

POST OFFICE MAP OF CHESHIRE.

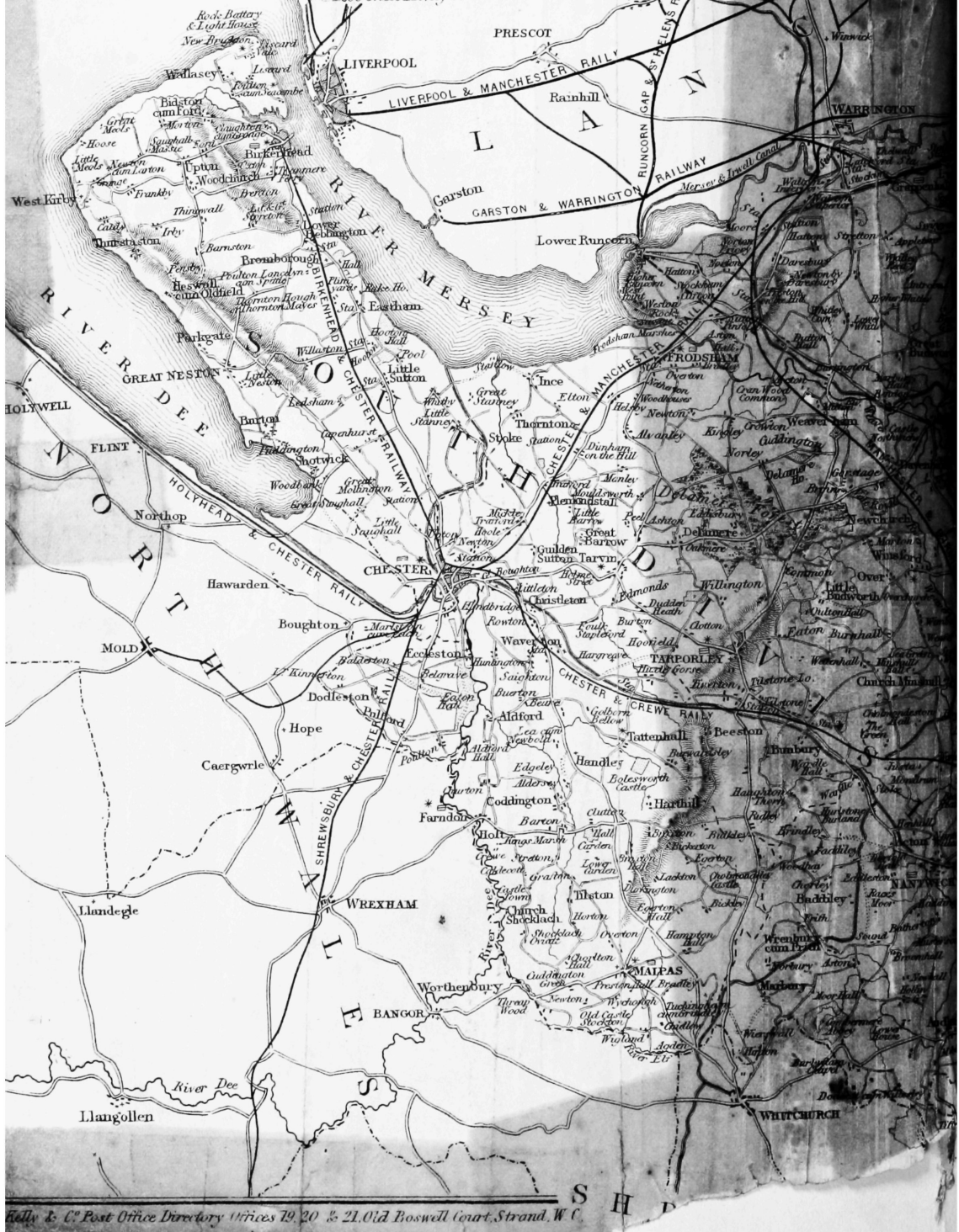
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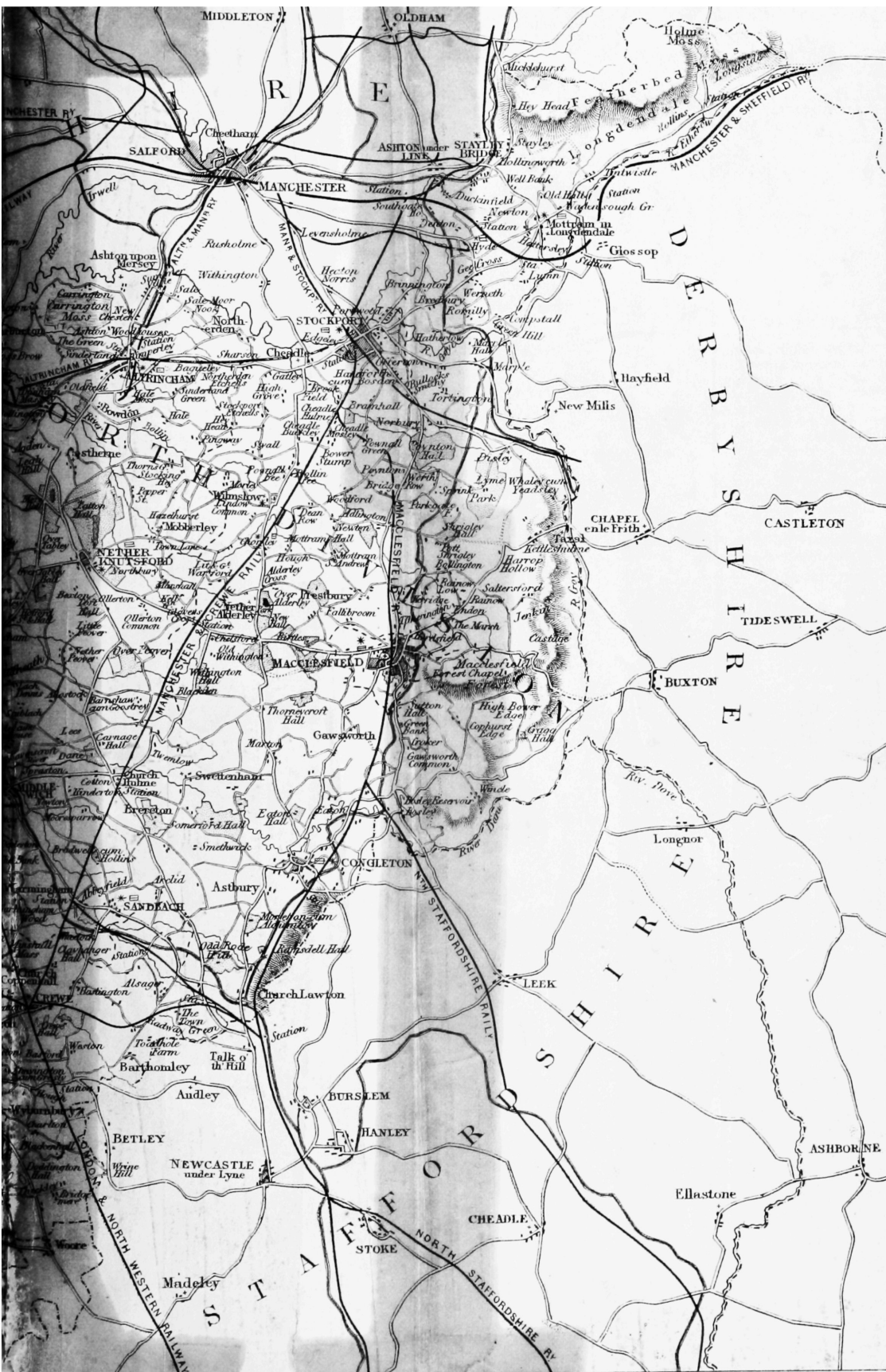
The County of Cheshire consists of 707078 Acres, & contains 455,125 Inhabitants.

