

## John Wyclif and his followers, Tracts in Middle English

### Tracts by Wyclif

**Codicology:** Vellum, mm 269 x 200, (10.5 x 7.1 in.), ff. 3 + 150, double columns of lines. Cent. **xiv late**, clearly written.

**Collation:** (3 flyleaves) a<sup>8</sup> r<sup>8</sup> s<sup>10</sup> t<sup>4</sup>: old pagination incorrect but used here.

**Additions:** f. iv. Extract from letter of Melanchthon<sup>[PhilippM-001]</sup> to Fred. Miconius<sup>[Friedric-001]</sup>: “Inspexi Wiclefum<sup>[JohnWycl-001]</sup> sed deprehendi, etc.” (cf. MS 103<sup>[CCC103]</sup>. 5).

**Additions:** f. iir. List of contents (**xvi**).

**Additions:** f. iiiv. Note given by Nasmith<sup>[JamesNas-001]</sup>.

**Research:** The volume is a leading authority for many of the Wycliffite tracts, and was extensively used by F. D. Matthew, *English Works of Wyclif* (E. E. T. S. 1880)<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup> and by T. Arnold, *Select English Works of Wyclif*, vol. III<sup>[Arnold 1871b]</sup>.

[Nasmith:] *Several treatises written by Wickliff*<sup>[JohnWycl-001]</sup>.

“In this booke be gathered together all the sharpe treatises concernynge the erroures and defaults which John Wickliff<sup>[JohnWycl-001]</sup> did fynde in his tyme specially in the clergie and religiouse and in other estates of the worlde.”

**Foliation:** ff. i-iii + pp. 1-212 + 212a-213a + 213-298.

**Language:** Middle English and Latin.

### Contents:

1.  
1-22 ***Of the leaven of pharisees***  
*Attendite a fermento phariseorum quod est hypocrisis. A discourse in xii chapters against the hypocrisy of the clergy*  
1 This page is largely illegible from a water-stain  
Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 2
2.  
22-29 ***How men ought to obey prelates***  
*Hou men owen obesche to prelati drede curs and kepe law, ch. iii*  
22 (23) Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 28
3.  
29-34 ***The rule and testament of St Francis***<sup>[Franciso-001]</sup>, chapters 1-12  
*The reule of seynt Fraunseis*<sup>[Franciso-001]</sup>  
Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 39
4.  
34-36 ***The rule and testament of St Francis***<sup>[Franciso-001]</sup>, chapter 13  
*The testament of seynt Fraunseis*<sup>[Franciso-001]</sup>  
Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 39
5.  
36-39 ***Comment on the testament of St Francis***<sup>[Franciso-001]</sup>  
*Objections against the Franciscans for not observing this testament under pretence of their having a papal dispensation*  
Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 39
6.  
39-65 ***Fifty heresies and errors of friars***  
*Articles against the friars*  
Arnold<sup>[Arnold 1871b]</sup>, p. 366
- 7.

- 65-103 *Of prelates*  
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Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 52
8.  
103-106 *Speculum de antichristo*  
*How Anticriste and his clerkis feren trewe prestis fro prechyng of Cristis gospel bi foure disceitis*  
Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 109
9.  
106-123 *Of clerks possessioners*  
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Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 114
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123-136 *How the office of curates is ordained of God*  
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Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 141
11.  
136-144 *The order of priesthood*  
*For the ordre of presthod*  
Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 164
12.  
144-145 *De stipendiis ministrorum or How men should find priests*  
*Hou men schullen fynde prestis*  
Arnold<sup>[Arnold 1871b]</sup>, p. 202
13.  
145-157 *De precationibus sacris; Octo in quibus seducuntur simplices christiani*  
*Hou preiere of good men helpith moche and preiere of synful men displesith God and harmeth hemsself and othere men*  
Arnold<sup>[Arnold 1871b]</sup>, p. 219 and p. 447
14.  
157-160 *A short rule of life*  
*A schort reule of lif for eche man in general and for prestis and lordis and laboreris in special hou eche schal be savyd in his degree*  
Arnold<sup>[Arnold 1871b]</sup>, p. 204
15.  
160-165 *Three things destroy this world*  
*Thre thingis distroien this world false confessoris false men of lawe and false merchauntis*  
Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 180
16.  
165-172 *Of feigned contemplative life*  
*Of feyned contemplatif lif, of song, of the ordynal of Salisbury<sup>[Salisbur-001]</sup> and of bodely almes and worldly bysynesse, of prestis hou bi thes foure the fend lettith hem fro prechyng of the gospel*  
Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 187

70 () With part of item 30 on pp. 70-72

17.

172-175 *The pater noster*

*The pater noster expounded*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 197

18.

175-179 *The Ave Maria*

*The Ave Maria expounded*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 203

19.

179-185 *How Satan and his children turn works of mercy upside down*

*Hou Sathanas and his children turnen werkis of mercy up so dom(!) and disceyuen men thereinne and in here five wittis*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 210

20.

185-190

*How religious men should keep certain articles or How men of private religion should love more the gospel*

*Hou religious men shoulde kepe certayne articles*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 219

21.

190-203 *Of servants and lords*

*Of servauntis and lordis hou eche schal kepe his degree*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 226

22.

203-209 *Why poor priests have no benefice*

*Whi pore prestis have none benefice*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 244

23.

209-213 *How antichrist and his clerks travail to destroy holy writ*

*Hou anticrist and his clerkis traveilen to destroie holy writt and to make cristene men unstable in the feith, and to sette here ground in develis of helle*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 253

24.

213-221 *How Satan and his priests, etc.*

*Hou sathanas and his prestis and his feigned religious casten bi thre cursed heresies to destroie alle good lvyng and meynenyng alle manner of synne*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 263

25.

221-224 *On church temporalities*

*For thre skillis lordis schulden constreyne crerlis to lyve in mekenesse wilful poverte and discrete penaunce and gostly traveile*

Arnold<sup>[Arnold 1871b]</sup>, p. 213

26.

224-234 *Of weddid men and wifes and of here children also*

*Of wedded men and wifis and of here children also*

Arnold<sup>[Arnold 1871b]</sup>, p. 188

27.

234-238 *Of poor preaching priests*

*Articles of reformation*

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 275

28.

238-239

John Wyclif<sup>[]</sup>, *Translation of a passage from St Augustine*<sup>[]</sup> beginning *Arguam te quando nescis*

*Translation of a passage of S. Augustin*<sup>[]</sup>

Matthew<sup>[Matthew 1880]</sup>, p. 281

29.

239-288 *The great sentence of cursing expounded*

*The grete sentence of curs exponed*

Arnold<sup>[Arnold 1871b]</sup>, p. 267

30.

288-298 *A petition to the king and parliament*

*Articles presented to the king and parliament*

288 *Incipit*: Plese it to oure most noble  
with part of Item 16 on pp. 297-298

298 *Explicit*and bewar of sathanas disceitis. Amen

At the bottom of this column is an erasure: "This is the worke of ...". It is only of cent. **xvi**

CCC: space available for notes on the current status of the encoding

- text: copied from James.txt BA
- markup: BA
- markupCheck: checked by BA, CF
- msCheck: KAW 28/03/08
- remarks: