

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE OF JOHN HODGSON HINDE, ESQ.

To be remembered when we are gone is a desire implanted in the human bosom, which has been indicated through all ages in almost every possible way. Eastward from Rome, the remains of tombs on each side of the Appian Way, at no great distance from each other, may be traced to a distance of above ten miles from the Eternal City, and they who preferred the sides of that road, as their last resting place, did so that their names might be read on stone by all who went to, or returned from, Greece, Palestine, and the other regions of the East. This 'longing after immortality,' which in the case of John Milton, was 'death to hide,' is an impulse certainly of the noblest kind when directed to the welfare of the human race. Yet some who have done good service either to science or literature, often pass away without a fair tribute of respect being awarded them. Such neglect is in no way creditable where benefit has been received, hence we would speak of one recently departed, who has thrown new and important light on several subjects, elucidating the history both of Newcastle and the county of Northumberland.

The late John Hodgson Hinde was of an ancient family; for a sketch of his pedigree now before us, by his own hand, dates as far back as 1474, in which year William Hodgson was Sheriff of Newcastle. Another ancestor, Richard Hodgson, was Sheriff in 1549, and Mayor of the same town in 1556, 1566, and 1580, dying in 1585. Mr. Hodgson's great-grandfather bought the manor of Elswick, and died 4th November, 1749. His father, who married, in 1803, Sarah, daughter of Richard Huntley, Esq., of Fryerside, in the county of Durham,¹ was born in 1774, and died 12th July, 1820. John Hodgson, the subject of our memoir, being the eldest son, was born on the 30th July, 1806. From about the eighth year of his age he was placed under the tutelage of the late Rev. James Birkett, of Ovingham, after which he

¹ A beautifully situated property on the banks of the Derwent, which has been nearly three centuries in the family, and is inherited by Mr. Richard Hodgson, of Carham, as heir-at-law to his brother; consequently he has assumed the name of Huntley.

was confided to the care of Mr. Carr, head-master of the school at Durham, and under these able teachers he acquired a perfect knowledge of the Latin language, which was of essential use to him when his attention was directed to the early documents of Border History. Afterwards he studied for a time under the Rev. Henry Blunt, of Clare, Suffolk, a man who distinguished himself in clerical literature, and subsequently he kept several terms at Trinity College, Cambridge. On arriving at manhood, being by patrimony a freeman of Newcastle, he took an active part in public business, and qualified as a magistrate for the county, being, with the exception of Mr. Cresswell, of Cresswell, as to date, the oldest member in point of qualification on the bench. About this early period he was also appointed to another office, that of a Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Northumberland.

The arduous duties of Mr. Hodgson's political career commenced in 1830, on the death of King George the Fourth, when he was requested to allow himself to be put in nomination as a representative for Newcastle. Considering the unaffected modesty of his nature, it is somewhat singular he assented to this; yet he did so, the result being that, with Sir M. W. Ridley, he was triumphantly returned, and a medal was struck, bearing an excellent likeness of the young member, in commemoration of the event. In the following year, also, Sir M. W. Ridley and he were returned without opposition. On the Reform Bill becoming law in 1832, though opposed by Charles Attwood (for Sir M. W. Ridley was secure), Mr. Hodgson was again elected by a majority over his opponent of nearly six hundred votes. An important event in his life took place on the 31st January, 1833, when he led to the altar Isabella, eldest daughter and co-heiress of the late Anthony Compton, Esq., of Carham Hall, on the northern border of Northumberland. On the occasion of his marriage, a sumptuous dinner was served up to the inmates of the several freemen's hospitals in Newcastle.

When the dismissal of the Melbourne Cabinet occurred in 1834, the event was succeeded by another election in Newcastle, and after a severe struggle Mr. William Ord occupied the head of the poll, Sir M. W. Ridley outnumbering Mr. Hodgson by about two hundred and fifty votes, while Aytoun, the fourth candidate, was much the lowest of all. On Mr. Hodgson's defeat the public mind was influenced greatly in his favour, and a large number of his political friends uniting together, held a meeting in the Assembly Rooms on the 12th June, 1835, when they presented him with two beautiful and massive pieces of silver plate in the shape of soup tureens, with stands, &c., all complete, in recognition of the able and independent way in which he had represented Newcastle during the three successive parliaments.

