



NIDDERDALE,

FROM

NUN MONKTON TO WHERNSIDE,

BEING A RECORD OF THE
HISTORY, ANTIQUITIES, SCENERY,
OLD HOMES, FAMILIES, &c.,
OF THE BEAUTIFUL VALLEY OF THE NIDD.

BY

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"UPPER WHARFEDALE," "LOWER WHARFEDALE," &c

ILLUSTRATIONS AND MAP

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PREFACE.

TWELVE years have elapsed since the publication of my larger work on *Nidderdale*, which went rapidly out of print and, for many years past, copies of the book have been very difficult to obtain. In the present edition it had been my intention to revise and condense the old work, and thus present the story of this attractive valley in briefer and more portable form. With that object a Prospectus was issued more than a year ago, and some apology is now due to the subscribers (whose names are printed at the end of the volume), not only for the late appearance of the book, but also for its altered character and greatly extended dimensions. Instead of containing 350 pages, as announced, the work has absorbed upwards of 600 pages, with an Appendix of over 70 pages, an enlargement due almost entirely to the receipt, from almost all parts of the universe, of new and important material from old local families and others interested in the Dale.

The reception and consideration of these extensive additions have involved considerable correspondence, with the result that the work has been almost wholly re-written. I have, moreover, found it necessary to again visit every parish, and nearly every notable house in the Dale, and from a personal inspection of parish documents and family manuscripts have been able to correct previous writings and add much hitherto unpublished information. The additions also embrace divers new and instructive particulars derived from original muniments in London, York, &c.

To the local clergy I am particularly indebted for their kindness in allowing me to inspect the parish books and papers in their charge, and also in many cases for their

having been at the pains of revising the proofs relating to their parishes. It would be invidious to mention names, when in every case I have met with a generous willingness to assist my object to ensure accuracy, as also my endeavours to obtain a succinct record of events concerning each place. Some of the old Nidderdale parishes are of wide extent, and possess a special interest, and although these are dealt with as fully as the space at disposal would allow, I have felt that a detailed history of them could not be undertaken except in separate volumes.

In the present work many a missing link of family history, and many a notable event and o'd-time custom will be found here for the first time chronicled. Indeed, care has been taken to make the book as interesting, complete, and attractive as possible. The lineages of many old local families, and others of ancient landowners, such as Cantilupe, De Ros, Mowbray, &c., will be found to contain various novel and suggestive features. Many of these extended lineages have involved years of diligent research. The pedigree of the Bensons, of Pateley Bridge, &c., I have reprinted, with some few alterations, and this lineage was revised by the late Archbishop Benson. The interesting pedigree of Stubbs, of Knaresborough Forest, covering a period of nearly six centuries, is entirely new, and was prepared during the leisure of a long and active life by the late distinguished historian, the Rt. Rev. William Stubbs, D.D., Bishop of Oxford—a native of Knaresborough—to whose family I am indebted for the privilege of its first publication. Bishop Stubbs, whose luminous writings on constitutional history have a world-wide recognition, spent no little time in searching the ancient court-rolls at Knaresborough, which date from the time of Edward III., and the good Bishop's genial and striking presence in the old town of his birth will long be remembered. With Knaresborough I had

hoped to have dealt from unpublished records at greater length than now appears; moreover, since the proof-sheets of that section were passed to the printer, the historic importance of the old town has been enhanced by its having given title to a Suffragan Bishop.

To the Rt. Hon. Lord Mowbray and Stourton I am again indebted for his careful revision of the proofs relating to the ancient parish of Allerton Mauleverer. The late John Dent Dent, Esq., M.P., of Ribston Hall, was kind enough to revise the proofs of the chapters on Hunsingore, Ribston, and Cattal, and to these chapters I have added a valuable treatise on the historic family of Goodricke, of Ribston, from the pen of Charles Alfred Goodricke, Esq. That gentleman has been painstaking in his efforts to unravel the history of his distinguished ancestors, and has accompanied his narrative with several excellent portraits reproduced direct from the originals. The history of the ancient and widespread family of Spofforth has also been dealt with at some length, through the courteous assistance of Markham Spofforth, Esq., London, and Paul Nelson Spofford, Esq., of New York, U.S.A. To Mr. George D. Wood, printer and publisher, of Knaresborough, I have to express my indebtedness for a revision of the chapters on Knaresborough.

