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P. H. Ditchfield

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CAMBRIDGE COUNTY GEOGRAPHIES

General Editor: F. H. H. GUILLEMARD, M.A., M.D.

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OXFORDSHIRE

by

P. H. DITCHFIELD, M.A., F.S.A.

With Maps, Diagrams and Illustrations

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PREFACE

THIS book needs little preface. In accordance with the prescribed scheme of this series of County Geographies the author has tried to describe the physical features of Oxfordshire, its people, its industries, history, antiquities, architecture and famous men, and to recall the story of Oxford with its seven centuries of University life, the Saxon and Norman stronghold that played a great part in the Danish strife, and in the civil wars of the twelfth and seventeenth centuries. It has been a pleasant task to wander again through the old-world towns and villages of the county, and to attempt to lead others to admire its remarkable churches, its fine examples of domestic and collegiate architecture, and to interest them in its history.

The author desires to express his thanks to all who have assisted him in the writing of this book, to Mr Llewelyn Treacher, F.G.S., whose aid has been most valuable in the geological and kindred sections, and especially to the General Editor, Dr Guillemard, for his editorial care.

P. H. D.

January, 1912.

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