

E. C. Loggand  
Sep. 1901

A. C. Northrop.  
July 1886.

# THE HISTORY OF WAKEFIELD,

In the County of York.

## THE RECTORY MANOR

WITH BIOGRAPHICAL AND OTHER NOTICES OF SOME OF  
THE PERSONS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

BY THOMAS TAYLOR,

ONE OF HER MAJESTY'S CORONERS FOR THE COUNTY OF YORK AND FOR  
THE HONOR OF PONTEFRAC<sup>T</sup>, ETC.

"OMNIA MUTANTUR SED NOS MUTAMUR IN ILLIS  
QUEQUE SIBI PROPRIAS RES HABET USQUE VICES."

WAKEFIELD :

W. H. MILNES, RADCLIFFE PRINTING WORKS.

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MDCCCLXXXVI.

## P R E F A C E.

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FIFTY years ago I had the privilege of accompanying my maternal Grandfather to the Courts of various Manors in this neighbourhood, and from his casual remarks I came to the conviction, that the Chroniclers of this locality had done injustice to the dear old town of Wakefield, in assigning to her a secondary position only. From that early date I commenced to collect materials for a correct account of my native place. In the first instance I thought that a history of the Rectory Manor to the end of the 18th Century, and of Cliff Field (including St. John's Church, ancient and modern), with a description of the local government of Wakefield, would form a good sized volume. However, the extraordinary opinions which I found to be entertained by several persons respecting the Rectory Manor and Tithes, in consequence principally of supposed difficulties in the title to the property, induced me to enter into fuller details than originally contemplated, and consequently the account of the Rectory Manor (and matters connected therewith) became sufficient to make up a volume in itself.

Several of my friends having from time to time applied to me for information, and found that I had in print the particulars they required, lately presented to me an urgent request that I would at once issue the volume treating of the Rectory Manor. Although to no one will the deficiencies in the work be more apparent than

## Preface.

they are to myself, I have complied with the request. I trust, however, that the copious Index (the preparing of the greater portion of which occupied my time during a long period of convalescence spent at Southport in 1877), will to some extent compensate for the fragmentary state of the contents of the book.

Among those to whom I have been indebted for assistance I must especially express my thanks to Mr. MOREHOUSE, F.S.A., for the loan of the deed, an extract from which will be found on page 48, *et infra*; and to Messrs. GILL and PLEWS for their communications respecting the recent dealings with the Manor. At the same time I must not omit to mention my obligations to Mr. MILNES, my Publisher, for getting together the parts previously printed and for completing the work.

