

Richard Butcher, Esq., Mrs. Bourne. The land is mostly poor and cold. Rateable value, £575. 15s. The chief residents are Samuel Jones, farmer and beerhouse keeper; John L. Mitton, farmer; Richard Wall, farmer, and Thomas Woodcock, farmer, Lower Chatwall.

COMLEY AND BOTVYLLE is a township in the parish of Cardington, containing 464 acres of land, which is chiefly the property of Panton Corbett, Esq. Rateable value, £330 10s. At the census of 1841 there were 17 houses and 57 souls. The principal residents are Edward Evans wheelwright; Philip Hayward, farmer; William Higgins, farmer, The Shoe Trough; John H. Smith, farmer; William Tomlinson, farmer.

ENOCHMARSH is a township and village two miles N. from Cardington, comprising 400 acres of land, and in 1841 contained eighteen houses and a population of 94 souls. Rateable value, £392. 5s. Panton Corbett, Esq., is the chief landowner. The principal residents are Richard Evason, farmer; William Haynes, blacksmith; William Norris, farmer.

HOLT PREEN is a township in the parish of Cardington, situated about a mile from Church Preen, and four miles N.E. from Cardington. It contains 793 acres of land, and in 1841 had sixteen houses and 111 inhabitants. Rowland Hunt, Esq., is the landowner and lord of the manor. The principal resident is Mr. Thomas Norris, Holt Hall.

LYDLEY HEYS, a township in Cardington parish, has 790 acres of land, and in 1841 had eight houses and 52 inhabitants. Panton Corbett, Esq., is the sole proprietor in this township. Rateable value, £580. 5s. The chief residents are Richard Everall, farmer, Day House; Henry Matthews, farmer, Lawley Farm; John Russell, farmer, Court House; Richard Shuker, farmer, Pankridge Hall.

PLAISH township in Cardington parish is situated about three miles from the parish church, and at the census of 1841 had six houses and 37 inhabitants. The township contains 908 acres of land, the rateable value of which is £611. 10s. Rowland Hunt, Esq., is sole proprietor and lord of the manor. The Hall is a venerable old structure, partly in ruins, and partly occupied as workshops and granaries. It was formerly the seat of Sir William Leighton, chief justice of North Wales, and one of the council of the Marches. He died in 1607, and was buried under a sumptuous monument in Cardington church. The Hall contains some fine specimens of oak carving, and although decayed and ruinous bears traces of its former splendour. The principal residents in Plaish are Samuel Eaton, farmer, Plaish Hall, and Thomas Lewis, farmer, The Sheaves.

WILLSTONE, a township in Cardington parish, containing 711 acres of land, at the census of 1841 had four houses and 34 inhabitants. Rateable value of the parish, £469. 10s. Panton Corbett, Esq., and Thomas Bolton, Esq., are the landowners; the former is lord of the manor. The resident farmers in Willstone are Isaiah Lindop, and William Minton.

CHURCH STRETTON is a market town and parish in the Upper division of the Munslow hundred, thirteen miles S.S.W. from Shrewsbury, fourteen miles N.N.W. from Ludlow, and 153 miles from London. The parish comprises the townships of Church Stretton, All Stretton, Little Stretton, and Minton, and contains 5,717 acres of titheable land, and 5,000 of common, making a total of 10,717 acres in the parish, the gross estimated rental of which is £7,592. Rateable value £6,133. At the census of 1801 there were 924 inhabitants; 1831, 1,302; 1841, 1,604. At the latter period there were 346 houses, of which 183 houses and 860 persons were in the township of Church Stretton. This place is supposed to have derived the name of Stretton (formerly Street Town), from its contiguity to the Walling Street, the Roman road that led from Uriconium (now Wroxeter), the principal city of the Cornavii, to Kinchester, near Hereford. This ancient road runs nearly parallel with the turnpike road from Shrewsbury to Hereford. The town is small, and chiefly consists of one street, in the widest part of which is the

market hall. It is a polling place for the southern division of the county, and is situated in a picturesque vale, from which rise gradually wooded eminences of great beauty, backed by lofty ranges of hills. On the eastern side are the Lawley and the far-famed Caer Caradoc, one of the military entrenchments of Caractacus in his long and arduous struggle with the Romans; on the western side is the lofty range of the Longmynds, extending eight or nine miles, and on the summit of one called Boddbury was a Roman station or camp of observation. A pole has been erected on the highest point of the Longmynds, from which spot there is a most delightful and commanding view of a wide extent of country. The prospect includes on the west the Stipperstones, the mountainous district of Wales, including the Sugarloaf near Abergavenny, the Table mountain, Cader Idris, and the intervening range from that mountain to Snowdon; on the east and north-east are seen the Edgwood, the Clee, and Malvern hills, and the majestic Wrekin; to the south-west are the hills of Radnorshire, and on the north-west the Denbighshire hills, besides which there is a fine view of the fertile plains of Shropshire, with many other objects of deep interest. The secluded and romantic situation of Church Stretton, the grand and majestic character of the surrounding scenery—its proximity to scenes of great historical interest—the mildness and salubrity of the air, which is at the same time peculiarly bracing,—its general exemption from contagious and epidemic disease, and the excellence of the water, all conduce to render it peculiarly attractive to parties in pursuit of health and pleasure. During the summer months it is a very favourite resort of visitors from the neighbouring towns, the great variety of the scenery rendering it almost impossible to weary the most fastidious taste. When it has become more easy of access by railway it will no doubt become a favourite retreat for persons from all parts of the kingdom. The Shrewsbury and Hereford railway now in course of construction will pass within three hundred yards of the town.

Camden, who wrote in the time of Elizabeth observes, "Near Stretton, in a valley are yet to be seen the rubbish of an old castle called Brocard's Castle and the same set amidst green meadows that before time were fish ponds." In the 17th of King John, Hugh de Mortimer received command from the Barons to deliver up the castle of Stretton Dale to Hugh de Neville, but standing firm to the king he was rewarded the next year by receiving a grant of the castle of Holdgate from John. The Caer Caradoc probably acquired that name from having been one of the military stations of Caractacus, and it was once considered the place where he fought his last battle until a strict comparison of its situation, with the description given by Tacitus, caused the opinion to be abandoned. Formerly a society of gentlemen used to meet annually on this hill to celebrate the fame of the British chief in compositions of prose and verse. A very spirited poetical effusion was on occasion delivered almost extempore by the Rev. Sneyd Davies. Almost every dingle and narrow valley of this locality has its peculiar brook or rivulet, which in several instances form beautiful cascades over their rocky channel; they all produce excellent trout. At the foot of the Caradoc, near All Stretton, is a farm house called Botvylle which a family of that name at an early period held under the Knights Templars of Jerusalem. One of this family was a lawyer, and was called John of the Inns, which was corrupted into John Thynne, and from him there is a tradition that the family of the Marquis of Bath is descended, who possessed the manor till the year 1808, when it was sold to Thomas Coleman, Esq. In the 10th of Edward III. the king bestowed Stretton on Richard, Earl of Arundel, and the year following he obtained the grant of a market on Thursday, and a fair on the eve, the day, and the day after the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The market is still held on Thursday, and is well attended with provisions. Fairs are held on the Monday before Shrewsbury first March fair; 14th May, 3rd of July, for wool, 25th of September, and the last Thursday in November. The Market Hall is a neat and spacious building in the Elizabethan style, consisting of a good room where public meetings are held, and an area underneath for the market. It was erected in the year 1839,