

**JOHN GAPGRAVE'S LIVES
OF ST. AUGUSTINE AND ST.
GILBERT OF SEMPRINGHAM,
AND A SERMON**

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John Gapgrave's Lives of St. Augustine and St. Gilbert of Sempringham, And a Sermon by J. J. Munro

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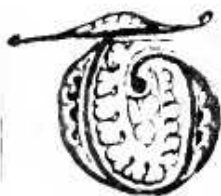
J. J. MUNRO

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John Capgrave's Lives of
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O my belovyd in our lord god ay. nicholas
maystr of ye order of simpyngha
wherch ordre is entyled on to ye
name of seynt gilbert Jffred J. C.
a mouy doctoure left sende ve
nereus as to ftherch dignyte. desiring clennesse
to your soule and helth to your body noth
with me felbe dayes was notified on
to me wth ye luf of our fader seynt augus-
tyn wherch yat J trauisalat in to our tinge.
at instance of a cteym woma was brobt
to your presens wherch lyke zour bel as it
is told saue ze wold J schul adde yto alle
yo religyous yat lyue vnder his renle
but to yo J answerd yat it was not my charge
but if men like for to knowe ys mater
diffnsely ye may lerne it in a bmo yat seid
at cambrige ye zed he for myn opposition
wherch fmon vmplyp J wyl sette in englysch
in ye list ende of ys werke. Then after ze
had red ys luf of seynt augusty ze sayde
to on of my frendes yat ze desired gretly
ye luf of seynt gilbert schuld he traslat
in the same forme Thus mad he instance
to me and J granted both your petycion for
I wold not frustate hym of his meduocou
ed ye honom of god and of all seyntis yat
wyl be he gyne ys trette nymelich for the
solitarye dome of your religion wherch un-

John
Congrave.

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TO

DR. HENRY BRADLEY

OF THE OXFORD DICTIONARY

THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED

IN ADMIRATION FOR HIS LEARNING

AND GRATITUDE FOR HIS ENCOURAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

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Life of St. Augustine, p. vii.

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Sermon, p. ix.

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(2) *Cotton Vitellius*. D. XV, p. xi.

Life of St. Norbert, p. xi.

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John Capgrave. In his Introduction to Capgrave's *Chronicle of England* the Rev. Francis Hingeston-Randolph expresses his approval of 'the singular honesty and straightforwardness of character, which must have belonged to the writer,'—on the model, may be, of Barham—'Thomas Ingoldsby, Esq., of Tappington Everard'—who speaks in a note to his *Blasphemer's Warning* of 'Honest John Capgrave, the veracious biographer of "English Saints".' To this eulogy, enounced under the authority of Bale, who writes of Capgrave's 'thunder against the wanton and arbitrary acts of prelates'—inaudible thunder to us in these after days—to all of this, Dr. Furnivall, with scripture authentic, in his Forewords to Capgrave's *Katharion* (xv, xxii), protests in fervent opposition. 'Capgrave, being an Englishman, was of course by race and nature a flunkey, and had an inordinate reverence for kings and rank,' says this Edwardian Elizabethan in his whole-hearted way. For the Augustinian friar had meted out unstinted praise to Henry IV, who 'gained the crown, by the providence, as we believe, of God'; had registered his encomium of that felicitous shatterer of heretics, as he termed Henry V, the victor of Agincourt; and had declared himself the devoted servant of his lord, that weak and pious youth, Henry VI; but as Pope says:—

Manners with fortunes, humours turn with climes,

Tenets with books, and principles with times,

and so, when Edward IV of York is crowned, the virtues of Lancaster are forgotten; he, in his turn, enters 'by Goddis pro'