

**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE, COLLEGE
HISTORIES; PETERHOUSE**

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University of Cambridge, College Histories; Peterhouse by Thomas Alfred Walker

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THOMAS ALFRED WALKER

**UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE, COLLEGE
HISTORIES; PETERHOUSE**



University of Cambridge

COLLEGE HISTORIES

PETERHOUSE

BY

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TO
PETREANS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
A HOME-KEEPING PETREAN
Dedictees
THIS BOOK

At THE HOUSE, January, 1906.

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of

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PETERHOUSE

CHAPTER I

THE FOUNDER AND HIS WORK

PETERHOUSE is the most ancient of Cambridge Colleges.

The Founder of Peterhouse was a Benedictine monk.

In the winter of the year 1256-1257 A.D. William de Kilkenny, ninth Bishop of Ely, died in Spain when travelling on the King's business. The times were uneasy. It was the eve of the Baronial rising against the Royal misgovernment. King Henry III, impressed with the importance in days of trouble of the island fortress of the Fens, earnestly recommended for election to the vacant See his faithful Chancellor, Henry de Wengham. The monks of Ely, to whom the election appertained, had recently had more than enough of episcopal politicians, and their choice fell upon a tried local man, their own Sub-Prior, Hugo de Balsam, "a man apt for the office, and of blameless repute." Henry de Wengham was willing to withdraw his pretensions in favour of his