

CONTINUATION & ADDITIONS

TO THE



HISTORY OF BRADFORD,

AND ITS PARISH.

BY

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P R E F A C E .

NEARLY twenty-five years have passed since the publication of the History of Bradford. In the interval, the town has vastly increased in size, population, and manufactures, and its general importance in the scale of towns, has been greatly enlarged. Besides these considerations, many memorable events, in the above-named period have occurred here, which require to be permanently recorded.

The proper time seems, therefore, to have arrived for a new issue of the History of the town and parish, embodying the extensive additions to it, which have been diligently collected, and continuing the work to the present time.

Accordingly, this new issue of the History of Bradford, with Additions and Continuation, is now presented to the subscribers. The materials have been collected with very great labour and expense, during a number of years, from the multifarious stores of the British Museum, the National Record Office, Duchy of Lancaster Office, York Archbishopal Registers, the MSS. of the Heralds' College, and numerous other public sources.

The Additions are intended as a kind of Commentary to the History of Bradford, and must be read, especially in con-

nection with the ancient portion of it, as an amplification thereof. Regarding the Continuation, it is simply intended to bring the modern History of the town, from where it broke off, in the year 1841, up to the present time. Where, in either the Additions or Continuation, a preceding page is mentioned, it refers to the History of Bradford, unless otherwise indicated.

To Henry Foibes, Esq., J P., to whom Bradford is so much indebted, I am under great obligations for assistance in prosecuting my researches into its ancient history.

Two beautiful plates, engraved by the eminent artist, Le Keux, have been generously presented to this work. The cost of the plate of that noble structure and ornament to Kirkgate—the Bank of the Bradford Banking Company—was defrayed by Samuel Laycock, Esq., their respected manager, and Messrs. Andrews and Delaunay, the architects of the building. The other engraving, that of the fine old mansion of Royds Hall, a capital specimen of the residences of the gentry of the parish two centuries ago, has been added to this work by Miss Dawson of that place.

From Edward Hailstone, Esq., of Horton Hall, F.S.A., I have derived most important aid. He has, after many years assiduous research, gathered an extensive and very valuable collection of MSS. respecting Bradford and the neighbourhood. Among these are many that relate to the Sharp family, or have belonged to them, and these, which I have distinguished as Sharp's MSS., have been of immense value to me. Mr. Hailstone has also allowed me the use of his

rich library, and has made many important suggestions to me whilst preparing the following sheets.

I have also to acknowledge my great obligations to the following gentlemen :—To Sir Chas. George Young, Garter King of Arms, and William Courthope, Esq., Somerset Herald, for access to Brook's and other MSS. in the Heralds' College, and for information respecting the pedigree of the Sharp family. The late Sir Francis Palgrave, Keeper of the Public Records, allowed me the fullest access to the Records under his care. William Hardy, Esq., F.S.A., also permitted me to avail myself of the Records of the Duchy of Lancaster Office, and kindly assisted me in deciphering some of the most obscure of them.

William Hudson and F. Buckle, Esqrs., joint keepers of the Archiepiscopal Registers of York, in the most liberal manner, waived their right to charge for searches in them.

John Darlington Esq., Superintendent Registrar of the Bradford District, courteously prepared for me, without charge, a list of instances of longevity in the parish of Bradford, during the last twenty-five years. My thanks are due also to J. A. Busfeild, Esq., of Upwood, for information; also to the Rev. R. H. Heap, Incumbent of Thornton, for the free use of the Registers of that Chapelry. The late Rev. Patrick Brontë, Incumbent of Haworth, afforded me free access to the Registers there. To Mr. Abraham Holroyd, of Bradford, Bookseller, I am indebted for several communications. Mr. Alexander Walker, of Bradford, an excellent botanist, furnished me with a list of the rarer plants

in this neighbourhood. The late (alas!) Mr. Samuel Baines, of Brighouse, who was intimately acquainted with the Geology of the District, gave me numerous details respecting the strata in this parish. James Sykes, Esq., London, communicated many interesting notices of the Sykes family, especially of the Rev. James Sykes, M.A., vicar of Bradford.

Many others have likewise communicated information to me. To them, and the Subscribers to the work, I tender my sincere thanks for their assistance and support. The outlay in preparing and publishing it has been so great, that I cannot hope for even the smallest remuneration for my labour; but I have the reward of knowing that I have done my best to trace and elucidate the history of the old town from which I have received so many favours.