

The marches of the Roman generals, by whom the Brigantes were subdued, cannot be traced in Yorkshire, as the route of Agricola is marked in Scotland, by the temporary camps. We cannot fix the site of a single battle, on Brigantian ground, during the whole period of the Roman occupation. According to General Roy, Rey Cross on Stainmoor might be such a camp of the 6th legion, and two of the four camps at Cawthorne are rude enough in design to justify the supposition of their being temporary camps—perhaps thrown up by the 9th legion. Several permanent stations are now represented by towns, where neither banks nor ditches, nor the word ‘caster,’ indicate a guarded camp. This is the case at Castleford, Stamford Bridge, and Brough Ferry. Have they been destroyed by time and change, as the old fortifications of Doncaster and Tadcaster have been, or were they never fortified, but merely villages where small bodies of soldiers on a march might be accommodated by the inhabitants? Derwentio and Delgovitia may perhaps never have been marked by camps.

Many of the purely Roman settlements in Britain appear to be simply military, as, for example, the stations ‘on the Wall.’ Few of the Latin names of these stations can be traced to British roots, and few of the stations are now centres of population; the names were perhaps new, and given to new places; the places were abandoned when the legions withdrew, or soon afterwards, and their names were preserved only in the military records and inscriptions.

Of the following Roman camps, stations and towns, vestiges remain in Yorkshire, or their site is indicated by one of the four documents already referred to.

Temporary Camps.

Rey Cross Camp, p. 18, and
Pl. XXXIV.
Kirklees Camp, p. 98.

Three of the Cawthorne Camps,
p. 88, and Pl. XXXIV.
Barugh Camp, p. 241.
Lease Rigg Camp, p. 24.