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HISTORY OF ENGLAND

1603-1642

VOL. V.

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HISTORY OF ENGLAND

FROM THE

ACCESSION OF JAMES I.

TO

THE OUTBREAK OF THE CIVIL WAR

1603-1642

BY

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IN TEN VOLUMES

VOL. V.

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PREFACE
TO
THE FIFTH VOLUME.

IN the part of this volume relating to the Prince's journey to Madrid I have had nothing but verbal alterations to make. Later on I have had at my disposal the despatches of Inojosa, Coloma, and Lafuente, in Mr. Cosens' transcripts, and, with their help, have been able at last to give an account at first hand of the relations between the Spanish ambassadors and the King during the first half of 1624.

Towards the end of the volume appears occasionally a reference to the *Melbourne MSS.* They form a collection preserved at Melbourne Hall, a great part of which was originally made by Sir John Coke, and is now in the possession of Earl COWPER, for whose kind permission to examine the papers I wish to express my gratitude. I have also to thank Mr. W. D FANE, the present tenant of Melbourne Hall, for the facilities which he accorded me for conducting my researches, and for placing in my hands the abstracts which he has drawn up of the greater part of the papers.

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