

PLACE-NAMES OF THE COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND,
WITH REFERENCE TO THE ANCESTRY OF THE
PEOPLE.

BY JOHN V. GREGORY.—Read Aug. 31st, 1881.

THERE is a wide-spread belief in the popular mind in the North of England that the inhabitants of the County of Northumberland are, in a large measure, descendants of the Danes, who, in old time, so often ravaged the English coasts, and who undoubtedly did settle in very great numbers in Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, and adjacent parts.

The object of this paper is to attempt to prove, from the nomenclature of the County, that such a popular belief is a mistake, and that the Danes did not settle in any numbers in what is now the County of Northumberland.

That this mistaken opinion does exist, and is wide-spread, is evident when we read in different local newspapers in the same month such remarks as these :—

“The Danes were more numerous in Northumberland than in any other county.”—(Correspondent of *Newcastle Courant*, 15th Oct., 1880:)

“The old Norse spirit of daring is far from extinguished among the sea-going population of Tyneside.”—(Correspondent of *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, 26th Oct., 1880.)

In these statements the writers in newspapers are only following what they find in popular books of history. For instance :—

“The Pictorial History of England” says, with reference to the fusion of the Danish element with the Anglo-Saxon, “This fusion was probably felt strongest along our north-eastern coast between the Tees and the Tweed.”

Lingard says that Halfden, after ravaging the lands of the Strathclyde Britons, the Scots, and the Picts, returned to Bernicia, and divided it among his followers.

Sharon Turner also states that Halfden divided Bernicia among his followers.

In Mackenzie's "Northumberland," we read that in 876 "Halfden having completed the conquest of Bernicia, it was cantled out among Danish officers who now, as possessors of the soil, began to plough and sow. They mixed contentedly with their neighbours, and soon became amalgamated with the Anglo-Saxons of this county."

These statements appear to rest on the authority of *Asser*, and of the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, in both of which it is stated that in A.D. 876, Halfden apportioned the lands of Northumbria among his followers, and they forthwith cultivated them.

But Northumbria was an extensive province, and it is not necessarily implied that the whole of it was so settled and cultivated. That the Danes did conquer the whole of Northumbria is unquestionable; but they only made permanent settlements in the southern half of it, which is now Yorkshire and South Durham.

Some confusion appears to have arisen in the minds of those writers who derive their information from the authorities named, between Anglo-Saxon Northumbria in its wide extent from the Humber to the Forth, and the present limited County of Northumberland.

The very name of Northumberland is considered remarkable when applied to a county so far away from the Humber, which gives it that designation. It seems to indicate that the name was driven northward by reason of the Danish settlements south of its present limits. The Anglo-Saxon kings of Northumbria became tributary to the Danes, being permitted to reign over that part of their former territory which the Danes subdued, *but did not settle in*; and the name of Northumberland would naturally be then restricted to the territory over which those Anglo-Saxon kings continued to exercise jurisdiction. Their kingdom no longer comprised Yorkshire, and, therefore, the name of Northumberland ceased to include Yorkshire, which latter territory was under the immediate rule of the Danes.

The mistake on this subject is not shared by those whose historic



studies, combined with local knowledge, have made them competent to judge, as is shown by an important extract from Mr. Hodgson-Hinde's "General History of Northumberland :"—

"In comparing the local nomenclature of Northumberland north of the Tyne with that of Yorkshire and other counties which were occupied by the Danes, we cannot fail to be struck with the relative paucity of names of Scandinavian origin in the former district. Nor is this inconsistent with the history of Danish conquests and settlements] in the north ; for whilst Yorkshire was parcelled out among the invaders, and adopted as their home, modern Northumberland was left in a great measure in the hands of the Anglo-Saxon inhabitants, who were even permitted to live under rulers of their own race in subordination to the Danish kings."

This quotation from Mr. Hodgson-Hinde is the true statement of the actual fact of history.

An investigation which I have made into place-names shows that the East Coast settlements of the Danes in ancient Northumbria were all made south of a boundary which may approximately be said to run from east to west across the middle of the County of Durham.

As is well-known, the distinctive tests of Anglo-Saxon names are *-ham* (homestead) and *-ton* (enclosed place), as in Hexham, Benton ; and of Danish names, *-by* (farmstead) and *-thorpe* (village), as in Whitby, Nunthorpe. It is a remarkable fact that not one name ending in *-by* or *-thorpe* is found north of the Tyne, and those in the County of Durham are, with one or at most two exceptions, south of the Wear.

