



42  
158

# HISTORY OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

BY

WILLIAM FRANCIS COLLIER, LL.D.,

AUTHOR OF "GREAT EVENTS OF HISTORY," "HISTORY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE,"  
"HISTORY OF GREECE," "HISTORY OF ROME," ETC.

Junior Class-Book.



31-3873

LONDON:  
THOMAS NELSON AND SONS, PATERNOSTER ROW;  
EDINBURGH; AND NEW YORK.

1879.

A

## P R E F A C E.

---

I INTEND this little book to serve as an introduction to my Senior Class Book of British History, lately published.

Written with the distinct object of being attractive to young readers, it is characterized (as I believe every work written to attract the young ought to be) by an idiomatic simplicity of language, and a free pictorial style.

The plan of the Work aims at presenting, in the first instance, a short Summary of each Period or Reign; and then supplying in the form of a Story fuller details of the more prominent and picturesque events. The Chronological Lists correspond with those of my more advanced Histories of the British Empire, so that a pupil becomes familiar from the beginning with a framework of Dynasties and Reigns, on the knowledge of which all accurate acquaintance with the subject depends. The introductory Summaries, printed in smaller type, supply a consecutive outline of British History, which may be studied either with, or apart from, the Stories.

I may state that the Stories will be found useful in supplementing those descriptions, which the limited size and diversified

## PREFACE.

contents of a School History often render necessarily meagre ; for, especially in dealing with the more romantic portions of English History, I have resorted freely to the narration of anecdotes and the accumulation of picturesque details.

W. F. C.

*January* 1870.



## CONTENTS.

*The Contents are arranged in the form of a Chronological Table,  
and may be used for Revision Lessons.*

B.C.	I.—THE ROMAN PERIOD.		VII.—THE EIGHT PLANTAGENETS
55.	The Roman Legions in Britain	9	PROPER.
	—		A.D.
II.—TIME OF THE HEP-		1154. Henry II. ....	50
A.D.	TARCHY.	1162-70. Leaves from the Story of	
449.	How Three Keels became Eight	Becket .....	50
	Kingdoms; or, the Story of	1170. Strongbow's Invasion of Ire-	
	the Teuton Settlements....	land .....	56
	—	1189. Richard I. ....	58
III.—EARLY SAXON KINGS.		1190. The Adventures of Cœur de	
871.	The Deeds of King Alfred the	Lion .....	58
	Great.....	1195. Robin Hood and William Long-	
955.	Five Pictures from the Life of	beard.....	64
	Dunstan.....	1199. John.....	68
	—	1215. The Signing of Magna Charta..	69
IV.—THE DANISH KINGS.		1216. Henry III. ....	71
1017.	How a Dane obtained the Eng-	1258. Sir Simon the Righteous.....	71
	lish Throne.....	1260-78. The Experiments of Roger	
	—	Bacon.....	73
V.—SAXON LINE RESTORED.		1272. Edward I. ....	76
1041.	Edward the Confessor.....	Longshanks.....	76
1066.	Harold II.....	1307. Edward II. ....	80
1066.	The Story of the Norman Con-	1314-27. Bannockburn and Berkeley	80
	quest .....	1327. Edward III. ....	83
	—	1346-76. The Story of the Black Prince	83
VI.—EARLY NORMAN KINGS.		1377. Richard II. ....	85
1066.	William the Conqueror .....	1381. The Riot and Death of Wat	
	39	Tyler.....	85
1071.	Hereward and Waltheof.....	1384. What John Wycliffe did at	
	39	Lutterworth.....	88
1087.	William Rufus.....	1388. Chevy Chase.....	89
	43	—	
	1100. A Fatal Arrow .....		
1100.	Henry I.....	VIII.—HOUSE OF LANCASTER.	
	44		
1120.	The White Ship .....	1399. Henry IV. ....	92
	45		
1135.	Stephen .....	1403. Hotspur.....	92
	46		
1138.	The Battle of the Standard....		
	47		

1413. Henry V.....	93	1625. Charles I.....	139
1405-24. The Royal Prisoner of Wind- sor.....	93	1649. How a King of England Lost his Head.....	140
1422. Henry VI.....	96	1649. The Commonwealth .....	143
1429. Joan of Arc .....	97	1651. The Escape of Charles II from Worcester.....	143
1455. What the Plucking of Two Roses meant.....	100	1653. Oliver Cromwell and the Long Parliament .....	145
<hr/>			
IX.—HOUSE OF YORK.			
1461. Edward IV.....	104	1660. Charles II.....	147
1483. Edward V.....	104	1665, } The Great Plague and the 1666, } Great Fire .....	148
1483. Richard III.....	104	1685. James II.....	150
1483. The Little Princes in the Tower.....	105	1685. The Last Battle on English Soil	150
1485. The Battle of Bosworth Field..	106	1688. How a King of England Lost his Crown .....	152
<hr/>			
X.—THE FIVE TUDOR SOVEREIGNS.			
1485. Henry VII.....	109	XII.—HOUSE OF BRUNSWICK.	
1492-99. The Story of Perkin War- beck .....	109	1714. George I.....	159
1497. The Voyage of Cabot.....	113	1720. The South Sea Bubble .....	159
1509. Henry VIII.....	114	1727. George II.....	162
1513-20. A Field of Blood and a Field of Gold .....	115	1745. The Adventures of Prince Charlie .....	162
1515-30. The Rise and Fall of Cardinal Wolsey .....	118	1757. How Clive Founded our Indian Empire .....	168
1547. Edward VI.....	121	1759. The Victory and Death of Wolfe.....	171
1553. Mary I.....	122	1760. George III.....	174
1555. The Fires of Smithfield and Oxford.....	122	1773-75. The Tea Chests of Boston and the Rifles of Lexington	174
1558. Elizabeth.....	124	George III ( <i>continued</i> ) .....	176
1587. The Sad End of Mary Queen of Scots .....	125	1805. The Death of Lord Nelson ....	177
1588. The Spanish Armada .....	128	1815. Waterloo .....	179
1603. The Death-bed of Queen Bess..	130	1820. George IV.....	181
<hr/>			
XI.—THE SEVEN STUART SOVEREIGNS.			
1603. James I.....	132	1830. William IV.....	181
1605. The Gunpowder Treason.....	132	1830. The Growth of the Locomotive	181
1584-1618. The Adventures of Sir Walter Raleigh .....	135	1837. Victoria .....	183
1620. The Voyage of the <i>Mayflower</i> ..	137	1845. The Fatal Voyage of Franklin	184
		1855. The Siege of Sebastopol .....	187
		1857. The Defence and Relief of Lucknow .....	190
		1866. The Laying of the Atlantic Cable.....	194
		1868. Story of the Abyssinian War..	196