& sends 10 Members to Parliament, viz.

The North Division 2	The Borough of Macclesfield 2
The South " 2	Stockport 2
The City of Chester 2	

..... Denote Polling Places
* Post Office Money Order Tonnus





POST OFFICE DIRECTORY

OF

CHESHIRE;

WITH

MAP ENGRAVED EXPRESSLY FOR THE WORK,

AND CORRECTED TO THE TIME OF PUBLICATION.

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P R E F A C E.

THE great encouragement received in publishing Directories of the Southern Counties has induced the Proprietors to yield to a request, received from various sources, to extend their publications so as to include the whole of England. The "Post Office Directory of Yorkshire" was the first Directory of a Northern County published by them; the Directory of Cheshire is the second, and great care has been bestowed on the work to render it as valuable a book of reference as the other Post Office Directories are universally acknowledged to be. Alterations which have occurred while the sheets have been passing through the press have been carefully attended to: reference to the publication will give ample evidence of this.

Messrs. KELLY and Co. cannot conclude these remarks without thanking those Gentlemen who have so greatly assisted them by undertaking the revision of the proofs of each place, and to the Clerk of the Peace for furnishing the list of Magistrates; also to other Gentlemen who have rendered their agents valuable assistance in the collection of information.

OCTOBER, 1857.

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FOR THE COUNTY.

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BROXTON HUNDRED.

Cotton the Hon. Wellington Henry Stapleton, Cherry hill, Malpas	Dod John Whitehall, esq. M.P. Cloverley, Whitechurch
Kenyon the Hon. Edward, Chorlton lodge, Malpas	Ince Townsend, esq. Christleton, Chester
Walker Sir Edward Samuel, kut. Berry hill, Mansfield, Nottingham	Leche John Hurleston, esq. Carder hall, Chester
Cotton Charles Robert, esq. Broughton hall, Worthenbury, Wrexham	Orton Robert Bulkeley, esq. Tattenhall
Clutton Thomas Chorlton, esq. Chorlton, Malpas	Potts Charles, esq. Chester
Dixon Thomas, esq. Littleton, Chester	Temple Robert Griffiths, esq. Lache, Chester
	Williams John, esq. Bank, Chester
	Grosvenor Earl, Calveley hall, Nantwich
	Ewart Peter, esq. Hoole, Chester

BUCKLOW HUNDRED, DARESBUY DIVISION.

