

DURHAM

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 Durham, PRO. HO/67/8/- .

Names of places	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Potatoes	Peas	Beans	Turnips or Rape	Rye	Others
Expressed in acres									
97	Auckland, St Andrew	1409	267	1607	76	(121)	(384)	2	
98	Auckland, St Helen	1112½	295½	1423½	54½	54½	4	274½	10
6	Aycliffe	1215	20	1158	20	(102)	(104)		
7	Barnard Castle	353	101	842	60	55	259	25	176
14	Billingham	524	34	255	9	(283)	48		
12	Bishopwearmouth	No figures - see Notes							
15	Bishopton	350	50	300	25	(40)	(30)		
18	Boldon	729	8	615	21	12	35	34	
25	Castle Eden	89	4	94	2	2	7	10	
28	Coniscliffe	370	87	280½	11½	67	48	(137)	
30	Crayke	158	19½	293½	25½		55½	131	6 Maslin 38½
32	Croxdale	102	24	111	11		9	(38)	
33	Dalton-le-Dale	516	24	518	12½	4		(53)	
34	Darlington	518½	116	507	32	28½	98½	227½	
35	Denton (i.e. in Gainford)	249	72	186	9	25	16	89	
37	Dinsdale	131	37	118	4	(49)	36		
99	Durham, St Oswald	322	92	270	17½	19	11	105½	12
41	Easington	1270	48	1325	43	66	16	157	1
82	Ebchester	29	13	73	4	1	23		Maslin 1
88	Edmondbyers	44	29	139	5	22		(25)	
43	Egglecliffe	592	5	367	40	(208)	(53)		

	Names of places	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Potatoes	Peas	Beans	Turnips or Rape	Rye	Others
Expressed in acres										
44	Eggleston	38	4	124	9½			36½		
40	Elton	191	10	166		(44)		8		
47	Elwick Hall	533	3	455	2			(20)		
51	Gainford	540½	148	439	22	125½	20½	(252½)		
52	Gateshead	88½	34½	123½	49½		6	10½		
54	Greatham	342	36	215		101	43			
55	Grindon	451	28	387	6	20	30	(50)		
129	Hamsterley	732	82	764	36	4	2	342		
58	Hart	883	67	919	14	51½	20	(96½)		
112	Hartburn	137		20						
59	Hartlepool				2					
61	Heighington	1200	140	750	60	150	20	160	8	1
69	Heworth	See Jarrow								
63	Houghton-le-Spring and Penshaw	1219	100	1211	81	120		(200)		
64	Hunstanworth	2	24½	93½	10	6		14½		
65	Hurworth	425	82	348	30	(73)		(43)		
69	Jarrow and Heworth	875½	42	906½	33½		118	60		3
70	Killoe	1351	26	1450	17	17		147		
83	Kirk Merrington	689	41	585	34	39		(113)		
75	Lanchester	1429	340	3268	122	84		(421)		10
79	Longnewton	543		498	4	71	69	75		
82	Medomsley	317	111	878	201	30		94		Maslin 20½
85	Monk Hesleden	551	32	512	17	15	58	(60)		

	Names of places	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Potatoes	Peas	Beans	Turnips or Rape	Rye	Others
Expressed in acres										
86	Monkwearmouth	387	3	529	434	5	12	(84)		
88	Muggleswick	80	50	266	10	29		(54)		
91	Norton	460	58	295	36	(150)		(85)		
63	Penshaw	See Houghton-le-Spring								
88	Pittington	497	42	472	15	10		(56)		
94	Redmarshall	484	29	475	5	9	37	(60½)	1	
96	Ryton	781	328	1416	210	29		224	11	
100	Seaham	308½	26	300½	18½	49	14	55		
101	Sedgefield	1565	101	1515	60			(207)		
110	Stanhope	136½	219½	413½						
108	Stanhope, St John Chapelry	3½	5	16	20			(9)		
112	Stockton	102	12	29		40	24			
113	Trimdon	266½	11½	293½	17½	4	2	(46)		
26/1	Washington	No figures - see Notes								
122	Whickham	289	120	705	79	7	30	160	58	
123	Whitburn	376½	63½	470½	52½	3½	6	126½	1½	
124	Whitworth	194	2	183	4	3		(35)		
125	Whorlton	180	25½	147½	8½	40	15½	(45½)		
127	Winston	244	70	291	5	30	53	(90)		
128	Witton Gilbert	214	35	242	20	6		(26)		
129	Witton le Wear	450	70½	615½	16	2		207		
130	Wolsingham	290	139	1188	34	5	1	198	13	3½ Maslin 81
131	Wolviston	518	23	265	20	(132)		33		

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97 Auckland, St Andrew

From the best information I could obtain the crops of different kinds of grain are expected to be very productive and of a good quality. Potatoes, a very plentiful crop and very good. Peas and beans are frequently sown together both upon the same land. Turnips are in general good, little rape.

