

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Rolls Series

Rerum Britannicarum Medii Aevi Scriptores, or The Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages, usually referred to as the 'Rolls Series', was an ambitious project first proposed to the British Treasury in 1857 by Sir John Romilly, the Master of the Rolls, and quickly approved for public funding. Its purpose was to publish historical source material covering the period from the arrival of the Romans to the reign of Henry VIII, 'without mutilation or abridgement', starting with the 'most scarce and valuable' texts. A 'correct text' of each work would be established by collating 'the best manuscripts', and information was to be included in every case about the manuscripts used, the life and times of the author, and the work's 'historical credibility', but there would be no additional annotation. The first books were published in 1858, and by the time it was completed in 1896 the series contained 99 titles and 255 volumes. Although many of the works have since been re-edited by modern scholars, the enterprise as a whole stands as a testament to the Victorian revival of interest in the middle ages.

The Chronicle of England

One of the most prolific scholars of his time, John Capgrave (1393–1464) was the author of forty-one historical and theological texts. Today, only twelve survive, and only seven are in English. This work covers the history of the world from the creation of Adam to the year 1417. Beginning with a timeline of Biblical events, including the birth of Cain and the first example of bigamy, he covers Roman myth and history before continuing into accounts of early English monarchs and saints. This scholarly edition, first published in 1858, includes a biography of Capgrave, an introduction to the text and a transcript of *The Chronicle*. Comprehensive annotations detail points of interest from the manuscript, such as corrections and scribal errors, accompanied by the editor's own marginal notes. Of interest to students of history, this book opens a fascinating window into both early modern and Victorian historiography.

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
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 other partner libraries, 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 brings 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- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

The Chronicle of England

JOHN CAPGRAVE
EDITED BY
FRANCIS CHARLES HINGESTON



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

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

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108042741

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2012

This edition first published 1858
This digitally printed version 2012

ISBN 978-1-108-04274-1 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.

The original edition of this book contains a number of colour plates, which have been reproduced in black and white. Colour versions of these images can be found online at www.cambridge.org/9781108042741

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

RERUM BRITANNICARUM MEDII ÆVI
SCRIPTORES,

OR

CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND IRELAND

DURING

THE MIDDLE AGES.

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

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.

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.

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.

In compliance with the order of the Treasury, the Master of the Rolls has selected for publication for the present year such works as he considered best calculated to fill up the chasms existing in the printed materials of English history; and of these works the present is one.

*Rolls House,
December 1857.*

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAPGRAVE'S
CHRONICLE OF ENGLAND.

