



Post Office Directory Extract 1855



Downton

DOWNTON, a parish, and small but decayed town, giving name to the Hundred in which it is located, in Alderbury Union, South Wilts, 90 miles south-west from London, and 7 south-east-by-south from Salisbury, is situated in a vale, watered by the Upper Avon, in three channels; it is of considerable antiquity, and formerly returned two members to Parliament, in the interest of the Earl of Radnor, but was disfranchised by the Reform Act in 1832. The market has long been discontinued, but two annual fairs are still held on the 23rd April and 2nd October, principally for horses and sheep. A castle of considerable dimensions existed here at an early period, which, from its position, commanded the river Avon and the valley in which it stood. The only remains, a large conical mound, and other lofty earthworks, have been formed into terraces, amidst the plantations of a garden. The living is a vicarage, in the diocese of Salisbury, returned of the annual value of £571, and in the patronage of Winchester College; the Rev. Richard Payne, B.C.L., is the present vicar. The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is an ancient structure, with nave, chancel, and square tower, which was raised 30 feet in its height, in 1791, at the expense of the Earl of Radnor. In the chancel are several monuments to the Duncombe family; the principal are those of Anthony, Lord Feversham, of Downton, who died in 1763, and of Sir Charles Duncombe, who died in 1711. A new church, with small stone belfry and spire in the ancient style of architecture, and dedicated to All Saints, was erected at Charlton, in this parish, about 1854; the Rev. Henry Osborne Jenkins, M.A., is curate. A church in the same style, and dedicated to St. Mary, has been erected at Redlynch; the Rev. John Emra, M.A. is curate. The ecclesiastical district of Redlynch contained, in 1851, 1,290 inhabitants. The Reformed Wesleyans have recently opened a chapel here. There are also several Dissenting places of worship, as well as National and British schools. Here are paper and corn mills, and a tanyard; malting is also carried on to a considerable extent, and there is brick-making and lime burning. On a high hill, overlooking Downton from the other side of the Lymington road, is an entrenched area, called Clerbury Camp. The parish comprises about 1,200 acres of good arable and pasture soil. The population, in 1851, was 3,898, with 13,221 acres; the population of the town is 2,727.

WOODFALLS, PENSWORTH, BARFORD, TITCHBOURN, and LUSHINGAR, are in this parish. The tithings are CHARLTON, CHURCH, EAST DOWNTON, HAMPTWORTH, WICK and WALTON, and WITHERINGTON with LANGLEY WOOD, extra-parochial.

POST OFFICE – James Nicholas, receiver. Letters arrive from Salisbury at 10 min past 5 a.m.; & are dispatched at 10 min. past 8 p.m. The box closes at ½ past 7 p.m. The nearest money order office is at Salisbury.

INSURANCE AGENT – Royal Farmers' Fire & Life, George Mannings

PUBLIC OFFICERS -

Registrar of Births and Deaths, James Chalk
Registrar of Marriages, Thomas Read

PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

British (boys), Thomas Read, master
British (girls), Miss Sarah Woolcocks, mistress
National (boys), John Fleming, master

CARRIERS

TO ROMSEY – Richard Quinton, from his own house, once a week
To SALISBURY – Roles, Bundy & Snelgrove, from their own houses, Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday
To SOUTHAMPTON – Henry Read, every Thursday

Gentry/Private Residents

| Surname | Given Names | Title | Industry/Occupation | Place/Parish |
|---------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Baily | John Gibbs | Mr. | | |
| Bradley | William Richard | Captain, R.N. | | |
| Clare | Frances | Mrs. | | |

| | | | | |
|------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Collier | John Thomas | Rev. | Baptist Minister | |
| Dyer | | Mrs. | | |
| Emra | John | Rev., M.A. | | Redlynch |
| Ferryman | Robert Augustus | Esq. | | Redlynch House |
| Harris | George H. | Rev. | | |
| Hooper | Richard Henry | Esq. | | |
| James | John | Rev. | | |
| Jenkyns | Henry Osborne | Rev., M.A. | | Charlton |
| Matcham | George | Esq. | | New House |
| Maton | Charlotte | Mrs. | | |
| Payne | Richard | Rev., B.C.L. | | Vicarage |
| Shatto | Robert Eden Duncombe | Esq. | | Hampworth Lodge |
| Shuckburgh | Henrietta | Mrs. | | |
| Street | John, Snr. | Mr. | | Langley Cottage |
| Welch | Edward | Esq., M.D. | | |
| Whitchurch | William West | Esq. | | |
| Wornall | William | Esq. | | |
| Wyndham | | Mrs. | | |

