

**THE NATIVE LITERATURE OF BOHEMIA  
IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY; FOUR  
LECTURES DELIVERED BEFORE THE  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD ON THE  
ILCHESTER FOUNDATION**

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The Native Literature of Bohemia in the Fourteenth Century; Four Lectures Delivered Before the University of Oxford on the Ilchester Foundation by A. H. Wratislaw

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**A. H. WRATISLAW**

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THE  
NATIVE LITERATURE OF BOHEMIA  
IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

FOUR LECTURES DELIVERED BEFORE THE UNIVERSITY  
OF OXFORD ON THE ILCHESTER  
FOUNDATION.

BY A. H. WRATISLAW, M.A.

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FELLOW AND TUTOR OF CHRIST'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.



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## PREFACE.

**T**HE interest expressed in the subject of the following Lectures (which were delivered in the Taylorian Institution in April and May, 1877, according to the terms of Lord Ilchester's bequest) by several of the audience, and the absolute absence of information upon it in the English language, have induced me to lay them before the British public. May I hope that the countrymen of Wickliffe will welcome an account, with specimens, of the Bohemian literature of the century which formed the dauntless hero and martyr of the next, Magister John Huss?

A. H. WRATISLAW.

SCHOOL HALL, BURY ST. EDMUND'S,

*Dec. 10th, 1877.*

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THE NATIVE LITERATURE OF BOHEMIA  
IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

I.



SCENE laid on the sea coast of Bohemia proves that Shakespeare had no very exact knowledge of the geographical position of that country, although it had given a queen, the good Queen Anne, to his own nation. And at the present time the people of Great Britain are for the most part in a similar state of ignorance with regard to the literature of Bohemia, scarcely believing indeed that it has any literature at all, and utterly unable to account for that great intellectual and religious revolution, which, in the beginning of the fifteenth century, shook the power of Rome to its