

AN ACCOUNT OF JESMOND

BY

FREDERICK WALTER DENDY.

PREFACE

The townships of Elswick, Westgate, Jesmond, Heaton and Byker, which were added to Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1835, were outside the boundary of that borough when its history was written by Bourne, by Brand and by Mackenzie.

On the other hand, as they have at the present day become parts of the city and county of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, they are not likely to be noticed at any length in the history of Northumberland which is now being published as an enlargement of the Rev. John Hodgson's standard work on that county.

Owing to the proximity of those townships to the town and to the castle of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, they were owned by men of considerable local position, and by reason of their gradual absorption into the building area of Newcastle their condition has during the last hundred years been entirely altered. The ancient estates have been broken up, the old landmarks have been removed, the title deeds in private hands have been dispersed and it has become desirable to put on record without delay the memorials of their past history.

This account is a contribution towards that end, so far as Jesmond is concerned. If others of our members will take up the

history of the other suburban townships of Newcastle, the writer of this paper will be glad to give them access to the records which he has collected and any other assistance in his power towards the carrying out of their undertaking. The present writer regrets that it is impracticable here to acknowledge by name the most kind and willing assistance he has received in every way from so many of his brethren in the law and his fellow members of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries. His thanks are also especially due to Mr. Richard Burdon Sanderson and other landowners for allowing him access to their documents; to Messrs. Watson and Scott for the plans; to Mr. C. H. Blair, through whose skilled help he has been able to reproduce the heraldic plates of arms; to Mr. J. G. Youll, who has lent for reproduction the interesting photograph of Jesmond Church; to Mr. Parker Brewis, who has illustrated the paper with photographs taken by himself; to Mr. W. H. Knowles for his survey of St. Mary's Chapel, and to Mr. J. G. Hodgson for the loan of his copper plate of the sketch of that ruin from the Rev. John Hodgson's collection and for permission to reproduce it. Substantial donations towards the cost of the coloured illustrations have been received from the Duke of Northumberland, Sir A. E. Middleton, Bart., and Mr. C. J. Spence.

The dates throughout are those of the historic year, commencing on the 1st of January.

Eldon House,

Jesmond,

Newcastle-upon-Tyne,

30th June, 1904.