



AN

HISTORY

OF

RICHMOND SHIRE,

IN THE NORTH RIDING OF THE

COUNTY OF YORK;

TOGETHER WITH

THOSE PARTS OF THE EVERWICSCHIRE OF DOMESDAY WHICH FORM

THE WAPENTAKES OF LONSDALE, EWECROSS, AND
AMUNDERNESS,

IN THE

COUNTIES OF YORK, LANCASTER, AND WESTMORELAND.

BY THOMAS DUNHAM WHITAKER, LL. D. F. S. A.

VICAR OF WHALLEY AND OF BLACKBURN, IN LANCASHIRE.

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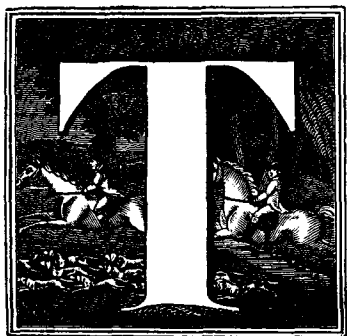
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WAPENTAKE OF HANG EAST.



THIS district contains the lower and more fertile division of the ancient wapentake of Hang. It is bounded on the east and north-east from a point opposite to St. Agatha's Abbey, near Richmond, by the course of the Swale to its junction with Leeming Beck; then pursues the course of Leeming to its tributary brook, the Roskell, nearly to Snape, which, together with Well, by pursuing an imaginary line to the south-west, it includes; then crosses the Ure in order to comprehend the proper parish of Masham, or that which is not within the West Riding of the county and the wapentake of Claro. Near Leighton it turns sharp to the north-east, crosses the Ure once more between Kilgram Bridge and Jervaulx Abbey, and pursues an imaginary line to the east of Thornton Steward, and to the west of Patrick Brompton and Hornby, after which it intersects the parish of Catteric so as to exclude Hipswell and Hudswell, and returns to the Swale at the junction with that river of a nameless brook from Whitcliffe opposite to St. Agatha's Abbey.

This hundred is a kind of middle term between the wild mountainous district which was severed from it, and the uniformly low and fertile plain of Hallikeld.

From Snape by Watlass, Burrel, Rookwith, and Collinge, is a ridge of high ground, extremely airy and pleasant, marked on the map by the sources of many brooks, yet not high enough to preclude or discourage the growth of native oak. Hornby Castle itself stands upon one of the last elevations connected with this line of hills. The rest of this district, lying on the line of the brooks from this ridge to the Swale, has no appearance of the mountain character, though sometimes diversified by moderate swells, and sometimes depressed into sheltered alluvial bottoms.

The principal antiquities of the wapentake of Hang East are contained in the Roman Cataractonium, together with Snape Castle; and the principal modern seats are Hornby Castle, Brough Hall, Kirkby Fleetham, and Swinton.

Its market towns (the two great marts of south Richmondshire) Bedal and Masham.

It is remarkable that in so fertile a district no monastic foundation ever took place. The hospital of Well is no exception.

It consists of the parishes of Catteric, Hornby, Patrick Brompton, Kirkby Fleetham, Scruton, Bedal, Thornton Watlas, Well, and Masham.

Though intersected by the great Roman road, which has ever since been the line of march for armies from York to the border of the Roman province, and in later times to the limit of Northumbria and of England, this division has never been the scene of any considerable engagement; but it displays in several instances what its southern neighbour, Hallikeld, does not,—an apprehension entertained of incursions from the Scots, by the precautions used in the construction of the steeples.

B E D A L E.

In Bedale ad g'ld' vi car' & iiii caruc' poss' e'e'. Ibi h'b Tor' i man. N'c h't Bodin ibi ii car' & xvii uill's & v bord' cu' v car'. Eclia & Mold' v sol' p'ti acr' vi. Tot' i leug' l'g & dim' lat'. T. R. E. ual' xx sol' m° xxx sol'.

In Eschescol est soca p'tinens ad Massan ad g'ld x car' & vii caruc' poss' e'e'. Ibi h't Comes A v uill's & i bords cu' iii car'. Silua minuta. Tot' i leug' l'g & iii q' ¼ lat.

In Borel e' soça p'tinens ad Witone ad g'ld v car' & iii caruc' poss' e'e'. Ibi h't Comes ii uill' h'entes v boues. Tot' dim' leug' l'g & iii q' ¼ lat'.

In Torneton ad g'ld iiii car. & iii caruc' poss' e'e'. Hanc t'ram h'b' Eduuin. N'c h't Robertus & wast' est.

