

**THE LOVE OF BOOKS:  
THE PHILOBIBLON OF  
RICHARD DE BURY**

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The Love of Books: The Philobiblon of Richard de Bury by Richard de Bury & E. C. Thomas

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**RICHARD DE BURY & E. C. THOMAS**

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THE KING'S CLASSICS UNDER  
THE GENERAL EDITORSHIP OF  
ISRAEL GOLLANCZ

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BEING THE PHILOBIBLON  
OF RICHARD DE BURY



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OF RICHARD DE BURY  
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"TAKE THOU A BOOK INTO THINE HANDS AS SIMON THE JUST  
TOOK THE CHILD JESUS INTO HIS ARMS TO CARRY HIM AND KISS  
HIM. AND WHEN THOU HAST FINISHED READING, CLOSE THE  
BOOK AND GIVE THANKS FOR EVERY WORD OUT OF THE MOUTH  
OF GOD; BECAUSE IN THE LORD'S FIELD THOU HAST FOUND A  
HIDDEN TREASURE."

THOMAS A. KEVIN: *Doctrinale Juvenum*

## PREFACE

**The Author of the Book.** Richard de Bury (1281-1345), so called from being born near Bury St. Edmunds, was the son of Sir Richard Aungerville. He studied at Oxford; and was subsequently chosen to be tutor to Prince Edward of Windsor, afterwards Edward III. His loyalty to the cause of Queen Isabella and the Prince involved him in danger. On the accession of his pupil he was made successively Cofferer, Treasurer of the Wardrobe, Archdeacon of Northampton, Prebendary of Lincoln, Sarum, and Lichfield, Keeper of the Privy Purse, Ambassador on two occasions to Pope John XXII, who appointed him a chaplain of the papal chapel, Dean of Wells, and ultimately, at the end of the year 1333, Bishop of Durham; the King and Queen, the King of Scots, and all the magnates north of the Trent, together with a multitude of nobles and many others, were present at his enthronization. It is noteworthy that during his