John Leland, the historian (born about 1500 and died 1552), in his *Itinerary*, says that Nappa "and other places there aboute be able to make a 300 men yn very knowen consanguinitie to the Metecalfes," and Sir Christopher Metcalfe of Nappa, son of Sir James, when High Sheriff in the reign of Philip and Mary, 1556, wishful, it would seem, to prove the truth of Leland's assertion, mustered his clan—300 men of his name and kin—who, habited in his cloth, or livery, and well mounted on white horses, rode in his company to meet the Judges of Assize and conduct them to York.

Camden, the historian, writing in the time of Queen Elizabeth, thus tells the story:

"The river *Ure* (Yore) hath his fall heere out of the westerne mountains; and, first of all, cutting through the middest of the vale *Wentsedale*, whiles it is yet but small, as being neere unto his spring head, where great flockes of sheep doe pasture, and which in some places beareth lead stones plentifully, is encreased by a little river comming out of the south, called *Baint*, which, with a great noise, streameth out of the poole *Semer* (Lake Semerwater).

"*Nappa* is an house built with turrets, and the chief seat of the *Medcalfs*, thought to be at this day the greatest family for multitude, of the same name, in all *England*; for I have heard that Sir *Christopher Medcalfe*, Knight, and the top of this kinred, being, of late, high-sheriffe of the shire, accompanied with three hundred men of the same house all on horseback, and in a livery, met and received the justices of assizes, and so brought them to *Yorke*.

"From hence runneth *Ure* down a maine between two rockes, where of the place is named *Ait-scarre* (Aysgarth), it runneth headlong downe, not far from *Bolton*, a stately castle, the ancient seat of the Barons *Scrope*, and which *Richard*, Lord *le Scrope*, and Chancellour of *England*, under King *Richard* the Second, built with exceeding great coste,—and now bending his course eastward commeth to *Midleham*."

Fuller, one of Camden's editors, justly remarks on this display of his power by Sir Christopher Metcalfe of Nappa that even the Roman Fabii, the most numerous tribe in the City of Rome, could hardly have made so fair, so brave a show.

The Ballad of Flodden Field, edited by Charles A. Federer; Henry Gray, 1884. *Romantic Richmondshire*, by Harry Speight; Elliot Stock, 1897. Camden's *Britannia*; *Metcalfe Records*; privately printed.