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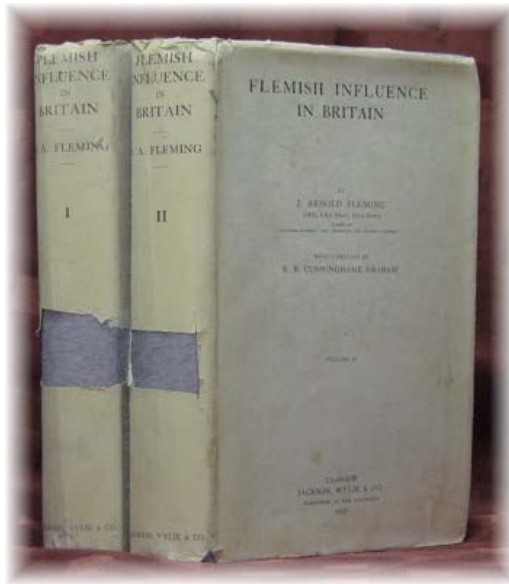
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FLEMISH INFLUENCE IN BRITAIN

BY

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AUTHOR OF

'SCOTTISH POTTERY' AND 'MODELLING AND POTTERY PAINTING'

WITH A PREFACE BY

R. B. CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM

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THE CROWNING OF THE FIRST FLEMING QUEEN

AT Biggar on the 17th July, 1929, the Annual Gala Day took a new significance by proclaiming a Queen, and associating her with that historic family, the Flemings of Biggar. Among the pretty attendants and courtiers on the Queen were names of good Scottish families. "Queen's weather" blessed the gallant procession, which was most appropriately led by the Cumbernauld Band. On the journey a halt was made at the War Memorial, upon which the Queen's and other bouquets were laid. This was fitting, for did not the Flemings in the past lay down their all for their country ?

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CHAPTER III

HISTORICAL SURVEY

“Heavens ! how unlike their Belgic sires of old,
Rough, poor, content, ungovernably bold,
War in each breast and Freedom on each brow,
How much unlike the sons of Britain now.”

GOLDSMITH'S *Traveller*.

THE history of the immigration of this race to our shores is so ancient as to be obscure. They were a Teutonic people inhabiting the deltas formed by three great rivers, the Weser, the Meuse, and the Scheldt, which had deposited their muddy debris for ages on the low, hollow, or Netherland. The fertility of these plains was fatal to the native possessors, for foreign tyranny from remote times sought to conquer them, and aroused and inspired such a resistance among the inhabitants that they acquired the genius of liberty and of upholding independence as well as a determination and concentration of purpose in defence of their country in which they displayed consummate skill. These were some of the heroic elements bred among the natives of these too frequently disturbed plains.

These 'free Frisians,' whose name became synonymous with liberty, were near blood relations of the Anglo-Saxons. The process of invasion and admixture of Continental races in Britain can be traced only dimly and indefinitely with the help of random skulls of uncertain date and origin ; among these remains large numbers of Belgae have been discovered. They were either wild sea-rovers or cultivators of the soil. The tribe was called the Frisii, Frisories or Frisians, and took part with the Angles and Saxons in the conquest of Britain. They offered not only

