

Harrogate and Stockton line, is the junction of the North Yorkshire and Cleveland railway, which passes through Stokesley and Castleton to Whitby. The York and Scarborough line skirts the south-eastern boundary of the Riding, passing through Malton: from this line starts the Whitby and Pickering railway, connecting those towns. From Middlesbrough is a line along the coast to Redcar, Saltburn and Loftus. The Whitby, Redcar and Middlesbrough Union Railway Company have a line from Loftus to Whitby, and the line from Scarborough to Whitby completes the connection of the coast lines. There is also a line from Middlesbrough to Guisborough, thence to Loftus.

The soils comprise the varieties common in England, and in consequence most crops are raised: wheat is grown in large quantities and of a superior kind, more particularly in the Cleveland district. Oats are cultivated to a great extent in Ryedale, and seeds are grown in the neighbourhood of York; vast tracts of land are moorland and not under tillage.

On the moors a hardy breed of sheep is reared, and in the lower lands a superior class of sheep is fed; the Riding is famous for its breed of horses, and at Middleham and Richmond there are training grounds for race-horses. Grouse are numerous on the moors.

The mineral productions of the Riding are iron ore, coal, lead ore, whinstone, slate and flagstone, fire-clay, barytes and salt; of these the iron ore is the most important, it having of late years been worked to an immense extent. The character of the ore is that known as argillaceous carbonate; and it is found in the Cleveland hills, which extend south of the Tees for some distance inland; the quantity of ore raised is greater than from any other iron district in the kingdom, viz., in 1891, 5,128,303 tons, valued at £897,453. The deposit ranges from 6 to 16 feet in thickness, and of the quality above stated; it has been proved to range from 40 to 50 miles in length by about 20 in breadth. The entire Cleveland district of ironstone consists of three parts:—1st, Normanby, Eston, Upleatham, and Hobb Hill; 2nd, Roseberry, Belmont, Skelton, Brotton and Lofthouse; 3rd, The Eske valley. The thick part of the beds yields 31 to 32 per cent. of iron, and the thin part 26 to 28 per cent. of iron. Lead is found principally in the districts of Swaledale and Arken-garthdale, in the Western Moorlands. Alum slate (ampelite aluminex) is a slaty rock, or rather a shale bed (180 feet thick), abounding in the neighbourhood of Guisborough. The coal is considered of an inferior description, and is raised in the Eastern and Western Moorlands. Freestone and whinstone are found more or less throughout the Riding. Slate is obtained from the Western Moorlands. Jet is obtained around Whitby, and is largely used, both at Whitby and Scarborough, in the manufacture of personal ornaments, Whitby jet being widely known.

Of manufactures that of pig iron is the only one of any magnitude, and this is confined to the district in which the ore is raised, the modern town of Middlesbrough being the centre. The great increase in this manufacture is truly astonishing, in proof of which we give below a statement of the quantity manufactured, as compared with the previously greatest producing district, viz., South Staffordshire. Number of tons of pig iron manufactured in the years:—

	1869.	1874.	1887.	1891.
South Staffordshire...	569,562	452,400	240,724	313,816
North Riding	766,410	1,158,471	1,841,444	1,769,492

This 1,769,492 is about a fourth of the entire quantity produced throughout England in the year 1891.

The North of England Iron and Steel Manufacturers' Association is composed of the proprietors of steel works, forges and rolling mills in North Yorkshire, Durham and Northumberland; meetings are held occasionally at Middlesbrough, Darlington and Newcastle-on-Tyne. The office is at Middlesbrough; W. Thackray, jun. esq. of Samuel Tyzack and Co. Limited, Sunderland, is president; John R. Wippenny, secretary.

The Cleveland Iron Masters' Association comprises all the leading producers of pig iron in the North Riding, Durham and Northumberland. Meetings are held monthly at Middlesbrough; A. O. Cochrane esq. president; R. T. Wilson esq. vice-president; John Dennington, secretary.

Linen weaving is carried on to some extent in the neighbourhoods of Yarm and Northallerton. Ship-building has been an important industry at Whitby for centuries, and the building of iron ships is now introduced. The fisheries are of great importance, there being many smack owners both at Whitby and Scarborough.

North Yorkshire has neither such large nor populous townships and parishes as West Yorkshire.

The largest townships are:—

	Acres.
Muker .....	30,137
Lunedale .....	22,705
Bilsdale Midcable .....	14,290
Bowes .....	16,958
Pickering .....	16,026
Hawes .....	15,997
Egton .....	15,611
Bainbridge .....	15,271
Arkengarth Dale .....	14,566
Danby .....	13,860
Fylingdales .....	13,010
Holme-upon-Spalding-Moor .....	11,494
Carlton Highdale .....	10,133
Melbecks .....	10,106
Allerston .....	10,043

The largest parishes are:—

	Acres.
Aysgarth .....	81,012
Romaldkirk .....	54,701
Grinton .....	52,292
Helmsley .....	40,120
Pickering .....	30,999
Lythe .....	30,274
Middleton .....	27,282
Catterick .....	23,961
Danby .....	22,854
Coverham .....	20,562
Kirby Moorside .....	18,033
Hawnby .....	16,790
Masham .....	14,469

The following are the principal towns in North Yorkshire, with their population in 1891:—

†Middlesbrough .....	75,516
†Scarborough .....	33,776
†Thornaby-on-Tees .....	(about) 17,000
Whitby .....	13,274
Guisborough .....	5,623
Malton .....	4,910
†Richmond .....	4,216
Northallerton .....	3,802
Thirsk .....	3,167
Pickering .....	3,676
Easingwold .....	1,932
Stokesley .....	1,513

Marked thus † are Municipal Boroughs.

Middlesbrough, now a large and increasing town, the head quarters of the iron trade and a shipping port with extensive docks, in 1801 had only 25 inhabitants, which in 1841 had increased to 5,463, in 1861 to 18,992, in 1871 to 43,047, in 1881 to 55,938 and in 1891 to 75,516. Scarborough, Whitby, Redcar, Coatham and Saltburn are watering places, the first mentioned ranking as a very fashionable resort. Whitby is also a port, with a harbour, the shipping interest being considerable.

The Ainsty of York, though a wapentake of the West Riding, is for parliamentary purposes a part of the Thirsk division of the North Riding, under the "Redistribution of Seats Act, 1885," but for the purpose of establishing county councils it is deemed under the "Local Government Act, 1888," to be part of the West Riding.

North Yorkshire is in the Northern circuit, having assizes at York, quarter sessions at Northallerton, and county courts at Scarborough, Whitby, Northallerton, Malton, Richmond, Easingwold, Helmsley, Leyburn, Stokesley, Thirsk and York. It is divided into 19 petty sessional divisions.

This Riding contains 544 civil parishes and is within the province and diocese of York, forming the archdeaconry of Cleveland, which is sub-divided into the rural deaneries of Bulmer, Easingwold, Helmsley, Malton, Middlesbrough, Northallerton, Stokesley, Thirsk and Whitby and the rural deanery of Scarborough in the East Riding archdeaconry.

THE REGISTRATION DISTRICTS ARE:—

No.	Name.	Area.	Pop. in 1891.
526	Scarborough .....	88,098	46,049
527	Malton .....	116,032	21,662
528	Easingwold .....	65,015	8,857
529	Thirsk .....	64,893	12,188
530	a Helmsley .....	113,794	10,719
531	Pickering .....	99,037	10,474
a Two unions, viz.:—Helmsley union, area 67,641 acres, pop. 5,626, and Kirby Moorside union, area 58,631 acres, pop. 5,093.			