Again, the Anglo-Saxon word in Northumberland for a rivulet is *burn*. The Norse word in Yorkshire is *beck*. All the brooks in the North Riding, where the Danish influence was so strong, are *becks* ; but in the County of Northumberland all the brooks are *burns*. And it is further remarkable that the boundary line between becks and burns is the same which marks the limit of *-by* and *-thorpe*, the middle of the County of Durham.

Another proof that there was little or no Danish influence in the speech of the people north of the Tyne, is shown in the form of the Latin *castra*, where a place is named after a Roman Station. From the Anglo-Saxons it comes to us in the form *chester* (as in Manchester, Colchester, Winchester), but softened among the Middle Angles into

cester (Leicester, Gloucester, etc.); while in the Danish districts of Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, and the Norwegian of Cumberland, etc., it takes the hard form of *caster* (Doncaster, Lancaster, Muncaster). The word in Northumberland has its purely Anglo-Saxon shape of *chester* (as Rudchester, Whitchester, Chesters).

Worsaae, in his book on the Danes and Norwegians in England, while admitting that Danish colonization was not much extended north of the Tees, still attempts to show that some Danish settlements were established in the County of Northumberland. He gives a tabular view of the most important Norse (or Danish-Norwegian) names of places in England, in which he puts 22 such names in Northumberland, viz.:—

	1 ending in	-thorpe
1	"	-beck
3	"	-dale
7	"	-fell
10	"	-haugh
<hr/>		
22		
<hr/>		

(The names are taken from a small-scale map.)

But on examining these names we shall find reason for not concurring with him:—

(1.) *-thorpe*.—It is not the fact that any name in Northumberland ends in *-thorpe*. The nearest approach to it is as a prefix in Thropt-hill and Thropton, but their Anglo-Saxon terminations do not indicate a Danish origin.

(2.) *-beck*.—The name referred to as ending in *-beck* is the River Wansbeck; but if the Danes had influenced the naming of streams in Northumberland, it is reasonable to suppose it would have been, as in South Durham and North Yorkshire, by giving "beck" as a generic name to the brooks, and not as part of a specific proper name to a river. It must be confessed that no explanation of the etymology of "Wansbeck" has yet been given which can be considered satisfactory. But we must bear in mind that Norse names are not always distinguishable from Anglo-Saxon. The two languages being cognate, it is quite possible that a word which the Danes might use in one

manner in Yorkshire, the Anglo-Saxons might apply in another in Northumberland. It should also be remarked that *beck* is found in Anglo-Saxon place-names in Berkshire, Hampshire, and Somerset; and is also found in Germany, where there is a Wandsbeck and Lubeck, etc. But, after all, it is not entirely improbable that the Wansbeck, like most English rivers, derives its name from a Celtic source.

Wansbeck is not the only name connected with Northumberland ending in *-beck*. There was a barony of Bolbeck, but probably the name came from Bolbec, in Normandy.

(3.) *-dale*.—Worsaae gives only three as the number of names in *-dale*, but there are more. The termination is Norse, but not exclusively Norse. It is the old Gothic *dalei* and the modern German *thal*, and was common both to the Norse and Anglo-Saxon tongues.

(4.) *-fell*.—There are very many instances of this word in Northumberland. The Norse *fjeld* is a hill-side. The word belongs to the Norwegian rather than to the Danish branch of the race, and its presence in Northumberland is easily accounted for. The western part of Northumberland was bounded by Norwegian settlements in Cumberland and Liddesdale, and most of the names in *-fell* are in the hill-country bordering on Cumberland and Scotland. The word has thus been introduced from those neighbours in times probably long subsequent to the period of Danish conquests. It is chiefly found in places still uninhabited, and nowhere indicates old settlements. There is an apparent exception in "Felton," one of the few cases in which "fell" is a prefix, but this is in fact not Norse; the natural features of the locality suggest it to be from the Anglo-Saxon *field*, not from the Norse *fell*.

(5.) In the remaining instance, *-haugh*, Worsaae, from want of local knowledge, makes an entire mistake. Both he and also Isaac Taylor ("Words and Places") mistake it for the Norse *haugr*, a hill or sepulchral mound; while, as every Northumbrian knows, the term *haugh* is applied to low-lying land on a riverside. It is more likely to be allied to the German *hage*, an enclosed meadow, Anglo-Saxon *haga*. "Haugh" is rarely found south of the Wear.

To ascertain with some attempt at precision the languages from whence place-names in the County of Northumberland are derived, I have taken out and classified the syllables or component elements of the names which appear upon the one-inch Ordnance Maps, but omitting some which are obviously of recent origin, and adding a few which the Ordnance Maps omit.

