

CHESTER-LE-STREET. (Parish.)		POPULATION.					Annual Value £
		1801	1811	1821			
		Persons	Persons.	Houses.	Families.	Persons	
Beamish with Tanfield* } Township	1574	942	341	354	1643	9628	
Birtley Township	1026	1094	217	278	1386	4503	
Chester-le-street Chapelry	1662	1726	274	449	1892	5517	
Edmondsey Township	439	223	39	43	205	1489	
Harraton Township	1607	1759	411	439	2217	7007	
Hedley Township	54	†	9	9	49	717	
Kibblesworth Township	202	†	43	46	237	2232	
Lambton‡ Township	266	253	60	62	293	730	
Lamesley Chapelry	1704	†2054	399	406	1730	6735	
Lintz-Green Township	654	868	136	148	714	*	
Lumley Great‡ Township	696	693	243	258	1240	2764	
Lumley Little‡ Township	249	259	65	70	351	1173	
Pelton Township	539	672	123	123	522	1956	
Plawsworth Township	177	225	47	52	227	1494	
Ravensworth Township	160	†	31	36	161	1024	
Urpeth and } Township	524	1419	133	135	650	2418	
Ouston Township	48		49	49	304	1200	
Waldridge Township	83	77	18	21	125	882	
Total	11,664	12,264	2638	2978	13,946	51,469	

‡ The three townships of Lambton, and Great and Little Lumley, are in the North Division of Easington Ward, all the other divisions of the parish are included with the the Middle Division of Chester Ward. The village and chapelry of Tanfield is partly in the townships of Beamish and Lintz-Green, with which places its population is included. One female is mentioned in the return for Pelton township, as being upwards of 100 years of age.

* The valuation of Lintz-Green is included with Beamish and Tanfield.

† In 1811, the population of Hedley, Kibblesworth, and Ravensworth, was included with Lamesley.

Of the 2978 families, resident in this parish in 1821, 597 are returned as being chiefly employed in agriculture, and 1334 in trade, manufacture, or handicraft; the remaining 1047 are stated as being either engaged in professional pursuits, or unemployed.

Chester-le-Street is supposed by Camden to be the *Condercum* of the Romans; and that the first wing of the *Astures* lay here in garrison, but no inscriptions or other data have been found to support this conjecture. The Saxons called it *Cunceastre*, or *Cuneagester*, and under that name it became the episcopal See of Durham; Eardulph, the bishop, fled thither about the year 882, from the cruelty of the Danes, who had pillaged Holy Island. After raising a church of wood, for the reception of St. Cuthbert's body, the See was fixed here, where it continued for 113 years, in a succession of nine bishops, the last of whom (Aldune) in the year 995 removed it to Durham; after which, Chester-le-Street, divested of all its state and authority, became a mere parochial rectory, till Bishop Bek made the church collegiate, and established a dean, with seven prebendaries, five chaplains, three deacons, and other ministers; thus it continued till the dissolution of collegiate churches and chantries in the first year of Edward VI., at which time it was only valued at £77 12s. 8d.; though