Mit in Cras in

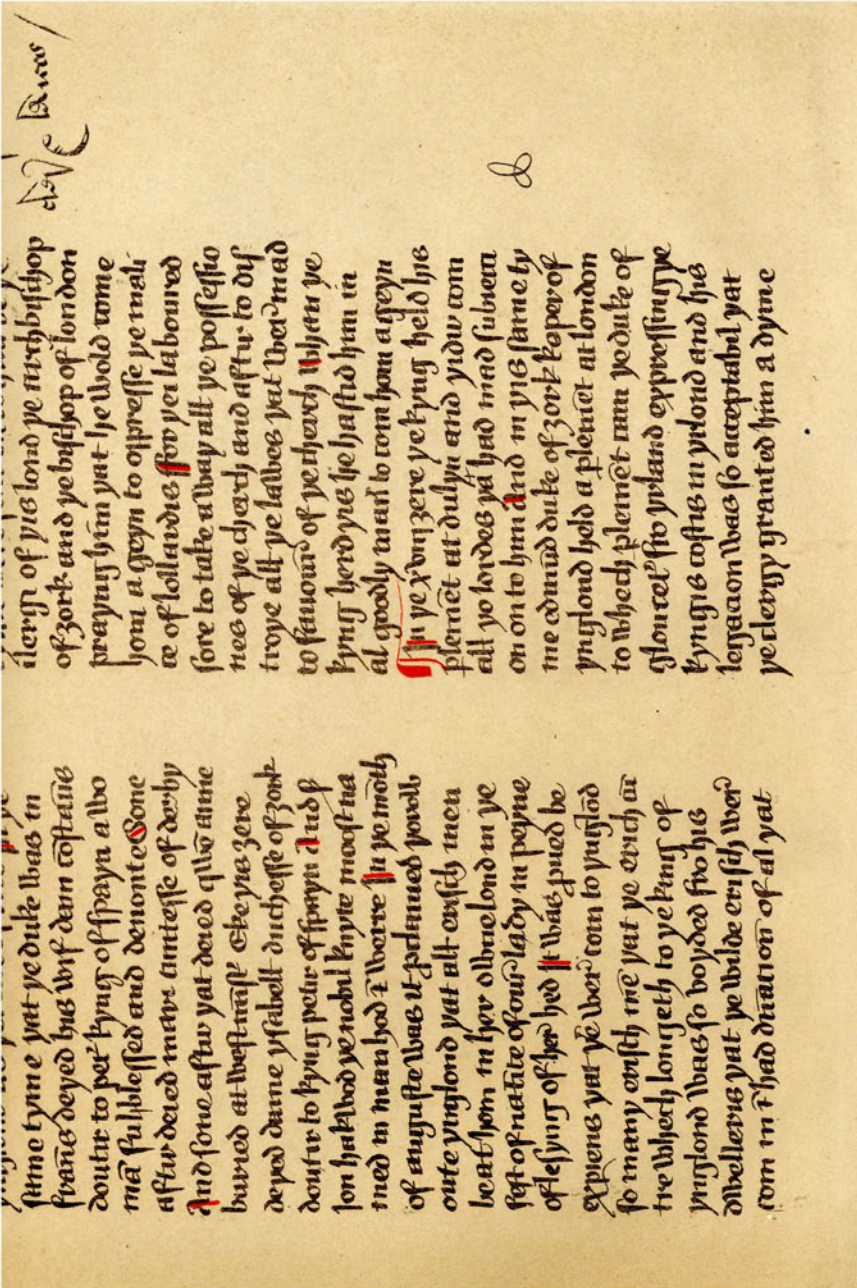
naumen for it was laid to the dede
 for treteyn zere to kynig rich
 and for n̄ w̄ pond. **I**n ye xvij zere
 in ye octave of seynt hallaw was
 a pleinet at london wher fel a gret
 stirf be elix ye duke of launcast̄ &
 ye earl of warwiche he bare ye ev̄ on
 hand pat he ros with a gret meny.
 a zeyn ye pos in chesche in his
 castel deposed holt to incynte also
 certeyn rebelles. The earl said may
 her to and so be mienes was had
 pes. Aboute ye fest of seyt sau bap
 tiste ye same duke of launcast̄ cam
 a geyn fro frans bordyng with hi
 treus for sene zere. And consent
 of ye strensch kyng pat all scotis
 wher ev̄ ye vedibelt schuld be bro
 wt on ye oberchans of ye kyng of
 ynglond as ye olde of rite. In ye

Rich

175

em̄t̄. And mo' onr̄ it was
 noted pat in kynig edward tyme
 ye yude wher he had set ye his
 banke his wyves and his cheytr
 herreyued ev̄ zere xxx w̄
 pouid and nob ye kyng richard
 was sayn to paye zere to doctes
 of ye same tyme xxx w̄ mark.
In vis zere in ye xvi day of apri
 le was pat s̄ ew̄ wore wher̄ mid
 dese amotaciones. And i ye same
 zere kyng richard went in to
 erland with ye duke of gloucest̄
 Ferles in arch notyngha and
 ruth land in any of ye ev̄sch lor
 die wold ha lettid his comyng
 but her power was on ye Aweyk
Ther was he s̄ro ye natite of our
 lady on to esterne. And in pat
 tyme were sent on to him be ye

= Discreit mid



MS. BIBL. PUB. CANT. Gg.4.12

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

THE

CHRONICLE OF ENGLAND,

BY

JOHN CAPGRAVE.

EDITED

BY

THE REV. FRANCIS CHARLES HINGESTON, B.A.,
OF EXETER COLLEGE, OXFORD.

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

LONDON:
LONGMAN, BROWN, GREEN, LONGMANS, AND ROBERTS.

—
1858.

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

INTRODUCTION :—	Page.
Biographical Notices of CAPGRAVE	ix
Catalogue of the Works of CAPGRAVE	xiii
Notices of the CHRONICLE OF ENGLAND and the other English Works of CAPGRAVE	xxi
 THE CHRONICLE OF ENGLAND :—	
Dedication	
Ætas Prima	
Ætas Secunda	17
Ætas Tertia	27
Ætas Quarta	39
Ætas Quinta	49
Ætas Sexta	59
 APPENDICES TO THE INTRODUCTION :—	
I. Notices from BALE and LELAND	321
II. Extracts from KENNET'S PAROCHIAL AN- TIQUITIES	329
III. Of CAPGRAVE'S LIFE OF S. KATHARINE	335
IV. Fragment of a GUIDE TO THE ANTIQUITIES OF THE CITY OF ROME	355
V. Notices of the AUSTIN FRIARY, at LYNN	367
 GLOSSARY	 373
 GENERAL INDEX	 415

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

—————
INTRODUCTION.
—————

Cambridge University Press
978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

INTRODUCTION.



1. JOHN CAPGRAVE¹ was born, as he himself tells Biographical Notices of Capgrave. us, at Lynn in Norfolk,² on the Twenty-first of April, 1393.³ Here he appears to have spent his early years in diligent study, excelling all his companions in his zeal for learning and in the great proficiency to which he attained.

2. At an early age he was sent to one of the English Universities, it is not evident to which in the first instance, but it is clear that at a later period of his life he was connected with both. Leland says that he was educated at Cambridge,⁴ but he takes

¹ *Capgrave.*] Capgrave. Vossius. —Capogrevus. Leland.—“De Monumento-pileato,” as he himself somewhat curiously Latinises his name in the Prologue to his Exposition of the Creeds.

² *at Lynn in Norfolk.*] Not, as some of our authorities say, in Kent. This Capgrave himself tells us at the end of the Prologue to his Life of S. Katharine :—

“If ye wil wete what that I am,
 My cuntre is Northfolk, of the
 toun of Lynne.”

Tanner alludes to this, though he retains Leland's statement. His words are :—“MS. Gresham 168 eum apud Linum, in Norfolkia, natum fuisse asserit.”

³ See “The Chronicle of England;” page 259 of the present volume.

⁴ *Cambridge.*] See Appendix I.

Biographi- cal Notices of Capgrave. care to tell us that this is merely a conjectural statement. It would certainly seem at least probable that a native of Lynn would be sent to the neighbouring University, rather than to the more distant Oxford, especially in days when travelling was both expensive and difficult. At the same time it must be admitted that all our authorities, with the single exception of Leland, agree in stating that he belonged to Oxford, and there can be little doubt that he took the Degree of Doctor of Divinity at that University. Pamphilus,¹ in his "Chronica Ordinis Fratrum Eremitarum Sancti Augustini," includes him in his List of "Viri qui in publicis Scholis functi sunt docendi munere." His notice is as follows:—"Joannes Capgrave, Anglus, Oxonii publice Divinas Litteras docuit, et Vetus et Novum Testamentum interpretatus est." On the whole it is most likely that he was educated at Cambridge, and afterwards migrated to Oxford, still preserving, however, his connexion with the former University.

3. In his twenty-fourth year he entered the Priesthood. He mentions incidentally in his history of the reign of King Henry the Sixth that his ordination took place between four or five years before the birth of that monarch in 1422. On the latter occasion, he appears to have been in London prosecuting his studies, for he tells us that he could never forget the great joy which was then manifested by all classes, and of which he was a witness.²

4. It is probable that he was at this time residing

¹ *Pamphilus.*] See fol. 139 of the edition of his works published at Rome in the year 1581.

