

**YALE STUDIES IN ENGLISH. XLIX. THE
LATER VERSION OF THE WYCLIFFITE
EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS, COMPARED
WITH THE LATIN ORIGINAL; A STUDY
OF WYCLIFFITE ENGLISH**

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Yale studies in English. XLIX. The later version of the Wycliffite Epistle to the Romans, compared with the Latin original; a study of Wycliffite English by John Wycliffe & Emma Curtiss Tucker

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JOHN WYCLIFFE & EMMA CURTISS TUCKER

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YALE STUDIES IN ENGLISH

ALBERT S. COOK, EDITOR

XLIX

THE LATER VERSION
OF THE
WYCLIFFITE EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS,
COMPARED WITH THE LATIN ORIGINAL:
A STUDY OF WYCLIFFITE ENGLISH

BY

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A Thesis presented to the Faculty of the Graduate School of Yale
University in Candidacy for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy



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P R E F A C E

The present study of fourteenth-century English was undertaken at the suggestion of Professor Albert S. Cook, to whose constant and kindly interest and aid it owes most of its real value.

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E. C. T.

YALE UNIVERSITY,

May 1, 1913.

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INTRODUCTION

I. GENERAL AIM OF THE STUDY

The field of Middle English language and literature is at last receiving the attention that it deserves for its importance in English literary history. Long a tangled wilderness, dreaded and shunned by scholars, who realized the difficulties and labor involved in clearing so vast a tract, and how little could be accomplished by any one person, it is now invaded by scores of busy workers. The first tract to be cultivated was naturally that which promised the readiest and richest returns, the works of Chaucer. Many eminent scholars have put their best efforts upon this great poet, so that to-day more people perhaps than ever before wander with delight through his pages,

As it were a meede,
Al ful of fresshe floures, whyte and reede.

From Chaucer, interest gradually broadened to include writers of lesser magnitude, of whose works critical editions have been published. Investigations into the language and literary history of the period are going rapidly forward.

No worker in the Middle English field could, of course, entirely neglect the two Wycliffite versions of the Bible, and some have given them rather careful study. It has usually, however, been for the purpose of ascertaining the authorship, or of determining the exact relations of the Wycliffite to later versions. There have been a few German dissertations on the 'Sprache und Syntax' of various