

**YALE STUDIES IN ENGLISH: III THE LIFE
OF ST. CECILIA FROM MS. ASHMOLE
43 AND MS. COTTON TIBERIUS E. VII,
WITH INTRODUCTION, VARIANTS,
AND GLOSSARY**

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BERTHA ELLEN LOVEWELL

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YALE STUDIES IN ENGLISH

ALBERT S. COOK, EDITOR

III

THE LIFE OF ST. CECILIA

FROM

MS. ASHMOLE 43 AND MS. COTTON TIBERIUS E. VII

WITH INTRODUCTION, VARIANTS, AND GLOSSARY

BY

BERTHA ELLEN LOVEWELL, Ph. D.



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1898



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TO MY FATHER.

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PREFACE.

The pages that follow are the record of an attempt to present a small contribution to the general study of English Medieval Saints Legends, in as complete form as time and conditions have permitted. The legend here edited is in no sense peculiarly representative of medieval legends, yet it may serve to indicate the general tone of the species of literature to which it belongs.

Until, as Dr. Horstmann has observed, the combined intelligence of generations yet to come has been applied to the problem, many of the most vital questions relating to English Legendary must remain unsolved. Perhaps the best service which can now be rendered, is to continue to present, as Dr. Horstmann has so long been doing, accurate reprints of existing versions, together with textual studies of the kinds familiar to scholarship.

The texts, here printed for the first time, have been carefully transcribed from their originals and collated by scribes at the several libraries where the manuscripts are kept. I regret exceedingly that, owing to delay on the part of one scribe, this edition must go to press lacking the table of variants from MSS. Stowe 946 and Lambeth 223, which are the only existing versions of this legend not included. Moreover, many definitive results, which students of even a single legend have reason to expect, have been omitted but not overlooked. I shall hope to supplement these deficiencies as time and ability may permit.

In presenting this result of a few months' work, I wish to acknowledge, first of all, my great indebtedness to the strong, clear-sighted judgment of Professor Cook, under whose guidance my graduate work has received direction. I wish also to express my thanks to Professor Skeat, who sent me advance proof-sheets of the *Ælfrician* version of the Life of St. Cecilia, and at the same time gave suggestion and encouragement.

B. E. L.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., June 1, 1898.

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