii* of the ancients. The Saxons called it *Lant-guar-lanod*, that is, *the country of the inhabitants of Kent*; but whence this name was originally derived, is a subject of much speculation. Mr. Lambard, who has given a description of this county, is of opinion, that the name *Kent* is derived from the word *Cainc*, which in the British tongue signifies a *green leaf*, and was applied to this county, on account of its having been formerly much shaded with woods. Mr. Camden conjectures, that it had its name from its situation and figure, being a large point, or angle, into which Britain shoots out upon the south-east extremity. Such a corner in Scotland is called *Cantir*; the inhabitants of another point in that part of the island are by Ptolemy called *Cantæ*; and the *Cangani* were possessed of such another angle in Wales. To this may be added, that the *Cantabri* were inhabitants of a corner in the country of the Celtiberians, who, as they were originally the same people, must have

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spoken

spoken the same language with the Britons; and that this county of Kent was by all the old geographers termed *Agabus*, i. e. *a corner*. The French have used the word *cantou* for a *corner*; it is now used by the heralds in the same sense; and the provinces of Switzerland are to this day termed *cantons*, or *corners*.

### BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

This county is bounded by Suffex and the English channel on the south, by the river Thames and the German sea on the north, by the same sea on the east, and by Surry on the west. It extends in length from east to west 56 miles, from north to south 36 miles, and is 166 miles in circumference; and Maidston, the county town, which is situated nearly in the center of it, stands at the distance of 36 miles south-east of London.

### RIVERS.

The chief rivers of this county are the Medway, the Stour, and the Darent. Mr. Lambard thinks, that the Medway took its name from its course through the middle of Kent, which it divides nearly into two equal parts, and might therefore be called *Midway*, or *Medway*; but Mr. Camden is of opinion, that the ancient British name of this river was *Vaga*, to which the Saxons added *Med*, and from which two words *Midvega* the present name is derived. This river rises in a place called the Weald, the ancient name for wood, in Suffex, and entering this county, runs north-east by Tunbridge, a considerable market town, to Maidston; thence it runs north-west to the city of Rochester, and then directing its course north-east, it divides into two streams, one of which runs north into the estuary of the Thames, and is called the West Swale; and the other runs east, into the same estuary, and is called the East Swale, and the country included between these two arms of this river is called the Isle of Shepey.

Some writers are of opinion, that the Stour was called the *Dour* by the ancient Britons; others, that it took this name originally from *Astuarium*, which being at first called *Ebare*, was at length contracted into *Stare*, or *Stour*. This river consists of two streams, distinguished by the names of the greater and the smaller Stour; both rise in the south and woody parts of this county, called the Weald of Kent, and run north-east; the greater Stour through the city of Canterbury, and the smaller Stour through Egham, a market town; and falling into one channel called the Wantsume, are again divided into two other streams, one of which runs north-west, and the other south-east; and both fall into the German sea, cutting off the north-east angle of this county from the continent, and forming it into an island called the Isle of Thanet.

The Darent, or Darwent, is supposed by some to have taken its name from the two British words, *dour*, which signifies *water*, and *wenden*, *to wind along*; and Leland writes it *Darwent*. It rises near Weirham, a market town of this county, and running north, discharges itself into the river Thames near Dartford, another market town of Kent.

## KENT. AIR and SOIL.

This county is nominally divided into three districts, East-Kent, West-Kent, and South-Kent; or Upper-Kent, Middle-Kent, and Lower-Kent. Upper-Kent, or East-Kent, which is the north-east division, is said to be healthy, but not wealthy; Lower-Kent, or the south parts, called also the Weald of Kent, are said to be wealthy, but not healthy; and Middle-Kent, bordering upon London and Surry, is said to be both wealthy and healthy. In general, as great part of this county lies upon the sea, the air is thick, foggy, and warm, though often purified by south and south-west winds, and the shore being generally cleaner than that of Essex, the marby parts of Kent do not produce agues in the same degree as the hundreds of Essex; and the air in the higher parts of Kent is reckoned very healthy. The soil is generally rich, and fit for plough, pasture, or meadow; and that part of the county which borders upon the river Thames abounds with chalk-hills, from whence not only the city of London, and parts adjacent, but even Holland and Flanders, are supplied with lime or chalk; and from these hills the rubbish of the chalk is carried in lighters and hoys to the coasts of Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk, where it is sold to the farmers as manure for their lands.

## NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

This county affords some mines of iron, and in general abounds with plantations of hops, fields of corn, and orchards of cherries, apples, and other fruit: it produces also woad and madder for dyers; and on the cliffs between Dover and Folkstone, two considerable market towns of this county, there is found plenty of samphire: hemp and St. foin grow here in great abundance; and the south and west parts of Kent, especially that called the Weald, are covered with woods of oak, beech and chestnut trees, which afford great timber for shipping, and other uses: here are also many woods of birch, from whence the broom-makers in and about London are abundantly supplied. The cattle here of all sorts are reckoned larger than they are in the neighbouring counties; and the Weald of Kent is remarkable for large bullocks: here are several parks of fallow-deer, and warrens of grey rabbits; and this county abounding in rivers, and being almost surrounded by the sea, is well supplied with all manner of fish, and in particular is famous for large oysters.

## MANUFACTURES and TRADE.

This county is not remarkable for any sort of manufacture; and its trade chiefly consists in such commodities as are the natural produce of the county.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into five lathes, which are subdivided into fourteen bailiwicks, and these again into 63 hundreds. A lath is a division peculiar to Kent and Suffex, and consists of two or more bailiwicks, as a bailiwick does of two or more hundreds. Kent contains two cities, and 29 market towns; it lies in the province of Canterbury, and partly in that diocese, and partly in the diocese of Rochester, and has 408 parishes.

## CITIES

## CITIES and MARKET TOWNS.

The cities are, Canterbury and Rochester; and the market towns Ashford, Bromley, Cranbrook, Crayford, Cray St. Mary's, Dartford, Dover, Elham, Feverham, Folkstone, Goodhurst, Gravesend, Greenwich, Hith, Lenham, Lydd, Maidston, Malling-west, Milton, Quinborough, R Romney New, Sandwich, Sevenoke, Tenterden, Tunbridge, Wellram, Woolwich, Wrotham, and Wye.

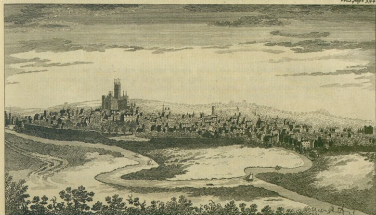
Of these towns, Dover, Romney and Sandwich are of the number of the original Cinque Ports, a name derived from *quinque portus, five havens*, that lie over against France, and were thus called by way of eminence, on account of their superior importance. Our kings have thought them worthy a particular regard; and the better to secure them against invasions, have granted them a peculiar form of government. They are governed by a keeper, who has the title of Lord warden of the Cinque Ports: they had a particular jurisdiction granted them by King John, and several other privileges, which have been confirmed by most of his successors. Their warden, who was first appointed by William the Conqueror, has the authority of an admiral among them, and issues out writs in his own name.

The two other original ports are said to have been Winchelsea and Rye, market towns of Suffex; and to these five original ports there were afterwards added Hailings and Seaford, two other market towns of that county, and Hith in Kent.

When the service which was required of the Cinque Ports towards their preservation became too burdensome, each was allowed a certain number of other towns in its neighbourhood, as auxiliaries, that they might bear a part in this public charge.

CANTERBURY was by the Saxons called *Cant-papa-byrig*, i. e. *The city of the people of Kent*, from which name the present is immediately derived. This famous and ancient city, the chief of this county, and the metropolitan see of all England, stands at the distance of 56 miles from London; it is a county of itself, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, a sheriff, twenty-four common council men, a mace-bearer, a sword-bearer, and four serjeants at mace. A court is held every Monday in the Guildhall, for civil and criminal causes, and every other Tuesday for the government of the city. It is divided into six wards, which are denominated from its six gates, Burgate, Newingate, Ridingate, Worthgate, Westgate and Northgate: it consists of four streets, which center at St. Andrew's church, in the middle of the city; and, including the cathedral and gardens, is about three miles in circumference.

The buildings are neither grand or elegant; but there is a good market-house, over which are rooms, where the mayor, aldermen, and other members transact the affairs of the corporation. There is a gaol for criminals, and a gallows is erected in a place called Wineheap, on account of an ancient wine market that was formerly kept here. Besides the cathedral, here are sixteen parish churches; St. Martin's, St. Alphege's, St. George's, St. Peter's, St. Mary Magdalen's, St. Andrew's, St. Mary Castle's, St. Mildred's, All Saints, St. Paul's, St. Mary Northgate's,  
Holy



*The South West View of Canterbury.*





Holy Cross of Westgate's, St. Dunstan's, St. Mary Bredin's, St. Margaret's, and St. Mary Breadman's.

The cathedral is a noble Gothic pile, in the form of a cross, 514 feet long, 74 feet broad, and 80 feet high, measuring from the area of the nave to the canopy; and in the middle of the building is a tower 235 feet high. Underneath the cathedral is a large church of foreign protestants, given first by queen Elizabeth to the Walloons, who fled hither from Artois, and other provinces of the Netherlands, from the duke of Alba's persecution; this congregation has since been very much increased by numbers of protestants who were driven from France in the reign of Lewis the Fourteenth. The houses of the prebendaries, with many other good buildings, form a spacious close. To this cathedral belong a dean, an archdeacon, twelve prebendaries, six preachers, six minor canons, six substitutes, twelve lay clerks, ten choristers, two masters, fifty scholars, and twelve almsmen. Of the parish churches nothing remarkable is recorded: of St. Mary Castle's there is no more left standing than the chancel, and yet there is an incumbent presented and inducted to it.

Near the cathedral there is a free school, called the king's school; and here are three charity schools, for 58 boys and 66 girls. Here are also seven hospitals, one of which, called Bridewell, is a house of correction, and a place for the reception of poor townsmen's boys. Here is a sumptuous conduit, which was erected by archbishop Abbot, who died in 1633, and is of great benefit to the city.

The foreign protestants, who were allowed to settle in this city, have been of great advantage to the place; for, having brought over the art of weaving broad silks, that manufacture is now carried to such perfection, that the silks are reckoned as good, if not better, than any foreign silks; and great quantities of them are sent to London. Canterbury derives great advantage from the hop grounds that lie round it, which consist of several thousand acres, and were deemed not many years ago the greatest plantation of hops in Britain. Canterbury is also famous for its brawn.

ROCHESTER is thought to derive its name from the ancient Roman name *Duro-brus*, *Duro-briva*, or rather *Duro-pretis* and *Duro-brova*, which time had corrupted and contracted into *Roisir*, and to which our Saxon ancestors adding *Cearcep*, it was varied into *Hroucecearcep*, from which the present name was immediately formed. The modern Latin name is *Roffa*, which Bede imagines was derived from *Röffius*, the name of some man; and Camden is of opinion, that there are some traces of the name *Roffa* in the ancient one *Duro-brovis*, or *Duro-brevii*, by which Bede calls it.

Rocheſter lies in a valley on the eaſt ſide of the Medway, at the diſtance of 29 miles from London; it is a very ancient city, and the ſee of a biſhop, and next to Canterbury the moſt ancient ſee in England: it has ſent members to parliament ever ſince the firſt ſummons for ſuch an aſſembly; and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, and twelve aldermen, of whom the mayor is one, twelve common council men, a town clerk, three ſerjeants at mace, and a water bailiff.

This

This is a small city, consisting chiefly of one broad, but ill-built street, and having only one parish church and the cathedral: the town is nearly surrounded with a wall, which never was very strong; and on the south-east and west sides of this wall there are large suburbs. Some part of an old castle, said to have been built by William the Conqueror, is still standing, and kept in repair: it is used as a magazine, and a party of soldiers constantly do duty in it. Many lands in this county are still held by the tenure of Castle-guard, i. e. upon condition that the tenant should in his turn mount guard here; but a composition is taken for this service, to the payment of which the tenants are strictly kept; for upon a day appointed, a flag is hung out from that part of the castle which is still kept in repair; and all tenants who do not then appear, and pay their quit-rents, are liable to have their rents doubled at every tide of the Medway: such is the custom of the manor. Under the castle wall, next the river, there is a chalky cliff, part of which having been washed away by the rapidity of the stream, the wall which it supported is fallen into ruins, and forms a romantic appearance; the ground on that side is very low and marshy; and being overflowed by every high tide, the situation is both unpleasant and unhealthy.

Here is a town-house and a charity-school, which are the best buildings in the place, except the churches. A mathematical school was founded here, in the reign of queen Anne, by Sir Joseph Williamson, who then was one of the members in parliament for this city, and formerly was one of the plenipotentiaries at the treaty of Rylwick. One Richard Watts also founded an alms-house, and endowed it with 60 l. a-year, for the relief of poor travellers; but excepted persons contagiously diseased, rogues and *prostitutes*. *Prostitutes* he excepted, because one of that faculty, whom he had employed, when he was sick, to make his will, fraudulently made a devise of the whole estate to himself; in which Watts, happening to recover, detected him. This foundation is now so improved, as not only to answer the first intention, but to set other poor at work; and in the summer here are always six or eight lodgers, who are admitted by tickets from the mayor.

Here is a bridge over the Medway, built in the reign of Henry the Fourth, by Sir John Cobham, and Sir Robert Knowles, with money which they had raised from spoils taken in France. It consists of twenty-one arches, and is one of the best and strongest bridges in England, next to those of London, Westminster, and Newcastle upon Tyne. For keeping this bridge in constant repair, certain lands were annexed to it by act of parliament, in the reign of King Richard the Third, and by two other acts, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. It was repaired in 1744, and adorned with iron palisades.

In several of the creeks and branches of the river Medway, within the jurisdiction of this city, there is an oyster fishery, which is the privilege of every person who has served seven years apprenticeship to any fisherman or dredger that is free of it. The mayor and citizens of Rochester hold what is called an admiralty court, once a-year, or oftner, upon occasion, to appoint the times when oysters shall be taken, and settle the quantity each dredgerman shall take in a day. Persons who dredge for oysters, not being free of the fishery, are called cablechangers, and are prosecuted, and punished by the court. Every licensed dredger pays 6 s. 8 d. yearly to the support of the courts, and the fishery is now in a flourishing state.

**CHATHAM**, which lies on the opposite side of the river, and is a suburb to Rochester, is a station for the royal navy, and has a dock, which was begun by Queen Elizabeth, and has been so improved by her successors, that at this day there is not a more complete arsenal in the world, there being whole streets of warehouses and storehouses. Here are two commissioners, with other officers of the navy: the houses of these officers are well built, and some of them stately, and the public buildings surprisngly large and beautiful. This important station is defended by two castles, Upnor and Gillingham castles. Upnor castle stands on the west side of the river, almost opposite to the dock, and was built by Queen Elizabeth; its platform carries 37 guns, that command two reaches of the river, and are supposed to defend all the ships that ride between that and Rochester bridge. Gillingham castle is well furnished with guns that command the river, there being no less than 170 embrasures for cannons, which would stop the progress of any enemy that should happen to make way by Sheerness fort, before they could reach Chatham. Sheerness is a point on Shepey island, where the west swale of the Medway falls into the Thames: it has a royal fort, raised by King Charles the Second, and a line of cannon, facing the mouth of the river, with good apartments for the officers of the ordnance, navy, and garrison; and here is a yard and dock, as an appendix to Chatham.

A charity was instituted in the year 1588, called the chest at Chatham, when the seamen in the service of queen Elizabeth agreed to allow a portion of each man's pay for the relief of their fellows that had been wounded in defeating the Spanish armada; and the charity has continued ever since.

**ASHFORD**, or **ESHFORD**, takes its name from a neighbouring ford over a small river called the Esh, near the head of the Stour: it is 57 miles distant from London, is governed by a mayor, and has a court of record every three weeks for all actions of debt or damages, not exceeding 20 marks. Here is a large church, which was formerly collegiate, and a free grammar school.

**BROMLEY** is a small town, at the distance of ten miles from London, in the road to Tunbridge. It has a church with a square tower. Of this parish the bishop of Rochester for the time being is rector, who has a palace at a little distance from the town, where there is a mineral spring, the water of which has been found, by a chemical analysis, to contain the same qualities as the Tunbridge water, in a greater degree. At this place is a college, which was erected and endowed by bishop Warner, in the reign of king Charles the Second, for twenty widows of poor clergymen, with an allowance of 20*l.* a-year to each, and 50*l.* a-year to a chaplain.

**CRANBROOK** is situated in the woody parts of this county, at the distance of 60 miles from London, and is the place where the first woolen manufactory in this kingdom was erected by some Flemings, who were encouraged to settle here by king Edward the Third, in order to teach the manufacture to his subjects: but this trade, however, has deserted Cranbrook long ago; and at present it is a place of little account.

**CRAYFORD** takes its name from a ford formerly in this place, over a small river called the Cray: it is 14 miles distant from London, and is an obscure town, not remarkable for any thing.

CRAY ST. MARY'S, called ST. MARY CRAY, stands near the source of the river Cray, at the distance of 12 miles from London, and is only remarkable for a charity school.

DARTFORD was originally called *Darentford*, from its situation upon the Darent, which runs through the town. It is 16 miles distant from London, in the road to Canterbury and Dover, and is a handsome large town. Here is a church, dedicated to the Trinity, with two church-yards, one round the church, and another on the top of a hill, without the town, which is so high, that it overlooks the tower of the church. This town has a harbour for barges, and a good market for corn, which is much frequented from all parts of the country.

DOVER is supposed to derive its name from the British word *Diffrida*, which signifies a steep place, whence the Saxons called it *Dofna*, and Antoninus in his Itinerary, *Dobis*. It is distant 71 miles from London, and is situated on the sea shore, in the narrowest part of the channel that divides England from France; the cliffs of Calais, on the French coast, being only thirty miles distant. It is governed by a mayor, assistants, and commonalty, and being one of the cinque ports, is in other respects subject to the same jurisdiction as the rest. The towns which are auxiliaries to Dover as a cinque port, and liable to contribute to the expence of such service as may be required of it upon an emergency, are Birchington, St. Johns, and St. Peters, three small towns in the Isle of Thanet, Ringwood, near Dover, Feverham, and Folkstone.

The town is built under a semicircular range of chalky cliffs, which form a kind of bay or harbour, and consists chiefly of one street, which is near a mile long. It was formerly surrounded by a wall, through which were ten gates, but not even the ruins either of the wall or gates are now to be seen: it had also seven churches, of which only two remain, St. James's, where the courts of the cinque ports are held, and St. Mary's. It has a custom-house, and victualing-office, but no other public buildings worth notice, though it is a place of great resort, and very populous.

The cliffs that run out on each side of the semicircular range, are very lofty, and the harbour is farther secured by two piers, yet it is fit only to receive small vessels, and those only at high water. Above the piers is a fort with four bastions, and on the summit of the cliff, there are the remains of a castle, said to have been begun by Julius Cæsar, and finished by Claudius: the area of the fortification takes up thirty acres of ground, and the walls are still standing, though most of the works are destroyed; there are the remains of a royal palace and chapel, with stables and other offices, the ruins of which shew the buildings to have been very magnificent. One part of the fortification that still remains, is a circular work, in which there is an old church, said to have been built by Lucius, the first Christian king in Britain, with some fragments of the Roman buildings that had fallen into ruins: it is in the form of a cross, with a square tower in the middle, but the windows seem to be of much later date than the building. This castle is supplied with water by a well of a cylindrical figure, which is three hundred and sixty feet deep; it is lined to the bottom with free stone, and is said to have been the work of Julius Cæsar.

The

The water of this well is raised by a wheel, which receives a man, who turns it by his weight, as a dog did that which was formerly used to turn spits.

From this port our packet boats, in time of peace, go twice a-week to France and Flanders.

Near Dover Castle there is a head of land, called South Foreland, by way of distinction from another head or promontory, which forms the north-east point of the Kentish shore, and is therefore called North Foreland. These two points, lying at the distance of six miles from each other, are the two most easterly in Kent; the coast between them is sheltered by them on the south and north, and by a bank of sand, running parallel to the shore for three leagues together, and at the distance of a league and a half from it, called Godwin Sands, on the east. Thus the South Foreland, North Foreland, Godwin Sands, and the coast, form a tolerable good road for ships, which is called the Downs, and which would otherwise be very dangerous, for the Godwin Sands, which are dry at low water, break all the force of the sea on the east, south, and south-west; yet when the wind blows excessive hard at south-east, east-by-north, and east-north-east, ships are driven from their anchors, and forced ashore on the Godwin Sands, or sent into Sandwich Bay, or Ramsgate pier, near Sandwich.

North Foreland is a point declared by act of parliament to be the most southern part of the port of London, which by the same act is extended north in a right line, forming the mouth of the Thames, to a point called the Naze, on the east of Essex. All the towns or harbours between London and these places, whether on the Kentish or Essex shore, are called members of the port of London.

As soon as vessels have passed the North Foreland, out of the port of London, or any of its members, they are said to be in the open sea; if to the north, they enter the German Ocean; if to the south, the British Channel.

ELHAM is situated upon the smaller Stour, at the distance of 62 miles from London. It is an obscure place, and contains nothing worthy of notice.

FEVERSHAM is 48 miles distant from London. It is a member of the cinque port of Dover, and a corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. It is a populous, flourishing town, situated in the pleasantest part of the county, with the conveniency of a creek from the Thames, or rather with that branch of the Medway called the East Swale, navigable by boats. This town consists chiefly of one long broad street, with a market house and a charity school for ten boys and ten girls, who are taught and clothed at the expence of the inhabitants. The London markets are supplied from hence with abundance of apples, cherries, and the best oysters for stewing, of which the Dutch take so great a quantity, that a prodigious number of men and boats are employed here in the winter to dredge for them. It is said the value of the oysters taken annually from Feverham by the Dutch, amounts to 2000*l.* or 2500*l.* at the first purchase. The fishermen will admit none to take up their freedom but married men.

X x 2

This

This town was, not many years ago, notorious for running wine, brandy, tea, coffee, pepper, and other goods, from France and Holland, by the help of the Dutch oyster boats, and for clandestinely exporting wool.

FOLKSTONE, another member of the cinque port of Dover, is 69 miles distant from London, and is a corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. Here is a charity school, endowed by Sir Eliab Harvey, for twenty boys, who are to be nominated by the mayor and jurats. It has a harbour for small ships, and several hundred fishing boats belonging to it, which are employed at the season in catching mackerel for London. About Michaelmas the Folkstone barks, with others from the Suffex shore, fail away to the coast of Suffolk and Norfolk, to catch herrings for the merchants of Yarmouth and Leith, considerable market towns of those counties.

At a little distance south of Folkstone, upon the sea-shore, in a bottom between two hills, stands a castle, called Sandgate Castle. It was built by king Henry the Eighth, to defend the fishing craft from the insults of privateers in time of war, and now mounts about sixteen guns.

GOODHURST is distant from London 48 miles, in the road through Tunbridge to Cranbrook, and is remarkable for nothing besides its church, which was so impaired by a storm of thunder and lightning, on the 23d of August, 1637, that it became necessary to take down the steeple, which was lofty, and of stone. A brief was granted to rebuild it, but the small wooden steeple, which was hastily set on the top of the stone work, with one bell in it, still continues.

GRAVESEND is situated upon the Thames, opposite Tilbury Fort, in Essex, at the distance of 22 miles from London. This town and Milton, not the market town, but a small town lying east of Gravesend, were incorporated the tenth of queen Elizabeth, by the name of the portreve, (now mayor) jurats, and inhabitants of Gravesend and Milton. The whole town of Gravesend, as well as the church, having been burnt down in 1727, 5000*l.* was granted by act of parliament in 1731, for rebuilding its church.

In 1624, one Mr. Pinnock gave twenty one dwelling houses here, besides one for a mauler weaver, to employ the poor. Here is a charity school for twenty-four boys, who are both taught and clothed. King Henry the Eighth built two platforms, one at this town, and the other at Milton; and king Richard the Second granted the inhabitants of Gravesend and Milton the sole privilege of carrying passengers by water from hence to London, at fourpence the whole fare, or twopence a-head, which was confirmed by king Henry the Eighth, but now the fare is sixpence a-head in the tilt boat, and one shilling in the wherrey. Coaches ply here at the landing of people from London, to carry them to Rochester. All outward bound ships are obliged to anchor in this road, till they have been visited by the custom-house officers; and for this purpose a sentinel at a block-house, gives notice by firing a musket; but the homeward bound all pass by without notice, unless it be to put tide-waiters on board, if they are not supplied before. As the vessels outward bound generally take in provisions here, the place is full of seamen, who are all in a hurry.

The

The towns for several miles round Gravesend, are supplied from hence with garden stuff, of which great quantities are also sent to London, where the asparagus of Gravesend is preferred to that of any other place.

GREENWICH was originally named *Green-wic*, which is synonymous with *Green Creek*, *wic* being the Saxon term for the *crest* of a river. It stands upon the river Thames, at the distance of six miles from London, is a very populous town, and reckoned one of the genteelst and pleasantest in England, many of its inhabitants being persons of rank and fortune; and its parish church, which was lately rebuilt, and dedicated to St. Alphage, is a very handsome structure.

There was a royal palace formerly in this town, which was first erected by Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, who called it Placentia. It was enlarged by Henry the Seventh, and completed by his son, Henry the Eighth, who was so delighted with its situation, that he frequently resided here; queen Mary and queen Elizabeth were born in it, and king Edward the Sixth died in it; but being afterwards much neglected, king Charles the Second pulled it down, and began another, of which he lived to see the west wing magnificently finished, at the expence of 36,000*l.* This wing, together with nine acres of ground belonging to it, king William, in the year 1694, appropriated for a royal hospital, for aged and disabled seamen, the widows and children of such as lost their lives in the service of the crown, and for the encouragement of navigation. The other wing was begun in the reign of king William, carried on in the reigns of queen Anne and king George the First, and that, together with the rest of the building, was finished in the reign of king George the Second. Such are the noble symmetry, architecture, and decorations, and such the charming situation, and ample endowment of this spacious and sumptuous edifice, that there is scarce such a foundation and fabric in the whole world. Its hall, which is very superb, was finely painted by the late Sir James Thornhill. At the upper end of it, in an alcove, are portraits of the late princess Sophia, king George the First, king George the Second, the late queen Caroline, the late queen of Prussia, the late prince of Wales, the duke of Cumberland, and his five royal sisters. On the ceiling, above the alcove, are queen Anne and prince George of Denmark, and on the ceiling of the hall are king William and queen Mary, with several fine emblematical figures. On a pedestal, in the middle of the area, fronting a noble terrace by the Thames, is a fine statue of king George the Second; and the chapel belonging to this hospital is neat, elegant, and richly gilt.

In the year 1705, was the first admission of one hundred disabled seamen into this hospital, but the number now is near two thousand men, and one hundred boys. To every hundred pensioners are allowed five nurses, being the widows of seamen, at ten pounds a-year, and two shillings a-week more to those who attend in the infirmary. The pensioners are clothed in blue, with brass buttons, are allowed stockings, shoes, and linen; and besides their commons, have one shilling a-week to spend, and the common warrant officers one shilling and sixpence. The hospital is governed by a governor, a lieutenant governor, and other officers.

King William gave 2000*l.* a-year towards finishing the buildings. The several benefactions to this noble charity, which appear upon tables, hung up at the entrance of the hall, amount to 58,209*l.* and in the year 1732, the late earl of

of Derwenswater's forfeited estate, amounting to near 6,000*l.* a-year, was given to it by parliament. A market was appointed in the town of Greenwich in 1737, the direction of which is in the governors of the royal hospital, to which the profits that arise from it are to be appropriated.

