

**THE REGISTERS OF
STAPLETON,
SHROPSHIRE. 1546 - 1812**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649403189

The registers of Stapleton, Shropshire. 1546 - 1812 by Various

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VARIOUS

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STAPLETON,
SHROPSHIRE. 1546 - 1812**

**The Register of
Stapleton.**

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The Registers

OF

Stapleton,

SHROPSHIRE.

Issued by
THE PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY.
(XXXV.)



The Registers

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Stapleton,

SHROPSHIRE.

1546—1812.

TRANSCRIBED BY

MISS E. C. HOPE-EDWARDS,

AND EDITED BY

THE REV. HUDLESTON STOKES, M.A.,

RECTOR OF STAPLETON.

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LONDON :

PRIVATELY PRINTED FOR THE SHROPSHIRE PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY,

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY,

1901.

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TREAT FUND
Sept. 16, 1925

Stapleton Registers.

STAPLETON (till 1744 always spelt in Registers Stepleton or Steppleton) in Diocese of Lichfield, Condover Hundred and Rural Deanery; population in 1891, 245; acreage 2,352; 6 miles south of Shrewsbury. In 1676, there were 175 "Conformists" in the parish above the age of 16, and no "Papists" or "Nonconformists," which seems to show a decrease in the population in the course of the past two centuries. In 1602, Rowland Harris, Parson of Stapleton, held no degree, and was not licensed by the Bishop to preach.

The Parish Register Abstract, 1831, contains the following account of these Registers:—"Stapleton R. No. I. Register 1630—1747. No. II. Bap Bur. 1748—1812. III. Marr. 1750—1812."

The oldest Register at Stapleton is bound in calf and has had clasps. It is 12½ inches long by 6½ wide. It contains 25 leaves of parchment, some loose, and much worn and tattered, and all injured by damp; a break occurs in the entries from 1699 to 1708; probably some leaves are lost here. The first legible entry is in 1635, and the last in 1746. The entries include baptisms, marriages and burials. On the outside of the first leaf is written "Thomas Cooper," and across the page "Humphry Sancky lived with Mr. Royston y^e year 1687 and . . ." The second Register book begins 1748, and ends in December 1812. It has 15 written leaves, also injured by damp, and imperfect in places; it contains baptisms and burials, and up to 1750 marriages also. A third book contains printed forms for marriage entries, and entries on them from 1750 to 1812.

The Churchwardens books which are complete, and in fair condition, commence in 1670, and contain accounts, lists, plans of the sittings in church and their occupants, lists of the church plate, &c. They mention the "olde churche bookes" as being in 1678 "torne, abused, and much decayed," and "as the inhabitants are by now unknown and almost quite forgotten," a fresh list for rating purposes is made out, giving the old names from a list of 1599, and the present ones opposite them.

No names of much note are legible in the Registers. The families of Haynes, Scott, Meyrick, and Oakley are designated "esq.," "Mr.," or "gent" in the volumes. Some members of the Haynes family, sometimes spelt Heynes, are buried in the chancel; the vestry book records the "breaking up of the Church for Mr. Haynes's 2 daughters," and "Mrs. Margaret Haynes, widow of John Haynes, Esqr., of Netley" has a stone now hidden by the choir seats; her burial is entered in 1682. She was daughter of Thos. Nicolls of Boycott, Sheriff in 1641. John Haynes's daughter Mary, who was eventually his heiress, was born June 7, 1666, and married July 24, 1688, Thomas Edwardes, 2nd son of Sir Thos. Edwardes, 1st Bart., to whom she took Netley, in Stapleton parish, as well as other property. Mr. Thomas Stanier, who died in 1690, is also mentioned as having a stone in the chancel (now hidden).

Many names in the Register are still found in the parish; among them are Harper 1645, Corfield 1663, Bromley 1669, Wigley 1675, Mapp 1675, Huffer 1676, Preese 1689, Tomkys 1690, and later on Savage, Oakley, Tudor, Purcell, &c.

An earlier Register than the present first Register must have been in existence shortly before 1831, as a large number of extracts commencing in 1546 are presented in George Morris's MSS. These, which number nearly 180, are here given. The present earliest Register must have been in a