

A Religious Census of Derbyshire, 1676.

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IN the invaluable library of the Salt Society, Stafford, is a manuscript folio volume of exceptional worth and of excellent penmanship. It is a Return of the population of the province of Canterbury, over sixteen years of age, for the year 1676, divided into three classes: "Conformists, Papists, and Nonconformists." The Return was drawn up by order of Henry Compton, Bishop of London, and was obtained from the clergy at the archidiaconal visitations. The returns are divided into parishes, and in some dioceses grouped under Archdeaconries or Rural Deaneries. The Returns do not appear to be absolutely complete for each diocese, for occasionally certain parishes are missing, and of the diocese of Bristol and of Bath and Wells no details are supplied, but merely the totals under the hands of their respective bishops.

The totals for the then diocese of Coventry and Lichfield are: Conformists, 155,720; Papists, 1,949; Nonconformists, 5,042. It is remarkable to note, small though it seems, how far larger the proportion of Roman Catholics was to the population in this diocese than elsewhere. London alone exceeds it with 2,069, but then the Conformists of that diocese were 263,000. Only one other diocese reaches to four figures, namely, Lincoln, with 1,244 out of a conforming total of 215,000, but few other dioceses reached to 500.

So far as I am aware, this census, made at a time when materials for forming any estimate of the population, putting aside their

religious creeds, are singularly lacking, has hitherto been unknown save to a few midland scholars who use the Salt Library, and has not previously been noticed in print.*

To form a general total of the whole population, when the numbers given are of those over sixteen years of age, it is necessary to add about 40 to every 100.

The following is a verbatim copy of the Derbyshire portion of this Return:—

ARCHDEACONARY OF DERBY IN Y^R DIOCESS: OF LITCHFIELD
AND COVENTREY.

	Conformists.	Papists.	Nonconformists.
Clowne	273	...	5
Matlock	980	...	20
Stone Middleton...	236	3	...
Hathersage	440	140	...
Eyam	526	3	3
Elmton	94	...	...
Winsters	304	...	1
Darley	495	...	5
Yolgrave	806	...	14
Castleton	498	2	...
Glossopp	1984	4	52
Ashover	696	...	4
Boulsover	449	...	2
Sutton & Duckmanton ...	385	12	3
Barleybrough	213	23	...
Chesterfeild	3394	6	100
Whittington	212	...	6
Southwingfeild	332	...	3
Wingerworth	145	4	8
Whittwell	250	2	2
Norton	479	7	10
Allfreton	448	1	12
Brampton	1060	...	40
Staveley	493	6	1

* Since the above was in type, I have been informed that there is another copy of this Return at the Bodleian Library, Tanner MSS., 150; but I have not had time to collate it in any way with the Salt Library copy.

	Conformists.	Papists.	Nonconformists.
Dronfeild... ..	517	...	...
Tibshelfe... ..	208	...	2
Beighton... ..	183	2	15
Longwith... ..	70	..	...
South Normanton	300	...	2
Moreton... ..	222	...	...
Scartcliffe... ..	200	..	...
Plesley	174	...	...
Sherland... ..	64	...	12
Pinxton... ..	190	...	...
Edensor... ..	296	2	2
Northwingfeild	634	...	16
Killamarsh... ..	145	15	...
Haute Hucknall... ..	132	...	9
Eckington... ..	1163	32	5
Barley... ..	376	...	4

DEANERIES OF DARBY AND REPINTON.

All Saints & St. Alkmunds			
in Derby... ..	1113	4	49
St. Peters in Derby	500	...	40
Ilkiston... ..	273	...	7
Bredsall... ..	199	...	1
Aston... ..	295	...	5
Kirkhallam... ..	99	1	...
Swarkeson... ..	100	...	...
Osmaston... ..	85	...	...
Allvaston & Boulton	143	..	...
Ellvaston... ..	215	...	...
Newton Soney... ..	326	...	...
Greasly	357	...	...
Charles horne (? Harts- horne)... ..	146	3	7
Stanly... ..	73	4	...
Spoondon... ..	304	...	...

	Conformists.	Papists.	Nonconformists.
Croxall	100	...	...
Lullington	144	...	6
Morely	229	...	...
Horsely	293	...	...
Barrow-upon-Trent	194	...	..
Ticknall	213	..	2
Mackworth	348	...	2
Stanton-juxta-Dale	100	6	...
Caldwell	68	...	1
Stretton-le-feild	226	...	...
Melburne	437	2	16
Denby	175	1	...
Formarke & Ingleby	96	...	...
Roslston	61	..	1
Walton-upon-Trent	207	...	...
Willington	84	...	3
Heynor... ..	522	8	10
Measham	309	...	...
Cheallaston	102	...	...
Smisby	84	...	...
Weston-upon-Trent	125	4	...
Sandacre	120	...	...
Duffield	1795	1	4
Ockbrooke	240	...	...
Westhallam	107	40	3
Repton	471	...	4
Crich	404	2	3
Pentridge... ..	389	...	11
Stanton-juxta-Pontem	100	...	...
St. Michael in Derby	63	...	...
St. Warburg	338	...	12
Ravenstone	119	...	2
Chaddesdon	160	...	..
Allestrey	95	...	...
Stapenhill	200	...	3

	Conformists.	Papists.	Nonconformists.
Kniveton	110	...	...
Tidswall	467	30	3
Bakewell	4235	65	200
Hope	782	10	8
Chappell-le-frith	587	3	8
Fenny Bentley	78	1	1
Parwick Chappelry	248	...	2
Alsop-in-le-Dale	40	...	...
Thorpe	80	...	...
Carrington	200	...	...
Atlow	98	...	2
Hognoston	200	...	...
Ballidon	100	...	...
Tissington	175	...	...
Bradburne	110	...	...
Brasington Chappelry	375	...	5
Bonsall	612	...	2
Kirke Ireton	297	...	3
Etwall	160	1	9
Radburne	72	1	...
Langford	322	6	2
Kedlaston	78	...	...
Kirke Langley	216	...	...
Edlaston	67	2	...
Bradley	114	3	3
Ashburne	2470	10	20
Mapleton	70	...	...
Mickleover	400	...	20
Scropton	214	...	...
Sudbury	200	...	...
Sutton-on-y ^e -Hill	210	...	...
Snelston	206	14	...
Dalbury Lees	115	...	...
Norbury	74	65	...
Dovebridge	291	12	8

	Conformists.	Papists.	Nonconformists.
Egginton	216	3	4
Marston-upon-Dove ...	248	...	16
Boylston	166	...	4
Shirley	180	...	...
Braylesford	254	6	40
Church Broughton ...	180	1	4
Cubley	127	11	...
Marston Mountgomery ...	179	5	3
Somersall	98	2	...
Trusley	104	...	...
Mugginton	716	1	1
Totals for Derbyshire...	47,151	588	918

N.B.—It will be noticed that this return for Derbyshire is not quite complete. There is no return for Barton Blount, Blackwell, Hartington, Heath, Sawley, and Wirksworth. The smaller of these parishes may probably have been included in other parishes by clergy who held double cures, but this is not likely to have been the case with a small town like Wirksworth, or important villages, such as Hartington and Sawley.