discovered that simple faith fared ill when it came into conflict with Norman blood. Such coincidences are significant, for they betray a similar national character which influenced alike the destinies of Scots and Flemings. The healthy blood of patriotism appealed to the hearts of these nations and aroused a cohesive energy that was able to sweep the enemy from the gate. We have here also the first indication of democracy threatening the Feudal System. King Philip of France was forced to recognize the defeats he had suffered from the bold republican burghers, and from their increasing wealth and influence to see that his feudalistic monarchy was in actual danger. He was determined therefore to conquer them. The situation had somewhat developed since the battles we have mentioned and becomes of peculiar interest. The King of France, observing that many Flemings were settling in Scotland, concluded an alliance with the Scots so that he might mitigate the opposition of the Flemings in Flanders to his monarchy. But Philip, to his chagrin, discovered that his secret treaty with Scotland had been almost simultaneously neutralised by the league Edward III. had made with the Flemings in Flanders, who was anxious to keep his troublesome barons occupied in his war with France. Eleanor, a sister of Edward III., married at this time the Duke of Gueldres, who gave her 14000 (gulden) Flemish pounds as pin-money. Besides, his wars were entered into so as to preserve trading with Flanders, resulting in the settlement of many Flemish colonies in the eastern counties of England, Yorkshire, and Westmorland. Edward found the Flemings to be of the same unsubdued spirit in defence of their liberties that his father and grandfather had met with in their activities against the Scots. The King was well known to the Flemings, for he was termed by them the 'Royal Wool-Merchant,' for Edward had found a shrewder way than Philip of establishing contact with the Flemings. By various devices from the commencement of his reign he had attracted large numbers of cloth-workers to Eng-

Getting around this CD

NAVIGATING ARCHIVE CD BOOKS CDs

All Archive CD Books products can be navigated easily using the handy bookmarks on each CD. The table of contents in most original books, and the original book index where it exists, can provide additional ways of finding the information required.

SEARCHING TEXT ON ARCHIVE CD BOOKS AUSTRALIA CDs

Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology has been developing over the years as a useful mechanism to convert images (as Archive CD Books pages are) into text which can be searched.

The quality of the OCR can still vary, and hence the searchability can vary. Around 95% or 99% of the words in books with good type are searchable—or even higher with very good type.

*OCR is now a wonderful searching aid in many instances
but there is still no substitute for reading the book!*

DIFFERENT VERSIONS OF ADOBE ACROBAT READER

Adobe Acrobat Reader 4 or later should be used. Adobe Reader 6 (as it is now named) in fact has considerably better searching options and is recommended.

- **Acrobat Reader v4** has both a "Find" and a "Search" tool. Those tools are two **totally** different things. Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the **FIND** tool
- **Acrobat Reader v5** has only a "Find" tool (not a "search" tool). Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the **FIND** tool.
- **Adobe Reader v6** has only a "Search" tool (not a tool labelled "Find")
HOWEVER — what is called "Search" is the same as the tool that used to be called "Find" Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the **SEARCH** tool

TIPS FOR SEARCHING AND GETTING MORE FROM THE CD BOOKS

- update to Adobe Reader 6 for more versatile searching options, including the ability to bring up a list of all instances of the word you are searching for — across multiple files on a single CD in a single search request.
- enter the MINIMUM number of characters needed to bring up the search results required.
- use Adobe Reader 6 to do some trial searches to try to identify the characters that may be misread. These can show up in the extra text in the search results list (Adobe 6 only). A few minutes trial will help you to avoid using characters that are more prone to being misread, e.g. try entering "rederi" if you want "Frederick", but find that the letters "F" "c" and "k" are sometimes misread.
- use the "Match whole word" option to eliminate unnecessary items in your results list, e.g. to eliminate all the blacksmiths and tinsmiths etc when you only want the name Smith
- use the "Match case" option when you want to eliminate all the occupations "smith" if you only want the name "Smith"
- Don't just search for names. Search the book for other names, places and subjects of interest:
 - look for others of the same name
 - look for others who lived in the same place or street
 - who was the postmaster or police officer in the town?
 - how often and at what time did the coach arrive in town?
 - what churches were there and what time were services held?
 - what other activities were there in the community?
 - look for others who had the same occupation or other interests
- All of this and more may be available in a seemingly mundane book such as a directory. You could learn or write much of the background of life at the time, even if your ancestor is not listed there.

ADOBE ACROBAT SEARCHING IS A WONDERFUL FIRST FINDING AID.
BUT DO NOT RELY ON IT TO PICK UP ALL THE INFORMATION YOU WANT

