

SURREY.—EPSOM.

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THE extent of the parish of Epsom is a square of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, containing 4000 acres, or thereabouts. Of these, the downs, common, and waste-lands, are estimated at 900 acres: 550 acres lie in undivided common-fields; the rest is inclosed. It does not appear that, within the last 45 years, more than 115 acres of common-field lands have been enclosed; and not more than ten or a dozen acres of waste have, within that period, been taken in, and reclaimed. The course of agriculture pursued in the parish is much the same as that which prevails in most places within 20 miles of London: a small portion of the land is cultivated with artificial grasses. There is little or no natural meadow, though a considerable quantity of hay is made in the parish. There are 6 farmers, who occupy from 200 to 400 acres each; and their rent, in general, is supposed to be about £ 1. an acre. The land, not occupied by farmers, is, in general, in the hands of gentlemen, and tradesmen; and usually lets from 4 guineas an acre, to about half that sum. The land-tax is said to be assessed on the net rental, at 2s. 1d. in the pound: however, this is not invariably the case. It amounts to £ 699. 5s. 5d. from which the rental of the parish may be estimated at £ 7115.

Of the population of this parish, and the employment and general circumstances of its inhabitants, a fair, full, and accurate view is given in the subjoined table, formed from actual enumeration; from which it appears, that, although there are no considerable manufactories, there are artificers of almost every description, as the town is a sort of mart, or place of general resort, for many of the circumjacent villages. The wages of journeymen tradesmen, and servants, are nearly the same as in London. Labourers in husbandry receive from 9s. to 10s. 6d. a week, and somewhat more during harvest. Within the last two or three years, it has become

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come much more common, than it formerly was, to agree with such persons by the great; a mode of service, that is, almost always, in favour of the labourer; and, when duly performed, not unfavourable to the employer.

There are 238 houses, that pay the window-tax; and not more than 100, that are exempted.

The price of provisions is much the same as in London.

With the exception of furze from the common, gathered with more loss of time than it appears to be worth, and a very little wood, the fuel used here is coal, brought by land-carriage from Kingston, which, at Epfom, costs about 7s. a chaldron more than it does in the metropolis.

The Poor of this parish have been farmed out, for more than 20 years; and, although this system has often been, and still is, objected to by many, and not always without reason, none less objectionable in all its parts can yet be hit upon. The first effect of this scheme was to reduce the Poor's Rates nearly one half; and it still keeps them down to about half-a-crown in the pound. By the returns made to Parliament in the year 1786, it appears, that, in 1776, the money expended on the Poor, amounted to £ 440.; that the Rates assessed in the year 1783, were £ 758. 5s. 6d.; in 1784, £ 824. 4s.; and in 1785, £ 717. 18s. 6d. The present annual allowance to the contractor, who farms the Poor, is £ 550.

A list of the Poor in the work-house is hereunto annexed: it was taken with more minuteness, than, perhaps, may be deemed necessary by those who do not consider, that it is thus only, an accurate knowledge can be obtained, of the kind of persons who most commonly become burthensome, as well as of the most common causes that lead to poverty.

M E N.

1. J. H. aged 43. The little work he ever did, or could do, was as a labourer; but, having always been somewhat of an idiot, he is now become quite a driveller.
2. R. M. aged 77; worn out, and paralytic: he was a bricklayer.
3. J. C. aged 76; heretofore a labourer; he has been, 8 years, incurably asthmatic.
4. J. P. aged 69; a labourer; impotent, and a cripple.

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5. W. F.

