

**WALTER OF HENLEY'S
HUSBANDRY, TOGETHER WITH
AN ANONYMOUS HUSBANDRY,
SENESCHAUCIE, AND ROBERT
GROSSETESTE'S RULES**

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Walter of Henley's Husbandry, together with an anonymous Husbandry, Seneschaucie, and Robert Grosseteste's Rules by Walter de Henley & Robert Grosseteste & Elizabeth Lamond

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WALTER DE HENLEY & ROBERT GROSSETESTE & ELIZABETH LAMOND

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AN ANONYMOUS HUSBANDRY, SENESCHAUCIE
AND ROBERT GROSSETESTE'S RULES

THE TRANSCRIPTS, TRANSLATIONS, AND GLOSSARY

BY

ELIZABETH LAMOND, F.R.Hist.S.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

W. CUNNINGHAM, D.D., F.R.Hist.S.



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PREFATORY NOTE

THE volume which is now offered to the public was undertaken in consequence of the interest which was aroused by a paper read before the Royal Historical Society in May 1889. It had been previously intended to print Walter of Henley's *Husbandry* in the Appendix of the *Growth of English Industry and Commerce during the Early and Middle Ages* (Camb. Univ. Press, 1890); but the author gladly gave way when it became apparent that the Council of the Society would arrange for the publication of the four treatises which are so intimately connected. The task of selecting the best text for transcription and of translating has involved much more work than was apparent at first; where difficulties are still unsolved they have been stated in a manner which may assist other students in the endeavour to carry the investigation further. Dr. Braunholtz, Lecturer in French in the University of Cambridge, has kindly read the proofs and made many valuable suggestions, and we take this opportunity of expressing our in-

debtedness to him for the constant assistance he has rendered. We also desire to thank the authorities of the Cathedral Library at Canterbury, and of the Heralds' College, for access to copies of the different treatises in their charge, and the Master and Fellows of S. John's College, Cambridge, and of Merton College, Oxford, for allowing their MSS. to be transcribed.

E. L.

W. C.

August 1890.

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INTRODUCTION

THE four treatises which are brought together in this volume are of interest from many points of view. A work attributed to Robert Grosseteste deserves to be rescued from oblivion, and the peculiarities of the dialect in which these writings were composed may attract the attention of students of early French. Others may, however, be led to examine them from an interest in the subject-matter of which they treat, and this has been the primary consideration in planning the present edition. The work of an author who is only known through this book, and two anonymous treatises, have been placed alongside the maxims which were laid down by the great Bishop of Lincoln, for they deal, and deal at greater length, with the management of estates. Public attention has been called to the treatise of Walter of Henley by Professor Thorold Rogers, who has made frequent reference to it in the earlier volumes of his great work on *Agriculture and Prices*, and it is most desirable that the first-hand evidence on this important side of the life of our forefathers should be rendered generally accessible to students of English History. This is more especially the case, as the various treatises, in so far as they have been printed already, have been curiously mangled; it has been an interesting task to try and disentangle the confusion into which they have been thrown, and present them as nearly as possible in their original form, while at the same time the whole of the interpolated matter has also been retained. The student has now access to

the thirteenth century treatises, and the means of noticing the later accretions.

At the same time, while the main object of the Royal Historical Society in undertaking this work must naturally be to render the whole of the matter these treatises contain accessible to the members, the literary interest which attaches to these writings has not been altogether neglected. It is hoped that the work of grouping the MSS. and discriminating the insertions has been so far accomplished as to facilitate the work of anyone who may hereafter undertake the work of issuing a critical edition of the text. Several of the fourteenth century MSS. are written in French closely corresponding to that in the Statute Book, but the earlier MSS. give readings which appear to be somewhat more colloquial; and there is very great difficulty in attempting to reconstruct the language that Walter of Henley personally used, either in dictating or in writing. This difficult task has not been attempted in the present edition; the text in each case is a simple transcript of a single MS., which has been reproduced, without correction, even in those cases where there were obvious slips on the part of the transcribers. Though it was tempting to make a more ambitious effort, there is reason to believe that, by supplying a text which has not been tampered with under pretence of correction, the Society has furnished a sound basis to students for further investigations.

In this translation, also, the requirements of the modern historical student have been kept in view, as the main object has been to render the matter of these treatises readily accessible. In no case, therefore, has the English been sacrificed in the attempt to reproduce the construction of the French sentences as closely as possible, while the text affords the means of verifying the substantial correctness of the translation. Doubtful and disputed renderings are for the most part discussed in the Glossary.

The treatises are distinctly practical, and were intended to assist men in the ordinary business of life; they assumed on the part of the readers a familiar knowledge of institu-