SOMERSET MEDIÆVAL LIBRARIES AND MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES OF BOOKS IN SOMERSET PRIOR TO THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES

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Somerset Mediæval Libraries and Miscellaneous Notices of Books in Somerset Prior to the Dissolution of the Monasteries by Thomas Webb Williams

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THOMAS WEBB WILLIAMS

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T. Chaundler presenting a copy of his works to Bishop Bekinton.

[From a MS. in Trinity College, Cambridge.] See p. 119.

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ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NORTHERN BRANCH

Somerset Mediæbal Libraries

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AND MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES OF BOOKS IN SOMERSET PRIOR TO THE DISSOLUTION OF THB MONASTERIES

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THOMAS WEBB WILLIAMS

BY

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BRISTOL J. W. Arrowsmith, 11 Quay Street

1897.

My thanks are due to the DEAN OF WELLS for courteous permission to take and use photographe of the Library, Wells Cathedral.—T. W. W.

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The illustrations are from photographs taken by Mr. T. W. PHILLIPS, Wells.

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Somerset Mediæval Libraries

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Miscellaneous Rotices of Books in Somerset prior to

the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

A PAPER with the title, "Notes on Early Libraries, with especial reference to Somerset," was read by me to the Members of the Somerset Archæological and Natural History Society (Northern Branch) in December last, being an attempt towards the History of Books in Somerset prior to the Dissolution of the Monasteries. It was suggested that the paper might be of interest to the Members of the Parent Society, and the MS. was sent to the Rev. F. W. Weaver (the Secretary), who was good enough to say that he thought the Society would be pleased to make use of it; but being found too long for insertion in the *Proceedings*, it was decided to bring it out under the auspices of the Society to which the original paper was read.

Portions of the paper, as read, are now omitted as too general in character; some, however, are retained, as it is hoped that this book, appealing to local feeling, may come into the hands of some to whom the textbooks on the subject though perhaps accessible, are not familiar. Very considerable additions have been made to the local details and lists of books. One

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