² See his *Life of Henry the Sixth of England*, in his "*Liber de Illustribus Henricis*," page 127. "Audi enim," he says, "cum nota

esset Londoniæ nativitas Regis nostri, vocem Ecclesiarum, et strepitum campanarum, quoniam et tunc studens ibi eram, in quarto anno, vel quinto, ex quo ad Sacerdotium promotus sum, et adhuc a memoria non rediit jubilatio illa populorum."

Cambridge University Press
 978-1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
 Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

INTRODUCTION.

xi

in the Friary at Lynn,¹ in comparative retirement, and devoting his days to the compilation of the numerous commentaries on Holy Scripture and historical works which have rendered his memory famous.

5. Shortly after he had taken the degree of Doctor of Divinity, he was chosen to be Provincial of his Order in England, an office the duties of which, as those of our authorities who mention the circumstance agree in stating, he discharged with the greatest moderation and discretion. We still possess one important record of his proceedings in this capacity, which has been preserved in Kennet's *Parochial Antiquities* and in the *Histor. Antiq. Oxon.* of Anthony à Wood.²

6. It is probable that during his latter years he presided over the Friary at Lynn, of which he was an inmate so long. We have, indeed, no direct statement to this effect, but it appears from a document referred to in the Note to § 5, that the Provincial of the Order of Friars Hermits in England and the Prior of the Friary at Lynn were one and the same person at a time when it is most likely that Capgrave held the former office.

7. Capgrave tells us but little of himself; the few notices, however, which are scattered through his extant works are of considerable interest. In his *English Chronicle*, as we have already said, he mentions the year of his birth, even specifying the exact day, and this is the only reference to his personal history which occurs in that work. In his "*Liber de Illustribus Henricis*" are several allusions of this description. He tells us that on the occasion of the embarkation of

¹ *The Friary at Lynn.*] See Appendix V.

² See Appendix II. to the present Introduction. In Appendix V. p. 370, *note*, will be found a copy of

a document under the seal of the Provincial, which was in all probability executed during the period of Capgrave's office.

Biographi- the Princess Philippa, the only daughter of King
 cal Notices Henry IV., (when she was proceeding to the Court of
 of Cap- Eric of Norway, to become his Queen,) he was present
 grave. when the vessel sailed from the quay at Lynn, and
 saw the Princess.¹ Again he mentions his personal
 acquaintance with William Millington, the first Provost
 of King's College, Cambridge.² His allusion to the time
 of his ordination has been already pointed out. He
 tells us also, in the dedicatory epistle prefixed to his
 Commentary on "The Acts of the Apostles," that on
 the occasion of a visit to Rome he was taken ill, and
 detained some time in that city in consequence.³ It
 was then, in all probability, that he occupied his leisure
 hours in compiling the Description of the Antiquities
 of Rome, of which only a small fragment has come
 down to us.⁴

8. We have already stated that the writings of
 Capgrave are very numerous; and as in his own day
 they obtained for him the proud distinction of being
 esteemed one of the most learned men of the time, so
 now the few of them which remain to us are his
 greatest and most enduring monument, and will ever
 keep alive the memory of his fame, as they amply re-
 flect his character, and almost render unnecessary the

¹ Unicam filiam hujus excellentis-
 simi Regis ego vidi in villa de Lenne,
 ubi navem intravit, cum, Angliam
 relinquens, ad conjugium Regis Nor-
 wegicæ festinavit Hæc est
 quidem regalis progenies, quam ego
 oculis conspexi." See the *Liber de
 Illustribus Henricis*, p. 109.

² "His autem collegiis duos præ-
 fecit valentes Præpositos, quorum
 unum novi, Magistrum Willielmum
 Millington. Ipse enim Cantabrigiensi
 collegio præsidens, maturis moribus
 multos antecessores suos præcellit."
Ibid. p. 133.

³ Reminiscor, sancte Antistes,
 quanta pia visitatione vestra in me
 miserum peregrinum, atque Romæ
 infirmum, dilectionis exenia tri-
 buistis, et nunc a sollicitudine officii
 mei penitus absolutus, licet tarde
 veniens, munus possibilitatis meæ
 vobis decrevi mittendum." See § 24.
 See also Appendix III. to the Intro-
 duction prefixed to the *Liber de
 Illustribus Henricis*.

