THE WARS
OF THE ROSES

British History in Perspective

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THE WARS OF THE ROSES

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PREFACE

This work is a discussion of what seem to me to be the important and distinctive characteristics of the Wars of the Roses. It is founded upon and reflects the work of many scholars and has had the advantage of many hours of discussion with friends and colleagues too numerous to name. On some issues it agrees with them, on others it disagrees. Any strengths it possesses owes much to them, the weaknesses are all my own. I would however like to record a special debt to the late Charles Ross, whose book under the same title will for long remain the best introductory work on the subject. And I would like to thank Jill Wren for her patient assistance in preparing the typescript for publication.

Taunton
September, 1987

For Richard and Edward

England during the Wars of the Roses

Table 1 THE HOUSES OF LANCASTER, YORK AND BEAUFORT

Table 2 THE NEVILLES