It is hardly needful to state that place-names are frequently compounded of two words, the first component being a specific, and the second a generic term. It is mostly the generic term in each name which is classified in the following table, but not exclusively so. When the specific component is a word of frequent occurrence, both terms are classified, as in the cases of Kirkley, Broomhaugh, Coldwell, Wallsend, Stocksfield, Morpeth, Denton, etc.

It should be stated that of the large number of names dealt with, perhaps the greater part originate from a period when the English language had become consolidated into something more like its present form than the original Anglo-Saxon. There are a great many names which must be comparatively modern, and may be of any date from the thirteenth to the nineteenth century. These are classified as Anglo-Saxon or otherwise, according to the origin of the words.

The names are tabulated in three classes :—

- 1.—Names of parishes, townships, and principal places which are generally older than the names of other inhabited localities.
- 2.—Names of other inhabited places of lesser importance, and many of which are not ancient.
- 3.—Names of uninhabited places: hills, moorlands, streams, coast names, etc.

Parishes and Townships.	Other Inhabited Places.	Uninhabited.			Example.
...	6	...	acre	Anglo-Saxon, <i>acer</i> , open ploughed land	Minsteracres
...	31	...	bank	Anglo-Saxon, <i>banc</i> , a mound or ridge	Ninebanks
...	19	...	barn	Anglo-Saxon, <i>berern</i> , a granary for barley	Old Barns
...	...	6	bay	Anglo-Saxon, <i>bige</i> , a bending	Druridge Bay
...	1	1	beck	See <i>ante</i>	Wansbeck
3	5	...	biggin	Anglo-Saxon, <i>byggan</i> , to build	Newbiggin
...	10	2	birk	Anglo-Saxon, <i>birce</i> , birch tree	Birkshaw
...	1	6	bog	Gaelic, <i>bog</i> , soft, moist	Struther Bog
...	...	...	borough	See burgh	
...	5	...	bottle	Anglo-Saxon, <i>botle</i> , a place of abode	Walbottle
...	1	1	brae	Cymric, <i>bre</i> , a mount	Cleughbrae
3	12	1	bridge	Anglo-Saxon, <i>bricg</i> , bridge	Corbridge
...	1	...	brig		
2	5	2	brock	Anglo-Saxon, <i>broc</i> , a badger	Broxfield
3	14	1	broom	Anglo-Saxon, <i>brom</i> , the broom plant	Broomhaugh
3	7	...	burgh	Anglo-Saxon, <i>burh</i> , walled enclosure, from <i>beorgan</i> , to protect	Bamburgh
...	...	...	borough		
21	60	150 and ups	burn	Anglo-Saxon, <i>burn</i> , a brook	Brinkburn
3	3	...	bury	Anglo-Saxon, <i>byrig</i> , a softened form of <i>burh</i>	Rothbury
...	...	2	butt	Norman-French, <i>bout</i> , an end	Butt of Blackburn
...	5	1	byer	<i>byre</i> , a cow-house, <i>qu.</i> derivation	Byerhope
...	...	5	cairn	Cymric, <i>carn</i> , a heap of stones	Cairn Hill
1	4	15	carr	Anglo-Saxon, <i>carr</i> , a rock	Bondicarr
...	1	...	"	Cymric, <i>caer</i> , from Latin, <i>castra</i>	Carvoran
...	...	1	"	Anglo-Saxon, <i>qu.</i> a marsh	Prestwick Carr
...	3	2	carrick	Gaelic, <i>carraig</i> , crag	High Carrick
...	...	...	currick		
...	...	...	currock	Gaelic, <i>cart</i> , a height	Black Carts
1	...	2	carts		
1	6	...	castle	Norman-French, <i>castel</i> , from Latin, <i>castellum</i>	Newcastle
1	...	...	chase	Norman-French, from <i>chasser</i> , to hunt	Chipchase
...	2	...	chapel	Norman-French, <i>chapelle</i>	Whitechapel
4	18	4	chester	Anglo-Saxon, <i>ceaster</i> , from Latin, <i>castra</i>	Rudchester
1	...	...	church	Anglo-Saxon, <i>circe</i> , a softened form of <i>kirk</i>	Highchurch
...	25	15	cleugh	Anglo-Saxon, <i>clough</i> , a cleft or ravine	Coalcleugh
2	1	...	cliff	Anglo-Saxon, from the same root as the last, <i>cleofan</i> , to cleave	Horncliffe
1	12	...	close	Norman-French, <i>clos</i> , shut (an enclosed field)	Master's Close
4	5	...	coats	Anglo-Saxon, <i>cote</i> , a hut	Cullercoats
...	...	...	cote		
1	1	...	cott	Anglo-Saxon, <i>coc</i> , a hillock or elevation	Cocklaw
2	5	2	cock		

