

Whernside and Carlton. The Nidd, excavated into a narrow channel of limestone, plunges into a sinuous underground course at Govden* Pothole, fully two miles in length, from which it emerges a fresh and full stream at Lofthouse. Here it receives a large branch from the west, and, thus reinforced, runs in a nearly straight course to Pateley Bridge and Darley; then bending eastward passes by Ripley, and south-eastward to Knaresborough, the Castle of Serlo de Burg, and finally north-eastward to join the united Swale and Ure.

The few tourists who penetrate to the upper end of Nidderdale above Angram, find the expansion of the remote fingers of this dale upon the broad slopes of Whernside extremely grand; the still fewer who have the resolution to cross over these slopes to the 'limestone pass' between Great Whernside and Buckden Pike, will experience great enjoyment. Once I guided a friend over this wild 'no road,' and by great, if not good, luck, there came on a glorious thunderstorm, with the lightning in almost a constant blaze of discharges over the summit of Great Whernside, while all around us was in dark shade. After this severe storm had passed, the sun shone brilliantly, and we reached the 'limestone pass' dry, and rejoicing in the splendid effects of light on the vast expanse of mountains and glens spread out between us and the distant cone of Ingleborough.

Between Angram and Govden Pothole, the river runs in a contracted, partly limestone channel, having on the left bank very bold edges of gritstone, with coal strata interposed; between Govden Pothole and Lofthouse, the nearly dry channel is enclosed in rocks of limestone and woods, overhung by lofty gritstone hills. A similar description applies to the How Steane Beck, which here enters the Nidd. Below Lofthouse, the emerging river flows in a picturesque woody dale, shaded by gritstone summits 1000 and 800 feet high, by Ramsgill, Gouthwaite Hall,—the house of Eugene Aram,—to Pateley Bridge, and

* From *Gof*, *Ogof*, a cavern, in Celtic. It is also called Gowden, Goyden, Cowden.