⁴ See Appendix IV. to the present
 Introduction.

Cambridge University Press
 978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
 Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

description of his life which we naturally desire to obtain, but search for in vain in the pages of his contemporaries. Biographical Notices of Capgrave.

9. The following Catalogue of the works of Capgrave has been compiled from an accurate investigation of the existing remains, the works of Bale, Leland, and others; and is as complete in its details as it is now possible to make it. Nearly all were written in Latin. The few which were written in English are described as such when they occur.¹

10. i. A Commentary on the Book of Genesis, in One Book. "Arduum nanque et supra vires est."—Catalogue of the Works of Capgrave.
 The only MS. known to be extant is that preserved in the Library of Oriel College, Oxford, and which was known to Pits and Tanner. It is evidently an autograph. At the end is the following note:—"Incepit Frater Johannes Capgrave hoc opus in Translatione Sancti Augustini Doctoris, quæ occurrit mense Octobris, anno Domini M.CCCCXXXVII. ; et fecit finem ejusdem in festo Mathei, Apostoli et Evangelistæ, anno Domini M.CCCCXXXVIII." On the flyleaf is the following singularly interesting inscription:—"Cest livre est a moy Humfrey duc de Gloucestre, du don de Frere Johan Capgrave, quy le me fist presenter a mon manoyr de Pensherst le jour de l'an M.CCCCXXXVIII."²

¹ It has been considered better to give descriptive Titles in English than to forge Latin Titles, as none which are original have come down to us. Those given by Bale, Leland, and others, are of their own invention, and only happen to be in Latin because the works in which their notices of Capgrave are contained are written in that language.

² Tanner mentions that this MS. was given to the University of Oxford by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, and cites Registrum F. f. 67 b. See page xiv, §. 17. In Hearne's

edition of Leland's Collectanea, iv. 15, the following notice of this work occurs under the heading—*In Biblioth. Augustinensi Cantabr.*:—"Johannes Capgrave forsan, Augustiniensis Frater et Doctor Theol., super Genesin justum Volumen, ad Humfredum Ducem Glocestriæ. *Arduum nanque et supra vires.* Leyland. "Erat hic non infeliciter eruditus."

A full account of this interesting MS., and the Dedicatory Letter to the Duke of Gloucester, will be found in the Introduction to Capgrave's *Liber de Illustribus Henricis*.

Catalogue
 of the
 Works of
 Capgrave.

11. ii. A Commentary on the Book of Exodus, in One Book. "Quia historiam quam hic prosequi." The commencement of this MS. and those of the twelve following are given from Bale.

12. iii. A Commentary on Leviticus, in One Book. "Occultissimorum mysteriorum sunt."

13. iv. A Commentary on Numbers, in One Book. "Ex Nicolao de Lyra super Libro."

14. v. A Commentary on Deuteronomy, in One Book. "In hoc ultimo Libro Moysi, qui."

15. vi. A Commentary on the Book of Joshua, in One Book.

16. vii. A Commentary on the Books of Judges and Ruth, in Two Books.

17. viii. A Commentary on the Books of the Kings, in Four Books. "Quod in Regnorum Libris jam." Capgrave himself refers to this work in his *Liber de Illustribus Henricis*:—"Patet hoc in Tertio Regum, quod et manifestius ibi declaravi, nunc autem solam litteralem annotationem tangens." See page 14.¹ Pits says that it was dedicated to Lowe, Bishop of S. Asaph's.

It appears from the Registers of the University of Oxford, (to which Body certain of Capgrave's Works were given by the Duke of Gloucester,) that the Commentary on the Books of the Kings were presented to Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, and possibly the Commentary on the First and Third Books were dedicated to him. The document alluded to is as follows:—

"Hæc indentura facta Oxon. vicesimo quinto die mensis Februarii anno Domini millesimo CCCC. quadragesimo tertio, et regni regis Henrici Sexti post

¹ In Hearne's edition of Leland's *Collectanea*, iv. 15, in the list of books "in *Biblioth. Augustinensi Cantabr.*," this work is mentioned:—"Corona Joannis Capgravi, (duo

justa volumina,) Fratris Augustinien-
 ensis, de Lino Norvolgiæ, super
 Libros Regum. "Quod in Regnorum
 Libris."