In Crachele ad g'ld' xii car' & vii caruc' poss' e'e'. Ex his i car' & socam in Massan. Ibi Ghille & Vlehil h'br' ii man. N'c h'ent ii milites de Comite & ibi s't ii car' in d'nio viii uill' & vi bord' cu' v car' & i mold' iiii sol'. Prati acr' viii. Silua past' ii q' ¼ l'g & t'u'd' lat'. Tot' man. i leug' l'g & i lat'. T. R. E. ual' xl sol' m° xxxviii sol'.

In Fredebi ad g'ld' v car. & iiii caruc' poss' e'e'. Ibi h'b Audiud man'. N'c h't A Comes ibi vii uill' & iii bord' cu' iiii car'. Tot. dim' leug' l'g & dim' lat'. T. R. E. ual' x sol' m° xiii sol'.



ACCORDING to Kirkby's Inquest, 15 Edw. I.

In Bedale & Fretheby.

Sunt 7 carucatæ terræ quarum 2 car. & dim. & 12 bovatae tenentur de Briano filio Alani, & idem Brianus tenet residuum de Johanne Comite Richmondiaë, & Comes de Rege.

In Ayscough & Cowling.

Sunt in eisdem villis 7 carucatæ, unde 12 &c. de quibus magister militiæ templi in Anglia tenet i bov. terræ in puram eleemosynam de Hugone filio Henrici, & 3 carucæ tenentur de eodem Hugone per servitium milit. & idem Hugo tenet de Comite, & Comes de Rege.

Among these inferior feudatories, whose names are not mentioned, must have been the family who were denominated from the place, whose pedigree is here given from Hopkinson's MSS.

Richard Ascoughe was possessed of the manor of Dalborne-Norris, Newsam, Burstall, Thornton, Warofte, Worlaby, Newby, and other landes to him and his heires for ever. He married the daughter of Thomas Broughe, of Hackford, and had issue Richard.

Richard Ascoughe, Esq. married the daughter of the Lord Fitzhughe, and had issue William, Bishop of Salisburie, Richard, and Peter, a priest.

Richard Ascoughe, Esq. married the daughter of S^c John Basern, of Horton, Knt. and had issue John.

John Ascoughe, Esq. married the daughter of S^c John Ormclyffe, Knt. and had issue S^c William Ascough, judge, Robert, a doctor of the civile lawe, and Symon.

S^c Will^m. Ascoughe, Knt. one of the justices of the King's Bench, married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heire of —, and had issue John, S^c James, Knight of the Rhodes, Edward, a priest, Ann, married to Thomas Brissam, Esq. and Katherine to Thomas Morton.

John Ascoughe, Esq. married to his first wife Margaret, daughter and sole heire of John Talboyes, in whose right he was Lord of Stallingburghe, and had issue S^c William, Edward, and Elizabeth, who was married to Thomas Booth. To his second wife he married Ellinor, daughter and heire of S^c Richard Tunstall, Knt. and had issue S^c Christofer Ascoughe, of Ashbye, who married Elizabeth, daughter of S^c John Allan, of London.

S^c William Ascoughe, Knt. married to his first wife Mary, the daughter of S^c Robert Hilyard, Knt. and had issue S^c William; and to his second wife Alice Copindale, by whom he had issue Robert, who married the daughter of William S^t Kearne.

S^c William Ascoughe, Knt. married the daughter of Thomas Wrothesley, of Staffordshire, Esq. and had issue S^c Francis, Edward, and Jane. Edward married the daughter of — Gibson, Jane married to George S^t Paule, Esq. and after to — Isney, of Norton-Isney, Esq.

S^c Francis Ascoughe, Knt. married to his first wife Elizabeth, daughter and sole heire of William Hansard, Esq. and had issue William, Edward, Francis, Faith, married to Edward Madison, of Fonabye, Esq. Katherine married to Francis Mussendine, Esq. Ann married to Francis Manby, of Elsham, Esq. Judith married to Thomas Harclyffe, Esq. Elizabeth to Vincent Grantham, Esq.; and to his second wife the daughter of Robert Dighton, Esq. by whom he had noe issue.

Will^m Ascoughe, Esq. married the Ladye Ann, daughter of Edward Clinton, Earle of Lincolne, had issue Edward.

