

## X

### John Hodgson: County Historian

*Constance M. Fraser*

St. Matthew chapter 13, verse 52: "Every scribe instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old."

**B**EFORE considering the merits of the Rev. John Hodgson as a county historian in the company of such other northern pioneers as Robert Surtees and James Raine one must first place him in his contemporary setting.

He was born on 4 November 1779 at Swindale in Westmorland,<sup>1</sup> the son of a mason, and was educated at one of the local grammar schools which were the pride of Cumbria as providing a competent classical education for those boys whose parents saw no reason to send them to university or the Inns of Court. His actual school was Bampton Grammar. His work attracted the attention of the Rev. J. Dacre Carlyle, then chancellor of the diocese of Carlisle, who invited him in 1799 to travel to the Ottoman Court in the company of Lord Elgin, the British ambassador, to whom Carlyle had been appointed chaplain. Hodgson regretfully declined the invitation in favour of an appointment as schoolmaster at Matterdale, from which he transferred almost immediately to the school at Stainton by Dacre. The following year, 1801, Hodgson was offered the mastership of Sedgfield School on the recommendation of the Rev. William Rawes, master of Witton-le-Wear School, who was a cousin of his mother. He next applied for holy orders, but failed his examination.

In 1804 Hodgson moved from Sedgfield School to Lanchester. There the incumbent nominated him to the chaplaincy of Esh and

Satley, which provided him with a title for holy orders; and this time he was examined by Dr. Carlyle, now Bishop Barrington's chaplain, who found him suitably competent. After two years he was appointed as curate at Gateshead, and after a further two years, in 1808, he was presented by the patron, Cuthbert Ellison, to the chapelry of Jarrow and Heworth.

Hodgson's interest in matters archaeological and historical had been aroused at Lanchester, where the remains of the Roman camp were still visible.<sup>2</sup> At Jarrow he was convinced that he had evidence of a Roman camp, and was stimulated in his historical studies by the example of his predecessor, the Venerable Bede. He had already dabbled in authorship, with the publication of a small book of verse while still at Lanchester, and in 1808 offered his services to the publishers of a series of volumes styled *The Beauties of England and Wales*. Unfortunately the Durham volume had already been commissioned, but he was retained for volumes on Northumberland and Westmorland.<sup>3</sup> Meanwhile, on 11 January 1810 he married Jane Bridget Kell of Heworth Shore, whose father was a quarry-owner.

It is tempting to emphasize Hodgson's growing interest in writing, but he was not unmindful of his clerical responsibilities. There was considerable coal-mining with his parish, and when in May 1812 an explosion at Felling Colliery caused the deaths of 92 men and boys he took it upon himself to draw to public attention the urgent need for a Safety Lamp for mines with problems of methane and other gases. His immediate action was to print the sermon which he had preached on 9 August at the mass funeral of the miners, together with a detailed

account of the disaster. This was followed by meetings with local coal-owners, and persuading Humphry Davy to experiment with various kinds of lamps. From this grew the Society for the Prevention of Accidents in Coal-Mines. He continued to correspond with Davy and suggest further experiments, some of which he personally conducted at Felling colliery.<sup>4</sup>

The same year as the explosion Hodgson revised for publication for David Akenhead a *Picture of Newcastle upon Tyne*. This had been published originally in 1807 and written by another hand. The new edition was less a guide-book than a concise history of the town, concluding with accounts of the Roman Wall and of the coal-trade. Already Hodgson was showing his concern for citing sources for his information, even if he relied largely on printed material. Unsurprisingly, when the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle was founded early in 1813 Hodgson was invited to be co-secretary, and at its second meeting read a paper "On the Study of Antiquities". He would continue to address this Society, and publish miscellaneous short papers in *Archaeologia Aeliana*; and did not resign as co-Secretary until his transfer in 1834 to the vicarage of Hartburn. In 1817 his account of Northumberland in the *Beauties of England* series was published, and he had started collecting material for a projected multi-volume history of the county. This work was to dominate the rest of his life, and might even be considered to have killed him.<sup>5</sup>

At this date of 1817 the only histories of Northumberland in print were the accounts of John Wallis, of William Hutchinson, and of Eneas Mackenzie. Wallis had arranged his account, published in 1769, as much as a natural history as a history of its people and buildings. The latter were loosely grouped under the style of a description of three journeys through the county. Hutchinson in his *History* published in 1778, was largely preoccupied with Roman antiquities, drawing on the work of Horsley in his *Britannia Romana*. Mackenzie drew on these two and brought them up to date. His first edition was published in 1811 and the second in 1825.

Publication, then as now, was a risky procedure. Newcastle was a centre for the printing of educational books:<sup>6</sup> the problem was distribution. It was not unusual for preachers to publish their sermons, the proceeds going to good causes—usually the charity for which the sermon was preached. In the case of larger works, a list of subscribers was opened. Wallis's *Natural History of Northumberland* is preceded by four pages of subscribers, one of whom was already dead. These may be subdivided into public figures such as the Duke of Northumberland and the Bishop of Durham, local Members of Parliament, and gentry. There were four College libraries. Interestingly, booksellers placed orders for 73 sets of volumes. Hodgson may well have hoped that the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle would support the labours of its co-Secretary.

The existence of the Society presupposed a group of like-minded people interested in the antiquities of the North East.<sup>7</sup> The original 46 members included the second duke of Northumberland as Patron, with Sir Charles Monck of Belsay, MP, Sir John Edward Swinburne, President of the Literary and Philosophical Society, and Sir Cuthbert Sharp of Hartlepool. Clergy were represented by John Hodgson of Heworth, John Collinson, rector of Gateshead, and his curate Hugh Salvin, William Turner, the redoubtable Unitarian minister of the Hanover Street chapel, and William Darnell from Durham. The law was represented by John Davidson, Clerk of the Peace for Northumberland, John Adamson,<sup>8</sup> John Trotter Brockett, Thomas Davidson, John Fenwick, James Losh, William Peters, Armorer Donkin, and Nathaniel Clayton. Other notabilities included John Bell the bibliophile, John Buddle the mining engineer, Thomas Hodgson the editor of the *Newcastle Chronicle*, Edward Swinburne the water-colourist, David Stephenson the architect, Emerson Charnley the bookseller, John Murray the surgeon, John Stanton of Benwell Colliery, C. W. Bigge the banker, Matthew Atkinson of Eighton Moor and Team collieries, the senior and junior Isaac Cooksons,

glass manufacturers, and George Armstrong Dickson, linen-draper, whose gifts of Roman earthenware vessels, bronzes, lamps, fibulae, coins, medals, stamps, urns, etc. provided the nucleus of the Society's Roman collections.<sup>9</sup>

Some of the above, such as John Adamson, John Fenwick, J. Trotter Brockett, and Hodgson himself were the chief founders of the Typographical Society of Newcastle. This society, limited to thirty members, aimed to publish octavo volumes of poetry and other *recherché* topics, many illustrated with vignettes cut in wood by Bewick and his pupils. Most of Adamson's studies of the Portuguese poet Camoens appeared in this series of publications.<sup>10</sup>

The first volume of the projected History of Northumberland to appear consisted of documentary evidence derived from published volumes of the Record Commission but dealing exclusively with Northumberland. With it were included copies of material in the archives of the Swinburne family at Capheaton, and the Bowes and Ellerker survey of 1542, copied from a transcript among the MSS of the Duke of Northumberland. Raine in his *Memoir* of his friend criticized Hodgson for republishing the sections from the Record Commission tomes without checking them for errors. The same cause of error may account for the inaccuracies picked on by Cadwallader Bates when he published a corrected version of the Survey in his *Border Holds of Northumberland*.<sup>11</sup> If my own annotated copy of Hodgson is any guide, these "errors" consisted largely of misreadings of "bastle" as "castle". Hodgson gave a fuller version of the Survey, as acknowledged by Bates, but how many people consult Hodgson, having duly noted Bates's criticism?