Brooke Sir Richard, bart. Norton priory, Halton, Runcorn	Johnson John, esq. Bank house, Runcorn
Brooke Richard, esq. Norton priory, Halton, Runcorn	Legh Rev. Peter, Lyme park, Macclesfield
Greenall Gilbert, esq. M.P. Higher Walton hall, Warrington	Lyon Thomas, esq. Appleton hall, Warrington
Harper William Hosken, esq. Statham lodge, Lymm, Warrington	Lyon Thomas, jun. esq.
Weddington Shallcross Fitzherbert, esq. Newton bank, Preston brook	Lyon Thomas Henry, esq. Appleton, Warrington
	Parr Thomas, esq. Grappenhall, Warrington
	Stubs Joseph, esq. Park place, Frodsham
	Whiteway Philip, esq. Runcorn

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Kaye Sir John Lister Lister, bart. 54 Portland pl. London	Mainwaring Harry, esq. Peover, Knutsford
Mainwaring Sir Harry Mainwaring, bart.	Neild William, esq. High Lawn, near Altrincham
Egerton William Tatton, esq. M.P. Mere hall, Knutsford	Sowerby Rev. Charles Backhouse, Ashton upon Mersey, Altrincham
Egerton Charles Randle, esq.	Townshend Lee Porcher, esq. Wincham, Knutsford
Foster John Frederick, esq. Manchester	Trafford Trafford, esq. Oughtrington hall, Lymm, Warrington
Haworth Edmund, esq. Sale lodge, Strtford, Manchester	Warburton Rowland Eyles Egerton, esq. Arley, Northwich
Joyson Edward, esq. the Downs, Altrincham	Stanton James, esq. Thelwall, Warrington
Legh George Cornwall, esq. M.P. High Legh, Knutsford	Egerton Wilbraham, esq. Mere hall, Knutsford
Leigh Egerton, esq. Jodrell hall, Knutsford	

EDDISBURY HUNDRED.

Delamere Lord, Vale Royal, Northwich	Egerton Rev. John
Cholmondeley the Hon. Thomas Grenville, Vale Royal, Northwich	Jesse John, esq.
Lascelles the Hon. Arthur, Norley bank, Northwich	Lowten Thomas Lowten, esq.
Egerton Sir Philip de Malpas Grey, bart. M.P. Oulton park, Tarporley	Tollemache John, esq. M.P. Peckforton castle, Tarporley
Atkinson William, esq. Ashton Hayes, Kelsall	Tomkinson William, esq. Willington, Kelsall
Corbett Edwin, esq. Tilstone lodge, Tarporley	Wilbraham George Fortescue, esq. Delamere house, Northwich
	Woodhouse Samuel, esq. Norley hall, Northwich

MACCLESFIELD HUNDRED, HYDE DIVISION.

Adshead James, esq. Arces bank, Stayleybridge	Cheetham John, esq. Stayleybridge, Manchester
Ashton Samuel, jun. esq. Hyde	Chetwode Rev. George, Ashton-under-Lyne
Ashton James, esq. Highfield, Bredbury, Stockport	Clarke Hyde John, esq. Bryntisillio, Llangollen
Ashton Thomas, esq. Hyde	Evans Rev. Joseph Saville Roberts, Prescott, Lancashire
Buckley Abel, esq. Ryecroft, Ashton-under-Lyne	Grimshaw John, esq. High Bank, Gorton, near Manchester
Chapman John, esq. Hill end, Mottram in Longendale	Harrison David, esq. Stayleybridge

MACCLESFIELD HUNDRED, HYDE DIVISION—*continued.*

Harrison Thomas, esq. West hill, Staleybridge, Lancashire	Platt Robert, esq. Duckinfield
Harrop Jonah, esq. Bardsley house, Ashton-under-Lyne	Sidebotham Edward Lowe, esq. 19 Lansdown pl. Cheltenham
Heginbottom Samuel, esq. Henry sq. Ashton-under-Lyne	Sidebotham John, esq. Kingston, Hyde
Hindley Charles, esq. Duckinfield lodge, Ashton-under-Lyne	Sidebottom William, esq. Etherow ho. Mottram in Longdendale
Hollyworth Robert De, esq. Hollingworth hall, Mottram in Longdendale	Sidebottom Jno. esq. Harewood lodge, Mottram in Longdendale
Mellor Thomas Walton, esq. Ashton-under-Lyne	Turner John, esq. Godley, Manchester
	Woodhead George, esq. Old hall, Mottram in Longdendale

MACCLESFIELD HUNDRED, PRESTBURY DIVISION.

Stanley Lord, of Alderley, Alderley park, Monksheath, Congleton	Hopes Wm. esq. Marton house, near Appleby, Westmoreland
Antrobus Gibbs Crawford, esq. Eaton hall, Congleton	Legh Charles Richard Banastre, esq. Adlington hall, Macclesfield
Brocklehurst John, esq. M.P. Hurdfield house, Macclesfield	Lowther Rev. Brabazon, Pott Shrigley, Macclesfield
Brownlow Rev. William, Rectory, Wimslow	Ryle John, esq.
Brocklehurst William Coare, esq. Butley hall, Macclesfield	Ryle Rev. John Charles
Daintry Thomas Ryle, esq. North Rode, Congleton	Swanwick Thomas, esq. M.D. Macclesfield
Dixon John, esq. Astle, Chelford, Knutsford	Swetenham Clement, esq. Somerford Booths, Congleton
Gaskell John Upton, esq. Ingersley hall, Rainow, Macclesfield	Thornycroft Rev. John, Thornycroft, Congleton
Glegg John Baskervyle, esq. Withington hall, Chelford, Knutsford	Twemlow Francis, esq. Betley court, Newcastle-under-Lyne
Gregg Robert Hyde, esq. Wimslow, Manchester	Twemlow Thomas Fletcher, esq. Bentley court, Newcastle-under-Lyne
Hibbert Thomas, esq. Birtles, Monksheath, Congleton	Wardle Henry, esq. Park mount, Macclesfield

MACCLESFIELD HUNDRED, STOCKPORT DIVISION.