Cambridge University Press
 978- 1-108-04274-1 - The Chronicle of England
 Edited by John Capgrave and Francis Charles Hingeston
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

INTRODUCTION.

xv

Conquestum vicesimo secundo, inter serenissimum et Catalogue of the Works of Capgrave. illustrissimum Principem et Dominum inclitissimum, Dominum Hunfridum, Regum filium, fratrem, et patrem, Ducem Gloucestriæ, Comitem Pembrochiæ, et Magnum Camerarium Angliæ, ex una parte, ac suam humillimam et perpetuam oratricem Universitatem Oxoniensem, ex altera parte, testatur, Quod dicta Universitas, de summa et magnificentissima liberalitate prædicti inclitissimi Principis, centum et triginta quinque volumina, per dilectos et speciales nuncios suos Magistrum Willielmum Say et Radulphum Drew ad ipsam Universitatem destinata recepit; quorum utique voluminum nomina, cum initiis secundorum foliorum inferius distribuuntur.

* * * * *
 * * * * *

Item, Capgrave super Regum Primum . . . 2^o fo. sint viv.
 Item, Capgrave super Regum 3 2^o fo. fulgorem.
 Item, Capgrave super Genesin 2^o fo. arduum.
 Item, Capgrave super Exodum . . . 2^o fo. et beatitudinem.

* * * * *
 * * * * *

In quorum omnium fidem et testimonium sigillum commune Universitatis prædictis præsentibus est appensum. Dat. Oxon. in Nostræ Congregationis Domo, die et annis supradictis." *See* Registrum F. f. 67 b.

18. ix. A Commentary on the Psalter, in One Book. "Beatus vir qui non abiit in consilio."

19. x. A Commentary on Ecclesiastes, in One Book.¹

20. xi. A Commentary on Isaiah, in One Book.

21. xii. A Commentary on Daniel, in One Book.

22. xiii. A Commentary on the Twelve Minor Prophets, in Twelve Books.

¹ Pamphilus says,—“In Ecclesiasticum,” which is evidently a mistake for “Ecclesiastes.”

Catalogue of the Works of Capgrave. 23. xiv. A Commentary on the Epistles of S. Paul, in Fourteen Books. According to Bale, this work was dedicated to Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester.

24. xv. A Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles, in One Book. "Reminiscor, sancte Antistes." The only MS. of this work known to be extant is that preserved in the Library of Balliol College, Oxford. It is dedicated to William Gray, Bishop of Ely, a great benefactor to Balliol College, to which society it was given by him. It is evidently an autograph.¹

25. xvi. A Commentary on the Apocalypse, in One Book. This work also appears to have been dedicated to Bishop Gray.

26. xvii. A Manual of Christian Doctrine, in One Book. "Inter cetera otii mei secreta."

27. xviii. On the Canonical Epistles. Seven Books.

28. xix. On the Creeds. "Quoniam Psalmographus ait se." A MS. of this work (not an autograph, but written in a large and careful hand, and corrected in many places in the Author's own handwriting,) is preserved in the Library of Balliol College, Oxford. It was known to Pits and Tanner. This MS. was given to Balliol College by Gray, Bishop of Ely, to whom this work also was dedicated. It is evidently the presentation copy. Another MS., the Author's autograph, is preserved in the Library of All Souls' College, Oxford, Num. xvii.²

¹ The Dedicatory Epistle, and a full account of this MS., are given in the Introduction to the *Liber de Illustribus Henricis*.

² Immediately after the mention of this work in the Catalogue given by Pits, occurs the following, entered as a separate work:—"Epistolam ad Gulielmum Episcopum Eliensem, MS. ibidem." This writer alludes, probably, to the Epistle

Dedicatory to the Exposition of the Creeds, which is addressed to William Gray; at all events, there is now no separate MS. in the Library of Balliol College answering to the description given by Pits.

