

LANCASHIRE CATHOLICISM.

THE following table contains the Lancashire portion of an "Account of Papists within "the Diocese of Chester," drawn up in the year 1767, by order of the Bishop. The parishes in the deaneries of Kendal and Lonsdale have all been included, though a few are in Westmorland and Yorkshire. The Cheshire portion has been printed in the *Cheshire Sheaf*, (3rd series, vol. v), but a summary of the figures of this portion as well as for the whole archdeaconry of Richmond is added. The returns are contained in a small quarto volume, preserved in the Diocesan Registry at Chester, and for permission to copy and print it the Society is indebted to John Gamon, Esq., the Diocesan Registrar.

The 1717 figures seem to have been taken from the statistics compiled by Bishop Gastrell, and printed in the *Notitia Cestrensis* (Chetham Society). At first sight there appears a very surprising and unexpected increase in the later returns ; it is, however, probable that at the earlier time the number of concealed Catholics was larger than at the later. This may have been owing to the suppression of the Jacobite rising of 1715, which entailed disastrous consequences on the adherents of the ancient faith, generally sympathisers with the Stuart cause, and in a large number of cases open supporters of the rebellion. By 1767 the period of persecution was drawing to an end, and there was less occasion than formerly to conceal religious convictions. The figures invite further questions as to the cause of the predominance of Protestantism at the present time, not only in the great towns, where the population is to a large extent "foreign," but in those

rural districts in which it is evident that formerly the majority of the inhabitants were not Protestant. The south-east portion of Lancashire was, from the Reformation onwards, decidedly inclined to the new opinions, and the figures here given show that in this, then the most important, district, Protestantism had a decided preponderance.

Of great interest are the names of the missionary priests who ministered to their flocks at that time. Some of these appear to be well known already, like Richard Gregson of Sefton, a Benedictine, who a few years later founded the present Netherton mission (see vol. xlix, p. 133); in other cases the notices give fresh information. The priests at Liverpool in 1767, who are not named in the following list, seem to have been Thomas Hawkins (*alias* Perkins), S.J., a Sussex man; and James Newton (*alias* Nelson), a Londoner; at least these fathers were here in that year, but perhaps successively:—

DEANRY OF MANCHESTER.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Ashton-under-Line ...	—	2	
Lees	—	—	
Mosley	—	2	
Bolton	43	37	
Little Bolton ...	—	—	
Blackrod	—	36	
Bradshaw	35	—	
Rivington	—	—	
Turton	—	1	
Walmesley	—	—	in y ^e Par. list.
Bury	1	1	
Edenfield	—	—	in y ^e Par. list.
Heywood	—	—	
Holcomb	—	—	in y ^e Par. list.
Dean	46	31	
Horwich	—	3	
Peele... ..	—	3	
Westhoughton ...	1	4	

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Eccles	10	18	
Ellenbrooke	—	—	
Flixton	—	—	
Manchester	13	287	
Ardwick	—	—	
Birch	—	—	
Blakeley	—	1	
Chorlton	—	1	M ^r Barlow of Barlow.
Denton	—	—	
Didsbury	—	—	
Gorton	—	—	
Heaton Norris ..	—	—	
Newton	—	—	
Salford	3	64	
Stretford	—	20	Excl. of M ^r Trafford of T; who lives mostly at York.
Middleton	1	3	
Ashworth	—	—	in y ^e Par. list.
Cockey	—	—	” ”
Prestwich	1	3	
Oldham	—	21	
Ringley	—	—	
Royton	—	—	
Shaw	—	1	
Unsworth	—	—	
Rochdale	—	14	
Littleborough ...	—	—	
Milnrow	—	—	in y ^e Par. list.
Saddleworth ...	—	—	
Todmerdine ...	—	—	Do.
Whitworth	—	—	Do.
Ratcliff	—	—	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	154	553	

DEANRY OF WARRINGTON.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Altcar	17	92	
Aughton	80	145	Bertram Bulmer, priest.
Childwall... ..	208	151	
Garston	—	153	
Hale	—	18	
Halsall	146	36	