Bruckshaw Joshua, esq. Harrytown hall, Bredbury, Stockport	Mills Rev. Thomas Sturges, Littleborough, Rochdale
Davenport William Davenport, esq. Bramall hall, Stockport	Newton James, esq. Cheadle heath, Stockport
Grimshaw Samuel, jun. esq. Errwood house, Buxton	Prescot Rev. Charles Kenrick, Rectory, Stockport
Heald James, esq. Parr's wood, Disbury, Manchester	Simpson Richard, esq. Mellor lodge, Stockport
Isherwood Thomas Bradshaw, esq.	Tatton Thomas William, esq. Wythenshawe, Northenden, Manchester
Marsland Edward, esq. Stockport	Wright John, esq. Brabins hall, near Stockport
Marsland Henry, esq. Woodbank, Stockport	Yates Joseph St. John, esq. Wellbank, Sandbach
Marsland Peter Edward, esq. Stockport	

NANTWICH HUNDRED.

Combermere Viscount, Combermere abbey, Nantwich	Folliott Rev. James, Stapley house, Nantwich
Akroyd Henry, esq. Doddington hall, Nantwich	Hinchliffe Rev. Edward
Baker William, esq. Highfields, Nantwich	Massey Francis Elcocke, esq. Poole, Nantwich
Brooke Rev. Thomas, Wistaston, Nantwich	Poole William Halsted, esq. Terrick, Whitechurch
Broughton Rev. Delves, the Cliffe, Wybunbury, Nantwich	Tollemache Wilbraham Spencer, esq. Dorfold, Nantwich
Corbet Richard, esq. Adderley, Market Drayton	Starkey Samuel Cross, esq. Wrenbury, Nantwich

NORTHWICH HUNDRED.

Armitstead Lawrence, esq. Cranage, Middlewich	Hogg Henry, esq. Davenshaw house, Congleton
Armitstead Rev. John, Vicarage, Sandbach	Latham George William, esq. Bradwall hall, Sandbach
Buchanan William Theophilus, esq.	Pearson Samuel, esq. Buglawton hall, Congleton
Brierley Rev. James, Mosley, Moss hall, near Congleton	Shakerley Geoffry Joseph, esq. Whiteroft, Davenham
Ford Charles Ingram, esq. Abbey field, Sandbach	Swettenham Thomas John Wybault, esq. Swettenham hall, Congleton
Ford Francis Johnson, esq.	Wilbraham Randle, esq. Rode hall, Lawton
France Henry Mayhurst, esq.	Wilbraham Randle, jun. esq. Rode heath, Lawton
France James France, esq. Bostock hall, Middlewich	Wood Rev. Archdeacon, Middlewich
France Rev. Thomas, Davenham	
Harper John Hosken, esq. Davenham	

WIRRAL HUNDRED.

Cust Major-General the Hon. Sir Edward, Leasowe castle, Woodside	Hall William, esq. Seaforth, near Liverpool
Barton Richard, esq. Caldly manor, Woodside	Harden John William, esq. Ross cottage, Rock ferry, Birkenhead
Bryans Richard, esq. Birkenhead	Jackson John Somerville, esq. Birkenhead
Case John Deane, esq. Poulton Hey, near Birkenhead	Jackson William, esq. M.P. Birkenhead
Congreve Richard, esq. Burton, Neston	Laird John, esq. Birkenhead
Congreve William, esq. Burton, Neston	Lawrence George Hall, esq. New Brighton, Wirral
Coxon Rev. Mark, Heswall, Neston	Naylor Richard Christopher, esq. Hooton hall, Chester
Ewart Joseph Christopher, esq. M.P. New Brighton, Wirral	Neilson Daniel, esq. New Brighton, Wirral
Feilden John, esq. Mollington hall, Chester	Penny Rev. Benjamin, LL.D. Chester
Feilden Rev. Robert Mosley, Bebington rectory, Chester	Potter William, esq.
Glegg John Baskervyle, esq. Thurstaston, Upton Wirral	Richardson Rev. Richard, Capenhurst, Chester
Glegg John Baskervyle, jun. esq. Gayton, Neston	Shaw John Ralph, esq. Arrow hall, Woodside

PUBLIC OFFICERS.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

Cheshire (North.)
William Tatt on Egerton, esq.
George Cornwall Legh, esq.

Cheshire (South.)
Sir Philip de Malpas Grey Egerton, bart
John Tollemache, esq.

LAW OFFICERS.