On the decease of Sir M. W. Ridley in July, 1836, Mr. Hodgson was again brought forward to contest the constituency. He was opposed by Captain Blackett, but on the 25th of the same month, after a severe contest, he was returned by a majority of forty-eight votes. Also, in the course of the following month, in compliance with the will of Miss Elizabeth Archer Hind, of Stelling Hall and Ovington Lodge, Northumberland, he assumed the additional name of Hind by royal authority.² At the general election during August, 1837, another contest ensued, the candidates being Mr. William Ord, Mr. Hodgson Hinde, Mr. C. J. Bigge, Mr. J. B. Coulson, and Mr. A. H. Beaumont, when, at the close of the poll, Mr. Ord and Mr. Hinde were returned as members for Newcastle. At the general election in 1841 Mr. Ord and Mr. Hinde met with no opposition, and they continued to represent that northern town till 1847, when the latter declined to come forward again, and consequently his political connection with Newcastle was on that occasion brought to a close. To his honour be it said, that during the seven-teen years Mr. Hodgson Hinde represented the metropolis of the North, he was ever to be found in his place when matters of any importance came before the House, and gained respect from all classes by attention to his duties, and his readiness, by upright means, to promote the trade of the port and the interests of the borough. He spoke frequently both in the House and in Committee, and his remarks and suggestions were always listened to with attention. Having gained an early reputation for honesty of purpose and sound judgment, these he brought to bear on every useful measure which came before parliament. According to a sentence respecting him, a few weeks ago, in a public notice of his decease, 'He always preferred not to appear in the foreground, but would lend his able and cheerful assistance to the uttermost; and his public services—his large attainments and singular ability—with his kind and obliging disposition, won for him the respect and esteem of all.'

In placing before the reader an outline of Mr. Hodgson Hinde's labours, we ought to state that whilst residing in London on parliamentary business, amidst the intervals of leisure he enjoyed, he must have devoted many hours towards investigating the sources whence light could be thrown on the early history of the North of England. In Part III. of Vol. III. of the Rev. John Hodgson's *History of Northumberland*, which was published in 1835, and contained the 'Pipe Rolls' of the county from 1130 to 1272, &c., the author in his preface thankfully acknowledges his obligations to 'John Hodgson, Esq., M.P., for

² These estates were inherited, under entail, by Mr. Thomas Hodgson, Mr. Hinde's second brother, who thereupon assumed the name of Archer Hind.

the unremitting and intelligent zeal with which, at his own expense, he had procured materials for that work.' This was shewn more fully about the period of Mr. Hodgson Hinde's retirement from Parliament, for in 1847, a royal octavo volume of about 300 pages was printed and published under the auspices of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. It contained the 'Pipe Rolls,' or Sheriffs' Annual Accounts for Cumberland, Westmorland, and Durham, during the reigns of Henry II., Richard I., and John. The introduction of the book occupies above 70 pages, elucidating those revenues of the crown in such a minute way that—the historian of Northumberland having died in 1845—no living man in the North at the time could have written it and compiled the contents, save Mr. John Hodgson Hinde. The volume was printed in Newcastle, and is now scarce, but like other works of the kind sent forth by the Rev. John Hodgson, the valuable and important matter it contains is too difficult in the original form to be mastered by the common reader, and hence it is not in great request. This, however, cannot lessen the worth of these records in illustrating a dark and early period of our country's history, and as no name either on the title or at the preface indicated who the investigator might be, we have here another proof of the extreme reserve and gentlemanly feeling of Mr. Hodgson Hinde that cannot be too highly appreciated.

Mention of this work brings to our recollection another of less size, but consisting of 106 pages, dated 1852, and entitled 'The Fountains of British History explored.' The publishers are J. B. and J. G. Nichols, London. No name reveals the compiler, but from a general knowledge of those who were likely to draw up such a compendium, we believe the evidence points conclusively to him of whose labours we are endeavouring to draw a faint outline. The modesty of its title and preface, and the profound research apparent in its pages, evince the same hand to which we are indebted for the volume last mentioned.

As we shall relate at greater length Mr. Hodgson Hinde's contributions to historical literature, we now turn to another sphere in which he exerted himself for the benefit of the public. Soon after he retired from Parliament, he filled the office of High Sheriff for the county of Northumberland. Yet it was not in official life alone that he won his laurels honourably, for whatever tended to promote the welfare of the country was sure on every occasion to command his ready influence and support.

