

Alfred The Great Assers Life Of King Alfred And Other Contemporary Sources Classics

A valuable and honest account of the life of King Alfred. This work reports all his expeditions and the successes and failures of his wars. It is also a testament to the respect and esteem he inspired in those around him. It records the events and history of that time and in that regard too, it is a very significant work.

The vernacular Anglo-Saxon Chronicles cover the centuries which saw the making of England and its conquest by Scandinavians and Normans. After Alfred traces their development from their genesis at the court of King Alfred to the last surviving chronicle produced at the Fenland monastery of Peterborough. These texts have long been part of the English national story. Pauline Stafford considers the impact of this on their study and editing since the sixteenth century, addressing all surviving manuscript chronicles, identifying key lost ones, and reconsidering these annalistic texts in the light of wider European scholarship on medieval historiography. The study stresses the plural 'chronicles', whilst also identifying a tradition of writing vernacular history which links them. It argues that that tradition was an expression of the ideology of a southern elite engaged in the conquest and assimilation of old kingdoms north of the Thames, Trent, and Humber. Vernacular chronicling is seen, not as propaganda, but as engaged history-writing closely connected to the court, whose networks and personnel were central to the production and continuation of these chronicles. In particular, After Alfred connects many chronicles to bishops and especially to the Archbishops of York and Canterbury. The disappearance of the English-speaking elite after the Norman Conquest had profound impacts on these texts. It repositioned their authors in relation to the court and royal power, and ultimately resulted in the end of this tradition of vernacular chronicling.

Presents the Anglo-Saxon period of English history from the fifth century up to the late eleventh century, covering such events as the spread of Christianity, the invasions of the Vikings, the composition of Beowulf, and the Battle of Hastings. This work presents the poetical philosophy of the Roman Boethius (480-524 A.D.), translated into Anglo-Saxon dialect by Alfred the Great, then later edited by Samuel Fox.

Easyread Large Edition

Asser's Life of Alfred the Great

War, Kingship and Culture in Anglo-Saxon England

The White Horse King

A Chronicle of England, B.C. 55-A.D. 1485

Sir Francis Drake

Traces the life and accomplishments of the ninth-century British king

Alfred the Great (848 - 899) was a king in West Saxon and then the first king of the Anglo-Saxons, king of Britain. He spent his early career fighting Viking invasions, until in 878 he won a decisive victory against them, and then personally oversaw the conversion of the Viking leader to Christianity. He left a legacy for being gracious, rational, peaceable, and generally working to improve the overall quality of people's lives. This biography was composed by Asser (d. 909), a Welsh monk and later bishop. This large print version (14 point size) of Asser's work is from, "Asser's life of King Alfred, translated by Albert Stanburrough Cook (1853-1927); Boston, New York: Ginn and company 1906." The original footnotes are preserved, and surviving illustrations of King Alfred on coins and in artwork are included.

This biography of Alfred the Great, king of the West Saxons (871-899), combines a sensitive reading of the primary sources with a careful evaluation of the most recent scholarly research on the history and archaeology of ninth-century England. Alfred emerges from the pages of this biography as a great warlord, an effective and inventive ruler, and a passionate scholar whose piety and intellectual curiosity led him to sponsor a cultural and spiritual renaissance. Alfred's victories on the battlefield and his sweeping administrative innovations not only preserved his native Wessex from viking conquest, but began the process of political consolidation that would culminate in the creation of the kingdom of England. Alfred the Great: War, Kingship and Culture in Anglo-Saxon England strips away the varnish of later interpretations to recover the historical Alfred pragmatic, generous, brutal, pious, scholarly within the context of his own age.