Parishes and Townships.	Other Inhabited Places.	Uninhabited.			Example.
3	13	2	cold	Anglo-Saxon, a prefix indicating cold situation or cool wells. (In this northern climate there is but one hot, Hotbank, sometimes written Hodbank.)	Coldwell
3	1	3	comb	Cymric, <i>cwm</i> , a bowl-shaped valley (but <i>qu.</i> is this the right derivation in Northumberland?)	Acomb
...	...	45	common	Norman-French, <i>commun</i> , from Latin, <i>communis</i> , land held in common by the inhabitants	Hexhamshire-Common
1	4	1	cow	Anglo-Saxon, <i>cu</i>	Cowpen
...	7	29	crag	Cymric, <i>craig</i> , a steep rock	Crag-side
1	6	...	croft	Anglo-Saxon, enclosed field	Ancroft
3	6	...	crook	Cymric, <i>crog</i> , a hook or something bent; or <i>crug</i> , a heap or ridge; or Gaelic, <i>crnach</i> , heap or mountain	Crookham
...	1	4	cross	Norman-French, from Latin <i>crux</i> (indicates a place where probably a cross formerly stood)	Steng Cross
6	6	1	dale	See <i>ante</i>	Tynedale
4	...	...	demesne	Norman-French, lands attached to a manor house	Bothal-Demesne
7	7	9	den	Anglo-Saxon, <i>dene</i> , a deep wooded valley, or sometimes a swine pasture in forest	{ Falloden Deanham
2	20	5	dean		
1	3	9	dodd	Anglo-Saxon, a blunt hill or butt end of a hill; in Frisian, <i>dodd</i> , a lump. (Doddington has probably a patronymic derivation.)	Doddbank
23	25	9	don	Mostly Anglo-Saxon, <i>dun</i> , a hill; but sometimes Gaelic, <i>dun</i> , a hill-fort; and sometimes corrupted from <i>ton</i> and <i>den</i>	Earsdon
1	20	...	dyke or dike	Anglo-Saxon, <i>dic</i> , an agger or continuous heap	Higham Dykes
3	6	3	ea ey ay	Anglo-Saxon, <i>ea</i> , a stream	Ponteland
...	10	11	edge	Anglo-Saxon, <i>ecg</i> , brink, margin, or ridge	Biddleston-Edge
3	20	4	end	Anglo-Saxon, the end of an estate, road, &c.	Wallsend
...	4	...	farm	Anglo-Saxon, <i>feorm</i> , food, goods, from which the modern meaning is secondary. (Is generally affixed to the proper name of a locality, and not classified here.)	Three Farms
1	14	41	fell	Norse. See <i>ante</i>	Carter Fell
7	2	...	fen	Anglo-Saxon, <i>fenn</i> , a morass	Fenham
...	5	...	fence	Norman-French, or adapted from fend or defend; Latin, <i>defendo</i>	Swarland-Fence
8	48	1	field	Anglo-Saxon, a patch of <i>felled</i> or cleared land in forest	Stocksfield
1	3	...	flat	Anglo-Saxon, level	Shortflat

