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The Reigns of Charles II and James VII & II

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LIONEL K. J. GLASSEY

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Preface

The completion of this book has taken longer than it should have done, and the fault is entirely mine. I should like to thank all the contributors for the prompt production of their essays, and to apologize to them for the tardy delivery of my own. I should also like to thank Vanessa Graham and Simon Winder of Macmillan; the former for suggesting the project and for offering much early encouragement, and the latter for his patience and understanding as the later stages were bedevilled by delay. I am grateful, too, to Patricia Ferguson, Barbara Beggs, Chris Fildes and Beverley Lynn for their much-appreciated secretarial help.

It proved oddly difficult to find a title for the collection which had not been used before and which reflected the intentions of the contributors. In the end I settled, perhaps rather dimly, for the names of two monarchs. Speaking as someone who teaches in a School of History and Archaeology containing a Department of Scottish History, I make no apology for including King James's Scottish numeral. I hope, however, that the social historians who are the authors of Chapters 7, 8 and 9 will forgive the implication that periods of history are bounded by the restoration and deposition of kings.

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