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978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, Historia Anglica:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

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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.

### Historia Anglica

Between 1863 and 1876, the Rolls Series published several works from or about the abbey of St Albans, edited by Henry Thomas Riley (1816–78) under the rubric 'Chronica Monasterii S. Albani'. This two-volume edition of the 'History of England' by Thomas Walsingham (c.1340–c.1422), who supervised the scriptorium at St Albans until 1394, appeared in 1863–4. Riley followed a fifteenth-century manuscript, Arundel M.S. VII, but the appendix to Volume 2 supplies additional material from an earlier manuscript, Brit. Mus. Reg. 13. E. IX. Modern scholars argue that this work, with several others previously published separately, belongs to a larger *Chronica majora* overseen by Walsingham, and that its complicated manuscript tradition reveals Thomas' changing opinions of Richard II and John of Gaunt. For over a century Riley's edition was acknowledged as authoritative for the central period 1377–92. The text appears in Latin, with English side-notes.

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Frontmatter

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

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Thomae Walsingham,  
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Historia Anglicana

VOLUME 1: A.D. 1272–1381

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Frontmatter  
[More information](#)

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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](http://www.cambridge.org)  
Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781108046787](http://www.cambridge.org/9781108046787)

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This edition first published 1863  
This digitally printed version 2012

ISBN 978-1-108-04678-7 Paperback

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

RERUM BRITANNICARUM MEDII ÆVI  
SCRIPTORES,

OR

CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND IRELAND

DURING

THE MIDDLE AGES.

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, Historia Anglica:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

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.

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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.

a 2

Cambridge University Press

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

4

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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Frontmatter

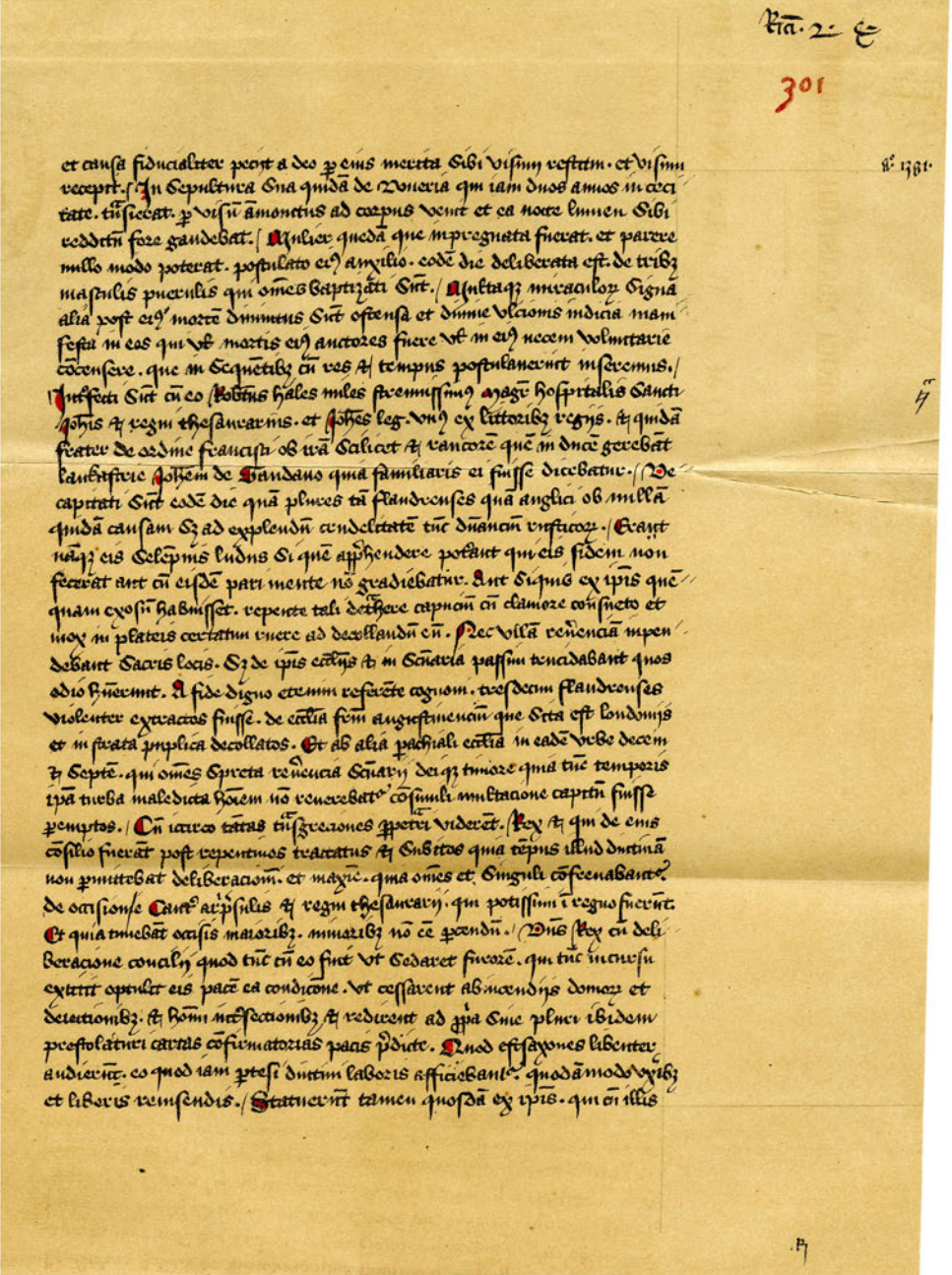
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THOMÆ WALSHINGHAM,