One now comes to realize the magnitude of Hodgson's achievement. Not only were very few of his archive sources then available in print: some collections had the most rudimentary of catalogues: and in the days before photography, Xeroxes, microfilms, microfiches and other automatic reproduction Hodgson had to rely on amanuenses to copy his material, with all the dangers of misunderstanding abbreviations and misreading handwriting. Hodgson

undertook three forays to London and a few brief visits to Oxford, but relied heavily on friends and some professional researchers for transcribing the necessary material for his History. As early as 1815, when he contemplated writing a history of Jarrow, he wrote to James Raine, then a master at Durham School: "I shall feel greatly obliged by your allowing me to take advantage of your kind offer of transcribing such materials out of the Durham Chartularies as you may judge to be admissible into my narrative. . . . I shall also thank you for anything respecting the monastery of Monkwearmouth, as that house was consolidated with Jarrow." Anyone who has worked on the archives of the Dean and Chapter of Durham will have sympathy with Raine, writing to Robert Surtees and wailing: "it is totally impossible for me to extract from the Chartularies all that is said upon Jarrow; for since I made the promise my time has become still more occupied." He also considered that in writing on Jarrow Hodgson was trespassing on Surtees' own territory. Surtees responded to Raine by expressing his willingness to assist by "rummaging" his own collections. "Independent of any consideration attached to my own, Hodgson seems a admirable good fellow, and understands Roman antiquities much better than I do. Secondly, I am glad the Newcastle Society, of which I am a member, are going to illustrate the antiquities in their own neighbourhood."<sup>12</sup>

By 1817 Hodgson's *Beauties of Northumberland* had been published and he was taking stock of his next field of enterprise. On 21 April 1818 he wrote to Sir John Swinburne, suggesting that "I am at last, and with great reluctance, compelled to relinquish my design of writing a history of the County of Northumberland. To finish such an undertaking, in a creditable manner, would take me one year's constant residence in Durham and another in London; and many years of unremitting labour in the county, besides an expense in travelling &c &c, which no county history can ever repay.

"I am, however, unwilling that the labours I have already bestowed upon this interesting

county should be entirely thrown away." He proposed that an editorial committee consisting of Mr. Surtees, Mr. Raine, and Sir Cuthbert Sharp should publish a *Quarterly Journal of Records*, &c, respecting Northumberland and the other Northern Counties. "At first the Transactions of the Antiquarian Society presented itself as a proper vehicle for bringing out our plan; but, upon mature consideration, we find the funds of that body totally inadequate to meet such a design; and we hope that when they are again recruited our labours will not be found to interfere with its objects." He considered that the archives of the Durham Dean and Chapter were a veritable mine of information; the Mickleton Collection of some 70 volumes had lately come to the Bishop's Library; and the Swinburne charters and papers, arranged in chronological order and sorted into their distinct properties, "would form excellent papers for our journal, and be of the greatest use to a future historian of Northumberland. For in our work records can be printed more at length, and in greater numbers, than in county histories; which usually throw such documents into notes and appendixes..." Swinburne replied sympathetically, with the practical caveat: "I only beg to suggest the propriety of ascertaining, before you start, the probable sale of the work, (you don't mention whether by subscription, and if so to what amount,) that you may have some certain grounds to proceed upon—that you may not find yourself engaged in an expensive undertaking without a fair prospect of remuneration."<sup>13</sup>

By June 1818 Hodgson was writing that the Swinburne material was in the press. He proposed that it would be published at 7s 6d a volume issued quarterly and using Domesday type, specially cast in London for the purpose. Nine months later he had reverted to his original plan. He arranged that the *Courant* office at Newcastle should print the History, and be responsible for collecting subscriptions. There would be a print-run of 300 copies, 50 on royal and 250 on demy paper.<sup>14</sup> He needed to visit London to arrange with the ecclesiastical authorities the division of his parish of Jarrow

to allow Heworth chapelry a separate existence, and used this opportunity to collect from the British Museum and the Public Record Offices materials for his History. Some of the problems then faced by a researcher are vividly described in his letters home to his wife Jane. "The Bishop [of Durham] told me that if I found any coolness or difficulty in getting at the manuscripts in the British Museum, he would remove them for me, if it were possible".<sup>15</sup>

"May 7th. At ten o'clock I went to the Museum; and fell in with plenty of rich material there to serve me for a few days. It is full of stores for my purpose: but five days a week, and only six hours a day, is much too short time for persons who have travelled nearly 300 miles for the purpose of labouring in it..."<sup>16</sup>

"[May 22nd. Mr. Lysons] showed me the Charter of Morpeth School, which was endowed by King Edward the Sixth with certain lands that had belonged to Chantries, &c. in Morpeth. It is beautifully emblazoned, and has the seal of Edward attached, but, as the document has been inrolled, Mr. Lysons could not permit me to take a copy of it, because the copy of it in the Chapel of the Rolls is of greater force in legal matters than the original itself, after that original has been in the hands of its proper keepers, namely, the burgesses of Morpeth.

"Mr. Lysons showed me the room in the White Tower where the main body of the records is kept. The first room is the chapel and the second the great council chamber. It would be impossible to attempt to describe them to you; it is sufficient to say I was gratified with the order and care in which they are preserved.... After being very politely offered to have any *extracts* out of these records gratuitously for my History, I left Mr. Lysons and proceeded to the office of the Tower guards, to get an attendant to show me the Tower armour, with the sight of which I was greatly delighted..."