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5. W. F. aged 65; was a carpenter; but always a slow, stupid, and improvident man.
6. T. H. aged 65; deformed; and heretofore employed as a shepherd, on very low wages.
7. D. F. aged 54; was a postillion, and employed about stables; addicted to drinking, and an idle, worthless man.
8. J. T. aged 62; was a whitesmith; but has now a fore leg, probably occasioned by intemperance.
9. T. M. aged 77; was a barber, but an unsteady unfettled fellow; and of course he never earned much.
10. J. B. aged 28; has been a soldier: he is shockingly afflicted with bad disorders.
11. J. R. aged 17. His parents having neglected putting him to a trade, or bringing him up to a regular course of industry, he has contracted many loose and disorderly habits. Twice he has been put out to service, but was always turned off for ill behaviour. Decent people will not employ him; and he can neither be persuaded nor forced, either to go to sea, or to enlist for a soldier.

W O M E N.

1. S. C. aged 56; a lunatic.
2. M. W. aged 51; paralytic, and impotent.
3. C. D. aged 60; has sore legs, from bad diseases.
4. E. E. aged 62; of a sluggish, stupid character; and never able to earn more than an immediate subsistence.
5. M. D. aged 59; the widow of a labourer; very feeble, and valedudinarian.
6. M. B. aged 60; a native of Ireland; with no regular habits of industry, yet can be made to do work enough to maintain herself.
7. M. A. aged 41; a lunatic.
8. E. P. aged 76; worn out.
9. M. J. aged 75; impotent: has been a servant the greater part of her life.
10. A. M. aged 75; the wife of J. M. (see Men, No. 9.)
11. M. C. aged 65; of a feeble make, and always sickly.
12. A. M. aged 26; afflicted with a leprosy.

13. E. K.

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13. E. K. aged 19; of idle and profligate habits, and often wretchedly diseased.
14. E. K. aged 41; somewhat of an idiot: her husband is at present in Newgate.
15. C. W. aged 18; a native of Switzerland; and now with child, it is supposed, by a gentleman's butler.
16. A. B. aged 27; an idiot.

B O Y S.

1. W. C. aged 10; his father was enlisted in the army.
2. R. R. aged 10; a bastard.
3. T. S. aged 9; his father dead, and mother married again.
4. J. R. aged 11; his father a soldier.
5. A. L. aged 10; a bastard.
6. W. G. aged 8; a bastard.
7. J. B. aged 8; parents dead.

G I R L S.

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| 1. P. H. aged 10. | } | The father of these girls was a hair-dresser; but is now at sea, on board a man of war. The mother is an idle, worthless woman. |
| 2. M. H. aged 4. | | |
| 3. J. C. aged 12; | | sister to No. 1. of the boys. |
| 4. S. F. aged 10; | | a bastard. |
| 5. C. R. aged 8; | | a bastard. |
| 6. M. K. aged 10; | | a bastard. |
| 7. E. G. aged 12; | } | daughters of a smuggler. |
| 8. S. G. aged 10; | | |
| 9. M. L. aged 11; | | a bastard. |
| 10. A. B. aged 9; | } | these 3 sisters, with a brother, (see No. 7. among the boys,) were all left destitute by their parents, who were always poor, and died young. |
| 11. M. B. aged 6; | | |
| 12. S. B. aged 3; | | |
| 13. H. J. aged 14; | } | the father of these girls was a waiter at an inn, but is now a soldier: and their mother is dead. |
| 14. M. J. aged 10; | | |
| 15. M. Y. aged 6; | | a bastard. |
| 16. S. C. aged 12; | | an orphan. |

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This list comprizes only 50 persons: the average number, however, in the work-house, is 60. It has never exceeded 75, nor been less than 45; and the number is, as might be expected, always greatest in winter. They are, chiefly, employed in spinning; and spin both coarse woollen, and linen yarn; but the profits of their labour are not supposed to be considerable.

Their diet is as follows:

	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Monday,	Broth.	Meat and bread.	Bread and cheese, or butter.
Tuesday,	Milk-porridge.	Ditto	Ditto.
Wednesday,	Broth.	Ditto.	Ditto.
Thursday,	Milk porridge, or gruel.	Ditto.	Ditto.
Friday,	Broth.	Ditto.	Ditto.
Saturday,	Milk-porridge, or gruel.	Ditto.	Ditto.
Sunday,	Broth.	Ditto.	Ditto.

