
The principal contents of the volumes are some diplomatic Papers of Richard III., correspondence between Henry VII. and Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, documents in Father de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk, and a portion of the correspondence of John Amundesham.


The letters and papers of Richard III. extend from 1483 to 1485, and relate to matters not only with the political history of England during the reign of Richard, but with its ecclesiastical condition. They refer especially to the trial and execution of his son, Edward, Duke of York.


The object of this work is to publish notices of all known sources of British history, both printed and unprinted, in one continuous sequence. The materials, when historical (as distinguished from biographical), are arranged under the year in which the latest event is recorded in the chronicle or history, and not under the period in which the author, real or supposed, flourished. Biographies are enumerated under the year in which the person commemorated died, and not under the year in which the life was written. A brief analysis of each work has been added when deserving it, in which original portions are distinguished from mere compilations. A biographical sketch of each author has been added, and a brief notice of such British works as have written on history.


In the third volume is a Chronicle of English History, attributed to William of Malmesbury, who lived in the reign of Edward I., an account of transactions attending the award of the kingdom of Scotland to John Balliol, 1292-1296, also attributed to William Rishanger, but on no sufficient ground; a short Chronicle of English History, 1292 to 1300, by an unknown hand; a short Chronicle, William Rishanger's Gesta Edwardi Primi, and Anales Angliae, with Annales Regna Angliae, probably by the same hand; and fragments of three Chronicles of English History, 1295 to 1307.

In the 4th volume is a Chronicle of English History, 1290 to 1326, edited by John de Trokelowe, a monk of St. Albans, and a continuation of Trokelowe's Annals, 1333 to 1354, by Henry de Blaineforde, a full Chronicle of English History, 1392 to 1406, and an account of the benefactors of St. Albans, written in the early part of the 15th century.

The 5th, 6th, and 7th volumes contain a history of the Abbots of St. Albans, 793 to 1011, mainly compiled by Thomas Walsingham, with a Continuation. The 8th and 9th volumes, in continuation of the Annals, contain a Chronicle, probably of John Amundesham, a monk of St. Albans.