There is also a handsome college in this town, fronting the river Thames, for the maintenance of twenty decayed old house-keepers, twelve out of Greenwich, and eight to be presented alternately from Cullerfing, a considerable market town in Norfolk, and Bungey, a market town in Suffolk. The pensioners, besides victuals and drink, are allowed eighteen pence a-week for necessaries, with a gown every year, linen in two years, and hats once in four years. They have also two acres of garden, and a chapel, where prayers are read twice a-day, and they are under the government and care of a warden, butler, cook, and matron. This is called the duke of Norfolk's College, but was founded and endowed in 1613, by Henry, earl of Northampton, by the name of Trinity Hospital, and by him committed to the care of the mercers company of London.

Mr. Lambard, author of the *Perambulation of Kent*, also built an hospital here in 1560, called Queen Elizabeth's College, in which twenty poor persons are maintained. This is said to be the first hospital built by an English protestant.

There are in this town two charity schools; one built by Sir William Boreman, knight, for twenty boys, and endowed with 400*l.* a-year, in trust to the drapers company of London; the other built by Mr. John Roan, who left an estate of 95*l.* a-year, in trust with the vicar, church-wardens, and overseers of this parish, for teaching twenty-eight boys, and allowing forty shillings a-year for their cloaths.

Here is a noble and most delightful park, enlarged, planted, and walled round by king Charles the Second. It is well stocked with deer, and has a most agreeable prospect, both of the city of London and of the river Thames. On the top of a steep hill, in this park, Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, began a tower, which was finished by king Henry the Seventh, but afterwards demolished, and a royal observatory erected in its place, by king Charles the Second, furnished with all sorts of mathematical instruments for astronomical observations; besides a deep dry well for observing the stars in the day time. This place was successively the residence of those celebrated astronomers, Mr. Flamsteed, and Dr. Halley. From Mr. Flamsteed this observatory took the name of Flamsteed House, by which it is now commonly known, and is at present in possession of Dr. Bradley, as astronomer to his majesty.

There is still a royal palace in this town, but it is a small building, and is converted into apartments for the governor of the royal hospital, and the ranger of Greenwich Park. This town of Greenwich is the chief harbour for the king's yachts.

On the south side of Greenwich is a large plain, known by the name of Blackheath, and supposed to have taken this name from the colour of the soil. In a field, called Great Stone Field, on the south side of this heath, there is an  
hof-



hospital, called Mordaunt's College, being built by Sir John Mordaunt, a Turkey merchant. It is a spacious structure, for the reception of decayed merchants. The number of pensioners is not limited, but the buildings and endowments will accommodate forty. Seven Turkey merchants have the direction and visitation of this hospital, as well as the nomination of the pensioners, each of which must produce a certificate of his being above sixty years of age, before he can be admitted: each has fifteen pounds a-year. Here is a neat chapel, with a costly altarpiece; and a provision is made for a treasurer and chaplain.

About a mile or a mile and a half west of Greenwich, and upon the river Thames, stands a town, formerly called West-Greenwich, but now called Deptford, a name which is said to have been derived from a *deep ford* once in this place, over a small river called Ravenbourn, that falls into the Thames. This, though no market town, is very populous, having two churches, and being divided into the upper and lower town. At this place is a royal dock and yard, for building ships for the royal navy, with store-houses of every kind; one of which, the victualing-office, built in 1745, was by accident burnt down in January 1748-9, with a great quantity of provisions and other stores. This was to have supplied the place of the old victualing-office on Tower-hill, London, the lease of which was then near expired.

In this town is a college, commonly called Trinity-house of Deptford Strand. It was incorporated by king Henry the Eighth; the building was erected at different times, and the old part contains twenty-one houses, and the new thirty-eight. It was designed for the reception of decayed pilots, masters of ships, or their widows: the men are allowed twenty shillings, and the women sixteen shillings, per month.

The Red-house is a place situated north-west of Deptford, and was a noted collection of ware-houses and store-houses, built of red bricks, whence it had this name. It contained several sorts of merchandizes, as hemp, flax, pitch, tar, and other such commodities, which, in July 1739, were all consumed by fire.

HITH, or HIDE, or EAST HITH, derives its name immediately from the Saxon word *Hith*, which signifies a *Port or Station*. It is 67 miles from London, and a cinque port and corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. This town had anciently five parish churches, though now it has but one. Here are two hospitals, those of St. John and St. Bartholomew, both under the government of the mayor and jurats. St. Bartholomew's was founded in the time of king Edward the Third, for ten poor men, by Haymo, bishop of Rochester; and here is a charity school for thirty-eight boys.

This town is now so shut in with sand banks, that it scarcely deserves the name of a port.

LENHAM takes its name from its situation at the source of a small river, called the Len. It is 47 miles distant from London, and is a little obscure place.

LYDD was so called by the Saxons, from the Latin word *litus*, the *fove*, alluding to its situation upon the sea shore; it is distant 75 miles from London, and

and is a member of the cinque port of Rumney. It is a populous town, incorporated by the name of a bailiff, jurats, and commonalty, and has a charity school.

MAIDSTON took its name from its situation upon the bank of the river Medway. It has always been a considerable town, and is now a corporation, governed by a mayor and commonalty. It is pleasant, large, and populous; one of the public gaols for the county is kept in it, and it has the custody of weights and measures, renewed by the standard of king Henry the Seventh, as being nearly in the middle of the county, and for the same reason the courts of justice are always held here, and generally the county assizes, and the elections for knights of the shire. This town however is but one parish, of which the archbishop of Canterbury is rector, it being one of his peculiars, and served by his curate; but there are two parish churches, and some Dutch inhabitants have divine service performed for them in one of them, dedicated to St. Faith. There are four charity schools in this town, one for thirty boys, another for thirty girls, both cloathed, a third for thirty boys, who are distinguished by cloaks and bands, and a fourth for twenty boys and girls, besides a free school. Here is a fine stone bridge over the Medway, erected by an archbishop of Canterbury. At this place the river Len falls into the Medway, and the tide flows quite up to the town, and carries barges of sixty tons.

The chief trade of Maidston is in thread, which is made here in very great perfection, and in hops, of which there are vast plantations, besides orchards of fine cherries. From this town and the adjacent country, London is supplied with more commodities than from any other market town in England, particularly with large bullocks, with timber, wheat, hops, apples, and cherries, and with a sort of paving stone, about eight or ten inches square, that is exceeding durable, and a fine white sand for glass-houses and stationers.

MALLING WEST is an inconsiderable town, with a free school, twenty-nine miles distant from London.

MILTON, MELTON, or MIDDLETON, is said to have been so called from its situation in the middle of the county, reckoning from Deptford to the Downs. It is 44 miles distant from London, and is governed by a portreeve, chosen yearly, who supervises the weights and measures all over the hundred. The parish church stands a mile distant from the town, which is situated upon a branch of the Thames, called the East Swale, and though a large place, is almost hidden among the creeks, as it is approached from the Thames. It has a port for barges, and a great fishery for oysters, vast quantities of which are sent to London. They are called Melton natives, and are the best in Kent.

QUINBOROUGH, or QUEENBOROUGH, took its name from its having been built by King Edward the Third, in honour of his queen. It is 40 miles distant from London, and stands on the west side of the Isle of Sheppey, and on the banks of the Medway. It is a corporation, governed by a mayor, aldermen, and other officers, yet it is a poor dirty place, the inhabitants of which subsist wholly by fishing.

RUM-

RUMNEY is called NEW RUMNEY, to distinguish it from an inconsiderable town within a mile and a half of it, called OLD RUMNEY. NEW RUMNEY, 73 miles distant from London, is one of the cinque ports, and a corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty.

The two great meetings for all the cinque ports are held here, and the members belonging to this port are Old Rumney, Lydd, Bromehill, a small town near Lydd, Orlston, a town not far from Rumney, and Dengynels, a town situated half way between the ports of Rumney and Rye, in Suffex. This town stands on a high gravelly-hill, in the middle of a marshy tract of country, twenty miles long, and eight broad, called Rumney Marsh. It subsists chiefly by grazing cattle in this marsh, which contains between 40,000 and 50,000 acres of firm fruitful land, the richest pasture in England. This marsh is the place from whence a set of smugglers called Owlers, from their going out in the dusk of the evening, have for many ages exported our wool to France. It is supposed to have been once covered by the sea, and, as it is very unwholesome, is but thinly inhabited, though it includes two towns and nineteen parishes, to which great privileges have been granted, and which were incorporated by king Edward the Fourth, by the name of a bailiff, twenty-four jurats, and the commonalty of Rumney Marsh. In this marsh great trees are often discovered, lying at length under ground, as black as ebony, but fit for use when dried in the sun.

SANDWICH, so called from Sontwic, the Saxon word for a sandy creek, is situated at the bottom of a bay, near the mouth of the river Stour, and is 70 miles distant from London. It is a cinque port, and a corporation, governed by a mayor, jurats, and commonalty. The members belonging to Sandwich are Fordwich, a town lying a little to the east of Canterbury, Deal, south of Sandwich, Walmer, south of Deal, Ramsgate and Sarre, two towns in the Isle of Thanet, Stonar, on the other side of the Stour, opposite to Sandwich, and Brightlingfey, eight miles from Colchester, in Essex.

Sandwich was once walled round, and the wall is still standing on the north and west sides. On the south and east it is secured by a rampart and ditch. Here are three churches, three hospitals, a custom-house, a quay, and a free school, built out of the ruins of a Carmelite monastery, by Sir Roger Manwood, with an exhibition for sending out two scholars every year to Lincoln College, in Oxford. Here are also two charity schools, one for twenty-five boys, and the other for twenty-five girls. The harbour has been for many years so choked up with sands, and obstructed by a slip of great burden of pope Paul the Fourth, which was sunk in the channel, that it can receive only small vessels.

The chief trade of the town is in shipping and making, though it supplies the London markets with carrots, and the seedsmen with the greatest part of their Rock for the kitchen garden.

Deal is the place where almost all foreign ships, bound to and from London, and foreign parts, by way of the channel, generally stop, if homeward bound, to dispatch letters, notifying their arrival, and to set passengers ashore; if outward

bound, to take in fresh provisions, and to receive their last letters from their owners and friends. This town has a castle for the security of the coast, which is also defended by a castle at Walmer, on the south, and the castle of Sandown on the north, all three built by king Henry the Eighth. Sandown castle consists of four lunettes, of very thick arched stone work, with many port holes for great guns. In the middle there is a large round tower, with a cistern at top, and underneath an arched cavern, bomb proof. The whole is encompassed by a fosse, over which there is a draw-bridge.

SEVENOKE is said to have taken its name from seven exceeding tall oaks that once stood near it. It is situated 23 miles from London, in the road to Tunbridge and Rye, and is a corporation, governed by a warden and assistants. Here is an hospital for maintaining poor old people, and a school for educating poor children, built and endowed by Sir William Sevenoke, who was lord mayor of London in 1418, and is said to have been a foundling, brought up by some person of this town, whence he took his name. John Potkyn, who lived in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, was a great benefactor to the school, and the revenues being augmented by queen Elizabeth, it was thence called queen Elizabeth's free school. It was rebuilt in 1727, and the stile of the corporation is the wardens and assistants of the town and parish of Sevenoke, and of queen Elizabeth's free school there. This town has also a charity school for fifteen boys.

TENTERDEN is 60 miles distant from London, and is a member of the cinque port of Rye, to which it was annexed in the reign of king Henry the Sixth. It is an ancient borough, now governed by a mayor and jurats. The steeple of the church here is remarkably lofty, and is proverbially said to have been the cause of some dangerous sands in the channel, called Godwin Sands. These sands were a tract of ground near the Isle of Thanet, belonging to Godwin, earl of Kent, which lying low, were defended from the sea by a great wall, that required constant care to uphold it. This tract was afterwards given to St. Austin's monastery, near Canterbury, and the abbat neglecting the wall, while he was taken up in building Tenterden steeple, the sea broke in and overflowed the ground, leaving the sands upon it. It is now a bank, that runs parallel to the shore, about a league and an half from it, and near three leagues in length; at low water it is dry, and, by breaking the force of the sea on the south-west and south-east, makes the Downs a better road than it would be without it: yet ships have been frequently lost upon it, when the wind blowed hard at south-east, east-by-north, or east-north-east. Here is a free school, and formerly there was a manufacture of cloth.

TUNBRIDGE, or *the Town of Bridges*, was thus called on account of its bridges, of which it had five; one over the river Medway, and the rest over different branches of that river. It is 29 miles distant from London. Most of the houses are ill built, and the streets worse paved; the church is a modern structure, and there is a free school, erected by Sir Andrew Judd, lord mayor of London, a native of this place, who appointed the Skinners company trustees of the charity, on which an estate was settled by parliament, in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

About

About four or five miles south of this town are Tunbridge Wells, situated for the most part in the same parish, and at the bottom of three hills, called Mount Sinai, Mount Ephraim, and Mount Pleasant, on each of which are good houses, and fine fruit gardens, but the wells are supplied from a spring in the neighbouring parish of Spelhurst. The water of these wells is a chalybeate, said to be of great efficacy in cold, chronic diseases, in weaknesses of the nerves, and a bad digestion. The principal well is walled in, and paved like a cistern, and there are two paved walks running from it, in one of which is a long covered gallery for a band of musick, and for the company to walk under in bad weather; and there is also a row of shops and coffee rooms, and a public room to dance in. There is a good market on the other side, and behind the wells is a chapel of ease to the parish church, where divine service is performed twice a-day, during the months of June, July, and August, which is the season for drinking the water. Seventy poor children are wholly maintained here, by the contributions of the company at the wells, which are also the chief support of the chaplain. The air is excellent, all provisions very reasonable, and of the best wild fowl, particularly the wheat-ear, here is great plenty.

WESTRAM is 23 miles distant from London, and is remarkable only for a house, called the Squerries, which was built here by a late earl of Jersey.

WOLWICH, or WOOLWICH, stands upon the river Thames, at the distance of nine miles from London. It is rendered considerable by a dock, the oldest in the kingdom, for building ships of war, and by a gun yard, called the Warren or park. In this dock more ships have been built, than in any other two docks in the kingdom; in the Warren, artillery of all kinds and dimensions are cast, and a company of matrosses are employed here to make up cartridges, and to charge bombs, carcasses, and grenades, for the public service. There are many yards, ware-houses, and magazines of military and naval stores at this place, and an academy has lately been established here, for teaching military mathematics, and whatever else relates to the attack and defence of fortified places.

A guard ship generally resides here, especially in time of war, and the largest ships may safely ride in this place, even at low water. The church of this town was lately rebuilt in a handsome manner.

WROTHAM, or WORTHAM, is said to have taken its name from the great abundance of the herb called wort, which grows near it. It is 25 miles distant from London, and in the church are sixteen stalls, supposed to have been made for the clergy attending the archbishop of Canterbury, who formerly had a palace here.

WYE, so called from its ancient name *Vega*, is distant 57 miles from London, and stands upon the bank of the river Stour, over which it has a bridge. Here is a church, which was formerly collegiate, and has been rebuilt since the year 1706, the old one having been almost reduced to ruins, by the fall of the tower. Here also is a charity school, founded by lady Joanna Thornhill. This town has a harbour for barges.

Britain sup-  
posed to have  
been joined to  
the continent.

Some have imagined that Britain was anciently joined to the continent of Europe by an isthmus, reaching from Dover to Calais, in France, and that the sea frequently breaking in upon it, at length washed it away.

Remarkable  
circumstances  
relating to  
Hith.

In the reign of king Henry the Fourth, Hith suffered greatly by pestilence, which was succeeded by a fire, that in one day destroyed 200 houses; soon after, five of the ships which this town, as a cinque port, was obliged to fit out for the service of the crown, were sunk, and one hundred men were drowned. These misfortunes so dispirited the surviving inhabitants, that they were about to quit the place, but the king encouraged them to remain in it, by releasing them for a time from the service which their town owed him as a cinque port.

Upon the 6th of April, in the year 1586, an earthquake happened in this town, which rung the church bells, and damaged many houses.

In April 1739, as ten persons, who came to take a view from the steeple of this town, were waiting in the porch for the keys of the church, the steeple fell down, and did none of them any hurt; but if the keys had been ready a few minutes sooner, they must all have fallen with it, and would probably have been crushed to pieces, or buried under the ruins.

In a vault under this church, there are several thousand skulls and other bones of a gigantic size, placed in a regular manner, with an inscription, purporting that they are the remains of Danish soldiers, killed in a battle near this place, before the Norman conquest.

Between January 1730, and February 1738, a powder mill, upon the river Darent, near Dartford, was blown up four times, but the last time no person was hurt, though all the servants belonging to the mill were busy in their several employments.

Surprising in-  
stances of fer-  
tility and lon-  
gevity.

Upon a tomb stone in the church of Lenham, there is an inscription, signifying that Mary Honeywood, the wife of Robert Honeywood, Esq; of Charing, near this town, had, at the time of her death, 367 descendants, of which sixteen were children of her own body, 114 grandchildren, 228 great grandchildren, and nine in the fourth generation.

At Barrefton, about five miles south-west of Sandwich, there was a funeral in the year 1700, very remarkable for the train of old people that attended it: the person buried was the minister of the place, aged 96; the funeral sermon was preached by another of the age of 82, the service was read by one of 87, the parish clerk, sexton, and his wife, were each above 80, and several persons attended from Coldred, the neighbouring parish, that were above 100 years old.

An amazing  
phenomenon.

There is a ridge of chalky hills, reaching all the way from Folkestone to Dover, some of which, in the neighbourhood of Folkestone, we are told, in No. 349 of *The Philosophical Transactions*, had been observed to sink considerably in the last century.

In

In 1683, as some men were digging at Hutton, near Maidston, they discovered, at the depth of about six yards, a stratum of sea shells, an inch thick and several yards square, which, however strange, is not uncommon in places much more remote from the sea.

At Chartham, a village upon the river Stour, about three miles south of Canterbury, as some persons were sinking a well, in the year 1668, they found, at the depth of about seventeen feet, a parcel of petrified bones, of an uncommon size and figure, among which were four perfect teeth, almost as large as a man's hand. Some believed them to be the bones of a marine animal, which had perished there, upon a supposition that the long vale, of twenty miles or more, through which the river Stour runs, was formerly an arm of the sea. Some were of opinion that they are the bones of an elephant; many elephants are said to have been brought over into Britain by the emperor Claudius, who landed near Sandwich, and might probably come this way in his march to the Thames. The shape and size of these teeth are thought to agree with those of an elephant, and the depth at which they were found, is accounted for by the continual walking down of the earth from the hills.

At Evesing, a village between Elham and Dover, there sometimes is a stream of water, from no visible head or spring, that will carry a vessel of good burden. This the people in the neighbourhood consider as the preface of some public calamity.

At St. Peters, in the Isle of Thanet, a monstrous fish was left on shore, in the year 1574, which is said to have roared so loud, that it was heard at a mile's distance. It was sixty-six feet long, and fourteen thick; one of its eyes is said to have been more than six horses could draw in a cart, and its liver to have been two carts load.

At Wolwich a grampus was taken, August 13th, 1637, which measured thirty feet long, and was five feet thick.

In the year 1236, the marshes near Wolwich were overflowed by the Thames, so that many of the inhabitants perished, together with vast numbers of cattle; and in the reign of James the First, another inundation laid many acres of meadow under water, which have never been recovered.

Rumney Marsh is remarkable for the devastations made in it by the sea, in the reign of king Edward the First, when whole villages, with their inhabitants, were destroyed, a considerable river, called the Rother, thrown out of its usual course, and a passage opened for it nearer to Rye, in Suffex, through which it flows at this day.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

As this county is nearer the continent than any other, and the only part of our coast that can be discovered from thence with the naked eye, it was probably inhabited before any other part of the island, supposing Britain to have been peopled

peopled from France, which has been the opinion of many judicious writers, and of Cæsar himself, as we are told in his *Commentaries*. It was the county by which the Romans invaded the island, and it was then governed by four petty princes, whose names were Cyngetorix, Carvilius, Taximagulus, and Segonax.

When the Roman government was first established in Britain, this county was put under the jurisdiction of the governor of *Britannia Prima*; but afterwards, the sea coast, which probably on account of the depredations of the Saxons, was called *Littus Saxonica*, or the *Saxon Shore*, had a peculiar governor, called the count of the Saxon Shore, and it was no doubt in imitation of this government that William the Conqueror appointed a governor of this coast, called the warden of the cinque ports.

During the Saxon heptarchy, of which Kent was the first kingdom, it was governed by seventeen kings successively; the first was Hengist, the last Baldred, who being conquered by Egbert, Kent became a part of the West Saxon kingdom, and so continued till the Norman conquest.

## Gavelkind.

The inhabitants of this county are said to have been the first in England that were converts to Christianity, and by their courage and resolution, they retained some privileges, which the inhabitants of every other county lost, by a capitulation with William the Conqueror, particularly a tenure called Gavelkind, by virtue of which, first, Every man possessed of lands in this county is in a manner a freeholder, not being bound by copyhold, customary tenure, or tenant right, as they are in other parts of England. Secondly, The male heirs, and in default of such, the female, share all the lands alike. Thirdly, The lands of a brother, if he have no legal issue, are shared by all the surviving brethren. Fourthly, An heir, when fifteen years, is of age to sell or alienate. Fifthly, Though the ancestor be convicted of felony or murder, the heirs shall enjoy his inheritance; and this is alluded to by the Kentish proverb; 'The father to the bough, and the son to the plough;' but this privilege extends not to treason, piracy, out-lawry, or abjuring the realm.

## Ancient privileges of the cinque ports.

The privileges anciently annexed to the cinque ports and their dependants, were, First, Exemption from all taxes and toll. Secondly, Cognizance of all courts, and a power to oblige all that lived in their jurisdiction to plead in their courts. Thirdly, A power to take toll in their markets, and to punish offenders in their own bounds. Fourthly, A power to punish murderers and fugitives from justice. Fifthly, To have pillory and tumbrel, or cucking-stool. Sixthly, A power to punish foreigners, as well as natives, for theft. Seventhly, A power to raise mounds or banks in any man's lands, against breaches of the sea. Eighthly, To appropriate to their own use all lost goods and wandering cattle, if not claimed within a year and day. Ninthly, To have the commons, and be at liberty to cut down the trees growing upon them. Tenthly, To convert to their own uses, such goods as they found floating on the sea, goods thrown out of ships in a storm, and goods driven ashore, when no wreck or ship was to be seen. Eleventhly, To be a guild or a fraternity, and to be allowed the franchises of court leet and court baron. Twelfthly, A power to assemble at Shepway, and keep a *parlement*, or parliament, for the cinque ports, to punish all infringers of their privileges, make by-



by-laws, and hear all appeals from the inferior courts. 13thly, Their barons to have the privilege of supporting the canopy over the king's head at his coronation.

The service required of the cinque ports, in recompence for the privileges they enjoyed, was to fit out fifty-seven ships, each manned with twenty-one men and a boy, with which they were to attend the king's service for fifteen days, at their own charge, and if the state of affairs required their assistance any longer, they were to be paid by the crown. The number of ships required from each of these four ports was as follows: Sandwich, with its members, five, Dover, and its members, twenty-one, Hith five, and R Romney, with the towns dependant, five more.

The city of Canterbury was called Durovernum and Darvernium, by the Romans, which name some derive from the British word *Daruberu*, which is said to signify a *rapid river*, and to have been applied to this town because the Stour here flows with some impetuosity. This city is said by historians to have been built by one Rudhurdibras, or Lud Rudibras, a king of the Britons, upwards of 900 years before the Christian æra, and called *Caer Kent*, that is *the city of Kent*. That this was a city of importance in time of the Romans, appears from the Itinerary of Antoninus, from the Roman coins frequently dug up here, and from some remains of a military way and Roman cauleys, leading from hence to Dover and the town of Limme near Hith. Vortiger, king of the Britons, resided here after the Romans, and yielded this city to the Saxons, in whose time the chief magistrate was called a *prefect*, afterwards a *portreeve*, and in 1011, the king's *provost* of Canterbury. It appears that at the time of the conquest, the jurisdictions of the king and the archbishop lay intermixed, and that though the archbishop had a *maner* and some other considerable privileges, yet the king had the supreme royalty till William Rufus gave the city, without any reservation, to bishop Anselm.

The cathedral church of this city was partly built in time of the Romans, by Lucius, the first Christian king of the Britons; and here the converted Britons worshipped, till the pagan Saxons drove them beyond the Severn; but when Ethelbert, king of Kent, about the year 600, had been converted by St. Augustine, he gave him this church, together with his palace, and the royalty of the city and its territories, upon which the archiepiscopal see was removed from London to this city. When this cathedral became the metropolitan church, Augustine immediately repaired and consecrated it, by the name of Christ Church, but it was rifled and burnt in 1011, together with the rest of the city, by the Danes. King Canute however had it repaired, and presented his crown of gold to it, but in 1043 it was again much defaced by fire. Afterwards Lanfranc, the archbishop, totally rebuilt it, together with the palace, and dedicated it anew to the honour of the Holy Trinity; but in the reign of Henry the First, it was dedicated again in the presence of the king and queen, and of David king of Scotland, and many of the bishops and nobility of both kingdoms, by the name of Christ Church. In 1174 it was again destroyed by fire, but was begun to be rebuilt in the reign of king Stephen, though not completed till that of Henry the Fifth.

This

This cathedral, before the reformation, had no less than thirty-seven altars. Here lie interred the bodies of Henry the Fourth, and his queen, Joan, besides those of six other kings, those of Edward the Black Prince, and of other princes, cardinals, archbishops, and other great men; and St. Augustine, with the seven archbishops that immediately succeeded him, lie buried in one vault. These archbishops were Augustine, Laurentius, Mellitus, Justus, Honorius, Deus-declit, and Theodosius, in honour of whom the following verses were engraven on marble in this vault:

*Septem sunt angli primates & protopatres,  
Septem rectoris, septem caeloque trisnes;  
Septem cisterne vitæ, septemque lucerne;  
Et septem palme regni, septemque corone,  
Septem sunt stelle, quas hæc tenet area celle.*

In this church was a shrine of Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, so rich, by the constant offerings made to it for several ages, that the celebrated Erasmus, who saw it, tells us, that the chapel, to which there was an ascent from the choir, glittered all over with jewels of inestimable value, and that through the whole church there appeared a profusion of more than royal splendor. Gold was one of the meanest treasures of this shrine, and Dugdale observes, that at the general dissolution of religious houses, the plate and jewels belonging to this tomb, filled two great chests, each of which required eight men to remove it.

Here are still several religious ruins, particularly the walls of a chapel, said to have been a Christian temple, before the time of Augustine, and by him consecrated to St. Pancras; and near it is a little room, said to have been king Ethelbert's temple, while he was a Pagan.

This city was surrounded by strong walls, chiefly of flint, and fortified by a great number of towers, a deep ditch on the out-side, and a rampart within. Here also was a castle, supposed to have been built by the Saxons, the decayed bulwarks of which still appear, on the south side of the city. The two gates of a monastery, dedicated to St. Augustine, are still standing, and both very stately. The site of this monastery took up a great compass of ground, is surrounded with a very high wall, and was for some time the burying place of the kings and archbishops.

At Cante-bury there was anciently, not only a mint, but a royal exchange; and the antiquities of this city are so numerous, that several folio volumes have been written upon the subject, and are still extant.

*Antiquities of  
Rochester.*

The castle at Rochester is supposed to have been built by William the Conqueror, and the cathedral to have been originally erected by Ethelbert, king of Kent, who dedicated it to St. Andrew, and made Rochester an episcopal see. It was repaired upon its original plan, in the time of William the Conqueror, by Gundulph, bishop of this diocese, who is said to have been an architect, and to have directed the building of the castle by the king's order.

The

The ancient military way, called Watling Street, crossing Kent, from Shooter's Hill, near Blackheath, to Dover, runs directly through this city.