<i>High Sheriff</i> , William Atkinson, esq. Ashton Hayes, Kelsall	<i>Clerk to the Lieutenantcy</i> , William Morris, esq. Chester
<i>Lord Lieutenant</i> , The Marquis of Westminster, Eaton hall, Chester	<i>Clerk to the Crown</i> , Henry Linwood Strong, esq.
<i>Constable of Chester Castle</i> , John Dunstan, esq. Chester	<i>Clerk of the Peace</i> , George Johnson, esq. Llaurhydd Ruthin
<i>Keeper of House of Correction</i> , Mr. George Gallop, Knutsford	<i>Deputy Clerk of the Peace</i> , Charles William Potts, esq. Chester
<i>Under Sheriff</i> , John Hostage, esq. Chester	<i>County Treasurer</i> , Charles William Potts, esq. Chester
	<i>Chief Constable</i> , Capt. T. J. Smith, Hoole, Chester

CORONERS.

Henry Churton, esq. Chester
James Roscoe, esq. Knutsford

William Johnson, esq. Marple
James Nicholson, esq. Warrington

CHESHIRE.

CHESHIRE, or the shire of Chester, is a shire on the north-west side of England, reaching the Irish Sea by the friths or mouths of the Dee and Mersey. It is bounded on the north by the Mersey, which divides it from Lancashire, and by a small portion of Yorkshire, on the east by Derbyshire and Staffordshire, on the south by Shropshire and Flintshire, on the south-west by Denbighshire, and on the west by the Irish Sea. It is about 32 miles from north to south, and about 50 from east to west.

The area is rather above the average of English shires, being 1,104 square miles, or 707,078 acres, whereof 54,470 are frith and sea shore. The area of the registration county of Cheshire, or district formed of the Cheshire unions, and referred to by the Registration Offices for statistical purposes, is 692,999 acres.

The population of Cheshire has largely increased in this century; at each census it has been as follows:—

	Altogether.	Men and Boys.	Women and Girls.
1801	192,305	93,035	99,270
1811	227,031	110,858	116,173
1821	270,098	132,952	137,146
1831	334,391	164,133	170,258
1841	395,660	193,646	202,014
1851	455,725	222,386	233,339

The population of the registration county, in 1851, was 423,526.

The excess of females over males at each census shows that the excess at the census of 1801 has not been proportionately exceeded, although the early part of this century was a period of war.

Excess of Females.

1801	6,235
1811	5,315
1821	4,194
1831	6,125
1841	8,368
1851	10,953

In this latter period the population was more than double that of 1801, and a large emigration of males was taking place.

The increase of the population between 1841 and 1851 is to be remarked, because in many shires in that time the population made little progress.

Of a total population of 423,526, in 1851, 290,317 only were born in Cheshire, 133,209, or nearly one-third, being strangers to the shire, who had immigrated to supply the increasing demand for labour. Of the immigrants, a large proportion, or upwards of 40,000, were Irish, Welsh, Manx, Highlanders, and other Celts; besides which, many of those returned as born in Cheshire were of that race: so that of the total population only about seven-eighths were English, and one-eighth Celts, showing a greater proportion of Celts than is usual in English shires. Since the census this immigration has not gone on at the same rate.

The following shows the birthplaces of the inhabitants of the registration shire.

London	2,592
Surrey (extra metropolitan)	159
Kent (do. do.)	400
Sussex	195
Hampshire	466
Berkshire	157
Hertfordshire	156
Buckinghamshire	221
Oxfordshire	167
Northamptonshire	313
Essex	275

Suffolk	£388
Norfolk	313
Wiltshire	198
Dorsetshire	132
Devonshire	536
Cornwall	229
Somersetshire	492
Gloucestershire	559
Herefordshire	202
Shropshire	4,552
Staffordshire	12,760
Worcestershire	654
Warwickshire	1,100
Leicestershire	512
Lincolnshire	510
Nottinghamshire	796
Derbyshire	7,659
Cheshire	290,317
Lancashire	34,111
Yorkshire	5,318
Durham	345
Northumberland	360
Cumberland	190
Westmoreland	489
Welsh	18,588
Lowlanders and Scotch Highlanders	3,455
Manx	550
Irish	22,812
British Colonies and East Indies	479
Foreigners	494
Born at sea	67
English born abroad	174

Of the adults, 229,013 in number, only 140,234 were born in Cheshire, leaving 88,780 adult immigrants, or more than one-third, showing the insufficiency of the native population to supply the demand for labour.

The age statistics of Cheshire are, of course, much disturbed by the large influx of male adults; but yet, from the age of 15 to 30, the proportion of females is in excess. The following shows the

AGES OF MALES AND FEMALES IN CHESHIRE:—

	Males.	Females.
Total	207,008	206,318
Under 5 years	27,752	27,553
5	24,973	24,662
10	23,385	23,458
15	20,877	22,132
20	18,830	21,646
25	16,820	18,941
30	14,775	15,046
35	12,645	12,919
40	11,283	11,662
45	9,316	9,837
50	8,079	8,133
55	5,491	5,976
60	5,020	5,480
65	3,218	3,608
70	2,407	2,675
75	1,390	1,467
80	581	744
85	194	242
90	44	77
95	7	8
100 & upwards	—	2

The number of married and unmarried was, in 1851, as follows, the proportion of widows being large:—

	Males.	Females.
Unmarried	129,691	131,628
Married	69,299	70,589
Widowed	8,018	14,301

The following shows the number of blind, deaf and dumb, paupers, prisoners, and lunatics, in 1851 :—

	Males.	Females.
Blind	184	161
Deaf and Dumb	118	108
Paupers in Workhouses	807	683
Prisoners in Prisons	448	109
Lunatics in Asylums	112	129

The country is generally level, consisting of the vales of the two great river systems and of the peninsula of Wirrall, and including several meres or large ponds. Towards the north and east the country rises into low hills and moorland. The soils consist of clayey and sandy loams and peatmoss, overlying the new red sandstone formation.