QUONDAM MONACHI S. ALBANI,

HISTORIA ANGLICANA.



Dep. 1. 10m. 10th. to the Queen.

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CHRONICA MONASTERII S. ALBANI.

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THOMÆ WALSHINGHAM,

QUONDAM MONACHI S. ALBANI,

HISTORIA ANGLICANA.

EDITED

BY

HENRY THOMAS RILEY, M.A.,

CLARE HALL, CAMBRIDGE;

OF THE INNER TEMPLE, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

VOL. I.

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A.D. 1272—1381.

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

LONDON:

LONGMAN, GREEN, LONGMAN, ROBERTS, AND GREEN.

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1863.

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Printed by  
EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE, Her Majesty's Printers,  
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

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978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, Historia Anglicana:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page.
INTRODUCTION - - - - -	ix
LIST OF HISTORICAL WORKS, PRINTED OR MANUSCRIPT, TO WHICH REFERENCE IS MADE IN THE PRESENT VOLUME - - - - -	xxv
PRÆFATIO AD LECTOREM (PREFACE TO ARCHBISHOP PARKER'S EDITION) - - - - -	1
THOMÆ WALSINGHAM HISTORIA ANGLICANA :	
DE TEMPORE REGIS EDWARDI, POST CONQUÆSTUM PRIMI - - - - -	7
DE EDUARDO POST CONQUÆSTUM SECUNDO	- 119
DE REGE EDUARDO TERTIO - - - - -	- 191
DE TEMPORE REGIS RICARDI SECUNDI - - - - -	- 329

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, Historia Anglicana:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, Historia Anglicana:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---

---

INTRODUCTION.

---

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, Historia Anglicana:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

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Frontmatter

[More information](#)

---



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978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, *Historia Anglicana*:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## INTRODUCTION.



THE present Volume contains the earlier part of the *English History* of Thomas Walsingham, Monk of Saint Alban's, A.D. 1272 to A.D. 1381: the remaining portion of the work will appear in the succeeding Volume.

The *English History* of Walsingham was first <sup>Previous</sup> published in the year 1574, under the auspices, if <sup>Editions of</sup> not the immediate supervision, of Matthew Parker, <sup>Walsing-</sup> Archbishop of Canterbury; and it again appeared, as <sup>ham's His-</sup> part of the *Anglica, Normannica, Hibernica, Camb-  
brica, a Veteribus scripta*, of William Camden, published at Frankfort (folio) in 1603. The typography of Parker's text is very inaccurate, and the transcriber of the manuscript from which it is derived, whoever he (or they) may have been, has done the work of extension no better. Camden's version is hardly a less unfavourable specimen of printing, in point of accuracy, than Parker's; perhaps more so. The Archbishop's Volume, however, whether by itself, or in combination with his edition of Asser's *Life of Alfred*, now sells at a high price; as being a book rarity, no doubt: Camden's work, though a much larger volume, is more moderate in price, though considerably in excess of a sum which any but the wealthy or enthusiastic book-collector would willingly afford.

