

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

*Books of enduring scholarly value*

### History

The books reissued in this series include accounts of historical events and movements by eye-witnesses and contemporaries, as well as landmark studies that assembled significant source materials or developed new historiographical methods. The series includes work in social, political and military history on a wide range of periods and regions, giving modern scholars ready access to influential publications of the past.

### **A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages**

Henry Charles Lea's comprehensive three-volume history of the medieval Inquisition, first published in 1888, was firmly based on primary sources and was influential in fostering a rationalist approach to medieval history, breaking with the pious and reverential tone of earlier nineteenth-century work on the middle ages. Lea was convinced that the Inquisition was not arbitrarily devised and implemented but was an inevitable consequence of forces that were dominant in thirteenth-century Christian society. In Volume 3 Lea focuses on particular aspects of the Inquisition. He considers the impact of the Inquisition on scholarship and intellectual life and on faith and culture, and describes how movements including the Franciscans and the Fraticelli gained prominence. He shows how the concept of political heresy was used by the Church and the State, and argues that belief in sorcery and witchcraft in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries was stimulated by the Church authorities.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection will bring back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

# A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages

VOLUME 3

HENRY CHARLES LEA



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore,  
São Paulo, Delhi, Dubai, Tokyo

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)

Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781108014854](http://www.cambridge.org/9781108014854)

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2010

This edition first published 1888

This digitally printed version 2010

ISBN 978-1-108-01485-4 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

A HISTORY OF THE INQUISITION

VoL III.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

A HISTORY OF  
THE INQUISITION  
OF  
THE MIDDLE AGES

BY

HENRY CHARLES LEA

AUTHOR OF

“AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF SACERDOTAL CELIBACY,” “SUPERSTITION AND FORCE,”  
“STUDIES IN CHURCH HISTORY”

*IN THREE VOLUMES*

VOL. III.

LONDON

SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, SEARLE, & RIVINGTON

*Limited*

St. Dunstan's House

FETTER LANE, FLEET STREET, E.C.

1888

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## CONTENTS.

## BOOK III.—SPECIAL FIELDS OF INQUISITORIAL ACTIVITY.

## CHAPTER I.—THE SPIRITUAL FRANCISCANS.

	Page
Dissensions in the Franciscan Order from Elias to John of Parma . . . . .	1
Joachim of Flora.—His Reputation as a Prophet . . . . .	10
His Apocalyptic Speculations as to the Third Era . . . . .	14
Adopted by the Spiritual Franciscans . . . . .	18
The Everlasting Gospel.—Its Condemnation . . . . .	20
The Spirituals Compromised.—John of Parma Removed . . . . .	23
Persistence of the Joachites . . . . .	25
Increasing Strife over Poverty . . . . .	27
Bull <i>Exiit qui seminat</i> . . . . .	30
Persecution of Italian Spirituals . . . . .	32
The French Spirituals.—Jean Pierre Olivi . . . . .	42
Arnaldo de Vilanova . . . . .	52
Disputation before Clement V.—Decision of Council of Vienne . . . . .	57
Renewed Persecution of the Spirituals . . . . .	61
Commencement of Rebellion.—Dissensions among Them . . . . .	62
Election of John XXII.—His Character . . . . .	66
He Enforces Obedience and Creates a Heresy . . . . .	69
Bloody Persecution of the Olivists . . . . .	73
They Form a New Church . . . . .	79
Their Fanaticism.—Naprous Boneta . . . . .	81
Suppression of the Sect.—Its Career in Aragon . . . . .	84
Jean de la Rochetaillade.—Remains of Joachitism . . . . .	86

## CHAPTER II.—GUGLIELMA AND DOLCINO.

Incarnation of Holy Ghost in Guglielma . . . . .	90
The Guglielmites Form a New Church . . . . .	94
Prosecuted by the Inquisition . . . . .	98

