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This 1908 work supplements Hall's *Studies in English Official Historical Documents*. It gives examples of a wide range of English diplomatic documents from the seventh to the nineteenth centuries. These are arranged according to type and purpose, the majority in Latin, but others in French or English. The intention is to assist the user of such archival materials, by familiarising them with the format and language used in each kind of document, and explaining why and how they were written. The 211 transcriptions were made by palaeography students at the London School of Economics and classified and edited with extensive notes by Mr Hall. They are not literal transcriptions, as contractions have been expanded, and the punctuation and capitalisation modernised. To save space, standard formulas have not been repeated each time. Despite the lack of any illustrations of originals, the book filled a need long felt by students of history.

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VOLUME 1:
DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS

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A FORMULA BOOK

OF ENGLISH OFFICIAL HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS

PART I

DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS

SELECTED AND TRANSCRIBED BY A SEMINAR OF
THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

EDITED BY
HUBERT HALL, F.S.A.

OF H.M. PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
READER IN PALÆOGRAPHY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

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PREFACE

THE present work was originally planned as an Appendix to the Diplomatic "Studies" which have been published by the Editor as a separate work¹. It was suggested, however, that these Formulas might be worthy of publication in an expanded form, and a Seminar of the London School of Economics was prepared to undertake the task of selecting and transcribing the documents required for this purpose. The venture, therefore, was made under conditions which have at least proved interesting and instructive to those who have taken part in it.

In one aspect, however, the scope of the work is strictly limited, for it was quite impracticable to specialize in any one period or to give an exhaustive account of any particular class of instruments in a survey of the whole field of official diplomatic composition from the 7th century to the 19th. The chief claim of this Formula Book upon the attention of historical students and Record workers will be found in its comprehensive design and in the further attempt that it makes, for the first time, to present the several types of official instruments in a connected series. In addition to a serious diplomatic description of the several documents, their *provenance* has also been broadly indicated, together with their bibliographical relations. Thus the student can in most cases ascertain at a glance the position of an original instrument in respect of enrolment or entry, together with its published form as a complete text, abstract, or mere description.

¹ *Studies in English Official Historical Documents* (Cambridge, at the University Press, 1908).

It has seemed preferable to present concrete examples of diplomatic composition rather than the abstract forms usually associated with a scientific *Formula Book*. At the same time it must be clearly understood that no attempt has been made to demonstrate the historical or personal interest of the several documents. Incidentally, however, it will be found that several of the original instruments supply gaps in the official series of enrolments, whilst the individual interest of a large proportion of the whole series is considerable.

The arrangement of the documents is based upon the classification adopted by the Editor in the work above referred to. It was intended in the first instance to prefix a brief introductory note to each document in turn, but it was found that a great saving of space could be effected by substituting for this plan a connected introduction to each section.

An equally necessary economy has been made, with some reluctance, by omitting many details from the texts which were not essential to their diplomatic construction. In such cases the omission is indicated by an *etc.* in square brackets.

The dates given in the headings to the individual documents are those actually employed for the purpose of official reference. The distinction between the several systems in use at different times is thus preserved, but the year of Our Lord has been given in the Table of Contents.

As in the case of former academical exercises¹ it has seemed desirable to attempt a full extension of the original Text, except in the case of the more modern State Papers and Departmental Records, the Palæographical aspect of which could scarcely be realized in a modern guise. Following the same precedents, the capitalisation and punctuation of the original documents have been modernized together with the typographical forms of *i* and *u*. In the case of the diphthong *æ*, in deference to certain representations, it was originally intended that the usual mediæval form should be preserved. It was found, however, that, owing to the exceptional scope of the work, not fewer

¹ *i.e.* in the publications dealing with the "Exchequer Receipt Roll, 1185" and the "Pipe Roll of the Bishopric of Winchester, 1208," both published by the London School of Economics.