The text of the present Edition is taken from a small <sup>Text of the</sup> folio Manuscript, No. VII. in the Arundel Collection, in <sup>present</sup> <sup>Edition.</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Small folio. Printed by Henry Binneman, London, 1574.

Cambridge University Press

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

the Library of the College of Arms; once in the possession of Lord William Howard of Naworth, a soldier and scholar of the latter part of the sixteenth, and first half of the seventeenth, century, now best remembered perhaps in our Border History, as the "Belted Will" of the North. He seems to have perused the volume with no little diligence; as his handwriting,—easily recognized by its singular regularity and distinctness,—is plentifully interspersed on its pages. The Manuscript is of the earlier half of the fifteenth century; written upon vellum, in a small but easily legible hand; the style of which is very similar throughout, though the comparatively greater frequency of inaccuracies in orthography at certain intervals, satisfactorily proves that more than one (or perhaps two) transcribers were employed by the Compiler in its preparation. These errors have been amended in the text of the present edition, the erroneous readings being annexed in the Notes: though, as to what may be considered mere peculiarities of Latin orthography, they are only noticed occasionally, and principally in the earlier pages.

The Arundel MS. No. vii.

The earlier part of Walsingham's *History* derived from an older compilation.

The earlier portion of Walsingham's *History*, a fact that has long been known to the learned, is a compilation based upon other Chronicles of prior date. It seems, however, to have escaped notice, that to a great extent the *History* is immediately derived from an older <sup>1</sup> compilation, once belonging to the Abbey of Saint

<sup>1</sup> In a hand, of probably the latter part of the sixteenth century, this Manuscript is described, on the recto of fol. 177 of the volume, as being "*Tho. Walsingham Cronica, ad finem istius Tomi;*" owing, no doubt, to its general resemblance to the earlier portion of Walsingham's *History*, in the eyes of a casual observer. It was written probably

soon after A.D. 1394, as it seems (p. 372 of this Volume) to allude to Sir Hugh Calverley (Calveley) as being but recently dead, and he died 23rd April 1394. The volume (MS. Bibl. Reg. 13 E. ix.) also contains several other works, the Chronicle in question commencing at fol. 177, and ending, with the close of the volume, at fol. 326.

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## INTRODUCTION.

xi

Alban's, made probably between the years 1377 and 1392, at which date its history closes; a large folio, now forming part of the Manuscript Collection in the King's Library in the British Museum, and numbered 13 E. ix. in the Catalogue. That this Manuscript was penned in the busy *Scriptorium* of that Abbey, from the internal evidence it affords in the eyes of those acquainted with the Saint Alban's manuscripts, there cannot be a doubt.

The Saint Alban's Chronicle, MS. Bibl. Reg. 13 E. ix.

The *History* then of Walsingham, being a composition extracted from older materials—at least in its earlier pages,—the peculiar merit of the Arundel Manuscript, though occasionally bearing marks of having been entrusted to careless or ignorant transcribers, is, that its text is no transcript of a copy, but has evidently been derived *immediately* from its original; with the peculiarities of the text of which it tallies (making allowance for clerical errors and omissions, and some few verbal variations) in almost every possible way. It would be useless to occupy the present pages with proofs of the close relationship between the texts of the two Manuscripts; but the reader who feels an interest in the subject, will have no difficulty in detecting them among the foot-notes, those more particularly in the latter part of this Volume.

The Arundel Manuscript derived immediately from the Saint Alban's Chronicle.

Archbishop Parker has given us no information in his <sup>1</sup> Preface as to the MS. or MSS. to which he was indebted for his text. It would seem, however, to have been derived, to a great extent, either directly from the Arundel Manuscript, or from a very close copy of it, in which most of its errors and omissions had been perpetuated; though, from the fact that at times we find these errors corrected, or omissions <sup>2</sup> supplied, in his

The text of Archbishop Parker's Edition.

<sup>1</sup> See pp. 1–6 of this Volume.

<sup>2</sup> As in the case of the passage in p. 430 of this Volume, for ex-

ample; referred to in Note 1 of that page.

