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978-1-108-04254-3 - Munimenta Gildhallae Londoniensis: Volume 3: Translation of the Anglo-Norman Passages in Liber Albus, Glossaries, Appendices and Index

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

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### Munimenta Gildhallae Londoniensis

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# Munimenta Gildhallae Londoniensis

VOLUME 3:

TRANSLATION OF THE ANGLO-NORMAN  
PASSAGES IN LIBER ALBUS,  
GLOSSARIES, APPENDICES AND INDEX

EDITED BY HENRY THOMAS RILEY



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RERUM BRITANNICARUM MEDII ÆVI  
SCRIPTORES,

OR

CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND IRELAND

DURING

THE MIDDLE AGES.

a

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**THE CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS**  
OF  
**GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND**  
DURING THE MIDDLE AGES.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY, UNDER THE  
DIRECTION OF THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

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ON the 26th of January 1857, the Master of the Rolls submitted to the Treasury a proposal for the publication of materials for the History of this Country from the Invasion of the Romans to the Reign of Henry VIII.

The Master of the Rolls suggested that these materials should be selected for publication under competent editors without reference to periodical or chronological arrangement, without mutilation or abridgment, preference being given, in the first instance, to such materials as were most scarce and valuable.

He proposed that each chronicle or historical document to be edited should be treated in the same way as if the editor were engaged on an *Editio Princeps*; and for this purpose the most correct text should be formed from an accurate collation of the best MSS.

To render the work more generally useful, the Master of the Rolls suggested that the editor should give an account of the MSS. employed by him, of their age and their peculiarities; that he should add to the work a brief account of the life and times of the author, and any remarks necessary to explain the chronology; but no other note or comment was to be allowed, except what might be necessary to establish the correctness of the text.

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The works to be published in octavo, separately, as they were finished; the whole responsibility of the task resting upon the editors, who were to be chosen by the Master of the Rolls with the sanction of the Treasury.

The Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, after a careful consideration of the subject, expressed their opinion in a Treasury Minute, dated February 9, 1857, that the plan recommended by the Master of the Rolls "was well calculated for the accomplishment of this important national object, in an effectual and satisfactory manner, within a reasonable time, and provided proper attention be paid to economy, in making the detailed arrangements, without unnecessary expense."

They expressed their approbation of the proposal that each chronicle and historical document should be edited in such a manner as to represent with all possible correctness the text of each writer, derived from a collation of the best MSS., and that no notes should be added, except such as were illustrative of the various readings. They suggested, however, that the preface to each work should contain, in addition to the particulars proposed by the Master of the Rolls, a biographical account of the author, so far as authentic materials existed for that purpose, and an estimate of his historical credibility and value.

