

CASTLETON is a township, parish and well-built village, 2 miles from Hope station, on the Dore and Chinley section of the Midland Railway, 12 north-west from Bakewell, 16 west from Sheffield, 6 North from Tideswell, and 7 east from Chapel-en-le-Frith, in the High Peak division of the county, hundred of High Peak, Chapel-en-le-Frith union, petty sessional division and county court district, rural deanery of Eyam, arch-deaconry of Derby, and diocese of Southwell. A small stream issues from the great cavern of Peak Hole here, and joins the river Derwent. In 1269 the church (then called "the church of Peak Castle") was given by Prince Edward (afterwards Edward I.) to the Abbey of Vale Royal, Cheshire; the present church of St. Edmund is an edifice of stone, in mixed styles, consisting of chancel, nave, aisles, south porch and an embattled tower at the west end with crocketed pinnacles at the angles, and smaller pinnacles between these, and contains a clock and 8 bells, dating from 1803 to 1812; the pews are of black oak, for the most part curiously carved, and some of them bear the names of their former owners, and there is an ancient octagonal font; a fine Norman arch with enriched mouldings divides the nave from the chancel, in which is a memorial window of three lights, erected by the parishioners to the Rev. Charles Cecil Bates M.A. for 35 years vicar here, who died 4 Jan. 1853; there is a marble monument to John Mawe, a native mineralogist of some celebrity, who is buried in St. Mary in the Strand, London; on the opposite side of the church is a tablet to Micah Hall, gent. attorney-at-law, d. 14 May, 1804, with this inscription, said to have been written by himself:—"Quid eram, nescitis; quid sum, nescitis; ubi abii, nescitis; Valet:" the vestry, north of the chancel, contains a library of upwards of 1,000 volumes, embracing works on divinity, history, biography and other subjects, many of them being rare and valuable; this library was first formed by the Rev. Frederick Farran, a former vicar, who died in 1819, and presented most of the books, although additions have been made by other generous donors; among them will be found copies of Archbishop Cranmer's, or the great Bible, in black letter, dated 1539; and the "Breeches Bible" of 1611; there is also a Genevan translation of the Bible by refugees driven thither from England during the Marian persecution; the exterior was partially restored about 1837; in 1886 the chancel was modified and a portion of the vestry now forms the organ chamber and a stone screen has been added; in 1887 a chiming clock was placed in the tower; there are 250 sittings; in the churchyard is an inscribed gravestone to Elias Hall, a local geologist of considerable eminence, who died 30th December, 1853, aged 89 years. The register dates from the year 1633. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £210, with 47 acres of glebe, in the gift of the Bishop of Southwell, and held since 1892 by the Rev. Robert Jocelyn Charles Orde LL.M. of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. There is a Wesleyan chapel, erected in 1898, with 250 sittings, and a Primitive Methodist chapel, built in 1809. There are numerous bequests for the poor and other purposes:—Bagshaw's Gift in 1649 devised a house (used as a school) and garden at Castleton, with lands at

Edale, consisting of 65 acres of inclosure, with common rights, to trustees, who were to pay the rents accruing therefrom towards the schooling of poor children in Castleton parish; Bennett's Charity of 1720 provides that the sum of £2 be distributed amongst the poor each year at Christmas, at the discretion of the vicar and churchwardens; in 1781, Alice Staveley gave the sum of £5 to be placed in the hands of the overseers of the poor who should pay the full interest thereof to such poor people as should have had no weekly pay from the town, on St. Thomas' day in each year. The castle is still the property of the crown and is held under lease by the Duke of Devonshire K.G. from the Duchy of Lancaster, to which it was granted in the person of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, in the 14th century. The mine from which the Blue Derbyshire spar is obtained, and the lofty hill called "Mam Tor," or the Shivering Mountain, are situated here, and are visited by large numbers of persons. The natural caverns in the limestone hills here are very interesting and attract large numbers of visitors; of these the most famous is the Peak cavern, situated close to the village and beneath the ruins of William Peveril's castle; the rocks at the entrance are 261 feet high and a large cave 114 feet wide is used as a rope-walk; within are a series of caves, the largest of which is 270 feet long, 210 wide and 150 high; the stream called "the Noe" flows through this cavern; about half-a-mile from the village is the Speedwell cavern, discovered during a search for lead ore; it is said that £14,000 were expended in 11 years in blasting out the level, which is 750 yards in length, and being now partially filled by a stream of water forms a subterranean canal through which visitors are taken in a boat to inspect the natural cavern, a gigantic fissure 280 yards below the surface of the mountain, and containing an abyss into whose unfathomable depths there plunges a rushing torrent. About a mile from the village are the Blue John mine and caverns, where alone the fluor spar of that name is obtained; there are 14 varieties of this spar which is coloured by oxides of manganese and iron and is worked into many ornamental articles. The mine workings branch off at different points from the natural caverns in the limestone, some of which are of immense dimensions, varying in height from 90 to 250 feet, and contain stalactites, stalagmites, marine shells, carrolloids, madrepores and lily encrinite. Visitors are usually shown to a distance of 500 yards from the entrance, but the ramifications of caves, natural passages and mine workings would amount to 4 miles in length. The well locally known as "Russet Well" is 10 ft. deep, and has been excavated in the solid rock; it is estimated to have an average flow of 4,000 gallons a minute. In 1785, Mary Staveley by will gave £5 in trust, interest to be divided amongst those poor who had received no relief from the town; in the parliamentary returns of 1786 it is stated that in 1706, Thomas Dakin gave £5 to the poor, then in the hands of the overseers of the poor, and producing the yearly sum of 5s.; How's Charity, dated 1818, devises £40 on trust, the interest to be applied in payment of £1 annually amongst the poor of Castleton, on St. Thomas' day of each year at the discretion of the churchwardens,

