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The History Of The Island Of Antigua, One Of The Leeward Caribbees In The West Indies, From The First Settlement In 1635 To The Present Time Vol 1



Synopsis

Preface THE various Papers and Pedigrees comprised in these two Volumes have been gradually accumulated during the last seven years. Having commenced by collecting information about my own family, which was formerly settled at Antigua, I was soon led to make notes of many others connected by marriage, and finally to compile the Pedigrees of all those formerly resident there. I then visited the Island, and during my stay from December 1888 to March 1st, 1889, made copious extracts from the parish registers and local records, besides copying all the monumental inscriptions in the various churchyards and plantation burial-grounds. Here I gratefully record my thanks to Sir William Frederick Haynes-Smith, the Governor of the Leeward Islands; to Captain I. C. Maling, then Acting-Secretary; to Mr. Octavius Humphrys, the Registrar of Wills and Deeds; to the various Rectors; and to my kind friends Messrs. Thomas Dickson Foote, John Foote, Arthur Shand, Oliver Nugent, John Jarvis, and others. The information thus acquired on the Island was subsequently largely augmented by a search through the Colonial Papers at the Public Record Office, Mrs. Vernona T. C. Smith materially assisting by making extracts for me from the Close Rolls; and my thanks are also due to Mr. Chaloner Smith, the head of the Literary Search Department at Somerset House, for his uniform courtesy and help. In regard to the Historical Introduction which follows, I have endeavoured to give as much original information as possible; most of it is in a very crude and condensed state, but I have purposely avoided putting forward my personal opinions, deeming it better for each reader to form his own. As to the Pedigrees, I must point out that some of them are unreliable, owing to the absence of sufficient proof, but I shall be very glad to receive corrections and additions. The first Volume has taken the Publishers over two years to print, but the remaining one will be probably completed next year.

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