On the north side of the north-west tower of the cathedral church, is the effigy of bishop Gundulph; and here are walls four yards thick, which are the remains of a great tower, called Gundulph's Tower.

Maidston was anciently reckoned the third among the principal cities of Bri— of Maid-  
tain; it was then called *Caer Medwag*, or *Caer Megwad*, and having been a <sup>ston.</sup>  
Roman station, is judged by Camden to be the *Vagniacae* mentioned by An-  
toninus.

The town of Dover, in the time of its prosperity, had twenty-one wards, each — of Dover.  
of which furnishing a ship of war for the service of the crown, and maintaining it forty days at its own expence, had a licensed packet-boat in consideration of that service; and according to the Tower records, the fare to France in one of these packets, was thus settled in the time of Richard the Second: for a single passenger, in the summer time, sixpence, in the winter, one shilling; for a horse, in summer, one shilling and sixpence, and in winter two shillings.

In the castle of this town are two very old keys, and a brass trumpet, like a horn, said to have been kept here ever since the time of Julius Cæsar. There is also in this place a brass gun, reckoned the longest in the world, of the most curious workmanship, which was presented by the States of Utrecht to queen Elizabeth, and is called her pocket pistol. It is twenty-two feet long, requires fifteen pounds of powder, and, it is said, will carry a ball seven miles; but the greatest antique curiosity in this town, is a Roman pharos, or watch-tower, standing at the west end of an old church, said to have been built by Læcius, the first Christian king in Britain; and upon a rock, over against the castle, there are the remains of another Roman watch-tower, called *Bradenshow*, and by the vulgar *Devil's Drop*, from the strength of the mortar; and here the constable of the castle, who is always lord warden of the cinque ports, is sworn into his office.

Richborough, situated on the bank of the Stour, about a mile north of Sand— of Rich-  
wich, was in the time of the Romans a great city, and flourished under the borough.  
Saxons; it was also a famous harbour before its port was choaked up with sand, and was the place where the Roman forces usually landed, and from whence they sailed to the continent. It is called *Rutupie*, by Ptolemy, *Portus Rbutopeyris*, by Tacitus, and *Rbutoyis Portus*, by Antoninus. Here the Romans built a castle, which was destroyed by the Danes, together with the city, the site of which is now a corn-field, where, when the corn is grown up, the course of the streets crossing each other may easily be discovered, for there the corn grows considerably thinner than in other places. These crossings, the neighbouring inhabitants commonly call St. Augustine's Cross. The walls of the city on three sides are nearly entire, and in some places twenty-five and thirty feet high, without any ditch. Here are also some remains of the old walls of a tower, built with flints and long bricks, of the old British make, and cemented with a sort of sand, which by time is become as hard as a stone. Roman coins, both of gold and silver, have often been found in this place.

*An amphitheatre.* In the way from hence to Sandwich, upon an eminence, are the remains of an amphitheatre, made of turf, supposed to have been designed for the exercise or diversion of a Roman garrison.

*Taverns.* Before Sandwich gates are two Roman *taverns*, and to the south, on the sea shore, are six large Celtic *taverns*.

The Island of Sheppey, or Sheepey, thus called on account of the great number of sheep usually fed here, is thought by Mr. Camden, to have been the *Trochilus* of Ptolemy. In all the marshy parts of this island, there are several *taverns*, which the inhabitants generally term *estovers*, and are supposed to have been cut up in memory of some Danish officers buried here.

*Caverns.* In the heath and fields near Crayford, are several caves, from ten to twenty fathoms deep, narrow at the mouth, and wide at the bottom. They are formed like those already mentioned, on the other side of the Thames, at East Tilbury, in Essex, and might therefore have been dug for the same purpose, though some suppose them to have been receptacles for the wives, children, and moveables of the Saxons, when they were at war with the Britons.

*A Roman town.* Lenham is thought by Mr. Camden, to be the *Durolevum* or *Duroleuon* of the Romans, mentioned by Antoninus, which however is by others disputed.

*An ancient castle.* A castle was built upon the south side of the river Medway, near Tunbridge, by Richard earl of Clare, natural son to Richard the First, duke of Normandy, who exchanged lands in that duchy, for the same quantity here. This castle, by the ruins which still remain, appears to have been very large.

*King Henry the Fifth treated at the Red Lion inn at Sittingbourne.* Sittingbourne, a great thoroughfare between Rochester and Canterbury, is remarkable for an inn, still known by the sign of the Red Lion, where John Norwood, a neighbouring gentleman, gave an entertainment to king Henry the Fifth, and his retinue, on their return from France, the whole expence of which was no more than 9s. 9d. wine being then sold at two-pence a-pint, and all other things proportionably cheap.

*Antiquities of Folkstone.* Folkstone appears to have been a considerable town in the time of the Romans, from the great number of Roman coins and bricks frequently found in it. It flourished also under the Saxons, when it had five churches, four of which were destroyed in the reign of Edward the Confessor, by earl Godwin and his sons.

At the south part of the town, there was a castle built by Eadbald, king of Kent, above 1000 years ago, which falling to decay, about the year 1068, a fort was built upon the same foundation, out of the materials of the old castle, and the ruins of that fort are visible to this day. Upon a hill in this town, still called Castle-hill, there was a watch tower, now in ruins.

*— of Deal.* Deal is called *Dols*, by Julius Cæsar, who is supposed to have landed here, in his second descent upon Britain, on the 26th day of August\*.

\* As demonstrated in No. 195, of the *Philosophical Transactions*, by Dr. Halley.

The sea shore in this place is thrown up into long ridges, like ramparts, which some suppose to have been done by the wind, but which Camden supposes to have been the work of Julius Cæsar, and intended to serve as a fort of this camp, for he tells us, that he was ten days and nights making such a camp, for the reception of his shattered fleet, to secure it both against storms, and the Britons, who made several attempts upon his navy, but without success; and to support this conjecture, Camden also observes, that the neighbouring inhabitants call these ramparts *Rome's Work*, which is as much as to say, *the Work of the Romans*.

The Isle of Thanet, supposed to have derived its name from *Thanet*, *weiss* or — of the *Isle waters*, it being surrounded with water, was the first place given to the Saxons by the British king Vortigern, when he sent for their assistance against the Scots and Picts, and here it was that the Danes began their ravages on England.

Feverham is so ancient a town, that in the year 802, it was a royal demesne, — of *Feverham* and called in king Kenulph's charter, *the King's Little Town*. King Athelstan, in *803*, summoned a great council here, in which he enacted several laws. Here also a stately abbey was erected by king Stephen, who, with his queen Maud, lies buried in it, together with Eustace, their son. Two mean gate-houses of this abbey are still standing.

The kings of Kent had a palace at Milton, which was castellated, and stood near the place where the church now stands, but was burnt down in Edward the Confessor's time, by earl Godwin. A Saxon palace.

On Kemley Downs, beyond the church of this town, are the ruins of a fortification, overgrown with bushes, and therefore called *Castle-ruff*, which was built by Hastings the pirate, in the time of king Alfred; and there still remain the disches and part of the stone-work of another fort, erected by that king, against the pirate, on the other side of the water, in the Isle of Shepey, called *Bavord Castle*. Remains of other ancient buildings.

In the east part of the town of Gravesend, there is still remaining the body of an old chapel, which seems to have belonged to some monastery.

Charlton, a pleasant village on the edge of Blackheath, in the road from Greenwich to Woolwich, is remarkable for a fair, held on St. Luke's Day, called *Horn-fair*, being the only one of its kind in England. It consists of a frolicsome mob, who, after a printed summons, dispersed through the several towns and country around, meet at a place called *Cuckold's Point*, near Deptford, whence they march in procession through that town and Greenwich, to Charlton, with horns of divers kinds upon their heads. This assembly used to be infamous for great rudeness and indecency, but is now kept in tolerable order by constables, who are ordered to attend; and a sermon is now preached at the church of Charlton, in the fair time. We have no account of the origin of this whimsical fair, but by tradition, which says, that king John, or some other of our kings, who had a palace at Eltham, in the neighbourhood, having been out a hunting, and rambl'd from his company to this little hamlet, took a liking to the mistress of

of a cottage, whom he found alone, and that having prevailed over her modesty, the husband surprized them together, and vowing to kill them both, the king was obliged to discover himself, and to compound for their safety by a present of a purle of gold, and a grant of all the land from this place to that now called Cuckold's Point, besides making him master of the whole hamlet, and that in memory of this grant, and the occasion of it, the husband established a fair here for the sale of horns and all sorts of goods made of horn, which are still the chief articles sold at this fair.

A Roman camp.

At Keston, a village about three miles south of Bromley, there is a fortification, the area of which is inclosed with very high treble ramparts, and deep ditches, near two miles in compass. It is supposed to be a work of the Romans, but at what time is uncertain.

Some observing that the river Ravensbourn rises at Keston Heath, near this camp, conjecture it to be the same which Cæsar made, when the Britons gave him the last battle, with their united forces, just before he passed the Thames, in pursuit of Cassivelaunus; and suppose that the name *Kesow* favours this conjecture, because the Britons called him *Kesar*, and not *Cæsar*; but others, who think that Cæsar had not time to cast up such a work, and that if he had so employed his army, he would have mentioned so considerable a thing in his *Commentaries*, are of opinion, that this is the only remains of the ancient *Noviomagus*, which Camden, and after him Dr. Gale, in his *Conjecture* upon the *Itinerary* of Antoninus, place at Woodcot, or Woocot, near Epsom, a market town of Surry.

An ancient monument.

Near Aylesford, about four miles north of Maidston, under the side of a very high chalky hill, there is a heap of huge stones, some standing endwise, and others lying across, called by the common people Kett's, or Keith-coty-house, and supposed to be the tombs of Kentigern and Horbus, two Danish princes, killed here in battle with the Britons; or as some say, with Vortinas and Hengist the Saxon.

Antiquities of Reculver.

Reculver, upon the sea side, about eight miles north-east of Canterbury, is the *Reginnsis* of the Romans. It is said that Severus, emperor of Rome, about the year 205, built a castle at this place, which he fortified against the Britons, and that Ethelbert, one of the kings of Kent, erected a palace here, the compass of which is still visible, from the ruins of an old wall. Several Roman vessels, cisterns, and cellars, besides vast numbers of coins, rings, bracelets, and other curious antiquities, have frequently been discovered here, which serve to show that this was anciently a very considerable place, though now the sea has carried away the greatest part of the ground that the town formerly stood upon.

A treasure trove.

At Tunstall, near Sittingbourn, in January 1738, several hundred broad pieces of gold were found, by a poor boy, in a coppice, who not knowing what they were, and playing with them at a farmer's near Canterbury, the farmer got possession of them; but not keeping it secret, was obliged to refund 624 of them to the crown, though Sir John Hales claimed the whole, upon a supposition that his ancestor had concealed them there during the civil wars in the reign of king Charles the First.

Chilham,

Chilham, a village north of Wye, and near the river Stour, is supposed to be <sup>Antiquities of</sup> the place where Julius Cæsar encamped in his second expedition into Britain, and <sup>Chilham.</sup> to have been at first called *Jul-baw*, that is *Julius's Station*, of which the present name may be a corruption. Near this town there is a green barrow, called *Jul Laker*, which is thought to be the grave of Luberius Dorus, the tribune, who was killed by the Britons in the march of the Romans from that camp.

Newenden, a little village upon the river Rother, about four miles south-east of <sup>— of New-</sup> Cranbrook, is, in the opinion of Camden, the haven called by the *Notitia* of An- <sup>enden.</sup> toninus, *Auderida*, by the ancient Britons *Caer Audred*, and by the Saxons *Knæpetycearcep*. The Romans, to defend this coast against the Saxon pirates, placed here a band of the *Abulci*, under the count or lord warden of the Saxon Shore; it was then a famous city, and continued to be the chief place for strength in this side of the county, till about the year 483, when the first king of the South Saxons besieged and took it by storm from the Britons, put them all to the sword, and razed it to the ground. It was however rebuilt in the reign of Edward the First, and was then called *Newenden*, that is, in respect of the old town, *a New Town in a Valley*.

At Wrotham, a considerable quantity of old British silver coins was dug up in <sup>— of Wro-</sup> the last century; and not many years ago a quantity of small solid pieces of brass <sup>tham.</sup> were found in a place not far from hence, called the Camps, supposed to have been remains of the weapons or armour of some military officer interred there.

At Hith the captain of the *Turnacenses* had his station, under the count of <sup>— of Hith.</sup> the Saxon shore; and from hence to Canterbury is a paved military way, called *Stoney Street*, which is easily discovered to be a Roman work.

At a little distance from this town is Limme, where, upon the side of a hill, <sup>— of Limme.</sup> are the remains of a castle, which included ten acres of land, and the ruins of Roman walls may be seen almost to the bottom of the marshes. This is a noble piece of antiquity, and there seems to be no doubt, but that it was the *Portus Lemani* of the Romans, though now its port, as well as those of its two neighbouring towns, West Hith and East Hith, both which owe their original to this town, is choked up with sand: yet still it has the horn and mace, and other tokens left of its ancient grandeur. It used to be the place where the lord warden of the cinque ports was sworn, at his entrance upon his office; and there have been several coins and other Roman antiquities found in its neighbourhood.

## ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

Ethelbert, king of Kent, upon his conversion to Christianity, having given his palace at Canterbury to St. Augustine, and the monks that came over with him, they immediately began a monastery there, and repairing an old church, which is now the cathedral, and is said to have been founded and filled with monks, before the Romans left this island, dedicated it to the honour of Jesus Christ. This was, by the archbishops, made their cathedral, and for the most part was under the care of a dean and secular canons, till archbishop Ealfric, in the year 1003, turned them out, and put monks in their place; but the seculars soon after seem

to

to have repossessed themselves, and continued till bishop Lanfrac, about the year 1080, rebuilt the cathedral and the adjacent buildings, and replenished them with one hundred and fifty Benedictine monks. From this time the monastery was often tiled the church or priory of the Holy Trinity, as well as Christ Church; and besides the great offerings at Thomas of Becket's shrine, it was upon the general dissolution of religious houses, endowed with a yearly revenue of 2387l. 13s. 3d. clear.

King Ethelbert, upon the farther persuasion of St. Augustine, in the year 605, founded another noble monastery here, and dedicated it to St. Peter and St. Paul; but after St. Augustine, the archbishop of Canterbury, was buried here, this place was called St. Augustine's Abbey. The monks were of the Benedictine order, and were endowed upon the dissolution with 1413l. 4s. 11d. *per annum*.

It is said, that in these early Saxon times, there was, within the walls, on the south part of this city, a monastery, built in honour of St. Mildred, whose last abbat's name was Alfwic.

Without the north gate of this city, Lanfrac, archbishop of Canterbury, about the year 1084, founded and endowed with 70l. *per annum*, an hospital for poor, infirm, lame, or blind men and women, dedicated to St. John Baptist. It was under the government of a prior, and its revenues were valued upon the dissolution at 93l. 15s. in the whole, and 91l. 16s. 8d. *per annum*, clear. It is still in being, and the latest account that hath been given of it says, that it contains a prior, a reader, eighteen in-brothers, twenty in-sisters, and the like number of out-brothers and out-sisters, and that the revenues are in the whole 195l. 8s. 9d. *per annum*.

In the Northgate street, over against the hospital of St. John, archbishop Lanfrac also founded an house for secular priests, in the year 1084, dedicated to St. Gregory, but archbishop William, in the time of Henry the First, made it a priory of Black canons. About the time of the dissolution here were thirteen religious, who were endowed with the yearly revenue of 121l. 15s. 1d.

In the south-east part of this city was a Benedictine nunnery, founded by archbishop Anselm, about the year 1100. It was called St. Sepulchre's, and had a prioress, and five or seven nuns, who were found at the time of the dissolution to be possessed of 29l. 12s. 5d. *per annum*.

The hospital of Eastbridge, or Kingsbridge, still in being in this city, is thought to have been of archbishop Lanfrac's foundation; however, if the confirmation of what Robert Druas gave to the church of Eastburch, and the regular brethren there mentioned by Mr. Speed, belong to this place, it was as ancient as king Henry the First, and so before Thomas Becket's time, who is by some said to be the founder; but whoever founded it, it was called immediately after the canonization of the last mentioned archbishop, the hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr. Archbishop Stratford did so much for it, as to be tiled the second founder. It was originally for the entertainment of pilgrims, and the revenues of it upon the dissolution were 23l. 18s. 9d. *per annum*. It was preserved upon the reformation,



tion, but being like to be swallowed up in queen Elizabeth's time, archbishop Whitgift recovered it, and made statutes, which are confirmed by act of parliament, by which here are established a master, a schoolmaster, five in-brothers, and five in-sisters, and as many out-brothers and out-sisters.

On the right side of the way from this city to Dover, in the south-east suburb, Hough, the second of that name, abbat of St. Augustine's, in the year 1137, built an hospital, dedicated to St. Laurence, for the relief of leprous monks, or the poor parents and relations of any of the monks of that abbey. It consisted of a warden or keeper, a priest or chaplain, one clerk, and sixteen brethren and sisters, and the chief or senior of these sisters, was sometimes called the prioress. The revenues of this house were valued upon the dissolution at 39l. 18s. 6d. in the whole, and 31l. 7s. 10d. clear.

In St. Peter's parish in this city, almost directly opposite to the Blackfriars-gate, was an ancient hospital, called St. Nicholas and St. Catharine's, founded by one William Cockyn, a citizen here, which was about the year 1203, united to the neighbouring hospital of St. Thomas at Eathbridge.

The Franciscan, Minor, or Grey friars, came into England in the year 1224, nine in number, of which five stayed at Canterbury, by the direction of king Henry the Third, and there fixed the first house of their order, on a piece of ground near the Poor Priest's Hospital. John Diggs, an alderman, about the year 1270, translated them to an island, then called Bynnewith, on the west side of the city, where they continued till the dissolution.

Here was a priory of Dominican or Black friars, founded, as is thought, about the year 1221, by king Henry the Third.

In the parish of St. Margaret, in this city, Simon de Langton, archdeacon of Canterbury, before the year 1243, founded an hospital for poor infirm aged priests, which was valued upon the dissolution at 28l. 16s. 1d. in the whole, and 10l. 13s. 8d. clear. It continued undissolved till the seventeenth of Elizabeth, when being surrendered up, the queen granted it, with all its lands and appurtenances, to the mayor and commonsalty of the city, for the use of the poor; and the site of it is now their Bridewell.

In the time of king Edward the First or Second, the Friars Heremites of the order of St. Augustine, obtained a settlement and an house, in the parish of St. George, by the gift of Richard French, baker: king Edward the Third, and others were benefactors to it.

Mainyard's Spittle in this city, was an hospital of the foundation of the mayor and commonsalty, and by them endowed with as much land and old leases, as amounted to five marks a-year. There were seven poor people maintained in it in the year 1562.

At Tannington, or Canterbury St. James's, without the city, there was an ancient hospital, founded in the time of king Henry the Second, and dedicated to St. James or St. Jacob. It sometimes consisted of a master or keeper, three priests, a prioress,

refs, and twenty-five leprous filters, whose revenues were valued upon the dissolution at 53*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* *per annum*, in the whole, and 32*l.* 11*s.* 1*d.* clear.

King Ethelbert, about the year 600, began to build a church at Rochester, which being finished in about four years, he dedicated it to St. Andrew, and placed in it a bishop and a chapter of secular priests, who being reduced to four or five, and obliged to resign, bishop Gundulph, in the year 1089, settled in this cathedral fifty or sixty Black monks. The bishopric was valued upon the dissolution at 444*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* *per annum*, in the whole, and 211*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.* clear, and the priory valued at 486*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* *per annum*: but the priory being dissolved at the general suppression, king Henry the Eighth brought in again a dean and six secular canons, or prebendaries, six minors, with a deacon and sub-deacon, six lay clerks, and eight choristers.

Eanfwitha, daughter to Eadbald, king of Kent, chusing a religious life, her father, about the year 630, built at Folkestone, for the use of her and her companions, a church and nunnery, dedicated to St. Peter, which, in course of time, was swallowed up by the sea, according to some writers, but as others have it, was destroyed by the Danes, and after that granted by king Ethelstan, in the year 927, to Christ Church in Canterbury. After the Conqueit Nigell de Muncwell was lord of Folkestone, and about the year 1095, gave the church of St. Mary and St. Eanfwide here, to the abbat and convent of Lonley, in Normandy, whereupon some Benedicline monks from thence were placed here first in the castle, and afterwards in a building nearer the church. This alien priory had the fate of all other such-like houses, to be seized during a war with France, into the king's hands, but was afterwards made denison, and continued till the dissolution, when it was valued at 41*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* *per annum*.

Ethelburga, daughter of king Ethelbert, after the death of her husband, Edwin, king of Northumberland, in the year 633, returned into Kent, and by the favour of her brother, king Eadbald, built a monastery at Lyming, two miles south of Elham, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This religious house might perhaps consist of nuns at first, but afterwards it came under the government of an abbat, and continued till after the year 964, when, suffering very much by the Danes, it came at length into the hands of the archbishop or church of Canterbury.

Egbert, king of Kent, in the year 669, gave to one Bassi, formerly one of his nobility, now a priest, some lands at Reculver, where he built a monastery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. In the year 944 it was annexed to Christ Church in Canterbury, by the grant of king Eadred, when probably the abbat and black monks were removed; yet it seems to have been a church of more than ordinary note, under the government of a dean, about the year 1030.

About the year 670, king Egbert bestowed upon his niece, Domneva, several plough-lands in the Isle of Thanet, in order to found and endow a monastery, which she built at Minstre in this island, about three miles and a half from Sandwich, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and in it placed her daughter St. Mildred abbess over seventy nuns. This abbey was plundered and burnt, and the nuns and clerks in it murdered by the Danes, several times, but particularly in

the years 980 and 1011, after the last of which times here were no more nuns, but a few secular priests only, and their church and lands were granted by king Canute, in the year 1027, to the monks of St. Austin's, Canterbury, who translated the body of St. Mildred to their own church.

Mr. Speed places a nunnery of Domneva's foundation, at a place called Elfleet, or Elifleet; but as we meet with no place of that name in this county, we believe that if there was any such nunnery, it must have been at Ebsfleet, in the Isle of Thanet.

At Eastry, on the south-west side of Sandwich, king Egbert, who died in the year 673, is said to have built for his sister Ermenburga, a monastery, dedicated to St. Ethelbert and St. Ethelbright, which is thought by bishop Tanner to have been a mistake of the story of St. Ethelbert and St. Ethelred, brothers of Domneva here murdered, and for the expiation of which crime, the abbey of Minstre was founded.

Sexburgh, widow to Ercombert, king of Kent, and mother of king Egbert, obtained land of her son, in the Isle of Shepey, upon which she founded a monastery at Minstre, near Sheerness, about the year 675, and endowed it for seventy nuns. The religious here suffered much upon the Danish invasions, and these pagans at last wholly destroyed their house; but it was re-edified, and replenished with Benedictine nuns, by William archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 1130, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Sexburgh. Here was a prioress and ten nuns, about the time of the dissolution, when their annual revenues were accounted worth 122l. 13s. 6d.

Before the year 640, king Eadbald built a chapel within the castle at Dover, in which he placed a college of twenty-four secular canons, who were removed down into the town, to the old church of St. Martin, near the market, by Wictred, king of Kent, about the year 696: here they continued above 400 years, till in the time of king Henry the First, complaint being made of some irregularities, he gave their house, with all their lands and revenues, to William Corboil, archbishop of Canterbury, who, in the year 1131, began the foundation of a new church, with intent to settle in the same a convent of regular canons, of the order of St. Austin, from Martin, near Wimbleton, in Surry; but his successor, archbishop Theobald, about the year 1140, brought in a prior and twelve Benedictine monks, who were subordinate to the monastery of Christ's Church in Canterbury, though upon the dissolution their possessions were valued distinct, at 170l. 13s. 11d. *per annum*.

Here was an hospital for leprous persons, begun about the year 1141, upon the solicitation of Olbern and Godwin, two monks of St. Martin's, who subjected the same to the disposal of their prior. It was dedicated to St. Bartholomew.

The hospital of St. Mary, called also Maison de Dieu, in this town, was erected and endowed for the relief of poor pilgrims and several poor brethren and sisters, under the government of a master, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Third, by Hubert de Burgo, earl of Kent. Its revenues were valued upon

the suppression at 231 l. 16 s. 7 d. *per annum*, in the whole, and 159 l. 18 s. 6 d. clear.

St. Eadburga, the second abbess of Minstre in the isle of Thanet, about the year 741, built a monastery dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, about a mile eastward from St. Mary's, founded by Domneva.

Elthrude, niece to king Alfred, gave the manor of Lewisham, upon the river Ravensboarn, fourth-west of Greenwich, to the abbey of St. Peter at Ghent in Flanders, many years before the conquest, upon which it became a cell of Benedictine monks to that house. After the suppression of these alien priories, king Henry the Fifth made this a part of the endowment of his new-erected Carthusian priory at Shene in Surry.

At Harbledown, near Canterbury, archbishop Lanfrac erected and endowed a hospital dedicated to St. Nicholas, for the relief of poor infected leprous persons, the possessions of which were valued, upon the dissolution, at 112 l. 15 s. 7 d. *per annum*, in the whole, and at 109 l. 7 s. 2 d. clear. It was not suppressed in the year 1574, when it consisted of fifteen in-brothers, and as many in-sisters, who had 4 l. a-piece yearly, besides two loads of wood; out-brothers and out-sisters in like number, who had 1 l. 14 s. a-piece; the whole revenue 160 l. The governor was sometimes called the dean, sometimes the prior, and is now called the master.

At Malling-west, Gundulph bishop of Rochester, in the time of king William Rufus, founded an abbey for nuns of the order of St. Benedict, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which was valued upon the suppression at 218 l. 4 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

At Chatham, Gundulph bishop of Rochester, in the time of king William Rufus, founded the hospital of St. Bartholomew, for leprous people, which was afterwards confirmed by king Henry the Third, and other kings, and increased by several benefactors. The governor was styled custos, or warden, and sometimes prior, and the brethren canons.

At Leeds, near Maidston, Robert de Crepito Corde, alias Creveceur, or Croucheart, knight, built in the year 1119, a priory of Black canons dedicated to St. Mary and St. Nicholas, which was endowed upon the suppression with the yearly revenues of 362 l. 7 s. 7 d.

At Tunbridge there was a priory of Black canons erected by Richard of Clare earl of Hertford, about the end of the reign of king Henry the First. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and its revenues were valued in spiritualities at 48 l. 11 s. 4 d. and in temporalities at 120 l. 16 s. 11 d. in all at 169 l. 10 s. 3 d. *per annum*. It was one of those small monasteries which cardinal Wolsey procured to be dissolved, and had a grant of the same in the seventeenth of Henry the Eighth.

At Boxley, near Maidston, William de Ipre, earl of Kent, in the year 1146, founded an abbey of Cistercian monks, from Claravalle in Burgundy, which was dedicated

dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed upon the suppression with 204 l. 4 s. 11 d. *per annum*.

At Feversham, King Stephen and Maud his queen, in the year 1147, built an abbey for Cluniac, or rather Benedictine monks, dedicated to our Saviour, which, at the dissolution, was endowed with 286 l. 12 s. 6 d. *per annum*.

At Lille Church\* was a nunnery of the Benedictine order, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and founded before the year 1151, by king Stephen. This house had at first some dependence on the abbey of St. Sulpice in Burges. Here were some time sixteen nuns; but in the thirteenth year of the reign of Henry the Eighth, they were reduced to three, and those three scandalous. This priory was suppressed by Dr. Fisher bishop of Rochester, and the next year given by the king to St. John's college in Cambridge.