Parishes and Townships.	Other Inhabited Places	Uninhabited.			Example.
...	...	2	flothers	<i>Qu.</i>	The Flothers
...	...	2	flow	<i>Qu.</i> the watershed; Anglo-Saxon, <i>flowan</i> , to flow	Manside Flow
...	3	...	fold	Anglo-Saxon, <i>fald</i> , a fold, wall, or hedge	Newfold
...	6	...	foot	Anglo-Saxon, <i>foet</i> , foot, <i>i.e.</i> the foot of a hill, etc. (Excluding numerous Hillfoots and Bankfoots, all probably modern.)	Ellfoot
12	24	1	ford	Anglo-Saxon, a passage across a stream, from <i>faran</i> , to go	Mitford
5	...	2	forest	Norman-French, outlying country, uncultivated and generally woody	Rothbury-Forest
1	1	...	forth firth	Anglo-Saxon, <i>fryhde</i> , <i>qu.</i> woodland; or Cymric, <i>ffridd</i> , tract of enclosed forest	Gosforth
...	3	...	gap	Anglo-Saxon, <i>geap</i> , wide—an opening or passage	Scots-gap
...	2	...	garth	Anglo-Saxon, <i>geard</i> , a yard or <i>girded</i> place	Coneygarth
4	26	1	gate	Anglo-Saxon, <i>geat</i> , a gate or passage through; Norse, <i>gata</i> , a road or passage along	Portgate
...	2	1	gill	Norse, <i>gil</i> , a small ravine. (This word has come into Northumberland from the Norwegian settlers of Cumberland; not from the Danish settlers of the East Coast.)	Wold Gill
...	2	4	glen	Gaelic, a narrow valley	Glendue
8	11	...	grange	Norman-French, a barn, originally the granary of a monastery, but now, often a modern name of a small mansion	Anick Grange
5	24	1	green	Anglo-Saxon, <i>grene</i> , from the root of <i>to grow</i>	Rivergreen
1	5	1	hagg	Anglo-Saxon, <i>haga</i> , a small estate within a fence or <i>hedge</i> ; but in Scottish <i>hay</i> is the broken ground in a bog	Duke's Hagg
9	48	...	hall	Anglo-Saxon, <i>hal</i> , a hall. (These numbers are exclusive of mansions named after localities elsewhere classified.)	Haltwhistle
26	11	...	ham	Anglo-Saxon, <i>ham</i> , a home; German, <i>heim</i> . (Exclusive of names in <i>ingham</i> classified separately.)	Hexham
10	34	...	haugh	See <i>ante</i>	Humshaugh
...	...	6	haven	Anglo-Saxon, <i>hoefen</i> , a harbour	Prior's Haven
3	53	15	head	Anglo-Saxon, <i>heafd</i> , heaved, elevated. (These numbers are exclusive of many Hill-heads, Lane-heads, etc.)	Greenhead
1	3	...	heath	Anglo-Saxon, <i>haeth</i> , barren open country	Heathpool

Parishes and Townships.	Other Inhabited Places.	Uninhabited.			Example.
...	4	4	hemmel	A cattle shed; <i>qu.</i> origin	Red Hemmels
2	17	5	heugh	Perhaps from Anglo-Saxon, <i>heafian</i> , to elevate, to heave. (<i>Heugh</i> is a steep or a rugged steep, and must be distinguished from <i>haugh</i> , which is flat ground.)	Brokenheugh
19	162	*119	hill	Anglo-Saxon	Seghill
				* Hills (uninhabited) named after adjacent places are generally excluded from this number.	
3	11	...	hirst hurst	Anglo-Saxon, <i>hyrst</i> , a copse. (The spelling <i>hirst</i> seems peculiar to Northumberland.)	Longhirst
14	2	2	hoe how	Anglo-Saxon, <i>hou</i> , hill	Prudhoe
...	4	8	hole	Anglo-Saxon, <i>hol</i> , hole	Todholes
1	4	...	hollin	Anglo-Saxon, <i>holeyn</i> , holly	Hollins
1	8	...	holm	Anglo-Saxon, <i>holm</i> , a river island or a meadow near water; but this derivation is not applicable in four cases out of nine in Northumberland	Ashholm
...	2	...	holt	Anglo-Saxon, woodland	Birkholt
6	44	23	hope	Cymric, <i>hwpp</i> , a slope between hills; the upland part of a mountain valley	Linhope
8	88	...	house	Anglo-Saxon, <i>hus</i> . (These numbers are exclusive of houses called after localities otherwise classified, and also exclusive of such designations as "West House," etc.)	Woodhouse
8	17	1	ing	Anglo-Saxon, <i>ing</i> , the patronymic affix answering to the Scottish prefix <i>Mac</i> , Irish <i>O'</i> , Arabic <i>Beni</i> . Also Anglo-Saxon, <i>ing</i> , the participle termination. Also Anglo-Saxon, <i>ing</i> , a meadow. (The numbers are exclusive of <i>ingham</i> and <i>ington</i> , which see.)	Yeavinger
9	2	1	ingham	Anglo-Saxon, <i>ing</i> , patronymic, and <i>ham</i> . (The <i>g</i> sounded soft is a peculiarity in Northumberland.)	Ovingham (the home of the Offings, or sons of Offa)
40	8	...	ington	Anglo-Saxon, <i>ing</i> , patronymic, and <i>ton</i>	Ellington (the <i>ton</i> of the Ellings, or sons of Ella)
2	6	1	island	Anglo-Saxon, <i>ealand</i>	Holy Island
3	1	...	ker	Cymric, <i>caer</i> , from Latin, <i>castra</i>	Walker
...	...	2	kern or churn	Anglo-Saxon, <i>cernan</i> , to churn	Rumbling Churn
7	2	3	kirk	Anglo-Saxon, <i>circ</i> , church	Kirkley
1	1	1	knar	Rugged, from Anglo-Saxon, <i>gnarr</i> , knot	Knaresdale
...	11	17	knowe	Anglo-Saxon, <i>enoll</i> , hillock; knowe is the Scottish form of knoll, a round-shaped hillock	Longknowe

