

Grinton, on the south side of the Swale, near Reeth, is the old or mother parish of this dale. All the upper part of Swaledale, even to the mountain border against Westmoreland, is included in it. The church is ancient. Fairs were once held here; but Reeth has now acquired the superiority, being in fact the mining capital of the dale, and is even counted among busy market towns. Here is the best inn of Upper Swaledale, the White Hart; and from this point, Arkendale, Swaledale, and parts of Wensleydale, afford much of interest to the botanist, geologist, and mineralogist, and something for the archæologist.

Below Grinton, the parishes become smaller and more frequent; the population augments; the country loses its character of wildness, and the dale deserves to be called beautiful. Marrick Abbey, as it is called, was a house of Benedictine nuns, of the 12th century. The parish church is formed of the nave and the chancel of this old religious house.

Winding by Ellerton (not the birth-place of 'Old' Jenkins*), Downholme, Marske and Hudswell, the Swale, now a large stream, flows among rocks and woods to Richmond, where the fine reliques of a Norman castle crown a noble cliff of limestone, and combine with bridge, water and wood into many charming pictures (see Whitaker's Richmondshire).

The Norman Richmond has succeeded to the Roman Cataractonium, and stands in a part of Yorkshire full of the traces of earlier British people. Richmondshire, that great district which was taken from the Saxon Earl Edwin and given to the nephew of the Conqueror, spreads on all hands round the ancient centre of population at Catterick, and includes all the mountains and dales to the north, west and south. It may have been a native principality before the days of Ostorius and Cartismandua. The numerous, devious and extensive earth-mounds between the Swale

* See his pillar and inscription in the church at Bolton-upon-Swale. It was at Ellerton near Catterick that he was born.