There is a traditionary account of an old nunnery at Newington, near Hith and Folkstone; that, upon occasion of the prioress's being strangled in her bed, the nuns were removed to Shepey; and that after this, king Henry the Second, out of their estate, founded a college in this town, of seven secular canons; but one of them being murdered, four of the brethren were found guilty; upon which the other two innocent canons conveyed their two parts to the abbey of St. Austin, and the other five parts were granted by the king to Richard de Lucy. It is also said, that some writings fix this misfortune among the prebendaries to have happened in the time of William the Conqueror; and it is positively asserted, that the Conqueror gave to the said abbey of St. Austin eight prebends in Newington.

At Davington, about a mile from Feversham, there was a Benedictine nunnery founded in the year 1153, as it is said, by Fulk de Newenham. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen: there were for some time twenty-six religious in it; but in the seventeenth of Edward the Third, no more than fourteen. The value of this house hath not yet occurred.

At Monkshorton was a cell of Cluniac monks, belonging to the priory of Lewis, a market town of Suffex, who had the manor here pretty early in the reign of king Henry the Second, by the gift of Robert de Vere, constable to the king of England. It was dedicated to St. Mary, St. John the Evangelist, and St. Pancras, made by king Edward the Third *prioratus indigena*, and so continued till the general dissolution, when it was valued at 95 l. 12 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

At Cumbwell, near Goudhurst, Robert de Turnham or Thornham, in the time of Henry the Second, founded a priory of the order of St. Augustine. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, consisted of a prior and six canons, and was endowed with 80 l. 17 s. 5 d. *per annum* upon the general suppression.

\* This was called Heyham, till the reign of king Edward the First, when it began to be called Lille Church; but no place called by either of these names is now to be found in any map or list of the towns or villages of this county.

Richard de Lucy, chief justice of England in the year 1178, began an abbey for Black canons upon his estate at Westwood in Lesnes upon the Thames, about half way between Wolwich and Dartford. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr; and its revenues, which amounted to 186*l.* 9*s.* *per annum*, were among others granted to cardinal Wolsey, for the better endowment of his colleges.

At Rumney, an hospital for leprous persons was founded by Adam de Chering, dedicated to St. Stephen, and St. Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, in the time of Baldwin archbishop of that see, which being decayed and forsaken, in the year 1363, John Frauncys, then patron, re-established a master and one priest, almost in the nature of a chantry, which, in 1481, was annexed to St. Mary Magdalen's college in Oxford. The church of St. Nicholas, in this town, with the chapel annexed, and some other churches in Kent, being appropriated to the abbey of Pountney in ———, here was placed a cell of monks to that foreign abbey; and upon the suppression of these alien priories, it was given by king Henry the Sixth to All-souls college in Oxford.

In the church-yard at Hakington, near Canterbury, Baldwin archbishop of that see began a chapel, in the year 1187, in which he proposed to found a noble college of forty secular priests; and designed that the king, and each of his suffragan bishops, should have a prebend, every one to be worth forty merks *per annum*: but the prior and monks of Christ-Church made such vigorous opposition to this design in the court of Rome, that, after the archbishop had, in the succeeding year, settled some canons here, he was obliged to desist, and the chapel was, by the pope's command, levelled with the ground in the year 1191.

At Swingfield, near Dover, was an house of sisters of the order of St. John of Jerusalem, before the year 1180. Here was also a preceptory of knights-templars before the year 1190, to which Sir Warens de Valonis, Sir Robert de Cloringham, Arnulph Cade, and others, were great benefactors. It became afterwards part of the possessions of the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and as such, was valued, upon the suppression, at 87*l.* 3*s.* 3*d.* *per annum*.

At Brockly, in or near Deptford, there was a monastery of the Premonstratensian order, founded about the end of the reign of king Henry the Second, or beginning of the reign of king Richard the First, by Julian countess of ———, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: but the religious were, in the reign of king John, removed, with the canons of Otham near Maidston, to the abbey of Begham on the borders of Suffex.

At Blackwafe, or Blackhouse, was a priory of White or Premonstratensian canons, dedicated to St. Nicholas; it was at first a cell to Lavinden in Bucks, but was afterwards annexed to St. Radegund's near Dover.

At Sandwich was an hospital dedicated to St. Bartholomew, and founded by Thomas Crompthon, Esq; and Maud his wife, about the year 1190, for a master, brethren,

brethren, and sisters, and three priests, of which one was to be prior. Sir Henry Sandwich, lord warden of the cinque ports, so increased the revenues, that here were maintained twelve brethren and four sisters. It was valued, in 1562, at 40*l.* *per annum*, and is yet in being for six poor men, and as many women, who have every one a house and garden, with a handsome allowance. It is under the care and government of the mayor and jurats. Here was a priory of White friars, founded by one Henry Cowfeld, in the year 1272.

Leland tells us, that the parish church of St. Mary in this town, was, by some persons in his time, supposed to have been once a nunnery. Here was an hospital for twelve poor persons, dedicated to St. Thomas, and founded by Thomas Raling clerk, William Swan clerk, John Goddard, and Richard Long.

Bradsole, or Radegund's Abbey, near Dover, of the Premonstratensian order, was founded in the year 1191, by king Richard the First, or Jeffrey, earl of Perch, and Maud, his wife; it was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Radegund, and its revenues upon the dissolution were valued at 98*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* *per annum*.

At West Langdon, not far from Canterbury, William de Auberville, in the year 1192, built an abbey for White canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr, where, about the time of the suppression, there were eight religious, endowed with 47*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* *per annum*.

At Stroud, near Rochester, Gilbert Glanville, bishop of that see, in the year 1194, built an hospital, called the New Work, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for the reception of poor travellers, and the relief of other indigent persons. Here was a master and warden, and several priests, endowed with 52*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* *per annum*, at the suppression, when it was given to the dean and chapter of Rochester.

The manor of Patrickbourn, upon the Stour, about a mile and a half south-east of Canterbury, was given, about the year 1200, by John de Pratellis, to a priory he had just erected at Beaulieu, in Normandy, and he placed here some Austin canons as a cell to that foreign monastery, who had leave to alienate it to the priory of Martin, in Surry, to which it was appropriated in the year 1258.

Jeffrey Fitz Piers, earl of Essex, gave the whole of an estate belonging to him at Sutton at Hooe, south of Dartford, to William de Wrotham, archdeacon of Taunton, in the time of king Richard the First, or in that of king John, that he might found an hospital in honour of the Trinity, St. Mary, and All Saints, for three chaplains and thirteen poor brethren.

About the same time, or a little before, Robert Basinge gave the manor here to the Knights Hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem, who had a commandary at this place, the house being yet called St. John's.

Arch<sup>b</sup>

Archbishop Hubert, in the year 1195, gave the manor of Darent, upon the river Darwent, south of Dartford, to the prior and convent of Rochester, in exchange for Lambeth in Surry, near London; and in some few years after, here seems to have been a priory of Benedictine monks, subordinate to Rochester.

The parish church of All Saints at Ulcomb, two miles and a half south-west of Lenham, was made collegiate, for an archpresbyter and two canons, with one deacon and one clerk, by Stephen Langton, archbishop of Canterbury, about the year 1220, at the request of Ralph de S. Leodegario, patron. It was in being in 1293, but seems to have dropped afterwards, and the church became, as it is now, a single undivided rectory.

At Muttonden, south of Lenham, was a priory of Trinitarian friars, founded by Sir Robert de Rokeley, knight, about the year 1224, and dedicated to the Trinity. Upon the suppression it was endowed with a revenue of 60*l.* 13*s.* according to Speed, or 30*l.* 13*s.* according to Dugdale.

A grant was made in the ninth year of Henry the Third, to the master of the hospital of the Holy Cross at Swinestre, to have a fair at the chapel of Swinestre, on the eve and day of Holy Cross.

At Otford, about three miles north of Sevenoake, there is mention of a chapel in the rolls of the thirteenth of king Henry the Third.

At Ospring, near Feverham, there was an hospital, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and founded by king Henry the Third, about the year 1235. It consisted of a master and three regular brethren, of the order of the Holy Cross, and two secular clerks; but falling into decay, about the end of the reign of king Edward the Fourth, it was, by the procurement of bishop Fisher, granted by king Henry the Eighth, in the seventh year of his reign, to St. John's College in Cambridge.

At Throwley, about four miles south of Feverham, there was an alien priory of . . . . monks, cell to the abbey of St. Bertin, at St. Omer's in Artois, which was given in exchange, the twenty-second of Henry the Sixth, to the abbey of Sion in Middlesex.

At Aylesford, Richard lord Grey of Codnor, about the year 1240, founded an house of Carmelite or White friars.

At Lofenham, in Newenden, the Friars Carmelites had a house or priory, founded by Sir Thomas Alcher, or Fitz Auther, knight, about the year 1241, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At Billington, north of Rumney, was a priory of Black canons, founded by John Mansell, provost of Beverley, in the year 1253, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and valued upon the suppression at 8*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* *per annum.*

At



At Maidston there was an hospital, called the New Worke, built about the year 1260, by Boniface, archbishop of Canterbury, and dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, which, with some other churches, appropriated to the same, was united in the nineteenth of Richard the Second, to the college of St. Mary and All Saints, founded in the parish church here about that time, by William Courtney, archbishop of Canterbury. It consisted of a master and several priests, who were endowed at the suppression with 212l. 5s. 3d. *per annum*, in the whole, and 139l. 7s. 6d. clear.

Here was a convent of Grey friars, founded by king Edward the Third.

At Wingham, about half way between Canterbury and Sandwich, a college of a provost and six secular canons was settled, and endowed by John Peckham, archbishop of Canterbury, in the year 1286, the revenues of which were valued upon the suppression at 65l. 1s. 8d. *per annum*.

Where the parish church of Hish now stands, Leland informs us there anciently was an abbey.

An hospital for the habitation and relief of thirteen poor persons, was begun here by Haimo, bishop of Rochester, about the year 1336, and dedicated to St. Bartholomew, the revenues of which, in the year 1562, were valued at 8l. *per annum*.

At Badlesmere, south of Feverham, Bartholomew, lord of Badlesmere, obtained a licence the thirteenth of Edward the Second, to found a house of regular canons, but whether it ever was perfected is uncertain.

King Edward the Third, about the year 1355, founded and endowed a fine nunnery at Dartford, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Margaret. The prioress and nuns were first of the order of St. Augustine, then of St. Dominic, afterwards St. Augustine again, and at the dissolution, that of St. Dominic a second time, but under the government of Black friars; and those of Langley in Hertfordshire seem to have had that care. It was endowed at the suppression with 380l. 9s. *per annum*.

In the thirty-first year of king Henry the Sixth, licence was granted to John Bamburgh, William Rochele, Roger Jones, and Thomas Booff, or the survivor of them, to found here an hospital for five poor persons, dedicated to the Trinity; the vicar and church wardens, for the time being, to be masters.

John lord Cobham, in the year 1362, made the parish church of St. Mary Magdalen, at Cobham, west of Rochester, collegiate, establishing at first only five chaplains, one of which was master, but it consisted afterwards of eleven priests, who were endowed with revenues at the dissolution amounting to 142l. 1s. 2d. *per annum*.

At

At Greenwich there was a priory of Friars Aliens Minorites, according to some, but Dominicans according to others, belonging to Gaunt, but afterwards given to Shene in Surry. It is said that king Edward the Third, and Sir John Norbury, founded a house of Grey friars here, about the year 1376, and the Observants that came and fixed in the chapel of the Holy Cross here, in the time of Edward the Fourth, and were a branch of the same order, had an apartment built for them near the palace of king Henry the Seventh.

In the parish church of Bredgar, south of Milton, Mr. Robert, rector of Bredgar, Mr. John Burbache, clerk, Thomas Jakyn, clerk, John West and John Trowbridge, clerk, John atte Vyfe, John Lamb, and Roger Webb, in the time of king Richard the Second, founded a small college of one secular priest, a master, and two scholars or fellows, being clerks, dedicated to the Trinity.

At West Peckham, or Little Peckham, three miles south-west from West Malling, there was a preceptory belonging to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, valued upon the dissolution at 63l. 6s. 8d. *per annum*. This house, according to Philipot, was founded by John Colepepper, for the Templars, before their dissolution, in the first year of Edward the Second, after which dissolution it came, with the rest of their lands, to the Hospitallers. On the other hand, Speed and Weaver say, that this John Colepepper, the founder, was one of the justices of the common pleas, in the time of king Henry the Fourth.

At Sevenoke, besides the hospital still in being, and already mentioned, there was a more ancient one, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, in the gift of the archbishop of Canterbury.

At Wye, the place of his nativity, John Kemp, then archbishop of York, afterwards of Canterbury, and a cardinal, began, in 1431, a college for a master or provost, and several secular canons, and finished it in 1447. It was dedicated to St. Gregory and St. Martin, and its revenues at the suppression were worth 93l. 2s. *per annum*.

At Ashford a college was intended to have been founded in the parish church of St. Martin, by Sir John Fogg, comptroller to king Edward the Fourth, but that king dying in the mean time, put a stop to this design, and yet there is mention of Dr. Sutton, master of the college here, as patron of Dunton in Essex, in the year 1496.

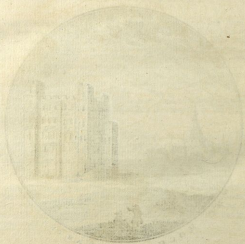
M E M.

## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends eighteen members to parliament; two knights of the shire for the county, two members for each of the cities of Canterbury and Rochester, two for each of the boroughs of Maidston and Quinborough, and two for each of the four cinque ports, Dover, Sandwich, Hith, and Rummy.



MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT IN ENGLAND  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS  
THE HOUSE OF LORDS  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS  
THE HOUSE OF LORDS  
THE HOUSE OF COMMONS  
THE HOUSE OF LORDS







Remarks.  
 Through Times with the N<sup>o</sup> of Roads, &c.  
 they used to be in use by 1600. — 1  
 Market Times — 2  
 Rivers and Towns — 3  
 Places where Fairs are kept have a Star, &c.  
 under the Name they — 4

*A New Map of*  
**LANCASHIRE**  
*Drawn from the best*  
*Authorities:*  
*By The Hon<sup>ble</sup> Surveyor*  
*General R. H. H. the*  
*Duke of York.*

1  
 British Scale Miles to a Degree  
 1 2 3 4 5

Longitude West from London



HORNBY CASTLE

P. 375.

# L A N C A S H I R E.

## NAME.

**L**ANCASHIRE is an abridgement of the ancient Saxon name *Lanc-ter-ryre*, which was immediately derived from *Lancaster*, the name of the county town.

## BOUNDARIES, FIGURE, EXTENT, and SITUATION.

This county is bounded by parts of Cumberland and Westmoreland on the north, by Cheshire on the south, by Yorkshire on the east, and by the Irish sea on the west: towards the north it is divided by an arm of the sea, which renders that part of Lancashire adjoining to Cumberland a peninsula. The figure of the county is much like that of England: it measures 32 miles in breadth, from east to west, 57 in length, from north to south, and 170 miles in circumference, and Preston, a very considerable borough, nearly in the middle of the county, is 111 miles north-west of London.

B b b a

RIVERS.

## RIVERS.

The chief rivers in this county are the Mersee, the Ribble, the Wire, and the Lon. The Mersee, rising in the mountains of Derbyshire, runs south-west, dividing that county from Lancashire, and being joined by a considerable stream, called the Gout, which parts Derbyshire and Cheshire, continues its course along the borders of Lancashire and Cheshire, and receiving the Taunse, the Irwell, the Bollen, and several other small rivers, passes to Warrington, a market town of Lancashire, whence, running westward, it falls into the Irish sea at Liverpool, the most considerable town in these parts.

In the year 1759, an act of parliament passed, empowering Francis duke of Bridgewater, to make a cut or canal from Salford, on the river Irwell, near Manchester, a very considerable market town of this county, to a place called Hollin Ferry, not far from Warrington, navigable for boats and barges, from which he may exact certain tolls. In the year 1760, another act of parliament passed, enabling the same duke to extend the navigation by a like canal from Salford, over the river Irwell, to the town of Manchester, and from thence to Longfordbridge. This canal being completed, in the year 1762 the duke of Bridgewater obtained a third act of parliament to empower him to extend the navigation from Longfordbridge, over the river Mersee, into Cheshire, through the towns of Altrincham and Dunham-Massey, and from thence westward through Lyme and Thelwell, all in the county of Chester, to a place called the Hempsfones, below Warrington, where the canal falls into the river Mersee. By this navigation the conveyance of coals, stone, timber, and other goods, to and from the trading towns of Manchester and Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, and the country lying near and contiguous to it, will be very much facilitated.

The Ribble rises in Yorkshire, and running south-west, enters this county at Clithero, a market town. In its course this river is augmented by the Great Calder, the Hodder, the Darwen, and the Savock, and dividing Lancashire nearly into two equal parts, falls into the Irish sea not far from Preston. In its mouth or estuary, it receives a large river, formed by the conflux of the streams Taud, Dowlges, and Charnock.

The Wire is formed by the Little Calder, the Broke, and other small streams, and running westward, falls into the Irish sea about twelve miles north of the mouth of the Ribble.

The Lon rises near Kirkby-Lonsdale, a market town of Westmoreland, and running south-west, is augmented by several streams, and passes by the town of Lancaster, near which it falls into the Irish sea at a wide channel, which also receives the rivers Coker and Condor.

## A I R.

The air of this county in general is more serene than that of any other maritime county in England, so that the inhabitants are strong and healthy, except near the fens and sea shore, where sulphureous and saline effluvia, which on the

ap-



approach of storms are extremely fetid, produce fevers, scurvies, consumptions, rheumatism, and dropics. There are also certain tracts in the more inland parts of the county, which the inhabitants call mosses, that are moist and unwholesome.

### SOIL and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

The soil of this county on the west side generally yields great plenty of wheat and barley, and though the hilly tracts on the east side are for the most part stoney and barren, yet the bottoms of those hills produce excellent oats. In some places the land bears very good hemp, and the pasture is so rich, that both oxen and cows are of a larger size here, than in any other county in England; their horns also are wider and bigger. In this county are mines of lead, iron, and copper, and of antimony, black lead and lapis calaminaris; also quarries of stone for building. Here is likewise great plenty of coal, and a particular kind called *canal* or *candle coal*, which is chiefly found in the manor of Haigh, near Wigan, a large market town of this county. This coal will not only make a much clearer fire than pit coal, but will bear a good polish, and when polished, looks like black marble; so that candlesticks, cups, standishes, snuff-boxes, and other toys, are made of it. In some of the coal pits are found alum, brimstone, and green vitriol.

The mosses or morasses of this county are generally distinguished into three kinds, the white, the grey, and the black, all which, being drained, bear good corn. They also yield turf for fuel, and marle to manure the ground; trees are sometimes found lying buried in these mosses, and the people make use of poles and spits to discover where they lie. These trees, when dug up, serve also for firing, and they burn like a torch, which some suppose to be owing to the bituminous stratum in which they lie; but others to the turpentine which they contain, being generally of the fir kind.

This county has great plenty and variety of fish: upon the sea coasts are found codfish, flounders, plaise, and turbot; the sea dog, inle fish, and sheath fish, are taken upon the sands near Leverpool; sturgeon is caught near Warrington, and along the whole coast are found green-backs, mallots, soles, fundeels, oysters, lobsters, shrimps, prawns, the best and largest cockles in England, the echim, torculars, wilks, and periwinkles, rabbitfish, and papfish; and such abundance of muscles, that the husbandmen near the sea coasts, manure their ground with them.

Almost all the rivers of the county abound with fish; the Mersee in particular with sparlings and smelts; the Ribble with flounders and plaise; the Lon with the best of salmon; and the Wire is famous for a large sort of muscle, called *Hambleton baskings*, because they are dragged from their beds with hooks, in which pearls of a considerable size are very often found. The Irk, a small river that falls into the Mersee, is remarkable for eels, so fat, that few people can eat them; the fatness of these eels is imputed to their feeding upon the grease and oil which is pressed by a number of water mills upon this stream, out of the woollen cloths that are milled in them.

## LANCASHIRE.

There are also several lakes in this county, which abound with fish, particularly Kenington Meer, about five miles from Winandar Meer, in Westmoreland, which has very fine charrs and other fish.

## MANUFACTURES.

The principal manufactures of this county are woollen cloth, cottons and tickens.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

This county is divided into six hundreds: it has no city, but contains 27 market towns. It lies in the province of York and diocese of Chester, and contains 60 parishes, as appears by an ecclesiastical survey made in the beginning of the reign of king James the First. The parishes are much larger than those of any other county in England, and very populous, and there are for that reason many chapels in this county, several of which are as large as parish churches.

King Edward the Third made this a county palatine, in favour of his son, John of Gaunt, and it has a court which sits in the Dutchy Chamber at Westminster, for the revenues of the dutchy of Lancaster, and a chancery court at Preston: the seal of the county palatine is different from that of the dutchy, for there are lands in the dutchy that are not in the county. From the time that Lancashire was made a county palatine, Lancaster gave the title of duke to a branch of the royal family, till the union of the houses of York and Lancaster, in the marriage of king Henry the Seventh, of the Lancaster line, with Elisabeth, heiress of the house of York.

## MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Cartmel, Charley, Clithero, Colne, Dalton, Eccleston, Garstang, Hallingden, Hawkehead, Hornby, Kirkham, Lancaster, Liverpool, Manchester, Newton, Ormskirk, Poulson, Preston, Rochdale, Ulverston, Warrington, and Wigan.

BLACKBURN, or BLACKBOURN, was so called from its situation upon the bank of the *Burn*, or river Darwen, which is remarkable for the blackness of its waters. It stands at the distance of 154 miles from London, and has nothing in particular to distinguish it.

BOLTON is 237 miles distant from London, and is remarkable for its mineral water, and for being the staple of divers sorts of cotton cloths, called fustians; especially the Augsburg and Milan fustians, which are brought to its market and fairs from all parts of the country.

BURNLEY, so called from *Burn*, river, and *ley*, a field, is a small inconsiderable town, situated however in a very healthy air, upon the bourn or river called Great Calder, at the distance of 153 miles from London.

BURY

**BURY** stands upon the river Irwell, at the distance of 183 miles from London, and carries on a considerable trade in the fustian manufacture, and the coarse goods called halfthicks and kerseys.

**CARTMEL** lies among some hills called *Cartmel Falls*, at the distance of 192 miles from London. It has a church, which is built in form of a cathedral, a harbour for boats, and a good market for corn, sheep, and fish.

This town lying between two bays of the sea, one formed by the estuary of the river Ken, from Westmoreland, and the other by the conflux of several small rivers from Westmoreland and Cumberland, into the Irish sea, there are near it three sands, one called Ken Sand, denominated from the river Ken, another called Dudden Sand, from a river of the same name, and the third, on the like account, called Leven Sand. These sands are very dangerous to travellers, who pass them frequently, as the shortest way to several places they may be bound to, both by reason of the uncertainty of the tides, which are quicker or slower according as the winds blow more or less from the sea, and by reason of many quick-sands, chiefly occasioned by much rainy weather; upon this account there is a guide on horseback, appointed to each sand, for the direction of such persons as shall have occasion to pass over, and each of these three guides has a salary paid him by the government.

**CHARLEY** is a little obscure town, at the distance of 154 miles from London.

**CLITHERO** is situated on the river Ribble, not far from its source, at the bottom of a very high hill, called Pendle Hill, and at the distance of 207 miles from London. It is an ancient borough by prescription, but has several charters from king Henry the Second, and other kings, and is governed by two bailiffs. On an adjacent moor are frequent horse races.

**COLNE** stands also not far from Pendle Hill, but on the opposite side to Clithero, at the distance of 199 miles from London.

**DALTON** is 200 miles distant from London.

**ECCLESTON** is situated on the Charnock, at the distance of 192 miles from London.

**GARSTANG** is situated in the post road between Preston and Lancaster, at the distance of 222 miles from London.

**HASLINGDEN** is situated at the bottom of some mountains, on the east side of this county, at the distance of 175 miles from London; and all these towns are so obscure, that no description of them is extant.

**HAWKESHEAD** is situated on the west side of Winander Meer, in a woody promontory, called Fourness, in the northernmost part of the county, at the distance of 256 miles from London. Dr. Gibson is of opinion that *Fourness* should be written *Furness*, or *Fournage*, and that the name is derived from the many furnaces

furnaces which were anciently in this place, as the rents and services at this day paid for them, under the name of *Bloss-Smithy rents*, still testify. Here is a good market for provisions, and woollen commodities, and a free grammar school, endowed by Edwin Sands, an archbishop of Canterbury, who was born near it.

At the south extremity of the promontory of Fournes, lies a long island, like a rampart before it, called the Isle of Walney, formed by a small arm of the sea. This island was formerly defended by a castle, called Pele, or Pile Castle, and sometimes the Pike of Fouldrey. The shell of this castle is still standing upon a rock near the south end of the Isle of Walney.

HORNEY is situated on the river Lon, at the extremity of the county, next to Westmoreland, at the distance of about 230 miles from London, but contains nothing worthy of notice, but the remains of an ancient castle, beautifully situated on a hill, round the bottom of which runs a river, called the Winning.

KIRKHAM stands on the north side of the estuary of the Ribble, at the distance of 191 miles from London. It has a free grammar school, well endowed by Mr. Colborn, a citizen of London, in 1674, with three masters, one of whom must be in holy orders, and preach a lecture once a-month in the mother church, or in some chapel in the parish.

LANCASTER, LONGCASTER, or LONGCASTER, derived its name from the river Lon, or Lun, upon the south bank of which it stands, at the distance of 232 miles from London.

It is governed by a mayor, a recorder, seven aldermen, two bailiffs, twelve capital burghesses, twelve common burghesses, a town clerk, and two serjeants at mace. King John confirmed to the burghesses all the liberties he had granted to those of the city of Bristol, and king Edward the Third granted to the mayor and bailiffs, that pleas and sessions should be held here, and no where else in the county.

On a hill close to the town, there is a fine strong castle, but not ancient, where the county assizes are held, and where also is the county gaol. On the top of this castle there is a square tower, called John of Gaunt's Chair, whence there is a beautiful and extensive prospect of the adjacent country, and the sea. Here is but one church, which is a handsome structure, and stands on the very top of the Castle-hill. Here also is a custom-house, and a fine stone bridge of five arches over the river Lon, but the part is so choaked with sand, that it will not admit ships of any considerable burden, however it is a populous thriving corporation, and carries on a considerable trade to America in hardware and woollen manufactures, in vessels of about seventy tons.

LEVERPOOL, LITHERPOOL, or LIRPOOL, was by the Saxons called Liræppole, as is supposed, from the waters of the Mersee spreading themselves here like a pool or sea. It is distant from London 183 miles, was incorporated by king John, and had its privileges confirmed by several succeeding kings: it is governed by a mayor, recorder, aldermen without limitation, two bailiffs, and forty common-council men, of whom the mayor is one; the burghesses are above  
fifteen



*The North East View of Lancaster.*



VVA.BHSC

thirteen hundred. The freemen of this town are also free of Bristol in England, and Waterford and Wexford in Ireland.

Liverpool is a large, populous, and neat town; it has three handsome parish churches, and several meeting-houses; one of the three churches, which has been lately built, is one of the finest in England. The new buildings of this town, which are daily increasing, are of brick, and very handsome, like the new buildings at London, but not so high: the streets are spacious, and there is a fine town-house, standing upon twelve stone pillars, and under it was the exchange; but on the 14th of September 1749, the first stone was laid of a new exchange, and an assembly-room. Here is a free school, which is a large beautiful structure, and was formerly a chapel: and there are several alms-houses for single widows, and old people; a work-house for employing the poor; and a charity-school, where fifty boys and twelve girls are taught, fed, clothed, and lodged, by contributions.

