

**A MANUAL OF BRITISH HISTORIANS TO
A. D. 1600. CONTAINING A
CHRONOLOGICAL ACCOUNT OF
THE EARLY CHRONICLERS AND
MONKISH WRITERS, THEIR PRINTED
WORKS, AND UNPUBLISHED MSS.**

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WILLIAM DUNN MACRAY

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PREFACE.

IN drawing up a Manual of the early English Historians, the Compiler believes he has endeavoured to supply a want in bibliographical literature which has been often felt. It is true that catalogues similar in idea, though not in execution, have been before published, but the generality of them, such as Joscelin's very brief account published by Hearne with Robert of Avesbury, Hearne's own list in his "Ductor Historicus," and Vossius' book "De Historicis Latinis,"* besides furnishing but

* Bishop Nicolson's Historical Libraries do not come within this class, as they consist more of critical accounts of the merits and demerits of the respective historians than of what is here attempted to be given.

short notices, are now of course extremely defective and unsatisfactory; as in the length of time which has elapsed since their publication, much additional information has been discovered, and our stock of printed historians greatly enlarged. And although in 1829 Mr. Stace published a catalogue of historical writers, yet it was *merely* a catalogue, giving nothing but the titles and dates of the works, and those often very inaccurately. This being the case, a brief biographical account of all historians of any note, with lists of the editions of their works, such as is here offered, the Compiler trusts may not prove unacceptable. And while he is far from thinking that no errors or imperfections will be discovered in it, yet he hopes it will be found to be, on the whole, accurate and complete; at any rate he can say that he has spared no pains to render it so. It will be seen that the references to MSS. are only given where the books have not been printed, and such of these as have no