

CHESHIRE

Prefix numbers refer to the Public Record Office reference for each document, in the case of this county they can be found entirely in the Diocese of Chester, PRO. HO/67/6/- .

	Names of places	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Potatoes	Peas	Beans	Turnips or Rape	Rye	Others
Expressed in acres										
8	Aldford	211	109	201	19	23	1			
9	Ashton upon Mersey	160½	41½	153½	151					
10	Astbury	400	70	700	50					
12	Backford									
	(Cheshire acres)	71½	5½	60½	25					Peas & Vetches 2½
	(statute acres)	79	3	23½	3½					Peas & Vetches 7
13	Baddiley (statute)	134½	19½	154	10			(5)		
14	Barrow	261	83	316	100					
82	Birkenhead	72	4	32	2		2			
20	Bromborough									
	(Cheshire)	98	18	117	27					
	(statute)	207	38	247	57					
56	Chester Holy Trinity	29	1	17	3½					
96	Chester St John		3	4	12					
24	Chrisleton									
	(statute)	299	55½	464½	106½		5½			(7½)
63	Church Lawton	109	16	167	16					
25	Church Minshull	122½	2½	202½						
28	Coppenhall	207½		271½	10					(3)
42	Eccleston (statute)	157	14	184	9	3	2			(5)
46	Gawsworth	96	69	647	41			13		
49	Guilden Sutton									
	(statute)	43	28	151	8½					

	Names of places	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Potatoes	Peas	Beans	Turnips or Rape	Rye	Others
Expressed in acres										
74	Mobberley (statute)	359	34½	566½	51½		3½	4½		
75	Nantwich	171	13	232½						
77	Northenden (statute)	264	5	273½	63	5	7	3		
81	Over	180	18	230	18					
82	Overchurch	42	2	36	3					
85	Plemstall (statute)	149	21½	251½	42		1½			
90	Pulford (statute)	222	9	242		24				
101	Stockport (statute)	702	53	1493	202					
104	Tattenhall	126	12	157	25	2	2		(1)	
105	Taxal	8	12	180	14					
107	Thurstaston (Cheshire)	42½	8½	52½	5½					
110	Warrington	375		520	50				(8)	Rye & Barley 11
115	West Kirby	355	85	272	95					
120	Wilmslow	540	50	554	66		7			
122	Woodchurch	282½	19½	239½	20					

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10 Astbury

A greater extent of land than usual has been tilled this year in the parish of Astbury: the crops were never more abundant and a finer harvest was never recollected.

12 Backford

N.B. one statute acre contains 4,840 square yards. One Cheshire acre contains 10,240 square yards.

(Editor's note: the two sets of figures for this parish refer, I think, to the fact that the parish has been measured in two different ways, but that each separate plot was not so measured. In other words, there is not an element of double counting but that to achieve the true acreage under each crop one or other of the measures must be converted into a common acre and the two figures added up.)

14 Barrow

No return having been made from this parish last year I have sent the following. 1800: wheat 206 acres, barley 38, oats 351, potatoes 90.

62 Birkenhead (See the Note for Overchurch below.)

20 Bromborough

Bromborough is a very small parish on the side of the River Mersey opposite to Liverpool, about 6 or 7 miles from thence but in a poor state of cultivation considering it so near the port.

(Editor's note: unlike the Backford entry above I think in this case the two figures are equivalents.)

56 Chester, Holy Trinity

Potatoes, besides in small plots, called butts, in private gardens. Peas, beans and turnips, none except in private gardens.

96 Chester, St John

The small quantity of ground belonging to this parish is chiefly employed for hay and pasture for milk cows; or for the produce of kitchen vegetables.

63 Church Lawton

In this parish we have a greater quantity of wheat this year than usual. Barley, oats and potatoes much the same. The crops in general throughout this country are very abundant and from the

goodness of the harvest it is expected it will yield more than common use average. Wheat at twenty measures (75 lbs to the measure) to the statute acre, but I think this year it will yield 30. I have made enquiry from the valuer of tithes in this and the neighbouring county of Staffordshire and they all agree the crops are more promising than they ever remember. The harvest has been housed with less expense to the farmer and in better condition than was ever known. Corn is now upon the rise and will I am afraid be dear, too dear for the Poor Man's pocket, unless some effectual measures are soon adopted by Government to prevent the dealers from monopolising. It is well known they have a large quantity of old corn and flour upon hand and they are using many methods to keep up the price that they may be no losers.

66-7 Letter to go with 63 Church Lawton.

Having received a letter from the Lord Bishop of Chester desiring me to make a return of the quantity of corn grown in this parish, enclosed have sent the statement of the number of acres. His Lordship having suggested that Government wished to have an annual return I can answer for one that I shall be always ready to furnish it from this parish. The high price of corn certainly arose from the mistaken opinions of a Noble Duke who informed us, that before the present period should arrive, even with all the aids that importation could afford we should not be able to procure bread to eat for any money. The country is happy in saying his Grace is mistaken, although we have paid dearly for his opinions.

25 Church Minshull

N.B. no potatoes, peas, beans, turnips or rape are grown for sale, but only for private use, or domestic consumption, in gardens, or other small spots of ground, and of course, the quantity of each very considerable.

28 Coppenhall

Neither peas nor beans are grown in this parish except for family use. We have a large tract of waste land, which would be more productive, if it was enclosed, claimed by the lord of the manor and the freeholders, who have never yet been unanimous about it.

42 Eccleston

The crops in general very good.

46 Cawsworth

The crops are very good, of wheat particularly. Improvements in agriculture, in this neighbourhood is very great and progressive, and I am happy to say that no people can be more attached to their King and his Government than those of this parish, and I hope and believe it is so in these parts generally.

49 Guilden Sutton

N.B. somewhat more land under grain than ordinary here; but not much. Peas, beans and turnips only for family use.

- 77 Northenden  
Statute measure and good crops.
- 81 Over  
Oats do not turn out according to expectation.
- 82 Overchurch  
The curate of Overchurch being also minister of Birkenhead Priory in the said Diocese which is extraparochial having received no blank form for that place, thinks proper to return the amount of crops here (Editor's note: for which see Birkenhead in the table.) The farms in this vicinity are in general mixed farms, cultivated for the dairy and the course of crops as here returned.
- 85 Plemstall  
N.B. somewhat more land under grain here also than in ordinary years; but not much.
- 90 Pulford  
The soil of this parish is not at all calculated for the growth of any grain etc., but wheat and oats, consequently little else is grown. The account annexed I believe to be accurately correct.
- 101 Stockport  
The parish of Stockport contains 14 townships. The corn rent could be substituted in lieu of tithes, such a measure in parishes circumstanced as this is (being a manufacturing country, and having no large open cornfields, belonging to a number of proprietors) would probably increase the quantity of corn, which is not, considering the extent of the parish, so much as might be reasonably expected.
- 104 Tattenhall  
Wheat, more acres and better crops than usual. Oats, crops rather poor. Potatoes include gardens. N.B. the whole of the above large Cheshire measure.
- 107 Thurstaston  
Wheat is reckoned a middle crop. Barley is good. Oats are a full one. Potatoes only indifferent. It must be observed that the acres given are Cheshire, one of which is nearly equal to two statute acres.
- 110 Warmingham  
The crops are good in every respect but, the oats the last so, and the whole was well housed.
- 115 West Kirby  
Peas and beans are sown in very small quantities in our parish and not any rape. Turnips are also trifling.

Woodchurch

Wheat crop something above a common average. Barley one-third more than a common crop. Oats from one-quarter to one-third above an usual crop. Potatoes, the produce a good average.