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

text, there seems reason for concluding that some other manuscript, possibly the Saint Alban's Volume itself, may have been occasionally—though but rarely—consulted. While, however, some of these errors and omissions are thus rectified in Parker's text, far more of them remain unnoticed; and, to say nothing of the numerous typographical inaccuracies in the way of misspelling and wrong punctuation already alluded to, at least an equal number of fresh errors are introduced, which do not exist in the Arundel Manuscript. Camden's text is little more than a close copy of Parker's; though, from slight variations in a few passages, it seems not unlikely that on this republication a manuscript may have been slightly referred to. In both Editions, proper names, those of localities more particularly, are generally modernized, so far as to suit the prevalent orthography of the latter part of the sixteenth century.

The text of  
Camden's  
edition.

Plan of  
the present  
edition.

In the present Edition, the various readings of Camden's text have been given throughout; and, in general, those of Archbishop Parker's Volume as well. Mere inaccuracies in orthography, however, in the printed texts have not been noticed, except in cases where one word has been misspelt by the transcriber for another—such, for example, as "*proinde*," misspelt "*provide*," and "*armorum*," "*armatorum*,"—errors of frequent occurrence. In the case, again, of evident errors and omissions, which are common to the Arundel Manuscript and the printed copies, the text has been amended by <sup>1</sup>reference to the Saint Alban's Manuscript (Bibl. Reg. 13 E. ix.), the immediate source, as already mentioned, of the larger portion of the work. The text of Walsingham, it may be here remarked, making of

The text  
of Wal-  
singham,

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<sup>1</sup> Where it is stated in a Note that the correction has been made "from the printed texts;" it is implied that those texts have themselves been already corrected in accordance with MS. Bibl. Reg. 13 E. ix.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, *Historia Anglicana*:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## INTRODUCTION.

xiii

course due allowance for the typographical inaccuracies to what extent corrupted. of the printed texts, is comparatively clear and intelligible down to the beginning of the reign of Richard II.: but after that date, so multiplied are the omissions and errors that have been made in transcription from MS. Bibl. Reg. 13 E. ix., that it is hardly better in many places, especially as seen in Parker and Camden's volumes,—where punctuation too is almost wholly disregarded,—than a mass of hopeless confusion. By the aid of the Saint Alban's Manuscript numerous<sup>1</sup> passages are now restored, the sense of which was previously lost.

The Compiler, however, of the *History* (A.D. 1272–1392), as contained in the Arundel Manuscript, in addition to making some few verbal alterations, has forborne to draw his matter entirely from the Saint Alban's Volume; and in one instance, more particularly, as will be noticed in the sequel, has deviated from it to a considerable extent, by rejecting its text and adopting other matter in its place. Such portions of the Saint Alban's Manuscript as have been thus omitted, will be given in the Appendix.

This Manuscript, also, in its turn, will be found, upon examination, to be a compilation to a great extent from other known historical works of older date; so far at least as the earlier half of the work is concerned. How far such is the fact, the reader, from a perusal of the pages of the present Volume, will have the means of judging for himself; for the results of such an examination, upon which the Editor has bestowed much time and research, will be found set forth in the inner margins of the

<sup>1</sup> For instances of this, pages 334, 351, 358, 361, 364, 367, 397, 398, 400, 417, 421, 422, 433, 466, and 473, may be consulted. In some few instances, the omission is patched up in the printed texts, pp. 417, 433, 466, for example.

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

the reader  
on this  
point.

text; the name or names of all older sources that he has been able to discover, from which the text, (as borrowed by the Arundel MS. from MS. Bibl. Reg. 13 E. ix.) reasonably appears to have been derived, being placed opposite to such borrowed matter, as nearly as possible. Such portions of Walsingham's *History*, on the other hand, as seem to be original, in other words, borrowed neither from the Saint Alban's Manuscript nor any other ascertained source, are printed in larger type.<sup>1</sup>

To these sources of Walsingham's *History*, the Editor proposes briefly to invite attention; classifying them under reigns, for the sake of perspicuity, and restricting himself, for the present, to those which are completed in the present Volume.

The reign  
of Edward  
I. in Wal-  
singham's  
*History*,  
derived  
from the  
Saint  
Alban's  
Chronicle.

Edward I., A.D. 1272–1307 (pp. 7–118) :

The whole of this reign, with the exception of one explanatory word in page 52, has been derived from the Saint Alban's Manuscript; several passages of its context being omitted, those more especially which bear reference to the domestic affairs of that house.

Sources  
from which  
that Chron-  
icle has  
derived the  
history of  
this reign.

