

## From the "History, Gazetteer & Directory of Kent, Vol. II, 1847"

### HERNE PARISH

HERNE is a considerable village, situated in a sheltered situation nearly in the centre of the parish, 6 1/2 miles N. E. & N. from Canterbury, and about 1 1/2 mile S. & E from Herne Bay. The parish contains 4,828 acres of land, mostly a strong fertile clay, and in some parts intermixed with gravel. In 1841, there were 280 houses in Herne, and 1,469 inhabitants, and in the chapelry of Herne Bay, 348 houses and 1,572 inhabitants: the population of the entire parish in 180, 1,232 ; in 1831, 1,876. Rateable valuable, £12,500. The principal landowners are Edward Torney, Esq., George Dering, Esq., John Collard, Esq., Edward Collard, Esq., Thomas Wacher, Esq., Gilbert Pembroke, Esq., John Swinford, Esq., John Palmer, Esq., Charles Hilder, Esq., Mr. Joseph Goodwin, Capt. Shakespear, George Denne, Esq., and Messrs. Lawrence. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is a large handsome structure, consisting of three aisles and three chancels, with a noble tower at the north-west corner, in which are six bells. The living is a vicarage valued in the king's books at £20 16s. 3d. now £362. Patron and appropriator, the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Rev. James S. May is the vicar. The vicarial tithes are commuted for £560 ; rectorial £1,475, which are held in lease by James Geo. May, Esq., and Lord Sondes. In the high chancel is a splendid monument for the Mulles family ; in the south chancel are several monuments and memorials for the Knowler family. The north chancel, now called Lord Sondes chancel, are some curious brasses and monuments to the Halls and others ; some of the antique brasses have the dates 1400, 1470, and 1540. A beautiful carved oak screen divides the nave and chancel ; and near the communion table are six very ancient carved oak stalls. The church of Herne was anciently a chapel belonging to Reculver, which was part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury. Archbishop Winchelsea, in 1292, instituted vicarages in this chapel and the other chapels belonging to that church, and ordered that the vicar should pay as a token of perpetual subjection, a yearly pension of 40s to the vicar of Reculver. Notwithstanding this decree, the parishioners continued liable to the repairs of the mother church of Reculver. In the reign of Henry VIII, it was settled by the consent of all parties that a certain annual stipend should be paid to redeem the burthen of repairs on a certain day, and the parish of Herne have long paid an annual sum of five shillings.

The manor of Reculver claims paramount over part of this parish and the manor of Sturry over the remainder of it : subordinate to which were the manors of *Saws* or *Haghe*, which, in the reign of Richard II. belonged to Sir Wm. Waleys. It eventually passed in like manner as the manor of Sturry. *Lotinge* is a manor at the north-west part of the parish, which was long the inheritance of the Knowler family, many of whom are remembered in the south chancel of Herne Church - *Underdowne* is an ancient manor, which was formerly the property of the family of Sea, and afterwards of the Knowlers - *Makinbrooke*, a name nearly obliterated, was a manor at the north-west part of the parish, which was part of the possessions of the see of Canterbury, and was held in fee by the payment of a yearly rent to Eastbridge Hospital. Sir George Oxenden rebuilt the mansion of this manor. Archbishop Islip, in the 25th year of Edward obtained the grant of a market weekly on a Monday, and a fair yearly on the feast of St. Martin and the day afterwards.

**BELTINGE** is a scattered district near the sea, two miles N.E. from Herne.

**EDDINGTON** is a village one mile N.

**BROOMFIELD**, a small village 14 mile N.E., near which is *Hunter's Forstall*—one part of Broomfield stands in the parish of Reculver.

**THE BLEAN POOR LAW UNION** is situated on Herne Common, about half a mile from the church, and was erected in 1836, at a cost of £6,300 It is a spacious brick building, forming a quadrangle, having an inter section across the centre, and will accommodate 420 inmates. The union comprises a district of 16 parishes, with an area of 27,034 acres, and a population of 11,387 souls. The parishes are Archbishop's Palace, Blean, Chislet, Christ Church, St. Dunstan, St. Gregory, St. Stephen, Heath Herne, Reculver, Staplegate, Seasalter, Sturry, Swalcliffe, Westbere, and Whitstable ; for which 19 guardians are elected, who meet every Thursday at the Board-room. *Chairman*, George Goddard, Esq.; *Cleric*, Mr. Wm. Sladden; *Surgeons*, Mr. Win. Evans, Herne, Mr. J. E. C. Williams, Whitstable, and Mr. Thomas Andrew, Canterbury ; *Relieving Officers*, Mr Pope "and Mr. Filcher ; *Chaplain*, Rev. Wm. Temple; *Governor and Matron*, Henry and Maria Church ; *Registrars of Births and Deaths*, Wm. Evans, J. E. C. Williams, and H. Hills ; of *Marriages*, Alfred Trew, Herne Bay; *Superintendent Registrar*, George Heath, Canterbury ; *Schoolmaster* Richard Coleman ; *Schoolmistress*, Elizabeth Sewell.

