

The tyranny and fall of Edward II 1321-1326



The tyranny and fall of Edward II

NATALIE FRYDE



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Preface

The pleasantest part of a book to compose is indubitably the preface in which one has the opportunity to thank people for the help which they have given. Since this volume has been several years in the making, my thanks span a considerable period of time and more than one country. Latterly, it was accepted as a dissertation by the Freie Universität Berlin and I should like to thank most heartily Professor Wolfgang von Stromer, both for his help and advice and for the stimulus provided by the pages of his Oberdeutsche Hochfinanz, a study of finance and politics in the same period in Germany. I am most grateful, too, to the Dean, Professor Kurze, and the History Faculty, for the trouble which they have taken in accepting this work. In its early stages, when we were together researching in the Public Record Office, Dr Seymour Phillips and Dr J. Maddicott were most generous in help and advice. In reading the completed manuscript I am obliged to Dr Brian Howells, whose criticism of an early draft was most helpful, to Professor P. Wolff of Toulouse for his pertinent remarks on the chapter relating to France and, above all, to Professor R. R. Davies, who greatly improved both its English and its clarity and saved me from falling into many pit-holes in Wales and elsewhere. I wish also to thank my husband for his endless enthusiasm for this book and for his aid as critic and corrector. It was he who first introduced me to Edward II and the Despensers and those who know him will appreciate how much help he gave me to write this book.

As far as institutional thanks are concerned, I should like to record my gratitude once again to the staff of the Public Record Office for their unfailing help and courtesy and to the Librarian



PREFACE

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Aberystwyth, 4 February 1979

Natalie Fryde



Abbreviations

Ann.Lond. Annales Londonienses Ann.Paul. Annales Paulini. Avesbury See under Murimuth Baker Chronicon Galfridi le Baker de Swynebroke (1303-56) B.B.C.S.Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies B.J.H.R.Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research B.L. British Library Br.d.Bar. Brevia directa Baronibus **Bridlington** Gesta Edwardi de Carnarvon Auctore Canonico Bridlingtoniensi Brut Brut, ed. F. W. Brie, vol. 1. E.E.T.S., orig. ser., 131 (1906) C.Anc.C. Calendar of Ancient Correspondence concerning Wales C.Anc.Deeds Calendar of Ancient Deeds C.A.P.Calendar of Ancient Petitions concerning Wales C.Chanc. Warr. Calendar of Chancery Warrants C.Ch.R.Calendar of Charter Rolls C.Cl.R. Calendar of Close Rolls C.Fine R. Calendar of Fine Rolls C.I.M.Calendar of Inquisitions Miscellaneous C.I.P.M.Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem Cartae Glam. Cartae et alia Munimenta quae ad

dominium de Glamorgan pertinent



ABBREVIATIONS

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C.P.R. Calendar of Patent Rolls Ec.H.R. Economic History Review E.H.R. English Historical Review Foedera Foedera, ed. T. Rymer, Record Commission, 2 vols. (London, 1816–18) French Chron.Lond. Croniques de Londres Fryde 'Pessagno' (1978) Guisborough Chronicle of Walter of Guisborough K.R. King's Remembrancer's records K.R.Exch.Acc.Various King's Remembrancer's Exchequer Accounts Various (E. 101) K.R.Mem.r. King's Remembrancer's Memoranda roll (E. 159) Chronicon de Lanercost Leyc.Chron. Henrici Knighton, Leycestrensis Chronicon List Mem.R. List of Welsh Entries in the Memoranda Rolls, 1282–1343 Lit.Cant. Literae Cantuarienses L.T.R.Mem.r. Memoranda roll (E. 368) Melsa Chronica Monasterii de Melsa Mem.St.Edmunds. Memorials of St. Edmunds Abbey Chronica Adae Murimuth Parl.Writs Parliamentary Writs and Writs of Military Service P.R.O. Public Record Office Glam.Co.History The Glamorgan County History Rot.Parl. Rotuli Parliamentorum R.S. Rolls Series	C.Pap.R.	Calendar of Papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland, II,
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	Glam.Co.History	The Glamorgan County History
R.S. Rolls Series	Rot.Parl.	Rotuli Parliamentorum
	R.S.	Rolls Series

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S.C.



X ABBREVIATIONS

Scalacronica Scalacronica of Thomas Gray of

Heton

S.H.R. Scottish Historical Review

Trans.Cumb.West.Arch.Soc. Transactions of the Cumberland and

Westmorland Archaeological

Society

T.R.H.S. Transactions of the Royal Historical

Society

Vita Vita Edwardi Secundi Welsh Hist.Rev. Welsh History Review