Considering the increase of population all round the district, he was not slow in perceiving the danger and difficulty of crossing the Tyne above Newcastle, and accordingly he united cordially with the proper authorities in having a road opened up westward, and in erecting the

suspension bridge at Scotswood. It was opened 12th April, 1831, on which occasion, in the name of the committee, he presented John Green, the architect, with an elegant silver claret jug. Again, when George Stephenson attracted the notice of the observing world by his locomotive engines, and by advocating the benefits which would result to society by the extension of railways, Mr. Hodgson Hinde was among the first to perceive and publicly to acknowledge the sound and practical ideas of the Killingworth engine-man. So also, from the active part he took in the formation of the Newcastle and North Shields Railway, he was appointed vice-chairman of the Company—Mr. M. Bell being chairman, who at the time was also member for South Northumberland. Hence Mr. Hodgson Hinde, on the 13th January, 1835, laid the foundation stones of the Ouseburn and Willington Bridges, these being at that time the largest railway viaducts in the North, and the line was formally opened on the 18th June, 1839. Even towards the close of his life, when the Redheugh Bridge was thought to be necessary for the convenience of those who were located on the west side of Newcastle and also of Gateshead, Mr. Hodgson Hinde took an active part in promoting the measure, and was elected chairman of the company of proprietors.

Before we enter on the peculiar line of historical research in which Mr. Hodgson Hinde especially excelled, we may remark that there had been labourers in the field before him of no mean capacity, and it is probable that his spirit caught inspiration from the brilliancy of their flame. In the early part of last century, John Horsley, M.A., a Presbyterian clergyman of Morpeth, gleaned all the information that was then known of the memorials left by the Romans, during the occupation of Britain by that wonderful people, and died about the 46th year of his age, worn down, it may be, by the labour he had undergone in preparing his great work, *BRITANNIA ROMANA*, which was published in 1732, shortly after his decease. Then, during the period of Mr. Hodgson Hinde's early manhood, and down nearly to the close of his parliamentary career, another worker, the Rev. John Hodgson, was toiling on at the *History of Northumberland*, and by his intense application in bringing out that work, he shortened his days, leaving behind him, however, a book, imperfect though it be, that will continue to be prized through all time. That able county historian, while he spent a considerable portion of his studious life at Whelpington, and the later part at Hartburn, we say it without fear of contradiction, was one of the most remarkable men in the North of England. Mr. Hodgson Hinde knew this, and it is likely a kindred sympathy induced him to continue his researches in the same direction. Herein he was very

successful. From 1844 to 1855, while the papers and communications of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries of which he was vice-president, were in the course of printing, to complete the quarto series of *Archæologia Æliana*, Mr. Hodgson Hinde either read or sent in five contributions, all of considerable interest. These consisted of—‘The Site of Bremetenracum in the Notitia and Itinerary,’ ‘Viscountal Rents of Northumberland,’ ‘Rents payable towards the Old Castle,’ ‘Investigations on the Sites of Horsley’s List of Stations on the line of the Roman Wall and other places in the Notitia and Itinerary,’ and lastly ‘On the Belgic Tribes in Britain.’

A new series of the *Archæologia Æliana* was commenced in 1857 of an octavo size, and in the six volumes now issued, we find not less than fourteen papers, partly differing from those in the preceding series, but all tending to illustrate the history either of Newcastle or Northumberland. Besides those that treat exclusively of Antiquity, in 1859 he threw the result of his knowledge into a more popular shape by his excellent paper ‘On the Original Site and Progressive Extension of Newcastle, with an estimate of its Population at various periods.’ Another followed of almost equal merit, ‘On the Early Municipal History of Newcastle,’ and, subsequently, that ‘On the Old North Road,’ showed how well the writer was acquainted with all minute details on matters of that description. During 1860 he supplied another exhaustive paper ‘On Public Amusements in Newcastle,’ wherein, for the last two centuries, Races, Theatrical Performances, Exhibitions, Assemblies, Masquerades, Concerts, Inns, Taverns, and Coffee Houses, are all treated of with graphic fidelity. In 1865 we have his ‘Notes on the Rev. John Horsley,’ containing, among other remarks, every particular entry that could be gleaned from the Corporation books of Newcastle which throws light on the family and relatives of that memorable man. Mr. Hinde’s latest contribution to the last volume treats ‘On Early Printing in Newcastle,’ embracing, like the others, an amount of information which must have cost the compiler great pains to acquire. Indeed, these contributions to local history merit a much wider circulation over the country than the Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries are calculated to diffuse.

