

**DISSERTATION. INTENSIVES  
AND REFLEXIVES  
IN ANGLO-SAXON AND  
EARLY MIDDLE-ENGLISH**

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Dissertation. Intensives and reflexives in Anglo-Saxon and early Middle-English by James  
Marion Farr

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**JAMES MARION FARR**

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SAXON AND EARLY MIDDLE-ENGLISH

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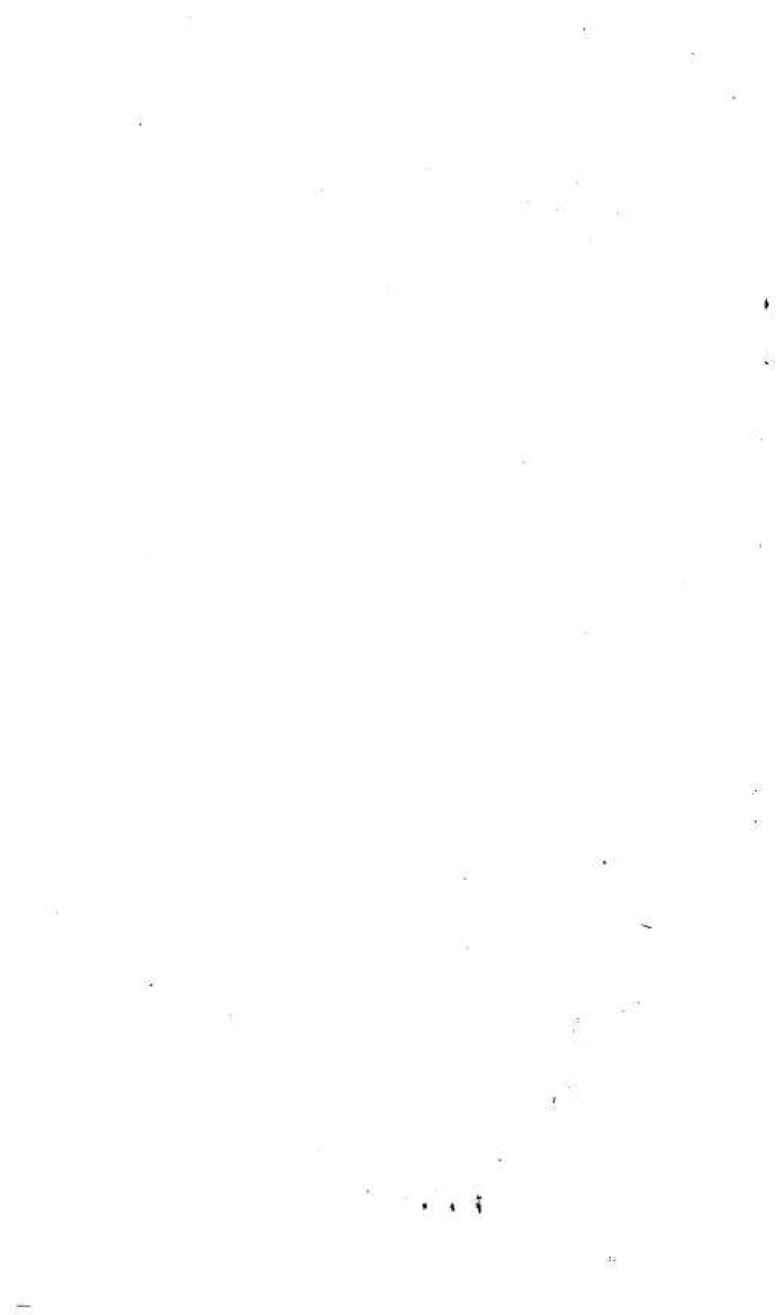
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BY

