

**THE VECTIS DIRECTORY, OR ISLE OF WIGHT
GENERAL GUIDE CONTAINING A
CLASSIFICATION OF THE NOBILITY, GENTRY,
BANKERS, PROFESSIONAL GENTLEMEN, AND
TRADES, RESIDENT IN THE TOWNS OF
NEWPORT, RYDE, COWES, AND YARMOUTH,
ALSO OF THE VILLAGES GENERALLY**

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The Vectis Directory, or Isle of Wight General Guide Containing a Classification of the Nobility, Gentry, Bankers, Professional Gentlemen, and Trades, Resident in the Towns of Newport, Ryde, Cowes, and Yarmouth, Also of the Villages Generally by William Lambert

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WILLIAM LAMBERT

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NEWPORT, RYDE, COWES, AND YARMOUTH,
ALSO OF THE VILLAGES GENERALLY,

INCLUDING

VENTNOR, SHANKLIN, CARISBROOKE, &c. &c.

AND

GENERAL INFORMATION RELATING TO STEAM BOATS TO
AND FROM THE ISLAND, SOUTHAMPTON, AND PORTS-
MOUTH, AND CARRIERS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS,

*Combining, in detail, information of a varied description, useful either
to the resident, the visitor for pleasure, or the man of business.*

Newport:

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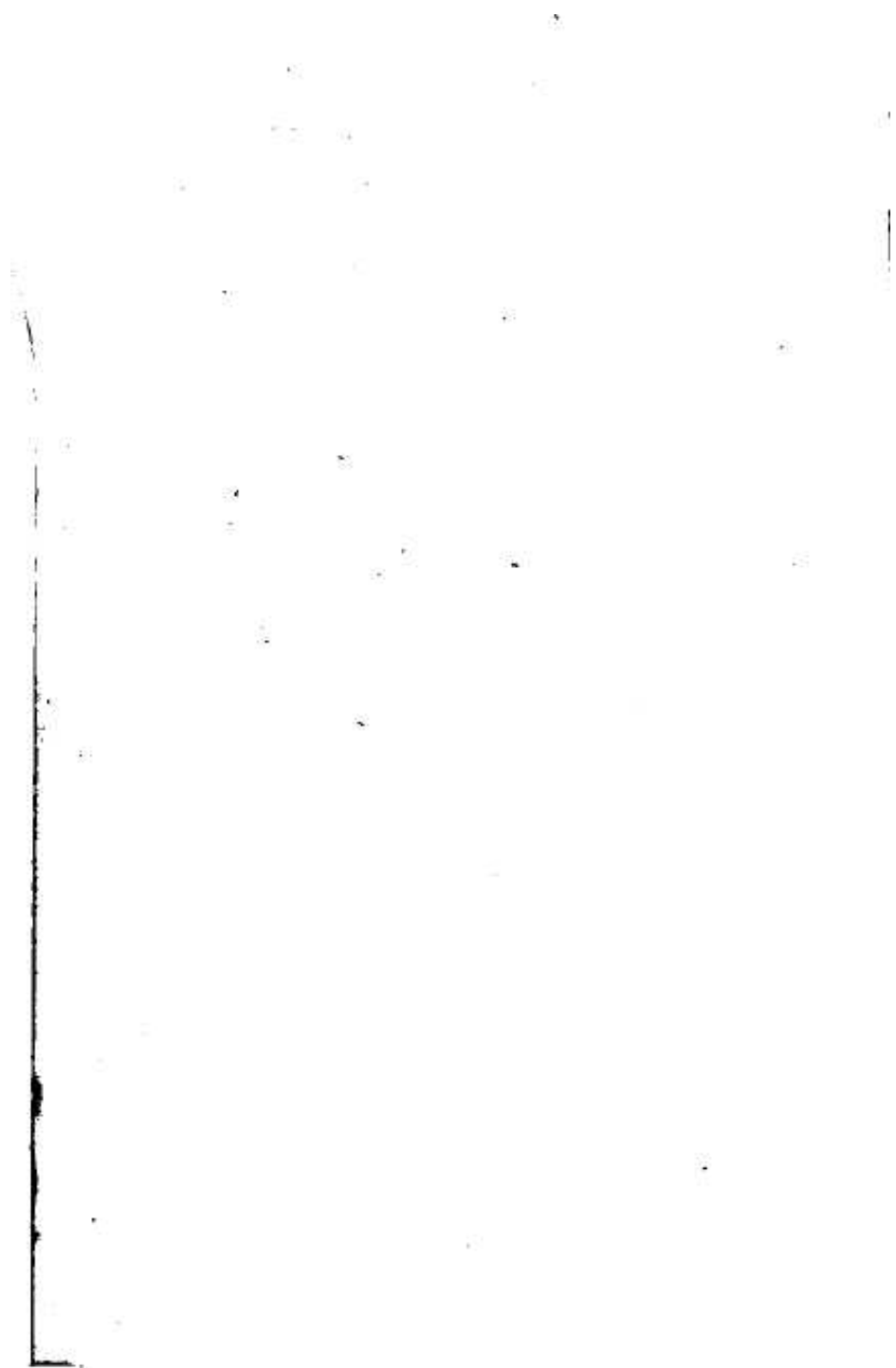
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ADVERTISEMENT.