We ought also to observe that apart from Mr. Hodgson Hinde’s labours on subjects of that kind, he was ever ready and most willing to communicate what he knew to others who were engaged in similar pursuits. Among the volumes issued by the Surtees Society, the *Boldon Buke* appeared in 1852, edited by the Rev. William Greenwell, of Durham, and that gentleman observes in the preface, he is indebted to ‘John Hodgson Hinde, Esq., for very important information on

drengage and cornage, indeed everything that is valuable on these articles in the glossary is due to him.' This is not a solitary instance of his zeal, especially in that line. The knowledge he possessed of the obscure customs which prevailed in the early history of our country, he was willing at all times, and on every occasion, to communicate, and it was done with the urbanity and grace becoming the true gentleman.

At such of the several Annual Meetings of the 'Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland' as were held in the North, Mr. Hinde contributed one or more papers illustrative of northern history. During that which assembled at Newcastle in August, 1852, he read one 'On the State of Newcastle and Gateshead during the Saxon Period,' and another 'On the Trade of Newcastle previous to the Reign of Henry III.' Both communications fortunately are preserved in the first volume of the 'Memoirs illustrative of the History and Antiquities of Northumberland,' which were produced at the Meeting of that year, and the Editor of the second volume, the Rev. Charles H. Hartshorne, in his preface acknowledges the several suggestions he received from his friend, John Hodgson Hinde, Esq., and observes he is indebted to him exclusively for the chapter on the Saxon Earls of Northumberland. Again, when the Institute met at Edinburgh in July, 1856, Mr. Hinde supplied a dissertation 'On the Condition of Lothian previous to its Annexation to Scotland.' We know this compilation would prove the well-grounded knowledge he possessed of ancient Northumberland, a district which extended from the Humber and Mersey on the south to the Forth and Clyde on the north. Also, during the latter end of July and beginning of August, 1859, when the yearly meeting of the Institute was held at Carlisle, Mr. Hinde performed a prominent part, occupying the chair on several occasions, and, moreover, he read an excellent paper 'On the Early History of Cumberland,' which fortunately appeared at p. 217, Vol. XVI. of the *Archæological Journal*, published in 1859. But this recalls to us another most important work which he accomplished, and with which his fame hereafter is likely to be more permanently associated.

In consequence of the lamented decease, in 1845, of the Rev. John Hodgson, his *History of Northumberland*, as has been stated, was left incomplete. He proposed to divide his work into three parts:—

- I. The General History of the County from the earliest periods.
- II. The Topography and Local Antiquities arranged in parishes.
- III. A Collection of Records and Illustrative Documents.

On the second and third Parts the historian had laboured with great diligence, but on the first Part, unfortunately, no progress had been

made: The Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle, regarding the matter with much solicitude, requested Mr. Hodgson Hinde to supply the deficiency, which he undertook, and the result was, that in 1858 a quarto volume of 400 pages came from his pen, comprising the *General History of the County*, from the earliest period down to the accession of the House of Hanover. This publication must have cost Mr. Hinde immense labour in his search among ancient authorities, yet he seems to have examined them with the utmost care, separating from chaff the pure grain for the benefit of every English reader. The volume is indeed a memorial of Mr. Hinde's learning, industry, and perseverance, and renders more perfect the great work with which it is connected. Our space forbids us entering fully into its merits, but the following extract from a review of it which appeared soon after publication tells much in its favour:—

‘Looking back to the fifth, sixth, and seventh chapters, embracing the Norman possession of England, we think Mr. Hinde has here put forth his greatest strength; hence we would recommend our readers not to pass them over slightly, but bestow upon them the earnest consideration they deserve. There is here matter for instruction both to the solitary student and the practical business-man; and had nothing else proceeded from Mr. Hinde's pen, this portion of his work ought to procure him a niche in the temple of our historians. The information these chapters convey would seem to have been stored up gradually for a course of years, from the author's way of supplying in the first place a forcibly graphic sketch of Norman history, and then exhibiting in detail all the tenures, &c., whereon the government of that martial people was founded. We believe the economy and polity of the Norman kings have never before been so clearly and definitely marked out; and in future, should any writer undertake to treat that dynasty at length, let him look to this section drawn up by Mr. Hinde as a text-book wherein he will find much to facilitate his labour.’