98 Auckland, St Helen

Crops of all kinds in general extraordinary good and well got in to the 3rd September inclusive, on the 4th, 5th, 6th rain and hazy weather to the 10th whereby the hoodsheaves and corn that was unhooded, sprouted, and will be partly unsound; on the 10th and 11th the corn was opened and the growing stopped. Clean rye is seldom sown, because it will not fetch the price of maslin, and rye bread is windy and too opening, unless for sedentary and old people of ( ? ) and dry constitutions. Rape is generally for ( ? ), and the land sown with wheat or barley.

6 Aycliffa

Wheat producing from 17 to 35 stooks per acre, each stook yielding from 3½ to 5 pecks. Barley a good crop, but not a barley county. Oats producing from 20 to 40 stooks, yielding from 1 bushel to 5 pecks. Potatoes a good crop for the quantity set. Peas a good crop, beans not so good. Turnips or rape much better than expected. Upon the whole the corn crops equal or superior to the two past years united.

7 Barnard Castle

The crops are all abundant and greater than an average crop, especially the potatoes.

14 Billingham

Wheat, a good crop 17 bushels to an acre upon an average, barley rather a light crop average 30, oats a good crop 34, potatoes a good crop, peas and beans for the most part a mixed seed 14, turnips a good crop. No rape or rye grown in this parish.

12/13 Bishopwearmouth

The parish of Bishopwearmouth within the County and Diocese of Durham contains about 16 square miles. As a very considerable part of the parish does not pay tithe to the Rector, I have no means of ascertaining the number of acres growing of the several kinds of corn of which the account is required: nor do I think it can be done, without sending some person capable of estimating

acres by the eye regularly through the parish; for the expense of which no fund seems to be provided. I have not observed an unusual breadth of corn land this year within the parish, but the crops of all kinds of grain are better, by at least one-fourth, than an average, and, by one-half, than last year's crop. Potatoes have been planted in larger quantities than common, and the crop is expected to be very good, so that the produce of that article may be set higher perhaps one-half above an average crop and double of what it was last year.

15 Bishopton

Wheat upon an average will yield about 14 bushels per acre. This year 21, barley 30, oats 30 an abundant crop this year. Potatoes, peas and beans, turnips or rape uncertain.

18 Boldon

There is no rye sown in this parish by itself; a small quantity is sown with some wheat mixed, called here maslin and is included under the head, wheat. The crop in general has been plentiful and the weather for the harvest hitherto very favourable.

15 Castle Eden

Wheat about 15 bushels per acre, barley 25, oats 20. Good crops but not yet reaped. The principal part of this parish is in grass.

28 Coniscliffe

Wheat in general a plentiful crop and supposed to yield upon an average 22 bushels per acre. Barley a fair crop and 30 bushels, oats an abundant crop 35, potatoes a very promising crop, 120, but in my opinion they will exceed that, besides there are many small quantities in gardens etc. Peas in general a very good crop and cannot yield less than 30 bushels. Beans it is feared will suffer a decrease in quantity owing to the severe drought but still may be called a fair crop. Turnips or rape seem not to be very promising for the same reason.

30 Crayke

Rye is seldom sown here alone. Maslin is a mixture of rye and wheat which when ground makes excellent brown bread. One peck of rye to a bushel of wheat will bring corn about half and half from the superior luxuriance or yielding of the rye. The crops have been in general plentiful and good.

32 Croxdale

The quantity of land sown with the different sorts of grain is much the same as usual. The crops in general are very good.

33 Dalton-le-Dale

The crops of all kinds of grain throughout this parish are allowed by the farmers in general to be greatly superior both in quantity and goodness to any crop produced here for several years past.

