



Rowde Topographical Dictionary Volume 3 1845

ROWDE (St. Matthew's) a parish, in the union of Devizes, hundred of POTTERNE and CANNINGS, DEVIZES and N. division of Wilts, 2 miles (W. by N.) from Devizes; containing 1095 inhabitants. The parish comprises of 2666a. 2r. 17p., of which 547 acres are arable, 1857 pasture and meadow, 37 woodland, 14 gardens, and the remainder roads and water. The Kennet and Avon canal passes through it. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the king's books at £6. 10.; patron, T.E.A. Starkey, Esq.; impropiator, W. Lock, Esq. The great tithes have been commuted for £24. 18., and the vicarial for £339. 5.; the glebe contains about half an acre, and there is a good house, erected by the Rev. E. Vincent.

The church, with the exception of the tower and chancel, was rebuilt in 1833, in the later English style, by subscription, aided by a grant of £175 from the Incorporated Society. There is a place of worship for Wesleyans; and a national school is supported by subscription.