*Rolls House,  
December 1857.*

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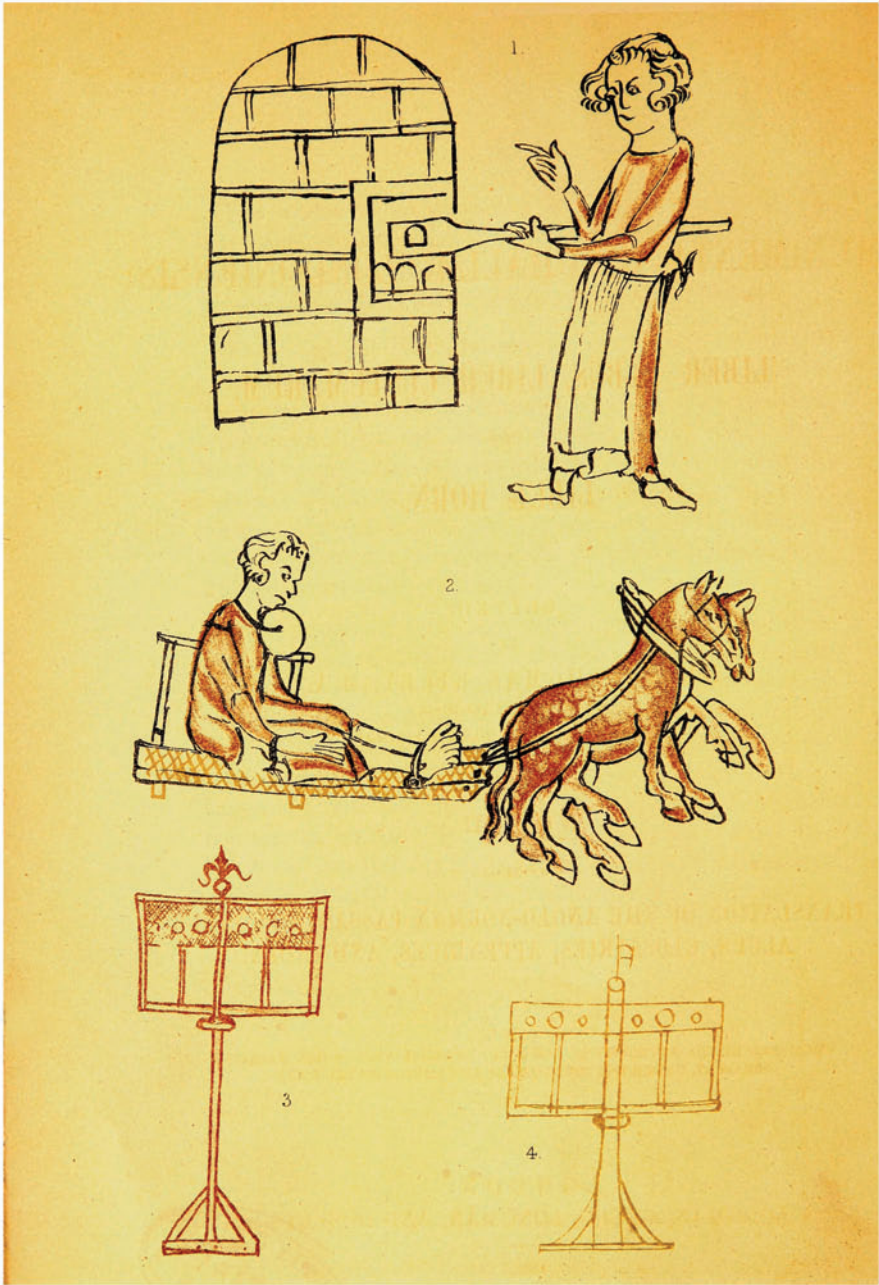
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1. A Baker at the Oven, temp. Edward I. 2. A Baker drawn on the Hurdle with the faulty loaf attached to his neck, temp. Edward I. 3. The Pillory, 1 Edward III. 4. The Pillory, 6 Richard II.

FROM THE ASSISA PANIS. 21 EDW. I. — 16 HENR. VI, PRESERVED AT GUILDHALL.

Dag & Son. Litho to the Quran.

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# MUNIMENTA GILDHALLÆ LONDONIENSIS;

LIBER ALBUS, LIBER CUSTUMARUM,

ET

LIBER HORN.

EDITED

BY

HENRY THOMAS RILEY, M.A.,

CLARE HALL, CAMBRIDGE;

OF THE INNER TEMPLE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

VOL. III.

CONTAINING

TRANSLATION OF THE ANGLO-NORMAN PASSAGES IN LIBER  
ALBUS, GLOSSARIES, APPENDICES, AND INDEX.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF HER MAJESTY'S  
TREASURY, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

L O N D O N :

LONGMAN, GREEN, LONGMAN, AND ROBERTS.

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# LIBER ALBUS.

TRANSLATION OF THE ANGLO-NORMAN PASSAGES,

WITH

GLOSSARIES, APPENDICES, AND INDEX.

EDITED

BY

HENRY THOMAS RILEY, M.A.,

CLARE HALL, CAMBRIDGE;

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—————  
INTRODUCTION.  
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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE present Volume completes the publication of *Liber Albus* and *Liber Custumarum*; with the addition, by way of Appendix, of some extracts from the *Assisa Panis* and the *Liber Memorandorum*, two mediæval compilations, of minor size and value, in the possession of the Corporation of the City of London.

