

# Hartley Through the Ages.

## The Story of a Kentish Village.

BY

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## FOREWORD.

It is very unlikely that the following pages will be found free from mistakes and omissions,. I shall be glad, if any such are discovered, to have them notified with a view to future correction.

The maps I have endeavoured to make as truthful as possible, but for No. i and No. ii I have been' obliged to fall back, in some degree, upon imagination, and for No. iii and No. iv it has been especially difficult to ensure accuracy.

My grateful thanks are due to those old inhabitants who have taxed their memories to tell me tales of long ago, to those who have kindly allowed me to reproduce photographs, and to all who have helped me in other ways.

I have laboured under one great disadvantage. There was little or no material ready to hand in the parish archives.

We are one of the very few parishes in the diocese whose registers go no further back than the beginning of the 18th century, and yet, with some Churchwarden's Accounts and a list of recipients of the Walter Charity, they are all the parish records we possess.

All the older records of the Church, all the old deeds and other documents pertaining to the manor, as well as the ancient manor court rolls, have been destroyed or lost, some within the memory of the present generation. If then, some defects are found where they might be least expected, it must be borne in mind that in more favourable circumstances they might not have occurred.

G.W.B,

Hartley Rectory, Longfield, Kent.



Hartley Church.