

**CHURCHSTOW** is a parish and village, on the road from Kingsbridge to Plymouth, 2 miles north-west from Kingsbridge station on a branch of the Great Western railway; it is in the Totnes division of the county, hundred of Stanborough, petty sessional division of Stanborough and Coleridge, union and county court district of Kingsbridge, rural deanery of Woodleigh, archdeaconry of Totnes and diocese of Exeter. The church of St. Mary, the mother church of Kingsbridge, is known to have existed in 1239; it anciently belonged to Buckfast Abbey; it is an ancient building of stone in the Perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, nave, aisle, south porch and an embattled western tower containing 6 bells, which were rehung in 1912: the east window is a memorial to the Shortland family. The church was restored and reseated in

1848, and has 350 sittings. Half an acre was added to the churchyard in 1912. The register of baptisms dates from 1543; that of marriages from 1539; that of deaths from 1538. The living is a vicarage, with that of Kingsbridge annexed, joint net yearly value £300, in the gift of the Bishop of Exeter, and held since 1921 by the Rev. Richard Sydney Davies M.A. of Worcester College, Oxford, who resides at Kingsbridge. There is a wooden parish room not far from the church, erected by the Rev. A. H. Simms, a former vicar: it will seat 250, and is used for Sunday school and parish meetings. The great tithes, formerly the property of the Abbey of Buckfast, now belong to the Governors of St. John's Hospital, Exeter. There are several small charities, in the custody of feoffees, which are appropriated to the repairs of the church; the

Andrews charity consists of £200 in Consols, the interest of which is utilised in providing the poor with coals during the winter: the Cornworthy charity of £1 is given to the poor in shillings at Christmas time, and there is also a small bread charity. Whitehall is the property and residence of Mrs. Buchan. The principal landowners are Miss Ilbert, Charles Edward Rowland Walker esq. and J. S. Walters Symons esq. The soil is loamy; subsoil, various. The chief crops are wheat, barley, oats and turnips. The area is 2,679 acres of land, 6 of water and 4 of tidal water; rateable value, £3,833; and the population in 1911 was 259 in the civil parish and 1,706 in the ecclesiastical parish.

By Local Government Board Order 16,312, Coombe Royal was transferred from West Alvington to Churchstow, March 24, 1884.

#### CHURCHSTOW.

Buchan Mrs. Whitehall  
Campbell Hugh Elphinstone, Combe Royal  
Mitchison Gordon C. Glebe cottage  
Stuart Hillyard, Higher Leigh

#### COMMERCIAL.

Ahier Albert Ernest, insurance agent, Tithe Hill cottage  
Ahier Caroline (Mrs.), haberdasher, Tithe Hill cottage  
Brooking Charles Henry, farmer, Pullybank farm  
Cowling Chas. frmr. Low. Warcombe  
Frood Thomas Snowden L. farmer, Home farm  
Geatches George, farmer, Redford

Hannaford John Wm. farmer, Norton  
Harding Alfd. Thos. frmr. Lordswood  
Heaman George, farmer, Leigh  
Heath Benjamin, farmer, Combe  
Hingston Albt. frmr. Higher Warcombe  
Lang William George, Church House inn, & assistant overseer  
Lethbridge Richard Edward, farmer, Home farm  
Lowe Amy (Miss), cowkpr. Court ho  
Luscombe Garland, farmer, Higher Holditches  
Luscombe Richard Henry, farmer, Osborn Newton  
Luscombe Roger, jun. farmer, Coombe Royal  
Merrifield Boon, farmer, Merrifield frm  
Reeves Francis, farmer, White's farm

By Local Government Board Order 34,675, June 25, 1896, part of Churchstow was annexed to Kingsbridge and Dodbrooke civil parish.

VENN is a small hamlet, 1 mile north-west, with an old burial ground, belonging to the Nonconformists, and Sorley is about 1½ miles north-east from the church.

Leigh, in this parish, now occupied as a farm house, is supposed to have been a cell of the Abbey of Buckfast; its gateway, with guard-room, is a perfect example of 15th century work, and the whole place is remarkably interesting.

Post & T. Office.—Mrs. Annie K. Bowden, sub-postmistress. Letters from Kingsbridge, 2 miles distant, which is the nearest money order office

Reeves Wm. jun. farmer, Culverwell  
Symons John Symons Walters, farmer & landowner, Elston  
Vigor John Alfred, farmer, Offields  
Widger Bertrand George, farmer, Knuckwell  
Wood Albert, farmer, Combe

#### SORLEY.

Perraton Richard, farmer, Rake  
Rogers William, farmer, Sorley farm

#### VENN.

Mitchell Sydney Weiss, Venn house  
Seath Thomas William, East Venn  
Baker Thomas, farmer, East Venn  
Perring Robert Henry Woollacott, farmer, West Venn & Bridge End  
Sheriff George, farmer