JAMES MARION FARR

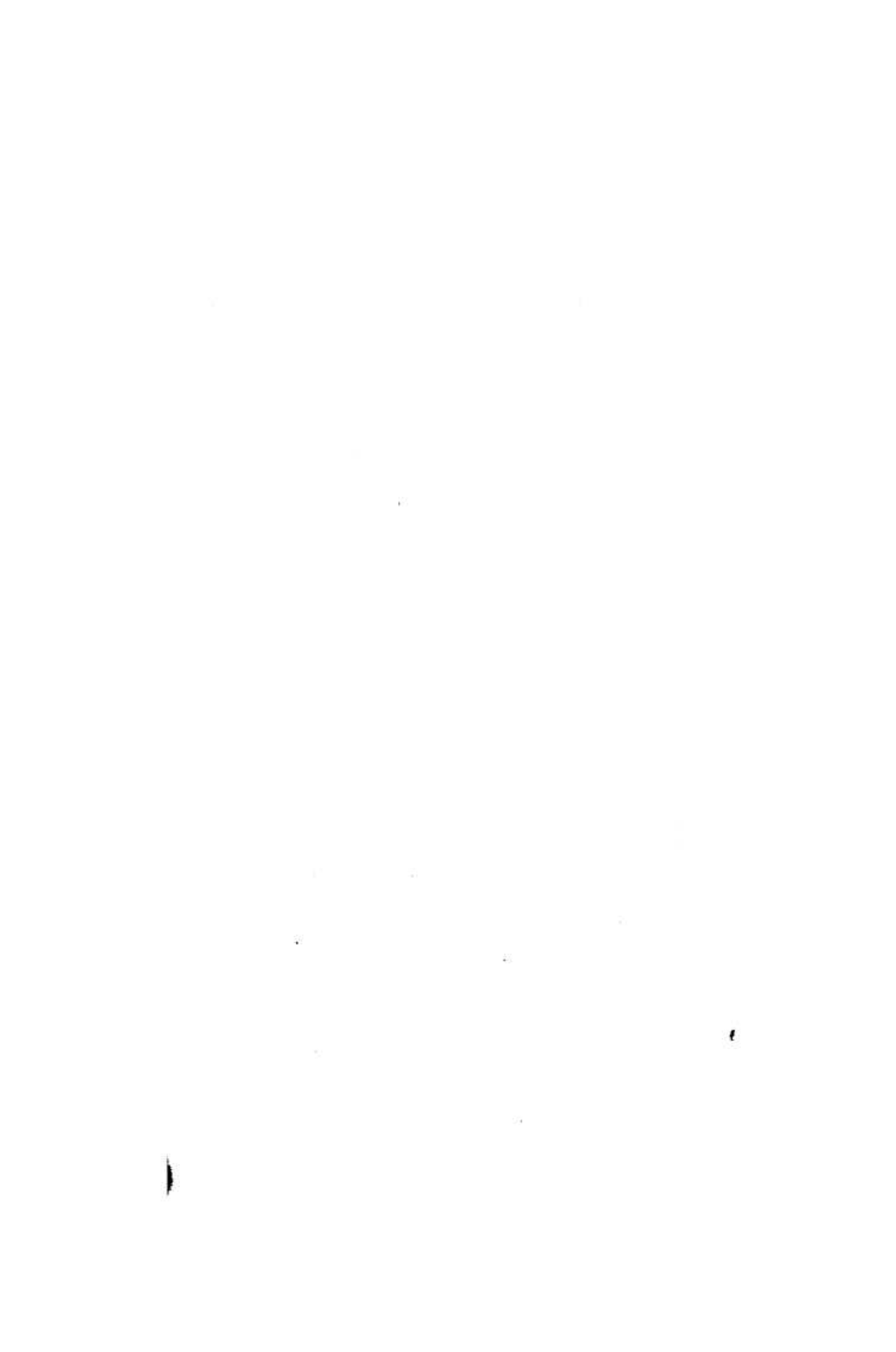
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THIS STUDY IS DEDICATED  
TO  
DR. JAMES W. BRIGHT  
AT WHOSE SUGGESTION IT WAS BEGUN,  
UNDER WHOSE INSPIRATION IT WAS ACCOMPLISHED,  
BY WHOSE GENEROUS AID IN  
ADVICE AND BOOKS IT WAS RENDERED POSSIBLE.

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## INTENSIVES AND REFLEXIVES IN ANGLO-SAXON AND EARLY MIDDLE ENGLISH.

### INTRODUCTION.

The present study embraces two periods of the English language—the Anglo-Saxon and the Early Middle English. The fact to remember concerning the Anglo-Saxon form of the language is that it is highly inflected. This period closes about 1050 A. D. and embraces three groups of texts—the poetry which represents both a freer and a more archaic form; the prose which is grouped around Alfred and represents the classical West-Saxon of the ninth century; and the prose which has Ælfric as its centre and is dated in the first quarter of the eleventh century. Between this and the succeeding period come a few texts, mostly transcripts of Anglo-Saxon mss., which exhibit no change in construction or form but a decided weakening in inflectional endings. The second period includes the texts falling between the dates 1150 and 1250. It is characterized by a further weakening and confusion of inflectional endings and a consequent increase in the importance of position to show relationship, while the Dative case has become the objective pronominal form in all persons and numbers. In our study an intermediate stage of development is represented by the first series of Homilies and the A-text of Layamon's Brut while the remainder give largely the conditions which hold for Middle English.

The texts consulted, with the abbreviations used in reference, are:

Bibliothek der Angelsächsischen Poesie. Grein-Wülker (3 vols.). For the longer poems the usual abbreviations have been used, Beo. = Beowulf, Gen. = Genesis, etc.; for the shorter ones, I give the reference to the volume, number of selection and line: Gr. (II 2/3) 37 = vol. II, second part, selection 3, line 37.