

DERBYSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL

AND

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

A Statutory List of the Inhabitants of Melbourne, Derbyshire, in 1695; printed from the original MS. Assessment, with a Commentary and Explanatory Notes.

BY R. E. CHESTER WATERS, B.A.

LORD MACAULAY, in a well-known chapter* of his History of England, deploras the absence of materials from which the state of the population of England, at the close of the seventeenth century, can be determined with accuracy. Complaints of this kind are readily accepted by the general reader, who is flattered by the suggestion that he is more enlightened than his forefathers; but the historian ought to have learned from the statute book that a thorough and complete enumeration of the inhabitants of every parish in England, with a full and precise statement of their several names, occupations, and qualities, was made in 1695, under the provisions of that singular Taxation Act, † which imposed duties on births, marriages,

* Chap. iii.

† 6 and 7 William and Mary, c. 6.

and burials, as well as on bachelors and widowers. A copy of the assessment was returned into the Exchequer, and this return must obviously contain the precise information which the historian required. Whether this important contribution to the history of the English people was "pulped" in a generation which did not recognise its value, or whether it is still lying unconsulted in the recesses of the Record Office, has still to be ascertained. But, however this may be, it is evident that full materials for a census of the population in the last decade of the seventeenth century were once in existence; and if they are not now forthcoming, the fault lies not with our ancestors, but with those who have neglected to preserve or consult them.

The Taxation Act, under which these lists were framed, was a novel experiment in legislation, which excited so much discontent in every class in the community, that it ought not to be ignored (as it is) in Macaulay's history of the period. The King's ministers were pressed for ways and means in 1694, and, amongst other expedients for replenishing the exhausted exchequer, an Act was passed "as an additional supply for carrying on the war against France with vigour," which imposed, for a term of five years, from 1st May, 1695, a graduated scale of duties upon marriages, births, and burials, and upon bachelors and widowers.

No one was exempt from these duties, except persons in receipt of alms. The amount of the tax was 4s. for every burial, 2s. for every birth, and 2s. 6d. for every marriage; but, besides this, bachelors above twenty years of age, and widowers without children, paid 1s. a year as long as they remained unmarried. These amounts were to be paid in every case; but in every rank, except the lowest, there was a further tax, which varied with the rank of the parties. These additions were levied according to the following scale:—

Rank and quality.	For burial and marriage.	For birth of eldest son.	For birth of younger child.	Bachelors or widowers.
Duke	£50	£50 0	£25 0 0	£12 10 0
Marquis	40	25 0	20 0 0	10 0 0
Earl	30	20 0	15 0 0	8 0 0

Rank and quality.	For burial and marriage.	For birth of eldest son.	For birth of younger child.	Bachelors or widowers.
Viscount	£25	£17 10	£13 6 8	£6 13 4
Baron	20	15 0	12 0 0	5 0 0
Baronet and Knight of the Bath	15	5 0	1 0 0	3 15 0
Sergeant-at-Law ...	15			3 15 0
Knight Bachelor ...	10	5 0	1 0 0	2 10 0
Esquire	5	1 0	1 0 0	1 5 0
Gentleman	1	0 10	0 10 0	0 5 0
Owners of £50 p.a. real estate, or of £600 personalty	1	0 10	0 10 0	0 5 0

The Act was to be put in force by the Commissioners named in the Subsidy Act, passed in the same session. They were to meet in their respective counties on or before the 30th April, 1695, when they were to address precepts to two inhabitants of each parish, whom they considered fit persons to act as assessors, to appear before them within ten days. They were then to fix a day on which these assessors were to bring in certificates, in writing, of the names, surnames, estates, degrees, titles, and qualifications of all persons dwelling within their respective parishes. The certificates to be divided in several columns, showing the qualities and names of all persons chargeable under the Act, and the sums they are liable to pay upon burials, births, and marriages, and for being unmarried. The assessors were also to return the names of two collectors, for whose honesty and ability the parishes employing them were to be responsible.

These certificates were to be returned to the Commissioners before 13th May, 1695, and a duplicate assessment was to be delivered to the Receiver-General of the Revenue. The collectors were, at the end of each year, to deliver a certified copy of the assessment to two local Justices of the Peace, who were, after due examination, to sign it as allowed, and to hand it to the persons whom they chose to appoint collectors for the ensuing year. These collectors were bound, under a penalty of £5, to

deliver within six days a true copy to the parson of the parish, who was bound, under a like penalty, to read the same in church on the following Sunday, immediately after morning service. Appeals against the assessment had to be made within ten days after such reading in church. The parson was to keep a register in writing of all persons married, buried, christened, or born within his parish ; to which register the collectors were to have free access, at all reasonable times, without payment of any fee. The parson neglecting this duty made himself liable to a penalty of £100. Parents were bound, under a penalty of £10, to give notice to the collectors within five days after the birth of a child. The outgoing collectors were bound, under a penalty of £20, to deliver to the Receiver-General a duplicate copy of the assessment, with the names of two collectors for the next year, and a schedule on parchment containing the names of defaulters.

