PREFACE.

The Patent Rolls of the first sixteen years of the reign of Henry III. have been printed in Latin, in two volumes recently published (A.D. 1901 and 1903). As, however, the language of the rolls tends gradually to become more formal and verbose, it has been determined to proceed by way of a Calendar in English, similar to the Calendars for subsequent reigns, upon the lines laid down in the Preface to the first volume of the reign of Edward III. (A.D. 1327-1330).

The present volume deals with fifteen rolls, beginning with the seventeenth year of the reign and ending with the thirtieth. The rolls for the twenty-third and twenty-fourth years were missing as far back as the year 1381.

The Latin text of two of the rolls here calendared has been printed by the late M. Francisque Michel in the series of 'Rôles Gascons,' on the ground that the documents enrolled on them were issued from Gascony. Under the present classification, however, they are not reckoned as Gascon Rolls, which are rolls relating to the foreign possessions of the English Kings.

The text of the present volume has been prepared by Mr. J. G. Black, B.A., of the Public Record Office, with some help from Mr. R. F. Isaacson, an Assistant Record Keeper. Mr. Black has also compiled the Index.

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