

## P R E F A C E

TO THE FIRST EDITION.

---

FROM childhood my attention has been fixed on the great County in which most of the labours and enjoyments of my life have been experienced. Long before my eyes rested on the mountains of the north of England, the mighty form of Ingleborough was engraved in my imagination by many a vivid description; and when I crossed the old Gothic bridge, and beheld the glorious Church, which is the pride and veneration of Yorkshire, it was but the realization of a long-indulged dream of boyhood.

Few, I hope, will censure the grateful feeling which accompanies this record of some of the thoughts which have filled my mind, while renewing health and strengthening hope, on the mountains and in the dales, by the rivers and ruins of Yorkshire, and while seconding or prompting the efforts of many dear friends to unfold the Natural History and Antiquities, so richly spread round the great Towers of the Minster.

There exists, I believe, nothing in print, which professes to do what is here attempted;—to win from the