Referring to the foregoing work, at page 154, and extending to page 157, we have a scrutinizing note on Symeon of Durham, in which the merits of that ancient chronicler are clearly pointed out, and a suggestion made that an improved edition of all he had written should be published. In 1864, it was ordered by the Council of the Surtees Society that a volume of Symeon's works should be edited by Mr. Hodgson Hinde, and in 1868 the book was issued to the members. The preface consists of nearly 80 pages, and proves how successfully Mr. Hinde had investigated every authority bearing on Northern History towards the close of the eleventh century. The Latin text alone occupies above 260 pages, and though Symeon's History of the Church of Durham is intended for a second volume, no part of it being in the first, Mr. Hinde

must have bestowed upon the present portion very great attention and labour. He observes he was induced to incur the responsibility of being editor only by the kind offer of the Rev. James Raine, Canon of York, to relieve him from the task of collating MSS. and correcting the press, but much depended on himself, and he performed his part well. Considerable progress in the composition of a critical preface to the second volume was made by him, and this will appear when it is issued by the Society.

Almost the last time we remember seeing Mr. Hodgson Hinde in a public capacity was when the Annual Meeting of the British Archæological Association was held in Durham, in August, 1865. On Wednesday the 23rd, he read a paper on 'The Progress of the Roman Arms in Britain,' and on Friday the 25th, he entertained the Members and Associates thereof, with many other friends, amounting to nearly two hundred, at dinner in the Assembly Rooms, Newcastle. The host presided of course, and by his cordial deportment diffused delight and enjoyment over the whole company. This was another proof of the interest he took in promoting the study of Northern Archæology, and giving that department of investigation all the aid he could bring to bear upon the subject.

We ought here to remark that about this time Dr. Bruce, known over the world for his exhaustive work on the *Roman Wall*, compiled a Hand-Book to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and in preparing it, he says, 'he is indebted to the accurate pen of John Hodgson Hinde, Esq., for the sections on the early history of the town and its monastic institutions.' He had previously written, and provisionally printed the opening portion of a History of Newcastle, for which material had been compiled by Mr. G. B. Richardson, and which was intended to be issued under the editorship of Mr. Thomas Gray. Thus we repeatedly perceive how his local information was held in request, and how freely he bestowed it, whenever the requirement came from an approved quarter.

Allusion has already been made to the Rev. John Horsley, and it may not be uninteresting here to state how Mr. Hodgson Hinde exerted himself to obtain a perusal of the manuscripts of that great man, which related to the History of Northumberland. They had been, about 1830, entrusted to the Rev. John Hodgson who printed extracts from them in his small volume of 'Memoirs,' 1831, but all further trace of them was unsuccessful. At last, by applying to David Laing, Esq., of the Signet Library, Edinburgh; well known over Britain by his connexion with the Bannatyne and Maitland Clubs, and his valuable editions of our old Scottish Poets, they were discovered, and, through him, presented, with several other papers and tracts of Horsley, by the owner;

Mr. Cay, in the most free and liberal spirit to the Society of Antiquaries, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Here Mr. Hodgson Hinde's own words on the gift are so appropriate that we gladly place them before the reader. He observes that until the historian of Northumberland had seen them, they had remained concealed for a complete century from the time of the author's death, and

'After a second interval of forty years, making in all 140, these materials had at length found a permanent resting place, combining security with facility of access. Still it appeared to me that something more was requisite, in order to make them to the fullest extent available for the illustration of the History of the County of Northumberland, and I resolved to accomplish this by committing them to the press, so that they may be read at leisure by hundreds who would have been deterred from their perusal, under the difficulties of a crabbed hand-writing, and ink in many instances nearly obliterated, and the text complicated by perpetual erasures and interlineations.'

Although suffering much from declining health, Mr. Hodgson Hinde performed in this instance what he intended to do, and added to the matter on Northumberland supplied by Horsley, a survey of a portion of the same county by George Mark in 1734. The whole was completed at his own expense, and copies were presented to the public Libraries of Newcastle and Gateshead, and to each member of the Society of Antiquaries of the former place. He entitled it "*Inedited Contributions to the History of Northumberland, Part First.*" Of the matter intended by Mr. Hinde to form the concluding portion of the volume it seems necessary to offer some explanation.

The late Mr. Ralph Spearman, of Eachwick Hall, who died in 1823, aged 74, 'was one of the most distinguished local antiquaries in the North of England.' Mr. Surtees, the historian of Durham, observed 'he was almost the sole depository of a vast mass of oral and popular tradition.' In his possession was a copy of Hutchinson's *View of Northumberland*, uncut, the margins of the pages of which he had filled with notes of valuable information. Mr. Hodgson Hinde had obtained the loan of this book from the owner, and he intended to print these marginal notes on the county, with a preface and index to form Part Second of these important collections. He has, however been called away ere he could himself accomplish the design, and we lament it the more for this reason, that had he been spared, he might have added from his vast store of knowledge such additional notes as would have given the volume a value that no other individual can supply.