Down to the year 1300 (page 80 of this Volume) the Saint Alban's Compiler, in his turn, has borrowed his matter from the *Continuation of Matthew Paris* by William <sup>2</sup>Rishanger, a Monk of Saint Alban's, who lived in the reign of Edward I.; with the exception indeed that the Compiler has placed the chronology, throughout this reign, a year in advance of Rishanger and of absolute correctness; in doing which, Walsingham has followed his example; as also, in commencing the Dominical year at Christmas

Walsing-  
ham's  
chronol-  
ogy.

<sup>1</sup> See pages 52, 197, 200, 221, 222, 228, 368, of this Volume.

<sup>2</sup> Or "Rysangre." All, perhaps, that is now known in reference to Rishanger, the "Historiographer," and his works, has been collected

by Mr. Halliwell, in his Introduction (pp. v.–xvi.) to Rishanger's *Chronicle of the Wars of the Barons*, edited by him for the Camden Society in 1840.

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978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, *Historia Anglica*:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## INTRODUCTION.

xv

of the preceding year. In A.D. 1300 (p. 80) the Saint Alban's Manuscript begins to borrow matter from other writers also, but continues in general to follow Rishanger down to 1306 (p. 109), where the most nearly complete Manuscript of Rishanger's *Continuation* (MS. Cotton. Faustina B. ix.) that seems to be now existing, ends abruptly from mutilation. How much lower in date Rishanger's Chronicle may have come down is uncertain. If, as seems not improbable, it extended to the close of the reign of Edward I., it bore, probably, in its closing pages considerable resemblance to the <sup>1</sup>*Annales* of his contemporary, Nicholas Trivet; which work (or else such lost portion of Rishanger) has been largely drawn upon by the Compiler of the Saint Alban's Chronicle in A.D. 1306, 7 (pp. 109–116). The earliest instance in which the Chronicle appears to have been indebted to Trivet for matter not in Rishanger is in page 80, *s. a.* 1300.

Under the years 1306, 7, the Compiler of the Saint Alban's Chronicle, in addition to Trivet, borrows from the <sup>2</sup>*Flores Historiarum* of Matthew of Westminster, the <sup>3</sup>*Chronica* of Adam Murimuth, and the <sup>4</sup>*Continuation* of Trivet's *Annales*; or else the sources from which those Compilations have respectively been derived. The only portions in fact of the Chronicle, under this reign, that appear not to be traceable to any older work, with the exception of two or three unimportant passages in pages 108, 110, and 111, are to be found in pages 81–83, and 114–118. All passages of this nature, it may be here remarked, will be readily distinguished by the reader, from the fact of their

<sup>1</sup> *Annales Sex Regum Angliæ*; edited by Hall, Oxford, 1719; and by Mr. Hog, for the English Historical Society, in 1845.

<sup>2</sup> Published by Archbishop Parker,

London, folio, 1567 and 1570; Frankfort, 1601.

<sup>3</sup> Edited by Hall, Oxford, 1722, and by Mr. Hog, for the English Historical Society, in 1846.

<sup>4</sup> Edited by Hall, London, 1722.



Cambridge University Press

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

having <sup>1</sup>“MS. Bibl. Reg. 13 E. ix.” solely placed against them in the inner margin.

Sources from which Walsingham's *History*, and the Saint Alban's Chronicle, have derived the history of the reign of Edward II.

Edward II., A.D. 1307–1327 (pp. 119–190):

The whole of this reign, without exception, has been borrowed by Walsingham's *History* from the Saint Alban's Chronicle before-mentioned. From the beginning of it down to A.D. 1323 (p. 169) the Compiler of the Chronicle has been largely indebted to the <sup>2</sup>*Annales Edwardi Secundi* of John Trokelowe, a Monk of that house, who wrote in the reign of Edward II.: his language, however, is in general considerably altered in the Chronicle, being sometimes expanded, but more frequently abbreviated. The *Continuation of Trivet* has also been followed occasionally, and closely copied, from the beginning of the reign down to A.D. 1319 (p. 157). Murimuth also seems to have been occasionally the Compiler's sole authority, from the earlier years of this reign down to its close (p. 190). Three short passages (in pp. 127, 163, and 183) would seem to have been derived from the <sup>3</sup>*Vita et Mors Edwardi*

<sup>1</sup> This side-note will also be found placed against the date of the Dominical year given throughout the reign of Edward I.; from the fact, as already noticed, that the Saint Alban's Chronicler, and, after him, Walsingham, has abandoned Rishanger's numeration, and adopted a numeration of his own.

