

such water, peat, marls and clays. Such deposits lie very widely in the vale of Pickering, and teach us that at least much of its surface was inundated—if indeed the whole were not, for its general aspect suggests a great inland lake.

It is very conceivable that such a lake might exist, whether it discharged itself into the sea in an easterly direction, or drained away through the rocks at Malton, and that at some later time a practicable channel was opened at Malton, and the lake was gradually and partially drained, the vale being still subject to frequent inundation from the river.

The making of such a channel in the limestone at Malton by the river action is not inconceivable, if we remember the frequent subterranean courses of the rivers on the north side of the vale. Time might convert such concealed caverns into open passages, and lower greatly the level of the water in the vale. Before such change of level, Kirkdale Cave may have been at the edge of a lake, and in this respect may have agreed with a great number of other ossiferous caverns which are on record.

All things fairly weighed, no river in Yorkshire surpasses the Derwent in archæological interest. A few miles below Malton, it sweeps by the fragments of beautiful Kirkham (12th century), whose gateway, the latest piece of the priory, is nearly complete. The other parts of the fabric are romantically pleasing. Much laud to Walter L'Espee, the founder! At Westow in this vicinity, an earthen pot full of many bronze tools, as chisels, gouges, and celts, was found, and presented to the Yorkshire Museum. Aldby, placed on a bank above the river, and on the line of the old road from York to Malton (a Roman road or a British track), was the site of a Saxon palace.

Stamford Brig, two miles below Aldby, is the place to which the royal Northman is said to have retired to council after his victory at Fulford, and from which he set forth to a more disastrous battle; and on the wooden brig, which then crossed the Derwent a little above the place of the present arch, his champion fought right well. An annual boat-like cake is the village