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HERESY, CRUSADE AND INQUISITION IN MEDIEVAL QUERCY

CLAIRE TAYLOR

The medieval county of Quercy in Languedoc lay between the Dordogne and the Toulousain in south-west France; it played a significant role in the history of Catharism, of the Albigensian crusade launched against the heresy in 1209, and of the subsequent inquisition. Although Cathars had come to dominate religious life elsewhere in Languedoc during the course of the twelfth century, the chronology of heresy was different in Quercy. In the late twelfth century, nearby abbeys were still the main focus of devotional activity; inquisitors' discoveries in the 1240s point to the previous twenty years as the period when Catharism and also the Waldensian heresy took a firm hold, most dramatically in its far north.

This study deals with the cultural and political origins of the religious change. Its careful analysis offers a significant re-evaluation of the nature and social significance of religious dissidence, and of its protection and persecution in both the history and historiography of Catharism.

256pp, 23.4 x 15.6, 978 1 90315 338 3, December 2011, £50.00/\$90.00

Heresy and Inquisition in the Middle Ages

HERESY AND HERETICS IN THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY The Textual Representations

L. J. SACKVILLE

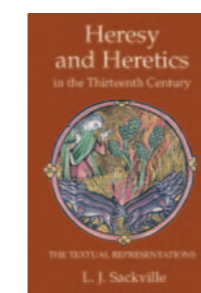
Heresy is always relative; the traces that it leaves to us are distorted and one-sided. In the last few decades, historians have responded to these problems by developing increasingly sophisticated methodologies that help to unravel and illuminate the tangled layers from which the texts that describe heresy are built, but

in the process have made our reading of heresy fractured and disconnected.

Heresy and Heretics seeks to redress this by reading the different types of anti-heretical writing as part of a wider, connected tradition, considering all the principal orthodox treatments of heresy for the first time. Drawn from the mid-thirteenth century, a time when both medieval heresy and the church's response to it were at their zenith, they describe a spectrum of material that ranges from the theological arguments of some of the greatest thinkers of the age to the homely sermons of the wandering preachers. In considering the whole scope of anti-heretical writing from this narrow period, it becomes apparent that, far from being an artificial construct isolated from reality, the church's treatment of heresy in fact had a far more complex relationship with its subject matter.

23.4 x 15.6, 240pp, 978 1 90315 336 9, July 2011, £50.00/\$90.00

Heresy and Inquisition in the Middle Ages



WILLS AND WILL-MAKING IN ANGLO-SAXON ENGLAND

LINDA TOLLERTON

A remarkable series of Anglo-Saxon wills have survived, spanning the period from the beginning of the ninth century to the years immediately following the Norman Conquest. Written in Old English, they reflect the significance of the vernacular, not only in royal administration during this period, but in the recording of a range of individual transactions. They show wealthy laymen and women, and clerics, from kings and bishops to those of thegnly status, disposing of land and chattels, and recognising ties of kinship, friendship, lordship and service through their bequests; and whilst land is of prime importance, the mention in some wills of such valuable items as tableware, furnishings, clothing, jewellery and weapons provides an insight into lifestyle at the time.

Despite their importance, no study has hitherto been specifically devoted to Anglo-Saxon wills in their social and historical context, a gap which this book aims to fill. While the wills themselves can be vague and allusive, by establishing patterns of bequeathing, and by drawing on other resources, the author sheds light on the factors which influenced men and women in making appropriate provision for their property.

1 b/w illus.; 334pp, 23.4 x 15.6, 978 1 90315 337 6, November 2011, £60.00/\$99.00



THE YORK MYSTERY PLAYS

Performance in the City

Edited by MARGARET ROGERSON

This volume provides a wealth of new insights into the performance of mystery plays in medieval York and their modern revival. It utilises both

academic study, and the practical experience of those who now produce the cycle within York itself on wagons in the street, in an approximation of their original performance. A number of topics are covered. The manuscript is linked to Richard III; the Masons are introduced as non-guildsmen in an enterprise assumed to be guild-specific; families, not just male heads of households, are shown to be important to the dramatic narrative; and cognitive theory elucidates performance past and present. Recent productions are discussed in lively detail by those directly responsible for them, leading to analyses of performances in Israel, Spain, and Australia, not all of them of a predictable kind, which offer further angles on the medieval dramatic tradition.

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THE SAINTS' LIVES OF JOCELIN OF FURNESS

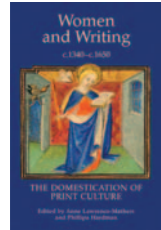
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HELEN BIRKETT

First comprehensive study of four important medieval saints' lives, setting them in their political and ecclesiastical context.