"To see all these sights cost me 6s 6d."<sup>17</sup>

In addition to the complications of access to manuscripts there was the problem of access to buildings. Hodgson having written via Sir John

Swinburne to the Duke of Northumberland for permission to visit the "castles and other military antiquities" situated on his lands received by the same route a favourable answer "provided Mr. Hodgson adheres to his promise of abstaining from the publication of any matter which is likely to have a tendency to create litigation. When Mr. Hodgson visits Northumberland, I beg to refer him to my commissioners, to whom I will give the necessary directions, to prevent his meeting with any unnecessary obstruction."<sup>18</sup>

The local agent of the Greenwich Hospital Receivers proved particularly obstructive. The Bishop of Durham provided for Hodgson letters of recommendation to have access to abstracts of the Derwentwater papers deposited at Newcastle. Having spent a day taking notes, Hodgson was required to leave his notes behind "for inspection by the legal adviser of the Hospital." They were never returned to him. He called back on a later occasion "to get my extracts respecting Tynemouth; but Mrs. Forster could not get them, as her son was from home, and had the key of the drawer where they were". Two years later he cagily wrote to the local Receivers to ask to be allowed to have his notes and for permission to make further abstracts, only to be told that they would first need Counsel's opinion.<sup>19</sup>

The first volume of records was published at Hodgson's expense in 1820. The second volume of records followed in 1828, by which date he was vicar of Kirkwhelpington.<sup>20</sup> On 19 October 1824 he had written to James Raine: "My progress with the parochial history is provokingly slow. The documents which I ordered to be written in the British Museum are dribbled in in such miserable portions, and so slowly, that I long to be in London with half a dozen hacks about me, and satisfy my craving wants at once. Added to this, after writing a most urgent letter three weeks ago to Dr. Bandinel, for papers that were copying for me in the Bodleian Library, he tells me that he left the greater part of them and the most important document with Mr. George Andrews, bookseller in Durham, on the 16th August

last—whose only answer to two letters pressing him to send them to me is that he sent them off to me last Friday, and if they be not arrived, if I will write saying so he will inquire of the coaches . . ."<sup>21</sup>

In the autumn of 1829 Hodgson was writing to his friends to recommend "any boy who could teach Latin, and writes a *goodish* hand, whom I could engage to work for me as my amanuensis, and would for an hour or so in the day teach such of my children as might be at home a lesson in common arithmetic or Latin, qualifications in which our governess does not excel. . . . A very humble scholar would answer my purpose; but one that was not industrious and tractable I could do nothing with. Forty pounds a year *is all* I could afford to give. . . . Living is very cheap, and a person who could cater for himself, and has been accustomed to plain, frugal living, might, I apprehend, have lodgings and find all his meat for 20/. a year, or indeed for considerably less. . . . A lad that has a jem of genius in his cap, and yet could set down to indexes, transcribe old deeds, read books, copy my rough draughts, and do a thousand other useful things in my study, would be a great blessing to me for a few years, and would find himself as happy as encouragement and kindness and 30/. or 40/. a year, and lodgings in an old Peelhouse with a canny old tailor and his wife, could make him . . ."<sup>22</sup>

This paragon was in fact found in the person of Mr. P. Mackay, an Edinburgh student who subsequently was appointed schoolmaster at Gifford near Haddington.<sup>23</sup>

Meanwhile the subscribers were growing impatient for their parish history. Some cancelled their subscriptions; others refused to accept delivery when their volume arrived. The shortfall was borne by Hodgson. There was criticism of the standard of his proof-reading.<sup>24</sup> Hodgson ploughed on. He published the first section of the Morpeth deanery in 1827. This was followed in 1832 by the remainder of the deanery, with a third and final volume of records in 1834. He then moved his attention southwards to the deanery of Corbridge, probably influenced by his desire to publish his conclusions on the chronology of the Roman Wall

and the role in its establishment played by the Emperor Hadrian. The text was designed and seen by him through the press but before the final indexes could be prepared Hodgson suffered a severe stroke. He survived a further five years, but his memory was shattered and his great project lay buried between the covers of his "guard books" and notebooks.<sup>25</sup>

Following Hodgson's death on 12 June 1845<sup>26</sup> a number of his friends attempted to raise a fund "to secure the safe custody of the MSS., and if possible the ultimate completion of the work." The target was £500. In the wry words of Raine: "But Northumberland, true to its apathy, cared not for poor Hodgson or his papers. This sensible appeal, originating in the kindness of Mr. Hodgson Hinde, was only able to produce the miserable sum of 165/.; and the manuscripts are now where they ought to be, in the hands of the eldest son of their compiler; who, whilst he affectionately sets upon them the value which they justly deserve, knows at the same time how to estimate the regard in which his father's labours are held in that county to which he devoted his energies for thirty years, and his life in the end."<sup>27</sup>

Now, a century and a half later, how should one judge Hodgson as a historian according to modern standards? Since his day the medieval state records of England have been extensively published and what he could obtain only with difficulty can now be consulted by any bright child on a school project. What Hodgson accomplished by way of location and publication can only be described as awesome. This does not alter the fact that most modern scholars would prefer to use newer calendars of records simply because they have passed through fewer hands between transcription and the printed page. If the material has not already been reprinted, the ideal is to obtain a Xerox of Hodgson in his Record volumes and correct it with the original manuscript.

Judging Hodgson against his immediate predecessors, James Raine asserted: "with a few exceptions, and a few only, our county histories till the commencement of the present century were the dullest of all dull publications. . . . Sketches of descent of prop-

erty, church notes which, when ventured upon architecturally, are almost invariably wrong, lists of incumbents, copies of monuments which in design and inscription (upon their veracity I make no remark) are more frequently better suited to a heathen temple than a Christian church, and proofless pedigrees of families who perhaps never conferred one single boon upon the world . . . constitute the staple of the books to which refer." Hodgson aimed to present "pictures of men and manners in by-gone times". "His pedigrees are arranged in lines and generations in the ordinary way, but contrary to the usual custom, they consist of something more than a mere concatenation of names with nothing more than mere dates of births, marriages and deaths. In general, under each person, much is given of personal history . . . By this process an immense space is saved for other purposes." Finally he appreciated the vital importance of indexes to help the reader, and provided copious lists of men and places, subjects and terms.<sup>28</sup>

Turning to Hodgson's History of Redesdale in the first of his topographical volumes, one finds all these virtues. There is the dry description of Elsdon as "a small town consisting of a circular row of houses, of different degrees of architecture, from mediocrity downwards" (p. 86). He fully appreciated the significance of Evistones, where "there are the ruins of six or seven small peels, the vault of one of which is still used as a cow-house: all of them have been very rudely built of *heavy sand stones*, and on ground still thickly scattered with large fragments of the same kind of rock. On the east side of this deserted village, long lines of stones which have been taken up on tilling, lie between the ridges: and particularly at a place called the *Carnheads*, there are many heaps and rows of stones, amongst which querns are sometimes found; and which have apparently been thrown together when the little ridges of land which run amongst them were under cultivation" (p. 135n). Again, "Birdhope Crag is a hamlet, consisting of a good dwelling-house, a presbyterian meeting-house, and a few cottages" (p. 147n). Apparently Mr. Jollie and his

successor, Mr. Hope, ministers at Birdhope, were responsible for much demolition of the Roman station at Bremenium, Mr. Jollie for removal of the outer casing of the north wall, and Mr. Hope for demolition of the southern gateway and much of the walls from the south-west tower to the middle of the east wall (pp. 148–9). Here Hodgson becomes a source for tracing the decline both of a community and of an ancient monument. In the light of subsequent events, it is startling to find him recommending tree planting in upper Redesdale: “If the enterprise and care of man were judiciously employed in planting portions of the naked hopes and river sides of this fine pastoral country, it is not wanting in a steady and constant provision in nature to mature and richly reward his labours” (p. 154). It was not firs, however, but elms that he had in mind.

