

ROUND ABOUT BRADFORD:

A SERIES OF SKETCHES

(DESCRIPTIVE AND SEMI-HISTORICAL)

OF

FORTY-TWO PLACES WITHIN SIX MILES
OF BRADFORD.

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P R E F A C E .

IN the following pages brief sketches are presented of many of the villages and embryo towns which are comprised within a radius of six miles of Bradford. Doubtless there are other places intimately connected with the district, but lying outside this prescribed circle, about which much interesting matter might have been written, but they are necessarily beyond the scope of the present effort, and if dealt with as their importance deserves, would render this work one of inordinate dimensions. As it is, the chief difficulty experienced has been that of compressing within moderate compass the large mass of materials which was available.

The Sketches have had the advantage of previous publication in the columns of the *Bradford Observer*. An opportunity of thorough revision has thus been afforded which has enabled the Author to ensure a degree of accuracy to which he could not otherwise have attained. The work is not even now offered as a model of perfection in this respect. In a district the extensive area of which was for the most part unbroken ground, much of the information has necessarily been procured orally, and considerable allowance for inaccuracy must be made on this account. Notwithstanding omissions and acknowledged deficiencies, however, the work is submitted to the public in the confident belief that it will form a substantial contribution to the current stock of local knowledge.

The introductory chapter referring to the Etymology of the district has been kindly furnished by a gentleman well versed in word-lore,

and though possibly exception may be taken to some of his conclusions, his contribution will doubtless be appreciated as a valuable addition to the volume.

The Map has been specially prepared for this work by Messrs. Walker & Thornton, Surveyors, Bradford, who have been aided by information supplied by the Author, and it has been lithographed by Mr. S. O. Bailey, of Bradford. The Geological Chart has been drawn and contributed by Mr. W. B. Woodhead, Surveyor, Bradford.

In the collection of materials for the work, the Author gladly acknowledges his obligation to very many persons for assistance rendered in various ways. Among others to whom his thanks are eminently due, he desires especially to name Mr. Joseph Wright, of Wibsey; the Rev. Frederick Hall, of Thornton; Mr. J. A. Busfield, of Upwood; Mr. T. W. Green, of Bingley; Mr. George Taylor, of Apperley; Mr. Simeon Rayner, of Pudsey; Mr. Phil. Slater, of Yeadon; the Rev. H. Harrison, of Idle; Mr. T. T. Empsall and Mr. Jas. Wigglesworth, of Bradford; Mr. W. Robertshaw, of Allerton; Mr. Wm. Thornton, of Calverley; Mr. Edmund Cox, of Baildon; Mr. W. H. Cuthbert, of Wilsden; Mr. Abm. Holroyd, of Saltaire; and Mr. Wm. Bateson, of Windhill. But whilst thankfully recognising the help he has received from these and many other gentlemen, the Author holds himself alone responsible for any statement contained in the following pages.

