THE LATER REFORMATION IN ENGLAND
1547–1603

British History in Perspective

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DIARMAID MACCULLOCH

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For Nigel and Jennie MacCulloch

PREFACE

This little book makes no pretensions to originality; if it helps to give a picture of how recent research has opened up our understanding of the later Tudor Church, it will have achieved its aim. I am grateful to have been part of the company of scholars who have engaged in this exploration, and, in particular to Professor Sir Geoffrey Elton, whose friendship and guidance I can never sufficiently repay. I must thank the following for their kindness in allowing me to use their unpublished work: Eugene Bourgeois, Margaret Clark, Ronald Fritze, David Peet, Robert Whiting. Professor Patrick Collinson offered me some extremely helpful comments on the text. I can additionally acknowledge the helpfulness and efficiency of Macmillan, and, in particular, of Vanessa Graham. Once more my colleagues and students at Wesley College, Bristol, and in the University of Bristol have given more than they realised towards my thoughts. Mark Achurch deserves my especial gratitude for putting up with the writing of this book.

Readers looking for the biases which still inevitably lie behind the writing of religious history should note that I am an ordained clergyman of the Church of England. In view of the current growth of an unthinking conservatism and insularity within that Church, I am indebted to my parents for showing me in my childhood what the thoughtful and tolerant face of Anglicanism can be. It is with loving thanks

Preface

for all that they have done for me that I return them the small present of this book.

DIARMAID MACCULLOCH

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