**HERNE BAY**, a delightful and fashionable watering place, is situated "between Whitstable and Reculver, 8 1/2 miles N. from Canterbury, 15 miles W. from Margate, 17 miles W. b N. from Ramsgate, and 24 miles N. b 'W. from Dover. The town is built on a gentle elevation, commanding a boundless prospect of the ocean, and extends along the shore for about a mile from east to west. It is said to have taken its name from the Saxon. -word *hyrne* or *hurne*, signifying a nook or corner ; others have supposed that its name is derived from the circumstance of its once weedy shores having been a resort for herons and other wild fowl which have long since disappeared. The salubrity of the air of Herne Bay has almost been proverbial, and forms one of its chief sources of attraction. Fussell, who published his journey in 1818, says, " Since the erection of one of those temporary stations for the military, by which it was thought necessary to secure the coast, it became a signal to inform the visitors of Margate and Ramsgate that the place was habitable," and when he visited Herne Bay consisted " only of a few cottages built round a green." Since Fussell wrote, this place has been rapidly rising in public estimation, the unquestionable purity of the waters—the salubrity of the air—the picturesque beauty of the country, and the elegant terraces which have been, built for the accommodation of visitors, will, no doubt, shortly raise it to one of the most important watering places on the Kentish coast. **THE ROYAL PIER**, which stretches imposingly into the bosom of the waters, was commenced in the year 1831 by the Herne Bay Pier Company, which was incorporated by Act of Parliament 1st of William IV. The amount raised was £50,000, in shares of £50 each. Its extreme length from the shore to the sea is 3,000 feet, and the width 24 feet. A sailing carriage runs upon iron grooves in the centre of the pier, for the purpose of conveying passengers and their luggage to and from the steamers. On the western side of the pier is a long line of handsome shops, having a frontage to the beach, and one story in height; so designed in order to prevent their obstructing the view of the ocean from ST. GEORGE'S-TERRACE, a

noble-range of buildings flanked at one end by an assembly room of magnificent dimensions, together with reading and billiard rooms. THE PARADE extends about a mile on the coast, and is 53 feet wide, forming a fine promenade, on which is the CLOCK TOWER, standing conspicuously fronting the ocean, about equi-distant from the two extremities of the town, to which it forms a considerable architectural ornament. It was completed in 1837 at the sole *expense* of Mrs. Ann Thwaites, at a cost of £4,000. The facilities for sea bathing are superior to those offered at many of the watering places on the coast. The shore is so free from mud and weed, and so gradual in its inclination to the sea, that safety is insured at all times of the tide. St. George's Baths are on the parade, and there are two establishments near the Ship inn, which are amply furnished with convenient apartments and bathing machines. The Hotels and Inns, on a scale of elegance and magnitude, afford every comfort and convenience to the frequenters of watering places; and the numerous lodging-houses,- always in requisition during the season, are fitted up with an eye to taste, and family comfort. The *Walks and Drives* are numerous and pleasant, in every direction the vicinity abounds with verdant undulations, and affords the most pleasing varieties in nature's aspect ; whilst the pleasure boats are kept on the beach for those who are fond of aquatic sports, and who love to inhale the invigorating and healthful breezes of the ocean in their native purity. The noble steamers embark passengers every day during the season, and every alternate day during the winter months. Omni, buses are daily in attendance to convey passengers to Canterbury, Dover, Margate, Ramsgate, &c.

**THE CHURCH.** dedicated to our Saviour, and built by John Brough, Esq., was sold in 1838 for £5,300; of this sum about £1,000 was raised by subscription, and £2,410 was furnished by the Rev. Henry Geary, who rendered himself responsible for the payment of the remaining sum. The church is a Gothic structure, of graceful appearance, which will seat. 839 hearers. A full-sized figure of our Saviour is placed over the entrance door, and the interior, remarkable for the simplicity of its arrangements, is furnished with an organ, and the east window is beautified with stained glass. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the executors of the late Rev. Henry Geary, and incumbency of the Rev. George Greaves. Attached to this church on each side are spacious school-rooms, one for boys and another for girls, built by Mrs. Thwaites in 1839. There are 70 girls and 100 boys receiving instruction in these schools. There is also a neat *Infant School*, in, Mortimer-street, which was erected in 1841. The Wesleyan Methodists have a chapel in King-street, which was built for a. public-house: it was afterwards purchased and altered for a chapel. The Independents have a small neat chapel, in Mortimer-street, which will hold about 200 persons. Gas Works were erected by a Company of Shareholders in 1839. The consumers are charged at the rate of 12s. per 1,000 feet. At the western extremity of Herne Bay, is a Coast Guard Station; each station has usually an officer, and from eight to twelve mea varying according to circumstances.

