A SHORT NARRATIVE OF THE LATE TROUBLES IN ENGLAND: FIRST WRITTEN IN LATIN BY ANONYMOUS, FOR THE INFORMATION OF FORRENERS, AND NOW DON INTO ENGLISH, FOR THE BEHOOF AND PLEASURE OF OUR COUNTREY-MEN. 1649

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## **ANONYMOUS**

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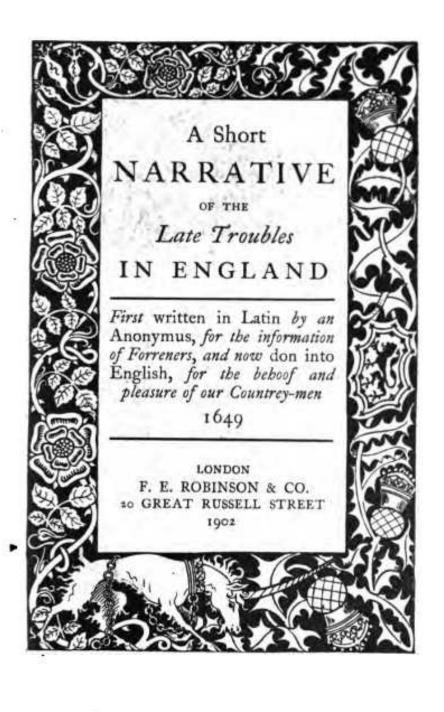


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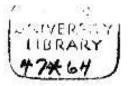
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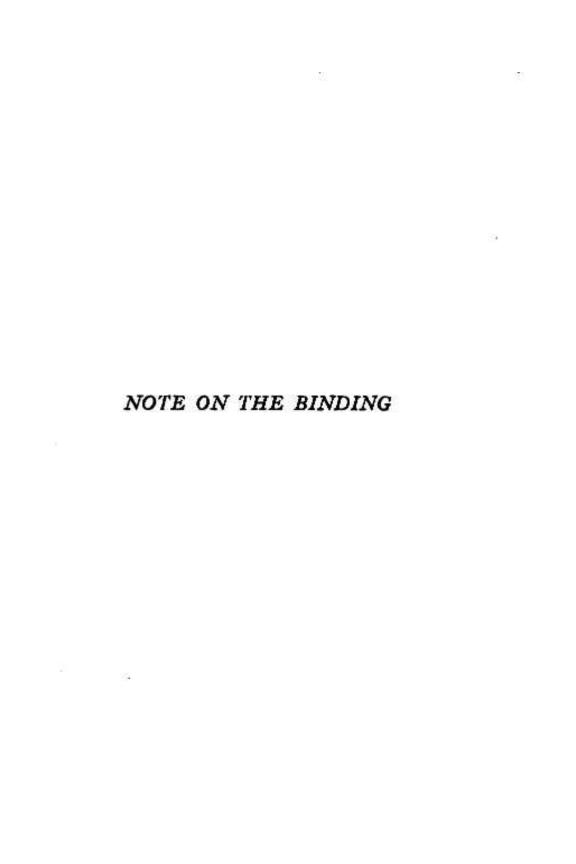
The Late Troubles in England



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## NOTE ON THE BINDING.

BY CYRIL DAVENPORT, F.S.A.

FTER the invention of printing in Europe, about the middle of the afteenth century, the binding of books in vellum, which had already been common for manuscripts, remained largely in use on the Continent. These bindings were left plain, and put together in a manner known as "limp," that is to say, without stiff boards; and they also had ties on the front edges, to keep them from curling outwards. Old waste music-books were often used up for this purpose. It was, however, not until the time of James I. that such vellum bindings were used in England to any extent, and when they were they were nearly always gilded more or less. The taste for white and gold bindings was, nevertheless, no new thing in England, as both Henry VIII. and his Tudor successors had many books bound for them in this way, but the leather used was not vellum, and it was always put over boards, in contra distinction to the limp manner. The white leather so much used by Thomas Berthelet in the early sixteenth century is generally considered to have been deerskin. It is thick, soft, creamy in colour, and has probably been prepared with lime, as vellum is, and even after the lapse of some hundreds of years it is now, as a rule, quite sound. The most notable books of this kind still left are all royal, and fine specimens can be seen both in London and at Oxford; and now and then a rare specimen comes into the market.