

Lower Wharfedale :

The Old City of York and the Ainsty

THE REGION OF HISTORIC MEMORIES.

BEING A DESCRIPTION OF ITS PICTURESQUE FEATURES,
HISTORY, ANTIQUITIES, RARE ARCHITECTURE, LEGENDARY LORE,
AND ITS FLORA.

A COMPANION VOLUME TO "THE OLD KINGDOM OF ELMET"
AND "HIGHER WHARFELAND."

BY

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AUTHOR OF

"A THOUSAND MILES IN WHARFEDALE,"
"EDENVALE," "THE BORDER COUNTRY," "LAKELAND,"
"THE OLD KINGDOM OF ELMET,"
ETC., ETC.

TWO HUNDRED ILLUSTRATIONS,
PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THIS WORK.

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PREFACE.

LOWER WHARFELAND, YORK, AND THE AINSTY :

THE REGION OF HISTORIC MEMORIES.

THE large amount of matter and illustration contained in my *Two Thousand Miles in Wharfedale*, the success of which has been such that it is practically sold out, necessitates dividing that Work into two handy parts, of which this volume deals only with the Dale from Tadcaster to Otley Chevin, inclusive of the old city and its appanage, the Ainsty. If it exceeds in historic interest the higher portion of this finest of river-valleys (for every foot of earth has shaken to the tramp of men on the march, and is imbued with all that was great and glorious in the past), it is no less charming in its own pastoral way, for eminences are not wanting from which panoramic views of surpassing glamour and extent may be obtained over the wide plain of central York, from Humber's flood, with its spreading sails, to the abrupt hills of Hambleton, where, midway on the west slope, the "White Horse of Kilburn" shows the wold limestone through emerald turf, the whole forming a picture to the eye that keeps green the fact that Yorkshire is the most varied, as it is the largest, county of "Merrie England."

In architecture this district stands out conspicuously in its historic manors, halls, castles, and churches, culminating in the magnificence and glory of its noble minster. It has also been the nursing-place of many great men, who have left their footprints deeply engraven on the pages of history.

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In its folk-lore and quaint stories of village life, too, there is much to lend colour and interest to the wayfaring pilgrim.

To conclude—In beauty of river scenery, lowland Wharfe has few rivals.

The author here tenders his thanks to all those who have rendered him assistance in making the picture of Wharfeldand more complete.

EDMUND BOGG.

LEEDS,

October, 1904.