

A  
**TOPOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY**  
OF  
**E N G L A N D,**

COMPRISING THE  
SEVERAL COUNTIES, CITIES, BOROUGHS, CORPORATE AND MARKET TOWNS,  
PARISHES, CHAPELRIES, AND TOWNSHIPS,  
AND THE ISLANDS OF GUERNSEY, JERSEY, AND MAN,  
WITH  
**HISTORICAL AND STATISTICAL DESCRIPTIONS;**

ILLUSTRATED BY  
MAPS OF THE DIFFERENT COUNTIES AND ISLANDS;  
**A Map of England,**  
SHEWING  
THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS, ROADS, RAILWAYS, NAVIGABLE RIVERS, AND CANALS;

AND  
A PLAN OF LONDON AND ITS ENVIRONS;

AND EMBELLISHED WITH  
ENGRAVINGS OF THE ARMS OF THE CITIES, BISHOPRICKS, UNIVERSITIES, COLLEGES, CORPORATE TOWNS,  
AND BOROUGHES; AND OF THE SEALS OF THE SEVERAL MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS.

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**BY SAMUEL LEWIS,**

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IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

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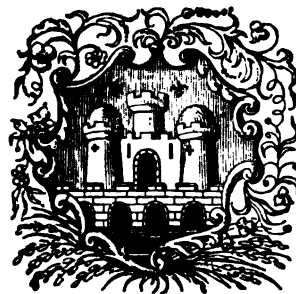
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cese of Hereford, rated in the king's books at £8. 10., endowed with £260 private benefaction, and £200 royal bounty, and in the patronage of Sir J. G. Cotterell, Bart. The church is dedicated to St. Andrew.

BRIDGFORD (EAST), a parish in the northern division of the wapentake of BINGHAM, county of NOTTINGHAM, 8 miles (E. N. E.) from Nottingham, containing 768 inhabitants. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Nottingham, and diocese of York, rated in the king's books at £19. 8. 6½., and in the alternate patronage of the President and Fellows of Magdalene College, Oxford, and J. Musters, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Mary. There is a place of worship for Wesleyan Methodists. The village is pleasantly situated on the eastern bank of the Trent, near the spot where was anciently a ford, and where there is now a ferry. Here was the ancient *Margidunum* of the Romans, numerous relics of which people have been discovered in the vicinity, particularly gold, silver, and brass coins of various emperors. At a place called Castle Hill, on the Fosse-road, which passes through the parish, a Roman *fibula*, in good preservation, was found in 1828. There is an abundance of a fine species of gypsum in the parish. A charity school is supported by subscription.

BRIDGFORD (WEST), a parish partly in the southern division of the wapentake of BINGHAM, but chiefly in the northern division of the wapentake of RUSHCLIFFE, county of NOTTINGHAM, 1½ mile (S. S. E.) from Nottingham, containing, with the hamlet of Gampston, 310 inhabitants. The living is a rectory, in the archdeaconry of Nottingham, and diocese of York, rated in the king's books at £16. 14. 2., and in the patronage of J. C. Musters, Esq. The church is dedicated to St. Giles. At each of the hamlets of Basingfield and Gampston is a place called Chapel Yard, the supposed sites of ancient chapels. The Trent forms the northern boundary of the parish, which is intersected by the Grantham canal. The Rev. William Thompson, late rector, endowed a school with £30 per annum, of which the rector and patron are perpetual trustees.

BRIDGHAMPTON, a tything in the parish of YEOLVILTON, hundred of SOMERTON, county of SOMERSET, 2½ miles (E. N. E.) from Ilchester, containing 105 inhabitants.



Arms.

from Walter de Douay, one of William's followers, on whom it was bestowed at the time of the Conquest, and was thence called "Burgh Walter" and "Brugge Walter," by which names, both signifying Walter's burgh, or borough, it is designated in various ancient records. William de Briwere, to whom it was granted in the reign of Henry II., built a castle in the following reign, combining the strength of a fortress with the splen-

dour of a baronial residence, and obtained from King John the grant of a market and a fair. He founded the hospital of St. John, for a master, brethren, and thirteen poor persons of the order of St. Augustine, the revenue of which, at the dissolution, was £120. 19. 1½. He also constructed the haven, and began to erect a stone bridge of three arches over the river Parret, which was completed by Sir Thomas Trivet, in the reign of Edward I. His son William founded a monastery for Grey friars, about 1230, and dedicated it to St. Francis. The barons, during their revolt against Henry III., took possession of the town in 1260. In the parliamentary war, the inhabitants embraced the royal cause, and the castle was garrisoned by the king's forces. In this castle, on account of its being strongly fortified, and abundantly supplied with ammunition, the inhabitants of the surrounding district deposited their money, plate, and other articles of value, as in a place of security. The parliamentarians under Fairfax soon afterwards invested the town, and laid close siege to the castle, which was resolutely defended, till the town having been fired on both sides of the bridge, the garrison capitulated on terms of personal indemnity, and surrendered the fortress, with all the treasure in it, and one thousand prisoners, into the hands of the enemy. The castle, which had sustained considerable damage during this siege, was demolished in 1645; the sally-port and some detached portions of the walls are all that now remain. In the reign of James II. the inhabitants favoured the pretensions of the Duke of Monmouth, who, on his arrival from Taunton, was received with great ceremony by the corporation, and proclaimed king. He remained for some time in the town, and having from the tower of the church reconnoitred the royal army encamped on Sedgemoor, he rashly resolved to hazard the battle that terminated so fatally to his ambition. His adherents in the town suffered severely for their attachment to his cause, under the legal severity of Jeffreys, and the military executions of Kirke.

The town is pleasantly situated in a well-wooded and nearly level part of the county, the view being bounded on the north-east by the Mendip hills, and on the west by the Quantock hills: the river Parret divides it into two parts, connected with each other by a handsome iron bridge of one arch. The western part is particularly clean: the streets are spacious, well paved, and lighted; the houses, chiefly of brick, are uniform and well built; and there is an ample supply of excellent water from springs. The eastern part, termed Eastover, is inferior in appearance to the western; though very great improvement has been effected in both of late years. The foreign trade consists in the importation of wine, hemp, tallow, and timber; but the trade of the port is principally coastwise. Coal is brought free of duty from Monmouthshire and Wales, and is conveyed into the interior of the county by a canal to Taunton. The quay, which has been recently improved, is accessible to ships of two hundred tons' burden, and is furnished with every appendage requisite for the convenience of commerce: the number of vessels belonging to the port, according to the return in 1828, is forty-five, averaging sixty-two tons' burden. The principal source of employment is the making of bricks for general use; scouring-bricks, composed of a mixture of clay and sand deposited by the river within a limited distance of the