34 Darlington

The crops and quality of corn here inserted are allowed by the farmers good in the extreme. Small portions of land in potatoes I have omitted, if summed up would not amount to two acres. Potatoes are this year very productive consequently very cheap. Beans and peas are a full crop but the farmers say they have seen the former better podded. There is neither rye nor rape grown this year in this parish. The land is of too loamy a quality for the produce of the former and the latter is not so beneficial as turnips.

35 Denton

The crop of this year is abundant, especially the wheat, barley and oats. Peas and beans are an average crop. Potatoes are excellent both as to quantity and quality. Turnips were once promising, but are, at present, much hurt by the dry weather. The weak soils are especially productive, and many of them bear crops which are little inferior to those on good land. I should suppose the average produce of this chapelry may be estimated as follows, or nearly so; wheat 25 bushels per acre, barley 33, oats 36, peas 20, beans 20 and potatoes 130.

99 Durham St Oswald

Very good crops. This return is as accurate as it could be made from the best information I was able to obtain: but I am persuaded it is far from being correct.

41 Easington

Wheat at an average may be taken at 13 or 14 bushels per acre. Rye seldom grown alone but mixed with wheat by the name of maslin. Barley at an average of 20 bushels per acre, oats the same, peas and beans at about 13.

82 Ebchester and Madomsley

These chapelries being in very cold and exposed situations little corn is grown, but the crops this year are much more abundant, earlier reaped and gathered in earlier than ever remembered.

88 Edmondbyers, Muggleswick and Pittington

N.B. the people say their tillage is much the same in quantity; yet this year affords near as much corn as the last three years.

43 Eggescliffe

40 or 50 acres more wheat than usual, and much above an average crop per acre. Very little barley sown at any time, oats a very productive crop, potatoes a moderate produce, peas and beans usually sown together (broadcast) and a very indifferent crop this year, turnips or rape a good crop but often more turnips as rape sown. Very seldom any rye sown.

- 44 Eggleston  
The crops in general are very good considering the high situation of this part of the county.
- 40 Elton (A breakdown of the crops into separate farms is given with separate comments for each crop by each farmer.)
- 47 Elwick Hall  
Wheat averaging about 15 bushels per acre, the land being poor in quality, and the north east winds, prevailing much in the spring season. Not a barley soil, oats averaging about the same bushels per acre as the wheat, from the same causes. Potatoes averaging about 100 bushels per acre. Not a turnip soil averaging about 50 per acre.
- 51 Gainford  
I have made this return from accounts furnished by the farmers who are not I fear to be relied on. Had every parish minister who lets his tithes, power to compel the tithe gatherer to show his tithe book, and if he is a vicar, to oblige the lay rector, or his tithe gatherer to show his, he would have it in his power to make a true return. The crops in this parish were good, both with respect to quantity and quality: those of wheat, barley, oats and potatoes were extremely abundant.
- 52 Gateshead  
The crops of grain of all sorts are universally abundant.
- 54 Greatham  
Wheat a fair crop, but not so good as in many parts of the neighbourhood. Oats a very abundant crop. Potatoes in this parish are only grown in small quantities for family use. My return not accurate; but we have a very good crop of turnips in the parish. No rye grown in the parish.
- 55 Grindon  
The crops are in general good; much better than we have had for several years past; but it appears the wheat is not as productive in the sheaf as was expected. The other grain is untried.
- 129 Hamsterley and Witton le Wear  
No rye grown in either parish. The crops of the different kinds of grain have been remarkably abundant and their quality good. The weather has been very favourable and the whole well got in. It is supposed that the quantity will be full double to that of last year.
- 58 Hart  
Wheat in this parish will in general give 20 bushels per acre. Barley is an abundant crop and will yield 40 bushels. The crops of oats are very plentiful, and will give 30 bushels and upwards.

There was no rye sown in this parish excepting a small plot of ground which may produce near 6 bushels. Potatoes are plentiful only for private use in this parish, though some of the farmers may sell a part of their produce. Peas and beans are sown but in small quantities and the crops are excellent. The crops of turnips are not very plentiful. There was no rape sown past season. N.B. wheat and potatoes are very good crops.

59 Martlepool

The land within this parish is all in grass, save about 2 acres of potatoes which is a good crop.

61 Heighington

The crop this year is abundant especially the wheat, barley and oats; peas and beans are an average crop. Potatoes are excellent both as to quantity and quality. Turnips were once promising, but have been hurt by the dry weather. The weak soils are very productive this year, and many of them bear good crops, and which are little inferior to those on good lands. I estimate the average produce of this parish as follows; wheat 25 bushels per acre; barley 34; oats 30; peas 20; beans 18 and potatoes 140.