Parishes and Townships.	Other Inhabited Places.	Uninhabited.			Example.
...	...	3	lair	<i>Qu.</i> Anglo-Saxon, <i>legen</i> , the root of lay and lie; a place for flocks to lie; but these three places are all hill-tops	Dinmont Lairs
...	...	1	lake	Norman-French, <i>lac</i> . (In Northumberland lakes are loughs with this one exception.)	Paston Lake
...	...	...	lam	Two instances are classified under <i>ham</i> . <i>Sed qu.</i>	Wylam
9	17	1	land	Anglo-Saxon	Blanchland
8	62	44	law	Anglo-Saxon, <i>hlaw</i> , hill or tumulus; see also "low"	Cocklaw
2	2	...	leam	Is a word which Anglo-Saxons appear to have applied to places near Roman roads; <i>qu.</i> a boundary line.	Lemington
...	2	7	letch	A wet ditch or narrow swamp; <i>qu.</i> from Anglo-Saxon, <i>leccan</i> , to wet, moisten	Gorfenletch
41	79	5	ley	Anglo-Saxon, <i>lea</i> , <i>leah</i> , meadow or open forest glade where cattle lie	{ Shotley Fallowlees Garleigh Moor
6	46	3	lee, lea		
...	...	1	leigh		
4	3	1	linn		
1	...	...	lodge	Norman-French, <i>loger</i> , to lodge ...	Coxlodge
...	...	10	lough	Gaelic, <i>lough</i> or <i>loch</i> , a lake ...	Crag Lough
1	4	...	low	Another form of "law," which see ...	Harlow Hill
...	11	...	mains	Scottish for a demesne-farm; <i>qu.</i> main or chief farm, from Anglo-Saxon, <i>magan</i> , to be strong	Ord Mains
...	1	1	man	Cymric, <i>maen</i> , rock	Brownsman Island
...	...	1	marsh	Anglo-Saxon, <i>merse</i>	Wandy Marsh
...	5	...	meadow	Anglo-Saxon, <i>mead</i> , <i>meadeve</i> ...	{ Peas Meadows Rushymea
...	2	...	mea		
2	16	...	mill	Anglo-Saxon, <i>miln</i>	Milfield
1	1	...	minster	Anglo-Saxon, from Latin, <i>monasterium</i>	Newminster
4	64	92	moor	Anglo-Saxon, <i>mor</i>	Barmoor
...	1	9	moss	Anglo-Saxon, <i>meos</i> , bog	Aidmoss
1	9	2	mount	Norman-French, <i>mont</i>	Jesmond
1	...	...	mond		
8	4	2	mouth	(of a stream). Anglo-Saxon, <i>mutn</i> ...	Tynemouth
1	...	1	ness	Anglo-Saxon and Norse, <i>nes</i> , nose; (but Byrness is probably from Anglo-Saxon, <i>aesce</i> , ash-tree)	Sharpness Point
1	8	...	nook	Gaelic, <i>niuc</i> , corner, secluded place	Dykenook
9	16	1	park	Anglo-Saxon, <i>parruc</i> , adopted from Cymric, <i>parng</i> , enclosed field usually for the chase	Broompark
1	5	3	path peth	Anglo-Saxon, <i>paeth</i> , trodden way ...	Morpeth
1	1	...	pele peel	Cymric, <i>pil</i> , stronghold. (The remains of fortified farm-houses called peles are common in Northumberland, but the word is only here classified as a distinctive place-name.)	Peels

