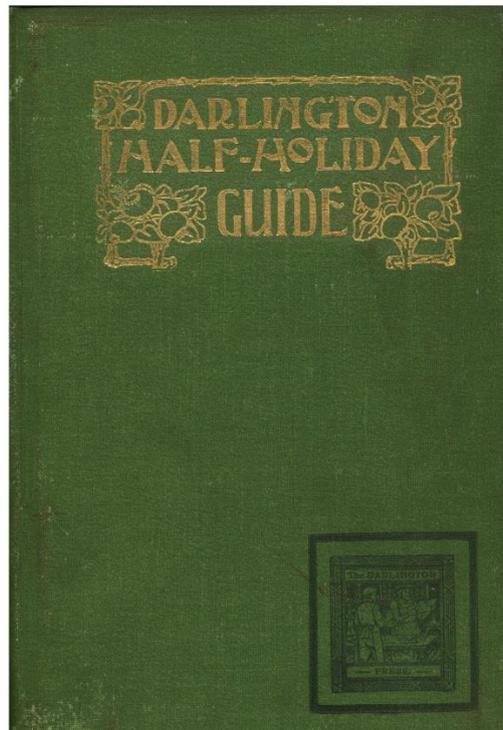
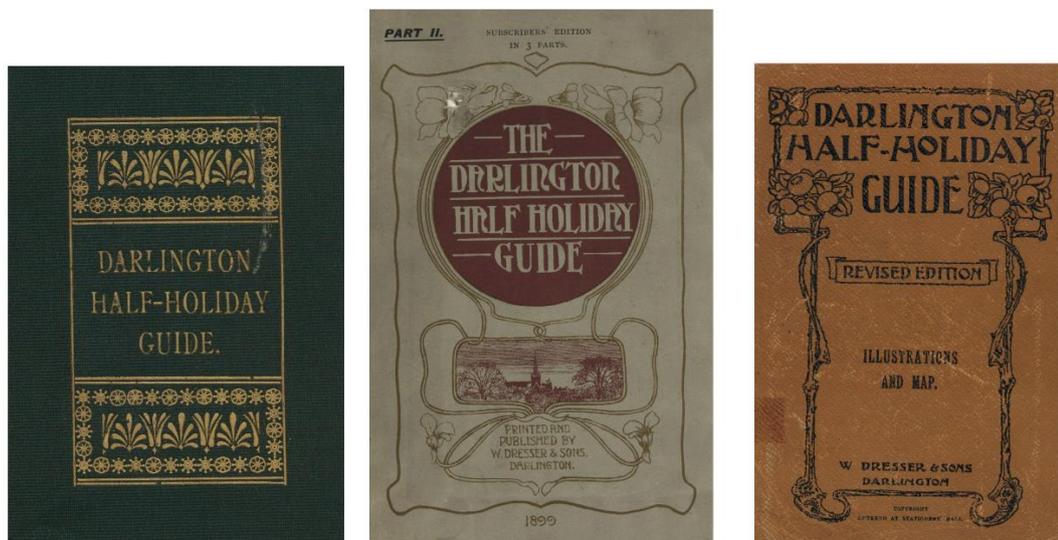


Darlington Half-Holiday Guide by J. W. Cudworth



The idea of this book is to describe things that can be seen in a half days trip from Darlington and at a low cost. The book was written by Mr. J. W. Cudworth with sections by a variety of other people and published by William Dresser & Sons in 1899.

The guide had been published on a number of occasions with some lovely decorative covers such as these;



The guide really does have a mixture of everything in it and gives a glimpse of the town round just before the turn of the century.

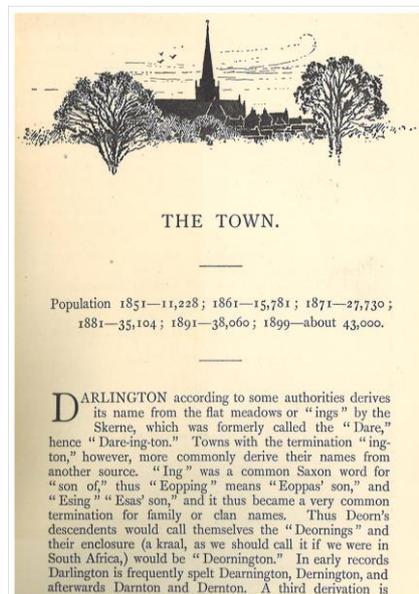
There is a large amount of information about the flora, fauna and birdlife of the region at that time and where to see certain plants in a variety of locations. The geography of the region is well covered too.

There is plenty in this book for history lovers such as an account of the civil war skirmish at Piercebridge and the Battle of the Standard between the English and the Scottish Army. There is also a section on the Romans in Durham and North Yorkshire.

The reader truly gets a picture of the different options available to Darlington residents on their half days off. There are plenty of walks ideas, ideas for cycle routes and railway journeys with walks between railway stations, some of course no longer in existence so giving another perspective of what the area was like round 1899. Some of the walks being 10 miles or more need to be pictured before the A1 and other major roads were built and all the area around the town was very rural. If you know particular areas readers can trace the route of the walk by the description and imagining smaller car free roads and tracks.

For those interested in Darlington history, the history of St Cuthbert's Church is well covered, with some mention of the parks and their history, for those wanting a stroll closer to the town.

The writer's use of language makes the book a charming read because it is typical of the period. The photographs and illustrations really add to the book.



The Darlington Half-Holiday Guide 1899 really gives a strong impression of what the region was like at the time. Do come and have a look at this fascinating book in Darlington Library's Centre for Local Studies.