

A *Mechanics' Institute* has recently been established here, and an elegant stone edifice erected for its use. The New Bridge, up to which point the river Wear is navigable, was built in 1821. This town and neighbourhood suffered considerably by the great floods on the 17th of Nov. 1771, when nearly 200 yards of the main street was laid under water, and much damage done to the houses and other property.

The town consists chiefly of one good street, about a mile in length, and though its weekly market is now obsolete, it is conveniently situated for supplying the numerous miners employed in the neighbouring collieries and iron works with provisions and other necessaries of life. Petty Sessions are held here on alternate Thursdays. Mr. John Dobson, of Gateshead is clerk to the magistrates.

Chester is one of the Bishop's copyhold manors, it gives name to the Ward and Deanery in which it is situated, and is of extensive jurisdiction. It has a coroner, and had formerly a *forester*. Whilst the *servile tenures* existed it did not experience a great severity of service, and some of the duties were commuted for a money payment at an early period. Bishop Langley is said to be the first who effected any great improvement in this district; he disforested the lands, and licensed their being enclosed and brought into tillage. In 1816, a Roman coin of the Emperor Galba, about 1400 years old, and in fine preservation, was found near this town. In the neighbourhood of Chester-le-Street are the seats of Lumley Castle and Lambton Hall, which will be described with the villages and townships of this interesting parish in the second volume of this work.

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## DIRECTORY.

POST-OFFICE, (Lambton Arms,) THOS. CUTHBERTSON, Post-Master.

Letters from the South arr. at  $\frac{1}{2}$  p. 2 mng. and are despatched to the North at the same time; letters from the North arr. at  $\frac{1}{4}$  past 11 night, and are despatched to the South at the same time; letters from Durham arr. at 8 mng. and are despatched at 7 evening.

MISCELLANY—Consisting of the Names of the Inhabitants not arranged in the List of Professions and Trades.

Banson Lieutenant William W.	Hudson Miss
Bird Mrs. Jane	Jopling Ralph, commercial clerk
Burlinson John, plumber, brazier, & tinman	Loraine Wm. Esq. <i>Lumley park house</i>
Catcheside Mrs. Ann	Martin John, farmer & seedsman, <i>High Flats</i>
Charlton Wm. land agent & parish clerk	Matthews Mr. William
Cookson Isaac, Esq. <i>White hill hall</i>	Maxwell Mr. Edward
Cookson Thomas, Esq. <i>Hermitage</i>	Morgan Mr. William
Cowell Ralph, brick & tile maker	Mountford John, glover & breeches maker
Cumming Mrs. Ann	Murray Wm. sen. land steward
Dalkin John, rope & twine maker	Nelson Mrs. Ann
Davidson John, Esq. Deanery	Nicol Rev. Wm. (Independent minister)
Dixon Mrs. Eleanor	Owen Richard & Stephen, clog makers
Dodd Rev. John, curate	Pannett Mr. James
Gallon, Simon & Co. paper mfrs. <i>White hill mill</i>	Pattison Miss Mary
Gray Jas. superintendent at Chester mill	Pickering George, architect
Harrison Miss Margaret	Pickering Mrs. Ann
	Pickersgill George, canvasser