Considering that no less than ten copies of this assessment were made in every parish in England in the course of the five years during which this Act was in force, it might be expected that one or more of these statutory lists of inhabitants would be found in almost every parish chest. But the fact is that they are extremely rare, for the tax was so unpopular that the local authorities took pains to destroy the machinery for levying it. The parson is the natural guardian of parish records ; but the clergy, as a body, held this Act and its provisions in special abhorrence, because it imposed on them the invidious duty of furnishing evidence against defaulting members of their flock. Moreover, they had always hitherto kept their registers in their own fashion, without fear of being called to account. But this statute empowered the collectors to examine the parish register whenever they pleased, without payment of any fee ; whilst any defect in the register made the parson liable to enormous penalties, which left him at the mercy of every common informer. There were few registers, indeed, which could bear the test of official inspection ; and when Queen Anne's ministers were anxious to conciliate the clergy, it was found necessary to allay their apprehensions by a bill of indemnity, which was passed confessedly on the ground

that many clergymen had exposed themselves and their families to ruin by not keeping their registers according to law.* It is, therefore, not to be wondered at if these lists of inhabitants were generally destroyed as soon as the Taxation Act expired, and the few which have been preserved are commonly found in the hands of laymen. The list printed below was inherited by Viscount Hardinge, amongst his family papers. It bears the signature of his ancestor, Robert Hardinge, Esq., of King's Newton, one of the two Justices of the Peace for Derbyshire, who, in pursuance of the Act, signed and allowed the assessment for the parish of Melbourne in 1695.

Melbourne is a parish in the southern division of Derbyshire, on the confines of Leicestershire, and is bounded on the north by the river Trent. It includes the hamlet of King's Newton, which stands on a gentle hill overlooking the Trent valley. The Cokes were, in 1695, the principal landowners in Melbourne; but King's Newton had been for several generations the patrimony of the Hardinge family. Melbourne and King's Newton contained, in 1821, 3,123 inhabitants; but the whole number, in 1695, was 660. The aggregate population of England and Wales in 1881, was found to be 26,122,000, and, if Melbourne can be taken as a fair example of the rate at which the population has increased since 1695, England and Wales contained, in 1695, 5,526,000 inhabitants. It is remarkable how nearly this estimate agrees with that of Gregory King, who framed his calculations on an entirely different basis. According to his reckoning, which is quoted by Macaulay, the population, in 1696, was just under five and a half millions. The number of inhabitants in Melbourne at different periods is shown in the table below:—

	Number of inhabitants.	Number of separate households.
1695	660	190
1734	1410	286
1801	1861	352
1851	2647	597
1881	3123	692

* 4, Queen Anne, c. 12.

The aspect of the parish of Melbourne has been changed beyond recognition since 1695 ; for where there are now rich water meadows, fertilised by the Trent, there was then an undrained swamp, which produced nothing but gorse ; whilst a dreary waste of common, which was let for £10 a year as a rabbit warren, extended over 2,500 acres. The common was not enclosed until 1787. The roads were impassable for vehicles on wheels, and the corn was carried to market on pack horses. The whole number of sheep in the parish was under a thousand, but the price of stock was low in 1695 compared with wages ; for it appears, from an old account book at Melbourne Hall,* that an ewe, with two lambs, fetched 8s., a barren ewe 6s., and a ram 8s. ; whilst a labourer's wages were 1s. a day. The average rate of wages at the present time may be taken at 15s. a week ; so that the Derbyshire labourer, judging from the price of mutton, was much better paid and better fed in 1695 than he is in our own days, with all our boasted progress.

