The English Landed Estate in the Nineteenth Century
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PREFACE

This study is in the nature of a by-product. For some years I have been reading account books and estate and family correspondence belonging to English landowners in the nineteenth century. My aim has been to find what the English landowner looked like in the round—that is, in the exercise of his social, economic, and political functions. This book deals with but a part of this large subject, and views it more from the vantage point of agents and the central government than from that of the landowner. I hope, however, in the near future to publish studies in which the latter figures more prominently than he does here.

I owe much to the kindness of many persons. In particular I should like to acknowledge my gratitude to the following: to Mr. W. Corbett and the Bedford Estate Office, to His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, to Lord Lambton, to Sir Fergus Graham, to Earl Fitzwilliam and the Trustees of the Wentworth Woodhouse estate, to Earl Spencer, and to Mrs. M. C. Cruwys for making it possible to consult manuscripts in their possession; to the Guggenheim Foundation for a generous grant in aid of research in England; and to the editors of the Durham University Journal and the Journal of British Studies for allowing me to make use of material from articles published in their journals.

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D. S.

Baltimore, Md.
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