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INTRODUCTION.

THE present age is undoubtedly to a great extent one of sensational productions, and the details of local topography may probably appear uninviting even to those who feel some degree of interest in the sayings and doings of their predecessors, and are desirous of realizing the ancient condition of the district in which they reside.

The increasing intelligence of the age seems to demand the adoption of some new and striking method of presenting antiquarian truths, so that they may be interesting as well as instructive.

This has been our aim, but how far we have succeeded in doing so we must leave the reader to judge.

The present work is far from professing to give an exhaustive account of the various matters connected with the parishes in the district; but as this particular portion of the county seems to us to have been greatly neglected in the past, we venture to send it forth as a kind of pioneer, until some abler pen shall delineate more fully a district so rich in historical associations.

INTRODUCTION.

The following pages have been compiled in the hope that they may not only prove of interest to both residents and visitors in the district, but may also be the means of preserving for the use of some future historian many interesting particulars which might otherwise be lost. Shortly after the commencement of the present work, the materials so rapidly accumulated on our hands, that it became absolutely necessary either to omit altogether several of the parishes enumerated in the Prospectus, or to greatly curtail the particulars respecting them; and eventually the latter course was adopted, as being likely to cause the least amount of disappointment to our subscribers.

To Mr. William Richardson, of South Cave, the work to a great extent owes its existence. He suggested its collection and publication, and, by the sacrifice of much time and labour, has materially assisted in its compilation.

To the Clergy of the district for their uniform kindness in readily permitting access to Parish Registers, &c., we tender our sincere thanks. To T. Sturmy Cave, Esq., of Strawberry Hill, London, for much valuable help; to Mr. and Mrs. Barnard of Cave Castle, for free access to documents, and for important assistance; to the Dean and Chapter of York, with their valued Clerk, Mr. Whitehead, for permission to copy from the Torre MSS.; to Sir A. K. Rollit, M.P.; T. T. Wildridge, Esq.; W. G. B. Page, Esq. (Assistant Librarian, Hull Subscription Library); Jas. Reckitt, Esq.; F. R. Pease, Esq.; T. W. Palmer, Esq.; Mr. M. Foster, Sancton; Captain Judge; G. E. Weddall, Esq.; and others, who have rendered us valuable assistance, our best thanks are due.