overseers and principal inhabitants of the town, and £1 yearly to the bell-ringers of Castleton, for ringing a special peal on every 19th of August; there are also Pott's and Tym's gifts; Bray's, Needham's and Gisborne's Charities, to be applied to the relief of the poor in the parish.

Fairs for cattle are held on the 3rd Wednesday in March, the 21st of April, the 1st Wednesday in October and 3rd Wednesday in November.

The Castle of the Peak, the ruins of which still remain, was erected by William Peveril, "a Norman adventurer," who, by favour of the Conqueror, became one of the greatest landowners in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and held this place at the time of the Domesday survey. The castle stands on a precipitous and almost inaccessible eminence on the south side of the Vale of Hope, close to Mam Tor; the position being one of great natural strength; on the west side is a frightful precipice, at the foot of which is the cavern called "the Devil's Hole;" the south side, though less steep, is equally insurmountable and the end and side towards the valley are both very toilsome of ascent. The actual site of the castle forms a triangular-shaped area 200 feet in length from east to west and 100 feet and 60 feet wide at the east and west ends respectively; and the whole area is encircled by a curtain wall of masonry, a portion of which exhibits rude herring-bone work, and probably formed part of the Norman fortress built about 1068; the entrance to the court was through a gateway at the south-east corner, part of which yet remains. The keep tower, built in 1176, at a cost of £135, a sum equal at least to £3,000 in the present day, has all the characteristics of a Late Norman rectangular keep, and is about 60 feet high; 21 ft. 3 in. by 19 ft. 2 in. measured internally, and has walls 8 feet thick; at the base is a high plinth of two

stages, and the faces of the tower are relieved by broad flat pilaster buttresses at each side, rising into the parapet, and by a third in the middle, but on the north and east sides the whole of the ashlar facing has been removed; the interior had four storeys, and the entrance was on the south side. William Peveril, the builder of the castle, died about 1114; and in 1155, his son, of the same name, was disinherited by the king for murder, and his estates forfeited to the crown; and in 1157 Henry II. came here, and received in the castle the submission of Malcolm (the Maiden) King of Scotland, and he again visited it in 1158 and 1164. The manor forms part of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Duke of Devonshire K.G. being the lessée. The principal landowners are Samuel Needham esq. of Chapel-en-le-Frith, Robert How Ashton esq. Isaac Hall esq. of Macclesfield, the trustees of the late Joseph Hall esq. and the Champion family, of Edale. The soil is clay and gravel on limestone; the land is mostly in pasture, the chief crop is hay. The area is 2,908 acres; rateable value, £3,970; the population in 1891 was 541.

Parish Clerk, John Nall.

Post, M. & T. O., T. M. O., Express Delivery, Parcel Post, S. B. & Annuity & Insurance Office.—John Hall, sub-postmaster. Letters are received through Sheffield; arrive at 8.5 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.; dispatched at 5.30 & 7.50 p.m.; sundays, letters arrive at 8.5 a.m.; dispatched at 5.30 p.m.

Police Station, Sergt. John Thomas Palmer, in charge National School (mixed), erected in 1863, for 110 children; average attendance, 80; the school has a yearly endowment of £28; Francis Henry Eyre, master Conveyance.—Brakes meet all trains at Hope station Carriers to Sheffield.—French Hall, fri. returning same day

Ashton Robt. How J.P. Loosehill hall
Fielding F. W. D. The Lodge
Hall The Misses, The Hall
Moore Joseph Hall J.P. The Hall
Orde Rev. Robert Jocelyn Charles
LL.M. vicar
Shepherd Henry Bowman
Winterbotham Mrs

COMMERCIAL.

