

**ACCOUNTS OF THE
OBEDIENTIARS OF
ABINGDON ABBEY**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649115402

Accounts of the Obedientiars of Abingdon Abbey by R. E. G. Kirk

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R. E. G. KIRK

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Camden Society, No. 51

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ABINGDON ABBEY.

EDITED BY
R. E. G. KIRK.



PRINTED FOR THE CAMDEN SOCIETY.

M.DCCC.XCII.

100796
7/10/10



WESTMINSTER:
PRINTED BY NICHOLS AND SONS,
25, PARLIAMRNT STREET.

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n.s.
no. 51

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INTRODUCTION.

THE original rolls of accounts of the Benedictine monastery of Saint Mary of Abingdon, printed in this volume, are preserved in the collection of Sir Harry Verney, Bart., who kindly permitted them to be deposited in the Record Office for the purpose of being edited for this Society. His possession of them is accounted for by the fact that the site of the Abbey came to the Verneys.*

The task of editing these accounts was at first entrusted to Mr. G. H. Overend, F.S.A., of the Public Record Office, who made transcripts of two of them, but was unable to find the time necessary for the work, which was handed over to me, on his recommendation, with many suggestions and references; and he has continued to take the utmost interest in the subject up to the very last.

The rolls have been divided into two classes: the first, consisting of twenty-six accounts of the officers of the abbey, are printed in full; the second, consisting of eleven accounts of its manorial officers, with two rentals and a court roll, have been abstracted. It was not thought worth while to print the latter at length, because they closely resemble other manorial accounts, of which

* In 1629 Ralph Verney married Mary, daughter and heiress of John Blacknall, of Abingdon, Esquire, a descendant of the purchaser from the Crown grantee. It is stated that "John Verney" possessed a Register of this abbey; and "Nasmith, in a note, queries whether the Register seen by Leland was not the same as this." (*Collectanea Top. et Gen.*, i. 74.) One would like to know what has become of this cartulary.