A church of very considerable dimensions was commenced building some years ago, on a plot of ground granted for the purpose by Sir Henry Oxenden; but after building the walls some twenty feet high, and expending nearly £1,000, it was abandoned.

**CHARITIES.**-Sir William Sedley, by will 1017, left an annuity of £3 Os. 8d. for the use of the poor, in lieu of which a sum of £55 was afterwards paid by Sir John Sedley ; an additional sum of £9, left by John Smith, was added to the amount, and the whole expended in two pieces of land, containing ten acres, in the parish of Chislet. These lands, in 1791, were conveyed to Thomas Reynolds, for the sum of .£240, for a period of £102 years, he paying a yearly rent of £2 2s. for the same, to be applied to the use of the poor. The £240 was expended on a parish workhouse. The rent has long been improperly applied in aid of the poor's rate. The Commissioners certified the case to the Attorney-General.

Thomas Hole, by will 1626, left a rent-charge of 13s. 4d., 10s. thereof to the poor, and 3s. 4d. to the ringers. The latter sum has been regularly paid, but nothing has been distributed to the poor for a number of years.

Christopher Mules, Esq., in 1638, left £10 per annum for the poor; £3 thereof to the poor of Herne, £4 to Reculver, £2 to loath, and £1 to Westbere. Lord Sondes pays the £3 per annum as lessee under the Archbishop of Canterbury, but instead of distributing it to the poor it has been applied in aid of the church rates.

Thomas Knowler, in 1655, left a rent-charge of £5 per annum to be applied to the purchase of clothes and other necessaries for the poor. He also left a yearly sum of 40s. towards repairing the south chancel of Herne church, charged on his farm at Beltinge.

George Howlett, in 1624, left £3 yearly charged on Greenhill farm, in Hampton Borough, for the use of the poor. It appears this sum was not paid for a considerable period. Mr. Wiggins agreed to pay the amount from the year 1835.

Church Lands.—The Churchwardens receive, as applicable to the general expenses of the church, several sums from different landholders, amounting in the whole to £12 19s. 10d.

#### **HERNE DIRECTORY.**

Marked 1, are at Herne-street; 2, Eddington ; 3, Hunter's Forstall ; 4, Broomfield; 5, Beltinge; 6, Common ; 7, Frog's Island ; 8, Ford house ; 9, Studds ; 10, Westbrook.

2 Baskervill Misses, boarding school  
 2 Bean Wm. Blacksmith  
 1 Bourne Wm. saddler & hrnss mkr  
 2 Collard Edw Esq  
 2 Collard John, Esq. Prospect hs  
 3 Cutforth Wm. Esq  
 I Evans Win, surgeon  
 Foxley John, tile maker  
 3 Godddard Lieut. Geo R.N.  
 2 Goodwin Misses

2 Carey Mr David  
 3 Chadwick Capt J M K Church Hy. governor of Union hs  
 Loud Henry, Esq, Sea st  
 1 May Rev Jas S. rectory  
 Mickleburgh John, gent. Agnes cot  
 Palmer John, gent. Herne common  
 1 Sullivan Francis, tailor  
 Whyte Rev J R. curate

#### **Inns and Taverns.**

1 Griggs Mrs Martha  
1 Groombridge *Jas.* bricklayer  
1 Harnett Mrs Sarah  
Lawrence Job, John, & Edw. corn millers

4 Huntsman & Horn, Geo Holman  
1 Prince Albert, Geo Downs  
1 Red Lion, Jas Harnett  
5 Rising Sun, Harriet Sayer

**Beerhouses.**

1 Brown John  
1 Holness Charity  
3 Redwood Wm  
Taylor Alfred

**Bakers.**

1 Best Wm  
1 Greenstead Sarah  
1 Thorn Edw  
1 Wood John

**Boot & Shoemakers.**

5 Crayford Wm  
1 Harris Geo & sexton  
1 Harrison Geo

1 Johnson Wm  
1 Wilson Wm

**Carpenters, &c.**

1 Bird Dinah  
1 Downs Geo  
2 White Geo

**Farmers**

Ashbee Wm. Sea st  
6 Barter Bradley  
7 Carey Elizabeth  
4 Collard John  
5 Denne Geo  
Goodwin Chas  
9 Goodwin Joseph  
Goodwin Joseph. jun.

10 Hilder Chas  
Lawrence Job, Jno. & Ed  
Neaves David  
Petman Edw  
2 Sladden Emma  
4 Sladden Isaac  
Swinford John  
2 Tassell Jas  
Wacher Thos  
8 Watcher Win  
Whiddett Joseph

**Grocers & Tea Dlr.**

1 Best Wm  
1 Man Edw  
1 Greenstead. Sarah  
1 Wilson Sarah