The minerals are coal, salt, sandstone, limestone, freestone,

millstones, marl, copper, lead, and cobalt. Coal is largely worked near Stockport, and is found in Wirrall. Salt is obtained in great quantities from mines and salt springs at Northwich, Nantwich, Middlewich, and Winsford; it is manufactured for the supply of England, and for the export trade.

The country is watered by the Mersey, the Dee, and the Weaver, and their brooks. The climate is moist, and, with the soil, is favourable for pasturage. The rich dairy-land produces the famous cheese. Many other agricultural products are raised, stimulated by the demand in Liverpool, Manchester, and the neighbouring manufacturing towns.

The total of farms returned at the census of 1851 was 6,636, of which 740 only were above 100 acres, and only 44 above 300 acres. Many of the small farms, however, employed a considerable number of labourers.

Farmers, with the number of Labourers employed, and of Acres occupied.

Size of Farm in Acres.	Number of Male Labourers employed by each of the undermentioned number of Farmers.													No Men employed, or number not stated.	Total number of Farms or Holdings.
	1 Man.	2 Men.	3 Men.	4 Men.	5 Men.	6 Men.	7 Men.	8 Men.	9 Men.	10 Men.	15 Men.	20 Men.	25 Men.		
Under 5	13	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	273	288
5	55	13	1	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	571	644
10	162	39	8	5	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	820	1,036
20	150	58	19	9	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	425	476
30	124	71	22	11	3	3	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	321	558
40	93	68	23	9	3	1	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	219	420
50	209	104	86	40	16	9	3	2	3	1	..	..	..	346	903
75	137	126	90	47	23	12	..	1	2	4	..	..	..	145	587
100	138	178	131	120	44	24	17	6	..	7	3	..	..	138	806
150	54	58	46	60	46	23	11	8	6	9	1	..	..	51	373
200	7	15	26	28	26	26	10	8	4	10	1	..	1	8	170
250	5	9	7	7	12	8	5	6	4	10	..	..	..	5	78
300	..	3	5	4	4	2	1	6	1	7	1	1	1	1	37
350	..	2	1	..	2	1	1	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	13
400	..	1	3	2	1	8	..	..	..	2	4	..	..	1	17
500	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	2	7
600	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2
800	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	3
1,200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Acreage not stated.	22	12	3	2	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	49
Total	1,178	848	471	347	185	110	52	40	25	61	15	3	2	3,326	6,636

The great tongue of land between the Dee and the Mersey is called Wirrall, and includes above 100,000 acres and a population of about 60,000, as the southern suburbs of Liverpool are seated on its northern shores. The friths of the Dee and Mersey are navigable for shipping, and have on them the seaports of Birkenhead and Chester. The Weaver, which falls into the frith of the Mersey, is made navigable for vessels of a hundred tons.

The canals are many, and among them are the Grand Trunk or Trent and Mersey canal, the Bridgewater canal, the Chester and Nantwich canal, the Macclesfield canal, the Ellesmere canal, the Peak Forest canal.

Cheshire joins the great system of railway transit by several lines, chiefly connecting with the south, and continuing the Lancashire communication. The London and North Western railway is the chief of these, passing from the south by Stafford, Crewe, and Warrington to the north. From Crewe branches pass to Stockport and Manchester on the east and to Chester and Birkenhead on the west. From Chester lines run to Holyhead in North Wales, and through Shrewsbury to the Welsh borders and to South Wales. Other lines connect Macclesfield with Staffordshire. Crewe is the great northern engine factory of the London and North Western railway. The telegraph is carried throughout the shire.

The number of houses largely increased between 1841 and 1851, the figures standing thus :—

	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	Building.	Altogether.
1841 ..	73,444	5,864	547	79,855
1851 ..	85,260	4,341	845	90,446

The chief manufactures are those of cotton and silk, which between them employ 50,000 people. In 1851 the silk manufacture employed 22,007, of whom half were males, and the flibon and other smaller branches of that manufacture, 747. The cotton manufacture employed 29,474 (of whom 15,026 were women and girls); fugian, 467; cotton printing and dyeing, and minor branches, 1,127; being a total of

31,068. The woollen, worsted, flax, lace, and hose manufactures are very inconsiderable. The hat manufactures employed 1,152.

Ship-building employed 463, chiefly on the Mersey, and there were 108 anchormen. Ropemaking employed 278 hands, and sailcloth, 89. The manufacture of chemicals employed 180. Soap boiling employed 149. The paper manufacture is small, and so is that of pottery. Brewing and malting are not carried on so extensively as in many other shires.

