

CONTENTS

*Abbot de la Mare**frontispiece*

This brass formerly covered the tomb of Abbot Thomas de la Mare in the presbytery of St Albans Abbey. It was executed to the abbot's orders *circa* 1360, more than thirty years before his death (1396). He is shown in full Mass vestments and *pontificalia*. Flanking his shoulders are King Offa and St Alban. The brass is considered to be of Teutonic workmanship.

Preface

page vii

List of Abbreviations

x

Part One

The Historical Framework

<i>Chap. I.</i> The opening of the period	3
The Benedictine Constitutions and their sequel—the Black Death.	
II. Monks and canons at the university, 1300–1450	14
III. Patrons and architects: Ely and Gloucester	29
IV. Portraits of monks	39
Thomas de la Mare—Uthred of Boldon—Simon Langham—Adam Easton—Thomas Brunton.	
V. Monks and friars in controversy	61
Dominion and grace—mendicants and possessioners.	
VI. Trends in speculation: Ockhamism, justification and grace	74
VII. Criticism of the religious in the fourteenth century	90
Fitzralph and Wyclif—Langland—Chaucer.	
VIII. The spiritual life of the fourteenth century	115
IX. Developments within the orders: I	125
The Cistercians—the Carthusians—the Premonstratensians.	
X. Developments within the orders: II	144
The Carmelites—the Austin Hermits—the friars: preaching—friars as bishops—the friars and the universities.	
XI. The fortunes of the Cluniac houses and the alien priories	157

vi	CONTENTS	
XII.	The loosening of discipline The Great Schism—papal privileges.	page 167
XIII.	King Henry V The monastic founder—the monastic reformer.	175
XIV.	More portraits of monks William Clown—Philip Repyndon—Thomas Chillenden— John Wessyngton—John Whethamstede—Friends and foes of Margery Kempe—Friar Brackley.	185
XV.	The second century of visitation, 1350–1450	204
XVI.	The spiritual life of the fifteenth century	219

Part Two

The Institutional Background

XVII.	Recruitment, employment and the horarium	229
XVIII.	The wage-system and the common life	240
XIX.	The election and privileges of the superior	248
XX.	The numbers of the religious	255
XXI.	Literary work Histories, chronicles, annals and lives—monastic history and theory—poets and hagiographers—illumination.	263
XXII.	The monasteries and society The influence of the monks—the claims of patrons.	280
XXIII.	Vicarages, the cure of souls and schools	288
XXIV.	Public obligations of heads of houses Military service—attendance at Parliament.	298
XXV.	The monastic economy, 1320–1480	309
XXVI.	Monastic Libraries	331
XXVII.	Retrospect	354
<i>Appendix I.</i>	Chaucer's monk	365
	II. Henry V and the Westminster recluse	367
	III. Regulars as bishops	369
	<i>Bibliography</i>	376
	<i>Index</i>	389