The original MS. of the Melbourne assessment consists of 14 folio pages legibly written. It is divided, in pursuance of the Act, in six separate columns, showing the names and surnames of the inhabitants of Melbourne, and their occupations, and the amount of the duties for which they were respectively liable. It is signed at the end by two assessors, John Ragge and Samuel Symes, who both figure in the list as yeomen ; by two collectors, John [illegible] and Owen Maples, who are respectively described as (?) and flaxdresser ; and by two Justices of the Peace, Henry Heveningham and Robert Hardinge. Hardinge was lord of the manor of King's Newton, but Heveningham was not resident in the parish. He was lieutenant of the band of gentlemen pensioners, and was the nephew of Sir William Heveningham, of Ketteringham, Norfolk, who was called "the regicide," from his having been one of the judges at the trial of Charles I. His nephew's connection with Derbyshire was through his marriage, for Henry married Frances, Countess Dowager of Bellamont, one

* These particulars are gleaned chiefly from Briggs' "History of Melbourne."

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.		Marriages.		Births.		Batchelors and Widowers.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Joseph Swotman his son .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Swotman his daughter... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Swotman his daughter... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Susannah Swotman his daughter.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Biddle his servant .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	0 2 6	.....	.....	.....
Ruth Goodal his servant .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rich Kniveton	Blacksmith ...	0	4 0	0 2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grace Kniveton his wife .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rich. Kniveton his son .....	.....	0	4 0	0 2 0	.....	0 2 6	.....	.....	.....
Manuel Kniveton his son .....	.....	0	4 0	0 2 0	.....	0 2 6	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Kniveton his daughter... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
George Donnie his servant ... ..	.....	0	4 0	0 2 0	.....	0 2 6	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Gibson his servant ... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane Broomhead his servant... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henry Bingly.....	Labourer.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	0 2 6	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Kirkman	Widower.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	0 2 6	.....	.....	.....
John Kniveton	Butcher	0	4 0	0 2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Kniveton his wife.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Muglestone	Widow	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Muglestone her son ... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane Muglestone her daughter .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dorothy Muglestone her daughter .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Isaac Bosworth	Plowright ...	0	4 0	0 2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joan Bosworth .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Bosworth his son .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Isaac Bosworth his son.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Bosworth his daughter... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane Bosworth his daughter ... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thomas Draper senior	Labourer.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Draper his wife ... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Draper his grandchild... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Draper junior	Labourer.....	0	4 0	0 2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Robona Draper his wife .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Draper his son .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Draper his daughter ... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarah Draper his daughter .. ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Birch	Widow	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Birch her son aged 25	Batchelor ...	0	4 0	0 2 0	0 2 6	0 1 0	.....	.....	.....

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.		Marriages.		Births.		Batchelors and Widowers.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Tho. Birch his son		0	4 0						
Joseph Birch his son		0	4 0						
Eliz. Birch his daughter		0	4 0						
Jane Birch his daughter.....		0	4 0						
John Goodal	Cordwainer..	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Anne his wife		0	4 0						
William Goodal his son.....		0	4 0						
John his son		0	4 0						
Mary Goodal his daughter ...		0	4 0						
Mary Lees	Widow	0	4 0						
Eliz. Grooves	Widow	0	4 0						
Francis Grooves her son aged 25	Batchelor ...	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6	0	1 0
Jane Grooves her daughter ...		0	4 0						
Dorothy Grooves her daughter		0	4 0						
Wm. Liefchild her servant ...		0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6		
Joseph Riley	Taylor	0	4 0						
Anne Riley his wife		0	4 0						
Robert Riley his son		0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6		
Francis Bull his apprentice ...		0	4 0						
John Kinsey his apprentice ...		0	4 0						
Joseph Archer his apprentice		0	4 0						
Tho. Scot	Brewer.....	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Grace Scot his wife		0	4 0						
Tho. Scot his son		0	4 0						
Matt. Scot his son		0	4 0						
Joseph Scot his son		0	4 0						
John Cantril	Widower.....	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6	0	1 0
Wm. Draper	Labourer.....	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Mary Draper his W.		0	4 0						
Mary Draper his daughter.....		0	4 0						
Wm. Smith	Yeoman	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Eliz. Smith his W.		0	4 0						
Ferdinando Smith aged 25 ...	Batchelor.....	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6	0	1 0
Sarah Smithiers his servant ...		0	4 0						
John Orton	Labourer.....	0	4 0						
Mary Orton his W.		0	4 0						
Mary Orton his D.		0	4 0						
John Soar	Labourer.....	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Anne Soar his wife		0	4 0						