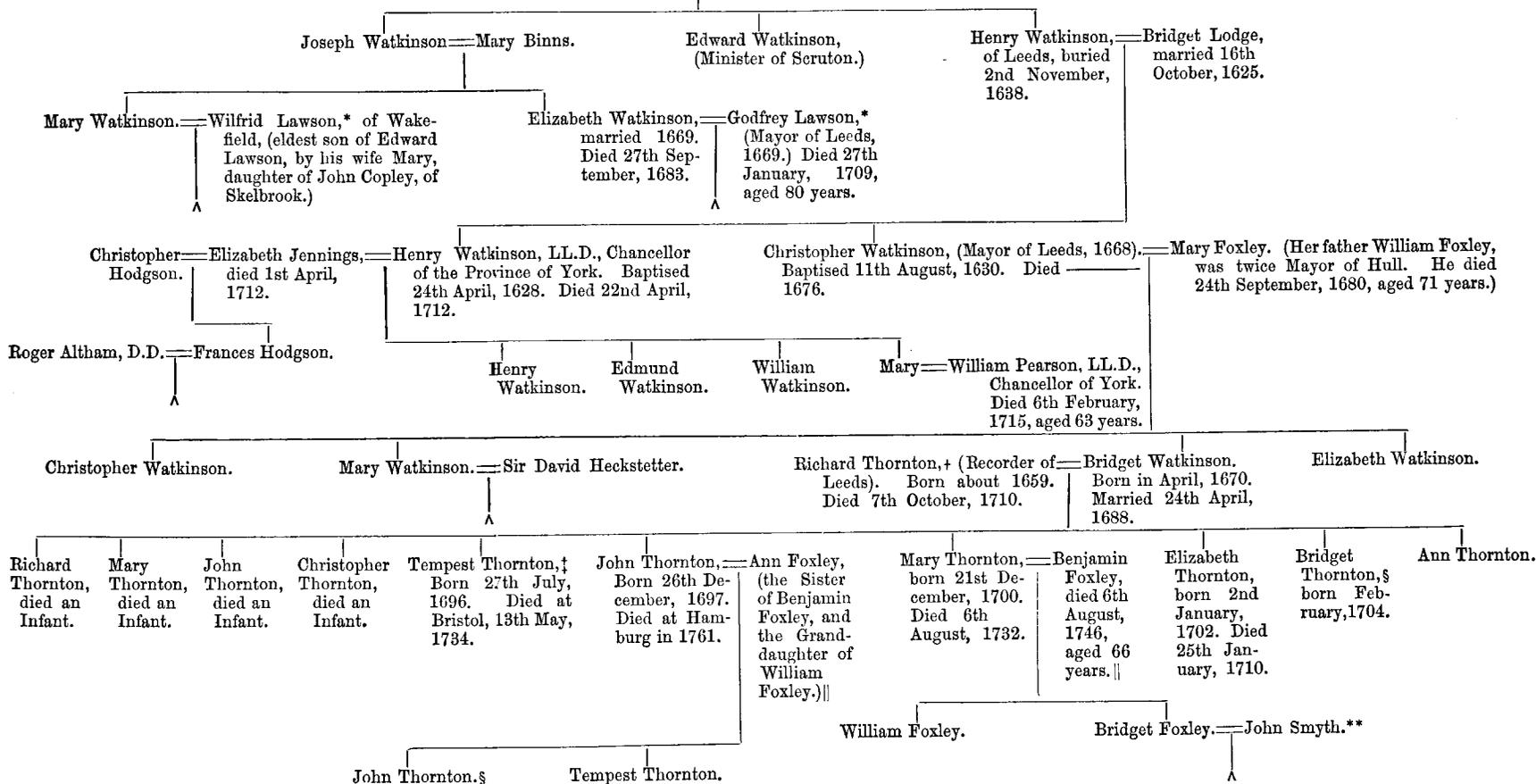
A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thos. Paylor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish that loops over the top of the name.

THE CLIFF, WAKEFIELD,  
*Easter, 1886.*

Or, a Fess between  
3 Mulletts azure.

Argent, a Chevron sable.

Henry Watkinson, of Ikley, left 3 Sons.



\* See Pedigree of the heirs *ex parte maternâ* of John Witton, Page 229.

+ His father, John Thornton, was a son of Tempest Thornton, and was born on the 27th December, 1630, and died on the 28th December, 1672. John's sister Elizabeth was baptised on the 23rd February, 1625, and was married to Joshua Witton, (See page 211). Richard Thornton had two brothers, Tempest and William (both of whom died young) and four sisters, Margaret (who died in 1725), Elizabeth (died in infancy), Judith (died in infancy), and Jane who was married to Nicholas Fenay, and died leaving a daughter Jane Fenay. See Appendix II, pages lxxxi and lxxvii.

‡ Note † page 211 is misplaced. It relates to this Tempest Thornton, who resided in Northgate, Wakefield.

§ See Appendix II, page lxxxii.

|| Benjamin and Ann were children of William Foxley the younger by his wife Alice, sister of Sir David Heckstetter, Knight.

\*\* See Page 248, and Pedigree of the family of Smyth, of Heath.

Wakefield is a city in West Yorkshire, England, on the River Calder and the eastern edge of the Pennines, which had a population of 99,251 at the 2011 census.[1].<sup>^</sup> The Battle of Wakefield took place in the Wars of the Roses and it was a Royalist stronghold in the Civil War. Wakefield became an important market town and centre for wool, exploiting its position on the navigable River Calder to become an inland port.<sup>^</sup> Early history. Flint and stone tools and later bronze and iron implements have been found at Lee Moor and Lupset in the Wakefield area showing evidence of human activity since prehistoric times.[6] This part of Yorkshire was home to the Brigantes until the Roman occupation in AD 43. The History Jar. English History from 1066. Search. Main menu.<sup>^</sup> The Battle of Wakefield. Posted on June 6, 2016 by JuliaH. In September 1459 Richard of York fled to Ireland. He returned a year later and attempted to claim the throne from Henry VI. This was not a sensible manoeuvre and it certainly didn't have popular acclaim. He did manage to wangle the agreement that he would be king after Henry VI, effectively disinheriting Prince Edward and seriously irritating Edward's mother and Henry VI's wife "Margaret of Anjou. Things didn't get better. In November 1460 the Lords Dacre, Clifford and Neville attacked the tenants of Richard of York and the Earl of S