Traders

| Surname | Given Names | Title | Industry/Occupation | Place/Parish |
|----------|-------------|--------------------|---|--------------|
| | | Parsons & Nicholas | Stationers, Tailors, Drapers & Hatters | |
| | | Witt, Lock & Co | Chemists, Druggists, Patent Medicine Vendors & Stationers | |
| Arney | James | | Baker & Shopkeeper | |
| Atkinson | John | | Farmer | Charlton |
| Bailey | Henry Smith | | Plumber, Glazier & Painter | |
| Bailey | James | | Shopkeeper | Charlton |
| Bailey | John | | Wheelwright | |
| Baily | John | | Hairdresser | |
| Barling | John | | Maltster | |
| Barling | Moses | | Baker & Grocer | |
| Blake | James | | Publican | King's Arms |
| Blake | John | | Tailor | |
| Blake | Mary | Mrs. | Publican | White Horse |
| Bryant | James | | Beer Retailer | Redlynch |
| Bryant | John | | Beer Retailer | Redlynch |
| Bundy | George | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Bundy | George | | Carrier | |
| Chalk | James | | Relieving Officer For Downton District, Alderbury Union | |
| Chalk | John | | Parish Clerk & Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Cheater | William | | Wheelwright | |
| Cooper | George | | Blacksmith | |
| Drake | William | | Butcher | |
| Eastman | Henry | | Wood Turners, Basket & Sieve Makers | |
| Eastman | William | | Wood Turners, Basket & Sieve Makers | |
| Evans | Ann | Mrs. | Draper | |
| Everly | Jacob | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Fanstone | George | | Grocer, Saddler & Harness Maker | |
| Frewen | John Henry | | Grocer | |

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|------|---|-------------------|
| Futcher | Charles | | Tailor | |
| Gauntlett | George | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Gay | Charles | | Farmer | Tichbourn Farm |
| Gilbert | Francis | | Ironfounder | Semaphore House |
| Goulding | Ann | Mrs. | Publican | George & Dragon |
| Goulding | John | | Publican | Three Horse Shoes |
| Gray | Thomas | | Shopkeeper & Baker | |
| Gwyer | Charles | | Farmer | Lodge Farm |
| Gwyer | Elizabeth | Mrs. | Farmer | Woodfalls |
| Gwyer | James | | Farmer | Loose Anger |
| Hayter | William | | Tailor | |
| Hickman | Francis | | Shopkeeper | |
| Hindes | William | | Publican | New Inn |
| Holding | James | | Blacksmith | Redlynch |
| Hooper | Richard Henry | | Surgeon | |
| Hopgood | Sidney | | Coachbuilder | |
| Humby | John | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Humby | Samuel | | Publican | Stag, Charlton |
| Humby | William | | Blacksmith, Charlton | |
| Humby | William | | Blacksmith | |
| Kendall | Samuel | | Tailor | |
| Latty | Henry | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Mannings | George | | Miller, Maltster, Lime Burner, Farmer, Brickmaker & Corn Dealer | |
| Maton | Letitia | Mrs. | Farmer | Charlton |
| Miles | John | | Cooper | |
| Mitchel | Frederick | | Shopkeeper | |
| Mussell | Benjamin | | Carpenter & Wheelwright | |
| Mussell | James | | Shopkeeper | |
| Mussell | Mary | Miss | Shopkeeper | |
| Mussell | Sarah | Miss | Straw & Tuscan Bonnet Maker | |
| Mussell | William | | Baker | |
| Newman | Frederick | | Hairdresser | |
| Nicholas | James | | Sub-Postmaster | |
| Nobbs | William | | Shopkeeper | |
| Noyce | Ambrose | | Shopkeeper | |
| Olding | John | | Blacksmith | |
| Parsons | Samuel | | Grocer | |
| Perren | John | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Plaskett | George | | Beer Retailer | Redlynch |
| Poore | Charles | | Shopkeeper | |
| Poore | John | | Tailor | |
| Quinton | Richard | | Carrier | |
| Ragless | John | | Publican & Maltster | Bull |
| Read | John | | Farmer | New Court |
| Read | Josiah | | Farmer | Charlton |
| Read | Thomas | | Registrar Of Marriages | |
| Reeves | John | | Timber Merchant & Maltster | |
| Roles | John | | Glover | |
| Roles | Richard | | Carrier | |
| Shelly | Stephen | | Blacksmith | Redlynch |
| Sims | William | | Blacksmith | |
| Small | William | | Shopkeeper & Baker | |
| Snelgrove | William | | Bricklayer & Ironmonger | |
| Stradling | William, Jnr. | | Papermaker | |
| Strea | John, Jnr. | | Builder | Lock's Cottage |
| Street | William | | Farmer | Wick Farm |
| Taunton | John | | Farmer | |
| Taunton | Jonathan | | Farmer | |

| | | | | |
|-----------|----------|------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Taunton | Jonathan | | Farmer | Redlynch |
| Taunton | Silas | | Frmr, Maltster & Cattle Dealer | |
| Taunton | William | | Farmer | |
| Thornton | Thomas | | Plumber, Glazier & Painter | |
| Tilt | William | | Boot & Shoe Maker | |
| Weeks | John | | Blacksmith | Redlynch |
| Wilkins | Daniel | | Wood Dealer & Beer Retailer | Redlynch |
| Woodford | John | | Baker | |
| Woodlands | John | | Tanner | |
| Woolcocks | Sarah | Miss | Mistress Of British School For Girls | |
| Wort | John | | Blacksmith & Wheelwright | Redlynch |