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.		Marriages.		Births.		Batchelors and Widowers.		
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Henry Soar his S. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joshua Doleman.....	Widower	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Sam Syms	Yeoman	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Mary Syms his W.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sam Syms his S. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Syms his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Birch his servant	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Rich. Tarbut his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Chiswil his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Chamberlin	Spinster	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Isabel Chamberlin	Spinster	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Lakin	Tiler	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Tho. Lakin his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joshua Lakin his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Lakin his D.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Meer	Weaver	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Eliz. Meer his W. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Francis Dexter	Labourer.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Katharine his wife .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Robt. his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Francis his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Martin	Widower.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Anne Martin his daughter.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Martin his sister .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Crow his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Higgin	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Higgin her daughter .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Higgin her S.	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Benjamin Higgin her S. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Riley	Widower.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Mary Riley his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Sympson his servant	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
James Collier	Farmer	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Eliz. Collier his W. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Collier his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Borisford	Labourer.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Borisford his W. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Ball his grandchild.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Barwell his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Edw. Follows	Widower.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.		Marriages.		Births.		Bachelors and Widowers.		
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Edw. Follows his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sam Follows his S. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane Follows his D. ..	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Follows his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Brown	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thomas Cantril .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Margaret Osborn .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Francis her man .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarah Osborn her daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Osborn her daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Seimour Doleman	Labourer.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Anne Doleman his W. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Doleman his S.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarah Doleman his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Newbald	Spinster	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Joseph Goodal	Labourer.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Sarah Goodal his W.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Goodal his S. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Goodal his S.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dorias Goodal his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Hall	Cordwainer...	0	4	0	0	2	6	0	2	6
Esther Hall his daughter .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thomas Dorey	Labourer.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Eliz. Dorey his W. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Pearson	Widower.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Wm. Pearson his son.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Pearson his daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Robins	Yeoman	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Margaret Robins his wife.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henry Robins }	his sons {	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Robins }		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Robins }		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Robt. Robins }		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Benj. Robins }		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Robins his daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Litherland his servant	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Tho. Dore	Thatcher ...	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Hannah Dore his wife .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sam Dore his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Dore his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.			Marriages.			Births.			Batchelors and Widowers.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
John Harrison his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Harrison his daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henry Brooks aged 25	Batchelor.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	1	0
Edw. Kidyear	Taylor	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....	.....
John Taylor	Mason	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Taylor his wife.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Taylor his daughter.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane Sympson his servant.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Charnel	Widow.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Charnel her daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Charnel her daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Charnel her son.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Lees aged 25	Batchelor	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	1	0
Edw. Lees his brother .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Knight his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Samuel Lees	Labourer.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Lees his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Clifford	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
George Campion	Miller	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Campion his wife .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
George Campion his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Starkey his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Matthew Wiln	Warrener	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Wiln his wife.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Wiln his son .....	.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Tetly his maiden .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Francis Lambert	Forgeman	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Lambert his W.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Lambert his daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Lambert his daughter ...	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Francis Rolstone	Labourer.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rosa Rolstone his wife .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Heap	Labourer.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Heap his wife .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Heap his daughter .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dorothy Heap his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Heap his son.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Theo. Heap his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Lees	Flagdresser ...	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....	.....
George Lees his son .....	.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....	.....

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.		Marriages.		Births.		Batchelors and Widowers.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Sam Rolston	Farmer..	0	4 0	0	2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Rolston his W.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Rolston his son.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Rolston his S. ....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Rolston his D.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Rolston his D.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Cartwright.....	Pot carrier ...	0	4 0	0	2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary his wife .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Draper	Labourer.....	0	4 0	0	2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Draper his W. ....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Hall rec, alms	Widow	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thomas Hall her son.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Edw. Hall her son.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Hall her son .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Hall her son .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Hall her son .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
George Summerfield ...	Farmer	0	4 0	0	2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dorcas his wife .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John his son... ..	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph his son.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ellen his daughter ....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Collington his servant ...	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Cook	Yeoman	0	4 0	0	2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Luce Cook his wife .....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dorothy Clark	Widow	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Chambers	Spinster	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
James Trevit	Labourer	0	4 0	0	2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Trevit his W. ....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
James Trevit his S.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Edw. Boden	Baker	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6	.....	.....
Eliz. Boden.....	Widow.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Boden his D. ....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Francis Kinsey	Smith	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6	.....	.....
Henry Smith his apprentice ...	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nathaniel Smedley.....	Mercer.....	0	4 0	0	2 0	.....	.....	.....	.....
Priscilla his W. ....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Rowley	Widow.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Rowley her son.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Rowley her D.....	.....	0	4 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thomas Heap.....	Widower.....	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6	0	1 0