<sup>2</sup> Published by Hearne, Oxford, 1729. There can be little doubt that it is solely through inadvertence on part of the Saint Alban's Compiler, that he has attributed this Chronicle (see p. 163, Note 4, and p. 165 of this Volume) to William Rysangre (Rishanger). On this subject, the reader may consult with advantage Mr. Hardy's General Introduction to the *Monumenta Historica Britannica*, p. 30. See

also Mr. Halliwell's Introduction to *Rishanger's Wars of the Barons*, pp. vii., ix.

<sup>3</sup> Published by Camden in the *Anglica, Normannica*, 1603. It has been alleged by Bishop Nicolson (*English, Scotch, and Irish Libraries*, p. 56, ed. 1776) that Walsingham's account of the reign of Edward II. is wholly borrowed from this writer. Speaking in reference to the brief Chronicle of De la Moor as it now appears, such is certainly not the fact. For some suggestions as to the changes which De la Moor's Chronicle may have possibly undergone, the reader is referred to Mr. Hardy's General Introduction to the *Monumenta Historica Britannica*, pp. 11, 12.



Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, Historia Anglica:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## INTRODUCTION.

xvii

*Secundi* of Thomas de la Moor, (written probably in the reign of Edward III.,) or, possibly, from a common source. From A.D. 1323 (p. 170) to 1325 (p. 176), the Compiler of the Saint Alban's Chronicle has been indebted to the short <sup>1</sup>Chronicle of Henry Blankforde, or Blaneforde, a Monk of Saint Alban's, whose work, in one instance (p. 170), he mentions by name. The text of the Anonymous Monk of Malmesbury, whose valuable Chronicle was published by Hearne in 1729 (in the same volume with *Trokelowe* and *Bianeforue*), or else the authority to which he was indebted, seems to have been drawn upon for two short passages, in page 189. The portions of the History of this reign, derived from the Saint Alban's Manuscript, the authorities for which the Editor has not succeeded in tracing, are to be found,—the more important of them,—in pages 121–123, 127–130, 133, 135, 138, 139, 143, 150, 151, <sup>2</sup>158, 159, 164, 165, 167, 169, 170, 178–182, 186. The concluding characteristics of the years in this reign,—“*Transit annus, etc.*,”—are not to be found in *Trokelowe* or the other writers before mentioned.

The Compiler of the Saint Alban's Chronicle, confused probably by the number of, and variations in, his authorities, has committed several errors in the chronology of this reign, and some in the grouping of events, those in the history of Piers Gaveston more especially: further attention will be directed to this point, and the early chronology of Walsingham generally, in the Introduction to the succeeding Volume. At the commencement of the reign (p. 119) a passage appears in the printed texts, in reference to the marriage and Coronation of Edward II., which is not found in

<sup>1</sup> Published by Hearne, in the same volume with *Trokelowc*, in 1729.

<sup>2</sup> From the words in this page, “*Edwardus, qui modo regnat*,” the

writer borrowed from by the Saint Alban's Compiler, must have been contemporary with the event which he describes.

Cambridge University Press

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Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xviii

INTRODUCTION.

the Saint Alban's Chronicle, or in the Arundel Manuscript; and at the close of it (p. 190), another passage (derived from Roger of Chester, or <sup>1</sup> Hemingburgh), is inserted in the printed texts, which does not appear in the Saint Alban's Chronicle, and which, though found in the Arundel Manuscript, is there transferred to the opening pages of the reign of Edward III.<sup>2</sup>

Edward III., A.D. 1327–1377 (pp. 191–328) :

Sources from which Walsingham's *History*, and the Saint Alban's Chronicle, have respectively derived the history of the reign of Edward III.

At the beginning of the reign of Edward III., the Saint Alban's Chronicle, the printed texts of Walsingham, and the Arundel Manuscript, part company; not soon to re-unite in an uninterrupted course, so far as the Saint Alban's Volume is concerned; the other texts deviating very considerably from that of the Saint Alban's Manuscript, though differing between themselves to a comparatively short extent. To descend to particulars, as briefly as possible.—

From p. 129 to p. 136 in Camden's text (A.D. 1327–1338) there are variations, in the way both of omission and addition, from the text of the Arundel Manuscript for the corresponding period, as contained in pp. 191–200 of the present Volume. At the words "*Hoc anno, mense Martii, in villa,*" p. 136, edit. Camden and p. 200 of this Volume, the printed texts and that of the Arundel Manuscript begin again to run together, without further interruption. These variations in the printed texts, and the passages there found that do not appear in the Arundel Manuscript, will be set forth in the Appendix to the Second Volume.