This is not a very ancient town; but it is the most flourishing in these parts, and is a rival even to Bristol, the second port in England: within the last fifty years its customs are increased ten fold, and its houses three times as many as they then were. Most of the inhabitants are merchants, and trade to all foreign parts, except Turkey, Greenland, and the East-Indies. It shares the trade of Ireland and Wales with Bristol. As Bristol trades chiefly to the south and west parts of Ireland, this town has all the trade on the east and north shores. As Bristol has the trade of south Wales, Liverpool has great part of that of north Wales: as Bristol has the south-west counties of England, Liverpool has all the north counties, besides its trade to Cheshire and Staffordshire, by the navigation of the Mersey, the Weaver and the Don\*. The merchants of Liverpool are also concerned with those of London; and the fishery on the north coast of Ireland; and Liverpool is the most convenient and most frequented passage to that kingdom from London.

The river Mersey, at full sea, is here above two miles over, and is crossed by a ferry; but when the boat comes to the side of the town, the passengers are brought on shore on the shoulders of men, who wait knee-deep in the mud for that purpose. Ships of any burden may come up with their full loading, and ride before the town, which is quite open and unfortified; but the harbour is defended on the south side by a castle founded by king John, and on the west by a strong tower.

There is a wet dock, with iron flood-gates, at the east end of the town, made by act of parliament in the reign of queen Anne, that will hold eighty or a hundred sail of ships. But the entrance of this dock from the open harbour was at first so narrow, that vessels could not safely go in or out. An act of parliament was therefore passed in the year 1738, for enlarging it, for erecting a pier in the harbour, on the north and south sides of the entrance, and for putting up a sufficient number of lamps to lighten it. The custom-house joins to this dock, and is not only a commodious but an elegant structure.

The Mersey is navigable for ships of burthen as high as Warrington, and also up the river Weaver, which is called the South Channel; but little is sent either

\* The Weaver and the Don are rivers of Cheshire.

way, except rock salt and Cheshire cheese, of which great quantities are shipped off to the west and south parts of England.

This town is supplied from springs about four miles off, with fresh water, which is brought by pipes, pursuant to an act of parliament passed in the reign of queen Anne.

In the neighbourhood of Liverpool are frequent horse-races, on a five mile course, the finest for the length in England.

MANCHESTER is the ancient *Mancunium*, or *Momunium*, by both which names it is mentioned in different copies of Antoninus's *Itinerary*. Some have supposed this name to have been originally derived from *man*, which in the ancient British language signifies a rock or stone, and might have been applied to this town, from its situation on a stony hill, and near a famous quarry called Colyhurst. It stands near the conflux of the rivers Irk and Irwell, about three miles from the Mersey, and 165 miles from London. It is the greatest village, or mere market town, in England: for though its chief magistrate is only a constable or head-borough, yet it is more populous than York, Norwich, and indeed most other cities in England. Its inhabitants, including those of the suburbs, are computed at 50,000; and its buildings, manufactures, and trade are in proportion.

Manchester has an exchange, a spacious market-place, and two parish churches, St. Mary's and St. Anne's: St. Mary's is a collegiate church, built in 1422, and is a very large, beautiful and stately edifice, with a choir remarkable for its curious carved work; and a clock that shews the age of the moon. St. Anne's church was begun by a contribution of the inhabitants in the reign of queen Anne, and finished in 1723.

The three most eminent foundations here are, a college, an hospital, and a free school. The history of the college will be given under the head of *Ecclesiastical Antiquities*.

The hospital was founded by Humphrey Cheetham, Esq. and incorporated by king Charles the Second, for the maintenance of forty boys of this town, and the neighbouring parishes; but the governors have enlarged the number to sixty, to be taken in between six and ten years of age, and maintained, lodged and clothed, till the age of fourteen, when they are to be bound apprentices at the charge of the hospital. The founder endowed it with 420 l. a-year, which, in 1695, was improved to 517 l. 8 s. 4 d. He also erected a library in it, and settled 116 l. a-year on it for ever, to buy books, and to support a librarian. There is a school for the hospital boys, where they are taught reading, writing, and other useful knowledge.

The free school was founded in the year 1519, by Dr. Oldham bishop of Exeter, whose endowment, by the purchase of an estate of the Lord Delawar, was considerably increased by Hugh Bexwick and his sister, who having purchased another estate of the same Lord Delawar, and the mills upon the river Irk, left them to the same free school for ever. Here are three masters with liberal salaries; and the foundation boys have certain exhibitions for their maintenance at the university.

Besides





*The South West View of Liverpool.*

*J. Ryland del. sculp.*

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Besides these public benefactions, here are three charity schools, two of which are for forty boys each.

Here is a firm old stone bridge over the Irwell, which is built exceeding high, because, as the river comes from the mountainous part of the county, it rises sometimes four or five yards in one night. There are for three miles above the town no less than sixty mills upon this river: and the weavers here have looms that work twenty-four laces at a time; an invention for which they are indebted to the Dutch.

The fustian manufacture, called Manchester cottons, for which this place has been famous for more than a century and a half, has been much improved of late by some inventions of dyeing and printing, which, with the great variety of other manufactures, known by the name of Manchester goods, as ticking, tapes, filleting, and linen cloth, enrich the town, and employ men, women and children.

NEWTON is distant from London 187 miles, and is an ancient borough, by prescription, governed by a steward, bailiff, and burgesses. This town once had a market; but that is disused; and it is now remarkable only for choosing two members of parliament, who are returned by the steward of the lord of the manor, and for a charity school, founded in 1707, by one Hornby, a yeoman of this place, and endowed with 2000 l. where children are taught to read, write, and cast accounts, and are allowed a dinner every school day; and there are ten boys and ten girls lodged in a neighbouring hospital, where they are provided with all sorts of necessaries till they are fourteen years old.

ORMSKIRK is situated at the distance of 190 miles from London, and is a handsome town, with a good inland trade.

POULTON stands very convenient for trade, near the mouth of the river Wye, at the distance of 212 miles from London, and is noted for a good pearl fishery.

PRESCOT is a pretty large, but not a populous town, situated at the distance of 190 miles from London.

PRYTON, or *Priests-town*, was so called from its having been inhabited by a great number of religious: it is situated on a delightful eminence on the bank of the Ribble, at the distance of 211 miles from London. This town was first incorporated by king Henry the Second, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, eight aldermen, four under aldermen, seventeen common council men, and a town clerk. It rose out of the ruins of Ribchester, now a village, but anciently a very considerable city in this neighbourhood; and is a handsome town, as large as some cities; and being the place of residence for the officers belonging to the chancery of the county palatine, and reckoned one of the prettiest retirements in England, it is a very gay place. Here is a stone bridge over the Ribble, and a charity school for twenty-eight boys, and another for 25 many girls. On the neighbouring common there are frequent horse-races; and the market of this town is one of the most considerable north of Trent, for corn, fish, fowl, and all sorts of provisions.

**ROCHDALE** derived this name from its situation in a valley, on a small river that falls into the Irwell, called the Roch. The valley in which this town stands, is at the bottom of a ridge of hills, called Blackstone-edge, so high, that they are sometimes covered with snow in the month of August. This is a pretty large and populous town, and is of late very much improved in the woollen manufacture.

**ULVERSTON** is situated on the west side of the large bay that runs up through this county, at the distance of 239 miles from London.

**WARRINGTON** is distant from London 182 miles, and is a pretty large, neat, old built, but populous and rich town, with a fine stone bridge over the Mersey, and a charity school, where twenty-four poor boys are taught and clothed, out of an estate given by Peter Leigh, Esq. Some of the boys are taught grammar till they are old enough for apprenticeship, and then they have a bible, common-prayer book, and a suit of clothes given them. This town is full of good country tradesmen; and in its neighbourhood there is a fine linen manufacture, called Hockaback, of which, it is said, 500 l. worth, or more, is sold at a weekly market, kept here for that purpose. The market for provisions is served with great plenty of all sorts of fish, flesh, corn and cattle, and the malt made here is remarkably good.

**WIGAN, or WIGGIN,** is pleasantly situated near the source of the Douglas, at the distance of 195 miles from London, in the post road to Lancaster.

King Henry the First erected it into a corporation, and by charters of queen Elizabeth and king Charles the Second, it is governed by a mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, two bailiffs, and a sword and mace-bearer.

It has a stately church, one of the best endowed in the county; and the rector of it is always lord of the manor. It is a neat well built town, is famous for the manufacture of coverlets, rugs, blankets, and other sorts of bedding, and for its pit-coal and iron work; and is inhabited chiefly by brassiers, pewterers, dyers and weavers.

### C U R I O S I T I E S.

**Ancient Families.** It is said, that more families have continued at their ancient seats in this county, than in any other in England.

**Medicinal Springs.** There are several excellent springs of chalybeate waters in this county; the most remarkable of which is at Latham, near Ormskirk, called Maucelin's well, which has wrought many remarkable cures. It was walled in and covered at the expence of Charles late earl of Derby, who had a family seat here. Though this spring is not near the sea, nor any salt rivers, yet it used to throw up marine shells in great quantities, till millstones were laid upon it, which now prevents that inconvenience. This spring would be more frequented, if there were better accommodations around it. It is said to be impregnated with vitriol, sulphur, and ocher mixed with iron, lapis scissilis, and a marine salt united with a bitter purgative salt.

At Wraysholm tower, on the south side of Cartmel, was discovered, not very long ago, a medicinal spring of brackish water, which is since much drank every summer by persons troubled with worms, the stone, gout, itch, and several other distempers.

At Ancliff, about two miles from Wigan, there is a curious phenomenon, call-<sup>A burning</sup> ed the burning well, the water of which is cold, and has no smell; yet so strong a vapour of sulphur issues out with it, that upon applying a flame to it, the top of the water is covered with a flame, like that of burning spirits, which lasts several hours, and emits so fierce a heat, that meat may be boiled over it: but this water being taken out of the well, will not emit vapour in a quantity sufficient to catch fire.

At Barton, near Ormskirk, there is a remarkable spring of salt water, a quart of <sup>A salt spring,</sup> which will produce eight ounces of salt, though a quart of sea water will yield but an ounce and a half.

In many parts on the coast, near Kirkham, the inhabitants gather great heaps of sand together, which, after having lain some time, they put into troughs, full of hoses at bottom, pour water on it, and boil the lees into white salt.

About Latham is found a bituminous earth, which yields a soot much like the <sup>Remarkable</sup> oil of amber; and an oil may be extracted from it, little inferior to that of amber, <sup>bituminous</sup> in its most valuable qualities. The country people cut it into pieces, which they <sup>cards.</sup> burn instead of candles.

Many uncommon birds have been observ'd on the coasts of this county; particu-<sup>Uncommon</sup> larly the sea-crow, distinguished by its blue body, and its black head and wings, <sup>birds.</sup> and by its feeding upon muscles; the puffin; the asper, which is a species of sea eagle; the spurling fisher; the cormorant; the curlew-hillp; the razor-bill, a bird like a water-wagtail, food of a red colour, and called by Dr. Leigh, in his *Natural History of this county*, the copped wren: besides these, there are red-thanks, and perres, swans, the tropic-bird, king's fisher, and heyhough.

At Kirby, north of Dalton, there happened formerly such a violent eruption of <sup>A violent</sup> water, as carried down whole houses before it, and swept away fragments of rocks <sup>eruption of</sup> of such a magnitude, that many teams of oxen could not move them. <sup>water.</sup>

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

This county, in time of the ancient Britons and Romans, was part of the large <sup>Ancient in-</sup> territory inhabited by the Brigantes, and under the Saxon heptarchy became a por- <sup>habitation.</sup> tion of the kingdom of Northumberland. Not long after the Norman conquest, it obtained the privileges of a county-palatine, and afterwards the honour of dukedom-annexed to the royal family.

Lancaster is the ancient *Leugetrium*, mentioned in the *Itinerary* of Antoninus, <sup>Roman and-</sup> where the Roman lieutenant of Britain kept a company in garrison, called the *Leu-* <sup>quatic.</sup> *geus*. Several utensils used in sacrifice, and a variety of Roman coins, have been dug

dug up here; and near the church, on the steepest side of the hill, hangs a piece of an old Roman wall, now called Werywall. The ancient town was not exactly upon the same spot where Lancaster now stands; for the old *Longovicus*, in the year 1322, being destroyed by the Scots, the new town was built nearer the river.

Manchester was a Roman fortress, called *Mancunium*; and there are still many monuments of antiquity to be seen in and about the town. In a neighbouring park, at the conflux of the Meldock and Irwell, are the marks of an old square fort, which the inhabitants thereabout call Mancaſtle; and which, for that reason, some have supposed to have been the ancient Mancunium: but the compass of it being too small for a town, it may more reasonably be thought a Roman station. Mr. Camden saw a stone here, with the following inscription,  $\text{D CANDIDI FIDES XX. — — IIII}$ . A draught of another stone was sent him, inscribed thus:  $\text{COHO. I. FRISIN. D MASAVONIS P.—XXIII}$ . which stones, he thinks, may have been erected to the memory of two centurions, who had given proofs of their fidelity to the emperors their masters. And in the year 1612, a stone was dug up with this inscription:  $\text{FORTVNÆ CONSERVATRICI L. SENECIANIVS MARTIVS D LEG. VI VICT}$ . which seems to have been an altar dedicated to *Fortune*, by L. Senecianius Martius, the third governor or commander in the sixth legion, which was stationed at York when Severus was there.

This town formerly had the privilege of a sanctuary, which, by an act of parliament in the reign of Henry the Eighth, was transferred to Chester.

Ribchester, or Ribbleschester, was a large Roman town, generally supposed to have been the *Coccius*, or *Goccius* of Antoninus, and the Rigodunum or Ribodunum of others. But, however that may be, the ruins of it, and the many remains of antiquity that have been discovered in and near it, prove that it was once a place of great opulence and splendor. There are still visible traces of Roman military ways leading to it, one from the north, another from the north-east, and a third from the mouth of the Ribble, through Preston. Relicks of military engines and weapons, and variety of coins, statues, pillars, pedestals, funeral monuments, and altars, with inscriptions, have been frequently discovered here; many of which are described in *Camden's Britannia*, and *Dr. Leig's Natural History of this county*.

A remarkable piece of antiquity in this neighbourhood, and the object of much speculation, is an ancient fortification, which, because anchors, rings, nails, and other parts of vessels have been frequently dug up near it, is called Anchor Hill. As this hill is a considerable distance from the sea, it is supposed that it was a rampart of the fortress of Coccius; and the broad and deep fosse under it, which leads towards the river, served as a canal for the boats that were to pass and repass the river, for the service of the garrison: and as we may reasonably suppose that there were a great number of such boats belonging to so large a fort and city, we may conclude that the Anchor Hill was a little dock for building and repairing them.

In this hill have often been dug up Roman pateræ or bowls, consisting of a substance, said to be like that of the China bowls, adorned with flowers, and the figures of wolves, and some of them marked at the bottom thus,  $\text{FAB. PRO}$ : which, without doubt, implies, that they were made when one of the Fabii was procurator

procurator or proconsul. Near Anchoe-hill was also discovered a common sewer, and a floor laid with Roman tiles.

The mouth of the Ribble is supposed to be the estuary called by Ptolemy *Bel-lisana*.

At Colne and Bury, many Roman coins, both of copper and silver, have been dug up; and at Burnley some that were coined in the time of the consuls.

Overburrow, on the Lon, north-east of Lancaster, according to the tradition of its inhabitants, was formerly a very great city, and is thought to have been the *Brenetsuacum* of the Romans; its antiquity is evident from the old monuments, inscriptions, checkered pavements, and Roman coins, that have been found in this place.

Upon the promontory of Fournels are to be seen the ruins of Fournels abbey, Remains of an abbey. built by king Stephen, in a place formerly called *Bekangelgill*.

Not many years ago, in draining Merton lake, which was several miles in circumference, and situated on the south side of the mouth of the Ribble, there were found sunk at the bottom of it, eight canoes, somewhat like those made use of by the Indians in America, in which, it is supposed, the ancient Britons used to fish upon this lake. British and Saxon antiquities.

Winwick, not far north of Warrington, is thought to have been the *Calr-gantia* of the ancient Britons, and appears to have been the favourite mansion of Oswald, king of Northumberland, by the following lines in old barbarous characters, in the church of this place:

*Hic locus, Oswalde, quondam placuit tibi valde,  
Northanubrorum fueras Rex, nunquam Pilorum  
Regna tenes, loca passus Marceide vocato.*

At Little-Croby, near Liverpool, in 1611, several Saxon coins were dug up.

## ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

Warine Buffell having given the church and tithes of Penwortham near Preston, with several other estates in this county, to the abbey of Evesham, a very considerable market town of Worcester-shire, in the time of William the Conqueror, a priory was erected soon after, in which were placed several Benedictine monks from Evesham. This priory was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and rated upon the suppression at 29 l. 18 s. 7 d. *per annum*, as Dugdale says in one place; and 29 l. 5 s. 3 d. as he says in another.

Earl Roger of Poitiers, in the year 1094, gave the church of St. Mary at Lancaster, with some other lands here, to the abbey of St. Martin de Sagio, or Sees in Normandy; upon which a prior, and five Benedictine monks from thence, were placed at Lancaster, who, with three priests, two clerks, and servants, made up a small

small monastery, subordinate to that foreign house, which was endowed with the yearly revenues of about 80 l. After the dissolution of the alien priories, this, with the lands belonging to it, was annexed, by king Henry the Fifth, to the abbey of Sion in Middlesex.

Here was an hospital dedicated to St. Leonard, for a master, chaplain, and nine poor persons, of which three were to be lepers, founded by king John while he was earl of Morton; which was afterwards, by Henry duke of Lancaster, annexed to the nunnery of Seton in Cumberland, about the thirtieth of Edward the Third.

There was also an house of Dominican or Black friars, founded in this town about the forty-fourth of king Henry the Third, by Sir Hugh Harrington, knight.

There was a Franciscan convent near the bridge in this town; but we are not acquainted with any particulars concerning it.

In 1127, Stephen, then earl of Morton and Boloigne, afterwards king of England, founded an abbey at Fountains, in a valley, then called Bekangeigill. It was of the Cistercian order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was endowed at the dissolution with 805 l. 16 s. 5 d. *per annum*.

At Conilheved, Gabriel Pennington, in the time of Henry the Second, and by the encouragement of William of Lancaster, baron of Kendal, who was a very great benefactor, built an hospital and priory of Black canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which priory consisted of a prior and seven religious, and forty-eight servants, and was valued upon the dissolution at 124 l. 2 s. 1 d. *per annum*.

A colony of Cistercian monks fixed for some time at Wierdale, a dismal and solitary tract south-east of Lancaster; but about the year 1188, they removed over into Ireland, and founded the abbey of Wythney in that kingdom.

At Cartmel, William Marechal the elder, earl of Pembroke, in the year 1188, founded a priory of regular canons, of the order of St. Austin, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. About the time of the dissolution here were reckoned ten religious and thirty-eight servants, whose revenues were valued at 124 l. 2 s. 1 d. *per annum*.

At Burfough, near Ormskirk, Robert Fitz Henry, lord of Lathams, in the time of Richard the First, founded a priory of Black canons, dedicated to St. Nicholas, which at the dissolution had a prior and five religious, and forty-eight servants, whose yearly revenues were valued at 121 l. 5 s. 7 d.

At Cokerland there was first an hermitage, and then an hospital, for several infirm brethren, under the government of a prior, dedicated to St. Mary, and subordinate to the abbey of Leicester, the chief town of the county of that name, perhaps founded, or at least chiefly endowed by William of Lancaster, in the time of Henry the Second: but about the year 1190, it was changed into an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, to which there seems to have been united another



another abbey of the same order, which Theobald, brother to Hubert Walter, archbishop of Canterbury, some few years after, built, or designed to build, at Pyling. The abbey of Cokerland consisted about the time of the dissolution of twenty-two religious and fifty-seven servants, and was then found to be worth 22*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

At Hornby an hospital or cell of a prior and three Premonstratensian canons, belonging to the abbey of Croxton, on the borders of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, was founded by one of the ancestors of Sir Thomas Stanley, lord Montague, to whom this priory, as a parcel of Croxton Abbey, was granted by king Henry the Eighth. It was dedicated to St. Wilfrid, and endowed at the suppression, with lands to the value of 26*l.* *per annum.*

At Lanridge, north-east of Preston, there was an hospital, consisting of a master and brethren, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ.

Henry Lacy, earl of Lincoln, having given the advowson of the parish church of Whalley, near Preston, to the White monks of Stanlaw in Cheshire, they procured the same to be appropriated to them; upon which, in the year 1296, they removed their abbey hither, and encreased the number of their religious to sixty. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the suppression had revenues to the yearly value of 321*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.*

At Preston, on the north-west side of the town, there was a college of Grey friars, founded by Edmund earl of Lancaster, son to king Henry the Third.

Here was also an ancient hospital, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, the master-ship of which was in the gift of the king.

At Holland, on the west side of Wigan, in the chapel of St. Thomas the martyr, there was a college or chantry, consisting of a dean and twelve secular priests, who were changed in the year 1319, by Walter bishop of Litchfield, at the petition of Robert Holland, then patron, into a prior and Benedictine monks. About the time of the suppression here were five religious, and twenty-six servants, whose annual revenue was valued at 61*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

At the bridge end, near Warrington, there was a priory of Augustine friars, founded before the year 1379.

Thomas de la War, clerk, some time rector of the parish church of Manchester, obtaining the barony and estate of his family, by the death of his brother John Lord de la War without issue, had leave of the king, in the ninth year of Henry the Fifth, to make it collegiate; and to consist of a warden and a certain number of priests. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed with revenues to the yearly value of 200*l.* or, as they were afterwards valued on the suppression, of 226*l.* 12*s.* 5*d.* in the whole, and 213*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.* clear. It was rebounded by queen Elizabeth, in the nineteenth year of her reign, for a warden and four fellows, two chaplains, four singing men, and four choristers; and dedicated by the name of

Vol. I.

D d d

Christ's

## L A N C A S H I R E.

Christ's College. It was re-established by king Charles the First, and the statutes drawn up by archbishop Laud. In Oliver Cromwell's time it was sold by the parliament with the chapter lands, but restored by king Charles the Second. The king, by an act of parliament in 1729, is impowered to be visitor of this collegiate church, whenever the warden of it happens to be bishop of Chester.

At Cockerham, a little south-west of Lancaster, there was a priory.

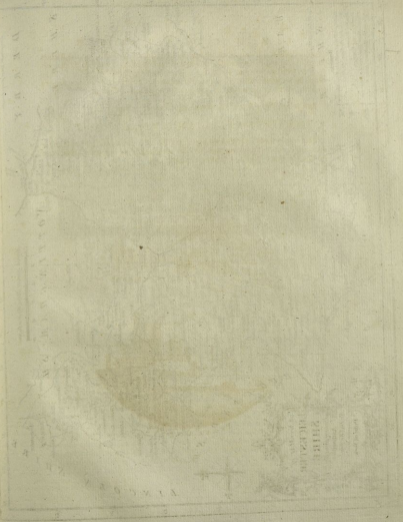
## MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

This county sends fourteen members to parliament; two knights of the shire for the county, and two representatives for each of the following boroughs, Lancaster, Preston, Newton, Wigan, Clithero, and Liverpool.



p. 376.

LEICESTER:







*Ashby-de-la-Zouch Castle*

P. 344

## LEICESTERSHIRE.

### NAME.

**T**HIS county, which in the Saxon Annals is called *Leocesterſceþre*, took its name from Leicester, the county town.

### BOUNDARIES, EXTENT and SITUATION.

Leicestershire is bounded by parts of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire on the north, by Northamptonshire on the south, by parts of Staffordshire and Warwickshire on the west, and by Lincolnshire and Rutlandshire on the east. It extends from west to east about thirty miles, from north to south about five and twenty miles, and is about ninety-six miles in circumference; and the town of Leicester, which is nearly in the center of the county, stands at the distance of ninety-eight miles north-north-west of London.

D d 2

RIVERS.

## LEICESTERSHIRE.

## RIVERS.

The principal rivers of this county are the Welland, the Soar, and the Anker. The Welland, rising near Harborough, a market town of this county, runs north-east, and dividing Leicestershire from Northamptonshire, enters Rutlandshire; and, continuing its course through that county, runs cross the south part of Lincolnshire, into a bay of the German Ocean called the Wash.

The Soar, or Soure, was anciently called the Leire: it rises about half way between Lutterworth and Hinckley, two market towns of this county, and running north-east by Leicester, receives the Eye, another river of this county; and then directing its course north-north-west, it falls into the Trent, of which mention has been made among the rivers of Derbyshire, a few miles north of Ashby de la Zouch, another market town of Leicestershire.

The Anker rises near the source of the Soar, and running north-west, and dividing Leicestershire from Warwickshire, falls into the Avon, a river of Warwickshire.

## AIR, SOIL, and NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.

This being an inland county, without standing waters, though washed by several streams, the air is sweet and healthy, and the face of the country agreeable.

The soil is in general very good, and yields plenty of corn, grass, and beans; the beans are excellent, even to a proverb. The north-east part, bordering upon Lincolnshire, which is more hilly and gravelly, is however not remarkable for its fertility; but the abundance of pit coal in this part of the county, and the vast number of cattle, particularly sheep, whose wool is much esteemed, that feed upon the mountains, make ample amends for other deficiencies. The south-west part, bordering upon Warwickshire, though it abounds with corn and pasture, is but indifferently provided with fuel. Leicestershire in general is well provided with corn, fish, fowl, and cattle, particularly horses for the collar.

## MANUFACTURES.

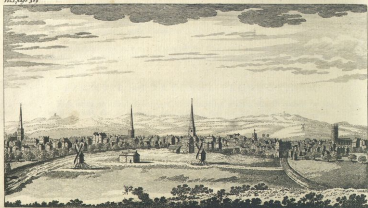
The principal business of this county is agriculture: it has no manufactory but of stockings, and that produces considerable advantage.

## CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Leicestershire is divided into six hundreds, and contains twelve market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Lincoln, and has 193 parishes.

## MARKET





*The South View of Leicester.*

J. Johnson del. et sculp.



## MARKET TOWNS.

The market towns are Ashby de la Zouch, Billersdon, Bosworth, Hallaton, Harborough, Hinckley, Leicester, Loughborough, Lutterworth, Melton Mowbray, Mountfrel, and Waltham on the Would.

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH was so called from the Zouches, its ancient lords, to distinguish it from another Ashby in this county, called also Ashby-Folville. It is distant 98 miles from London, and stands upon the borders of Derbyshire, in a pleasant situation. It has a large handsome church, and a neat stone cross in its principal street. It has also a free school, the master of which has a handsome stipend. The fairs of this town are stocked with young horses of the largest and best breed in England; and the ale is excellent.

BILLERDON is a little obscure town, in which there is nothing worthy of note, at the distance of 72 miles from London.

BOSWORTH is pleasantly situated, at the distance of 104 miles from London, in a wholesome air and a fruitful soil, both for corn and grass. Here is a free school, founded by Sir Wolstan Dixey, but nothing else worthy of notice.

HALLATON is 80 miles distant from London, has a charity school, and is only remarkable for its poverty in the midst of a rich soil.

HARBOROUGH, formerly *Heverburg*, is 84 miles distant from London, and a great thoroughfare in the road from London to Derby. It has a good free school, and a handsome chapel of ease to Great Bowden, its parish. This place was famous for its best fair in the time of Camden, and here the best horses and colts are still sold. It is observed of this town, that there are no lands belonging to it, which gave rise to a proverb among the inhabitants; 'That a goose will eat up all the grass in Harborough;' and children are threatened with being 'thrown into Harborough field.'

HINCKLEY stands on the borders of Warwickshire, at the distance of 94 miles from London. The assizes were formerly held here, but now it is a place of very little note.

