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Marshall, William

The Invention Of Yorkshire

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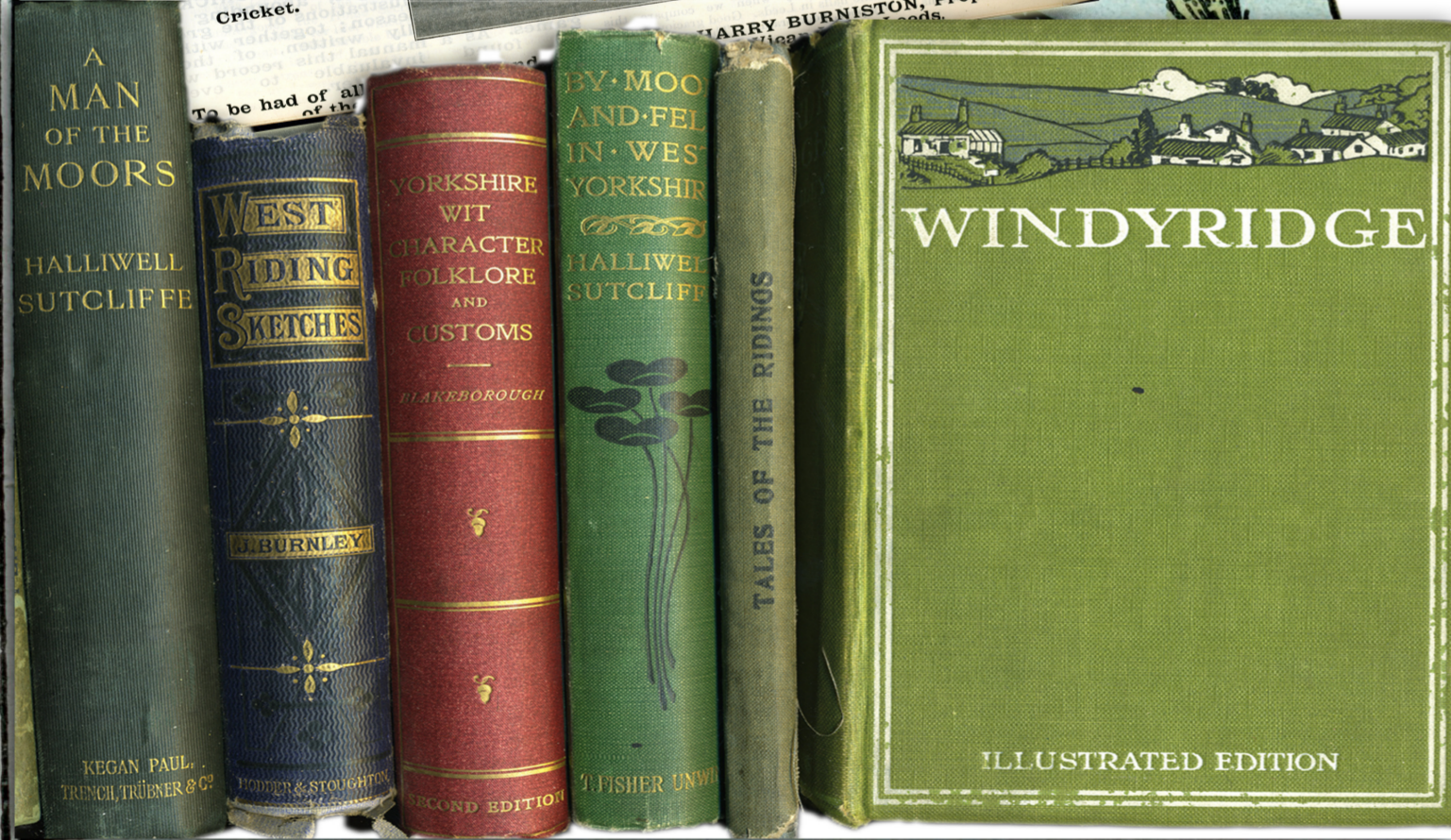
# The **I**nvention of **Y**orkshire

**T**he nineteenth century saw many technological and social developments that looked likely to homogenise the nation.

But if 'the nationalisation of culture' did happen it was slow to arrive and a paradoxical effect of the rail network and mass literacy was an increased sense of regional identity as people were enabled to witness England's cultural diversity either at first hand or via the pages of books and periodicals.

**T**his project takes Yorkshire as a case study and aims to see how its cultural identity was constructed and propagated during the first age of mass literacy and rapid communications. Sources include regional newspapers and periodicals plus a large amount of Yorkshire-set fiction, which played an important role in delineating the county to the nation at large. There will also be a study of the exceptionally popular dialect literature published in Yorkshire urban centres and an examination of visual material, such as widely disseminated picture postcards which helped to establish the idea that Yorkshire people were quite content to 'see all, do all, say nowt' and 'eat all, drink all, pay nowt'...

William Marshall BA (hons) MA



## A YORKSHIRE MANS COAT OF ARMS .

*A Magpy behold and a Fly and a Flea  
And a Yorkshire mans qualifications you'll see,  
To Backbite & Spunge, and to Chatter amain,  
Or any thina else sir by which he can gain*

*The Horse sheurs, they Buy few tho' many they Steal,  
Unhang'd their worth nought does the Gammon reveal,  
But let Censure stand by, and not Bias the Mind,  
For Others, as bad as the Yorkshire you'll find.*