



Short Studies on Great Subjects

Selected and
Introduced by
David Ogg

J. A. FROUDE

The Fontana Library 8/6

FARNHILL

J. A. FROUDE

SHORT STUDIES ON
GREAT SUBJECTS

Selected and Introduced by

DAVID OGG

Collins

THE FONTANA LIBRARY

CONTENTS

Introduction	<i>page</i> 7
The Science of History	21
Society in Italy in the Last Days of the Roman Republic	48
A Bishop of the Twelfth Century	68
The Lives of the Saints	96
The Dissolution of the Monasteries	118
England's Forgotten Worthies	151
Cheneys and the House of Russell	195
Newman (<i>from</i> The Oxford Counter-Reformation)	230
Tract XC (<i>from</i> The Oxford Counter-Reformation)	242
On the Uses of a Landed Gentry	255
On Progress	278
Index	310

To have one's first book publicly burnt by the head of one's college might seem an inauspicious beginning to a historian's career. In the case of James Anthony Froude (1818-94) it proved no irretrievable disaster. Resigning his fellowship at the age of thirty-one, he supported himself by his pen until, towards the very end of his life, he returned to Oxford as Regius Professor.

Froude and Macaulay are the acknowledged masters of Victorian historical writing. "Both of them", writes Mr. Ogg in an introduction containing a spirited defence of the classic historians against the composite, non-committal volumes which have succeeded them, "were great writers of narrative because they could visualise what they were describing and could infuse into their pages something of the emotional intensity by which they were inspired." The present selection exemplifies not only the vigour and clarity of Froude's mind but also the extraordinary range of his interests and learning.