But though it is thus early that the printed texts and that of the Arundel Manuscript reunite, it is not until we reach p. 221 of this Volume that the Arundel Manuscript and the printed copies resume the text of

<sup>1</sup> Known as "Hemingford" until the appearance of Mr. Hamilton's edition of his Chronicle.

<sup>2</sup> Page 192, ll. 10–26 of this Volume.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, Historia Anglica:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## INTRODUCTION.

xix

the Saint Alban's Chronicle, after having wholly abandoned it for the years 1327–1340. With apparently unaccountable carelessness too, although the Arundel and printed texts have at this point (p. 221) reached the year 1340 from other sources, they revert to 1337, and take up the narrative of the Saint Alban's Manuscript at that point. A few lines must of necessity be devoted to the authorities which have led the Compiler of the Arundel Manuscript to abandon the source from which he has thus far so closely and so constantly drawn.—

In MS. No. 655 of the Harleian Collection in the British Museum, we find the <sup>1</sup>*Polychronicon*, or *Polycratica*, of Roger of Chester, a Chronicle coming down to the year 1338; the manuscript of which appears to be of contemporary writing with the author's date, who is stated by <sup>2</sup>Pits to have flourished (*claruit*) in the year 1339. To this work, which seems to have been unknown to the Compiler of the Saint Alban's Chronicle so often mentioned, the Arundel Manuscript has been indebted wholly from p. 191 to p. 200 of this Volume. The Chronicle of Hemingburgh, or Hemingford (edited by Mr. Hamilton for the English Historical Society 1848, 9), there can hardly be a doubt, has been under equal obligations to it. That it is equally probable too, that the Compiler of the Arundel MS. resorted to Roger's text and not to that of Hemingburgh, may be inferred from the <sup>3</sup>fact

<sup>1</sup> Wrongly described on its title-page (of the 17th century) as being the "*Polychronicon of Ranulph, Monk of Chester.*"

<sup>2</sup> *Relat. Histor.* p. 438.

<sup>3</sup> As also, this other fact, that (with one slight exception) the text of the Arundel Manuscript no longer tallies with that of Heming-

burgh after the period at which MS Harl. 655 (the Continuation of Roger of Chester) ends. The passage in p. 265 relative to the Fortunate Islands, though resembling Hemingburgh (ii. p. 415), is, not improbably, derived from some common source.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, *Historia Anglica*:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

xx

## INTRODUCTION.

that in pp. 191 and 199 there are passages transcribed from Roger of Chester's text that have not been adopted by Hemingburgh. At page 200 we find a passage, which, though very similar to one derived from the St. Alban's Manuscript in p. 223, can be traced probably to no known source, and must therefore be considered as original matter belonging to Walsingham.

At the conclusion of Roger of Chester's Chronicle in 1338, in MS. Harl. 655, the context is continued in a similar hand, but consisting, to a great extent, of 'Letters from King Edward III., the Pope, and other personages. Of this Continuation also, the Compiler of the Arundel Manuscript has equally availed himself, between pages 200 and 221; and Hemingburgh has done the same. We have the same reason too that has been above mentioned, for coming to the conclusion that the Compiler resorted here to the text of MS. Harl. 655 and not of Hemingburgh; as in pp. 215 and 216 we find passages introduced evidently from the Harleian Manuscript, that are not to be found in Hemingburgh's text. Indeed, on minute examination it would seem, that there are fair grounds for believing that MS. Harl. 655 is the identical copy that was employed by the Compiler of the Arundel Manuscript.

