

Here a considerable affluent enters from Colsterdale, which spreads out in many branches toward the west among the moorlands, as far as the edge of Coverdale: no limestone appears at the surface in this dale, but coal is dug sparingly.

The church at Masham is a fine structure, in the centre of a beautiful district full of antiquarian reliques. On the south is Nutwith Camp, crowning a natural hill, with its nearly rectangular entrenchment. It almost overhangs admired Hackfall and antique Grewelthorpe; Kirkby Malzeard, where the Mowbrays had a castle, being a little more south. At Aldborough, nearly opposite Nutwith Camp, an old road crossed the Ure, and there are marks, fitting to its name, of ancient foundations.

Tanfield, on the same side of the Ure, still preserves its ancient castle or hall, and in the church under alabaster tombs, repose the ashes of the Marmions. At Well, near Tanfield, a Roman pavement has been found (*Gough's Camden*). At a distance of a mile east of Tanfield are three circular entrenchments of similar plans and proportions, about half a mile asunder, and placed almost exactly on a right line directed to the N.N.W., which is the course of the Roman road from Wensleydale by Well to join the Leeming Lane. Each circle is interrupted by a clear passage or road through it, and the openings thus made point one to another, so that the three entrenchments constitute one great work. Thornborough, a name doubly suggestive of an ancient fortification, is very near on the east of these 'rings,' and Nosterfield is to the north of them. A line drawn from Well, where Roman remains have been found, to the S.S.E., would pass nearly through the centres of the 'rings.' Between the northern and middle ring is an interval of three-eighths of a mile; between the middle and southern entrenchment about five-eighths of a mile; and in this larger space near the middle and on the line joining the two is a tumulus of rather large diameter (111 feet), but of comparatively small elevation.

Of the three circles, that to the north has been preserved by the plantation in a nearly perfect state; the middle one is in