

Editorial Note

The following abbreviations are used throughout for Gardiner's principal writings:

- CD *The constitutional documents of the puritan revolution, 1625–1660*, 3rd edn, Oxford 1906
C&P *History of the Commonwealth and Protectorate, 1649–1660: with a supplementary chapter*, London 1902
CPH *Cromwell's place in history: founded on six lectures delivered in the University of Oxford*, London 1898
GCW *History of the Great Civil War, 1642–1649*, London 1893
HoE *History of England, from the accession of James I to the outbreak of the Civil War*, London 1883–4
OC *Oliver Cromwell*, London 1900

In the cases of the *History of England*, the *History of the Great Civil War*, and the *History of the Commonwealth and Protectorate*, these are the octavo 'Cabinet editions' published by Longmans. In each case, they are revised editions of earlier works. They are, however, the editions which are most readily found in libraries and, indeed, were the editions which were most widely read. They have been chosen as the principal editions for study in this book for ease of reference for the reader, but also in recognition of the fact that it is with these editions that Gardiner reached his audience and influenced developing thought on seventeenth-century British history.

The appropriate section of the Gardiner bibliography provided as an appendix to this book may be consulted for the publication details of the different editions. Nevertheless, a short bibliographical explanation is required. The ten-volume *History of England* (1883–4) reprints five separate titles, each of which originally appeared as two-volume editions between 1863 and 1882. They were revised for the 'Cabinet edition', but to different degrees. The last set saw little more than the correction of printing errors; the first set, which had first appeared twenty years earlier, underwent significant revision, although the outline argument and the essential details are almost untouched. The opening chapter, for instance, in which Gardiner offered an 'Historical Retrospect' from 'England before the Conquest' to 'The last years of Elizabeth' was clearly considered by him to be in the main superfluous in 1883, although many of the later chapters are untouched by revision of any kind. Similarly, the *History of the Great Civil War* is more revised than the *History of the Commonwealth and Protectorate*, although again neither is greatly changed and neither see any substantial changes to the structure

or the argument. The main changes were in physical form. The *History of the Great Civil War* had originally appeared in three volumes; the 'Cabinet edition' appeared in four. The uncompleted *History of the Commonwealth and Protectorate* had appeared in three volumes by the time of Gardiner's death in 1902, reaching 1656. After his death, the first chapter of the proposed fourth volume was published in a matching binding, and then incorporated into the fourth volume of the 'Cabinet edition'.

Although the 'Cabinet editions' are the principal editions chosen for this study, it is sometimes necessary to refer to the original editions, in which cases the full relevant reference is given.

As the eighteen volumes covering the period 1603 to 1656 were intended by Gardiner as a continuous narrative history, they have been treated throughout this book as a single entity, as indeed they have been by most scholars since their publication. On those occasions when the present author wishes to refer to the *History of England*, the *History of the Great Civil War* and the *History of the Commonwealth and Protectorate* in this way, the phrase 'the *History*' is used. This applies only to the main text; footnotes will, of course, make it clear to which of these three titularly distinct works reference is being made.

For the volume of biography entitled *Oliver Cromwell*, the Longmans, Green & Company's 1900 octavo edition has been preferred to Goupil & Company's 1899 first edition in folio. Goupil's version was part of a series of lavishly illustrated biographies of British statesmen published in limited numbers (1,475 copies on standard-issue paper, and 350 on 'Japanese paper'). These volumes have become highly collectable and are rarely to be found in public or university libraries, unlike the Longmans edition. Aside from the deletion from the Longmans edition of the preface in which the owners of the originals of the images reproduced were thanked, the present author is unaware of any verbal difference between the two editions.

Similarly, the third edition of the *Constitutional documents* has been selected for ease of reference, being the edition which has rarely, if ever, been out of print since its first appearance in 1906 (Oxford/Clarendon kept it in print until the 1990s; it is currently available in a print-on-demand edition from Kessinger Publishing). As the second edition of 1899 had an enlarged compass (beginning in 1625 rather than 1628) and also saw the addition of a few more documents, Gardiner added a small amount of material to the introductory chapter and restructured its sections, whilst leaving unchanged its essentials and its conclusions (although a few further points of clarification were added and a few sentences removed). Only minor corrections were made in the text of the introduction for the third edition; however, the pagination is different, and it is for this reason that it is necessary to specify the edition.

To avoid repetition, Gardiner's name has been deleted from all references to his writings. All volume and page references for articles in the *Dictionary of national biography* refer to the 1921 Oxford University Press reprint. Act,

scene and line numbers given for Shakespeare references are taken from the most recent relevant 'Arden' edition, currently published by International Thomson Publishing Services. Note also that, according to the former style, book titles and quotations use *Thirty Years' War*, but that, according to modern style, the form *Thirty Years War* is used in the body of the text.