



Kelly's Directory Extract 1867

Biddlestone



Biddlestone is a parish and a village, divided into two parts, viz., St. Peter's and St. Nicholas, in the Northern division of the county, hundred, county court district and union of Chippenham, diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, archdeaconry of Bristol, and rural deanery of Malmesbury South, distant 4 miles west from Chippenham, 18 from Bristol, and 98 from London, situated on a brook called the Wavering. The church of St. Nicholas is an ancient and plain structure, and consists a nave and two chancels, with a very curious belfry in Norman style, containing 1 bell: the church was repaired about 1850. The register dates from the latter part of the 16th century. The living comprises the rectory of St. Peter and vicarage of St. Nicholas, with the perpetual curacy of Slaughterford annexed, value £200, in the gift of Winchester College, and held by the Rev. John Emra, M.A., of Balliol College, Oxford. St. Peter's church has been taken down. Here is a National school for boys and girls; also, a Baptist chapel. There are charities of £17 annual value, left by Lady James, to be distributed in coals and clothes at Christmas; also £6 per annum to the deserving poor at Christmas, left by W. Little. Lord Methuen (who is lord of the manor) and T. H. A. Poynder, Esq., are the principal landowners. The soil is brash; subsoil, gravel. The chief crops are wheat, barley and pasture lands. The parish contains about 1,600 acres, and the population in 1861 was 407 in St. Nicholas and 34 in St. Peter's.

Parish Clerk, Frederick Davis

Letters through Chippenham arrive at 7 a.m.; dispatched at 7.20 p.m. The nearest money order office is at Corsham.

National school, Miss Matilda Selman, mistress.

Private Residents

| Surname | Given Names | Title | Industry/Occupation | Place/Parish |
|---------|-------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|
| Bence | Henry | Mr. | | |
| Bence | John | Mr. | | |
| Blake | | Mrs. | | |
| Blake | Ralph | Mr. | | |
| Chapman | | Mrs. | | |
| Emra | John | Rev. M.A. | | Vicar |
| Little | | Misses | | |
| Little | | Mrs. | | |
| Parker | | Mrs | | |

Commercial

| Surname | Given Names | Title | Industry/Occupation | Place/Parish |
|---------|----------------|-------|---|--------------|
| Attwood | Samuel | | Machinist, Agricultural Implement & Prize Plough Maker. | |
| Beak | Charles George | | Farmer | |
| Blake | Abraham | | Farmer & Maltster | |
| Bushell | Thomas | | Blacksmith | |
| Chapple | John | | Wheelwright | |
| Coates | Alfred | | Shopkeeper | |
| Collett | Henry | | | New Inn |
| Elliott | John | | Farmer & maltster | |
| Gale | William | | Farmer | |

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|-----------|------------|------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Little | John Davis | | Farmer | |
| Rawlings | James | | Shopkeeper | |
| Selman | Clara | Miss | Shopkeeper | |
| Tanner | James | | Farmer & maltster | |
| Tanner | John | | Farmer | Honeybrook farm |
| Turner | James | | | White Hart |
| Watson | Thomas | | | White Horse |
| Whitbread | Thomas | | Harness maker | |