

THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE
TOWN AND PORT OF
HEDON,
IN THE EAST RIDING OF THE
COUNTY OF YORK.

BY
J. R. BOYLE, F.S.A.

“Treuth is that
when Hulle began to
flourish Heddon de-
caied.”—*Leland*

HULL AND YORK: A. BROWN & SONS.
LONDON: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, HAMILTON, KENT, & Co., LTD.

1895.

PREFACE.

WHEN I commenced the preparation of the present work, I intended only to produce a pamphlet, to which I proposed to give the modest title, "Hedon: A Historical Study." But as my investigations proceeded, my design enlarged, and the volume now in the reader's hand is the result. I do not think it will be said that the subject does not merit the labour I have bestowed upon it, or that all that it was desirable to record of the history of Hedon might have been included within narrower limits.

To the history of Hedon George Poulson devoted 77 pages of the second volume of his slipshod and unsatisfactory *History of Holderness*. He had access to records, of a comparatively unimportant character, which I have had no opportunity of consulting. Of the records in the custody of the Corporation of

Hedon he made considerable use, but it is clear that he confined his attention to those which were most perfect and most legible.* In this way many facts, only to be gathered from tattered fragments, totally escaped him. Of documents relative to Hedon, and preserved amongst the national records, he made scarcely any use whatever. The reader will readily discover that I have drawn extensively from this source.

Of the Hedon town records, it seems desirable to give some account in this place. In the early part of the present century, these records were preserved in the room over the vestry of St. Augustine's. This room was the ancient treasury. Poulson conjectures that the muni-

* Even of these his readings and translations are the reverse of accurate. A few instances may be adduced *Responant de xv. s. inventis in truncis coram Cruce ad festum Inventionis eiusdem* (p. ciii), he translates, "Also of 15s. found in the innocents' box at the cross, at the feast of the same innocents" (p. 164). *Pro lavacione superpelliciorum* (p. cv) he renders, "for woolen surplices" (p. 164). *Reperta in trunco aperto* (p. cx) becomes, "discovered at the naked trunk" (p. 165). *Una cum smignate* (p. cxiv) is turned into, "with one cloth" (p. 167). *In una clave emptā* (p. cxv)—"for a lock bought" (p. 167). *Eisdem Thome Mone et famulo* (p. cxv)—"to the same Thomas Mone and his family" (p. 167). *Per ij. vices* (p. clv)—"by two vicars" (p. 162). *Redditus Domini Rogeri* (p. clxxvii)—"the rent to our lord the king" (p. 158) *Pro lotacione vestimentorum* (p. clxxxvi)—"for a lock for the vestibule" (p. 160). But hundreds of similar instances might readily be quoted.

ments of Hedon had suffered in a great fire which occurred in the town, and also refers to a tradition that they had been, in great part, destroyed "by the demolition of St. James' Church or Chapel." What he calls "a long chasm" "in the historical and statistical account of the borough," he thinks, "may be partly attributable to both" these events. "But," he adds, "from whatever cause it arose, the records and papers of the borough were *removed* to a room over the vestry of St. Augustine's, where the roof was in such a state as to allow the rain to enter, by which many were destroyed." The hypothesis that the records were, at some period, removed from St. James', or some other place, to St. Augustine's, is quite unfounded; for as will be seen by reference to page 125 in the present work, the records of the town were kept in the treasury of the existing church at least as early as 50 Edw. III. Poulson's account, however, of what occurred to the records in the treasury, during comparatively recent periods, is perfectly accurate.

“Charters, deeds, rent rolls, court rolls, inquisitions, writs of citations, records of the borough court, accounts of procurators of chantries, and of masters of hospitals, and of wardens of chapels and churches, as well as lists of mayors and bailiffs of the olden time; open to the winds of heaven, these documents, which lay in heaps, were, from apathy and neglect, allowed to moulder and rot. In addition to these devastating effects, large quantities were used for lighting the vestry fires, and others taken away by any persons whose inclination or curiosity induced them to fill their pockets; what is yet left is a mass of dirty and useless rubbish.”