To Alfred H. Inman, Esq., I am particularly obliged for the valuable treatise on the family of Inman, which for several centuries at one period was conspicuous in the annals of the upper Dale. Mr. Inman, assisted largely by the late Mr. Alfred Gibbons, F.S.A., a well-known and most painstaking record searcher, has spent considerable time in investigations for this story of the lives of his ancestors in Nidderdale, and he has been good enough to prepare his narrative specially for this work. It forms the Appendix, together with a folding-pedigree of Royal Descents, kindly contributed by John F. Le Page, Esq., M.D., of Cheadle, near Manchester, who has been at

great pains to verify every descent in the pedigree, from more than twenty Sovereigns of England, Scotland, and France. Rarely, I think, has a genealogy been traced with greater care and minuteness, every particular statement being accompanied by a reference to original authorities. Illustrations of some of the old Inman homesteads also appear, together with several portraits.

To Mr. Inman I am also under obligation for the constant interest he has manifested in the progress of the greater part of this work, and by information and suggestion he has enabled me to add many useful and important particulars. He has supplied me with several copies of original MSS., including an account of the Tenth collected before 15 Edward IV. (1475-6) for the Wapentake of Claro; also transcripts from the Muster Books of 26 and 30 Henry VIII. for the same division (which embraces all Nidderdale), and a *comptus* of the manor of Nidderdale (late of Byland Abbey) from Ministers' Accounts, 31-2 Henry VIII. (c. 1539-40). These valuable papers have been of good service, and I have only to regret that the limits of my book, extended as they are, would not permit of my making the fullest use of them.

To many others I am also under obligation for much useful help. To Thomas E. Yorke, Esq., D.L., J.P., of Bewerley Hall, I am obliged for an inspection of the Ramsgill Court Rolls, &c., also for his kindness in perusing the chapter on Bewerley, and for other matters appertaining to his ancient house and landownership in Nidderdale. To Captain Greenwood, J.P., of Swarcliffe Hall, I am indebted for an inspection of his old family records concerning the former ownership of Brimham, &c. These instructive papers include leases, copies of wills, conveyances, and ancient transcripts of charters and other deeds going back to the time of the Mowbrays. To Major John H. Metcalfe, J.P., of Pateley Bridge, I owe a debt

of gratitude for his unfailing kindness in assisting me to obtain accurate information, and also for his careful revision of several of the chapters on Upper Nidderdale.

From Dr. Francis Collins, of Pateley Bridge, Robert Hardisty Skaife, Esq., of Leeds, two of Yorkshire's most skilful antiquaries; the Rev. Canon H. C. Beeching, M.A., of Westminster, whose good works are well known; the Rev. Albert Goldsbrough, M.A., of Pickering, who has devoted much time to the elucidation of the Goldsbrough lineage, of Nidderdale origin; F. W. Slingsby, Esq., J.P., of Thorpe Underwood Hall, the late Charles Savile Roundell, Esq., ex-M.P., of Brighton, Richard F. Roundell, Esq., J.P., of Gledstone-in-Craven, Ald. John Baynes, J.P., of Ripon, Eustace H. Barlow, Esq., J.P., of Sigsworth, John Hutchinson, Esq., of Catterick, W. Hanley Hutchinson, Esq., of Ripon, Commander H. Swire, R.N., of Weybridge, George D. Lumb, Esq., of Leeds, George A. Blackburn, Esq., of Halifax, John F. Curwen, Esq., of Kendal, Miss Armit, of Ambleside, Miss C. Pullein, of Weybridge, and others, I have received sundry and useful information, including some valuable original pedigrees. Indeed, so fully have human history and events from early times been dealt with that there is hardly an old family or a notable or old building in the Dale that does not find mention in the work.

As regards the illustrations I have used many of those which appeared in the previous work, whilst a large number have been specially prepared for the present edition. As on former occasions, I have taken care to rescue from oblivion, wherever possible, such buildings and scenes as now no longer exist, and on the next pages will be found a full list of the illustrations, with the names of those to whom I am obliged for the originals.

HARRY SPEIGHT.