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.			Marriages.			Births.			Batchelors and Widowers.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ellen Moor his housekeeper		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Moor her son		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Hackwood.....	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Boden.....	Saddler	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Boden his wife		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joan Boden his D.....		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dorothy Boden		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Turner	Spinster	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thomas Pym	Weaver	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....
Eliz. Fisher	Widow.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ellen Fisher her D.		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Fisher her D.		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kath. Fisher her D.		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Fisher her D.		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bridget Fisher her D.		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane Turner	Spinster	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Martin	Shearman ..	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dorothy Martin his wife		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Martin his son		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ellen Martin his daughter ...		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Adcock	Taylor	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....
Wm. Adcock his son		0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....
Tho. Minion his apprentice ...		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Adcock his daughter ...		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Margery Kinsey	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ellen Martin	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Martin her daughter ...		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Radcliff her servant		0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Smith	Butcher	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hannah Smith his wife.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Smith his son.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henry Smith his son .....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Brumhead	Gardiner.....	.....	.....	.....	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane Brumhead his W. ....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Brumhead	Widow .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Erp Senior	Farmer .....	.....	.....	.....	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Erp his W. . ....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Erp his son .....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Erp his daughter.....		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Edw. Sanders his servant....		.....	.....	.....	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.		Marriages.		Births.		Batchelors and Widowers.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Thomas Toon her son		0	4 0	0	4 0	0	2 6		
Lydy Toon her D.		0	4 0						
Fra. Smith	Labourer	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Alice Smith his wife		0	4 0						
Robert his son		0	4 0						
John Carter aged 25	Batchelor	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6	0	1 0
Rich. Sheepy	Labourer	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Mary Sheepy his wife		0	4 0						
Anne Sheepy his daughter		0	4 0						
Kath. Sheepy his D.		0	4 0						
Ellen Sheepy his D.		0	4 0						
John Cartwright	Pounder	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Sarah Cartwright his W.		0	4 0						
John his son		0	4 0						
Tho. Sperry	Labourer	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Mary Sperry his W.		0	4 0						
Tho. Sperry his son		0	4 0						
Mary Sperry his D.		0	4 0						
John Ward	Labourer	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Isabel Ward his wife		0	4 0						
Francis Ward his son		0	4 0						
John Parker	Weaver	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Sarah Parker his W.		0	4 0						
Stephen Parker his son		0	4 0						
John Parker his apprentice		0	4 0						
Tho. Monk	Widower	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6		
Wm. Wiln.	Labourer	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Mary Wiln his wife		0	4 0						
Tho. Wiln his son		0	4 0						
Matthew Wiln his son		0	4 0						
Eliz. Wiln his daughter		0	4 0						
Wm. Turner sen.	Taylor	0	4 0						
Anne Turner his W.		0	4 0						
Luce Turner his D.		0	4 0	0	4 0				
Alice Peat	Widow	0	4 0						
Henry Peat her son	Weaver	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6		
Eliz. Peat her niece		0	4 0						
Wm. Cantril senior	Weaver	0	4 0	0	2 0				
Sarah Cantril his W.		0	4 0						
John Cantril his son	Labourer	0	4 0	0	2 0	0	2 6		

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.		Marriages.		Births.		Batchelors and Widowers.		
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Wm. Cantril junior	Labourer. ...	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Anne Cantril his W. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarah Cantril his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Josiah Cantril	Labourer. ...	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Mary Cantril his W. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph Cantril his Son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
James Hargrave.....	Miller.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Dorothy Hargrave his W. .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary his D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Elizabeth his D.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dorothy his D. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henry Radford	Carpenter ..	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Christian his W.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Henry his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Robt. Parker, his apprentice..	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Ward his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Tarbut	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Tarbut her daughter ..	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarah her D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Katherine Carter	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Carter her son. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Carter her D.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kath. Carter her D.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jonathan Wilkinson her ser- vant	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Fra. Ball her servant	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Sarah Radford her servant ..	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Borrisford	Spinster	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Borrisford, rec. alms ..	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rebecca her D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Elizabeth her D. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Elliot	Widower. ...	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6
Tho. Elliot	Farmer	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Mary his wife .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Joseph his son.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane Gascoigne his servant ..	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tho. Doxey. ...	Labourer....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Isabel his W. ....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Owen Maples	Flaxdresser. .	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....
Jane Maples his W.....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Names and Surnames.	Titles and Qualifications.	Burials.		Marriages.		Births.		Batchelors and Widowers.					
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.				
Samuel his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sarah his D. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Jane his D. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Elizabeth his D. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Wilkinson his apprentice .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Fra. Wallis his apprentice .. . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Killock aged 25	Batchelor ..	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	0	1	0
Mary Quinton	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Quinton her daughter .. . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John May	Labourer. . . .	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary May his W. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kath. May his D. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Cartwright.	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ellen Cartwright her D. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kath. Jolley	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thomas Erp Junior	Farmer	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Erp his W. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Thomas Erp his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Chambers his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kath. Chambers his Daughter .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Humphry Killar his servant .. . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Hill his servant .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Zech. Cherribough	Yeoman	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Cherribough his W. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Roberts his son-in-law .. . . .	.....	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....
Eliz. Roberts his Daughter-in-law .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Edw. Hall	Labourer. . . .	0	4	0	0	2	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary Hall his wife .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Hall his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
John Hall his son .....	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wm. Turner	Labourer. . . .	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	2	6	.....	.....
Dorothy Turner his daughter. . . . .	.....	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Anne Sheepy	Widow	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Eliz. Howel	Spinster. . . .	0	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