LEICESTER is so called from its ancient name, which at different periods was written *Legercaester*, *Ligraecaester*, *Ligraecaester*, *Legercaester*, and *Legercaester*; and also *Legercastra*, *Legera*, and *Legercaester*, and signifies a town, or castle upon the *Leir*, the ancient name of the river now called Soar. Care must be taken in reading the ancient English historians, to distinguish the old name of this town from *Legercaester*, *Legercaester*, and *Legercastra*, the Saxon name of the British *Caerlegion*, and *Caer-leon*, or West Chester.

This town is governed by a mayor, a recorder, a steward, a bailiff, twenty-four aldermen, twenty-eight common council men, a town clerk, and other officers: it had its charter from king John, and its freemen are toll-free at all the markets and fairs in England. Under the Saxon Heptarchy it was the chief city

## L E I C E S T E R S H I R E.

of the Mercian kingdom, and was then the see of the bishop, but the see being removed, after a succession of eight prelates, it fell to decay; however, in the year 914, it was repaired and fortified with new walls, after which it became a wealthy town, and had thirty-two parish churches; but rebelling against king Henry the Second, it was besieged and taken, the castle dismantled, and the walls thrown down. A parliament was held here in the reign of Henry the Fifth. In the civil war the army of king Charles the First took it by storm, and it was soon after retaken by Sir Thomas Fairfax.

It is washed on the west and north sides by the river Soar, and is still the largest, best built, and most populous town in the county. Here are six parishes, though but five churches; one of the churches is dedicated to St. Margaret, and is a noble structure, with a ring of six of the most musical bells in the kingdom. It is said, that king Richard the Third, who was killed at the battle of Bosworth, was interred in it; and that his stone coffin has been converted into a trough for horses to drink at, belonging to the White Horse Inn in this town. In the high street there is a cross, which is an exquisite piece of workmanship, in form of that on which our Saviour suffered. An hospital, that was built in this town for one hundred poor sick men and women, by Henry, the first duke of Lancaster, who was interred in it, continues still in a tolerable state, being supported by some revenues of the duchy of Lancaster, and it is capable of maintaining one hundred patients; but the most stately edifice of the kind, is an hospital built in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, and endowed by Sir William Wigston, a merchant of the staple here, for twelve men and as many women; it has a chapel, and a library, for the use of the ministers and scholars of the town. Here is also another hospital for six widows, and a charity school. Not far from the town is a castle, which, though now dismantled, was a building of great extent, being the place where John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, held his court; he enlarged it with twenty-six acres of ground, inclosed it with a high wall, and called it *Nezaw Opaw*; it is still called *Nezawok*, a corruption of *new-work*, and is the site of some of the best houses in or near Leicester; these houses are extra-parochial, as being under castle guard, by an old grant from the crown. The hall and kitchen of the castle are still intire; the town and county courts are held in the hall, which is so lofty and spacious, that at the assizes, the courts are so far distant one from another, as not to disturb each other. One of the gateways of this castle has a very curious arch, and in the tower over it is kept the magazine for the county militia. In the neighbouring meadow was a famous monastery, called from its situation, *St. Mary de Pratis*, or *Prez*, i. e. *St. Mary of the Meadow*, since turned into a dwelling house and garden, where is a pleasant terrace, supported by an embattled wall, with lunets close to the river, and shaded with trees; an adjacent meadow is a court for annual horse races.

The inhabitants of this town have greatly improved the manufacture of stockings, of which they weave vast quantities, so that in some years Leicester has returned 60,000*l.* in that article only. The market of this town is one of the greatest in England for provisions, especially corn and cattle.

LOUGHBOROUGH is in the Saxon annals called *Læganbunze*, *Lýgeanbunþ*, *Lýgeanbýnuz*, and *Laganbunþ*; and by later writers *Lienberg* and *Linden*, from which

which names the present is probably derived. It is distant from London 107 miles, is the second town in the county, and in the time of the Saxons was a royal village. It is pleasantly situated upon the river Soar, and is a large well built town, but has been very much diminished by fires. It has a large church, and a free school, besides a charity school for eighty boys, and another for twenty girls.

LUTTERWORTH is 84 miles distant from London. Here is a church, in which is to be still seen the palpit of the famous reformer, John Wickliff, who was rector of the parish.

MELTON, called MELTON-MOWERAY, from a noble family of that name, that were anciently lords of it, stands in a fertile soil, at the distance of 104 miles from London, and is almost encompassed with the river Eye. It is a large well built town, has two fine bridges over the Eye, a large handsome church, and a free school. Here are frequent horse races, and the most considerable market for cattle of any in this part of England.

MOUNTSOZEL, properly *Mount-Soar-hill*, had this name from the river Soar, on the west side of it, and a hill in the middle of the town. It is distant from London 104 miles; it is partly in Burrow parish, and partly in Rodeley parish, and had formerly two chapels, though it has but one now. It has a bridge over the Soar, but is not remarkable for any other particular.

WALTHAM ON THE WOULD is situated near a hilly heathy tract, called Wrekin in the Would, at the distance of 91 miles from London. It is a mean poor town, but has a charity school.

### C U R I O S I T I E S .

One of the most remarkable curiosities of this county is a petrifying spring, in the neighbourhood of Lutterworth, the water of which is exceeding cold, and spring so strongly impregnated with petrifying qualities, that in a very little time it converts wood and several other substances into stone.

At Colclerton, or Coleoverton, a small town north-east of Ashby de la Zouch, there is a mineral spring, called Griffy-dam; and some coal mines, which in the reign of king Henry the Eighth burnt for many years together, till the sulphurous and bituminous matter which fed the flame, was exhausted.

We are told by Mr. Burton, who wrote a natural history of this county, upon the manor of Lindley, near Bofworth and Hinckley, no adder, snake, or lizard, was ever seen, though they are common enough in the neighbourhood.

At Leicester there is a church, dedicated to St. Martin; and upon a tombstone in this church is an epitaph, insinuating that Mr. John Heyrick, who died April the 2d, 1589, in the 76th year of his age, lived in one house with his wife full fifty-two years, and in all that time buried neither man, woman, or child.

though they were sometimes twenty in family, and that the widow, who died in 1611, aged 97, saw, before her death, 143 of her own issue, including the third generation.

**WICKLIFF the reformer.** The famous reformer, John Wickliff; was a native of this county: he died in 1387, and was buried at Lutterworth; but about forty years after, his bones were taken out of his grave, and burnt by order of the council of Constance.

### A N T I Q U I T I E S .

**Ancient inhabitants.** This county is part of the district, which in the time of the Romans was inhabited by the Coritani, and which comprehended the several counties of Leicester, Northampton, Rutland, Lincoln, Nottingham, and Derby. Under the Saxon heptarchy, Leicestershire was part of the kingdom of Mercia, and upon the dissolution of the heptarchy, it became a county of itself, and has continued so ever since.

**Roman antiquities.** The Prætorian high way called Watling Street, may be seen very plainly between this county and Warwickshire, in its direction from Dover in Kent, to Cardigan, the county town of Cardiganshire in Wales.

Cleybrook, a village north-west of Lutterworth, is supposed by the inhabitants to have been formerly a part of Cleycester, at the distance of one mile from that place, which in time of the Romans was a flourishing city. Large foundations, consisting of square stones, have been discovered here, and Roman bricks and coins have been often dug up. It is observed, that the earth, so far as the city extended, is of a darker colour than that beyond it, and so rich, that it has been used by the husbandmen in the neighbourhood for manure.

These particulars, with the distance of Cleycester from Banaventa, now Weedon, a village near Towcester, a market town of Northamptonshire, and the name of a bridge upon the Avon, near Lutterworth, called Bensford, have inclined Mr. Camden to believe that this was the settlement of the Bennoes or Venones, which Antoninus places next after Banaventa; and he is confirmed in that opinion by an assertion of Antoninus, that the Roman way called Watling Street, parted there into two branches, which it is found to do here, for a branch of it now called the Fosse-way, leads to Rata, supposed to be the town of Leicester, and to Vernometum, supposed to be Burrowhall, near Billesdon, while the other passes into Wales, as was already observed.

That the town of Leicester was the Rata of Antoninus, and the Raga of Ptolemy, and that Burrowhall was Vernometum, Camden is induced to believe, from the distance between these two places, which is nearly twelve miles, the distance mentioned by Antoninus. The present name *Burrow*, signified among the Saxons a *fortified place*, and is immediately derived from the word *Burgh*; but the most considerable proof, he thinks, for Burrowhall's having been the ancient Vernometum, is, that the ground is a steep hill on all sides, except the south-east, and that on the top of the hill the remains of a large building are still

still to be seen, there being a double trench, and the track of walls, including about eighteen acres of ground. The entrance to this building is on the south-east. There are two banks cast up, about ten yards in length, and five or six distant one from the other, where the gate appears to have been, and where the entrance is partly level with the fields adjoining, the ascent on all the other sides being very steep. Mr. Camden conjectures from the name, that a great temple, dedicated to some heathen God, stood formerly here; because in the ancient language of the Gauls, which he takes to have been the same with that of the Britons, *Vernometus* signifies a *large temple*, and this interpretation is observed to agree with the appearance of the place, where the vestiges seem to be rather those of a temple than a tower or any other building.

Two reasons are given for placing *Ratae* or *Rage* at Leicester: one is, because this town stands upon a branch of Wadding Street, called the Fofi-way, and the other, because it answers best to the distances between the *Ratae*, *Bennones*, and *Vernometum*, as assigned by the Itinerary of Antoninus; yet it is observed, that the name *Ratae*, or *Rage*, is wholly lost, except the name of an old trench, about half a mile south of Leicester, called *Rawdikes*, or *Road-dikes*, should be supposed to have any relation to it. Camden's opinion however is supported by a great variety of Roman antiquities that have been discovered here since his time. There are at least a proof that Leicester, in the time of the Romans, was a place of no inconsiderable note; for from the multitude of bones of various beasts, which are supposed to have been offered in sacrifice, and dug up in a part of this town, still called *Holy Bones*, where there are also some ruins of ancient brick-work remaining, it is conjectured that there anciently was a temple, dedicated to *Janus*, with a *flamen* or high priest resident in this place. It is further believed, that out of the ruins of this temple, *St. Nicholas's* church was built.

There is a church at Leicester, dedicated to *All Saints*, near which, about half a century ago, a curious piece of Roman antiquity was discovered, supposed by some to be the fable of *Diana* and *Acteon*, as related by *Ovid*, wrought in little stones, some white and others of a chestnut colour.

In this town have been found medals and coins, both of silver and copper, in great abundance, particularly of the emperors *Vespasian*, *Domitian*, *Trajan*, and *Antoninus*.

Near the town of Leicester was discovered the remains of what is supposed to have been a hot bath in the time of the Romans. It is constructed of small stones, each about an inch long, half an inch broad, and half an inch thick; the roof is arched, and the whole perforated by several small earthen pipes, through which the water is supposed to have been conveyed: the stones are finely cemented with a thin mortar, and the whole work, which was considerably below the surface of the ground, is said to have been about six yards long, and four broad, the height we are not told, either to the springing of the arch or the top of it.

Near St. Nicholas's church in this town, there is an old wall, called the Jewry Wall, composed of ragstones and Roman bricks. There are several niches in it, of an oval figure, which probably were the receptacles of Roman urns, though the inhabitants have an extravagant notion, that in those niches the ancient Britons offered up their children to idols.

Remains of  
English anti-  
quities.

At the east end of the church, in the town of Hinckley, are to be seen trenches, and ramparts cast up to a great height, which the inhabitants call Hugh's Castle, supposing them to be vestiges of a castle built here by Hugh Bigot, the first earl of Norfolk.

In a moor near Bosworth, where the famous battle of Bosworth-field was fought between king Richard the Third and Henry earl of Richmond, afterwards king Henry the Seventh, pieces of armour, whole weapons, and other warlike accoutrements, are frequently dug up; particularly arrow heads of very large dimensions. And here is also a little mount, from which, it is said, Henry earl of Richmond made a speech to his army before the engagement.

At Higham, south of Bosworth, near the Watling-street-way, in 1607, there were found, by turning up a great stone, two hundred and fifty pieces of silver, of king Henry the Third, and of the value of 3 d. each; two gold rings, one with a ruby and the other with an agate; and a third of silver, in which was a flat ruddy stone, engraven with Arabic characters; which have been thus explained: 'By Mahomet magnify him; turn from him each hand that may hurt him.' Among this treasure were also found several silver hooks, with links of a large gold chain. These things were found by the side of the stone, and underneath it two or three pieces of silver coin, of Trajan the Roman emperor. The stone itself is thought to have been the basis of some altar dedicated to Trajan, according to the custom of the Romans, who under the foundations of their buildings and monuments, laid some of the coins of the reigning emperor. The English money, rings, and other matters, deposited by the side of the stone, are thought to have been the treasure of some Jew, which he buried here when that people were banished by king Edward the First.

At Ashby de la Zouch are the ruins of a palace, formerly belonging to the earls of Huntingdon, built by the lord Hastings who was beheaded by king Richard the Third. Here king James the First, with his whole court, quartered with the earl of Huntingdon for several days, during which time, dinner was always served up by thirty poor knights, with gold chains and velvet gowns. This palace, being a garrison for the king in the time of Charles the First, was demolished by the parliament forces in 1648.

At Mountford are the remains of a castle, which first belonged to the earls of Leicester, but in the year 1217, was besieged and demolished by the inhabitants of these parts, who had suffered much by the excursions of the garrison.

ECCLE.

## ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At Leicester there was, before the Conquest, a collegiate church within the castle, which, during the wars in the time of William the First, was destroyed, together with the city and castle, but re-edified in the year 1107, by Robert earl of Mellent and Leicester, for a dean and twelve prebendaries, and dedicated, as the old church was, to St. Mary. The greatest part of the lands and tithes belonging to this church was alienated by Robert Bofu earl of Leicester, and annexed to his new abbey of St. Mary de Pre, in this county. However, here continued a master and seven fellows, or rather a dean and seven prebendaries, whose house was called the college of St. Mary the Less, and whose revenues were valued, on the general dissolution, at 24 l. 13 s. 11 d. *per annum*.

Here was a Lazar-house, or hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Leonard, on the north part of the town, and founded by William, the youngest son of Robert Blanchmains earl of Leicester, who was himself a leper, in the time of king Richard the First. William Lord Hastings, some time before the seventeenth of Edward the Fourth, begged this hospital of the king, and gave it to the dean and chapter of our Lady's college in this town.

Here also was an hospital, before the year 1235, for a master, brethren and sisters, dedicated to St. John Baptist and Evangelist, the lands of which were for the most part given by king Edward the Fourth to the college of Newark in this town.

Simon de Montfort, earl of Leicester, who died in 1265, is said to be the founder of a house of Franciscan Grey friars, in the north-west part of this town: but it does not appear what the yearly revenues of it were at the suppression.

Here was also a house of Black friars, in an island near the bridge, commonly called *Le Blake friars in le isles*, founded by an earl of Leicester in the reign of king Henry the Third: it was dedicated to St. Clement, but it does not appear what the yearly revenues of it were upon the dissolution.

The friars of a mendicant order, called De poenitentia Jesu Christi, had a house somewhere in the suburbs of this town.

The friars of the order of St. Augustine had also a priory here, called St. Catherine's.

On four acres of ground, near the castle, Henry earl of Leicester and Lancaster, in the year 1330, built an hospital dedicated to the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, for a master and certain chaplains and poor persons. About the year 1355, it was turned into a noble college, called the Newark, or Collegium Novi Operis, or St. Mary's the greater. It consisted of a dean, twelve secular canons and prebendaries, twelve vicars, three clerks, six choristers, fifty poor men, and fifty poor women, ten nurses, with proper officers and attendants. Its possessions were rated upon the dissolution at 800 l. *per annum*.

E c c 2

At

## LEICESTERSHIRE.

At Loddington, north-east of Hallaton, Richard Bassett, and Maud Ridell his wife, in the latter part of the reign of king Henry the First, founded a priory of canons of the order of St. Augustine, dedicated to John Baptist. Its yearly revenues, at the suppression, were valued at 399 l. 3 s. 3 d.

At a place near Loughborough, called Garcton, Robert Boffu earl of Leicester, in the year 1133, built an abbey for Cistercian monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in which, at the time of the dissolution, were fourteen monks, whose possessions were rated at 186 l. 15 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

At St. Mary Pre, or de Pratis, near Leicester, Robert Boffu earl of Leicester, in the year 1143, founded an abbey of Black canons, in honour of the assumption of the Virgin Mary, which, upon the dissolution, was endowed with 95 l. 14 s. 5 d. *per annum*.

At Breedon on the hill, upon the borders of Derbyshire, north-east of Ashby de la Zouch, there is a church which is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Hardulf, and was given by Robert Ferrers earl of Nottingham, about the year 1144, to the monastery of St. Oswald at Nostell, or Nostol-hall, near Wakefield, a market-town of Yorkshire, upon which here was a cell of Black canons subordinate to that monastery, consisting of a prior and five religious. Its revenues upon the dissolution were rated at 24 l. 10 s. 4 d. *per annum*.

Roger de Mowbray, in the time of king Stephen, giving two carucates of land, an house and a mill in Burton Lazars, south of Melton-Mowbray, to the lepers of St. Lazarus, without the walls of Jerusalem, laid the foundations of a well endowed hospital, consisting of a master and several brethren. It was the chief of all the spital or lazar houses in England, but dependant upon the great house at Jerusalem. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Lazarus, and its possessions upon the dissolution were valued at 265 l. 10 s. 2 d. *per annum*.

At Croxton-Kyriel, north-east of Waltham on the Would, William Porcarius de Linus, in the year 1162, built an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, which at the suppression was endowed with 385 l. 0 s. 10 d. *per annum*.

At Dalby, near Melton-Mowbray, there was a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers, thought to have been founded by Robert Boffu, earl of Leicester, in the former part of the reign of king Henry the Second, and valued upon the dissolution at the yearly revenues of 91 l. 2 s. 8 d.

At Oweston, about half way between Hallaton and Melton-Mowbray, Sir Robert Grimbald, in the time of king Henry the Second, built and endowed a small abbey for canons regular of the order of St. Austin, which he dedicated to St. Andrew, and in which, about the time of the dissolution, there were twelve canons, whose yearly revenues were valued at 161 l. 14 s. 2 d.

At



At Hinckley was an alien priory of two Benedictine monks, belonging to Lyra in Normandy, to which it was given, by Robert Blanchmaines, earl of Leicester, before the year 1173.

At Charley, and Ulvecrofs, two solitary places in the forest of Charnwood, south-east of Ashby de la Zouch, there were settled in each three Friars Heremites, by Robert Blanchmaines, earl of Leicester, in the time of king Henry the Second: but by the consent of the earl of Winchester, patron of both houses, in the time of king Edward the Second, they were united at Ulvecrofs, where continued a priory of regular canons, of the order of St. Austin, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, till the dissolution, when there were eight religious in it, who were endowed with 83l. 10s. 6d. *per annum*.

At Tilton on the Hill, east of Billeston, there was an hospital, annexed by Sir William Burdet, to Burton Lazars, in the time of king Henry the Second.

At Langley, north-east of Ashby de la Zouch, William Pantulf, and Burgis his wife, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Second, or before, built a priory for Benedictine nuns, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the yearly revenues of which were rated on the suppression at 29l. 7s. 4d.

At Heather, south-east of Ashby de la Zouch, there was a house, with lands, belonging to the Knights Hospitallers, being the gift of Ralph de Grifely, before the first year of king John. It sometime had a distinct preceptor, and sometime was accounted part of the preceptory of Dalby. The valuation of this preceptory, about the time of the dissolution, is said to have amounted to 39l. 1s. 5d. *per annum*.

At Swinsford, south-east of Lutterworth, there is a church, which was given to the Hospitallers, before the first of king John, by Robert Rivell; and here was settled a small preceptory of that order.

At Bradley, south-east of Hallaton, a small priory of the order of St. Austin, was founded by Robert Bundy, or Burneby, in the time of king John. It had but two canons at the suppression, who had lands valued at 20l. 15s. 7d. *per annum*.

At Lutterworth, Roisé de Verdon, and Nicholas her son, built and endowed an hospital for a prior, or master and brethren, dedicated to John the Baptist, in the time of king John. It was valued upon the dissolution at 26l. 9s. 5d. *per annum*.

A roll of the fifth of Henry the Third, quoted by Mr. Burton, says, that at Castle Dunnington, north of Ashby de la Zouch, upon the borders of Derbyshire, there was an hospital erected by J. sometime constable of Chester, of which \* Humphrey the chaplain was master, and that there ought to be in it thirteen \* brothers

## LEICESTERSHIRE.

' brothers and sisters, but that they had no regular habit, nor observed any rule, but received a portion of the tithes of the parish.' The founder appears to have been John Lacy, constable of Chester in the time of Henry the Second. It was dedicated to John the Evangelist, and valued at 3*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

An estate at Melton-Mowbray, with the advowson of the rectory, having been given to Lewis, a considerable borough town in Suffolk, here was a small priory or hospital, a cell to that monastery.

King Henry the Third gave the manor and the church of Rodeley, near Mount-ford, to the Knights Templars, who settled a commandry of their order here, which, with their other lands, came afterwards to the Knights Hospitallers, who enjoyed the same till the general dissolution, about which time this preceptory was valued at 87*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

At Grace de Dies, about half way between Loughborough and Ashby de la Zouch, Rocfia de Verdon, about the twenty-fourth of Henry the Third, founded a priory for nuns of the order of St. Austin, dedicated to St. Mary and the Trinity. At the time of the dissolution here were fifteen nuns, with a yearly revenue of 83*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*

Sir Anketine de Martival, in the second year of Edward the First, founded, and his son Roger de Martival, archdeacon of Leicester, and afterwards bishop of Salisbury, about the thirty-fourth of Edward the First, farther endowed a college or chantry, in the chapel of the manor-house of Noleley, north-west of Halliton, and dedicated it to the Ascension of our Lord, and the assumption of the Virgin Mary. It consisted of a warden and certain brethren, according to Mr. Burton, or according to others of three priests, who had distinct prebends, three clerks, and four choristers. Upon some occasion it was in valued the twenty-fourth of Henry the Sixth, at 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.* But the estate must have been worth more before the dissolution, because in the year 1553, above 17*l.* was yearly paid to the members of this college then alive, and not otherwise preferred.

Roger Beller, in the ninth year of Edward the Second, began a small chantry in the chapel of St. Peter, near his manor house at Kirkby Bellers, on the north-west side of Melton-Mowbray, which some few years after he increased into a sort of college for a warden and twelve secular priests. It was made conventual for a prior and regular canons of the order of St. Augustine, in the year 1359, and so it continued till the dissolution, when here were ten religious, who were endowed with 142*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* *per annum.*

A college for a warden and priests, said by Mr. Burton, p. 240, to have been built at Sapcote, south-east of Hinckley, by Sir Simon Basset, in the time of king Henry the Third, seems to be only the chantry of three priests, founded in the chapel of St. Mary's parish church here, by Sir Ralph Basset.

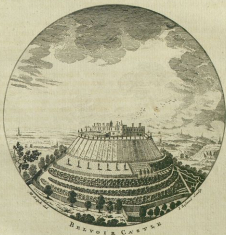
## LEICESTERSHIRE.

399

There is a church at Stokerston, not far from Hallaton, near which John Boyle, lord of the manor, in the fifth of Edward the Fourth, built an almshouse, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for a chaplain and three poor persons, and settled lands on them to the value of 10*l.* *per annum.*

### MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

The county of Leicester sends four members to parliament; two knights of the shire for the county, and two burgesses for the borough of Leicester.



P. 407

LINCOLN;

LECTURE NOTES

There is a... of... in... of... and... of...  
The... of... is... of... and... of...  
The... of... is... of... and... of...

LECTURE NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY

The... of... is... of... and... of...  
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1800

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L I N C O L N

P. 403

# L I N C O L N S H I R E.

## N A M E.

**L** I N C O L N S H I R E, called by the Saxons *Lincolncippe*, and by the Normans, on their first arrival here, *Nicolshire*, derives its name from that of its chief town, the city of Lincoln.

## B O U N D A R I E S, F I G U R E, E X T E N T and S I T U A T I O N.

This county is bounded on the east by the German Ocean, on the west by parts of Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, and Leicestershire, on the south by Northamptonshire, and on the north by Yorkshire, from which it is separated by the estuary of the Humber: the shape of Lincolnshire is like a bended bow; it is about sixty miles in length, from north to south, about thirty-five miles in breadth, from east to west, and 180 miles in circumference, and the city of Lincoln, which is nearly in the center of the county, is 128 miles north of London.

Vol. I.

F f f

R I V E R S.

## L I N C O L N S H I R E .

## R I V E R S .

The principal rivers that run through this county are the Welland, the Witham, the Trent, the Dun, and the Ankam. The Welland rises in Northamptonshire, and running cross that county, enters Lincolnshire; then passing by several market towns, discharges itself into a bay of the German Ocean, called by Ptolemy *Metaris Æltuarium*, but called now the Washes. The Witham rises near Grantham, a considerable borough town of this county, and running north-east, passes by Lincoln, whence, directing its course south-east, it falls into the German Ocean near Boston, another borough town of Lincolnshire. The Trent rises in Staffordshire, and running north-east through the counties of Derby and Nottingham, and parting Nottinghamshire from Lincolnshire, falls into the mouth of the Humber. The Dun rises in Yorkshire, and inclosing, together with the Trent, a considerable piece of ground in the north-west part of this county, known by the name of the Isle of Axholm, falls into the Trent near its conflux with the Humber. The Ankam rises not far north of Lincoln, and directing its course due north, falls into the Humber east of the river Trent.

## A I R .

The air of Lincolnshire is different in different parts: in the middle of the county, and in the western parts along the Trent, it is very healthy, but upon the sea coast it is bad, particularly in the south-east division, which is not only boggy and full of fens, but great part of it is under water, for which reason it is distinguished by the name of Holland.

## S O I L , and N A T U R A L P R O D U C T I O N S .

The soil of this county is in general very rich; the inland parts producing corn in great plenty, and the fenny country yielding excellent pasture. Lincolnshire is remarkable for fat cattle and good horses, also for excellent dogs, as well greyhounds as mastiffs. It abounds in game of all kinds, and the rivers, together with the sea, afford great plenty and variety of fish. There is a sort of pike found in the Witham, which is peculiar to this water, and superior to all others. Such is the plenty and variety of wild fowl in this county, that it has been called the aviary of England; and two fowls, called the knute and the dotterel, which are most delicious food, are said to be found no where else in England.

It does not appear that this county is remarkable for any manufacture.

## C I V I L and E C C L E S I A S T I C A L D I V I S I O N S .

Lincolnshire is divided into three provinces: 1<sup>st</sup>, Holland, comprehending the south-east part of Lincolnshire, which is again subdivided into three wapentakes or hundreds. 2<sup>dly</sup>, Kesteven, comprehending the southern part of this county, is by an ancient writer called *Ceostefne-Wood*, as is supposed from a large forest that stood formerly within this division: it contains ten wapentakes or hundreds. 3<sup>dly</sup>, Lindsey, which by Bede, the British historian, is called *Lindisi*,





B.L. 403



*The South West View of Lincoln.*

J. H. Sturt del. et sculp.

diffi, as is thought from the city of Lindum, or Lincoln. This division comprehends the whole north part of Lincolnshire, and is subdivided into seventeen wapentakes or hundreds. The whole county is divided into thirty hundreds or wapentakes, and contains one city and thirty-one market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury and diocese of Lincoln, and comprehends 630 parishes.

## C I T Y and M A R K E T T O W N S .

The city is Lincoln, and the market towns are Alford, Barton, Binbroke, Boston, Bourn, Bullingbrook, Burgh, Burton, Caistor, Corby, Crowland, Deeping Market, Dunnington, Fellingham, Ganelborough, Glandford-bridge, Grantham, Grimby, Holbech, Horncastle, Kirkton, Louth, Rasen-market, Saltfleet, Skefard, Spalding, Spillby, Stamford, Stanton, Tatterthall, and Wainfleet.