Each person is allowed a pint of small beer, both at dinner and supper. Their provisions are not only plentiful, but, in general, wholesome and good. In cases of sickness, they are regularly and carefully attended by a medical man: and the children are tolerably well instructed in reading, and in their catechism, by one or more of the elder Paupers.

There are, in this parish, 3 Friendly Societies. The first, established in 1765, consists of 127 members; and they now have in the 3 per cent. consols, £ 1250. besides £ 100. on mortgage. The second, instituted in 1778, consists of 118 members; and has £ 500. in the 3 per. cent. consols. The third, founded about 2 years ago, consists, as yet, of not more than 30 members. All the three are remarkably regular, and decorous, as Societies. There is no evidence that any member, of any of them, or any of their families, have ever, during the whole period since their institution, either asked, or obtained parochial aid. The first of these Societies counts, among its members, several shop-keepers, and respectable tradesmen; the two others are, principally, composed of journeymen and labourers.

In the first of the above-mentioned Societies, the age of admission is between 16 and 25 years. It appears from the following list of the mem-

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bers, and of their ages at their entrance into the Society, that, at it's commencement, this rule did not exist.

Date.	Name.	Profession.	Age.
April 8, 1765,	John Lawrence,	Victualler,	43
	William French,	Sadler,	25
August 5,	John Collins,	Cordwainer,	26
September 2,	Matthew Tanner,	Cordwainer,	24
October 7,	Sidney Mofs,	Wharfinger,	22
	John Fox,	Yeoman,	24
November 4,	Thomas Page,	Bricklayer,	25
May 19, 1766,	Silvester Rose,	Farrier,	28
October 6,	John Ardy,	Bricklayer,	16
August 3, 1767,	James French,	Sadler,	17
November 2,	Thomas Stillwell,	Cordwainer	27
November 7, 1768,	Robert Trigg,	Carpenter,	26
March 6, 1769,	Henry Reeve,	Coachmaker,	18
July 3,	William Horley,	Farrier,	29
August 7,	William Draper,	Farrier,	25
	Richard Horley,	Farrier,	24
November 6,	William Wheatley	Carpenter,	19
May 7, 1770,	James Reeves,	Baker,	18
August 6,	Philip Trigg,	Victualler,	35
November 5,	Stephen Cook,	Bricklayer,	20
March 4, 1771,	John Dew,	Cordwainer,	24
May 20,	Richard Spencer,	Carpenter,	23
January 6, 1772,	Thomas Harrifon,	Cordwainer,	30
February 3,	William Young,	Fishmonger,	32
June 8,	William Carter,	Tailor,	19
November 2,	Isaac Clark,	Carpenter,	30
January 4, 1773,	William Morrifs,	Wheelwright,	32
February 6, 1775,	William Redford,	Butcher,	16
March 6,	Edmund Mafon,	Tailor,	28
June 5.	Thomas Archer,	Carpenter,	20
January 11, 1776,	John Wheatley,	Carpenter,	28
April 1,	John Cole,	Watchmaker,	20
May 27,	William Alliday	Carpenter,	23
	Thomas Rumbly,	Cordwainer,	22
January 6, 1777,	John Woodroofe,	Carpenter,	24
May 19,	Thomas Bully,	Cordwainer,	22
June 8, 1778,	William Morrifs,	Cordwainer,	26
	John Brown,	Whitesmith,	21
	John Mafon,	Wheelwright,	22