The story of a medieval Boudicca, Alfred the Great's daughter, and her struggle to restore her people and reclaim their land

England's Heritage, Then and Now

Alfred the Great: pocket GIANTS

A Lochinvar Guide

Being the Ford Lectures for 1901

The Warrior Queen

Britain in the age of Arthur

From the author of The Gateway to the Middle Ages, "a fascinating portrait of an enlightened monarch against a background of darkness and ignorance" (Kirkus Reviews). Filled with drama and action, here is the story of the ninth-century life and times of Alfred—warrior, conqueror, lawmaker, scholar, and the only king whom England has ever called "The Great." Based on up-to-date information on ninth-century history, geography,

philosophy, literature, and social life, it vividly presents exciting views of Alfred in every stage of his long career and leaves the reader with a sharply etched picture of the world of the Middle Ages

The essential primary-source history of the British Isles through the early Middle Ages, fully annotated and illustrated with paintings and engravings. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle is one of the most important sets of historical documents concerning the history of the British Isles. These vital accounts, thought to be first set down in the late ninth century by a scribe in Wessex, illuminate events through the Dark Ages that would otherwise be lost to history. Without this chronicle, it would be impossible to write the history of the English from the Romans to the Norman Conquest. The compilers of this chronicle included contemporary events they themselves witnessed, as well as those recorded by earlier annalists whose work is in many cases preserved nowhere else. With nine known versions of the Chronicle in existence, this translated edition presents a conflation of passages from different versions. Relying heavily on Rev. James Ingram's 1828 translation, the footnotes provided are all those of Rev. Ingram. This edition also includes the complete Parker Manuscript.

In an era darkened by the terror of Viking invasions, England's first and greatest king was a beacon of light. "This is the story of England's birth. A great story, beautifully told." (Bernard Cornwell, author of *The Pale Horseman*) Alfred was England's first king, and his rule spanned troubled times. As his shores sat under constant threat from Viking marauders, his life was similarly imperiled by conspiracies in his own court. He was an extraordinary character—a soldier, scholar, and statesman like no other in English history—and out of adversity he forged a new kind of nation. Justin Pollard's enthralling account strips back centuries of myth to reveal the individual behind the legend. He offers a radical new interpretation of what inspired Alfred to create England and how it has colored the nation's history to the present day. Justin Pollard, a Cambridge-educated archaeologist, is a documentary filmmaker and the author of *Seven Ages of Britain*. Asser's *Life of King Alfred*, written in 893, is a revealing account of one of the greatest of medieval kings. Composed by a monk of St David's in Wales who became Bishop

of Sherborne in Alfred's service and worked with him in his efforts to revive religion and learning in his kingdom, this life is among the earliest surviving royal biographies. It is an admiring account of King Alfred's life, written in absorbing detail - chronicling his battles against Viking invaders and his struggle to increase the strength and knowledge of his people, and to unite his people at a time of conflict, uncertainty and war.

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicles

This Realm of England, 1399 to 1688

With Preliminary Essays, Illustrative of the History, Arts, and Manners, of the Ninth Century

Sources and Interpretations of Anglo-Saxon Warfare in the Viking Age

The Whole Works of King Alfred the Great

The Medieval Life of King Alfred the Great

No description available.

The reign of 'thelred 'the Unready' (978-1016) is known to us mainly from a series of annals in the Anglo-Saxon Chrolicle, written at or after its close and accordingly conveying an impression of gathering doom as Viking armies ravaged the country and eventually, under the leadership of Swein Forkbeard and Cnut, brought about its conquest. Dr Keynes is here concerned to establish what light the royal diplomas issued in King 'thelred's name throw on this unhappy and notorious period. He first considers the general issues that bear directly on the value of royal diplomas as historical evidence for all periods of Anglo-Saxon history, discussing the circumstances under which these documents have been preserved, the techniques available for their criticism, and the arrangements that existed for their production. He then demonstrates how a detailed analysis of 'thelred's diplomas can transform our understanding of this troubled reign. On a practical level they provide invaluable evidence on the operation of royal government, and on a personal level they afford a remarkable insight into the relations between the king and his councillors, suggesting a picture of political manoeuvring and court intrigue which compensates for the chronicler's emphasis on the struggle against the marauding Vikings. By placing the familiar account of incessant warfare in the context of these domestic affairs it becomes possible for the first time to see the reign in its true perspective.