{ John Ragge }
 { Sam. Symes } Assessors.

(Signed by) { John (*illegible*) and }
 { Owen Maples } Collectors.
 H. Heveningham.
 Robt. Hardinge.

The total number of the inhabitants of Melbourne and King's Newton enumerated in the list is 660, and that the list is an exhaustive one is proved by the fact that it includes five women receiving alms, notwithstanding that they were exempted from the tax by the terms of the Act. These 660 inhabitants formed, as nearly as I can reckon, 190 separate households; but it is not easy in every case to decide whether the persons described as widows, widowers, and bachelors, were householders. For instance, I have little doubt that the three bachelors—Henry, John, and William Cooper—were three brothers living together, who kept a manservant and two maids. I have attempted to classify the several families according to their respective occupations, and the result of my analysis of the list is that there were living in Melbourne and King's Newton in 1695:—

1 Vicar,	1 Potecarrier,
2 Esquires,	1 Baker,
1 Gentleman,	1 Smith,
8 Yeomen,	1 Chapman,
8 Farmers,	1 Saddler,
7 Cordwainers,	1 Forgeman,
6 Butchers,	1 Slater,
6 Weavers,	1 Wheelmaker,
5 Tailors,	1 Ploughwright,
4 Flaxdressers,	1 Tiler,
3 Blacksmiths,	1 Thatcher,
2 Mercers,	1 Gardener,
2 Millers,	1 Poundkeeper,
2 Masons,	1 Warrener,
2 Carpenters,	44 Labourers,
1 Brewer,	42 Widows,
1 Whitetawer,	13 Widowers,
1 Glover,	11 Bachelors,
1 Dishturner,	6 Spinsters,
1 Shearman,	5 Women receiving alms.

Thirty-two of these families kept servants, and, excluding the two Squires, who kept 7 servants each (3 men and 4 maids,)

there were 30 families of lower degree, who kept 44 servants between them (17 men and 27 maids.) There were also 9 tradesmen, who had apprentices; and it is significant that none of those who kept apprentices kept a servant.

It will be interesting to see how these servants were distributed.

The Vicar	kept	1	maid.
The Gentleman	„	1	maid and 1 man.
3 Yeomen	„	2	maids „ 4 men.
5 Farmers	„	5	„ „ 2 „
1 Blacksmith	„	1	maid „ 2 „
1 Mercer	„	1	„ „ 1 man.
1 Miller	„		1 „
1 Mason	„	1	maid.
1 Carpenter	„	1	„
The Slater	„	1	„
The Warrener	„	1	„
1 Labourer	„	1	„
4 Widows	„	4	maids and 1 man.
4 Widowers	„	3	„ „ 2 men.
4 Bachelors	„	4	„ „ 3 „
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
30		27	17