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than four systems of indicating this diphthong had to be reckoned with. In the pre-Conquest period, indeed, three of these forms may occur in the same text, whilst the mediæval form of the tagged, or untagged, *e* is replaced before the 18th century by the conventional diphthong. The latter has therefore necessarily been preserved in the earliest and latest documents printed in this collection. The “tagged” *e* has not been reproduced for the same reason that the reproduction of the Old English letters has been eschewed, as far as possible, whilst the diphthong *at the end of* Latin words has been indicated by an accent. This further license has been taken chiefly in the interests of a large body of readers to whom certain printed mediæval texts of our own time are practically closed books. It is hoped that this unusual device will not offend the susceptibilities of those scholars for whose benefit the present work was not primarily intended.

The present volume contains the “Diplomatic Documents” which form the best-known class of official instruments. It is proposed to publish in a Second Part, which is in active preparation, Formulas of Surveys, Inquisitions, Accounts and of such judicial Records as chiefly lend themselves to diplomatic study.

The Formula Book when completed in two Parts will have been the result of three years’ work in a Seminar for Advanced Historical Studies¹. As only one evening weekly has been available for this purpose the progress of the work has necessarily been slow. Following the practice established on former occasions the transcription of the text has been allotted to individual students whilst the palæographical and diplomatic aspects of the whole subject and the selection of the several examples have been considered by the whole class.

The following students have taken part in the above operations: Miss H. Hadley (Archivist, L.C.C.) has transcribed the texts of the Old English charters; Miss S. E. Moffat (certificate in Arts, Edinburgh) those of the Anglo-Norman charters; Miss E. M. Leonard (Historical Tripos, Cambridge, and M.A. Dublin) those of the Royal Charters 1200–1516; Miss L. Drucker, those of the Confirmations, the

¹ Provided by and given under the authority of the Committee of the Advanced History Teaching Fund.

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Writs under the Great Seal and the semi-official Instruments; Miss A. Raven (Staff of Victoria County History) those of the Missives under the Smaller Seals and the sequence of an ecclesiastical election; Mrs M. E. Maynard (Honours School of Modern History, Oxford) those of the Warrants for Issue of the Great Seal; and Miss P. Steele Hutton (M.A. St Andrews) those of the Royal Letters and Secretarial or Departmental Instruments. The Editor, as previously implied, is solely responsible for the classification of the documents and the introductory matter.

The Documents included in this volume have all been transcribed at the Public Record Office with the exception of the Anglo-Saxon charters and certain mediæval Royal Letters at the British Museum. A key to the abbreviated references employed is appended with a classified Table of Contents.

The transcribers and the editor alike wish to express their sincere appreciation of the courteous assistance rendered by the officials in charge of the Search Rooms at the Public Record Office, as well as by the authorities of the London School of Economics and of the Cambridge University Press. They have also to express their grateful acknowledgement of the kindness of Professor T. F. Tout in reading the proofs.

H. H.

July, 1908.

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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE REFERENCES, ETC.
OF THIS WORK.

C. S. = *Cartularium Saxonicum* (ed. W. de G. Birch, 1885-93).

C. D. = *Codex Diplomaticus ævi Saxonici* (ed. J. M. Kemble, 1839-48).

A. C. No. — = *Ancient Charters* (ed. J. H. Round in *Pipe Roll Society's Publications*, Vol. x.).

B. M. Facs. = *Facsimiles of Ancient Charters in the British Museum* (ed. E. A. Bond, 1873-78).

Rot. Litt. Pat. = *Rotuli Litterarum Patentium* (ed. T. D. Hardy, 1835).

Cal. = *Calendars of Charters, Letters Patent and Close, etc. (Rolls Series)*.

D. of L. R. C. = *Duchy of Lancaster, Royal Charters*.

A. C. Vol. — = *Ancient Correspondence (Chancery)*.

O. L. P. = *Original Letters Patent (Exchequer Series)*.

K. R. and L. T. R. Mem. Roll = *King's Remembrancer's or Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer's Memoranda Rolls*.

Exch. T. of R. = *Exchequer, Treasury of Receipt*.

Chanc. Warrts., etc. = *Chancery, Warrants for Issue*.

F. O. = *Foreign Office*.

H. O. = *Home Office*.

S. P. Dom., etc. = *State Papers Domestic, etc.*