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<sup>1</sup> For all these Letters, the reader is referred in the Arundel Manuscript to the end of the volume (see pp. 201, 208, 217, 219, 229, 231, 234, 235, 237, 241, 247, 248, 255, 259), where, however, they are not now to be found; either from the fact of the Compiler having neglected to insert them, or of their having been abstracted from the volume at some distant date. Some of them, however, are inserted, on paper, at the end of the volume, in a

hand of the 16th century; but copied with such singular inaccuracy, that in the present Volume the texts of MS. Harl. 655 and Hemingburgh have been adopted throughout; more especially, as it hardly admits of a doubt that Walsingham derived this part of his materials from the former of those authorities. The text of the Saint Alban's Manuscript has been adopted for the Letter inserted in pp. 259, 260.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, *Historia Anglicana*:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

## INTRODUCTION.

xxi

The borrowed context of MS. Harl. 655, already mentioned, has brought the History down to 1340; but here (p. 221), as previously noticed, the Compiler reverts to the Saint Alban's Manuscript, and takes it up at the year 1337, occasionally (pp. 224, 5) interweaving with its context matter common to MS. Harl. 655 and Hemingburgh. Having brought the narrative borrowed from the Saint Alban's Chronicle down to 1340 (p. 228), he reverts to MS. Harl. 655, and transcribes wholly from that source (with the exception of a single extract from the Saint Alban's Chronicle inserted very needlessly in p. 230, and little else than a repetition of what has been said from MS. Harl. 655 in p. 228) down to 1343 (p. 253); where he again returns to the Saint Alban's Chronicle, going back to 1341, and does not abandon it to the conclusion of the reign; the Letter given in pp. 255–258 being common to that Manuscript and the texts of MS. Harl. 655 and Hemingburgh.

From 1345 (p. 265) down to 1365 (p. 301), the Compiler of the Saint Alban's Chronicle has been indebted at times to a <sup>1</sup>Manuscript now in the Cottonian Collection, Cleopatra A. xvi.; or the two writers must have borrowed from a common source. At the same point, also, A.D. 1345, the language of the so-called *Continuation of Murimuth* (edited by Mr. Hog for the English Historical Society in 1846) begins to correspond closely with Walsingham's text, as drawn from the Saint Alban's Chronicle; and continues to do so to the conclusion of the reign. That the Compiler of the *Con-*

<sup>1</sup> A diminutive octavo Manuscript of the latter half of the fourteenth century, the contents of which embrace from A.D. 1299 to 1367; the history to 1325 being written by Robert de Reding; 1325–1345 by Adam Murimuth; and 1345–1367

by an anonymous writer, who styles himself (fol. 152b) "*Johannes de R. Monachus Westmonasteriensis, nomine tamen non conversatione.*" That he was a contemporary of the times that he describes, there can be no doubt.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-04678-7 - Thomae Walsingham, Quondam Monachi S. Albani, *Historia Anglicana*:

Volume 1: A.D. 1272–1381

Edited by Henry Thomas Riley

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

*tinuation* has been indebted to the Saint Alban's Volume, or its immediate sources, and not the Saint Alban's Compiler to the Continuator, from the internal evidence afforded, there seems to be little room for doubt.

The original portions in the reign of Edward III. that are borrowed by Walsingham from the Saint Alban's Chronicle, or, in other words, those parts of its text for which the original authorities appear to be at present unascertained, will be found, in longer or shorter passages (denoted by the side-notes), between pages 221 and 328. The few original insertions of Walsingham's own, are short passages in pages 197, 200, 221, 222, and 228.

The reign of Richard II. in Walsingham's *History*.

At the reign of Richard II., Walsingham's *History* assumes a new and more important character; the first fifteen years of the reign being still derived from the Saint Alban's Manuscript so often mentioned, the History of which ends at 1392. How far that compilation has been indebted for the history of these years to contemporary sources of information, common to itself and other Chronicles of the same period, will be a subject of enquiry in the Second Volume. For the present, the Editor will only add, that the surmise expressed by Mr. Hardy, the present Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, in p. 30 of the General Introduction to the *Monumenta Historica Britannica*, that Walsingham and the Compiler of the *Historia Vitæ et Regni Ricardi Secundi, Angliæ Regis*, published by Hearne in 1729, borrowed their materials from some common source, will probably be found to receive confirmation, from the ascertained fact that the *Historia Ricardi*, like Walsingham's *History*, is borrowed to a considerable extent from the Saint Alban's Manuscript, Bibl. Reg. 13 E. ix.; the former extracting from it matter that Walsingham has omitted, and omitting much more that Walsingham has transcribed.

Relation borne by Walsingham's *History* to the *Historia Ricardi III.*, published by Hearne.