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Maghull	2 ¹	126	
Melling	7 ¹	67	
Huyton	13	151	
Leigh	107	269	
Astley	—	10	
Atherton	—	25	
Liverpoole	200	1743	
North Meols	5	3	
Ormeskirk	358	1086	Nich ^s Fournier at Scars- brick, Ja ^s Brown at Lathom, priests.
Prescott	372	1294	
St. Ellens (ret ^d in Par.)... ..	—	—	
Farnworth	35 ¹	326	Marma. Wilson, priest.
Rainford	8 ¹	71	
Sankey... ..	—	14	
Sephton	515	603	Rich ^d Gregson, a monk, priest.
Crosby	—	154	Hen. Blundell of Ince Esq ^r Hen. Pippard Esq ^r of Crosby.
Walton (Hen. Tat- lock, priest)... ..	61	108	
Formby	208	363	John Blundell, priest.
Kirkby... ..	8 ¹	98	Tho ^s Butchard, a Jesuit.
West Derby	60	197	Barnett Bolus, priest.
Warrington	69	401	Tho. Shuttleworth, priest.
Burtonwood	2 ¹	15	
Hollinfair	—	41	
Wigan	594	1194	John Worthington, priest.
Billinge	10 ¹	94	Elmer Grimbolston, priest.
Hindley	—	108	John Eastham, priest.
Holland	—	216	
Winwick (Sir Tho. Gerard of Brynn, Bart., Mr. Green, priest)	461	796	[cheth. M ^r Leigh, priest at Cul-
ret ^d at Ashton	100	—	Another W ^m Dicconson of
Win. \ Lowton	—	—	Culcheth.

¹ Familys.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
ret ^d at Win. { Newchurch	—	—	Mr Royle and Mr Horn, other priests at Croft and Southworth.
{ Newton ...	—	—	Mr Welton, a priest in Ashton quarter.
	<u>3,646</u>	<u>10,168</u>	
To be added for 72 familys sett down as individuals ...	288	—	
	<u>3,934</u>	<u>10,168</u>	

DEANRY OF BLACKBURN.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Blackburn	532	239	
Balderstone	—	82	
Darwen	—	—	
Harwood	—	39	
Lango	—	69	
Samlesbury	—	351	
Tockholes	—	13	
Walton-le-Dale	499	823	
Whalley	128	20	
Altham	—	86	
Accrington	—		
Burnley and Holme	120 } — }	118	{ John Harrison, priest. Cha ^s Townley of Townley Esq ^r
Clitheroe	—	12	
Churchkirk	—	7	
Colne	—	12	
Marsden	—	—	in Coln list.
Downham	—	—	
Haslingden	—	—	
Goodshaw	—	—	
Newchurch-in-Pendle	—	—	
Do. -in-Rossendale	—	3	
Padiam	—	14	
Whitewell	5 ²	86	John Moore, priest.
	<u>1284</u>	<u>1974</u>	
To be added for familys sett down as individuals ...	20		
	<u>1304</u>		

DEANRY OF LEYLAND.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Brindle	170	364	Joseph Hadley, priest.
Croston	184	359	R ^d Leckonby, do.
Becconsall	—	13	Thuur Trafford, Esq ^r
Chorley	—	202	Hannah Edgar, schoolm ^r
Rufford	—	13	
Tarleton	—	2	
Eccleston	43	287	W ^m Grimbalston, p ^r
Douglass	—	—	Edw: Dicconson, Esq ^r , of Wrightington.
Hoole	9	2	
Leyland	272	375	M ^r Bradshaw.
Euxton	—	134	Jn ^o White, priest.
Heapey	—	295	Jn ^o Richardson, p ^r
Penwortham	27	69	Longton included.
Longton	—	—	
Standish	328	552	One priest, his name not returned.
Coppull	—	89	
	1033	2756	

DEANRY OF AMOUDERNESSE.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Bispham	8	4	
Chipping	55	186	Leonardo Francis, p ^r
Cockerham	83	57	
Ellel	—	40	
Shireshead	—	—	ret ^d at Cockerham. John Sergeant, at Wiresdale.
Garstang	230	837	
Pilling	—	no ret.	added later—"One only, "and that ret ^d at Gar- "stang."
Kirkham (above 16 years of age)	477	989	[priest. Tho. Cuerdon, a Jesuit
Goosenargh (above 16 years of age)	145	316	[Maudesley, priests. John Carter and John
White Chapel	—	200	
Hambleton	—	3	
Lund	—	182	Jno. Davidson, priest.
Singleton	—	135	Peter Waring, secular priest, M ^r Brown, Popish priest.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
In the Ribby with Parish { Wray ... list. { Warton ...	—	—	
Lancaster	no ret.	650	Ja ^s Tyrer, priest.
Admarsh	—	23	
Caton	20	40	
Gressingham	—	2	
Littledale	—	29	
Overton	—	11	
Poulton	—	1	
Stalmine	17	25	
Wyresdale	—	47	
Lytham	no ret.	384	Jn ^o Mansel, ats Talbot. Jesuit priest. Tho ^s Clifton Esq ^{re}
St. Michael's	206	184	
Woodplumpton	—	276	
Cop	—	91	Fran. Cliff, priest.
Poolton	67	146	
Marton... ..	—	18	
Preston	643	1043	Mr Smith, priest. Mr Chadwick, pr. Tho. Walton, pr.
Broughton	—	313	
Grimsargh	—	117	
St. Lawrence	—	131	
Ribchester	204	275	
Longridge	—	213	Ja ^s Wilson, priest.
Stidd	—	49	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	2155	7017	