63 Houghton-le-Spring and Penshaw

The crops of every kind are remarkably good.

64 Humstanworth

There is not much corn grown in this parish the farms here being chiefly sheep farms. The crops of corn, potatoes etc; have been well got in, and it is thought, that the produce this year is nearly equal to the three last years. N.B. neither rye, beans nor rape grown in this parish.

65 Hurworth

All the crops good.

69 Jarrow and Heworth

All the crops except the beans, in a quantity and goodness are not inferior to the most productive years.

70 Kelloe

The crops of all sorts are the most abundant that have been in this parish for the last 30 years. I speak this from my own observation and it coincides with the opinion of the oldest and most intelligent farmers in the parish.

83 Kirk Merrington

No rye grown but what is grown with wheat. The crops very good.

75 Lanchester

When it is understood that my parish is about 60 miles in circumference, and that I have no tithe whatever, it will, I hope,



be considered as a sufficient reason for the lateness of this return. The crops of all kinds are exceeding abundant, considering the quality of the land; the produce is about equal to the three last years. The produce of the old inclosed lands, within this parish is (communibus annis) about 16 bushels per acre of wheat and 18 or 20 of oats. This year the best wheat lands will reach 24 bushels per acre. Very little of the new inclosed land is sown with wheat; but what was produced last harvest was about 16 or 18 bushels and the oats upon that kind of land 20 this year, though (in communibus annis) not more than 12 or 16 bushels. The potatoes are very good and an abundant crop. Have you received any returns from Satley and Medomsley? They are both chapelries within this parish.

79 Longnewton

Wheat good, and a full average crop. Oats good and more than an average crop. Potatoes, few are grown, except for the domestic use of some of the farmers. Peas a fair crop. Beans deficient. Turnips good.

37 Low Dinsdale

The wheat a fair average crop, rye is not sown in this parish, barley very abundant and excellent, oats a remarkable abundant crop, potatoes good, peas plentiful, beans luxuriant in straw but deficient in corn, turnips a very healthy and heavy crop.

82 Medomsley (See Ebchester.)

85 Monk Hesleden

Crops very abundant and of excellent quality. In quantity probably exceeding the produce of any averaged two years, therefore humanly speaking we cannot expect next year's crop to be such a one as we have this year sown.

86 Monkwearmouth

N.B. every acre of different kinds of grain in my parish will produce more than double the quantity of last year.

88 Muggleswick (See Edmondbyers.)

91 Norton

Wheat a very abundant crop and well got in, in some farms more yielding than in the last two years, mostly stacked. Barley uncommonly good, all got in. Oats more than an average produce, much remains in the fields. Potatoes in general a very good crop as far as we can judge by what has been taken up. Peas and beans not better than usual, in some farms not quite so good, will be late got in. No rape. The turnips not so good, as of late years. No rye.

88 Pittington (See Edmondbyers.)

94 Redmarshall

The harvest is now nearly over in this part of the county of Durham and the crops of all kinds of grain are uncommonly good and the season for getting them in favourable, some have estimated the quantity of wheat, barley etc. produced as large as that of the last two years, however it may with great truth be estimated to exceed by one-half the produce of the preceding year.

96 Ryton

The corn of all kinds is of a good quality. The average quantity of wheat per acre is about 18 Winchester bushels, of barley about 30, of oats 26, of potatoes 150, of peas 6, of rye 28.

100 Seaham

The accuracy of the annexed statement may be depended upon, as I have taken it from my own private papers by which I have let the tithes. The crop is abundant, potatoes at least one-third more in quantity than last year and of superior quality.

101 Sedgefield

Wheat 1801, 16 bushels per acre, 1800, 8 and common average year 12. Barley, 40, 20, 30 respectively and oats 32, 20 and 25. Potatoes a very good crop. Turnips or rape a very good crop. All the corn of this year as much superior in quality as in quantity.

109 Stanhope

There are no crops this year in the said parish entire of rye, but some of the corn that was stated from the information of the tenants of my tithe as wheat contains various proportions of rye. The first return that was required has been sent to the Bishop of Durham according to his order 11 September 1801.

(Editor's note: I think this is a reference to document number 110 below.)