Under KIRKWHELPINGTON he has the classic description of what one would now term a bastle but which he terms a “peel” or rather a “Bolt House”. It “consists of a byer or cow-house below, and the family apartments above, viz: an upper room with a boarded floor, and a garret, both approached by stone stairs on the outside, and the whole covered with thatch. The door-way to the cow-house is under the *landing* of the stairs, and the door of it was fastened with a strong *bolt* in the inside, for which purpose the byer and the upper room had a communication by a *trap-hole*, that is, by a horizontal door in a corner of the floor, and a *trap* or *ladder*. . . . This was the character of the principal farm-houses in Northumberland a hundred years since. The peels of the *lairds*, or yeomanry proprietors, had each a stone arch over the byers, and were frequently covered with freestone slate, which made them more secure than houses with thatched roofs, from being burnt in the plundering irruptions of the Scotch, and of their no less troublesome neighbours, the people of Redesdale. The cottage next to the bolt-house, on the right, is a good specimen of the inferior farm-house, the room at the entrance of which was, and still continues in many places to be, a byer in winter and a bedroom in summer, and is called the *Out-bye*: the *In-bye*, or inner

room, with three small windows to the left of the out-door, was the dwelling of the family, and often partitioned by two pressbeds into two apartments.” (p. 189n)

Similarly he kept a sharp look-out for deserted villages. “The *village of West Whelpington* stood proudly on the northern margin of the Wansbeck, on an elevated plain, which slopes gently towards the east, and is defended on all sides, and especially on the south, by a whinstone precipice. It was of an oblong form, about 440 yards long, and consisted of two rows of houses inclosing a large town green, near the centre of which a small circle probably points out the site of its cockpit, near which has stood a peel house, about  $23\frac{1}{2}$  by  $21\frac{1}{2}$  feet in the inside, having very thick walls, and a sort of yard or barmekin in front, apparently the only little fortified habitation which the place could ever boast of. Its name occurs in the parish register up to 1715 in connection among other names, with those of Harle, Wealons, Newton, Milburne, Lambert, and Stote, one of which last family, when he took the whole of it to rent, “put out 15 farmers” here, according to the phrase and account of a person who was his servant, and is still living at the age of 86. No person, however, remembers any one residing here; and the place is now only remarkable for the distinctness of its ruins, the beautiful verdure of its site, and especially for having been one of the numerous places in the north, where a long line of antient tenantry had toiled and gambled; but were forced, by a new order of things, to quit the only spot on earth that was dear to them, and find employment in some of the populous places where, in the language of the Deserted Village,

“... Trade’s unfeeling train  
Usurp the land, and dispossess the swain”.  
(pp. 197–8n)

Similarly, Hodgson tells us of Bolam that it “consisted of a castle at its head, the church and manse of the rectory at its foot, and of two rows of houses running east and west between them, enclosing a town green, and traditionally [Wallis], said to have once consisted of 200

slated houses, consequently of a population of about 900 persons, whose employment is said to have been chiefly in harness and saddle-making. . . ." These houses "disappeared gradually: the last of them since 1810. From the date of the parish registers, 1662, the population of the parish does not, however, seem to have decreased. The truth is, many villages in Northumberland have entirely gone down; but, as on this estate, farm-houses and cottages have risen up in their stead in more convenient situations, a mode better adapted to the growth of good principle and usefulness than the village system. . . . The beauty that the hills and grounds of Bolam are every year acquiring, are chiefly the work of its present proprietor, who, to give employment to the poor, in the scarce and disastrous winters of 1816 and 1817, converted the splashy lands of Bolam bog into a fair expanse of water, and has covered the rough and ferny hillsides to the north of it with plantations, that have since been extended into other parts of the estate" (pp. 336-7).

Hodgson also relates in his description of Bolam church that the "neat Norman arch into the chancel had two rows of heads carved in stone round its outer verge, which the piety of the commonwealth in its zeal against "carved work," did not "break down with axes and hammers;" but which have been carefully hewn off since we visited the place in 1810." Raine annotates this as "by Mr. Meggison";<sup>29</sup> whom Hodgson, true to his self-denying ordinance not to pain the living,<sup>30</sup> names in his list of incumbents as one "to whom the author is indebted for many friendly attentions, and extracts from the registers of this parish" (pp. 341n-43). It was in the same generous spirit that he quoted Leland in his account of Redesdale. "To these parishes [Elsdon, Holystone and Corsenside] resort the Witeiding men, otherwise called *Thanes* of that English march". He then correctly argued that "Witeiding" was a misreading for Witreding, but apparently was content that Redesdale supported "thanes" rather than "theves" (p. 91). In view of his usual gentleness it comes as a shock to read under

ULGHAM: "The chapel yard and gardens here abound with the garden snail (*Helix hortensis*), a filthy and destructive animal, which ought to be carefully gathered, and destroyed" (II p. 176).

What was Hodgson's achievement, measured against his contemporaries? One problem is placing him in his category. He was an outstanding local historian: but local history is only now emerging as a respectable subject academically. Perhaps, if he is to be put on a pedestal one should veil his *History of Northumberland*, and trumpet his work on the archaeology and topography of the Roman Wall, and his logical exposition of the claims of the emperor Hadrian to have established it, popularized by Dr. Collingwood Bruce.

Where does he stand in the context of his contemporary historians working in the North? It is interesting to compare him with the three other men whom he himself suggested should form a committee to edit local records, namely Robert Surtees, James Raine, and Sir Cuthbert Sharp: Surtees, whose *History of County Durham* (1816-40) is regarded as the foundation stone on which subsequent historians of the county would build; Raine, whose *History of North Durham*, namely Northhamshire, Islandshire and Bedlingtonshire in North Northumberland (1852), remained inviolate when the later Northumberland County History Committee set out to cover those areas of the county which Hodgson had been unable to complete; and Sharp, whose major works were a *History of Hartlepool* (1816), and *Memorials of the Rebellion of 1569* (1840), based on State Papers and Bowes Correspondence.