In 893, Asser wrote this book, a biography of Alfred the Great entitled *The Life of King Alfred*; in the

original Latin, the title is *Vita Ælfredi Regis Angul Saxonum*. The date is known from Asser's mention of the king's age in the text. The work, which is less than twenty thousand words long, is one of the most important sources of information on Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons from 871 to c. 886 and King of the Anglo-Saxons from c. 886 until his death in 899. He is well-known for overseeing the conversion of Viking leader Guthrum to Christianity, and defending his kingdom against the Viking attempt at conquest, leading him to become the dominant ruler in England.

'In the year of grace 1066, the Lord, the ruler, brought to fulfilment what He had long planned for the English people: He delivered them up to be destroyed by the violent and cunning Norman race.' Henry of Huntingdon's narrative covers one of the most exciting and bloody periods in English history: the Norman Conquest and its aftermath. He tells of the decline of the Old English kingdom, the victory of the Normans at the Battle of Hastings, and the establishment of Norman rule. His accounts of the kings who reigned during his lifetime - William I, Henry I, and Stephen - contain unique descriptions of people and events. Henry tells how promiscuity, greed, treachery, and cruelty produced a series of disasters, rebellions, and wars. Interwoven with memorable and vivid battle-scenes are anecdotes of court life, the death and murder of nobles, and the first written record of Cnut and the waves and the death of Henry I from a surfeit of lampreys. Diana Greenway's translation of her definitive Latin text has been revised for this edition.

The Domesday Book

After Alfred

The Life and Legend of Aethelflaed, Daughter of Alfred the Great

The Earliest English Poems

Asser's Life of King Alfred

The Viking Wars: War and Peace in King Alfred's Britain: 789 – 955

Anglo-Saxon poetry was produced between 700 and 1000 AD for an audience that delighted in technical accomplishment, and the durable works of Old English verse spring from the source of the English language. Michael Alexander has translated the best of the Old English poetry into modern English and into a verse form that retains the qualities of Anglo-Saxon metre and alliteration. Included in this selection are the 'heroic poems' such as Widsith, Deor, Brunanburh and Maldon, and passages from Beowulf; some of the famous 'riddles' from The Exeter Book; all the 'elegies', including The Ruin, The Wanderer, The Seafarer, The Wife's Complaint and The Husband's Message, in which the virtu of Old English is found in its purest and most concentrated form;

together with the great Christian poem The Dream of the Rood.

Very few King's earn the appellation 'Great'. Alfred is the only English King honoured with this name and is credited with various successes (the foundation of a navy, English education system and religious revival). His memory looms large in the English Imagination. The medieval 'Life' of King Alfred of Wessex purports to be written by Asser, a monk in the King's service. This account of one of England's best loved and most famous kings has been accepted as offering evidence on most aspects of life in early medieval England and beyond. It was used in Victorian times to create a 'Cult' of Alfred. Alfred Smyth offers a carefully annotated translation of the 'Life' together with a long commentary. He argues that the 'Life' is a forgery which has profound implications not only for our understanding of the early English and medieval past but also for the nature of biography and history. This close scholarly rendering of the text allows the reader access to the intricacies of medieval history. 'Alfred is one of the most remarkable rulers of any time or place. This clear, readable and insightful book shows why.' Michael Wood*Why is Alfred the Great? A simple answer is that he has been seen as a man who saved England, invented English identity and pioneered English as a written language. He is the first Englishman for whom a biography survives so that we know more about Alfred and his ideals than we do for most people who lived over a thousand years ago. A slightly longer answer would say that things are a bit more complicated, and that one reason Alfred seems to be so 'great' was that he made sure we were told that he was. To get the measure of Alfred we need to look at what he actually managed to achieve. Can we resurrect the 'real' King Alfred? There may be limits, but even if we have to part company with some of the Victorian adulation, we are still left with a pretty impressive and surprising person.* BARBARA YORKE *has recently retired from the University of Winchester where she worked in the History Department for many years, ultimately as Professor of Early Medieval History. She is now a Professor Emerita there, and also an Honorary Professor at the Institute of Archaeology, University of London where she has advised on a number of projects. She has written extensively on the early middle ages in books and academic papers, as well as more popular works such as History Today and BBC History magazine (including on King Alfred). She has appeared on various radio and television programmes on Anglo-Saxon topics. In 2008 she curated an exhibition on King Alfred in the Discovery Centre, Winchester.*