Edward Ascoughe, Esq. married Easter, daughter of Thomas Grantham, Esq. and hath issue William, Francis, Thomas, Edward, Vincent, Elizabeth, Margaret, Jane, Easter, Faith, Lucie, and Ann. Elizabeth was first married to George Savile, of Wakefield, Esq. after to S^c George Savile, of Thornhill, Knt. and Bart. Margaret to John Hatcher, Esq. Jane to Mr. Metcalfe, Hester to Henry Savile, of Wathe, Faith to Mr. Willyamson, Lucye to John Wellcomen, Ann dyed yonge.

Borell & Thornton Collynge.

Sunt ibidem 10 carucatæ terræ unde 12 &c. de quibus ecclesia de Bedale dotata est de 2 bov. terræ, & abbas de S^{ca}. Agatha tenet 1 bov. terræ similiter in puram eleemosynam & residuum tenetur de feodo diversorum quæ tenentur de feodo Briani filii Alani, & idem Brianus de Maria de Nevile, & eadem Maria de Roberto de Mousters, & idem Robertus de Comite, & Comes de Rege.

Parva Crakehall.

Sunt ibidem 5 caruc. terræ unde 12 &c. quæ tenentur de feodo diversorum, qui tenent de Joh. de Britannia Comite Richmondiaë, & idem de Rege.

Magna Crakehall & Rande.

Sunt ibidem 4 caruc. unde 12 &c. de quibus Robertus de Rande tenet dim. car. &

Gilbertus filius Hawisiæ aliam dim. caruc. de Roberto de Tatersale, & idem Robertus tenet residuum de Comite Richmondiæ, & Comes de Rege.

Such are the two most ancient and authentic accounts of property and population in this parish: with respect to the former of which it must be observed, that as there was in the Conqueror's reign a church at Bedale, so the population far exceeded that of an ordinary village. Seventeen villeins and five bordani, with their necessary train of cottagers and workmen, would constitute in those days of slender population a town of no inconsiderable account. Whether Bedale was one of the original Saxon parishes, or whether it was detached from Catteric, and how long before the Conquest, or whether any of the smaller and later parishes adjoining were separated from *it*, are questions which excite curiosity never to be gratified at this distance of time.

The origin and etymology of the word Bedale are unknown; but if in investigating the probabilities which bear upon it we permit ourselves to be directed by analogy, the name of the town must originally have been Kirkby Bedale—the valley in which it stands, Bedale, and the name of the brook which waters both, the *Bethe*. This last name, however, is now lost, and the stream has borrowed in return from the valley or the town the name of Bedale Beck. It is a pleasing and clear little brook, intersecting the wapentake of Hang East, and great part of Hang West, which springing near Bel-lerby, winds its tranquil course along woods and meadows, as if it courted solitude and shade. But to return.

In support of the analogy which has already been hinted at, it may be observed, that the first and principal towns where churches were built in the northern valleys were first denominated generally Kirkby, and next specifically from the name of the valley in which they stood, as the valley itself was named from the river by which it was watered.

And with respect to the contrary process: Kirkby, it must be observed, is in popular use almost as entirely dis severed from the town of Kendale as from that of Bedale, and no elision can be more natural than that of Bedale for Bethedale. *Bethe* is Saxon for bath, and a more pleasing and well-adapted stream for this purpose can scarcely be imagined. There is a stream of the same name and much of the same character in Westmoreland.

Bedale, whatever may be the derivation of the name, had in the Saxon times been the property of Tor, a mesne lord, who held great possessions in Richmondshire under Earl Edwin. At the time of Domesday it had been transferred to Bodin, one of the first and most highly rewarded grantees under the Norman earls, and from Bodin it certainly passed, though we do not know precisely by what steps, to Scolland, dapifer or sewer to Earl Alan the third, whose name survives in the apartment entrusted to his care—the great hall of Richmond Castle, and from him to Brian Fitzalan, a very distinguished baron, who long flourished in the reigns of Henry III. and his son.

On the subject of this family Dugdale is inaccurate, and I must once more have recourse to the best antiquary of Richmondshire.

“ Brianus filius Alani genus suum nobilissimum duxit a Briano filio natu secundo Alani tertii Britannia Ducis & Comitis Richmondiæ.

“ Patrem habuit Alanum Briani istius filium, matrem Agnetem de Bedale, uti vocatur in antiqua carta olim in turri Beatae Mariæ Ebor. hodie inter collectiones Dodsworthianas in Musæo Harleyano depositas.

“ Alano tertio Richmondiæ Comite fuit quidam Scollandus dapifer idemque Dominus