

## Kelly's Directory 1895

SEMLEY is a parish running nearly east and west; and lying in a beautiful valley, with station 1¼ miles from the church, on the Salisbury and Yeovil branch of the London and South Western railway, 20 miles south west from Salisbury, 6 south east from Mere, 3 north from Shaftesbury and 101 from London, in the Southern division of the county, Chalke Hundred, Tisbury Union, Shaftesbury county court district, Tisbury and Mere petty sessional division, rural deanery of Chalke (Tisbury Portion), archdeaconry of Sarum and diocese of Salisbury.

There is a richly wooded country in the background on the north, and the Dorsetshire hills are seen in the distance stretching along its front in the south.

The old church of St Leonard, an ancient cruciform structure, was pulled down in January 1874 and the present building erected in 1875 at the expense of the Dowager Marchioness of Westminster: it is of Bath, Ham Hill and local stone in the Early Decorated style and consists of chancel, nave of four bays, south aisle and south chancel aisle: there are two entrances - viz. north and west, with a square lofty embattled western tower with clock and 5 bells.

There is a stained window in the chancel to the memory of the Rev. Henry Hall M.A. who built the chancel; one to Arthur and Lucy Fane by their son, the late Vere Fane Benett-Stanford esq.: one to the memory of John Edward Benett of Pyt House and one given by Mrs. Benett- Stanford: also one by the late Vere Fane Benett-Stanford esq to the memory of seven brother officers killed at the Gate Pa Fort in New Zealand on 30th April 1864: another has been added as a memorial of Mrs. Pike of Musters; it is the gift of her children.

The register dates from the year 1657.

The living is a rectory, average tithe rent charge £374, gross yearly value £450, net. £363, including 98 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of Christ Church, Oxford and held since 1878 by the Rev Louis Kercheval Hilton B.A. of Jesus College Cambridge and M.A. of Magdalen College Oxford.

Here is a Baptist Chapel which was built in 1823, to seat 250 persons.

£2 2s yearly were left in 1779 by John Perham for clothes and the interest on £300 left by Miss Dinah Bracher for the poor of the parish.

Lord Arundell of Wardour is Lord of the Manor. The Principal landowners are John Benett-Stanford esq and Sir Michael Robert Shaw-Stewart bart.

The soil is clay, subsoil gravel. The land is principally pasturage, the arable growing wheat, oats and barley. The area is 2,945 acres: rateable value £5,967; the population in 1891 was 643.

Parish Clerk - Henry Thomas Merchant

Post Office - John Rogers, Sub-Postmaster

Letters arrive from Shaftesbury at 8.5am & 6.30pm on week days, 8.5am Sundays

Dispatched 12.15, 4.45 & 7pm on week days, 10am on Sundays.

Postal orders are issued here, but not paid.

The nearest money order & telegraph office is at Semley Station

Wall letter box at Station cleared at 10.30am, 5.15 & 7.30pm, Sundays at 10.30am

National School (mixed) for 80 children, average attendance 44 - Miss Read, Mistress

Infant School for 70 children, average attendance 50 - Miss Eliza Ann Ranger, Mistress

Railway Station - John Ellen, Stationmaster

Gentry/Private Residents/Traders

Surname	Given Names	Industry/Occupation
Bracher, Mrs		Broad Oak House
Hilton, Rev	Louis Kercheval	Rector, The Rectory
Miles	Joseph	Grove House
Scammell, Mrs		The Cottage
Stanley, Rev	John	Baptist Minister
Baker	Robert	Farmer, Marsh & Senior's Farm
Baker	Thomas	Farmer, Chalcott's Farm

Brown	Ernest	Farmer, Harthill Farm
Buckland	James	Blacksmith
Burden	Alfred	Shopkeeper
Burden	George	Blacksmith
Burden	Rice	Baker
Burlington	Francis J	Farmer
Burton, Mrs	Hannah	Farmer, Conduit Farm
Ellen	John	Railway Stationmaster
Ford	William	Farmer, Hook Farm
Fowler	Alvah	Baker & Shopkeeper
Gray	Samuel	Farmer, Westwood
Herrington, Mrs	Louisa	Farmer, Church Farm
Holloway	Samuel	Farmer
James	Henry	Farmer, Oysters & Curtain Farms
James	William	Farmer, East End & Malthouse Farms
Kirby	Thomas C	Railway Commercial Hotel & Posting House
Lane	Arthur	Farmer, Hatt's Farm
Maidment	John	Shopkeeper
Merchant	Henry Thomas	Wheelwright & Parish Clerk
Pike	Frederick	Farmer, Musters, Knipe's & Glebe Farms
Pike	William	Farmer, Whitebridge Farm
Read, Miss	Edith Jane	Schoolmistress
Ranger, Miss	Eliza Ann	Schoolmistress
Rogers	John	Sub Postmaster
Rogers	Ebenezer Wm	Grocer & Draper
Johnson	Henry	Manager, Salisbury, Semley & Gillingham Dairies Ltd
Scammell	Edward	Benett Arms Public House
Snow	John & Co	Coal & Coke Merchants
Westcott	James	Coal & Manure Merchants
White	Robert	Farmer, Billhay & Amberleaze Farms
Worthy	James	Farmer, Bowmarsh Farm

Jan Oliver  
April 2012