For a considerable period, notwithstanding the force and vigour of his mind, which was unimpaired to the last, Mr. Hodgson Hinde had been

in a declining state of health, and at last on the evening of Thursday the 25th November, 1869, he was called to his rest. He leaves no family save his widow, a respected and accomplished lady. His remains, accompanied by his relatives and friends, were interred in the vault at St. Peter's, Bywell, on the 30th November.

At the following monthly meeting of the members of the Society of Antiquaries, Newcastle, a motion was unanimously carried, that they 'receive with deep sorrow the announcement of the death of their late able and valued vice-president, Mr. J. Hodgson Hinde, of whose important contributions to the Society, and eminent services to historical literature they retain a grateful remembrance, and they respectfully offer to Mrs. Hodgson Hinde a sincere expression of their sympathy and condolence on that melancholy event.'

We cannot close this notice of one of our most eminent northern worthies, without expressing a wish that the several occasional contributions of Mr. Hinde, whether in print or manuscript, were gathered together, and published in one or two volumes. These papers well deserve preservation, and the journals or transactions in which they have hitherto appeared, being limited to a small circle of readers, were they appearing in a popular form, so that they might be read by all, they would tend greatly to advance and give a degree of perpetuity to his fame. He left no man behind him who knew more of northern history and antiquity, and the collection, if it did not outlive 'marble and the gilded monuments of princes,' would at least show that he merits a prominent place among those who have investigated and brought to public notice much of the early history of Newcastle and Northumberland. Since his decease, the MSS. he left have been generously given by his representatives to the Society of Antiquaries, Newcastle. They are arranged, and such as are unpublished will be printed.

Mr. John Hodgson Hinde, from his youth upwards was a healthy-looking, handsome man. Being of middle height, he had a florid complexion, and his hair, inclining to dark, kept its hue well, till declining health and literary work tinged it slightly with gray. Unassuming by nature, he was, like all truly great men, entirely free of ostentation either in public or private life, while his manner and deportment always indicated the gentleman. Still, his bearing was not altogether that of the country squire. His superfine black dress and white linen always told more of the student than of one who enjoyed rustic life. Indeed, his appearance always reminded the writer of the venerable historian of Northumberland, the Rev. John Hodgson. The continued process of mental labour had imparted to the features of the latter something even of a more studious expression than could be traced in those of his

younger friend, yet it is singular how in both identity of name was accompanied to a certain extent by a coincidence of taste and pursuits. The fame of the one by what he performed in gathering together a harvest of north country history is firmly established; the other, by adding to the amount of knowledge previously reaped, has left also a name that will continue to be remembered throughout our district long after the present generation shall have passed away.

ROBERT WHITE.

THE SCREEN AND CHANCEL ARRANGEMENTS OF DARLINGTON CHURCH.

THE church at Darlington was built in that transitional period which, when the pointed arch became thoroughly established, produced a peculiarly vigorous phase of the Early English style in the North of England. In the counties of Northumberland and Durham the finest examples occur at Hexham, Brinkburn, Tynemouth, Hartlepool, and Darlington.

The discovery of the late Saxon sculptured stones proves that a church must have existed at Darlington about the time that Styr son of Ulphus gave the town to the church of Durham. It was one of the places selected for the reception of the ejected canons of Durham when the constitution of the cathedral was changed in the time of the Conqueror. These, it will be remembered, were hereditary priests, and the state of things in their various parishes must have strongly resembled the livings of modern times where a younger son of the patron from time to time succeeds to the benefice. In the parishes of ancient days, however, the eldest son would inherit. At what precise time the marriage of priests ceased in the North of England it is difficult to say. The question has peculiar interest with reference to the relations of bishop Pudsey with Adelidis de Percy, whose son Henry de Pudsey exchanged Perci in Normandy for some estates in Durham. Some curious evidence on the subject, of a much later date than one would have expected to find it, appears in canon Raine's book on the register of archbishop Walter Gray.

The rights of the ejected seculars, whatever they were, at Darlington, seem to have died out before the time of bishop Pudsey, who decreed that the order which was formerly at Durham should be restored in the church which, notwithstanding all his mischances and troubles, he was