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PREFACE.



THE Preface mainly needed for a fourth Volume of *The Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Journal*, is one which may convey to contributors the thanks of the Council for the learned and interesting papers, which form the substance of the following pages.

Without the kind help of those who, after devoting much time and learning to the researches they pursue, are willing to give to others the benefit of the information thus acquired, it would not have been possible for the Journal to have attained the success indicated by its continued publication for eight years. On the other hand, the Council has been at all times anxious to provide the best and most suitable illustrations which the means at its disposal could procure, where illustrations were necessary for the fuller appreciation of any subject. In the present Volume great aid has been rendered by the Rev. Canon Raine, M.A., who has permitted the wood-cuts of his father's work on St. Cuthbert to be used in connection with the important and valuable paper of the Rev. Josh. Fowler, F.S.A., on the St. Cuthbert window in York Minster. It has been the object of the Council in selecting papers to meet as far as possible the views and wishes of all sections of members of the Association, and it is hoped that the Archæologists, the Topographers, and the

Genealogists of the County may all find in the Journal some useful and genuine material of value to them in the prosecution of their respective studies. The complete and comprehensive Index is a feature intended to make as accessible as possible all the information the Volume contains, and, for help in preparing a considerable portion of it, thanks must be here given to the Rev. Josh. T. Fowler, F.S.A., of Durham.

The importance necessarily attaching to the preservation of all Public Records, has made the threatened removal of ancient Wills and other Testamentary Records from York an object of anxious consideration to the Council, and it has been felt right to record in the Journal, not only the steps taken by the Council, in conjunction with the Corporation of the City of York, to prevent this removal; but also the names of those, who afterwards joined in the determined protest addressed by the Council and the Corporation to the Right Hon. Sir James Hannen, Knt., President of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice, and to the Lords of the Treasury.

It remains only to add that though the Journal is edited under the direction of the Council, the writers are alone responsible for the statements and opinions contained in their respective papers.

JANUARY, 1877.

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