

in Houndpit and Blackmanbury, was granted to Henry Laurence, to hold *in capite* by knight's service, and he that year held a court here; and in his descendants it continued till the 18th of queen Elizabeth's reign, when it was alienated by fine levied, by John Laurence, to William Partherich, esq. whose arms were, *Vaire, argent and sable, on a chief of the second, three roses of the first.* His grandson Sir Edward Partherich, of this place, passed it away in 1638 to Sir Arnold Braems, descended of a family originally out of Flanders, where his ancestors were opulent merchants. Jacob Braems, his ancestor, was of Dover, merchant, and built the great house now the Custom house there, where he resided. Sir Arnold Braems above-mentioned, bore for his arms, *Sable, on a chief, argent, a demi lion rampant, gules.* He built a spacious and magnificent mansion on the site of the antient court-lodge here, which he named BRIDGE-PLACE, in which he afterwards resided, as did his son Walter Braems, esq. till his death in 1692; but the great cost of building this seat so impoverished the estate, that his heirs, about the year 1704, were obliged to part with it, which they did by sale to John Taylor, esq. of Bifrons, who soon afterwards pulled down the greatest part of this mansion, leaving only one wing of it standing, the size and stateliness of which being of itself full sufficient for a gentleman's residence, cannot but give an idea of the grandeur of the whole building when entire. He died in 1729, since which this manor and seat has continued in his descendants, in like manner as Bifrons above-described, down to his great-grandson Edward Taylor, esq. the present possessor of them. There is not any court held for this manor.

BERBACRE, now called *Great and Little Barakers* is another manor in this parish, which in the 21st year of king Edward I. was in the possession of Walter de Kancia, as appears by an inquisition taken that year, at his decease; not long after which it had passed into a family

family of its own name. After this name was become extinct here, it came into the possession of the Litchfields, who owned much land about Eastry, Tilmanstone, and Betsfanger, and in this name it continued till the 22d year of Edward IV. and then Roger Litchfield passed it away to Richard Haut, whose only daughter and heir Margery carried it in marriage to William Isaac, esq. of Patriborne, from whose descendant Edward Isaac, about the latter end of king Henry VIII. it was sold to Petyt and Weekes, who joined in the sale of it to Naylor, of Renville, from which name it was alienated to Smith and Watkins; after which it was conveyed by sale to John Taylor, esq. of Bifrons, in whose descendants it has continued down to Edward Taylor, esq. the present owner of it.

CHARITIES.

SIR HENRY PALMER, of Bekeborne, by will in 1611, gave 10s. to be yearly paid out of his manor of Well-court, towards the relief of the poor of it.

The poor constantly relieved are about eighteen, casually the same.

BRIDGE is within the ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION of the *diocese* of Canterbury, and *deanry* of its own name.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Peter, consists of three isles, a high chancel, and a north sept or chancel in the middle of the north isle. It has a spire steeple at the south-east corner, in which are three bells. In the high chancel, within the altar-rails, is a monument for Jane, second daughter of Walter Harflete, of Bekeborne, first wife of Sir Arnold Braems, ob. 1635, and lies buried in St. Mary's church, in Dover; and for Elizabeth, (second daughter of Sir Dudley Diggs) his second wife, obt. 1645, and lies in the middle of this chancel. Against the north wall is a painted portrait of Robert Bargrave, gent. of Bridge, obt. 1649. Under a circular arch in the same wall are two rows of small imagery, carved in stone, the uppermost representing

senting God the Father, with several figures on each side; the lower one, figures taken from the history of the Old Testament. Underneath these, in the hollow of the wall, is the figure of a man lying at full length, in robes, with his two hands joined and uplifted, having on his head seemingly a full perriwig. A memorial for John Hardy, esq. of Bridge-place, obt. 1779. On the east side of the south window is a hollow in the wall, and under it an inscription for Macobus Kasey, vicar of Patrixborne, obt. m.v.c.i.xii. and of his being vicar there xxi years. On the opposite side of the window is carved the figure of a scull, with a snake entering in at one eye, and the end of it out at the other, and a hand with a finger pointing up to it, as if it had been the cause of the person's death, and several bones are interspersed about it. The north chancel is made use of for a school, by voluntary contributions. On the south side of the chancel is a circular arched door-way, with Saxon ornaments. In the register are many entries, from the year 1580 to 1660, of the family of Bargrave, alias Bargar, residents in this parish, and one for Thomas, son of John Cheney, gent. who died in 1620.

The church of Bridge, which is a vicarage, was always esteemed as a chapel to the church of Patrixborne, and as such is included in the valuation of that vicarage in the king's books, the vicar of which is instituted and inducted into that vicarage, with the chapel of Bridge annexed to it.*

The parsonage of this parish therefore, as an appendage to that of Patrixborne, is the property of Edward Taylor, esq. of Bifrons. In 1588 here were eighty-nine communicants, in 1640 one hundred and twenty.

* See the list of vicars under Patrixborne before.

Patrixborne 1640 communicants - 50

NACKING-

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NACKINGTON,

CALLED in antient writings *Natindon*, and *Natyn-ton*, lies the next parish south westward from Bridge. The greatest part of it is in the upper half hundred of Bridge, and a small district of the northern part of it in the hundred of Whitstaple. It has but one borough, viz. that of Nackington.

NACKINGTON lies about a mile north-east from Canterbury; the high road from which to Hythe and Romney Marsh leads through it; it is a pleasant healthy situation. The east and west sides of the parish are open uninclosed arable and hop-grounds, the eastern part behind Staplegate being mostly planted with them; and the western arable, in which is a large district of land, called from its size the Hundred-acres, formerly Haven field, the property of several different owners. The soil, though much inclined to chalk, is in general very fertile, and worth upon an average twenty shillings an acre, though there is much in it let for more. There is no village, but there are about eighteen houses interspersed throughout it; the church stands on a gentle rise, at a small distance eastward from the road, with the parsonage and the court-lodge of Sextries near it. Beyond Heppington the prospect changes to a barren dreary country, covered with flints, and enveloped among woods. Behind that seat ran the old Stone-street way of the Romans, from their station *Durovernum*, or Canterbury, to that of *Portus Lemanis*, or Limne, only to be traced now over the arable lands, and through the woods, and a little higher up lies Ifsins wood, formerly the scite of the manor of Ytching, as it was antiently spelt in king Henry the Vth's reign, a small part of which only is within this parish, close to the bounds of which are the *vestigia* of an antient camp,