Parishes and Townships.	Other Inhabited Places.	Uninhabited.			Example.
...	2	18	pike	Cymric, <i>pig</i> ; Anglo-Saxon, <i>peac</i> ; Norman-French, <i>pie</i> , peak or pointed hill	Glanton Pike
...	...	15	point	Norman-French, from Latin, <i>punctum</i> , applied to a small promontory on the coast	Budle Point
1	4	...	pool	Anglo-Saxon, <i>pol</i> , wet, muddy place	Heathpool
3	13	...	raw row	Anglo-Saxon, <i>hreaw</i> , raw ... Or a <i>row</i> of houses; Anglo-Saxon. <i>rawa</i> , a rod, a row. Or a <i>barrow</i> (tumulus); Anglo-Saxon, <i>beoch</i> , from <i>beorgan</i> , to protect (a grave).	Deanraw
10	16	3	ridge	Anglo-Saxon, <i>rig</i> , <i>hric</i> , back or ridge, from Cymric, <i>rhic</i> , <i>rhig</i> River names are mostly Gaelic, but their derivation obscure or doubtful. These 17 Northumbrian rivers are:—Gaelic, <i>Allen</i> , <i>Aln</i> , <i>Alwin</i> , <i>Glen</i> , <i>Lyne</i> , <i>Tyne</i> ; Cymric, <i>Derwent</i> ; Anglo-Saxon, <i>Blyth</i> ; Norman-French, <i>Font</i> ; uncertain, <i>Breamish</i> , <i>Coquet</i> , <i>Irthing</i> , <i>Pont</i> , <i>Rede</i> , <i>Till</i> , <i>Tweed</i> , <i>Wansbeck</i> .	{ Broomridge Hazlerigg
1	36	36	rigg		
...	...	17	river		
1	1	4	rock	Norman-French, <i>roc</i> , <i>roche</i> ...	Rocknab
1	...	...	ross	Gaelic, <i>ros</i> , a promontory. (It is worthy of notice that this township of Ross is where a small sandy promontory runs up to Holy Island. The name was probably given by the Culdee monks in remembrance of the Ross of Mull, opposite their island of Iona.)	Ross
1	5	...	saint	From Latin, <i>sanctus</i> ...	St. Anthony's
...	...	7	scar	A ridge of rough rocks; Anglo-Saxon, <i>scear</i> , from <i>scearan</i> , to shear; Norse, <i>sker</i> , a face of rock. (The Scottish word "scaur" is the high bank of a river. 5 of the 7 instances of "scar" in Northumberland are coast rocks.)	Oxscar
2	4	2	set seat	Anglo-Saxon, <i>seta</i> , a settlement; <i>sittan</i> , to sit	Tarset
...	4	2	shank	Anglo-Saxon, <i>scanc</i> , leg ...	Heathery-Shank
3	34	9	shaw	Anglo-Saxon, <i>sceaga</i> , a copse wood or a <i>shady</i> place	Stagshaw
5	77	3	shield	Anglo-Saxon, <i>shiel</i> , a hut. (The Northumbrian word <i>shield</i> occurs mostly in Tynedale and Redesdale. There are only 9 north of the Coquet, and of these 6 are spelt "shiel.")	North Shields
...	6	...	shiel		
1	...	...	sheele		

Parishes and Townships.	Other Inhabited Places.	Uninhabited.			Example.
6	...	...	shire	Anglo-Saxon, <i>scir</i> , a division ...	Islandshire
2	2	...	shot	<i>Qu.</i> derivation ...	Eshott
9	60	16	side	Anglo-Saxon, an acclivity or hill-side; also region, settlement, location; also country-side	Corsenside
...	5	22	sike	A small rill, the upper feeder of a burn; Anglo-Saxon <i>sic</i> , Norse <i>siki</i> , streamlet. (In Northumberland it occurs only in the upper streamlets of the Tyne and Irthing basins. It is not found in the Cheviot region. It may therefore perhaps be of Cumberland-Norwegian origin, like "fell" and "gill.")	Greensike
...	...	5	skeer skear skerr	} Applied to coast rocks; is perhaps another form of "scar;" but "skears" and "scar" occur in proximity. Probably, therefore, skeer is Gaelic, <i>sgeir</i> , a rock in the sea.	Green Skeer
...	1	3	snook	<i>Qu.</i> derivation ...	The Snook
3	5	...	spital	Contraction of Norman-French, <i>hos-spital</i>	Spital
1	3	2	stan	Anglo-Saxon, <i>staen</i> , stone ...	Stanton
...	1	1	staple	Anglo-Saxon, <i>stapel</i> , stake or pile (hence in other parts of England a fixed place for a market)	Staples Island
2	40	1	stead	Anglo-Saxon, <i>stede</i> , place or station	Greystead
...	10	5	steel	Anglo-Saxon, <i>styl</i> , an edge applied to sharp rocks (steel=edge-metal)	Hawksteel
2	4	...	stob	Anglo-Saxon, <i>steb</i> , stock or stem, stump of tree; hence a post	Stobswood
1	1	...	stock	Anglo-Saxon, stem of tree ...	Stocksfield
6	18	14	stone	A modern form of Anglo-Saxon, <i>stan</i> ; sometimes denotes a boundary stone, but is frequently interchanged with "ton"	Falstone
...	...	1	street	Anglo-Saxon, <i>straet</i> , a paved way ...	Street Head
...	9	3	strother struther	} <i>Qu.</i> if from Anglo-Saxon, <i>strudan</i> , to plunder, <i>i.e.</i> a place plundered by the Scots	Longstrother
1	...	1	thirl	Anglo-Saxon, <i>thirlian</i> , to bore or perforate	Thirlwall
1	4	...	thorn	Anglo-Saxon, a prickly plant ...	Thornton
...	5	1	toft	Anglo-Saxon and Norse, hamlet or homestead enclosure	Tofts
100	28	4	ton	Anglo-Saxon, <i>tun</i> , an enclosure, a fortified homestead; afterwards village and town; see also "ington"	Kenton
...	...	2	tor	Cymric, projecting rock ...	Newton Tors
2	15	...	town	Modern form of "ton" ...	Newtown
...	6	...	tree	The modern word "tree;" Anglo-Saxon, <i>treow</i> .	Ashtrees
1	...	...	tre	Cymric <i>tre</i> , dwelling ...	Trewhitt.