In reference to its Contents:—

The Translation of the Anglo-Norman passages in *Liber Albus*, as in the case of similar passages in *Liber Custumarum*, has been made as literally throughout as, consistently with the requirements of good grammar, it could be. The Glossaries also have been compiled on the same <sup>1</sup> principle as those which accompany that Volume; the Anglo-Norman Glossary consisting of such words, or forms of words, as are not to be found in Roquefort's *Glossaire de la Langue Romane* (a work which, unfortunately, from the comparative paucity of the books consulted by its Compiler, is anything but calculated for the elucidation of the *Anglo-Norman* dialect); and the Glossary of Mediæval Latin containing such words as not only are not to be met with in ordinary Dictionaries, but in many instances are to be sought in vain in the elaborate pages of Du Cange.

The Appendices consist of Extracts from the *Assisa Panis*, the *Liber Memorandorum*, and *Letter-Book K*, all preserved in the Record-Room at Guildhall.

The *Assisa Panis* is a folio volume, containing 164 leaves of parchment, the last thirty-four of which are

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<sup>1</sup> See Introduction to *LIBER CUSTUMARUM*, page cxy.

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blank ; and consists of entries more or less intimately connected with the Assay and Assize of Bread by the civic authorities between the twenty-first year of Edward I. and the sixteenth of Henry VI. The greater portion of its contents, as might be anticipated from a reference to pages 349–353 of *Liber Albus*, is of a purely formal character, consisting, for the most part, of columns of figures, in reference to the weight and price of bread. As, however, upon examination, it has been found to contain several curious particulars, nowhere else to be met with, in reference to the varieties of bread, the bakers, the frauds of the trade, and consequent punishments, during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, the Editor has thought it desirable to extract from it all matter of this description, as a not unsuitable Appendix to the more formal details given on these subjects in pages 349–358 of *Liber Albus*. With this object, each page of the *Assisa Panis* has been carefully subjected to several examinations ; and the reader, who can hardly fail to find much in these extracts to interest him alike by their quaintness and their novelty, may rest assured that there is not a passage of any value in the *Assisa Panis*, with which he is left unacquainted. On referring to page 602 (Book IV.) of *Liber Albus*, it would seem either that the reference to the account of the fraud committed by certain London bakers by surreptitiously making holes in their ‘ moulding-boards,’ had been lost or mislaid by Carpenter or his amanuenses, or that the narrative itself of this singular transaction was then considered to be no longer in existence. In pages 416–420 of the present Volume, the Editor has had the satisfaction of exhuming it from the pages of the *Assisa Panis*.

The *Liber Memorandorum* is a small quarto volume of the time of Edward II., and perhaps, to some extent, of the early part of the reign of Edward III., containing 193 leaves of parchment, those after folio 170 being in general left blank. Such passages in this

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Volume as seemed either to be of value in an historical point of view, or likely to interest the antiquarian reader, have been extracted by the Editor, and are printed in Appendix II., pp. 430–456 of the present Volume. Among them, attention may be called more particularly to the Charter granted by Queen Alianor to the Brethren in London of the Penance of Jesus Christ (p. 430); the Regulations for the due making of measures by the Turners of London (p. 432); the extortions practised by Edward II. upon the City of London in the exaction of loans, and the breach of good faith committed by him, at least upon one occasion (pp. 433–437); the Writ of Edward II. (omitted in the new edition of Rymer's *Fœdera*) enjoining, that the Statute of Winchester shall be duly observed within the City of London (pp. 437–439); the Proclamation, *temp.* Edward II., against the playing at foot-ball within the City (p. 440); the Ordinances of the London Cordwainers, *temp.* Henry III. (pp. 441–445); and the Grant of a Corody by the Wardens of London Bridge (pp. 449–453); the latter affording, incidentally, some account of the construction of the Bridge House, in the thirteenth century, which formerly stood over the Chapel of St. Thomas in the centre of Old London Bridge, and giving an interesting insight into the usages and requirements of English domestic life in the time of Edward I.