The unlikely king who saved England. Down swept the Vikings from the frigid North. Across the English coastlands and countryside they raided, torched, murdered, and destroyed all in their path. Farmers, monks, and soldiers all fell bloody under the Viking sword, hammer, and axe. Then, when the hour was most desperate, came an unlikely hero. King Alfred rallied the battered and bedraggled kingdoms of Britain and after decades of plotting, praying, and persisting, finally triumphed over the invaders. Alfred's victory reverberates to this day:

He sparked a literary renaissance, restructured Britain's roadways, revised the legal codes, and revived Christian learning and worship. It was Alfred's accomplishments that laid the groundwork for Britian's later glories and triumphs in literature, liturgy, and liberty. "Ben Merkle tells the sort of mythic adventure story that stirs the imagination and races the heart?and all the more so knowing that it is altogether true!" ?George Grant, author of The Last Crusader and The Blood of the Moon

Selected Writings

King Alfred the Great

The Legal Code of Ælfred the Great

Asser's Life of Alfred the Great: a Lochinvar Guide

Asser's Life of King Alfred and Other Contemporary Sources

Anglo-Saxon Chronicles and Chroniclers, 900-1150

Very few King's earn the appellation 'Great'. Alfred is the only EnglishKing honoured with this name and is credited with various successes (thefoundation of a navy, English education system and religious revival). Hismemory looms large in the English Imagination.The medieval "Life" of King Alfred of Wessex purports to be written by Asser, a monk in the King's service. This account of one of England's best loved and most famous kings has been accepted as offering evidence on most aspects of life in early medieval England and beyond. It was used in Victorian times to create a 'Cult' of Alfred. Alfred Smyth offers a carefully annotated translation of the 'Life' together with a long commentary. He argues that the 'Life' is a forgery which has profound implications not only for our understanding of the early English and medieval past but also for the nature of biography and history. This close scholarly rendering of the text allows the reader access to the intricacies of medieval history.

Alfred the GreatAsser's Life of King Alfred and Other Contemporary SourcesPenguin UK

A history of Britain in the violent and unruly era between the first Scandinavian raids in 789 and the final expulsion of the Vikings from York in 954. In 865, a great Viking army landed in East Anglia, precipitating a series of wars that would last until the middle of the following century. It was in this time of crisis that the modern kingdoms of Britain were born. In their responses to the Viking threat, these kingdoms forged their identities as hybrid cultures: vibrant and entrepreneurial peoples adapting to instability and opportunity. Traditionally, Alfred the Great is cast as the central player in the story of Viking Age Britain. But Max Adams, while stressing the genius of Alfred as war leader, law-giver, and forger of the English nation, has a more nuanced narrative approach to this conventional version of history. The Britain encountered by the Scandinavians of the ninth and tenth centuries was one of regional diversity and self-conscious cultural identities, depicted in glorious narrative fashion in The Viking Wars.