The present state of the Hedon records affords evidence of the substantial truth of this account. But shortly after the period when Poulson wrote, the late Mr. Gillyat Sumner, of Woodmansey, by methods which it is unnecessary to particularize, got the whole of the existing records, with the exception of quite recent volumes and papers, into his possession. The loose parchments and papers he caused to be carefully mounted and bound in volumes, arranging them in classes and in chronological order in a manner which reflects the greatest credit upon him. After Mr. Sumner's death, these records, with the rest of his valuable and extensive library, were advertised for sale, and were

purchased for the Corporation of Hedon, who, however, very properly declined to pay the purchase money, leaving Mr. Sumner's executors to recover the amount by action at law. This they did not attempt, as it would have been necessary for them to prove their title. The following extracts are taken from the sale catalogue;* the sums added in brackets being the prices at which the various lots were knocked down :—

491. General Loft's† Collections of Ancient Documents, some relating to Hedon (St Nicholas').
[£20.]
495. Sundry Vols.—Hedon Court Books from Edward

* Beverley, Yorkshire. Catalogue of the very Valuable Collection of Old Manuscripts (many beautifully illuminated), Deeds, Documents, and Scrolls; Antique Oak Furniture, richly carved and inlaid, Carved Oak Figures, Roman, Old British, and other Coins and Antiquities; Alms Dishes and Flagons; Eight inlaid Mahogany Bookcases; and a Valuable Library of about 5,000 vols. of Antique and Modern Literature; several Oil Paintings, etc., etc. Collected (with great care) during a period extending over 60 years, by the late Gillyat Sumner, Esq., of Woodmansey, near Beverley. . . . The whole of which will be sold without reserve by Mr. Christopher Greensides, in the Assembly Rooms, Beverley, on Wednesday, the 31st October, 1877, and two following days.

† General Loft was M.P. for the borough of Grimsby from 1807 to 1812. His collection of Hedon Documents, though small, is most valuable, and furnished Poulson with most of the records which he prints. The use which I have made of it will be ascertained from my references. These documents are the only portion of Sumner's Hedon Collection which he did not secure from the vestry of St. Augustine's. He purchased them in 1849 from General Loft's grandchildren, who had fallen into great poverty, for the sum of £2.

- III., Hedon and Hull Court Books (original), Hull Court Book from 1542 to 1560. [£15.]
497. Ancient Order Book of Corporation of Hedon, commencing Edward IV., 3 vols. [£80.]
498. Iveson's Collection, Deeds, Documents, and Papers, relating to Hedon and neighbourhood; and 1 vol. Patrington Parish Papers, etc. [£6.]
499. Hedon Church Rates and Church Records, 2 vols. [£13.]
500. Collections relating to Hedon and neighbourhood, with illustrations, and illuminated MSS., 3 vols. [£8.]
501. Hedon Corporation Records, 2 vols. [£25.]
584. Old Plan of Hull, and small box of documents relating to Hedon, from 1364. [£15.]
630. Hedon Rent Roll, 12th year of Henry VII., and a Scroll in vellum, with tin case.

A few of these documents, notably those included in lot 584, are not now in the custody of the Corporation, and to these I have had no access.

The very fragmentary form in which many documents in the Appendix are printed is due to the decayed and torn state of the originals. I have never met with records which had suffered so severely from damp and neglect as those of Hedon, and the limited measure of success I have achieved in deciphering them has been attained

at the cost of irreparable injury to my sight. I have often printed—especially in the series of churchwarden's accounts—a mere fragment of a sentence, but I have only done this when the incomplete statement revealed some fact, or contained some unusual word.

I have to acknowledge the many obligations I have incurred in the preparation of this book. The first, and by far the greatest of these is to the Corporation of Hedon, who afforded me unrestricted access to their records, and, indeed, transferred to me the custody of such records as I required for the whole period of my investigations, which have occupied nearly two years. Mr. James Watson, of Holyrood House, has lent me many documents from his interesting collections, has permitted me to copy John Iveson's Plan of Hedon, and in other ways has most generously assisted me. Colonel White, J.P., of Lambert House, has also kindly aided me in my enquiries, and has, on many occasions, helped to make my labour a delightful task. Mr. Johnson, Postmaster of Hedon, has lent me a

copy of Iveson's Survey, from certain anonymous annotations in which I have been enabled to identify otherwise unknown field-names.

Mr. William Brown, B.A., of Trenholme, Northallerton, furnished me with the extract from the Yorkshire subsidy roll, printed on p. 40, and has compared many of my proofs with the originals in the Public Record Office, besides having helped me in many of the difficult parts of the Appendix. The Rev. H. E. Maddock, M.A., Rector of Patrington, has carefully read the whole of the proofs of the Appendix, as well as of most other parts of the volume, and has enabled me to escape many a pitfall. Mr. John Bilson, F.R.I.B.A., assisted me in a most valuable way with the account of the architecture of St. Augustine's, and when, on any occasion, I have needed his advice, I have never sought it in vain. The Council of the Society of Antiquaries of London has permitted me to reproduce, in reduced form, the drawing of the oldest Hedon Mace which adorns the fifty-first volume of *Archæologia*. Mr. G. W.

