THE ANCIENT CUSTOMS OF THE CITY OF HEREFORD. WITH TRANSLATIONS OF THE EARLIER CITY CHARTERS AND GRANTS; ALSO, SOME ACCOUNT OF THE TRADES OF THE CITY, AND OTHER INFORMATION RELATIVE TO ITS EARLY HISTORY

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The ancient customs of the city of Hereford. With translations of the earlier city charters and grants; also, some account of the trades of the city, and other information relative to its early history by Richard Johnson

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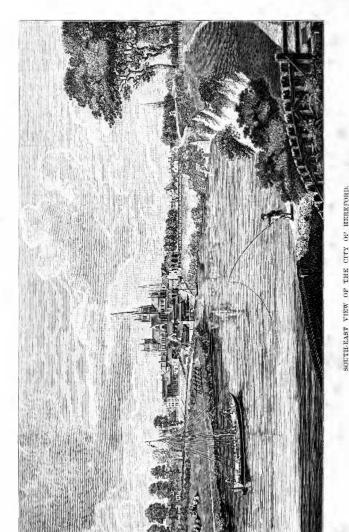
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# RICHARD JOHNSON

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SOUTHERAST VIBW OF THE CITY OF HERRFORD.

From the Busson, Jon. 1, 1774.

Rev W. Sowell ma.
THE Greford.
Ancient Customs

# City of Hereford.

WITH TRANSLATIONS OF

THE EARLIER CITY CHARTERS AND GRANTS;

A180.

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE TRADES OF THE CITY, AND OTHER INFORMATION RELATIVE TO ITS EARLY HISTORY.

RICHARD JOHNSON.

LATE TOWN CLERK.

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TO

# JAMES RANKIN, Esq., M.P.,

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## PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION.

It is now several years since that, at the request of the members of the Hereford Philosophical and Antiquarian Society, the writer of the following pages read at their evening meetings some papers connected with the ancient customs of Hereford, which were afterwards published in the form of a small pamphlet. He has subsequently been enabled to add materially to his previous knowledge, not only by further investigations amongst the earlier muniments of the city, but also by the aid of many curious and valuable documents kindly lent by personal friends. Even with these resources, he would have hesitated to undertake a work of this description, had he not been frequently urged to do so by several local antiquaries, who were desirous that the information thus collected should be preserved, as in the course of years it often happens that old records get injured or destroyed.

The writer is aware that criticism may discover many defects in the present work, and that abler pens might bereafter do greater justice to the subject. He therefore requests his readers kindly to concede their indulgence for any imperfections, and only regrets that want of leisure for the thorough prosecution of his researches has rendered it necessary to omit many points of interest.

The large capital letters that commence some of the chapters are copied from the original charters by a daughter of the writer. Those of Chapters I and X date from the sixteenth century, that of Chapter IV to a period early in the fourteenth, and those of Chapters III, VI, and XI, to the beginning of the fifteenth century.

August 1868.

After the publication of the first edition, the writer of the above Preface discovered in the municipal archives other important papers; but unfortunately did not live to publish the result of his labours. Therefore, as these documents throw further light on many subjects previously noticed, it has been thought advisable to incorporate the fresh information in a new edition.

Hereford, 1882.

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