AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF THOMAS RAYMOND AND MEMOIRS OF THE FAMILY OF GUISE OF ELMORE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. CAMDEN THIRD SERIES. VOL. XXVII

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THOMAS RAYMOND & GODFREY DAVIES

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60 p.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF THOMAS RAYMOND AND MEMOIRS OF THE FAMILY OF GUISE OF ELMORE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

EDITED

FOR THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BY

G. DAVIES, M.A., F.R.Hist.S.

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PREFACE

The Autobiography of Thomas Raymond has been printed from Rawlinson MS. in the Bodleian Library, D. 1150, where it occupies ff. 41–104, of which only ff. 41–89 are here included. It is a fragment, and the omitted portion, containing anecdotes of Italian crimes and cities, is of slight interest. The two additional anecdotes, which are also in Raymond's handwriting, are from the same manuscript volume and occupy ff. 38 and 38–41, 104–107 respectively. The editor is responsible for the punctuation, use of capitals, expansion of contractions and the substitution of 'th,' j' and 'v' for 'y,' i' and 'u' whenever modern usage required it; he has made no other attempt to correct or to render uniform the spelling.

The Memoirs of the Guises have been printed from a transcript, made, as far as can be inferred from the handwriting, within the last forty years. Whether the original is in existence is not known: A statement on the flyleaf of the transcript says that it was "bought Dec. 1899 by T. W. Jackson from Mr. Tyrrell of Little Clarendon St. who acquired it in a sale at Shrivenham, five or six years ago: The sale was of part of the effects from a larger house: the name uncertain." It was purchased, together with other books, from the library of the late Mr. T. W. Jackson, Fellow of Worcester College, Oxford, by S. W. Chaundy, 104 High St., Oxford, from whom it was bought by Professor C. H. Firth (1914), who has since presented it to the Bodleian.

I desire to thank Mr. H. H. E. Craster for helping me to decipher difficult passages in Raymond's Autobiography, and the Rev. A. B. Beaven for the continuous interest he has shown in my historical studies. Professor C. H. Firth first suggested to me that I should edit these two manuscripts and assisted me at every stage. He allowed me to work in his library and to consult him whenever I wished. I am fortunate in that I have received so many benefits at his hands: I am unfortunate in that I can find no words adequately to acknowledge my indebtedness to him. I can only feel the gratitude I cannot express.

G. DAVIES.



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