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi

## CONTENTS.

	Page
Fate of the Sectarics . . . . .	100
The Order of Apostles.—Spiritual Tendencies . . . . .	103
Gherardo Segarelli.—Burned in 1300 . . . . .	104
Dolcino Assumes the Leadership . . . . .	109
His Open Revolt.—Suppressed after Four Crusades . . . . .	113
Continuance and Character of the Heresy . . . . .	120

## CHAPTER III.—THE FRATICELLI.

Question Raised as to the Poverty of Christ . . . . .	129
Reaction against the Holiness of Poverty . . . . .	130
Doctrine of the Poverty of Christ Declared a Heresy . . . . .	134
It Complicates the Quarrel with Louis of Bavaria . . . . .	135
Marsiglio of Padua and William of Ockham . . . . .	139
Gradual Estrangement of the Franciscans . . . . .	142
Louis Deposits John XXII. as a Heretic . . . . .	145
Michele da Cesena Revolts . . . . .	147
Utility of the Inquisition.—Submission of the Antipope . . . . .	149
Struggle in Germany.—The Franciscans Support Louis . . . . .	153
Louis gradually Gains Strength.—His Death . . . . .	156
Dissident Franciscans Known as Fraticelli . . . . .	158
Sympathy for them under Persecution . . . . .	160
Their Tenets . . . . .	162
Fraticelli in France and Spain . . . . .	167
Orthodox Ascetism.—Jesuats.—Observantines . . . . .	171
The Observantines Replace and Suppress the Fraticelli . . . . .	174

## CHAPTER IV.—POLITICAL HERESY UTILIZED BY THE CHURCH.

Denial of Papal Claims Pronounced Heresy . . . . .	181
The Stedingers.—Tithes Enforced by Crusades . . . . .	182
Crusades to Support Italian Interests of Papacy . . . . .	189
Importance of Inquisition as a Political Agency . . . . .	190
Advantage of the Charge of Heresy . . . . .	191
Manfred of Naples.—The Colonnas.—Ferrara . . . . .	193
John XXII. and the Visconti . . . . .	196
Cola di Rienzo.—The Maffredi . . . . .	203
Use of Inquisition in the Great Schism . . . . .	204
Case of Thomas Connecte . . . . .	208
Girolamo Savonarola . . . . .	209



Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## CONTENTS.

vii

## CHAPTER V.—POLITICAL HERESY UTILIZED BY THE STATE.

	Page
Use of Inquisition by Secular Potentates . . . . .	238
The Templars.—Growth and Relations of the Order . . . . .	238
Causes of its Downfall.—Facilities Furnished by the Inquisition	249
Papal Complicity Sought.—Use made of Inquisition . . . . .	257
Errors Charged against the Templars . . . . .	263
The Question of their Guilt . . . . .	264
Vacillation of Clement.—The Assembly of Tours . . . . .	277
Bargain between King and Pope.—Clement Joins the Prosecu- tion . . . . .	281
Prosecution throughout Europe.—Its Methods in France . . . . .	284
The Papal Commission.—Its Proceedings . . . . .	289
Defence Prevented by Burning those who Retract . . . . .	295
Proceedings in England.—The Inquisition Necessary . . . . .	298
Action in Lorraine and Germany . . . . .	301
In Italy and the East . . . . .	304
In Spain and Majorca . . . . .	310
Torture in Preparation for the Council of Vienne . . . . .	317
Arbitrary Proceedings Required at the Council . . . . .	319
Disposition of Property and Persons of the Order . . . . .	322
Fate of de Molay . . . . .	325
Popular Sympathies . . . . .	326
Distribution of the Property of the Order . . . . .	329
Case of Doctor Jean Petit . . . . .	334
Case of Joan of Arc.—Condition of the French Monarchy . . . . .	338
Career of Joan up to her Capture . . . . .	340
The Inquisition Claims her.—Delivered to the Bishop of Beau- vais . . . . .	357
Her Trial . . . . .	360
Her Condemnation and Execution . . . . .	372
Her Imitators and her Rehabilitation . . . . .	376