DEANRY OF LONSDALE.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Bentham	5	9	
Ingleton	—	2	
Ingletonfell	—	—	
Clapham	2	58	Jn ^o Step: Ingleby of Lawk- land Hall, Esq ^r
Claughton	16	13	Jas. Le Grand, priest.
Kirkby Lonsdale	7	—	Chas. Ingleby of Aust- wick, Esq ^r
Barton	—	—	
Firbank	—	—	
Huttonroof	—	—	

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Killington	—	5	
Mansergh	—	—	
Middleton	—	—	
Melling	48	2	
Archolm	—	7	
Hornby	—	98	Mr Butler, priest.
Sedbergh	—	1	
Dent	—	—	
Garsdale	—	8	
Howgill	—	—	
Tatham	5	14	W ^m Pennington, priest
Tathamfell	—	1	
Thornton	2	7	
Burton	—	—	in Par. list.
Tunstall	14	4	
Leck	—	—	
Whittington	—	—	
	99	229	

DEANRY OF FURNESS.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Aldingham	1	—	
Dendron	—	—	
Cartmell	8	5	
Cartmellfell... ..	—	—	
Field Broughton... ..	—	—	
Flookborough	—	2	
Lindale	—	—	
Staveley	—	3	
Coulton	—	—	
Finsthwaite... ..	—	—	
Rusland	—	—	
Dalton	7	23	John West, priest.
Kirkby Irelith	—	—	in Par. list.
Ramside	—	—	Do.
Walney	—	—	
Hawkshead	—	—	
Saterthwaite	—	—	
Kirkby Irelith... ..	—	—	
Broughton	—	1	
Seathwaite	—	—	
Woodland	—	—	
Pennington	—	—	

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Ulverstone	4	13	
Blawith	—	—	
Conistone	—	—	
Lowick	—	—	
Torver	—	—	
Urswick	7	—	no kind of Dissenter.
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	27	47	

DEANRY OF KENDALE.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Beetham	38	—	
Witherslack	—	1	
Bolton in the Sands..	2	27	
Overkellat	—	—	
Burton	6	12	
Preston Patrick ...	2	—	
Grasmere	—	—	
Ambleside	—	—	
Langdale	—	—	no kind of Dissenter.
Halton	13 ¹	16	
Aughton	—	—	
Heversham	26	32	
Crosthwaite... ..	9	—	
Crosrake	—	—	in Par. list.
Heysham	2	—	
Kendale... ..	72	165	
Burnside	1	7	
Crooke... ..	—	—	
Grayrigg	—	7	
Hugill	—	—	
Kentmire	—	—	
Longsleddale	—	2	
Helsington	—	19	Cha ^s Strickland, Esq ^r
Notland	—	—	
New Hutton	—	—	
Old Hutton	—	—	
Selside	—	1	
Staveley	—	—	no Diss ^{rs} but two Quakers.
Underbarrow	—	1	
Winster	—	—	
Warton	7	54	Geo. Townley, Esq ^r M ^r Wharton, priest.

1 Family.

	Anno 1717	Anno 1767	
Silverdale	—	—	in Par. list.
Windermere	—	—	
Troutbeck	—	—	no kind of Dissenters.
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
	166	344	
To be added for one family sett down as an individual ...	4		
	<hr/>		
	170		

CHESTER ARCHDEACONRY.

RICHMOND ARCHDEACONRY.

	1717	1767		1717	1767
Bangor	2	—	Amounderness ...	2155	7017
Blackburn . . .	1304	1974	Burroughbridg ...	196	284
Chester	116	138	Catherick	260	380
Frodsham	66	108	Copeland	30	148
Leyland	1033	2756	Furness	27	47
Macclesfield ...	83	59	Kendale	170	344
Malpas	17	—	Lonsdale	99	229
Manchester ...	154	553	Richmond	525	691
Middlewich ...	14	14		<hr/>	<hr/>
Namptwich ...	58	22		3462	9140
Warrington ...	3934	10168	Increase.....	5678	
Wirral	65	207			
	<hr/>	<hr/>			
	6846	15999			
Increase.....	9153				
Totals of the whole			1717	1767	
			10308	25139	
Total increase... ..		14831			

[Later]—Total numbers returned by order of Parliament,
in 1780 27228