The 13 apprentices were distributed as follows:—

3 To Joseph Riley, tailor, evidently the leading man in his trade.

2 To Nathaniel Hazard, the cordwainer, who also kept a journeyman.

2 To Owen Maples, the flaxdresser, who was one of the tax-collectors under the Act.

1 To a carpenter.

1 To a weaver.

1 To a tailor.

1 To a smith.

1 To a mason.

1 To a flaxdresser.

The first name in the list is that of the Vicar, John Troughton,

who was presented to the Vicarage in 1690 by Dr. Smith, Bishop of Carlisle. The Royal Manor of Melbourne formed part of the endowment of the Sea of Carlisle from the time of its foundation by Henry I, in 1133. The fourth Bishop built a Palace here, in 1230, and en-parked the adjoining lands. He and his successors constantly resided here, and had leave from the Bishop of the diocese to hold ordinations in Melbourne church; for they were often driven from Carlisle by the inroads of the Scots during the frequent wars between England and Scotland. The Bishop's Palace and impropriate Rectory were farmed, in the reign of Charles I., by Sir John Coke, Secretary of State, who paid a stipend of £20 per annum to the Vicar, and a rent of £45 per annum to the See of Carlisle. The Parliamentary Commissioners of 1650 reported that the Vicarage was worth £26 per annum, and that the rent of £45 reserved under the lease of the parsonage was "enjoyed by Sir John Coke to the use of the Vicar." An agreement, however, was made, in 1701, between the Bishop of Carlisle and his lessee, Mr. Thomas Coke, that, in consideration of the Vicar's stipend being raised from £20 to £35 per annum, and the rent being increased from £45 to £70 per annum, the lease should be converted into a grant in fee simple; and this agreement was confirmed by Act of Parliament, in 1704. The Palace was at this time known as Beaulie Hall, and was occupied as a farm-house for several generations by the Earp family, as tenants of the Cokes; but they eventually purchased it, and it was pulled down in 1821. The name of Earp was spelt Erp in 1695; and Thomas Erp, the tenant of Beaulie Hall, who is described in the list as a farmer, was the lineal ancestor of Thomas Earp, Esq., the well known brewer and maltster, who has represented Newark in Parliament since 1874.

Melbourne church is one of the most interesting churches in England of the early Norman period, and is admirably described in the third volume of Mr. Charles Cox's *Notes on the Churches of Derbyshire*. The Vicarage, however, is poorly endowed, and, accordingly the Vicar and his wife kept only one servant—a maiden. Troughton held the living twenty-eight years, and was

buried here on 14th October, 1718. His predecessor, Thomas Little, was buried on 26th March, 1690; but the assessment shows that his widow, Agnes Little, with her two daughters, Elizabeth and Dorothy, and her maid-servant, was still living in the parish in 1695.

The next names on the list are those of the two resident Squires—Thomas Coke, of Melbourne; and Robert Hardinge, of King's Newton,—each of whom kept 7 servants: 3 men and 4 women. But this does not imply equality of estate and establishment; for it must be borne in mind that Hardinge was a man of 41, with a wife and five children; whilst Coke was a young lad of 20, whose father had died at Geneva in 1692, since which time the son had been the ward of Walter Burdett, Esq., of Knowle Hill.

The Cokes of Melbourne were descended from Sir John Coke, Secretary of State in the reign of Charles I, who was a younger brother of Sir Francis Coke, of Trusley, and was in no way related to his contemporary, Sir Edward Coke, the Chief Justice. The heir of Melbourne took a leading position amongst the Derbyshire gentry, and married, at Repton, in 1698, Lady Mary Stanhope, daughter of Philip, second Earl of Chesterfield; but she died on 10th January, 1703-4, leaving two daughters. The widower soon married again, and his second wife, Mary Hale, was one of Queen Anne's maids of honour. He was M.P. for Derbyshire in five successive Parliaments, 1701-1710, and was Vice-Chamberlain to Queen Anne and George I. He was sworn a member of the Privy Council in 1711, and died 11th May, 1727, leaving issue, by his second wife, a son and a daughter. His son and heir, George Lewis Coke, died, unmarried, 14th January, 1750, and was succeeded in his estates by his sister Charlotte, wife of Sir Matthew Lamb, Bart., M.P. for Peterborough. Their grandchildren—Viscount Melbourne, the Prime Minister, and his sister, the late Viscountess Palmerston—were successive owners of the Melbourne estate, which now belongs to Earl Cowper, Lady Palmerston's grandson. It is described in the Parliamentary return of 1873 as consisting of 2,787 acres, which produced a gross rental of £6,670 per annum.

Stephen Allen, who stands at the head of the list of Mr. Coke's servants, was evidently the steward of the Manor, for he is described as "gent." This was no small distinction; because he was the only person in the parish who is so designated, except Thomas Swetnam, who lived on his own freehold, and kept a man and a maid.

Next in the list to Squire Coke, comes Robert Hardinge, Esquire, of King's Newton, with his second wife Elizabeth, his son John, and his four daughters—Mary, Anne, Jane, and Isabel. These were his children by his first wife Jane, the daughter and co-heir of William Buxton, Esquire, of Youlgreave, Derbyshire, who was buried here 22nd October, 1692. These four daughters all died unmarried; but the son, John Hardinge, who was baptized here on 26th September, 1685, graduated M.A. at Cambridge in 1705, succeeded to the family estate on his father's death in October, 1709. He was afterwards the King's Remembrancer in the Court of Exchequer, and married here on 12th April, 1711, Alice Coke, sister of the Right Honourable Thomas Coke, M.P., above-mentioned. He died without issue, and was buried here on 27th January, 1728-9, when the elder line of the Hardinges became extinct.