LINCOLN was by the ancient Britons called *Lindcoln*, by Ptolemy and Antoninus *Lindum*, by the historian Bede, *Lindisfi*, *Lindcolniunum* and *Lindcolina*, by the Saxons *Lýnbo-collýne* and *Lýnbo-cýllanceaƿep*, and by the Normans *Nicolai*, and from these names, which are thought to have originally signified a castle, or a town situated on a hill, as this is, the present name is derived.

The city of Lincoln is a bishop's see, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, two sheriffs, a recorder, four chamberlains, a sword bearer, four coroners, and above forty common council men. It is a county of itself, and has a vicountial jurisdiction for twenty miles round, a privilege that no other city in England enjoys. It stands on the side of a hill, with the river Witham running at the bottom in three small channels, over which there are several bridges. In Edward the Confessor's time it is said to have had 1070 houses in it, and in the time of the Normans it was one of the most populous cities in England, and a mart for goods of every kind: king Edward the Third made it a staple for wool, leather, lead, and other commodities. It was once burnt, once besieged by king Stephen, who was here defeated and taken prisoner, and once taken by Henry the Third, from his rebellious barons. It is said to have had fifty-two parish churches, which, in the reign of Edward the Sixth, were by act of parliament reduced to eighteen, of which only thirteen are now remaining, and they are meaner than those of any other city in England. Here is however a cathedral, which is a stately Gothic pile, and though not the most beautiful structure of the kind, is the chief ornament of this city. The monks thought so highly of it, that they used to say the devil could never look at it without frowns of discontent and malignity; whence came the proverb generally applied to malicious and envious persons; 'He looks as the devil over Lincoln.' This cathedral is one of the largest in England, and is so lofty, and the ground it stands on so high, that it may be seen over five or six counties, fifty miles to the north, and thirty to the south. In this church is a famous bell of an enormous size, called Tom of Lincoln; it is near five tons in weight, almost twenty-three feet in circumference, and will hold 424 gallons ale measure. Here are also in this church some curious windows, called catharine wheel windows, a chapter-house, cloisters, and library, that are much admired. On the south side of the church stands the bishop's palace, begun by bishop Cheney, and finished by his successors, who made it answerable to the magnificence of the cathedral; but it was ruined

## L I N C O L N S H I R E .

in the civil wars in the reign of king Charles the First, and has never been rebuilt.

The buildings of this city are generally old, especially those at the bottom of the hill, but towards the top there are many good houses, in the modern taste. Here is an old ruined castle, built by king William the First, in the center of which there is a handsome modern structure for holding the assizes. There are in this city four charity schools, where 120 poor children are taught by the widows of clergymen.

On the west side of Lincoln there is a large pool, formed by the river, called Swan Pool, from the multitude of swans on it. The city has a communication with the river Trent by a canal, called the Fosse-Dyke, cut by king Henry the First, between the Trent and the Witham, for the conveniency of carriage. On a neighbouring course there are frequent horse races, and there is a heath called Lincoln Heath, which is above fifty miles over.

ALFORD is a little obscure town, about five miles from the sea, and 107 from London, and is only remarkable for having a market.

BARROW is 263 miles from London, and has a horse-ferry to Hull, a borough town of Yorkshire, cross the Humber, which is here six miles over.

BIRBOROUGH is a small poor town, at the distance of 115 miles from London, in which there is nothing worthy of note.

BOSTON is a corruption of *Botolph's Town*, a name derived from Botolph, a Saxon, who is supposed to have founded a monastery here, from which the town took its rise. It stands at the distance of 124 miles from London, upon the river Witham, which is navigable from hence to Lincoln. It has long been a flourishing town, and is said to have first been incorporated by king Henry the Eighth; queen Elizabeth gave the corporation a court of admiralty over all the neighbouring sea coasts. It is governed by a mayor, who is chief clerk of the market, and admiral of the coast, a recorder, a deputy recorder, twelve aldermen, a town clerk, eighteen common council men, a judge, and marshal of the admiralty, a coroner, two serjeants at mace, and other officers, and is pleasantly situated and well built. Here is a church, reckoned the largest parochial church, without cross idles, in the world, being 300 feet long within the walls, and 100 feet wide: the cieling is of English oak, supported by tall slender pillars. This church has three hundred and sixty-five steps, fifty-two windows, and twelve pillars, answering to the days, weeks, and months of the year; its tower, which was built in the year 1309, is 282 feet high, and has a beautiful octagon lantern at the top, which serves as a guide to mariners when they enter the dangerous channels called Lynn Deep, and Boston Deep in the Washes, and is the admiration of travellers, being seen at the distance of forty miles round. Here are two charity schools, and a high wooden bridge over the Witham. The town has a commodious harbour, is supplied with fresh water by pipes from a pond, in a great common called the West Fen, where a water-house and a mill were erected in the reign of queen Anne, by act of parliament. It is the residence of many considerable merchants, and carries on a good trade, both inland and fo-

reign, yet many of the inhabitants apply themselves to grazing of cattle with great advantage. An annual fair here for cattle, and all sorts of merchandize, lasts nine days, and is called a mart by way of eminence, so are the fairs of Ganeborough, Lynn Regis, a borough town of Norfolk, and Beverley a borough of Yorkshire, but no other. All the country in the neighbourhood of this town is marsh lands, which are very rich, and feed vast numbers of large sheep and oxen.

BOURN stands on a plain adjoining to the fens of Lincolnshire, at the distance of 93 miles from London. It is remarkable for tanning leather, and for a horse course.

BULLINGEROOK, or BOLLINGEROKE, is 100 miles north of London, and is noticed only for its market.

BURON is distant from London 104 miles; it is an inconsiderable place, and has nothing worth notice but a charity school.

BURTON, called also BURTON SPATHER, is 129 miles distant from London. It stands very well for trade, on the east of the Trent, on which it has several mills; the houses are pleasantly intermixed with trees: it has two churches, one of which is so low, in respect to the precipice over it, that a person may almost leap from the precipice on the steeple.

CASTOR, originally *Duang-carter*, or *Thoug Castle*, is said to have derived its name from the following circumstance: Hengist, the Saxon, as a reward for having driven back the Scots and Picts, obtained from Vortigern, a grant of as much ground here as he could encompass with the hide of an ox cut into small thongs; on this ground he built a castle, which for that reason was called *Thoug Castle*. This town is 120 miles distant from London, but has nothing in it worthy of note.

COREY is 90 miles distant from London, and has a school, endowed for the souls of deceased clergymen.

CROWLAND is 88 miles distant from London: it is so surrounded with bogs, that it is accessible only on the north and east sides, and there not for carriages, which gave rise to the proverb, that 'all the carts which came to Crowland were shod with silver.' This town however is pretty well inhabited, and consists of three streets, separated by water courses, planted on each side with willows, and built on piles, having a communication with each other by a triangular bridge of curious contrivance, standing on the conflux of the Welland, and a river called the Nine. This bridge is formed on three segments of a circle, meeting in one point; and it is said that the extremity of each segment, opposite to the point of contact, stands in a different county, one in Lincolnshire, another in Cambridgeshire, and the third in Rutlandshire.

Here is a church, which belonged formerly to a famous abbey in this place; the roof of this church fell in about half a century ago, and was found to consist of Irish oak, finely carved and gilt. Over the west gate of this church are the images

## L I N C O L N S H I R E .

images of divers kings and abbats, among which is that of St. Guthlac, to whom the abbey was dedicated, with a whip and knife, his usual symbols. Not far from the abbey is a little stone cottage, called Anchor Church-house, which had formerly a chapel, in which St. Guthlac lived as a hermit, and in which it is said his body lies buried. The soil round this town is much improved of late by drains and sluices, and most of the ponds are now turned into cornfields.

The greatest gain that accrues to the inhabitants of this town is from fish and wild ducks; of the ducks they sometimes drive 3000 into a net at once by dags, and they are brought hither by decoy ducks, bred for that purpose. For the liberty of fishing in the many pools in and near the town, they pay now to the king, as they did formerly to the abbat, 300*l.* a-year.

DEEPIING MARKET is an ill-built dirty town, situated among the fens, on the north-side of the river Welland, at the distance of 87 miles from London. Near this place is a vale, many miles in compass, and the deepest in all this marshy county, from which it is thought the town had its name, *Deeping* signifying a *deep meadow*.

DUNNINGTON is distant 99 miles from London. Its market is famous for a large sale of hemp and hempsed, and it has a port for barges, by which goods are carried to and from Boston and the Washes.

FOXINGHAM stands on a rising hill, in a wholesome air, at the distance of 104 miles from London. It has several good springs round it, but is a place of no trade.

GANESBOROUGH stands upon the river Trent, at the distance of 137 miles from London. This is a well built town, and reckoned the most flourishing in the county: it has a church, which being ruinous, was pulled down in 1735 by act of parliament, and rebuilt. Here are several meeting-houses of protestant dissenters, and a fine market place. The town has a good trade by means of the Trent, which brings up ships of considerable burden with the tide, though it is near forty miles from the Humber by water. The North Marsh, in the neighbourhood of this town is remarkable for horse races.

GLANDFORD BRIDGE is 153 miles from London, and is only remarkable for a bridge over the river Ankan.

GRANTHAM is distant 104 miles from London, and is governed by an alderman, twelve justices of the peace, a recorder, a coroner, an escheator, twelve second-twelve men, who are of the common council, and twelve constables to attend the court. This is a rich, neat, populous town, much frequented, and has several very good inns. Here is a fine church, with a stone spire, one of the loftiest in England, being 280 feet high, but it is so constructed, as to appear inclining from the perpendicular, on which side soever it is viewed. Here is also a good free school, built and endowed by Richard Fox, bishop of Winchester, a native of this place, besides two charity schools. On a neighbouring course there are frequent horse races.

About

About four miles from Grantham, upon the very borders of Leicestershire, is Belvoir Castle, or, as it is more commonly called, Bever Castle, a feat of the duke of Rutland, originally built by Robert de Tedenci, or Tenencio, a noble Norman, in the time of William the Conqueror, and afterwards rebuilt by an earl of Rutland. It is a very magnificent building, has a fine gallery of paintings, and, as its name imports, commands a beautiful prospect into the counties of Nottingham, Derby, Leicester, Rutland, and Northampton.

GRIMSBY is 158 miles distant from London, and is said, in point of antiquity, to be the second, if not the first corporation, in England. It is governed by a mayor, high steward, recorder, twelve aldermen, twelve common council men, two bailiffs, two coroners, a town clerk, and three sergeants at mace. The mayor holds a court here every Tuesday, and the bailiffs every Friday. Here are several streets of good houses, and a church, that looks like a cathedral. It was a place of very good trade formerly, but its harbour has been long choked up, and yet the road before it is a good station for ships that wait for a wind to get to sea. It has a trade in coals and salt, by the navigation of the Humber.

HOLBECH is 98 miles distant from London, and is only remarkable for its fair for cattle, corn, and flax.

HORNCASTLE is distant from London 123 miles, and is a large well built town, situated on a small river called the Bane, by which it is almost surrounded.

KIRKTON derives its name from a *kyrk* or *church* here, which is built in form of a cathedral, and is said to be very magnificent, but of which there is no description. It stands at the distance of 136 miles from London, and is famous for a sort of apple, called the Kirkton pippin.

LOUTH is said to have taken its name from a small river called the Lud, upon the bank of which it is situated. It is distant from London 133 miles, and is a corporation town, much frequented, but how it is governed does not appear. It has a large church, with a fine steeple, which some think is as high as Grantham spire. Here is a free school, founded by king Edward the Sixth, and a charity school for forty children.

RASEN, called RASEN MARKET, to distinguish it from East, West, and Middle Rasen; all four are situated near the source of the Ankam. This town is distant 139 miles from London, but has nothing in it worthy of note.

SALTFLËET is 138 miles from London. It has a harbour upon the ocean, which, except its market, is the only circumstance that entitles it to notice.

SLEAFORD, called NEW SLEAFORD, to distinguish it from a neighbouring town called Old Sleaford, is situated at the distance of 110 miles from London, near the source of a little river, which runs with such rapidity through the town, that it is never frozen, and which, within the compass of two miles, including the town, drives five corn mills, two fulling mills, and one paper mill, and then falls into the Witham. This town is very populous, and its buildings are continually improving. It has a large handsome church, and a free school which was founded

## L I N C O L N S H I R E.

founded and handsomely endowed in 1603, by Robert Carr, Esq; who also erected and endowed an hospital in this place, for twelve poor men: for the management of the hospital he constituted the vicar of the town, together with the rectors of five places in the neighbourhood, for the time being, perpetual governors.

SPALDING is 98 miles distant from London. It is situated upon the river Welland, by which it is almost surrounded; it is also surrounded at a greater distance with lakes, canals, and other bodies of water, and is indeed a more neat and populous town than could be expected in such a situation. Here is a handsome large market place, a free grammar school for the sons of the inhabitants, and a charity school. This town has also a small port, and a bridge over the Welland, which is navigable to the town for vessels of fifty or sixty tons. To this port belong several barges, that are chiefly employed in carrying coals and corn.

SPILSEY is distant 122 miles from London, and has a charity school, which was erected in 1716, for teaching and cloathing twenty-four boys and sixteen girls. The market here is well frequented.

STAMFORD is so called from its ancient Saxon name *Streanforþ*. It is situated on the river Welland, upon the borders of Northamptonshire and Rutlandshire, at the distance of 83 miles from London. It is one of the most considerable towns in the county, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, and his deputy, a town clerk, twelve aldermen, twenty-four capital burgesses, and two sergeants at mace: its first charter was before Edward the Fourth. It had a charter from that prince, and other charters from Charles the Second and James the Second, but these last being only temporary, they are expired.

The inhabitants have very great privileges, particularly a freedom from the jurisdiction of the sheriff of the county, and from being empannelled on juries out of town; they are entitied to have the returns of all writs, are exempted from the government of all lords lieutenants, and claim the privilege of having the militia of the town commanded by their own officers, the mayor being the king's lord lieutenant, and immediately under his majesty's command, he is esteemed, within the liberties and jurisdiction of the town, the second man in the kingdom.

This is a large, populous, rich town, with a fine stone bridge over the Welland into Northamptonshire. It had fourteen parish churches; but they were reduced to seven by act of parliament in the time of king Edward the Sixth. One of these churches, St. Martin's, stands upon the east side of the river, in a part of the town called Stamford Baron, which indeed is in Northamptonshire, but is rated within the jurisdiction of this corporation, and upon that account goes all by the name of Stamford. In this church of St. Martin, the great Cecil, lord Burleigh, the favourite of queen Elizabeth, lies buried in a splendid tomb. There is a church near the bridge, in which is a fine monument of the earl and countess of Exeter, in white marble, with their figures in a cumbent posture, as big as the life, done at Rome; and over against this church is an inn, known by the sign of the George, reckoned the largest in England; but there is a nobler inn in this town, called the Bull  
inn,



Inn, which is by much the finest; it is a handsome free-stone quadrangle, with fashed windows, and has the appearance of a palace. Here is a fine town hall. The houses are most of them covered with slate, and the whole town taken together is the most compact and best built town in the county.

Here is a charity school, in which eighty children are taught and employed; twenty of them wholly maintained and clothed, and the rest are supplied with wheels, reels, fire and candles; they are said to earn 400 L a-year. In the reign of King Henry the Seventh, William Brown, who had been twice mayor, erected and endowed an hospital here, for a warden, twelve men, and a surer. And the lord Burleigh erected and endowed an hospital here.

The chief trade of this town is in malt, sea-coal, and free-stone; and here is a new course for horse-races.

STANTON is a little obscure town of no note, distant 129 miles from London.

TATTERSHAL stands at the distance of 118 miles from London, in a marshy country: most of the houses are of brick; and here is a castle, famous for its ancient barons.

WAINFLEET is situated 124 miles from London, upon the borders of the fen-ny country called Holland. It is nearly and compactly built, and is remarkable only for a fine free school, founded by William Patin, a bishop of Winchester, and a native of this place.

## C U R I O S I T I E S.

There are two chalybeate springs in this county, which were formerly famous Medicinal for their medicinal virtues; one is at Bourn, and the other at Walcot, a small Spring village near Fokingham.

On some downs near Lincoln, and between that city and Boston, there is some A rare bird times to be seen a bird called the Bustard, which is seen no where else in Eng-land, except on Salisbury plain in Wiltshire.

The manner of taking ducks, mallards, teals, widgroons, and other wild fowl, Master of in decoys, about Crowland, and some other fenny parts of this county, may be trick and reckoned among the curiosities of Lincolnshire. There are several large ponds, found in the in which decoy-ducks are bred so very tame, that they feed at hand; these decoy- decoys of ducks take flight from time to time; and, after an absence of five or six weeks, Lincolnshire return with numerous flocks of fowl from foreign countries, which they conduct to the several ponds to which they belong. The sides of these ponds are shaded by trees and hedges, placed very close together; and are wider at one end than at the other. When those who manage the decoy perceive that a flock is arrived, they feed them without alarming them, by throwing corn over the hedge into the water: in the mean time a large net is spread at the broad end of the pond; the mouth is kept open by the branches of the trees; and the net, which is two or

Vol. I.

G g g

three

three hundred yards long, and grows gradually narrower towards the other end, is extended so as to be open all the way; the corn is then thrown so as to conduct the birds nearer and nearer to this net, which at length, being conducted by the decoy-ducks, they enter: when they are got a considerable way into the net, a dog is thrown into the water, who swims towards the net, and makes the strangers take wing; but being beaten down by the net, they advance forward into the purse at the little end, where they are taken by hand.

Extraordi-  
nary fish.

The skeleton of a crocodile, fixed in a flat stone, now to be seen in the museum of the royal society at London, is said to have been discovered in this county; but the particular place is not mentioned.

At Stretton, a village between Gainsborough and Lincoln, are found the ophites, or serpent stones, being a kind of variegated marble, of a dusky green ground, sprinkled with spots of a lighter green. And at Blevoir, or Bever castle, near Grantham, are found stones called astroites, or star stones, from their resemblance to a star.

At Alkborough, north of Burton, were found abundance of sea-shells, and subterraneous trees, thought to be the reliques of the universal deluge.

A monstrous  
birth.

In the year 1676, the wife of Charles Gays, an innkeeper of the town of Wragby near Lincoln, was delivered of a male child with two heads, which lived some hours.

Mistake of  
the Jews.

In the reign of king Richard the First, all the Jews, of which there were many, in the town of Stamford, were barbarously murdered by the inhabitants.

Boston set on  
fire.

About the end of the reign of Henry the First, one Robert Chamberlain, at the head of some desperate villains, disguised like monks and priests, set fire to the town of Boston in several places, while a tournament was proclaiming at the fair, with a view to plunder the inhabitants, many of whom were wealthy merchants, while they were moving their goods. Chamberlain was taken, confessed the fact, and was executed for it, but would not discover his accomplices.

Remarkable  
persons of  
this county.

Of Tyd St. Mary's, on the bank of the Nene, in the south-east point of this county, Nicholas Breakpear was rector, who first preached the Christian faith to the Norwegians, for which he received a cardinal's hat, and in the year 1155, was advanced to the papal chair, and took the name of Adrian the Fourth.

At Saltfleet, one Mr. John Watton who died in 1693, aged 102, was minister seventy-four years, in which time he buried three successive generations in his parish, except three or four persons.

The illustrious Sir Isaac Newton was a native of this county, and was taught the first rudiments of learning at the free school of Grantham.

## A N T I Q U I T I E S.

Lincolnshire is part of the country, which, in the time of the Romans was inhabited by the Coritani, of whom mention has been made in the account of Derbyshire; and under the Saxons it constituted a part of the large kingdom of Mercia. Ancient Inhabitants.

Mr. Neal, who has taken great pains to trace the antiquities of this county, produces a fragment of an ancient manuscript, to prove that Stamford was an university long before the birth of Christ, and continued so till the year 300, when it was dissolved by the pope for adhering to the doctrines of Arius. It was certainly an university before the reign of Edward the Third, as appears by the remains of two colleges, one called Blackhall, and the other Brazen-nose; on the gate of Brazen-nose college there still is a brazen nose, with a ring through it, like that upon the gate of a college of the same name at Oxford, which was not built till the reign of Henry the Seventh, and therefore took its name, as well as this distinguishing circumstance, from Brazen-nose college of Stamford. It appears also, that several of the students of Oxford removed to this place, upon some quarrel between the students of the north and those of the south, in the time of Edward the Third, when it is probable there were some colleges here to receive them, as they did not stay long enough at Stamford to build any. Antiquities of Stamford.

By some remains of Roman antiquity found here, it appears, that this was no inconsiderable place in time of the Romans: and there are the traces of a Roman highway from south to north, passing through this town; which seem to indicate, that here once was a ferry over the Welland.

In the reign of king Stephen, there was a castle in the middle of this town, of which the foundation plot is still visible: and here the remarkable custom of Borough English still subsists, by which the youngest son is heir to his father.

It has been already said, that the city of Lincoln stands on the side of a hill, on the top of which are still visible the marks of a rampart and ditches, thought to be the remains of the ancient Lindum, which the Saxons demolished. Here is a gate called Newport-gate, which is a Roman work, still entire, and is the noblest remnant of the kind in Britain. It consists of a vast semicircle of stones, not cemented, but as it were wedged in together: and close to this gate there is another curious piece of Roman workmanship, called the mint wall, which consists of alternate layers of brick and stone, and is still sixteen feet high and forty long. There are various fragments of the old Roman wall which surrounded this city; and here were many funeral monuments of the Normans, some of which are still dug up. Among other tombs in the cathedral of this city, there is one of brass, which contains the bowels of queen Eleanor, wife to king Edward the First. Here also is the tomb of Catharine Swinford, third wife of John of Gaunt duke of Lancaster, and mother of the Somerset family. Over against the castle, to the west, is an intrenchment made by king Stephen, and on the walls of the castle are carved in stone the arms of John of Gaunt. Antiquities of Lincoln.

This city having abounded with monasteries, and other religious houses, the ruins of many still appear in barns, stables, out-houses, and even in some hog-styes, which are observed to be built church fashion, with stone walls, and arched windows and doors.

Antiquities  
of Horca-  
castle.

Horncastle appears to have been a camp or station of the Romans, not only from the remains of the castle, which was a Roman work, but from the Roman coins often dug up near the place where the castle stood. The compass of this castle appears by the foundation of the whole, and by a part of the wall yet standing, to have taken up about twenty acres.

Remains of  
English anti-  
quity.

Bridgecasterton, a village northwest of Stamford, where a small river called the Gush or Wash, crosses a Roman highway, is supposed to have been the *Gushannæ* of Antoninus.

Paunton, a village south of Grantham, is supposed to have been the *Ad Pontem* of the Romans, not only from the similitude of the names, but from the distances assigned to other places in regard to this: chequered Roman pavements, and other marks of antiquity have often been dug up here.

Ancaster, another small town, situated on the same Roman highway, was a village of the Romans, and is thought to have been the ancient *Crococalana*. This place abounds so much with remnants of antiquity, that the inhabitants, after a hasty shower, go in search of them upon the declivities of the town, and in the neighbouring quarries, and have many years carried on a kind of trade by the sale of them.

At Fleet in the Fens, a village north-east of Spalding, there were found, not many years ago, three pecks of Roman copper coins, piled down edge-wise, most of them of the emperor Gallienus.

Near Harlaxton, a village within two miles of Grantham, a brazen vessel was plowed up, containing some silver beads, and an antique helmet of gold, studded with jewels; all which were presented to Catharine of Spain, queen dowager of Henry the Eighth.

At a village called Hiberflow, near Kirkton, upon the Roman highway, are still to be seen the foundations of several Roman buildings, with tiles, coins, and other remains of Roman antiquity. Several such remains have also been discovered about Broughton, a village near Glandford-bridge. At Roxby, a village near Burton, was lately discovered a Roman pavement. At Winterton-chiff, in the north-west extremity of the county, are many remains of Roman buildings, and at Alkborough, two miles more to the west, there is still a small square entrenchment or camp, now called Countess Close, from a countess of Warwick, who, it is said, lived there, or owned the estate. The castle here, it is observed, was very conveniently placed by the Romans, in the north-west angle of the county, as a watch-tower, to overawe Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire.

At

## L I N C O L N S H I R E .

473

At a village called Yarburgh, near Horncastle, are the remains of a large Roman camp, and such quantities of Roman coins have been dug up here, that one Howson of Kennington, a village in the neighbourhood, is said at one time to have been in possession of some pecks of them.

At Omby, near Rasen-market, in some fields joining to a great road between Stamford and Hull, a borough town of Yorkshire, brass and silver coins have been plowed up, having a view of the city of Rome on one side, with the inscription, *Urbs Roma*, and on the reverse, *Pax et tranquillitas*.

At Marton, near Gainsborough, are still some remains of a Roman highway, leading from Doncaster, a market town of Yorkshire, to Lincoln; and about a quarter of a mile from the town there are two or three considerable pieces of Roman pavement.

Stow, a village near Gainsborough, was formerly a city called Sidnacester, and is supposed to have been a Roman station.

On some hills, between Gainsborough and a neighbouring village called Lea, many Roman coins, and pieces of Roman urns, have been dug up; and one of those hills, called Castle-hill, is surrounded with intrenchments, said to inclose above an hundred acres.

Near Hunnington, about five miles from Grantham, there is a Roman camp, called Julius Cæsar's double trench: and here, in the year 1691, as many Roman coins were found in an urn, or earthen pot, as would fill a peck.

Littleborough, a small town about three miles from Gainsborough, is supposed to be the Agelocum or Segelocum of the Romans. An urn was found here, full of the coins of the emperor Domitian: and many other coins have been plowed up in the neighbouring fields.

Near Wintringham, a village north of Burton, the foundations of an old Roman town were lately plowed up, and many remains of antiquity found.

North-east of Glandford-bridge, near the mouth of the Humber, are the remains of Thornton college or abbey, where, in taking down a wall, not many years ago, the workmen found the skeleton of a man, with a table, a book, and a candlestick; the man is supposed to have been immured there for some heinous crime.

Remains of  
Roman anti-  
quity.

Srivellby-hall, not far from Horncastle, is the manor of the Dimocks, who hold it upon condition, that, at the coronation, the then lord, or some person in his name, if he be not able, shall come well armed into the royal presence, on a war horse, and make proclamation, that if any one shall say, that the sovereign has no right to the crown, he is ready to defend his right against all that shall oppose it.

Tockley, a small town, situated upon the Trent, at the influx of the Foß Dyke into that river, was a town once famous for many privileges which it enjoyed, upon condition

condition that the inhabitants should, whenever the king's ambassadors came that way, carry them down the Trent in their own barges, and conduct them as far as the city of York.

### ECCLESIASTICAL ANTIQUITIES.

At Icanhoc or Ycanno, and corruptly Wenno, a place thought by some to be in or near the town of Boston, and by others to be part of the city of Lincoln, St. Bosolph built a monastery in the year 652, upon a desert piece of ground, said to have been given him for that purpose by Ebelmund king of the South-Angles, which continued till the devastation of these countries by the Danes in the year 870.

Wulpher, king of the Mercians, about the middle of the seventh century, built a monastery at Barrow, a village near Barton.

At Bardney, a village about half way between Lincoln and Horncliffe, there was a monastery before the year 697, to which Ethelred king of Mercia was a great benefactor, if not the original founder. It was destroyed by the Danes in the year 870, and continued in ruins above two hundred years, till Remigius, bishop of Lincoln, or Gislebert de Gaun, in the time of William the Conqueror, re-edified the church and buildings, and replenished them with Benedictine monks. It was dedicated to St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Oswald the king and martyr, whose relics were first enshrined here, but about the year 909 translated to Gloucester. The revenues of this abbey were valued, upon the dissolution, at 3661. 6 s. 1 d. *per annum*.

