

**MAMECESTRE: BEGIN CHAPTERS FROM  
THE EARLY RECORDED HISTORY OF THE  
BARONY; THE LORDSHIP OR MANOR;  
THE VILL, BOROUGH, OR TOWN, OF  
MANCHESTER. VOL. III. PP. 433-627**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649689408

Mamecestre: Begin Chapters from the Early Recorded History of the Barony; The Lordship or Manor; The Vill, Borough, or Town, of Manchester. Vol. III. pp. 433-627 by John Harland

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Cover @ 2017

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**JOHN HARLAND**

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REMAINS  
HISTORICAL & LITERARY  
CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF  
LANCASTER AND CHESTER.

PUBLISHED BY  
THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

VOL. LVIII.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.  
M.DCCC.LXII.

B<sub>2</sub> 3931.3.10<sup>A</sup> (52)  
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## INTRODUCTION.

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It is but right to warn the Reader that this does not pretend to be a History of Manchester; but only a collection of the raw material for its early history, so far as that material has been found in a written or permanent form. The History of Manchester, both in ancient and modern times, yet remains to be written.

The work, bearing that title, by the late Rev. John Whitaker (2 vols. 4to, London, 1771), consists for the most part of a general description of British, Roman and Anglo-Saxon polity, manners and customs, as they existed in England; with occasional local applications to the effect that such habits and customs "must have been" those of the inhabitants of Manchester, at the respective periods indicated. Moreover, it is an unfinished work, containing two only of the four books promised on its title-page, and terminating before the Norman Conquest. Hollinworth's *Mancuniensis* is a rough series of entries apparently intended for the compilation of annals; but these jottings are defective and imperfect, besides in various cases needing verification. It is only in the seventeenth century, when these notes are made from his own observation, that they become valuable.