

nine in the Brigantian territory alone;—so improved was the country, or so enlarged the knowledge of it in half a century. In the earliest period of British history corresponding to the pit houses and earthen tumuli, there were perhaps no cities, nor were the ‘oppida,’ which were defended by banks, destined for more than temporary protection. Near such enclosures, however, we may be sure the population was gathered, and thus an important clue is gained for tracing the distribution of the early inhabitants, in addition to the pits and tumuli, the situation of the Roman stations, and the lines of their military ways.

The green dales of the north-west of Yorkshire nourish but a spare population at the present day, and bear but a small proportion to the vast area of moorlands, which, even with the aid of modern improvements, yield but a stinted pasturage for cattle. In these valleys there are but slight traces of early settlements beyond the last reliques of the Romans, at Greta Bridge, Reeth, and Bainbridge. In the country below these points the marks of population of every age become more numerous.

The vicinity of Catterick is remarkable for long connected dikes, which seem in part to be boundary-lines, and in part to be defences, of the simple and antique cast of the British oppida. The space here enclosed between the Tees and the Swale is rich in the sites of castles and camps, and many names of Celtic origin connect the occupation of the country with the Brigantes. In later times, Roman roads, Saxon and Norman castles have increased the interest of the territory. Mr. Maclaughlan has carefully surveyed this district, at the request of the Duke of Northumberland, whose Stanwick estate is in the midst of entrenchments*. A great dike has been traced by Mr. Maclaughlan, from Hindwath on the Swale to near Gainforth on the Tees. This is about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles in a straight line, and is four times as long as the great dike at Flamborough. It is seldom straight for more than half a mile, and is occasionally bent sud-

* Archæological Journal, Nos. 23 and 24. 1849.