Coal mining employed 2,619; stone and lime quarries, 506; brick-making, 926; salt-making, 1,154. There are some small works for the copper, lead, and zinc manufactures. The iron manufacture employed 521; nailing, 200; file-making, 30; and there are some machine works.

The following is an analysis of the occupation returns applied to Cheshire :—

Occupation.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Labourer (branch undefined)	9,027	124	9,151
Independent	204	254	458
Annuitant	417	1,859	2,276

Cheshire constitutes what is called a county palatine, though its jurisdiction is now nearly extinguished, but preserving its own courts and high privileges as a feudal fief, it long retained them as an appanage of the eldest sons of the king, who held the Barldom of Chester, with the Principality of Wales and Duchy of Cornwall, giving a nominal suzerainty over the west of England.

The shire is joined with the North Wales circuit, and had formerly its own chief justice. Chester is the shire town and seat of the assizes and quarter sessions.

Formerly it included Lancashire south of the Ribble, and was otherwise divided. It now includes seven hundreds—Wirrall, Bucklow, Macclesfield, Northwich, Eddisbury, Nantwich, and Broxton.

The number of unions in Cheshire is nine, but some

townships run into other unions of Lancashire, &c. The Cheshire unions are—

No.	Name.	Acres.	Pop. 1851.
452	Stockport	30,709	90,208
453	Macclesfield	81,561	63,327
454	Altrincham	73,665	34,043
455	Runcorn	45,776	25,797
456	Northwich	65,445	31,202
457	Congleton	52,889	30,512
458	Nantwich	121,051	37,986
459	{ Great Boughton & Chester City .. }	109,793	53,294
460	Wirrall	112,110	57,157

Cheshire having been fully settled by the English is very closely divided, for the number of townships is about 500, showing an average area of about two square miles. Some of these townships are very small, as the following list, with their population in 1851, shows:—Edgerley (120 acres), none; Wallerscoat (122 acres), 7; Birches (157 acres), 8; Ravenscroft (140 acres), 10; Caughall, 11; Grafton, 12; Mosten, 14; Eaton, 16; Mollington, 16; Broadlane, 17; Cotton Abbots, 17; Hockenhull, 22; Churton Heath, 22; Netherpool, 23; Sutton, 23; Marbury, 23; Radnor, 24; Bache (94 acres), 24; Moorsbarrow, 25; Newhall, 27; Fallybroome, 28; Lach Dennis, 28; Batherton, 28; Clifton, 30.

The number of extra-parochial places is 10.
For parliamentary purposes the shire is divided into North Cheshire and South Cheshire. The population, in 1851, was as follows:—

North Cheshire	249,000
South Cheshire	206,725

Each returns two members. North Cheshire includes the hundreds of Macclesfield and Bucklow; South Cheshire the other hundreds.

Chester is a city, and Stockport and Macclesfield are boroughs, each returning two members.

The towns include the ancient cathedral city of Chester, as its name betokens, dating from the time of the Romans, having a population of nearly 30,000 and being a seaport; Stockport, with a population of 53,835; Macclesfield, 39,048; Stalybridge (partly in Lancashire), 20,760; Congleton, 10,520; Hyde,

10,051; Runcorn, a shipping port on the Mersey, 8,040; Sutton, 7,525; Nantwich, 5,426; Bollington, 4,655; Copenhall, 4,571; Crewe, 4,491; Altrincham, 4,488; Hurdsfield, 4,016; Witton, 3,493; Mottram, 3,199; Over, 3,167; Knutsford, 3,127; Sandbach, 2,752; Leftwich, 2,528; Wharton, 2,103; Frodsham, 2,099; Oxton, 2,007; Audlem, 1,591; Great Neston, 1,524; Tilstone, 1,420; Northwich, 1,377; Tarvin, 1,181; Tarporley, 1,171; Barnton, 1,117; Elworth, 1,050; Tattenhall, 982; Bunbury, 931; Hawarden, 586. Several of these are market towns, as is Malpas. Great Neston and Parkgate are small bathing places. Birkenhead and Tranmere are large suburbs of Liverpool on the shores of the Mersey. There are many large manufacturing villages in Cheshire.

Chester is the seat of a bishop within the archbishopric of York, and the shire forms an archdeaconry subdivided into seven deaneries. There are eighty-seven old parishes, and up to 1851 sixty new parishes or ecclesiastical districts had been formed.

Although the number of townships is very great, yet the number of parishes is very small; for the single townships do not constitute parishes, as in the south of England, but many townships are united for ecclesiastical purposes as a parish. The largest of these parishes are:—

	Acres.	Pop.
Prestbury	62,125	59,265
Great Budworth ..	35,920	17,990
West Kirby	34,286	.....
Stockport	25,175	91,423
Macclesfield .....	.....	29,648
Mottram	23,279	23,354
Astbury	19,602	16,501
Rostherne	19,096	.....
Runcorn	18,906	15,047
Wybunbury	18,414	.....
Bowden	17,971	11,228
Bebington .....	.....	10,016
Hawarden	17,695	.....
Bunbury	16,830	.....
Sandbach	16,310	.....
Acton	15,542	.....
Neston	15,293	.....
Frodsham	14,288	.....
Middlewich	13,110	.....
Wrenbury	11,665	.....
Bartkomley	11,035	.....
Eastham	10,834	.....
Tarvin	10,571	.....
Audlem	10,505	.....