This Epistle, and a full account of the MSS., will be found in the Introduction to the *Liber de Illustribus Henricis*.

29. xx. The History of Illustrious Men bearing the name of Henry. "Henrico, Dei gratia Regi Angliæ." Two MSS. of this work are extant, one of which is preserved in the Cottonian Collection, the other in the Library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. It is divided into three Parts, the first of which contains biographies of the Emperors Henry, I. to VI. inclusive; the second, of the Kings of England called Henry, I. to VI. inclusive; the third contains brief notices of the lives of twelve illustrious persons¹ bearing the same name. See the Introduction to the printed edition of this work.
30. xxi. Of the Followers of S. Augustine,² in One Book. "Testatur Græcorum ille eloquentis."³
31. xxii. The Sanctilogium, commonly called "Nova Legenda Angliæ." "Sancti patres qui priscis fuere."⁴
32. xxiii. On the Sentences of Peter Lombard, in Four Books.
33. xxiv. Theological Conclusions, in One Book.
34. xxv. Against Erroneous Positions, in One Book.
35. xxvi. Addresses to the Clergy, in One Book.
36. xxvii. Sermons for a Year, in One Book.

¹ Henry, King of the Dacians, (A.D. 1200); Henry I., King of France; Henry, Son of Richard King of the Romans; Henry, Count of Champagne, afterwards King of Jerusalem; Henry, Archbishop of Sens; Henry, Duke of Lancaster; Henry Bohun, Earl of Hereford; Henry de Beaumont; Henry le Despenser, Bishop of Norwich; Henry of Huntingdon; Henry of Ghent; Henry de Urimaria.

² See § 37.

³ In the folio edition of Bale's "Scriptores," vol. i. p. 163, under his notice of Oliverius Malmesburienis, the following allusion to this

work is made:—"Eulogium Historiarum, quod quidam huic Oliverio tribuunt, editum fuit anno Domini 1361, ab alio quodam Malmesburiensi monacho, Eduardi Tertii, Anglorum Regis, tempore, ut habet Joannes Capgrave, in Libro suo de Sequacibus Augustini, cap. 10." It should be remembered that this is one of the Books of which Bale possessed a MS., and it is included in the list of those which he lost in his flight from Ireland. See page 323, note (*).

⁴ See the Introduction to the *Liber de Illustribus Henricis*.

- Catalogue
of the
Works of
Capgrave.
37. xxviii. Of Illustrious Men of the Order of S. Augustine. This is probably either a continuation of *xxi.*, or identical with it. It is omitted in the Catalogue of Pamphilus.
38. xxix. The Life of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester.
39. xxx. Scholastic Lectures, in One Book.
40. xxxi. Ordinary Disputations, in One Book.
41. xxxii. Letters to Several Persons, in One Book.
42. xxxiii. The Life of Saint Augustine. This work is mentioned by Leland, who adds:—"Ad Joannem Gauterfordiam, Abbatem Fani Joannis, quod Avonæ Mediterranæ celebre est." No mention is made of this work by Bale, Pits, or Pamphilus.
43. xxxiv. The Life of Saint Gilbert of Sempringham.¹ In English. The only MS. of this work which was extant, was unfortunately consumed, in the year 1731, by the disastrous fire in which so many MSS. of the Cottonian Collection were mutilated or destroyed. All that we now know of its contents is derived from a short notice in MS. Brit. Mus., Harleian, 980, page 231, a volume of notes, chiefly historical, collected by Thomas Gybbons. It is as follows:—"Gilbert (the sonn of a Norman knight that came in with the Con-

¹ Bale has an allusion to this MS. at vol. i. page 225 of the "Scriptores." In his account of Gilbert of Sempringham, he says in reference to the founding of his Order,—“Gilbertinorum Sectæ, quam ille primus inchoavit anno Domini 1148, ut auctores sunt Scopus et Capgravius.” Tanner gives the following account of this work:—"Transtulit [Johannes Capgrave] in sermonem Anglicum Vitam S. Gilberti, auctoris Ordinis Sempringham. Pr. ded. Domino Nic.

