



HISTORY

OF

THE ANCIENT PARISH

OF

Guisley,

WITH INTRODUCTORY CHAPTERS

ON

The Antiquities of the District.

BY

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OF YEADON,

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ILLUSTRATED BY

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MDCCLXXX.

NOTE.

The Author of this History, having been incapacitated for the final preparation of the work for the printer, appointed us to collect his papers and complete the work. The duty was respectfully but diffidently undertaken. Shortly afterwards Mr. Slater died. A great portion of the work had already been done by himself, but a large number of Manuscripts had yet to be transcribed. In many of these the Author had made very brief notes, merely for the assistance of his own memory, consequently they did not contain detailed information on the subjects to which they referred. These incomplete documents would no doubt have been easily amplified by the Author, but this source of information was no longer available to us. It has been our endeavour nevertheless, to complete the work in accordance with Mr. Slater's plan. Some papers were found, containing extracts from other works, which were not specified. In such cases, wherever it was possible, the Authors have been acknowledged. A few quotations, however, may still remain unacknowledged, and for these we ask the indulgence of the Authors and of the Reader.

*ERNEST E. SLATER,
W. J. ALLEN.*

Yeadon, Easter, 1880.



Preface.

IN the compilation of such a History as that of the Ancient Parish of Guiseley, very diligent search and incessant labour are required to make it as trustworthy and accurate as possible. In order to fulfil such requirements I have spent a great number of years, I may say nearly the whole of my life in collecting Ancient Manuscripts, searching Registers, and reading Histories, compiled by men, some of whom served their day and generation according to the will of God, and fell asleep ages ago.

If this work, in which are recited among other matters many benevolent actions of good and pious men, meets with the approbation of its readers, and especially those of them who are inhabitants of this old Parish, and if it should stimulate them to imitate the good deeds of our forefathers, to carry on the good work of development begun by them and prompt them to acts of piety and usefulness, it will have served the wish of the Author.

I have done my best to make this History as truthful as possible, but should there be any mistake in any

statement that I myself have been unable to detect, I crave the charity of all who critically read it, and ask them to bear with a mortal who, in common with all his fellows, is liable to err.

I do not know that any person has ever yet published a History of the Parish, so that I have not had the perusal of other books to assist me directly in this work.

I have taken statutory declarations of several old people who have been very willing to tell me what they knew on certain subjects handed down to them by their ancestors, for which I thank those who are now alive, and respect the memory of those that have gone hence to be no more.

I also thank all persons who have kindly assisted me with the loan of manuscripts and other materials that have been useful to me in this undertaking.

PHILEMON SLATER.

SOUTH VIEW, YEADON,

September, 1878.