110 Stanhope

This statement is made from inquiry of occupiers of tithe free land and from the information of the tenants of the tithes, who have compounded per acre for the whole of the tithe of corn. The crops of wheat, barley and oats, are very abundant, and of the best quality that can be expected from the providentially kind season, and nature of the soil. No field beans are sown in the parish of Stanhope and only a few patches of peas, the measurement of which has not been taken by the tithe farmers. Potatoes, turnips, and rape, have never been tithed in this parish, and I consequently am not able to give an account of these articles. The bulk of the inhabitants of this parish are supplied at all times with foreign rye and frequently with other grain from the port of Newcastle upon Tyne, and with meal of various sorts by millers and mealmen in Weardale.

108 Stanhope, St John Chapelry

Wheat a tolerably good crop, as being the production of land in

the lower part of the chapelry. Such small quantities of barley and oats as are grown in the higher part of this district (which is very hilly) are not good. It is almost the first trial that has been made so high up in the vale, for raising these two sorts of grain, and the result is not very promising. The barley is a thin crop and the oats though more abundant, will be late in ripening. The barley and oats grown in the lower part of the chapelry are considerably better. Potatoes in general a plentiful crop. It is supposed that there was planted last spring in this chapelry at least 6 times the quantity that was ever planted here in any former year. Turnips or rape a good crop.

113 Trindon

This parish is very circumscribed. The soil poor though the crop allowed to be a third more than the two preceding years.

26/1-2 Washington

Herewith I send you the returns of my parish of Washington and trouble you with this letter to apologize for my seeming neglect in not having done it sooner. You will excuse me I am sure when informed that a heavy domestic calamity prevented my setting about it when I first received the papers and I have to add to this the excessive tardiness and indeed reluctance I have found from some of the farmers to give an account of their stock. The calculation through this parish for grain is taken at about 15 bushels to the acre and the return I now send is rather to be considered as what each may grow than what is now in hand much having been threshed and sent to market. That there appears so large a quantity of hay in two or three hands is owing to their being [three great sea sale ?] collieries in the parish which employ a great number of horses more than would be wanted for pure agricultural purposes. Should your Lordship wish for any other information than what these papers contain I will endeavour to procure it in the best manner I can.

(Editor's note: My own brackets in the above note. The returns mentioned in the opening sentence have not been found and the document is wrongly indexed in the Diocese of York. Washington was in the Diocese of Durham.)

122 Whickham

The crop of wheat is accounted a very good one, except in those places, where it was beaten down by the heavy rain in July: there it has not filled quite so well. Barley is likewise a good crop; and so are the oats. Potatoes are said, by some, to be but thin upon the ground: the quality of them, however, is remarkably fine. Peas and beans are very productive; turnips, upon the whole, a good crop; and the same may be said of rye.

123 Whitburn

The crops in general good this year.

124 Whitworth

Wheat at an average per acre 5½ bolls, barley 6½ bolls. This is

nearly an exact ratio of the parish. The crops are as sound as ever they were remembered to be. The corn is chiefly at this time in the field cut and in a fortnight the harvest will be about finished, if the weather permits.

125 Whorlton

This year our average crop of wheat is 20 bushels per acre, 30 of barley, 26 of oats, 16 of peas and beans. Potatoes and turnips are a good crop, potatoes perhaps from 150-200 bushels per acre. In this parish our wheat land yields about 15 bushels per acre in a common year. We have as much wheat this year, as we have had for the two last years. The land here is evidently on the decline, probably owing to the extension of agriculture and to too few labourers employed therein. We have little old pasture land left.

127 Winston

This statement is much within the actual estimate.

128 Witton Gilbert

Wheat averaging about 18 bushels per acre, barley 30, oats 24. Potatoes a general good crop. Not a soil for peas. Turnips or rape excellent crops.

129 Witton le Wear ( See Hamsterley. )

130 Wolsingham

The corn is better filled, and the crops of everything more abundant than ever were before remembered. In this account are included many small parcels of waste land planted by poor people with potatoes. N.B. I have added Maslin (wheat and rye mixed) as it is an article much used in the Northern Counties.

131 Wolviston

Wheat a good crop, barley good, oats very good, potatoes good, peas and beans mostly a mixed feed. More acres of wheat as usual the spring being favourable. Part of the turnip land sown with wheat instead of barley.