## CHAPTER VI.—SORCERY AND OCCULT ARTS.

Satan and the Spirit World . . . . .	379
Incubi and Succubi . . . . .	383
Human Ministers of Satan.—Sorcerers . . . . .	385
Penalties under the Roman Law . . . . .	392
Struggle between Pagan and Christian Theurgy . . . . .	393
Repression of Sorcery by the Early Church . . . . .	395

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

viii

## CONTENTS.

	Page
Magic Practices of the Barbarians . . . . .	400
Leniency of Barbarian Legislation . . . . .	408
Legislation of Church and State in Carolingian Period . . . . .	412
Practical Toleration in Early Mediæval Period . . . . .	416
Indifference of Secular Legislation . . . . .	427
The Inquisition Assumes Jurisdiction . . . . .	434
All Magic Becomes Heretical . . . . .	435
Astrology.—Pietro di Abano.—Cecco d'Ascoli . . . . .	437
Divination by Dreams . . . . .	446
Comminatory Church Services . . . . .	447
The Inquisition Stimulates Sorcery by Persecution . . . . .	448
Unfortunate Influence of John XXII. . . . .	452
Growth of Sorcery in the Fourteenth Century . . . . .	454
Increase in the Fifteenth Century . . . . .	464
Case of the Maréchal de Rais . . . . .	468
Enrique de Villena . . . . .	489

## CHAPTER VII.—WITCHCRAFT.

Its Origin in the Fifteenth Century . . . . .	492
The Sabbat.—Regarded at first as a Diabolic Illusion . . . . .	493
Adopted by the Church as a Reality . . . . .	497
Its Ceremonies . . . . .	500
Power and Malignity of the Witch . . . . .	501
The Church Helpless to Counteract her Spells . . . . .	506
Belief Stimulated by Persecution . . . . .	508
Witches Lose Power when Arrested . . . . .	509
Secular and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction over Witchcraft . . . . .	511
Inquisitorial Process as Applied to Witchcraft . . . . .	513
Case of the Witches of the Canavese . . . . .	518
Case of the Vandois of Arras . . . . .	519
Slow Development of the Witchcraft Craze . . . . .	534
Stimulated by the Inquisition and the Church . . . . .	538
Influence of the <i>Malleus Maleficarum</i> . . . . .	543
Opposition to the Inquisition.—France.—Cornelius Agrippa . . . . .	544
Opposition of Venice.—The Witches of Brescia . . . . .	546
Terrible Development in the Sixteenth Century . . . . .	549

## CHAPTER VIII.—INTELLECT AND FAITH.

Intellectual Aberrations not Dangerous . . . . .	550
Theological Tendencies and Development . . . . .	551

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-01485-4 - A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages, Volume 3

Henry Charles Lea

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## CONTENTS.

	ix
	Page
Roger Bacon . . . . .	552
Nominalism and Realism . . . . .	555
Rivalry between Philosophy and Theology . . . . .	557
Averrhoism . . . . .	558
Toleration in Italy in the Fifteenth Century . . . . .	565
Modified Averrhoism.—Pomponazio.—Nifo . . . . .	574
Raymond Lully . . . . .	578
Evolution of Dogma.—The Beatific Vision . . . . .	590
The Immaculate Conception. . . . .	596
Censorship of the Press . . . . .	612

## CHAPTER IX.—CONCLUSION.

Omissions of the Inquisition.—The Greek Heretics . . . . .	616
Quæstuari, or Pardoners . . . . .	621
Simony . . . . .	624
Demoralization of the Church . . . . .	627
Morals of the Laity . . . . .	641
Materials for the Improvement of Humanity . . . . .	645
The Reformation Inevitable . . . . .	647
Encouraging Advance of Humanity . . . . .	649
APPENDIX OF DOCUMENTS . . . . .	651
INDEX . . . . .	665