Abbott Thomas, butcher
Anson Henry, hair dresser & tobacconist
Ashton Hy. corn miller (water) & frmr
Ashton Joseph, joiner
Barber Ann (Mrs.), refreshmnt. rooms
Barber Ellis, shoe maker
Barber Ellis (Mrs.), refreshmnt. rooms
Barber George, tailor
Barber Joseph, shoe maker
Biggin Mary Jane (Mrs.), George hotel
Bradbury Ernest, frmr. Brockett Booth
Bradbury John, farmer, Loose hill
Brady Edward (Mrs.), apartments
Bramwell Elizabeth (Mrs.), draper
Brooks Hannah (Mrs.), Bull's Head htl
Burdikin Wm. frmr. Knoll's gate
Castleton Water Works Co. Limited
(John Hall, sec)
Cherry Edward James, joiner
Cherry Lucy (Mrs.), apartments
Cooper Louie (Miss), confectioner
Critchlow William, farmer, Winnatt's
Head
Crompton & Evans' Union Bank Lim.
(sub-branch) (T. T. Cutler, manager,
Hathersage), open mon. & fair
days, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; draw
on Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co.
London E C
Dakin Elizabeth (Miss), apartments
Dalton Fred, refreshment rooms
Dodds William, spar dealer

Eyre Ellis, frmr. & tallow chandler
Eyre Hannah (Mrs.), grocer
Eyre John Henry, spar worker & proprietor
of Speedwell mine
Eyre Mary (Mrs.), grocer & linen drpr
Eyre Vincent Henry, spar worker
Froggatt John, farmer, Barker fold
Garlick George Edwin, architect
Hall French, grocer & carrier
Hall Isaac, proprietor of Peak's cavn
Hall Isaac (Mrs.), apartments
Hall John, grocer, tobacconist & china
dealer, Post office
Hall Mary (Mrs.), apartments
Haworth & Wheat, grocers & restaurnt
Hill Alfred & Hedley, ecclesiastical
builders & carvers & contractors; &
at Tideswell & Litton
Hill Arthur, Cheshire Cheese family
& commercial hotel & posting house
Hill Henry, farmer, Oxley house
How Edmund, joiner
How Mary (Miss), spar worker
How James, farmer
How Samuel, shoe maker
Johnston William, Peak family &
commercial hotel & posting house
& catering contractor
Lomas George, restaurant
Lomas Maurice, Nag's Head hotel
Marrison Joseph, twine maker
Marrison Samuel, farmer
Marrison Wilson, butcher
Needham Jas. farmer, Only grange,
Loose hill
Needham Samuel, farmer, Mam barn
Needham William, farmer, Wood-
seats, Loose hill
Oakley Obadiah, painter
Ollerenshaw Arthur, Castle hotel &
posting house
Ollerenshaw Septimus, farmer. Manor ho

Pickard John, apartments
Platt James Herbert, farmer, Duns-
car, Loose hill
Platt Robert, assistant overseer
Police Station (Sergeant John Thomas
Palmer, in charge)
Primrose League, Hope Valley Hab-
itation (Miss Champion, sec. Edale)
Roe Francis, painter
Royse Hannah Alice (Miss), aprtmnts
Royse John, guide to Blue John mine
Royse Hannah (Mrs.), apartments
Sheffield Cafe Co. Lim. (Charles
Joshua Whitehead, manager)
Shepherd Henry Bowman M.R.C.S.
Eng., L.R.C.P. Lond. surgeon, medi-
cal officer & public vaccinator,
Castleton district, Chapel-en-le-Frith
union
Sidebotham Rbt. frmr. Bowter's farm
Sidebotham Samuel, grocer
Sidebotham William, shopkeeper
Slack Elias, spar worker, Peak cavern
Snowdon Richard, apartments
Swindells Martha (Mrs.), refresh-
ment rooms
Unwin Mary Hannah (Mrs.), grocer
& refreshment contractor, Peveril
restaurant
Wainwright Joseph, blacksmith
Walker Joseph, twine maker
Waterhouse John & Michael, grocers
Wheat J. T. & Son, joiners & builders
Whittingham Elizh. (Mrs.), aprtmnts
Whittingham George, twine maker
Whittingham James, twine maker
Whittingham James, jun. twine
maker, butcher & farmer
Whittingham Jane (Miss), aprtmnts
Whittingham Wm. Hy. insurance agnt
Wood Wm. Peveril hotel & posting ho
Wright Tom Sorby, refreshmnt. rms