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WOMEN AND WRITING, C.1340-C.1650

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Essays offering a gendered approach to the study of the move from manuscript to early printed book

show how much women were involved in the process.

The work is well written and clearly laid out. It is a clear asset for library collections. Whether or not one is drawn to the topic, it is also well worth reading for an understanding of the many ways in which researchers approach manuscripts and early printed books. RARE BOOKS NEWSLETTER

6 b/w illus.; 240pp, 23.4 x 15.6 cm, 978 1 90315 332 1, August 2010, £50.00/\$90.00 Manuscript Culture in the British Isles



PARLIAMENT AND POLITICAL PAMPHLETEERING IN FOURTEENTH-CENTURY ENGLAND

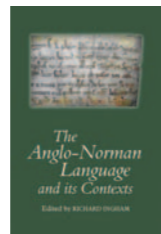
CLEMENTINE OLIVER

A timely and significant book...changing the landscape of political history and culture... a vindication of a striking argument about the ability of the medieval chattering classes to write, read, and hear pamphlets long before the arrival of printing. Persuasive and compelling.

PROFESSOR W.M. ORMROD, UNIVERSITY OF YORK

Some sixty years before the advent of the printing press, the first political pamphlets about parliament circulated in the city of London. Often vitriolic and satirical, these handwritten pamphlets reported on a trilogy of parliamentary victories against the crown known as the Good, the Wonderful, and the Merciless Parliaments. The first pamphlets point to the existence of a market of readers hungry for news of parliament as well as to the emergence of public opinion as a political force. This book reconstructs the lives of the political pamphleteers as well as the political landscape of late 14th century England, giving particular emphasis to the large group of bureaucrats living in London to which Geoffrey Chaucer belonged.

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Edited by RICHARD INGHAM

The development of Anglo-Norman (the variety of medieval French used in the British Isles), and the role it played in the life of the medieval English kingdom, is currently a major topic of scholarly debate. The

essays in this volume examine Anglo-Norman from a variety of different perspectives and contexts, though with a concentration on the theme of linguistic contact between Anglo-Norman and English, seeking to situate such contact more precisely in space and time than has hitherto been the case. Overall they show how Anglo-Norman retained a strong presence in the linguistic life of England until a strikingly late date, and how it constitutes a rich and highly valuable record of the French language in the middle ages.

10 line illus.; 192pp, 23.4 x 15.6 cm, 978 1 90315 330 7, March 2010, £50.00/\$90.00



THE ROYAL PARDON Access to Mercy in Fourteenth-Century England

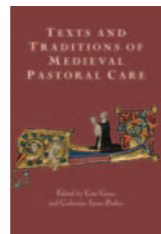
HELEN LACEY

The letter of pardon was a document familiar to the king's subjects in the middle ages; imbued with symbolic resonance as the judgement of the monarch, it also served a practical purpose, offering a last hope

of reprieve from the death sentence or life as an outlaw.

This book offers the first comprehensive study of the royal pardon in 14th century England, using evidence drawn from legal and literary texts, parliamentary records, yearbooks, and plea rolls to examine the full influence of royal mercy. Its implications go well beyond legal history, encompassing the major political and constitutional debates of the period, the theological underpinnings of royal mercy, and the social context of the law. Chapters analyse the procedures of pardoning, the role of royal mercy at moments of political upheaval (such as at the Peasants' Revolt), and the range of views expressed by legal theorists, parliamentary representatives, and by the diverse range of people who at one time or another had reason to seek royal mercy. The appendices provide full lists of all those who acted as 'intercessors' for mercy; comprising over 1000 names, they reveal the role of women and personal servants of the crown, alongside the great nobles of the realm, in providing access to royal grace.

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Essays in Honour of Bella Millett

Edited by CATE GUNN & CATHERINE INNES-PARKER

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LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN MEDIEVAL BRITAIN

The French of England, c.1100-c.1500

Edited by JOCELYN WOGAN-BROWNE *et al*

The development of French in England, whether known as 'Anglo-Norman' or 'Anglo-French', is deeply interwoven both with medieval English and with the spectrum of Frenches, insular and continental, used within and outside the realm. As the language of nearly a thousand literary texts, of much administration, and of many professions and occupations, the French of England needs more attention than it has so far received.

The essays in this volume form a new cultural history focussed round, but not confined to, the presence and interactions of French speakers, writers, readers, texts and documents in England from the 11th to the later 15th century. Taking the French of England into account does not simply add new material to our existing narratives of medieval English culture, but changes them, restoring a multi-vocal, multi-cultural medieval England in all its complexity, and opening up fresh agendas for study and exploration.

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