Teacher's Edition. The ninth-century English king Alfred the Great is perhaps best known for his military victories against the Vikings, but Asser's portrait of him also shows Alfred as a man of great personal character. In both his public and private life, Alfred sought to be just, pious, and merciful-and was the founder of Christian education in the English-speaking world. Join Asser for a glimpse into Alfred's tumultuous and inspiring reign! About the Series: The Lochinvar Guides to Classic Works of Nonfiction are a valuable addition to your history or literature curriculum. Written from a Christian worldview and integrating Mortimer Adler's

Great Ideas, each Lochinvar Guide is packed with background information, discussion questions, research assignments, and essay ideas. The structured questions guide students easily from the grammar stage to the logic and rhetoric stage, developing critical thinking skills. Pick up a Lochinvar Guide and experience the thrill of historical narratives.

Alfred's Wars

The History of the English People, 1000-1154

King Alfred's Anglo-Saxon Version of the Metres of Boethius

Annals of the Reign of Alfred the Great

The Anglo-Saxon World

Teacher's Edition

A collection of writings dating from the mid-400s to the Norman Conquest introduce readers to the pagan/Christian spirituality of Medieval Europe. Original.

Bachelor Thesis from the year 2010 in the subject English - Pedagogy, Didactics, Literature Studies, grade: 2,0, University of Göttingen, language: English, abstract: In the long list of English rulers there is only one king who achieved to be honored with the epithet the Great. Alfred the Great is known today as one of the most successful kings of England and has become a national hero. The role of the national failure, however, has been ascribed to King Ethelred II, who is known as Ethelred the Unready. Both kings ruled in Anglo-Saxon times, their reigns are only about one hundred years apart and both had to face the same enemy: the Vikings from Scandinavia. Although it seems as if the two kings ruled under the same prerequisites, their reigns had very different outcomes and they have opposing reputations today. King Alfred, who ruled the kingdom of Wessex from 871 to 899, is today remembered and glorified as a great Christian king, who defeated the Vikings, who continuously invaded and plundered England in the second half of the ninth century. Apart from great military and political achievements, Alfred also stands for educational reform and is credited for having laid the foundations for what was to become the Anglo-Saxon kingdom. King Ethelred ruled this kingdom from 978 to 1016. Today, he is seen as a weak and powerless king, who did not manage to fight off the Vikings who were attacking the Anglo-Saxon kingdom during his reign, especially at the beginning of the eleventh century. He is accused of having lost control over his kingdom and having handed it over to the Vikings without developing a coherent strategy

of defense. In order to find out how and why King Alfred and King Ethelred acquired such different reputations and whether they are justified, one has to have a close look at their reigns and especially at the actions they took to keep the Viking invaders from plundering and conquering their kingdom. Despite these problems, which will be a central theme in this work, the following text aims at presenting detailed accounts of King Alfred the Great and King Ethelred the Unready's struggles against the Viking invaders in order to allow for a direct comparison of their actions. Certainly, this work can make no claims of providing a comprehensive and complete picture of the kings' personalities and their reigns. It is rather meant to present an overview, which can be used as a basis for an evaluation and reassessment of Alfred and Ethelred's legacies.

One of the most important sources of information on Alfred the Great (King of Wessex from 871 to 899) is Asser's "The Life of King Alfred." Asser was a Welsh monk who accepted a position in the court of King Alfred around 886. His work is both a translation of part of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle (for the years 851-887), as well as eyewitness accounts and opinions of Alfred's kingship. Although the only copy of the manuscript was destroyed by fire in 1731, transcriptions and material from other writers ensured that the work was not lost forever. As a result, we have a revealing account of battles with Viking invaders, medieval English culture, consolidation of the seven kingdoms, and Alfred's efforts to revive religion and learning. Compared to the romantic and idealized royalty of Arthurian Legend, The Life of King Alfred gives a true, detailed portrayal of the actual kings of the Middle Ages.