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Date.	Name.	Profession.	Age.
November 1, 1779,	John Rolf,	Butcher,	25
	Thomas Hilder,	Butcher,	25
February 7, 1780,	William Daniels,	Tailor,	22
May 15,	William Dean,	Carpenter,	27
	Joseph Hack,	Carpenter,	23
	William Day,	Miller,	21
June 5,	James Ogburn,	Paper-maker,	19
December 4,	Charles Lankton,	Cordwainer,	18
June 4, 1781,	William Childs,	Carpenter,	27
	Abraham Gardner,	Carpenter,	27
January 7, 1782,	James Chackrett,	Cordwainer,	28
November 4,	Robert Cable,	Cordwainer,	19
June 9, 1783,	Thomas Day,	Paper-maker,	20
March 1, 1784,	W. Woodman,	Carpenter,	25
May 31,	George Jenkins,	Wheelwright,	27
October 4,	Abraham Young,	Carpenter,	20
November 1,	Samuel Blaber,	Cordwainer,	28
	William Boulton,	Tailor,	21
April 3, 1786,	Thomas Flint,	Baker,	27
November 6,	Partridge Perry,	Cordwainer,	22
May 28, 1787,	William Ardy,	Bricklayer,	21
	John Lowick,	Wheelwright,	23
	George Twalin,	Tailor,	28
November 5,	William Percy,	Carpenter,	28
	Henry Hook,	Bricklayer,	28
November 3, 1788,	James Chapman,	Butcher,	23
June 1, 1789,	William Tidy,	Whitesmith,	28
	James Hasted,	Wheelwright,	28
	Thomas Dale,	Cordwainer,	29
	Jeremiah Daniels,	Tailor,	22
	Samuel Haite,	Cordwainer,	26
February 1, 1790,	Philip Harrow,	Tailor,	24
	James Harrow,	Paper-maker,	23
	William Harrow,	Whitesmith,	21
	C. Burnet Wright,	Tailor,	22
April 5,	John Sawyers,	Farrier,	25
	Edward Sawyers,	Brazier,	19
May 4,	W. Richardson,	Carpenter,	27
June 13, 1791,	John Foice,	Carpenter,	21
	Samuel Vowles,	Carpenter,	27
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Date.	Name.	Profession.	Age.	
May 28, 1792,	William Simmonds,	Carpenter,	19	
	George Hoare,	Carpenter,	20	
	Richard Finch,	Carpenter,	28	
	John Cox,	Carpenter,	26	
	John Lintot,	Wheelwright,	16	
	John Tall,	Cordwainer,	28	
	John Charman,	Butcher,	22	
	Henry Harrifs,	Baker,	23	
	June 4, 1792,	William Charman,	Butcher,	19
		November 5,	James Brown,	Whitesmith,
	Thomas Brown,	Whitesmith,	26	
	Peter Brown,	Tailor,	25	
	John Brown,	Breeches-maker,	24	
	Thomas Pullen,	Tailor,	25	
	James Pullen,	Tailor,	19	
	George Boorer,	Tailor,	23	
	William Foice,	Carpenter,		
	William Marshall,	Tailor,	24	
May 20, 1793,	John Mongar,	Tailor,	22	
September 2,	John Thornton,	Cordwainer,	22	
	Thomas Farden,	Cordwainer,	20	
	T. Stillwell, jun.	Cordwainer,	20	
	Benjamin Cook,	Bricklayer,	18	
	Thomas Harrow,	Baker,	21	
	William Wilfon,	Baker,	19	
	William Horley,	Cordwainer,	28	
	James Dallen,	Cordwainer,	23	
November 4,	George Page,	Bricklayer,	24	
January 7, 1794,	Andrew Stevens,	Cordwainer,	20	
April 7,	John Stiles,	Carpenter,	20	
June 9,	Richard Songhurst,	Grocer,	29	
	William Jeater,	Cordwainer,	20	
	W. Middleship,	Wheelwright	24	
	Samuel Day,	Tailor,	19	
October 6,	Robert Gray,	Cabinet-maker,	21	

This Society is managed by three stewards, who are taken in succession, from the roll of members, on the yearly feaft, held on Whit-Monday: members living out of town, are excused from serving the office, on paying 5s. each; and those who cannot write, pay a similar sum, instead of serving.