In contrast to Hodgson, Robert Surtees was a landed proprietor, educated at Christ Church, Oxford, and the Middle Temple, London. Antiquarianism was an acceptable hobby for such gentlemen, and again unlike Hodgson, he had no professional duties to occupy his time. Sharp was a friend of Surtees, and visited him at Mainsforth. He wrote: "at breakfast he was constantly surrounded with his favourite pointers and greyhounds". Surtees, doyen of the northern historians of his



day, was something of a recluse, even if he welcomed to his home fellow-antiquarians such as Sir Walter Scott, with whom he maintained a lively correspondence.<sup>31</sup> Hodgson was also among his correspondents, but the letters relate to loans of transcripts, and they appear to have met but rarely.<sup>32</sup> The invitation for Hodgson to inspect his papers at Mainsforth is dated as late as 10 December 1831, although he had written warmly in December 1821 to congratulate him on the publication of his first volume of record material the previous year. He recommended obtaining the services of Edward Swinburne to sketch the towers and peels of the county, whereby he would be "a greater benefactor to Northumberland than by throwing out a few expensive plates for the benefit of the connoisseurs".

Sharp, although a founder member of the Newcastle Antiquaries, soon resigned, although he rejoined in 1845. His father was a shipowner in Hartlepool. He studied at Edinburgh University, and after a time on the Continent returned to Hartlepool, entered the Town Council, served as alderman, and between 1813–14, and in 1816 and 1824 was mayor. He was knighted in 1814, and in 1823 was appointed collector of customs at Sunderland, proceeding to the post of collector at Newcastle until his death in August 1849. In the Centenary Volume of *Archaeologia Aeliana* of 1913 his biographer declared that "Sir Cuthbert devoted the greater part of his life to antiquity and genealogy and never was happy unless he had a parish register, or a minute book, or a public record of some kind, to investigate". His manuscript collections of some 166 volumes are deposited in the Library of the Dean and Chapter of Durham.<sup>33</sup>

The close relationship between Surtees and James Raine is well attested. Raine had come to Durham School as second master in 1812 at the age of 21, and was invited to Mainsforth that Christmas. Two years later Raine was ordained deacon and in 1816 was appointed Librarian to the Dean and Chapter of Durham. In 1822 he was given the cathedral living of Meldon, having been ordained a priest in 1818. In this way he reached Northumberland a year

before Hodgson himself was presented to Kirkwhelpington. Raine accompanied Surtees on many of his expeditions in search of material for his *History of Durham*.<sup>34</sup> He also volunteered his services to the Rev. Thomas Dunham Whitaker for his *History of Richmondshire* (1823) as well as to Hodgson for his work on Northumberland. At the same time he undertook a massive piece of research into the life of St. Cuthbert, and was present at the exhumation of the saint in 1827. In 1830 the first part of his *History of North Durham* was published, although the complete work did not appear until 1852. Meanwhile, on the death of Robert Surtees on 11 February 1834, he was a leading agent in the foundation of the Surtees Society to publish manuscripts "illustrative of the intellectual, the moral, the religious, and the social condition of those parts of England and Scotland, included on the East between the Humber and the Firth of Forth, and on the West between the Mersey and the Clyde, a region which constituted the Ancient Kingdom of Northumberland". The initial steering committee included, together with Raine, the Rev. John Hodgson and John Adamson and John Trotter Brockett of the Newcastle Antiquaries. Raine served as its Secretary from 1835 until his death in 1858, and edited seventeen of the Society's volumes.<sup>35</sup>

Hodgson was not an integral member of this close-knit group of historians roughly centred on Durham. His parishes of Kirkwhelpington and Hartburn were too distant, and his natural focal point was Newcastle, where latterly his eldest son, Richard Wellington Hodgson, lived.<sup>36</sup> He had, however, his own "county" circle, encompassing Capheaton and Wallington. Sir John Edward Swinburne, baronet, JP and deputy lieutenant for Northumberland, who was second president of the Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society and president of the Newcastle Antiquaries from its foundation to his death in 1860, was Hodgson's patron and friend. He contributed towards the costs of publication, supplied material from the Swinburne family archives, and procured transcripts of documents from other sources. His younger

brother, Edward, provided thirty sketches for the *History*.<sup>37</sup>

A second friend was Sir Walter Calverley Trevelyan, baronet, of Wallington. An Oxford graduate, he helped Hodgson by copying ancient deeds and charters in the British Museum, the Bodleian Library, Oxford, and elsewhere. It was he who later commissioned William Bell Scott to paint the historical murals decorating the inner courtyard at Wallington. He was also a frequent contributor to the early volumes of *Archaeologia Aeliana*.

How do the works of Hodgson, Surtees, Raine and Sharp compare? Physically their volumes are very different. Surtees and Raine published in elephant folio, while Hodgson published in royal quarto and Sharp in octavo. Surtees used a print easy to read, with short footnotes; Raine employed a smaller type, which makes the large folios uncomfortable to read and handle, undoubtedly to the loss of many researchers. Hodgson's pages are well laid-out, except for his interminable footnotes in miniscule type and spawning their own footnotes.<sup>39</sup> Sharp used normal print and octavo page-size.

Surtees led off his *History* with an account of the county from Saxon times and subsequently subdivided into the spans of the various bishops of Durham. After the "political" history came a topographical account of the area, starting in the first volume, published in 1816, with Easington ward, subdivided into its parishes. These he presented according to manorial descent, using the evidence of Boldon Book and any available title deeds and wills; he described the church and any monuments therein, and listed the incumbents, using the parish registers. He quoted sources by their generic names, ignoring page references. It is very crisp, and very different from Hodgson. Raine followed his master in the use of sources, quoting Boldon Book, but he also took into account unpublished material in the Public Record Office. His indexes were not as comprehensive as those of Surtees.

Hodgson takes one by the lapels and tries to show what a place looked like in his own day,

and how it looked in the past; and what he could discover about its past inhabitants. One must not be in a hurry for his information.<sup>40</sup> Indeed, because of the printing techniques of the day, he was sending material to the printer while still composing the same volume, and might change his opinion from one section to another. Having in 1835 printed in Part Three Volume Three the Oliverian survey of Northumberland from one source, he subsequently learnt of a better version, which had been printed in *Archaeologia Aeliana*; and then, with the Society's permission, added it to the final volume of his parochial history, published in 1840.

In considering the differences of the three *magna opera* (their use of Latin is infectious), one is reminded of the essential difference between the material available to the authors. Firstly it must be remembered that Northumberland and Durham both share the vacuum of non-inclusion in the national Domesday Book and virtually no Anglo-Saxon charters to shed documentary light on their pre-Conquest history.<sup>41</sup> This separates the two counties from their neighbours in the south. But whereas the history of Durham and its northern outliers can be told (albeit inadequately) through the history of its bishops and the tenorial evidence of Boldon Book, no one has ever thought that the history of Northumberland might be encapsulated in the history of one family, say the Percies—even if Hodgson made a stab at county history as illustrated by Swinburne charters and papers. Furthermore, Durham in Surtees' time still ranked as a palatinate, with Bishop Barrington as titular lord and its secular records housed on Palace Green. A succession of lawyers in its courts, both secular and ecclesiastical, had poured over its archives and made their selections of precedents, James Mickleton and John Spearman, John and William Rudd. Dr. Hunter had planned an ecclesiastical history and made copious transcripts from episcopal registers. Before them, the prior and convent of Durham and their successors, the dean and chapter, had husbanded their own archive of charters, registers, and rolls of estate adminis-

tration. Durham was, and is, a treasure-house of medieval and later archive material, waiting for someone to process it.

In stark contrast, Northumberland was a Border county, open to raids from Scotland and subject to inter-family feuds, neither being conducive to preservation of estate papers. Only the fact that it was administered from London, allows the modern researcher the opportunity to use State archives to disentangle its history. The importance of these archives was beginning to be appreciated in Hodgson's time, and a Record Commission had started to publish from 1802 national surveys such as the *Taxatio ecclesiastica Angliae et Walliae* of Pope Nicholas IV (1291/2) and calendars compiled in earlier centuries of patent, charter, and originalia rolls. Forty-nine of these sets of archives had been published by 1848. (Thereafter they were succeeded by the Rolls Series of *Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages*.)

Hodgson was fired by the ambition to make more readily available to northern antiquarians these weighty (and expensive) tomes. To this end he reprinted in his first record volume the Northumberland sections of the Hundred Rolls, Quo Warranto proceedings, Testa de Nevill, Taxatio Papae Nicholai Quarti, and abstract calendars of Inquisitions post mortem, to which he added his own contribution of transcripts of Swinburne charters, a list of Northumberland castles in 1460, supplied by Robert Surtees, correspondence concerning Lord Dacre as Warden of the East and Middle Marches from the Swinburne archives, expenses incurred by Sir Thomas Swinburne as sheriff of Northumberland from a Mickleton MS, and a Book of Rates from a private collection, brought up-to-date from other sources. This was followed in a second volume of archives by more Swinburne charters, extracts from the Hunter MSS in Durham relating to church administration in Northumberland, mainly appropriations, transcripts from two Cottonian MSS of the Bowes and Ellerker surveys of the Border, 1542 and 1550, and further abstracts from Record Commission volumes.

Finally, in 1835, he published transcripts of the Pipe Rolls as far as they related to Northumberland, 1130–1272, and extracts from the Black Book of the Exchequer, the Nonae Roll for 1340, the Valor Ecclesiasticus, a Valor of 1577, the Oliverian Inquest of 1650, and a Feodary of landholders of 1560. These are the necessary building blocks for any serious historian.

On the negative side, Hodgson subscribed to the current view that the use of Record Type preserved the authenticity of any manuscript. (Raine did the same for his Coldingham charters.) Although it is quicker to transcribe documents in their abbreviated form, and uses less writing material, it is another matter to present it in this form in type. This cannot preserve the nuances of handwritten suspension and contraction marks, and other forms of abbreviation. Presented with such archaic pages the modern reader looks for an easier alternative, preferably a calendar in English. The danger is the possibility of misunderstanding by the transcriber. Such a howler comes from the doyen of Newcastle historians, John Brand. In his history of the borough in Volume ii (p. 144), writing of *quo warranto* proceedings in the town in 1293, he says that no further action was taken following a declaration of the town's privileges, it having been alleged that "the whole is the mannor of King John". He was obviously doubtful as to the meaning of this strange statement, because he put it in quotation marks, as if to emphasize that they were not his own words. His source was not the original but Browne Willis' MSS in the Bodleian library. What the original plea roll had read was that the town "est in man' Domini Regis Io'", namely in the hands of the King, therefore [no action was taken...] Hodgson on more than one occasion had grave doubts as to the accuracy of his transcribed sources but scrupled to amend them.

When he died in 1845, broken by his herculean labours on the county history, Hodgson believed that with another three volumes he would have covered the whole area. In the event, and using his notebooks as a starting point, it took a committee another fifty years

and a further fifteen volumes to complete his task.<sup>42</sup> As a postscript one might add that Surtees too was broken by *his* undertaking, and died with it incomplete. In his case, however, his name was kept green by the establishment of a record-publishing society: the very project mooted by Hodgson in 1818, when he wondered whether it might not be a more practicable idea than his history.

Nevertheless Hodgson's concept of a county history firmly based on archive material continued to prick the consciences of local historians; and in 1890 Thomas Hodgkin revived the project. The inaugurating committee included the Earl Percy,<sup>43</sup> the Bishop of Peterborough (Dr. Mandell Creighton), the Rev. John Collingwood Bruce, Cadwallader J. Bates, Robert Blair,<sup>44</sup> the Rev. William Greenwell,<sup>45</sup> R. O. Heslop,<sup>46</sup> J. Crawford Hodgson,<sup>47</sup> John George Hodgson,<sup>48</sup> the Rev. James Raine the younger,<sup>49</sup> and Richard Welford.<sup>50</sup>

It was recognized at once that so vast an undertaking could not begin without adequate financial aid, and, as the number of subscribers increased slowly, a guarantee fund was formed. The committee received substantial aid from the Duke of Northumberland,<sup>51</sup> the Duke of Portland, Lord Hastings, Sir James Joicey, Mark Archer, A. H. Browne, the executors of the late Dr. Bruce, N. G. Clayton, W. D. Cruddas, the Dean and Chapter of Durham, R. R. Dees, Edward Joicey, James Laing, J. D. Milburn, W. Milburn, H. T. Morton, Hugh Taylor, and Thomas Taylor. These contributions, in addition to various sums guaranteed by the members of the committee themselves, produced a fund which, it was hoped, might be still further increased. After these preliminaries an editor was appointed [Edward Bateson], and the work actually began in the autumn of 1891.

"It was resolved that, so far as possible, the new book should follow the lines laid down by the late Rev. John Hodgson, and that those districts which he had left untouched should first be dealt with. In this way new ground would be broken, and some progress would be made towards completing that great History of Northumberland, monumental alike in its con-

ception and execution, which Mr. Hodgson was unable to finish in his lifetime. The large mass of material, collected by Mr. Hodgson for the unfinished portions of his book, has been placed at the disposal of the committee by the historian's grandson, Mr. John George Hodgson.

"The History of Northumberland, as planned and partially carried out by Mr. Hodgson, has furnished the model on which the present work endeavours to proceed. The work is a parochial history, to be supplemented at some future time if practicable by a volume in which the fruits of minute research will be summarized and tabulated." Further assistance was provided by the Duke of Northumberland, who facilitated through the medium of his librarian, Thomas Bosworth, use of the collection at Alnwick Castle of transcripts from documents at the Public Record Office. They included large portions of the Charter Rolls, Patent and Close Rolls, Inquisitions, Assize and *Coram Rege* Rolls, so far as they related to Northumberland. Another valuable source material was surveys made by Clarkson and Mason of the Earl of Northumberland's estate shortly after the dissolution of the monasteries.

The Rev. James Raine placed at the committee's disposal the manuscript collection of wills, copied by his father and himself from the Probate Registry at Durham, and otherwise assisted the committee by his great knowledge and experience. Other acknowledgements of help were made to Mary Trice Martin, who "by her skill and industry in transcribing numerous records from the various archives in London, has greatly assisted the progress of the work. Mr. Trice Martin of the Public Records Office has also on several occasions drawn attention to fresh sources of information, and helped in the solution of obscure problems.

"The committee desires lastly to especially thank the Rev. William Greenwell and Mr. J. Crawford Hodgson for the manifold help which they have rendered."<sup>52</sup>

When the compilers of the new County History reached Volume XV in 1940 they were

content to lay down their pens because they had now covered the county apart from the deanery of Morpeth, which Hodgson had already described a century previously. No need was felt to revise his work.

John Hodgson tried to make Northumberland's past live again, not just by imagination, like Sir Walter Scott, but through topography and documentation.<sup>53</sup> He cherished this ambition, despite the fact that his vocation as clergyman required him to live in Northumberland when, in the days of stage-coach and coastal sailing-ship, his archives were mainly in London and to a lesser extent in Oxford—a prospect enough to daunt the stoutest heart. In these days of multi-media technology it is easy to sneer at such self-confidence, but Hodgson recognized not only the importance of documentary evidence but also of oral testimony and environmental factors. These elements, blended with his archaeological interests, make his *History* a tool for use by the most modern historian, whereas the later *Northumberland County History* can leave much to be desired by them, with the comparative veil of silence (particularly in the earlier volumes) over much post-medieval county history.

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> R. Welford, *Men of Mark 'Twixt Tyne and Tweed* (1895) ii, 533–42.

<sup>2</sup> J. Raine, *Memoir of the Rev John Hodgson* (1857), i, 27–9.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 26, 64, 190.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 90–119, 172–86.

<sup>5</sup> Hodgson died on 12 June 1845, and a commemorative lecture was delivered to the Society in his honour on 25 October 1995.

<sup>6</sup> R. Welford, "Early Newcastle Typography, 1639–1800" *AA*<sup>3</sup> III (1907), 21–3, 33–41, 46–8, 55–134; M. Weekley, *Thomas Bewick* (1953), 107.

<sup>7</sup> G. Jobey, "The Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne" (*AA*<sup>5</sup> XVIII [1990]; C. J. Hunt, *The Book Trade in Northumberland and Durham to 1860* (Newcastle, 1975), 86–7. Interestingly, Sykes in the Preface to the second edition of his *Local Records* (1833) thanked numer-

ous local clergy and gentlemen for their assistance in compiling the information but made no reference to Hodgson.

<sup>8</sup> Adamson was to be co-secretary with Hodgson of the Antiquarian Society, but his interests ranged from conchology, on which he wrote a handbook for amateur collectors, through mineralogy and fossils, collections of both of which he donated to Durham University and the Natural History Society of Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle upon Tyne respectively, to Portuguese literature, for services to which, by rendering it better known in England, he was created by the Queen of Portugal in 1841 a knight of the two orders of Christ and of the Tower and the Sword (G. Palliser, *John Adamson* [1982] *passim.*)

<sup>9</sup> *AA*<sup>3</sup> X (1913), 13–14.

<sup>10</sup> *Dictionary of National Biography* i (1885), 110.

<sup>11</sup> *Memoir* i, 156–7; ii, 128; C. J. Bates, "The Border Holds of Northumberland" (*AA*<sup>2</sup> XIV, 1891) 28 n149.

<sup>12</sup> *Memoir* i, 157–8, 202–3.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 202–3.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 204–5, 268.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 220.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 228.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 254.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 273–4.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 299–301.

<sup>20</sup> He had been presented to Kirkwhelpington in 1823 by the bishop of Durham, and been persuaded to retain Jarrow with Heworth, serving these by two curates paid by himself, a drain on his resources which he came to regret (*Ibid.*, ii, 1–3).

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, ii, 48.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, ii, 160.

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, ii, 169–70.

<sup>24</sup> *Ibid.*, i, 397; ii, 53, 114.

<sup>25</sup> This material eventually passed into the custody of this society, and was transferred to Northumberland Record Office in the early 1960s. It is catalogued among the Society's collections as ZAN/M15 A 1–72.

<sup>26</sup> The autopsy after his death found that Hodgson had suffered from an enlarged heart and stoppage of the bowel. He apparently had accumulated a quantity of lead-shot in the larger intestine, leading to the speculation that he had died of lead-poisoning. Dr. Le Gassicke gives as his professional opinion that the various symptoms indicate a massive stroke, suffered in August 1839, followed five years later by a second and fatal seizure (*Ibid.*, ii, 456n).

<sup>27</sup> *Ibid.*, ii, 460–1 footnote.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid., ii, 98–100.

<sup>29</sup> Such marginal comments appear in my copy of the *History*, which (from a cutting pasted inside the cover to volume i) originally belonged to Raine.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid., ii, 106–7.

<sup>31</sup> G. Taylor, *Memoir of Robert Surtees, esq* (Surtees Soc 24, 1852) 1–2, 4–14, 141, 155.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid., 358, 378, 386, 402, 432.

<sup>33</sup> AA<sup>3</sup> X (1910), 138–9.

<sup>34</sup> A. Marsden, *A Raine Miscellany* (Surtees Soc 200 (1991), 2.

<sup>35</sup> A. H. Thompson, *The Surtees Society* (Surtees Soc 150, 1939), 1–2.

<sup>36</sup> Welford ii, 555–8.

<sup>37</sup> AA<sup>3</sup> X (1913), 142–3; cf *Memoir* i, 275–304.

<sup>38</sup> AA<sup>3</sup> X (1913), 154–5.

<sup>39</sup> Hodgson's interest in presentation is attested by his membership of the Newcastle Typographical Society. He decorated his first volume of records with ornamental initials to each section, cut by himself (*Memoir* i, 311).

<sup>40</sup> His friend, Rev. A. Hedley of Whitfield, gently pulled Hodgson's leg on this subject. "Though I, as a Redesdale man, would not think its history too long were you to devote a volume to it, I cannot but help suspecting the space you have devoted to it *disproportionably* long ... I have always thought that compression and judicious selection from the immense mass of your valuable materials will be the most difficult task that you have to perform" (Ibid., ii, 72).

<sup>41</sup> P. H. Sawyer, *Anglo-Saxon Charters* (Royal Historical Society Guides and Handbooks 8, 1968), 454.

<sup>42</sup> This excludes Raine's *North Durham* (1852), G. Tate's two volume *History of Alnwick* (1865–9), and John Scott's *History of Berwick upon Tweed* (1888), which were left unrevised.

<sup>43</sup> Earl Percy was born in 1846, son of the sixth duke of Northumberland. He was MP for Northumberland, 1868–85; JP; President of the Archaeological Institute, 1884–92; and a Trustee of the British Museum (*Edwardian Biographies: Northumberland* (1985), 91).

<sup>44</sup> Blair was born in 1845; articled to John Salmon, son of Thomas Salmon, Town Clerk of South Shields, 1858; admitted solicitor, 1874. He was an early excavator at Arbeia. He was appointed Secretary of the Newcastle Antiquaries in 1881/3, and Editor in 1884. He revised the 4th to 8th editions of Collingwood Bruce's *Handbook to the Roman Wall*. He died in 1923 (AA<sup>3</sup> XX [1923], 187–204).