At Crowland, Ethelbald king of Mercia, in the year 716, built an abbey for Black monks, dedicated to St. Mary, St. Bartholomew, and St. Guthlac. It was afterwards burnt by the Danes in 870; but king Edred, about the year 945, rebuilt it, and it continued in great splendor and wealth till the general dissolution, when the manors and estates belonging to it were reckoned worth 10831. 15 s. 10 d. *per annum*.

At the village of Stow, between the city of Lincoln and Gainsborough, there was a church or minster for secular priests, built, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, by Eadnoth bishop of Dorchester, and much augmented by the benefactions of earl Leofric and his lady Godiva. After the conquest, the religious here were changed into Benedictine monks, under the government of an abbat, by bishop Remigius, who procured for them, from William Rufus, the abbey of Eynsham in Oxfordshire, whither his successor, Robert Bloet, removed this abbat and his monks, reserving Stow, and some other estates, to the see of Lincoln, for which he gave them other lands in exchange.

Thorold de Bukenhale gave a place at Spalding, in the year 1052, for the habitation, and lands for the maintenance, of a prior and five monks from Crowland, who were forced to abandon this cell after the conquest, by the barbarous usage of Yvo Tailleboys, earl of Angiers in France, then lord of this town, and great part of the adjacent country. The same Yvo, about the year 1074, gave the church of St. Mary, and the manor of this place, to the abbey of St. Nicholas

las

has at Angiers, whence were sent over some Benedictine monks; and so it became an alien priory to that foreign monastery, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Nicholas. It was given in the twentieth year of Henry the Sixth to King's college in Cambridge; and in the first of Edward the Fourth, to Sion abbey in Middlesex; but being made a *priory indigenous*, and even at last an abbey, it continued till the general suppression, when its yearly income was rated at 767 l. 8 s. 4 d.

Some lands at Covenham, on the west side of Saltfleet, being given about the year 1082 to the abbey of St. Karileus, in the diocese of Mains in Normandy, by king William the Conqueror, a prior and Benedictine monks were settled here from that foreign monastery, to which it continued a cell under the patronage of the bishops of Durham, till it was made over, in the thirty-first of Edward the First, to the abbat and convent of Kirkstede, with whom it continued till the dissolution.

In the years 1072, 75, and 78, when the episcopal sees were decreed by the provincial synods to be removed into great towns and cities, Remigius, then bishop of Dorchester, fixed upon Lincoln, and, in the conqueror's time, bought the ground for the cathedral church, bishop's palace, and houses for the dignitaries and officers, and began the buildings, which were not finished till some years after, by his successor Robert Bloet, who increased the number of prebends, which was twenty-one, to forty-two. Remigius died four days before the consecration of the cathedral, in the year 1092. The revenues of this bishopric were valued, upon the dissolution, at 2,95 l. 2 s. 5 d. a-year; and the common revenues of the chapter at 578 l. 8 s. 2 d. But many of the manors and estates having been granted from the bishopric, chiefly in the time of Edward the Sixth, it is now rated only at 830 l. 28 s. 7 d. a-year, and the dividend money of the chapter, from which little or nothing seems to have been taken, at 546 l. 2 s. 6 d. There now belongs to this noble cathedral, besides the bishop, a dean, precentor, chancellor, sub-dean, six arch-deacons, fifty-two prebendaries, four priest-vicars, eight lay-vicars, or singing men, an organist, seven poor clerks, eight choristers, and seven burghers chancers.

Before the cathedral was built, there was a monastery of nuns upon or near the place where it now stands.

There was also near this city a house for leproous persons, which is thought to have been built by bishop Remigius, to which he assigned thirteen marks yearly revenue.

In the fourth suburb there was a priory for Gilbertine canons, dedicated to St. Catharine, founded 600 after the confirmation of that order, in the year 1148, by Robert second bishop of Lincoln. It was valued, upon the general dissolution, at 202 l. 5 s. *per annum*.

Here was an hospital, dedicated to the Holy Sepulchre, of the order of Sempringham, but distinct from the priory of St. Catharine's, to which the care and government of this house was committed, by Robert, second bishop of Lincoln, who probably was the founder of both.

In

In the large confirmation by king Henry the Second, of the lands and houses which had been given to the church of St. Mary's at York, are several donations in the city and fields of Lincoln, one of which was probably the place on which was built the priory of St. Mary Magdalen, a cell to the church at York, containing only two or three Benedictine monks. It was valued, upon the general dissolution, at 27l. 6s. 3d. *per annum*.

In or before the year 1230, the Grey friars, or friars minors, of the order of St. Francis, came to this city, and had a place given them to dwell in by William de Benningworth, near which the citizens of Lincoln gave them a piece of ground belonging to their guild-hall; and thereon a church and house of these Franciscans were built.

A priory dedicated to St. Bartholomew, is mentioned as belonging to this city, in the thirty-ninth year of Henry the Third.

Here was a house of White friars, founded by Gualterus, dean of Lincoln, a Scotman, in the year 1269.

On the east part of the city was a priory of Black or preaching friars, as early as the twelfth of Edward the First.

A little without this city, on the north-east, was an hospital dedicated to St. Giles, the mastership of which was annexed by Oliver, dean of Lincoln, about the year 1280, to the vicars who performed divine offices in the cathedral.

On the south side of the suburb joining to Newport gate, was an house of Augustine friars, as early as the year 1291.

About the year 1355, Sir Nicholas de Cantilupe, knight, founded a college of priests within the close.

In one of the suburbs of this city, there was an house of the friars de sacco, or de poenitentia Jesu Christi, before the dissolution of that order. In the fifth of Edward the Third, leave was granted to the vicars of the cathedral church of Lincoln, to take the church of Repham, near this city, in mortmain, upon condition that they kept three chaplains constantly to officiate in the chapel which sometime belonged to those friars, for the soul of Edward the First. In the thirty-second of Edward the Third, Joan, who had been the wife of Sir Nicholas Cantilupe, had leave to found a college, or large chantry, for five priests, dedicated to St. Peter, upon the ground where formerly the house of the friars de sacco stood.

At Belvoir, or, as it is commonly called Bever-castle, near Grantham, there was a priory of four Black monks, subordinate to the abbey of St. Alban in Hertfordshire, to which it was annexed by its founder, Robert de Belvideir, or de Tondenci, in the time of William the Conqueror. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and valued, upon the dissolution, at 104l. 19s. 10d. *per annum*.

Upon



Upon laying the foundation of the new abbey church at Crowland, in the year 1114, Alan de Croun gave it the advowson of the church of Freeston, near Boston, and in a little time after, some other lands and churches, and placed here a prior and some black monks, subordinate to that great monastery, whom he farther endowed before his death, in the time of king Stephen. This cell was dedicated to St. James.

Ranulph de Meschines, earl of Chester, before the year 1129, gave the church of St. Andrew at Minsing, a village north-west of Horncastle, to the abbey of St. Benedict upon the Lyre in France; upon which an alien priory of Benedictine monks was fixed here.

At Wellow, near Grimsby, Henry the First built and endowed an abbey for Black canons, dedicated to St. Augustine, which was valued, upon the dissolution, at 95 l. 6 s. 1 d. *per annum*.

At Hyrst, in the isle of Axholm, there was a cell of one or two Black canons, belonging to the abbey of Nottel, near Wakefield, a market town of Yorkshire, to which it was given by Nigel de Albani, in the time of Henry the First. This small house was dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and rated but at 5 l. 10 s. 1 d. *per annum*, upon the dissolution.

In the year 1134, an abbey of Cistercian monks was founded in the marshes near Swineshead, south-west of Boston, by Robert de Gresel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. About the time of the dissolution, here were eleven religious, whose yearly revenues were worth 167 l. 15 s. 3 d.

At Bourne, Baldwin the son of Gislebert de Gaunt, afterwards earl of Lincoln, in or before the year 1138, settled an abbat and canons of the order of St. Austin, in a monastery which was dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and rated at 197 l. 17 s. 5 d. *per annum*, at the dissolution, when it contained eleven canons.

At Deeping there was a cell of Black monks belonging to Thorney abbey in Cambridgeshire, to which it was given by Baldwin the son of Gislebert, in the year 1139. It was dedicated to St. James.

At Thoenham, north-west of Glandford-bridge, there was a priory of canons of the order of St. Austin, founded by king Stephen, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and endowed, at the dissolution, with 105 l. 13 s. *per annum*.

At Sempringham, near Fokingham, Sir Gilbert, son of Sir Joceline de Sempringham, knight, rector of the church of St. Andrew here, having instituted a new model of religious life, from him and from this place called the Gilbertine or Sempringham order, about the year 1139, obtained, by the gift of Gislebert, three carucates of land, each of which is supposed to be one hundred acres, on which he built a priory for his nuns and canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This was the head house of the order where their general chapters were held, and had revenues upon the dissolution to the yearly value of 317 l. 4 s. 1 d.

Vol. I.

H h

Haverholm;

Haverholm, a village north-east of Sleaford, was first given by Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, to the Cistercian monks of Fountain Abbey, near Borrowbridge in Yorkshire, about the year 1137, to build an abbey for monks of that order; but after having made some progress in the building, the monks pretended not to like the situation, and removed to Louth Park. The bishop afterwards disposed of this place to the nuns and canons of the new order of St. Gilbert of Sempringham, who settled here in the year 1139, and continued till the general dissolution, when their yearly income was rated at 70*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.* It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At Kirkfield, near Tatterthall, Hugh Brito, the son of Eudo, lord of Tatterthall, founded a Cistercian abbey in the year 1139, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Its possessions were valued upon the dissolution at 286*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* *per annum.*

Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, in the year 1139, built an abbey in a park near Louth, for the Cistercian monks, whom he had brought from Fountain Abbey to Haverholm. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and in the time of king Henry the Third here were no less than sixty-six monks, and one hundred and fifty converts; but about the time of the suppression the number of religious was reduced to twelve, and their revenues valued at 147*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* *per annum.*

At Thornton, south-east of Barton upon the Humber, William Le Gros, earl of Albemarle and lord of Holderness, founded in the year 1139, a monastery of Black canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which was valued upon the suppression at 594*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.* *per annum.*

At Eagle, south-west of Lincoln, there was a commandry of the Knights Templars, who had the manor of this place by the gift of king Stephen. It afterwards came to the Hospitalers, and upon their dissolution, in the thirty-third year of king Henry the Eighth, it was valued at 124*l.* 2*s.* *per annum.*

At Reaby, south-west of Bullingbrook, William de Romara, earl of Lincoln, in the year 1142, founded an abbey of Cistercian monks, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Laurence, and endowed at the suppression with 287*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

At Newsham Abbey, north-east of Glandford-bridge, there was the first monastery of the Premonstratensian order in England, which was built by Peter de Goulla, or Goufel, in the year 1143, or 1145, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Martial. Here were maintained about the time of the dissolution, an abbat and eleven canons, having yearly revenues worth 99*l.* 3*s.* 10*d.*

At Stakewold, north-west of Tatterthall-Chace, the countess Lucy, relict of Yvo de Tailbois, Roger de Romara, and Ranulf, the first earl of Chester, built, in the time of king Stephen, a monastery of Cistercian nuns, under the direction of a master. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had in it thirteen nuns, whose possessions were rated upon the suppression at 114*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

In the year 1147, William, earl of Albemarle, brought to Bitham, south-east of Grantham, a convent of Cistercian monks, from Fountain Abbey in Yorkshire; but those monks, finding some inconvenience here, quickly removed to a more pleasant place, in the parish of Edenham, called Vaudy Abbey, a very little way north-east of Bitham. It was given them by Jeffry de Brachecourt, or his lord, Gilbert de Gant, earl of Lincoln. About the time of the suppression here were an abbat and thirteen monks, whose yearly revenues were valued at 124*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At Catley, near Grantham, Peter de Belingey built a priory in the time of king Stephen, for nuns and brethren of the Sempringham order, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which was endowed upon the suppression with 33*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* *per annum.*

At Maltby, near Alford, there was a preceptory of the Templars, and afterwards of the Hospitallers. Randal, earl of Chester, was the first donor.

In a park at Bullington, north-east of Lincoln, Simon Fitz William, or de Kyma, in the time of king Stephen, built a religious house for a prior and convent of both sexes, under the rule of St. Gilbert of Sempringham. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at the dissolution was endowed with 158*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* *per annum.*

At a place formerly called Tunbal, supposed to have been near Kirkton, there was a house of Gilbertine nuns, founded by Reginald de Crevequer, in the time of king Stephen, which seems to have been united to Bullington, by his son Alexander.

At Sixhill, south-east of Market-Rasen, there was a Gilbertine priory of nuns, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and said to have been founded by ——— Grelle, or Gredel. Its revenues upon the suppression were valued at 135*l.* 9*s.* *per annum.*

At Nocton, near Lincoln, Robert de Arcy, or D'Arcy, in the time of king Stephen, built a priory for Black canons, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. It had about the time of the dissolution five canons, with possessions worth 43*l.* *per annum.*

At North Ormsby, north-west of Louth, William, earl of Albemarle, and Gilbert, son of Robert de Ormsby, founded, in the time of king Stephen, a monastery for nuns and brethren of the Sempringham order. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and valued upon the general suppression at 80*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* *per annum.*

Hugo de Evermeue, or Wake, gave the manor of Wilsford to the abbey of Bec in Normandy, in the time of king Stephen, upon which a priory of Benedictine monks from thence, was fixed here. It being seized into the king's hands during the wars with France, it was at length, by the favour of Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, settled on the abbey of Bourn, in this county.

## L I N C O L N S H I R E.

It is said that there was an alien priory at a place called Willeketon, Willoughton, or Wyllyton, in this county; but it does not appear that there is any place in the county now known by that name, nor what place, if any, was so called.

At Alvingham, near Louth, there was, about the end of king Stephen's reign, a priory of Gilbertine nuns and canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Adelwold, but by whom founded is not certainly known. It was valued upon the suppression at 128*l.* 14*s.* 2*d.* *per annum.*

At Greenfield, north-west of Alford, Eudo de Greinelsby and Ralph de Abi, his son, before the year 1153, built a priory for nuns of the Cistercian order, dedicated to St. Mary, in which, about the time of the suppression, there were ten nuns, who had an estate worth 63*l.* 4*s.* 1*d.* *per annum.*

At Berlings, near Lincoln, there was an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, dedicated to St. Mary, founded about the year 1154, and valued upon the suppression at 242*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* *per annum.*

At Cotham, Alan Muncels, or Monceaux, about the end of the reign of king Henry the First, built a Cistercian nunnery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, in which, at the dissolution, were a prioress and twelve nuns, with revenues rated only at 40*l.* *per annum.*

At a place formerly called Ailesham, or Ellefham, near Thorston, Beatrix de Amundevill began an hospital for several poor brethren, which her son Walter confirmed and augmented, and committed to the care of a prior and regular canons, of the order of St. Austin, before the year 1166. This priory was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Edmond, and had but five canons a little before the suppression, when its possessions were valued at 70*l.* 0*s.* 3*d.* *per annum.*

Roger de Mowbray, or Gosfridus de la Wyrch, gave a place in this county formerly called the Island of Sanctetoft, or Sauntoft, to the abbey of St. Mary in the city of York, about the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Second, upon which here was settled a small Benedictine priory, cell to St. Mary.

At South Witham, near the source of the river Witham, there was a preceptory of Knights Templars, as ancient as the year 1164, to which Margaret de Perci, and Hubert de Ria, were great benefactors, if not founders. It came afterwards to the Hospitalers.

About the year 1164, king Henry the Second gave the manor of Haugh or Haugh on the Mount, near Grantham, to the abbey of St. Mary de Voto at Cherburgh in Normandy, which was founded by his mother, the empress Maud, and himself, so that here was an alien priory of some Austin canons, subordinate to that foreign monastery.

At Cameringham, north-west of Lincoln, there was an alien priory, cell to the Premonstratensian abbey of Blanch Lande in Normandy, the manor here being given

given to that abbey by the founders, Richard de Haya, and Maud his wife pretty early in the reign of king Henry the Second. About the nineteenth of king Richard the Second, Elizabeth, widow of Sir Nicholas Audley, purchased this priory, and settled it on the abbey of Hilkon, near Brewood, a market town of Staffordshire.

At Topham, near Horncastle, there was an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, founded by Alan de Nevill, and Gilbert, his brother, in the time of Henry the Second, in which, about the time of the dissolution, there were nine religious, who had a yearly income of 100*l.* 14*s.* 10*d.*

King Henry the Second, before the year 1173, gave to St. Gilbert, and the canons of Sempringham, an island called Rucholm, within the bounds of Cadney, upon the river Ankam, south of Glandford-bridge, to found a priory of their order, which was called Newstede, dedicated to the Trinity, and endowed at the dissolution with 381. 13*s.* 5*d.* *per annum.*

In the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Third, here was an hospital or priory for canons of the order of St. Austin and certain poor persons, built and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, by William de Albini the third. Its yearly revenues upon the suppression were valued at 37*l.* 6*s.*

At Hagneby, near Bullingbrook, Hubert, the son of Alard de Orreby, and the lady Agnes his wife, in the year 1175, built a Premonstratensian abbey, dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, in which, a little before the suppression, were nine canons, whose possessions were then valued at 87*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.*

At a place formerly called Heyninges, or Hevenynge, two miles distant from Ganselborough, there was a Cistercian nunnery, founded by Robert Everme, about the year 1180. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, had a prioress and twelve nuns, with a yearly revenue of 49*l.* 5*s.* 2*d.*

At Mere, near Lincoln, there seems to have been a house of Templars, and afterwards of Hospitalers, to which Swane le Rich, and Sir William Vileyn, were great benefactors, in the reigns of king Henry the Second and king John.

At Grimsby there was a Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to St. Leonard, and founded before the year 1185, in which, about the time of the suppression, were 2 prioresses and seven or eight nuns, yet endowed with no more than 9*l.* 14*s.* 7*d.* *per annum.*

There was a house of Friars Heremites or Austin Friars in this town about the year 1304.

Here also was a convent of Franciscan or Grey friars, founded in the beginning of the reign of king Edward the Second, if not before.

At Temple Bruer, north-west of Sleaford, before the year 1185, there was a preceptory, first of the Knights Templars, and afterwards of the Hospitalers, who

## L I N C O L N S H I R E.

who had annexed such possessions to it, as were valued upon the suppression at 184*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* *per annum.*

At Kyme, south-west of Tatterhal, Philip de Kyme, in the time of king Henry the Second, built a priory of Black canons, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It consisted of about eight religious, and was possessed of lands and rents at the dissolution worth 110*l.* 4*s.* *per annum.*

At Gokewell, north-east of Glandford-bridge, there was a Cistercian nunnery, founded by William de alta Ripa, before the year 1185. It had a prioress and six nuns about the time of the dissolution, with a yearly income of 76*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.*

At Stanfield, west of Horncastle, Henry Percy, about the end of the reign of king Henry the Second, built and endowed a priory for nuns of the Benedictine order, which at the suppression had belonging to it sixteen religious, whose possessions were then valued at 98*l.* 8*s.* *per annum.*

Richard de Humer, constable of Normandy, in the time of king Henry the Second, gave the church of a place in this county, formerly called Limberg Magna, to the Cistercian abbey of Aulney, or Aveney, in Normandy, to which this became an alien priory, till it was sold by those foreign monks to the Carthusians of St. Anne near Coventry, in the sixteenth of Richard the Second.

At Irford, north-east of Market Rasen, there was a small priory for nuns of the Premonstratensian order, founded by Ralph de Albini, in the time of king Henry the Second. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had in it six or eight religious about the time of the dissolution, when the revenues of it were reckoned at 13*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.* *per annum.*

At Humerstone, south-east of Grimby, there was an abbey of Benedictine monks, built in the time of king Henry the Second, by William, the son of Randolph, the son of Drogo, the son of Hermerus. It was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Peter, and had yearly revenues upon the suppression rated at 32*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

At Ailackby, two miles south of Fellingham, there seems to have been a preceptory or commandry of the Templars, founded by John le Marechal, about the time of king Richard the First.

At a place formerly called Neubo, or Newboth, there was an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, founded in the year 1198, by Richard de Malebisse, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. About the time of the suppression here were eight canons, whose estate was valued then at the rate of 71*l.* 8*s.* 1*d.* *per annum.*

At one or other, and perhaps at more than one of the following places, Kartdale, Keddington, and Hallington, near Louth, there was a nunnery as early as the year 1150, which seems to have been removed to Legborn, not far from Alford, by Robert Fitz Gilbert of Legborn or Tadwelle, before the first year of king John. Here, upon the suppression, were ten nuns of the Cistercian order, whose revenues were rated at 38*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.* *per annum.* It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

At

At Torksey, on the east side of the New Town, stood a priory of Black canons, built by king John, and dedicated to St. Leonard. It consisted only of four religious about the time of the dissolution, when its yearly revenues were valued at 13*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*

Alan, the son of Henry earl of Brittany, in the year 1202, gave the town and church of West Ravensdale, near Grimby, to the Premonstratensian abbey of Beauport in Brittany, and so it became a cell to that monastery. This alien priory was upon its dissolution, the seventeenth of Henry the Sixth, valued at 14*l.* *per annum.*

The church of a place formerly called Bondeby, or Bonby, that of Saxelby, near Lincoln, and of Stamford, south of Glandford-bridge, being granted to the priory of St. Fromund in Normandy, by the prior and convent of Merton, in exchange for other revenues, in the beginning of king John's reign, there was soon afterwards an alien priory erected at Bondeby.

At Markby, near Alford, there was a priory of Black canons, built before the fifth of king John, by Ralph Fitz Gilbert, dedicated to St. Peter, and rated upon the suppression at 13*l.* 13*s.* *per annum.*

At Glandford-bridge there was an ancient hospital, founded by Adam Paynel, in king John's time, subordinate to the abbey of Selby, a market town of Yorkshire, one of the monks of which was master.

At Holland Bridge, or Bridgend, not far from Fokingham, there was a Gilbertine priory, founded in the time of king John, by Godwinus, a rich citizen of Lincoln, dedicated to our Saviour, and valued upon the dissolution at 5*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.* *per annum.*

At Fosse, near Torksey, there was a small Benedictine nunnery, begun by the inhabitants of Torksey, upon some demain lands belonging to the crown, pretty early in the time of king John, but king Henry the Third confirming it, is said to have been the founder. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had in it eight nuns about the time of the dissolution, when their revenues were rated but at 7*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* *per annum.*

At Wingall, south of Glandford-bridge, there was an alien priory, dedicated to St. John, cell to the abbey of Sees in Normandy, to which it belonged, in the beginning of the reign of Henry the Third.

The church and four carucates of land in the town of Long Benington, north-west of Grantham, being given by Ralph de Filgeris, or Fulgeris, to the abbey of Savigney in Normandy, before the year 1175, here was an alien priory of Cistercian monks, subordinate to that foreign monastery.

At Stamford there was a priory of Benedictine monks, cell to the monastery of Durham, dedicated to St. Leonard. It was upon the suppression valued at 25*l.*

## L I N C O L N S H I R E .

25l. 1s. 2d. *per annum*, and is now a farm house, and still called St. Cuthbert's Fee.

On the east side of the town, near the river, there was a convent of Dominican or Black friars, founded before the year 1240.

Here was an house of White or Carmelite friars, founded, as Speed thinks, by king Edward the Third, but Tanner thinks it more likely to have been founded by king Edward the First, in whose time it occurs.

Near the green ditch, in the west suburb of this town, close to St. Peter's gate, was a priory of friars Austins, said to be begun by one Fleming, and finished by an archdeacon of Richmond. It was in being before the year 1340.

On the east side of the town, north of St. Leonard's, without Paul gate, stood a house of Grey or Franciscan friars, founded before the forty-eighth of Edward the Third.

The old bead-house, or hospital, for a warden, a chaplain, twelve poor old men, and a nurse, founded, and liberally endowed, by William Brown merchant of the staple, in 1493, was dedicated to All Saints, and valued at 54l. 12s. 2d. *per annum*. It is yet standing.

At Skirbeck near Boston, there was an old hospital for ten poor people, dedicated to St. Leonard, which being given, with the manor, in the year 1230, to the knights hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem, by Sir Thomas Multon, knight, some of that order soon after settled here, upon which the hospital was called St. John Baptist's.

At Burwell, four miles west of Alford, there was an alien priory of Benedictine monks, given by some of the lords of Kyme to the abbey of St. Mary *Silve Majoris*, near Bourdeaux. After the general seizing of these houses, this came to the college of Tatterhal.

At Hayham, near Burwell, there was an estate and priory belonging to the Clunian or Benedictine abbey of St. Mary *in Sever*, in the diocese of Constance, which was of the foundation of Hugh the first earl of Chester. This cell, then valued at twelve marks *per annum*, was, about the twentieth of Richard the Second, settled upon the Carthusian priory of St. Anne near Coventry.

At a place in this county, formerly called Ickham, there was an alien priory, partly in Lincolnshire and partly in Oxfordshire, granted to the college called God's house in Cambridge.

At Dunstan, south-east of Lincoln, there was an ancient hospital for leprous persons, in the time of Henry the Third, which perhaps may be the same with one at Mere, in or near the parish of Dunstan, founded by Simon de Roppele, before the year 1246. The mastership was in the gift of the bishop of Lincoln, and, when the fee was vacant, of the dean and chapter. It seems to have been spared at the general suppression, and to be yet in being.

At



At Boston there was a well endowed hospital for poor men, before the tenth of King Edward the First.

Here was a house of Black friars, before the year 1288.

In that part of the town west of the river, there was a priory of Carmelite friars, founded by Sir — Orreby, knight, about the year 1300.

Here was a priory of Austin friars, which seems to have been the foundation of King Edward the Second.

A house of Grey, or Franciscan, friars was founded here by the Esterling merchants, says Leland; but according to Stow, it was founded by John le Pytchede.

At Grantham was built an house for Franciscan, or Grey friars, about the year 1290.

At Spittle in the Street, between Ganesborough and Market Rasen, there was a chapel and hospital dedicated to St. Edmund, founded before the sixteenth of Edward the Second, and augmented by Thomas Aston canon of Lincoln, in the time of King Richard the Second. It is yet in being, and under the care of the dean and chapter of Lincoln.

At Spilly there was a chapel, which was made collegiate for a master and twelve priests, by Sir John Willoughby, in the twenty-second of Edward the Third. It was dedicated to the Trinity.

Near the parish church of Holbech, Sir John de Kirketon, knight, founded an hospital for a warden and fifteen poor persons, dedicated to All Saints, about the year 1351.

Adjoining to Milwood park, in the Isle of Axholm, south-west of Glandford-bridge, stood a monastery of the Carthusians, called the Priory in the wood, or the house of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, founded about the nineteenth year of King Richard the Second, by Thomas Mowbray, earl of Nottingham, and earl marshal of England, afterwards duke of Norfolk, and dedicated to St. Mary, St. John the Evangelist, and St. Edward the king and confessor. The yearly revenues of this priory, upon the dissolution, were rated at 237*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.*

At Tatterhal, there was a college for a master or warden, six priests, six clerks, and six choristers, and an alms-house next the church-yard, for thirteen poor persons, built and endowed by Sir Ralph Cromwell, knight, in the seventeenth of Henry the Seventh: it was dedicated to the Trinity, St. Mary, St. Peter, St. John Evangelist, and St. John Baptist; and valued, the twenty-sixth of King Henry the Eighth, at 348*l.* 5*s.* 11*d.* *per annum.*

## L I N C O L N S H I R E

## MEMBERS of PARLIAMENT for this COUNTY.

Lincolnshire sends twelve members to parliament, two knights of the shire for the county, two citizens for Lincoln, and two burgeses for each of the following boroughs, Stamford, Grantham, Boston, and Grimsby.



END of the FIRST VOLUME.

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