A Directory for the Isle of Wight has been long felt to be a desideratum :—while every town of the least pretension in England has published for the use of its inhabitants and visiters, that information which the pursuit of trade or the tour for pleasure requires ; the Isle of Wight, containing important towns and populous parishes, has not hitherto possessed that most useful of all pocket companions, which it has been the aim of the publisher to supply.

In the performance of his task, though no pains have been spared to render it perfect, yet, perhaps, from the haste with which it has been got up, some trifling errors may have crept in. Should such have been the case, the favor of a correction is respectfully requested in order that the mistake may be rectified in a subsequent edition.

NEWPORT,
June 4, 1839.



INTRODUCTION.

It may be said of the Isle of Wight that there is not, perhaps, in the whole kingdom of Great Britain, any spot of ground, of the same extent, which produces such a variety of soil and surface. It is joined to the Coast and County of Hampshire, notwithstanding it is separated from the general outline of the Southern Coast by the Channel, known by the name of the Solent Sea. Its form has been justly compared to that of an heraldic lozenge, extending from east to west about 23 miles, and 13 miles in its extreme length.

The most distinguished feature of the Island, in point of interest to the visiter, is its picturesque and varied landscape, which falls upon the eye of the traveller in quick succession, as he rises and descends the hills, which undulate the surface on every side—beauty succeeding beauty—and

“ Each, more beautiful than the former,”

terminating at length in bold and sublime grandeur, where the projecting precipice and rocky chasms form the boundary of its southern edge, and the wild

precipitous and impending cliffs rise in majestic splendour to the immense height of 300 feet above the level of the rolling waters beneath.

Its wild and interesting chimes involuntarily attract attention, and cast over the mind a mixture of astonishment, admiration, and delight, more easy to be conceived than to be described. Thus, its extreme diversity of surface adds to its sylvan sweetness, and constitutes much of its natural attractions, wild, imposing, and sublime.

In fact, within the short space of a few miles the most astonishing cliffs and towering precipices, together with extensive marine views and vernal luxury, surround the traveller at every turn.

It is this variety which renders the Island so exceedingly productive in the necessaries and comforts of life.

Of the vallies and sloping declivities of the Island, the soil is in general so rich and luxuriant, that the crops of grain, particularly wheat, are beyond all comparison with almost all other countries, plentiful and abundant. In many parts the richness of the ground is very manifest, and perceptible from the colour and fineness of its surface; and to strangers the necessity of ocular demonstration will be manifest to form a true and proper judgment of its produce. Nothing short of this kind of evidence can possibly convey an adequate idea of its fertility.

Marl, brick earth, gravel, tobacco pipe and potter's clay, with fuller's earth, and some red and yellow ochre, are also met with; there is likewise some good

stone, and a peculiar kind of white sand towards the south-west part of the island, at Freshwater, far superior to any other in Great Britain. Of this great quantities are shipped off, and sent to London, Bristol, and Worcester, for the glass and porcelain manufactories. Great quantities of alum are also met with at Alum Bay, to the north of the Needles, from whence it takes its name. Of stone there are various quarries, which may be applied to different uses; and those near Quart Abbey, in particular, were formerly in high estimation. With these the Cathedral of Winchester was built, and for a series of years it continued to be in the highest estimation. Though it is not known to supply any minerals, the appearances of the sea beach and cliffs afford presumptive manifestations that it is not wholly destitute. The face of the island and the general stratum, is a close black clay, which forms apparently the basis of the Island. There are strong indications in favour of the opinion (and from similarity of circumstances it is extremely probable) that the very necessary and essential article of coal might be found in the Island; and though some attempts have been made to obtain it, without sufficient proof of a successful result, it is not altogether certain that the more internal parts would not repay any cost and enterprise that might be exerted.

From the nature of several springs, which are met with in several parts of this island, there can be no doubt of the existence of other minerals. Amongst these we may reckon iron, some of which has been