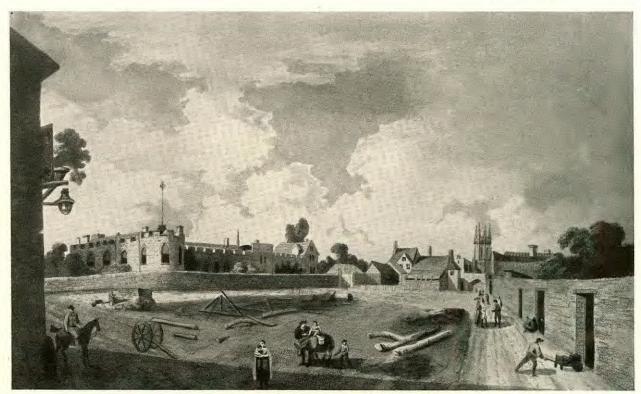
Frontispiece



Taunton Castle, after an aquatint—c. 1800

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Somersetshire Archaeological & Patural History Society

FOR THE YEARS 1948-9

(ANNUAL MEETINGS, BATH & TAUNTON)

VOL. XCIV



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The Council of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society desire that it should be distinctly understood that although the volume of Proceedings is published under their direction, they do not hold themselves in any way responsible for any statements or opinions expressed therein; the authors of the several papers and communications being along responsible.

PREF.ACE

Vol. XCIV is a double volume for the years 1948–9. The last time a double volume was issued was 80 years ago. This present volume brings the *Proceedings* up-to-date after the delay caused by the war.

For some years, though Mr. A. W. Vivian-Neal has acted as Hon. Editor, Mr. H. St. George Gray was responsible for most of the work concerned with the production of the Volume. The Council felt that the new Secretary and Keeper should not, as far as possible, be responsible for that work, and has been very fortunate in securing Mr. A. K. Hudson as the new Editor. We should like to record our thanks to Mr. Gray and Mr. Vivian-Neal for the work they have done.

The thanks of the Society are also due to Mrs. D. P. Dobson and the Rev. H. E. Field for their contributions towards the cost of blocks; to the Monumental Brass Society for the loan of blocks to illustrate Mr. A. B. Connor's paper on monumental brasses; and to the Somerset County Council and the Editor of Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries for permission to republish the report on the restoration of Tarr Steps.

THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.

Taunton Castle,

March 1950.