

**PHILOBIBLON. A
TREATISE ON THE
LOVE OF BOOKS**

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Philobiblon. A treatise on the love of books by Richard de Bury

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RICHARD DE BURY

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LOVE OF BOOKS**

PHILOBIBLON

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PHILOBIBLON

A Treatise

ON

THE LOVE OF BOOKS

BY

RICHARD DE BURY

Bishop of Durham

Treasurer and Chancellor of Edward III.

The English translation thereof

made by JOHN BELLINGHAM INGLIS, with

Introduction by CHARLES ORR

Librarian of Case Library

Cleveland



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PREFACE.

NOT often has a little book with a great reputation been so neglected by publishers as has the *Philobiblon* of Richard de Bury. Though generally cited as the first book written in praise of books, as it is admitted to be the most earnest plea in defense of book-collecting, it is singularly unknown even to book-lovers and has at times been out of print and even scarce.

First printed in Latin at Cologne in 1473 and reprinted from time to time during three hundred and fifty years, it was not translated into English until 1832. At that time John Bellingham Inglis