

**CLARENDON PRESS SERIES. THE GOSPEL  
OF SAINT MARK IN GOTHIC,  
ACCORDING TO THE TRANSLATION  
MADE IN THE FOURTH CENTURY, EDITED  
WITH A GRAMMATICAL INTRODUCTION  
AND GLOSSARIAL INDEX**

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Clarendon Press Series. The Gospel of Saint Mark in Gothic, According to the Translation Made in the Fourth Century, Edited with a Grammatical Introduction and Glossarial Index by Wulfila & Walter W. Skeat

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**WULFILA & WALTER W. SKEAT**

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WULFILA

IN THE FOURTH CENTURY



EDITED, WITH A GRAMMATICAL INTRODUCTION  
AND GLOSSARIAL INDEX

BY THE

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Oxford



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## P R E F A C E .

THE following pages are intended to serve as a Gothic Primer, and to introduce the beginner to fuller and more complete works upon the subject. There is no lack of good editions in German, such as those by Gabelentz and Löbe, Massmann, and Stamm (as revised by Heyne). The price of the last of these is so moderate as to render it unnecessary to reprint all the fragments of the extant Gothic literature; but it appeared to be desirable to select a certain portion of it, which might be explained, by the help of notes, glossary, and grammar, for the benefit of English readers. As the best MS. contains the four gospels only, the choice was practically limited to one of these; and the gospel of St. Mark was chosen, because it is the least mutilated. Of the other gospels, whole chapters are wanting, but the missing portions of St. Mark are comparatively small, viz. vi. 30-53, xii. 38-xiii. 16, xiii. 29-xiv. 4, xiv. 16-41, and xvi. 12-20, amounting to not more than 95 verses.

The notes call attention to such difficulties of construction as are most likely to cause perplexity. The glossary not only explains all the words occurring in St. Mark's gospel, but is extended so as to contain all the more important words of the language, especially such as are most required by the student of English etymology. The introduction gives all necessary elementary information concerning the MS., the author, and the sources of the alphabet; with some account

of the pronunciation, phonology, and grammar. Numerous references to the text have been introduced into the grammar, and several remarks are made relative to points of philological interest. The student who has already some knowledge of Middle English and Anglo-Saxon will not experience much difficulty in gaining, in a short time, some elementary and very useful knowledge of Gothic. A study of this language is absolutely indispensable for the student of Teutonic philology, and the number of points of English etymology which cannot be fully understood without it, is surprisingly large. A knowledge of Gothic ought to be as common among Englishmen as it is now rare; and I trust, for the sake of English scholarship, that the present attempt to smooth the way for those who wish to understand more about the formation of the Teutonic part of our own language, may meet with some success.

The Glossarial Index, which I have carefully revised, was almost wholly written by my eldest daughter. For several hints as to the phonology I am indebted to Mr. Sweet.

A more complete Glossary, with references to *all* the extant writings of Wulfila, was published for the Philological Society by Asher and Co. in 1868, and was written by myself. It is remarkable that no glossary or grammar of Gothic has ever appeared with explanations *in English*, except that volume and the present one.