

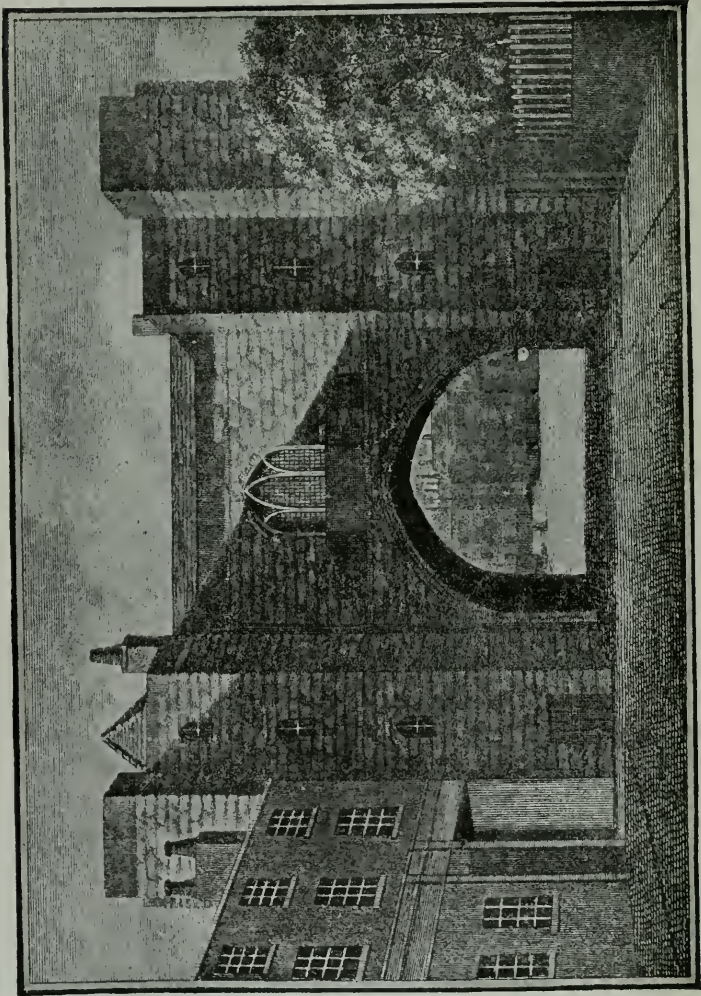








A CHILD'S  
HISTORY OF ENGLAND



ST. JOHN'S GATE

CLEARTYPE EDITION

THE WORKS OF  
CHARLES DICKENS

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS



A CHILD'S  
HISTORY OF ENGLAND

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THIS  
CHILD'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND  
IS DEDICATED TO  
MY OWN DEAR CHILDREN

WHOM I HOPE IT MAY HELP, BYE AND BYE, TO  
READ WITH INTEREST LARGER AND BETTER  
BOOKS ON THE SAME SUBJECT.

*Christmas* 1851



# CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE, AND TABLE OF CONTENTS

*A Child's History of England*

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. Ancient England and the Romans (From 50 years B.C. to 450 A.D.) . . . . .	1
II. Ancient England under the Early Saxons (450 A.D. to 871 A.D.) . . . . .	10
III. England under the good Saxon Alfred, and Edward the Elder (871 to 901) . . . . .	14
IV. England under Athelstan and the Six Boy-Kings (925 to 1016) . . . . .	19
V. England under Canute the Dane (1016 to 1035) . . . . .	29
VI. England under Harold Harefoot, Hardicnut and Edward the Confessor (1035 to 1066) . . . . .	31
VII. England under Harold the Second, and conquered by the Normans (All in the same year, 1066) . . . . .	38
VIII. England under William the First, the Norman Conqueror (1066 to 1087) . . . . .	41
IX. England under William the Second, called Rufus (1087 to 1100) . . . . .	48
X. England under Henry the First, called Fine-Scholar (1100 to 1135) . . . . .	54
XI. England under Matilda and Stephen (1135 to 1154) . . . . .	63

CHAPTER	PAGE
XII. England under Henry the Second (1154 to 1189) . . . . .	66
XIII. England under Richard the First, called the Lion-Heart (1189 to 1199) . . . . .	84
XIV. England under John, called Lackland (1199 to 1216) . . . . .	92
XV. England under Henry the Third, called, of Winchester (1216 to 1272) . . . . .	103
XVI. England under Edward the First, called Longshanks (1272 to 1307) . . . . .	114
XVII. England under Edward the Second (1307 to 1327) . . . . .	129
XVIII. England under Edward the Third (1327 to 1377) . . . . .	138
XIX. England under Richard the Second (1377 to 1399) . . . . .	149
XX. England under Henry the Fourth, called Bolingbroke (1399 to 1413) . . . . .	159
XXI. England under Henry the Fifth (1413 to 1422) . . . . .	164
XXII. England under Henry the Sixth ( <i>The Story of Joan of Arc</i> ) (1422 to 1461) . . . . .	173
XXIII. England under Edward the Fourth (1461 to 1483) . . . . .	190
XXIV. England under Edward the Fifth (For a few weeks in the year 1483) . . . . .	197
XXV. England under Richard the Third (1483 to 1485) . . . . .	201
XXVI. England under Henry the Seventh (1485 to 1509) . . . . .	205
XXVII. England under Henry the Eighth, called Bluff King Hal and Burly King Harry (1509 to 1533) . . . . .	215

# CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

ix

CHAPTER	PAGE
XXVIII. England under Henry the Eighth (1533 to 1547) . . . . .	226
XXIX. England under Edward the Sixth (1547 to 1553) . . . . .	235
XXX. England under Mary (1553 to 1558) . . . . .	242
XXXI. England under Elizabeth (1558 to 1603) . . . . .	253
XXXII. England under James the First (1603 to 1625) . . . . .	276
XXXIII. England under Charles the First (1625 to 1649) . . . . .	291
XXXIV. England under Oliver Cromwell (1649 to 1660) . . . . .	318
XXXV. England under Charles the Second, called the Merry Monarch (1660 to 1685) . . . . .	333
XXXVI. England under James the Second (1685 to 1688) . . . . .	353
XXXVII. Conclusion (1688 to 1837) . . . . .	366



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# A Child's History of England

## CHAPTER I

### ANCIENT ENGLAND AND THE ROMANS

**I**F you look at a Map of the World, you will see, in the left-hand upper corner of the Eastern Hemisphere, two Islands lying in the sea. They are England and Scotland, and Ireland. England and Scotland form the greater part of these Islands. Ireland is the next in size. The little neighbouring islands, which are so small upon the Map as to be mere dots, are chiefly little bits of Scotland, broken off, I dare say, in the course of a great length of time, by the power of the restless water.

In the old days, a long, long while ago, before Our Saviour was born on earth and lay asleep in a manger, these Islands were in the same place, and the stormy sea roared round them, just as it roars now. But the sea was not alive, then, with great ships and brave sailors, sailing to and from all parts of the world. It was very lonely. The Islands lay solitary, in the great expanse of water. The foaming waves dashed against their cliffs, and the bleak winds blew over their forests; but the winds and waves brought no adventurers to land upon the Islands, and the savage Islanders knew nothing of the rest of the world, and the rest of the world knew nothing of them.

It is supposed that the Phœnicians, who were an ancient people, famous for carrying on trade, came in ships to these Islands, and found that they produced tin and lead; both very useful things, as you know, and both produced to this very hour upon

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