The census of religious worship gives the following results:—

Religious Denominations.	Number of Places of Worship and Sittings.		Number of Attendants at public worship on Sunday, March 30th, 1851.		
	Places of Worship.	Sittings.	Morning.	Afternoon.	Evening.
PROTESTANT CHURCHES	833	235,593	97,295	78,537	62,526
Church of England	252	121,882	51,367	42,678	16,691
United Presbyterian Church	2	910	600	..	560
Presbyterian Church in England	3	700	469	60	349
Independents, or Congregationalists	66	20,597	9,036	4,839	6,544
Baptists—Particular	14	3,175	1,306	820	1,074
" Scotch	1	..	8	12	..
" General (New Connexion)	4	932	160	208	128
Baptists (not otherwise defined)	12	1,985	374	516	555
Society of Friends	10	2,311	288	151	..
Unitarians	14	3,232	1,683	1,301	357
Moravians	3	246	140	155	..
Wesleyan Methodists—Original Connexion	188	37,877	13,791	11,695	17,133
" New Connexion	29	9,005	2,524	1,829	3,040
Primitive Methodists	135	14,334	3,186	7,098	7,799
Wesleyan Association	50	7,988	2,176	3,322	3,374
Welsh Calvinistic Methodists	4	983	175	391	550
Lady Huntingdon's Connexion	8	1,278	605	326	688
Brethren	5	616	113	360	186
Isolated Congregations	7	760	49	103	303
OTHER CHRISTIAN CHURCHES:					
Roman Catholics	17	5,882	9,053	2,162	2,408
Latter Day Saints	9	900	192	451	787

Although Cheshire has no university or large colleges, and there are twenty grammar and collegiate schools within the northern districts are close to Liverpool and Manchester, the shire, and a large number of private schools.

Description of Schools.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.		
		Total.	Boys.	Girls.
Day Schools	1,037	55,085	30,201	24,884
Public Day Schools	352	35,898	20,232	15,666
Private Day Schools	685	19,187	9,969	9,218
CLASS I.				
Military School	1	94	70	24
Prison School	1	16	8	8
Workhouse Schools	7	426	271	155
CLASS II.				
Collegiate Grammar Schools	20	1,082	1,037	45
Other Endowed Schools	47	3,430	2,119	1,311
CLASS III.				
<i>Denominational.</i>				
Church of England National	100	13,283	6,934	6,349
Church of England (others)	103	9,221	4,875	4,346
Presbyterian Church in England	1	34	24	10
Presbyterians (not otherwise defined)	2	346	203	143
Independents (British)	2	280	176	104
Independents (others)	4	409	230	170
Baptists	1	62	41	21
Wesleyan Methodists (British)	1	150	102	48
Wesleyan Methodists (others)	21	2,416	1,485	931
Primitive Methodists	1	45	29	16
Dissenters (British)	1	101	35	66
Roman Catholics	10	1,140	605	535
<i>Undenominational.</i>				
British	6	1,089	788	301
CLASS IV.				
Ragged School	1	177	82	95
Factory Schools	5	916	460	456
Railway School	1	396	200	196
Other Subscription Schools of no specific character	16	785	449	336

The Sunday Schools are as follows :—

Religious Denominations to which the Schools belong.	Number of Schools and Scholars.			
	Schools.	Total.	Male.	Female.
SUNDAY SCHOOLS	545	71,270	34,842	36,428
PROTESTANT CHURCHES :—				
Church of England	202	25,743	12,149	13,594
United Presbyterian Church	2	315	155	160
Presbyterian Church in England	3	215	101	114
Independents	58	8,884	4,257	4,627
Baptists	19	1,517	820	697
Society of Friends	1	17	10	7
Unitarians	11	1,307	751	556
Moravians	1	180	88	92
Wesleyan Methodists	112	13,063	6,398	6,665
Methodists—New Connexion	14	2,608	1,271	1,337
Primitive Methodists	51	4,514	2,308	2,206
Wesleyan Association	38	3,988	2,158	1,830
Independent Methodists	8	646	328	318
Calvinistic Methodists	2	130	72	58
Brethren	1	10	8	2
Undefined Protestant Congregations	14	6,218	3,083	3,135
OTHER CHRISTIAN CHURCHES :—				
Roman Catholics	8	1,915	885	1,030

The history of Cheshire in the Iberian, Celtic, and Belgian periods is almost a blank. The district was closely settled by the Romans. After the downfall of the latter, the Welsh held it till about 607, when it fell under the power of Ethelfrith, King of Bernicia; but it was recovered by the Welsh, who held much of it till it was again taken by Egbert in 828, and annexed to the kingdom of Mercia, since which it has always been held by the English. William the Norman made it a county palatine for his nephew, Hugh Lupus, whose dynasty held it for two centuries; but since 1237 it has been the appanage of the eldest son of the king. For several centuries it was the scene of frequent warfare with the Welsh. During the Parliamentary War Cheshire was hotly contested; but in February, 1646, the Royalists were put down.