

**THE VISITORS' GUIDE TO  
RABY CASTLE,  
BARNARD CASTLE AND  
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD**

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The visitors' guide to Raby castle, Barnard Castle and the neighbourhood by F. M. L.

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W. & A. K. 1832

BALLYCASTLE.

THE  
VISITORS' GUIDE  
TO  
**Raby Castle, Barnard Castle**  
AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

BY F. M. L.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS ON STEEL AND WOOD, FROM  
DRAWINGS BY THE AUTHOR.

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## P R E F A C E .

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IT was not to be expected that, in an earlier age, this fine district could be properly appreciated; not so much from any deficiency in those who did traverse it, as from its being almost unvisited.

As is often the case, in a country more than usually varied and beautiful, the means of transit were so scant, and, if obtained, so slow, that few could spare the time, on their Northern journey—perhaps to Scotland or the Lakes—to pause and give this neighbourhood the attention it deserved. And if the traveller merely passed onward by the ordinary highway, he would meet with one or two scenes only, such as Piercebridge, and the view from the steep descent between Gainford and Winston,—which would rouse his sleeping senses, and lead him to think that perhaps this country of tiresome long hills, and rough stony roads, over which he was wending his way,

might be not less interesting than that which he was eagerly seeking.

The stage-coach is already gone ; and, ere long, also, will disappear from the district, its far more ancient and characteristic means of carriage,—the picturesque drove of asses, each with its load of that most valuable of all jewels, the “black diamond;” and the hardy race of ponies and of mules, with their burdens from the lead mines.

We must not regret them—they have had their day,—and now the iron Mammoth takes her place, exacting submission from her humbler neighbours. All must give way, for she does their work as well as her own, and opposition is death !

But we leave her to those who comprehend her better than ourselves. With her we have nothing to do, but to turn her to our own account, and take advantage of her powers, to visit, without fatigue or delay, the scenes of which a description is attempted in this little work.

Every sketch in it is original, and no pains have been spared in selecting the subjects.

Many scenes there are, as will be acknowledged by all who seek them out, of the deepest historical interest, and most undeniable beauty.

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