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This 1955 book is an expanded version of Pantin’s 1948 Birkbeck Lectures on the English church in the fourteenth century. The period saw great changes, in part due to the Black Death and its consequences. The work is divided into three parts. In the first, Pantin examines social and political aspects of the church, such as the make up of the episcopacy, and the influence of the crown on church affairs. In the second he deals with the intellectual activities and culture of the church in a time of change and controversy, as university education became more common for priests and monks. The final section discusses the religious literature of the period, for both clergy and laity, and the growth of the mystical tradition in England. The result is a scholarly but accessible account of the church at a time of rapid change.
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The English Church in the Fourteenth Century

Based on the Birkbeck Lectures, 1948

William Abel Pantin
THE ENGLISH CHURCH IN
THE FOURTEENTH
CENTURY
THE ENGLISH CHURCH IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY

BY

W. A. PANTIN

Fellow of Oriel College

BASED ON THE BIRKBECK LECTURES, 1948

CAMBRIDGE AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS

1955
To

SIR MAURICE POWICKE

WITH

AFFECTION AND GRATITUDE
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PREFACE

This book represents the Birkbeck Lectures given in the University of Cambridge in the spring and summer of 1948. I have printed the lectures more or less as they were delivered, except that I have made certain additions and expansions. I must in the first place express my thanks to the Master and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge, who did me the honour of inviting me to deliver the Birkbeck Lectures. Next I wish to thank the friends who have helped me at various stages in the making of this book: Dr Daniel Callus, O.P., Professor V. H. Galbraith, Dr J. R. L. Highfield, Professor Aubrey Gwynn, S.J., Miss Beryl Smalley, and Fr Leonard Boyle, O.P., who have read the book in whole or in part in manuscript and have given me valuable advice and criticism; Mr A. B. Emden, who has helped me over the biographies of Oxford graduates; and Dr R. W. Hunt and Professor David Knowles, O.S.B., who have read the proofs. I must also thank the Master and Fellows of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and the Warden and Fellows of New College, Oxford, for permission to print extracts from their manuscripts. I am much indebted to the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press for undertaking to publish this book and to the staff of the Press for their skill and patience. Finally, I must also thank all those who have made my work easy in various libraries and archives in which I have worked over many years; and to conclude in the words of the martyrology—et alibi aliorum plurimorum . . .

W. A. P.

ORIEL COLLEGE, OXFORD
26 July 1954
# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>C and YS</td>
<td>Canterbury and York Society.</td>
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<td>CPL</td>
<td><em>Calendar of Papal Registers: Letters</em>, vols. 1–III.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPP</td>
<td><em>Calendar of Papal Registers: Petitions</em>, vol. 1.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNB</td>
<td><em>Dictionary of National Biography</em>.</td>
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<td>EETS</td>
<td><em>Early English Text Society (ES: Extra Series)</em>.</td>
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<td>EHR</td>
<td><em>English Historical Review</em>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>OHS</td>
<td><em>Oxford Historical Society</em>.</td>
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

PMLA  
*Publications of the Modern Language Association of America.*

Raynaldus, Annales  
Baronius, *Annales ecclesiastici, continued* by O. Raynaldus (Lucca, 1747 seq.).

RHE  
*Revue d’Histoire Ecclésiastique.*

Rot. Parl.  

RS  
*Rolls Series.*

RTAM  
*Recherches de Théologie Ancienne et Médiévale.*

Rymer  
T. Rymer, *Foedera, Conventiones*, etc.; the Record Edition (London, 1816–19) is cited down to 1377; after 1377, the original edition (London, 1704–35) is cited in the form ‘Rymer (O)’.

SS  
*Surtees Society.*

Tout, Chapters  

TR Hist. Soc.  
*Transactions of the Royal Historical Society.*

Wells, Manual  

Wilkins  

Wulf, De  