

THE
ANTIQUITIES & LEGENDS
OF DURHAM.

DURHAM abounds in noble antiquities, and is rich in marvelous legends. When in Durham, I had many opportunities of examining its antiquities and collecting its legends, I have thrown together from various sources, some remarks on the aforementioned subjects, which I trust may interest the members of this Society.

The appearance of the City of Durham from a distance is grand and imposing, from its romantic site, a rocky eminence of considerable height, almost encircled by the River Wear. It is partly surrounded by the ancient city walls, beneath which on one side, the slope of the hill is adorned with well planted gardens and ornamented walks, descending to the edge of the River, while on the other side the ground is rocky and precipitous.

Durham received its appellation from two Saxon words, *Dun*, a hill, and *Haln*, low ground. No important settlement took place here before the time of the Saxons, and the town did not attain any celebrity until after the Norman conquest. Its