The Mediæval Glossary of Anglo-Saxon terms (printed in pp. 453–456, from the same Volume,) is also of interest, and will repay comparison with a somewhat similar extract given in Appendix G. to Mr. Luard's *English History* of Bartholomew Cotton, printed in the present Series. It purports to have been compiled by "Alexander, Archiepiscopus Salapiæ," but as it is evident that there is some mistake as to the title, we may safely conclude that Alexander, *Archdeacon* of Shrewsbury, (who wrote a Preface to the *Red Book of the Exchequer*) is the person meant.

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In pages 431, 433, 445, and 449, references are given to passages in *Liber Custumarum* and *Liber Albus*, upon which some additional light may possibly be thrown by matter found in this Appendix.

The Letter of John Carpenter (pp. 457-464) descriptive of the entry of King Henry VI. into the City of London on the 20th of February 1432, extracted from *Letter-Book K.*, preserved at Guildhall, has been printed by M. Delpit, in pp. 244-248 of his *Collection Générale des Documents Français*, but in so incorrect a form as to render it worse than valueless. M. Delpit has failed too to detect the fact that under the subscription, "Per Fabrum, sive Domificem, vestrum, "Johannem," John <sup>1</sup> Carpenter, Secretary, or Common Clerk, to the City of London, is undoubtedly meant. The first address, in English, made by the Mayor of London to the Sovereign (p. 458), will be found, on comparison, to differ very materially from the version given in the description which accompanies the poem composed by <sup>2</sup> Lydgate on this august occasion. The same too, as to the verses, or <sup>3</sup> "new song," also addressed

<sup>1</sup> See pp. 469 and 471 of this Volume, s. vv. *Domifex* and *Secretarius*.

<sup>2</sup> "Sovereign lord and noble  
"kyng, 3e be welcome oute of  
"3oure reame of Fraunce, into this  
"blissed reme of Englonde, and in  
"especialle unto your most notable  
"Citee of London, otherwyse callyd  
"youre 'chambyr,' we thankyng  
"God of the good and gracios  
"arenyng of yowre crowne of  
"Fraunce, beseching his mercyfull  
"grace to send yow prosperite and  
"many 3eris, to the comfort of alle  
"youre lovyng peple." Halliwell's  
Edition of Lydgate's *Minor Works*  
(1840), p. 4.

<sup>3</sup> "Sovereign lord, welcome to  
youre citee !

"Welcome oure joye and oure  
hertes plesaunce !

"Welcome oure gladness, welcome  
oure suffisaunce.

"Welcome ! welcome ! righte wel-  
come mot ye be.

"Singyng to fflorn thi rialle ma-  
jesté,

"We say offte hert, withowte va-  
riaunce,

"Sovereigne lord, welcome, wel-  
come ye be !

"Meire, citezins, and alle the co-  
mynalté,

"Att youre home comyng now  
owghte of Fraunce,

"Be grace relevyd of ther old gre-  
vaunce,

"Sing this day, withe grete so-  
lempnité,

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to the King (p. 460); while, on the other hand, the second address of the Mayor (p. 463) tallies pretty closely with Lydgate's version.

The facsimiles facing the title-page of the present Volume are from three rough sketches upon leaves of the *Assisa Panis*, of the dates, respectively, of Edward I., Edward III., and Richard II.

‘ Sovereigne lord, welcome to youre citee!’

Lydgate's *Minor Works*, p. 10.

Again, the version given by Fabyan, in his *New Chronicles of England and France*, differs considerably from that given by Lydgate :—

“ Soveraygne lorde, welcome to your cytie,

“ Welcome our ioye, and our hertes pleasauce,

“ Welcome our gladnesse, welcome our suffysauce,

“ Welcome, welcome, right welcome mut ye be.

“ Syngyng before thy royall mageste,

“ We say with herte, withouten varyaunce,

“ Soveraygne lorde, now welcome out of Fraunce.

“ The mayer and cytezyngs with all the comynaltie,

“ Reioyse your comyng newly out of Fraunce,

“ Wherby this cytie and they relevyd be

“ Of all theyr sorowe and former grevaunce.

“ Wherfor they say, and syng without cessaunce,

“ Welcome, welcome, welcome, our hertes ioye,

“ Welcome you be, unto your owne Newe Troye.”