A major re-examination of an important period in British history

The Life and Times of Alfred the Great

Alfred the Great

With an English Translation, and Notes

The First Kingdom

Alfred the Great and Ethelred the Unready. Two Anglo-Saxon Kings and their Actions against the Viking Threat

The Life of King Alfred

The ninth-century English king Alfred the Great is perhaps best known for his military victories against the Vikings, but Asser's portrait of him also shows Alfred as a man of great personal character. In both his public and private life, Alfred sought to be just, pious, and merciful—and was the founder of Christian education in the English-speaking world. Join Asser for a glimpse into Alfred's tumultuous and inspiring reign! About the Series: The Lochinvar Guides to Classic Works of Nonfiction are a valuable addition to your history or literature curriculum. Written from a Christian worldview and integrating Mortimer Adler's Great Ideas, each Lochinvar Guide is packed with background information, discussion questions, research assignments, and essay ideas. The structured questions guide students easily from the grammar stage to the logic and rhetoric stage, developing critical thinking skills. Pick up a Lochinvar Guide and experience the thrill of historical narratives.

The bestselling author of *The King in the North* turns his attention to the obscure era of British history known as 'the age of Arthur'. Somewhere in the shadow time between the departure of the Roman legions in the early fifth century and the arrival in Kent of Augustine's Christian mission at the end of the sixth, the kingdoms of Early Medieval Britain were formed. But by whom? And out of what? In *The First Kingdom*, Max Adams scrutinizes the narrative of this period handed down to us by later historians and chroniclers. Stripping away the more lurid claims made for a warrior-hero named Arthur, he synthesises the research carried out over the last forty years to tease out the strands of reality from the myth. He reveals how archaeology has delivered evidence of a diverse and dynamic response to Britain's new-found independence, of material and intellectual trade between the Atlantic islands and the rest of Europe, and of the environmental context of those centuries. A skilfully wrought and intellectually probing investigation of the most mysterious epoch in our history, *The First Kingdom* presents an image of post-Roman Britain whose resolution is high enough to show the emergence of distinct political structures in the sixth century – polities that survive long enough to be embedded in the medieval landscape, recorded in the lines of river, road and watershed, and memorialised in place names. PRAISE FOR MAX ADAMS: 'A triumph. The most gripping portrait of seventh-century Britain that I have read ... A Game of Thrones in the Dark Ages' Tom Holland in *The Times* on *The King in the North* 'Gripping, hugely enjoyable and deeply scholarly' *History Today*, Books of the Year, on *The King in the North* 'Brilliantly combines history and archaeological research ... A compelling read' *The Lady on Ælfred's Britain*

Begun by monks in the reign of King Alfred, the annals that are collectively known as the Anglo-Saxon Chronicles are a record of life in England from the time of the Roman invasion to the middle of the twelfth century. Cataloging a thousand turbulent years of history, ending at the crowning of Henry II as ruler of a united nation, these fascinating accounts are presented here in a continuous narrative. From the everyday local dramas that made up the lives of the Anglo-Saxons to the intricacies of government

and the reigns of kings, every aspect of life in the England of the Middle Ages is examined in detail. The modernized text is immediately comprehensible, but loses none of the rhythm, power or beauty of the original language, and traces the pattern of events chronologically, through the invasions of the Vikings and Normans, to the first of the Holy Crusades and beyond. With concise pictorial essays to help set the scene and shed light on some of the customs and practices of the times, this remarkable book brings England's past dramatically to life.

A fundamental part of English heritage, the Domesday Book is unique in medieval history, recording an entire country and its inhabitants town by town, with over 12,500 entries. In this lavishly illustrated book, Elizabeth Hallam and Thomas Hinde examine the background to the nine-hundred-year-old document, setting the events of 1086 into the context of the medieval world. It is a remarkable tribute to English continuity that almost all of the Domesday settlements still exist in some form or another.

Anglo-Saxon Spirituality

Illustrated and Annotated

The Diplomas of King Aethlred 'the Unready' 978-1016

The Life of Alfred the Great

The Kings & Queens of Anglo-Saxon England

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle