RESEARCHES INTO THE HISTORY OF WELTON AND ITS NEIGHBORHOOD: WITH A FEW REMARKS, CHIEFLY OF AN ANTIQUARIAN NATURE, ABOUT SOME ADJACENT PLACES IN YORKSHIRE AND ABOUT YORKSHIRE LANGUAGE

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THOMAS THOMPSON

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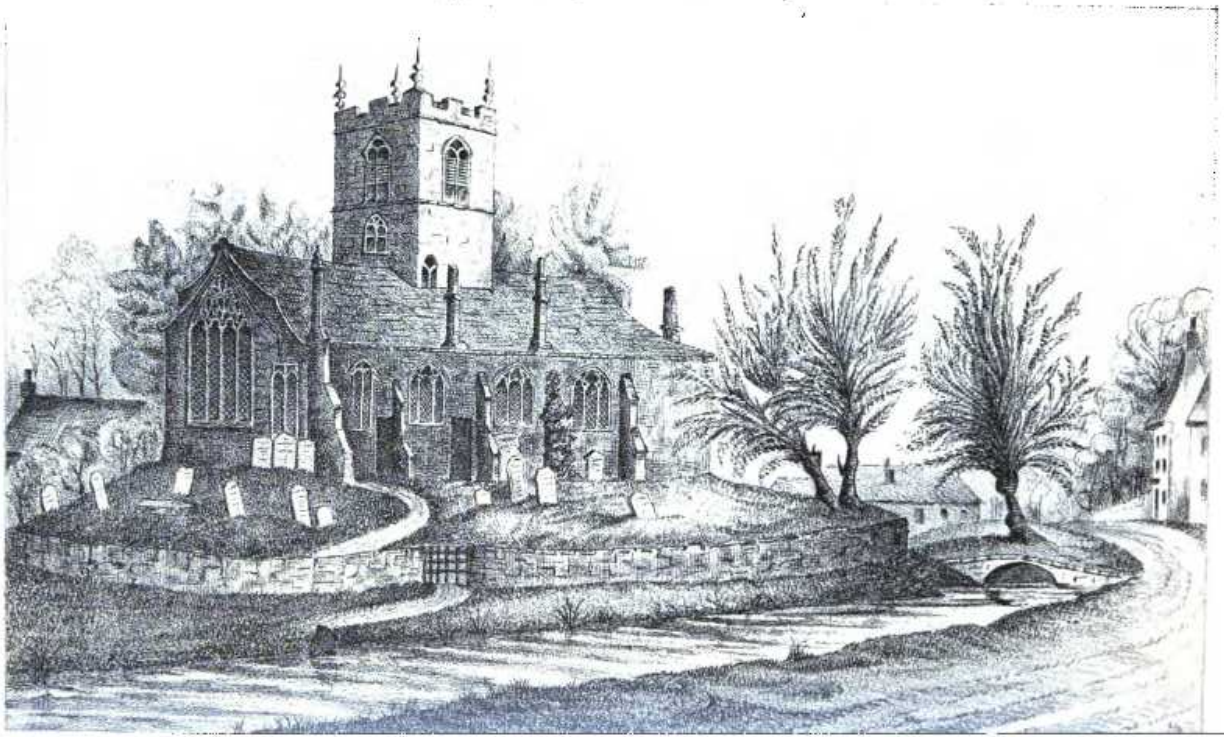

Fred^k Jackson.

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YORKSHIRE LANGUAGE.

BY

THOMAS THOMPSON, F.S.A.,

OF

SPRING HILL, WELTON.

KINGSTON-UPON-HULL: LENG & CO., 15, SAVILLE-STREET.

1870.

PREFACE.

When the Author commenced the following brochure, he had not the least idea of having it printed, but having lent the first part of it to a few friends, they over-persuaded him to do so. It may have a little interest to those residing at and in the immediate neighbourhood of Welton, but the Author conceives that it contains little, if anything, that would be worth reading beyond that district, he has therefore not issued his work to the world at large, but printed it for private circulation only amongst his friends, and such neighbours as may be likely to feel interested in its subject.

Most Authors, believing the Cymbric-Celtic (or Welsh) language to have been the universal language of the Ancient Britons, have sought in it alone for the derivation of the names of our rivers, mountains, boroughs, &c., and the Author does not remember ever to have seen it stated that the powerful tribes called "Brigantii," who dwelt in the mountainous and hilly parts of England during the Roman sway, were Gaels speaking the Gaelic-Celtic tongue, which is still used in the

Highlands of Scotland—this, the Author believes, he has in the second part of his work demonstrated, and thereby has cleared up some doubts which have arisen amongst Antiquarians as to the situation of the ancient town known amongst the Romans by the name of "Isurium," and other similar antiquarian disputes; at any rate he has so far ventilated the subject as to lead others possibly to make further enquiry into it.

To those living in the East and North Ridings of Yorkshire, he thinks that part of his work may be interesting, which proves that our Yorkshire peasantry are in the daily habit of speaking the old Norse or Norwegian language without knowing it; but the proofs of that fact which heap themselves upon one another, seem to the Author so convincing of the broad Yorkshire of those Ridings being substantially the language used by our Danish invaders, that he could not resist saying a few words on the subject.

Hoping, rather than expecting, that his readers may find something to interest or amuse them in this his little work, the Author now bids them adieu.

T. T.

Spring Hill, 1869.

The Lithographer has left out the Titles from the Lithographic Frontispiece, and that on page 42.—They represent the Welton Church, and its Interior, prior to its Restoration.

PART I.