# NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE DIALECT. TALES AND RHYMES IN THE LINDSEY FOLK-SPEECH

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North Lincolnshire Dialect. Tales and Rhymes in the Lindsey Folk-Speech by Mabel Peacock

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## MABEL PEACOCK

# NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE DIALECT. TALES AND RHYMES IN THE LINDSEY FOLK-SPEECH

Trieste



### TALES AND RHYMES

IN THE

LINDSEY FOLK-SPEECH.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE DIALECT.

# TALES AND RHYMES

### IN THE

# LINDSEY FOLK-SPEECH.

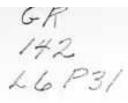
BY

MABEL PEACOCK.

ENTERED AT STATIONEES HALL.

GEORGE JACKSON & SON, BRIGG. GEORGE BELL & SONS, YORK STREET, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON.

1886.



### PREFACE.

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YORKSHIRE and Lancashire people write in their own words about their own ways, and why should not Lincolnshire folks do, so also?

Most of the books that we buy speak of strange, far-away places and persons, but this one is about things that have happened in Lincolnshire, and about everyday men and women such as we have known all our lives. Some of the stories told here are true, but the real names of the people concerned in them are not given, for perhaps they and their friends would not care to see their names in print.

As someone who does not understand the Lincolnshire dialect may chance to read

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### PREFACE.

this book, it is as well to mention that in Lindsey the letter *u* is generally pronounced like the *oo* in foot; that the *y* in *my*, *thy*, &c., is usually, though not always, short, like the *i* in *pig*; that, as a general rule, the vowel sounds in the pronouns are shortened as much as possible, unless particular stress is laid on the word; that *one*, written here *won*, rhymes with *on*; that *war*, *swarm*, *want*, *wasp*, &c., have the *a* sounded like *a* in *ant*, and that the pronoun *I* is often sounded nearly like ă.

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### TALES AND RHYMES

#### IN THE

### LINDSEY FOLK-SPEECH.

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## HOW IT. HAPPENS THAT WE LIVE IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

No one knows when men first came into England; but it must have been a long time ago, for stone knives and spear-heads have been found lying side by side with the bones of the wild beasts, that lived here before the people who knew how to use copper and iron crossed the sea and settled in this country.

In the earliest books about England we are told that the Phœnicians, who were a people near akin to the Philistines spoken of in the Bible, used to come to Britain (which was not called England till long after those days) to buy tin; and the Greeks came also to get lead, skins, slaves, and hunting-dogs from the natives of the country. The fore-elders of these people had come into Britain from the stretch of land we now call France, so the men on both sides of the sca lived in the same way and spoke nearly the same language.

In those days the Romans, who were natives of Italy, had spread themselves over all the West of Europe, and, besides that, they had conquered the Egyptians, the Greeks, and the Hebrews, with many other peoples. At last they found their way to Britain, and set to work to make themselves masters of the country. They crossed over the sea from France fifty-five years before the birth of our Saviour, and, though a long time passed by before they had conquered