Parishes and Townships.	Other Inhabited Places.	Uninhabited.			Example.
3	1	...	twizel	<i>Qu.</i> Anglo-Saxon, <i>twishlung</i> , storehouse	Twizell
1	2	...	unthank	<i>Qu.</i> Anglo-Saxon, <i>thenung</i> , duty or service; hence "unthank," land held without service being rendered	Unthank
8	6	...	wall	Anglo-Saxon, <i>weall</i> . (7 of these 14 places are on the Roman Wall.)	Walwick
1	4	2	ward	Anglo-Saxon, <i>weurdian</i> , to defend ...	Warden
3	...	...	wark	Anglo-Saxon, <i>weorc</i> , a work, <i>i.e.</i> a building or castle	Warkworth
1	...	3	water	Anglo-Saxon, <i>waeter</i>	Deadwater
10	32	1	well	Anglo-Saxon	Cresswell
25	4	...	wick	Anglo-Saxon, <i>wic</i> , a dwelling, station or settlement, generally of a chief, hence a jurisdiction; in Norse, a sea-station of <i>vik</i> -ings	Berwick
15	54	6	wood	Anglo-Saxon, <i>wude</i>	Lipwood
4	1	...	worth	Anglo-Saxon, <i>neorthig</i> , a warded place	Killingworth
<p style="text-align: center;">MISCELLANEOUS NAMES NOT COMING WITHIN THE PRECEDING CLASSIFICATION.</p>					
...	2	1	Apparently of Cymric origin (Kielder, Penpugh, Cheviot).		
9	61	5	,, Anglo-Saxon origin.		
4	8	...	,, Norman-French origin.		
37	114	34	Doubtful and uncertain.		
738	2214	1056			
4,008 Total.					

Of these 4,008 classifications, 511 are twice entered; *e.g.* "Morpeth" appears under *moor* and under *path*. The net number of names dealt with, is therefore 3,497. These names, arranged according to the language of their origin, give us the following result:—

	Parishes, Townships, and Principal Places.	Other Inhabited Places.	Uninhabited (Hills, Moor- lands, Streams, and Coast).
Gaelic	4	16	31
Cymric	32	122	108
Anglo-Saxon	522	1,563	602
Norse ... ..	...	15	41
Norman-French	29	57	74
Doubtful or Unclassified	65	158	58
	652	1,931	914
Total	3,497		

It is right to state that I have classified as Anglo-Saxon eight words, embracing 127 names, which, if there were any evidence of Danish names in the country, I should have classed as being common to both tongues, Anglo-Saxon and Norse. The words are:—dale, gate, kirk, ness, scar, sike, toft, wick.

The result of this analysis of place-names is that only two words are undeniably Norse, viz., *fell* and *gill*, and these are Norwegian rather than Danish; and of these words there are only 56 examples out of a total of 3,500 names; and of these 56 examples only 15 are names of inhabited places; and of these inhabited places not one is so important as to belong to a parish or township.

These figures, therefore, very remarkably, confirm the belief that the territory between Tyne and Tweed, though under Danish dominion or suzerainty, was never occupied by Danish settlers.