Resby, Ordin. Sempr. Magistro.—“Now withinne few dayes was notified.” MS. Norwic. More, XL.; MS. Cotton. Vitellius, D. XV. 4.” The reference to the More MS. is probably a mistake. It is the same as that of the Chronicle, which is preserved in the Public Library at Cambridge, while that of the Life of S. Gilbert is not.

See the folio edition of Bale's "Scriptores," p. 172, where a reference is made to Capgrave's "Life of S. Gilbert."

querour, and of the Lady of Sempringham,) was the first founder of the Gilbertines of the Order of Sempringham. He builded nine monasteries of women, and fower of chanons regular, in which monasteries he left, at the time of his death, of religious women, 1500, and of men 700. He died anno 1189, and was translated by the command of Innocent III., anno 1201. Vide Joh. Capgrave, in Vita Sti Gilberti, manuscript., ex Museo Roberti Kemp, Militis de Giffing.”

44. xxxv. The Life of Saint Katharine, in Two Books. In English. Three MSS. of this work remain in the British Museum, and one in the Bodleian Library.¹

The following curious reference to this work by a contemporary of Capgrave, is extracted from the prologue to the Life of S. Katharine, by Osbern Bokenham:—²

“Moreovyr, alle tho that redyn or here
 Shal this trefyhs, as lowly as I kan,
 I beseche no wyse to lokyn here,
 That I shuld telle how she fyrst began
 To be Crystyne, and howe oon clepyd Adryan
 Hyr convertyd, and crystnyd in hyr youthe,
 For that mater to me is ful unkouthe.

But who so lyste knowleche for to have,
 And in that mater envereyed to be
 My fadrys book, Mastyr Joon Capgrave,
 Whych that but newly compyld he,
 Mote he seke, and he there shall se,
 In baladys rymyd ful craftyly,
 Alle that for igonorance here now leve I.

But, for as mych as that book is rare,
 And straunge to gete, at myn estymacioun,

¹ The Prologue is given in Appendix III.

² See MS. Arundel, Brit. Mus. 327, fol. 118. See also pp. 183, 184. of

the edition of Bokenham's "Lyvys of Seyntys," printed for the Roxburghe Club in the year 1835.

Catalogue
 of the
 Works of
 Capgrave

Compendyously of al I wyl declare
 No more, but oonly the passyoun,
 Of Kateryne Howard to gostly consolacyoun,
 And to conforte eek of Denstonne Kateryne,
 If grace my wyt wyl illumyne."

45. xxxvi. The Chronicle of England. This work forms the subject of the present volume. It is not mentioned by Bale or Leland. Pits included it in his Catalogue, and adds:—"MS. Cantabrigiæ, in Collegio S. Benedicti." Two MSS. of this work are preserved at Cambridge,—one, the Author's autograph, in the Public Library, and which was formerly in the possession of More, Bishop of Norwich; the other in the Library of Corpus Christi College.¹

46. xxxvii. Guide to the Antiquities and Curiosities of Rome. Of this work only a very small fragment remains, a copy of which will be found in Appendix IV. That Capgrave was in Rome is proved, as we have already mentioned, by his own statement in the Dedicatory Epistle prefixed to his Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles.²

47. Capgrave's patron and chief friend was Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, to whom he dedicated many of his works. Others were dedicated to Lowe, Bishop of St. Asaph, and to Gray of Ely, his own diocesan; and his two historical works were dedicated in either case to the reigning sovereign,—the "Henries" to King Henry the Sixth; the English Chronicle to King Edward the Fourth.

48. Little can be gathered from Capgrave's works which will enable us to fix the times at which they were written. The Commentary on the Book of

¹ Corpus Christi College is also called St. Benet's, from its connection with St. Benet's Church. Pits does not appear to have known of the second MS. Tanner has the following notice of it. In MS.

Norwic. More XL. ita.—"Abbreviationes Chronicorum ab orbe condito ad A.D. M.CCCCXVI. (Anglice) Lib. I." See § 54.

² See § 7.