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ferving. Part of the business of the stewards is to visit the sick members, if within 4 miles of Epsom, and to carry them their allowance, within three days after notice, on pain of forfeiting 2s. 6d.

The fine on admission is 10s. 6d. ; the payment on the monthly club-night 1s. 3d. and 3d. for liquor ; absentees pay their 3d., which is not expended in liquor, on the monthly night, but applied towards the yearly and half-yearly feasts. The former is held in November, and consists of a supper ; towards which each member is bound to contribute 1s. 3d. The yearly feast is a dinner, the dressing of which, and other customary expences, are paid out of the stock : towards it all forfeits under 5s. are applied ; and each member likewise contributes 2s.

The following rules respect the management of money vested in public securities, the allowances to sick members, payments on funerals, and extra allowances.

- 18, That whatsoever principal money shall be put out to interest by this Society, in the Bank of England, or any other public fund, the members, who shall be chosen in trust, in whose names the same shall be entered in the behalf of the Society, shall have no power, of themselves, either to receive or remove such principal money so put out, or any part thereof, without leave first had and obtained of the majority of members so to do. And that the said trustee, or trustees, shall, when required, transfer and deliver up his or their trust, to whom the majority think proper to appoint ; and on refusal, after four days notice, given in writing, and signed by the stewards, shall be excluded ; and sued as the law directs. And if all, or either of them, should so misdemean him or themselves, he, or they, so offending, shall make satisfaction to the Society, and be excluded, and sued according to law.
- 19, Whatever interest shall become due for the use of any such principal money so put out as aforesaid, it is hereby agreed, that no one, or more, of the persons in trust, shall have any power, of themselves, to take up or receive any such sum or sums of money due, without a written order from the stewards ; and then, the appointed man, or men, being one or more of the trust, on or after receiving any such yearly dividends, shall pay the same the next club-night after, or forfeit

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- feit the sum of 20s, or otherwise be excluded. N. B. Such expences to be allowed for the journey as the members think reasonable.
- 20, That the Society's cash be not exhausted, it is consented to, and agreed, that if any member of this Society shall be so litigious as to commence any action, either in law or equity, against any steward, or stewards, of the Society, for the time being, for the recovery of any sum or sums of money, he shall at any time before have paid into the same, then every member shall contribute share and share alike towards defraying the expences that shall arise from any such like law-suits, if required.
- 21, That no money of the joint stock shall be lent to any member of this Society, upon any account, nor to any other person whatsoever, without consent of the majority first had and obtained at a feast.
- 23, That if any member of this Society shall, at any time, fall sick, lame, or blind, (unless in such particular cases as by these articles excepted,) after he hath been a member for the space of three full years, and after notice given to the stewards of such his sickness, lameness, or blindness, he shall receive 10s. 6d. per week, out of the joint stock of this Society, towards his relief. But if, upon his examination, any member's sickness, lameness, or blindness, shall appear to be of continuation, or for life, and shall be so deemed by the majority, then, in such cases, to receive no more than 5s. 3d per week. And all such members, that become superannuated, having attained to the age of sixty-five years, shall then be excluded, with an allowance from the Society of 5s. 3d. per week, sick or well, during his natural life. Notice of sickness to be given to the stewards, and signed by the minister, churchwardens, and overseers of the parish where the sick member then resides, and to mention his disorder, likewise to send a written order by whom the money is to be conveyed, at his expence.
- 26, That if any member of this Society shall have the misfortune to break the main bone of the thigh or leg, he shall be allowed 3 guineas; and if the main bone of the arm, 2 guineas; and if his collar bone, a rib, or any small bone, one guinea, towards paying the surgeon, besides his weekly pay. Or if any member or members shall be drawn for a militia-man, if he is a free member, he shall have 2 guineas allowed him for a substitute; or if he chooses to serve it himself, he shall