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The History of the Anglo-Saxons

Sharon Turner (1768–1847) practised as a solicitor in London, specialising in the law of copyright, but devoted his free time to studying Anglo-Saxon literature and history. In 1799–1805 he published this four-volume work, still acknowledged as a turning point in Anglo-Saxon studies and a benchmark in historiography. Turner was elected a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1800, soon after the first volume appeared. His approach of contrasting ‘Anglo-Saxon freedom’ with ‘the Norman yoke’ held particular appeal at a time of deteriorating political relations with France. Turner’s lasting achievement, however, was to draw public attention to the rich and fascinating material contained in the Anglo-Saxon manuscripts he had studied at the British Museum. This work went through many editions, but was eventually superseded by Kemble’s *The Saxons in England* (1849, also reissued). Volume 3 (1801) covers the later Anglo-Saxon period, from 899 to 1066.

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The History of the Anglo-Saxons

*From the Death of Alfred the Great,
to the Norman Conquest*

VOLUME 3

SHARON TURNER



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1801.

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curiosi et quamlibet nuda rerum cognitione capiuntur.”
PLINY, Sec.

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BY SH. TURNER, F. A. S.

NORMAN CONQUEST.

TO THE

DEATH OF ALFRED THE GREAT,

FROM THE

ANGLO-SAXONS,

OF THE

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THE

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