Robert Hardinge, the magistrate, who signed the assessment, was the son and heir of Sir Robert Hardinge, a staunch Cavalier, who had the honour of entertaining Charles II. in his hall at King's Newton, which is still standing; and was knighted at Whitehall on 2nd February, 1674-5. He died on 29th November, 1679, and is described on his monument as "a faithful servant to God, the king, the Church of England, and his country in the worst times." He sprung from a family of yeoman origin, who had been owners of land in King's Newton from the reign of Henry VI.; but they were not entitled to bear arms, and the family was not noticed in the Visitations of 1611 or 1636. Sir Robert claimed descent from Hardinge of Bristol, the ancestor of the Berkeleys; and remonstrated with Dugdale when his pretensions to bear the arms of that noble family were disallowed. But his family name was originally written Hardie and his uncle

Henry, who died in 1613, is so named in his monument in Melbourne Church; whilst Sir Robert himself is described as Mr. Robert Hardye, in 1652, in the marriage register of Highgate Chapel.* His brother Nicholas was an attorney of Furnivall's Inn, and amassed a considerable fortune by practising the law. He purchased, in 1691, the Manor of Canbury, in Surrey, with the impropriate Rectory of Kingston-on-Thames, and in the next year presented Sir Robert's youngest son, Gideon Hardinge, to the vicarage. Gideon does not sound a likely name for the son of a Cavalier knight; but Sir Robert Hardinge's wife was the granddaughter of Gideon de Laune, the famous apothecary. Gideon Hardinge was vicar of Kingston-on-Thames twenty-one years, and married 6th May, 1699, Mary Westbrook, daughter of Caleb Westbrook, gent., of Kingston, who was baptized there on 4th March, 1669-70. Her parentage is unknown to all the peerages, but is of some interest, as showing how Gideon's younger son, Dr. Caleb Hardinge, the Queen's physician, came to be christened by a Puritan name. Gideon's eldest son, Nicholas, became the head of the family in 1729, on the death of his cousin, John Hardinge, of King's Newton. He was Clerk of the Parliaments, and afterwards Joint-Secretary of the Treasury, and married a sister of Earl Camden, the Lord Chancellor. He was the great-grandfather of the present Viscount Hardinge, by whose courtesy I am enabled to print this assessment.

The 44 labourers enumerated in the assessment evidently belonged to a class of better standing than the agricultural labourer of our own times. They were, as I have shown before, better fed and better paid, and were often poor relations of local freeholders and shopkeepers. For example—the Cantrells were probably the oldest family in the parish, and had intermarried with the Hardinges in the reign of Henry VI. Their pedigree can be traced, beyond question, from John Cantrell, of King's Newton, who died in 1615, although the parish register of Melbourne is not of earlier date than 1653. They formed, in 1695, seven

* Register of Highgate Chapel, Middlesex. :—"1652, April 19th, Mr. Robert Hardye and Mrs. Anne Sprignell married."

separate households, who are all described as labourers, except two, one of whom was a farmer and the other a weaver. One of these labourers, Josiah, was the head of the family ; whilst the farmer was his uncle, and the weaver was his granduncle. Josiah's father had died a few months before ; but his stepmother had some provision, for she kept a maid. Josiah's grandson, Hugh Cantrell (son of Joseph, who is mentioned in this list) married, in 1768, Mary Boulton, the only child of the Vicar of Castle Donington ; and their grandson, Joseph Thomas Cantrell, was the County Court judge in Derbyshire in 1852, and married a granddaughter of Dr. Markham, Archbishop of York.

The Berrisfords were a family of the same kind, and were distributed in six separate households of very unequal condition. John Berrisford, jun., was the leading mercer in the town, who kept a man and a maid ; Thomas was a glover, and Cornelius was a flax-dresser ; whilst Mary was a widow, with two daughters, receiving alms ; and John was a labourer, who lived with his wife and his grand child, and kept a maid. The Berrisfords, or, as they afterwards spelt their name, Beresfords, continued to be freeholders in the parish of Melbourne until 1814. It can scarcely be doubted that they sprung from the same stock as the noble family in Ireland, which is now represented by the Marquess of Waterford, but had not in 1695 yet risen to the peerage, for the ancestor of the Irish Beresfords was a native of Derbyshire.

Many additions might be made to these notes ; but enough has been said to show how much could be gleaned from this interesting record by those who are better qualified by local knowledge to read between the lines.