<sup>45</sup> Greenwell was born in 1820, eldest son of William Thomas Greenwell of Greenwell. He graduated at Durham, BA, in 1839, and entered Middle Temple. In 1843 he obtained a Durham MA in theology and was ordained deacon on the title of the Pemberton Fellowship in 1844. He was locum vicar of Ovingham between 1847 and 1850; curate at Burton Agnes, 1850–54; assistant at Hatfield Hall, Durham, 1854, and at Neville Hall, Newcastle. He was appointed a minor canon at Durham cathedral, 1854–1908, and librarian to the Dean and Chapter in 1862, where he collected Anglian sculptured stones. His collection of burial urns and skulls passed to the British Museum in 1879, and his collection of flint implements was sold in 1895 for £1,200. His collection of Greek coins was sold in 1901 to Mr. Warren of Boston, USA, for £11,000, and his collection of prehistoric bronze weapons was sold in 1908 to Pierpont Morgan and the British Museum for £10,000. He was President of Durham and Northumberland AA, 1865–1918; JP, 1870; Chairman of Petty Sessions of Durham Ward, 1900. He died in January, 1918 (AA<sup>3</sup> XV [1918], 1–13).

<sup>46</sup> Heslop was born in 1842. He was an iron and steel merchant, JP, Secretary of the Newcastle Antiquaries and of the Durham and Northumberland AA, and compiler of *Northumberland Words* (1892–4). He died in March 1916 (AA<sup>3</sup> XIII [1916], 156–62).

<sup>47</sup> J. Crawford Hodgson was born in 1854, and was librarian to the duke of Northumberland at Alnwick Castle between 1899 and 1921. He served as Hon Secretary of the Northumberland County History Committee between 1896 and 1904 and was editor of volumes IV to VII. He joined the Newcastle Antiquaries in 1890, and among other contributions to *Archaeologia Aeliana* was responsible for fifty of the biographies contained in the Centenary volume of 1913. He also edited five volumes for the Surtees Society (volumes 112, 118, 124, 131 and 134). He died on 23 January 1927 (AA<sup>4</sup> IV [1927], 122–34).

<sup>48</sup> J. G. Hodgson, born in 1841, was son of Richard Wellington Hodgson, eldest son of Rev. John Hodgson. He entered the family business, begun by Richard Kell of Heworth Shore in 1784 for the manufacture and sale of grindstones. He was a JP for Co. Durham (Gateshead); a member of the Newcastle Antiquaries (1884); of the Surtees Society (1885); and of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society (1906). He died in 1926 (AA<sup>4</sup> IV [1927], 83–9).

<sup>49</sup> Raine the younger was born in 1830, eldest son of Hodgson's biographer. He was Principal of

Neville Hall, a hall of residence for the reconstructed College of Medicine at Newcastle, 1854–56. In 1856 he transferred to York, where he later became canon and resident prebendary and librarian of York Minister. He served as secretary of the Surtees Society (1855–95), and curator of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society, etc. He died in 1896 (AA<sup>3</sup>, X [1913], 241–2).

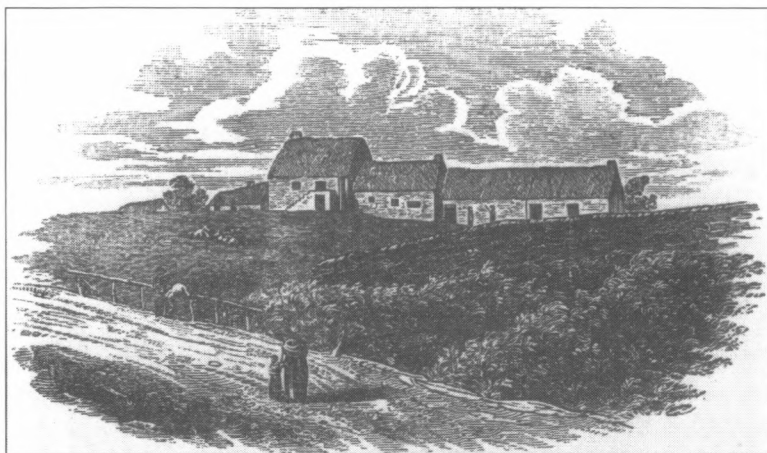
<sup>50</sup> Welford was born in 1836. He was a Durham MA and a JP. He was a director of the Tyne-Tees Steam Shipping Co.; Lawes Chemical Manure Co.;

Free Trade Wharf Co. (*Edwardian Biography*, 263).

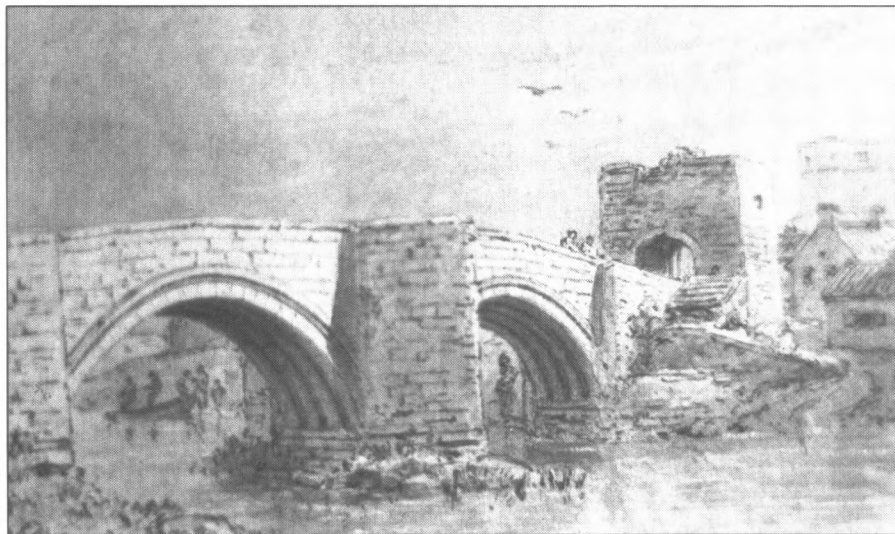
<sup>51</sup> The duke, born in 1836, was made patron of the Newcastle Antiquaries in 1866. He was a member of parliament in 1831, 1852, 1857, and 1859, and Lord Privy Seal in 1878. He had strong antiquarian interests, investigating crannogs near Monreith, Wigtownshire, in 1864, and paying for the printing of various historical works, including the Poll Books for Northumberland (AA<sup>3</sup> X, 270–1).

<sup>52</sup> *Northumberland County History* I (1893), v–ix.

<sup>53</sup> *Memoir* ii, 98.



The Bolt House. Reproduced from J. Hodgson, *History of Northumberland Pt II, i*, 189.



Warkworth Bridge, one of the drawings by Edward Swinburne for the *History*, reproduced by permission from the sketch book now owned by the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne.