Tomlinson, F.S.A., has placed at my disposal the beautiful plan of St. Augustine's, which was issued in 1883 by the Yorkshire Archæological Association, and which, with slight alterations, re-appears in this volume. Mr. W. H. Crofts has made the necessary changes in the twenty-five inch ordnance map of the parish of Hedon to adapt it to the requirements of my sixth chapter. Many other friends have helped me in various ways. Indeed, I have never sought assistance which has not been most readily accorded. Lastly, I have to acknowledge my deep indebtedness to the publishers of this volume, Messrs. Brown, of Savile Street, Hull, for their most liberal assistance, without which the completion of this book had been impossible. It is due to them to say that they have readily seconded every proposal I have made relative to the illustration of this history, even when my wishes involved grave pecuniary sacrifice to them.

HULL,

December, 1894.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I.—THE ORIGIN OF HEDON	I
„ II.—THE BOROUGH OF HEDON	14
„ III.—THE PORT OF HEDON	66
„ IV.—THE CHURCHES OF HEDON	89
„ V.—THE INSTITUTIONS OF HEDON	156
„ VI.—THE TOPOGRAPHY OF HEDON	179
„ VII.—TENURE IN HEDON	214

APPENDIX.

NOTE A.—WESTLAND GATES	i
„ B.—WESTLANDS	i
„ C.—CHARTER OF HENRY II.	iii
„ D.—EXTRACT FROM KING JOHN'S CHARTER TO THE CITIZENS OF YORK	iii
„ E.—CHARTER OF KING JOHN	iv
„ F.—GRANT OF FAIR	iv
„ G.—INQUISITION AS TO THE STATE OF HEDON ...	v
„ H.—INQUISITION AS TO THE BAKEHOUSE AT HEDON	vii
„ I.—MINISTERS' ACCOUNTS	x
„ K.—INQUISITION AS TO THE VALUE OF HEDON AND PAUL FLEET	xxv
„ L.—FIRST CHARTER OF EDWARD III.	xxvii
„ M.—INQUISITION PRIOR TO THE GRANT OF THE SECOND CHARTER OF EDWARD III. ...	xxviii
„ N.—SECOND CHARTER OF EDWARD III.	xxx
„ O.—CERTIFICATE OF IMMUNITY	xxxv
„ P.—CHARTER OF HENRY V.	xxxvi

	PAGE
NOTE Q.—MAYORS' ACCOUNT ROLL	xl
„ R.—BAILIFFS' ACCOUNTS	xlii
„ S.—CHAMBERLAINS' ACCOUNTS	xlviii
„ T.—ORDINANCES, OATHS, AND PROCLAMATIONS ...	lxvi
„ V.—RECEIVERS' ACCOUNTS FOR PAULL FLEET ...	xcvii
„ W.—WARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE	ciii
„ X.—BELL TOWER ACCOUNT ROLLS	cxxxviii
„ Y.—INQUISITION RELATIVE TO THE CHANTRY OF ST. MARY	cxliii
„ Z.—MISCELLANEOUS EVIDENCES RELATIVE TO THE CHANTRY OF ST. MARY	cxlvi
„ AA.—PROCTORS' ACCOUNTS OF THE CHANTRY OF ST. MARY	cli
„ BB.—WARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES	clxii
„ CC.—WARDENS' ACCOUNTS OF THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS	clxxiv
„ DD.—LETTER OF ARCHBISHOP GIFFARD RESPECTING PROPOSED ANCHORAGE IN THE CHURCHYARD OF ST. NICHOLAS	clxxxvii
„ EE.—DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE HOSPITAL OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN	clxxxvii
„ FF.—LETTERS PATENT APPOINTING JOHN DE BRIGGESLEY MASTER OF HEDON GRAMMAR SCHOOL	cxc
„ GG.—COMPOSITION OF THE TAILORS' COMPANY ...	cxc
„ HH.—ACCOUNT ROLLS OF THE OFFICERS OF THE GILD OF THE HOLY CROSS	cxciv
„ II.—WILL OF GEORGE PAINTER	cciii
„ KK.—GRANT OF AN ESCHEATED TENEMENT ...	ccvii
GLOSSARY	ccxi
INDEX	ccxxvii

LIST OF PLATES.

	PAGE
ST. AUGUSTINE'S, HEDON (<i>Etching</i>)	<i>Frontispiece</i>
PLATE OF SEALS	48
HEDON MACE	58
THE HAVEN, HEDON	66
THE WESTERN HAVEN, HEDON	68
SEALS OF SANDWICH AND DOVER	70
SEALS OF FAVERSHAM AND POOLE	72
SEAL OF THE ADMIRAL OF THE HUMBER	74
PLAN OF ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH	88
PLAN OF HEDON	178
IVESON'S PLAN OF HEDON	197
FACSIMILE FROM COURT BOOK	218
CHARTER OF KING JOHN	iv