

# The Concise Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature

**Edited by George Watson**

**SECOND EDITION**



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

THE CONCISE  
CAMBRIDGE BIBLIOGRAPHY  
OF  
ENGLISH LITERATURE  
600-1950

EDITED BY  
GEORGE WATSON

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## PREFACE

THE object of this book is to provide a concise statement of the bibliography of all periods of English literature from Caedmon to Dylan Thomas. Apart from its final section (1900–1950), it is a compression by rigorous selection of the only comprehensive work in this field, the *Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature* (Cambridge 1940) and of its *Supplement* (Cambridge 1957). Six periods are treated: the Old English period (600–1100), the Middle English (1100–1500), the Renaissance to the Restoration (1500–1660), the Restoration to the Romantics (1660–1800), the Nineteenth Century (1800–1900) and the Early Twentieth Century (1900–1950). It is obvious that strict limits must be set to so vast a scheme, and I have tried to observe the following throughout:

(i) *Scope of the work.* Only writers in English native to or mainly resident in the British Isles have been included. This means that (as in *C.B.E.L.* itself) American literature as such has been excluded—its bibliography is in course of being treated in admirable detail in Mr Jacob Blanck's *Bibliography of American Literature* (8 vols. New Haven 1955–, for the Bibliographical Society of America)—though sections on Henry James and T. S. Eliot will be found in their appropriate periods. It means too that the present work excludes Anglo-Indian, English-Canadian, English-South African and Australian and New Zealand literature, all of which were briefly treated at the end of Volume III of *C.B.E.L.* No such national limits, however, have applied to the choice of biographical and critical studies concerning the British and Irish writers considered here.

(ii) *Principles of selection.* Only some four hundred writers have been considered at all, and these have been arranged within their periods in simple alphabetical order. In practice this has meant including almost all the writers ranking as major in *C.B.E.L.*, with a few added from the sections called 'Minor' and from such special sections as the 'Literature of Science'. In the case of the period 1900–1950, of course, a selection of about eighty writers has had to be made *de nouveau*, and in such a matter the taste of a single editor is no certain guide. Balance is called for as much as discrimination, and a firm emphasis upon literary as opposed to quasi-literary values. Throughout the book, and especially in its last section, I have worked on the principle that the object of a reference book is to predict questions and then simply and lucidly to answer them; and I have tried to include such authors, space permitting, as the reader of a bibliography of English

## PREFACE

literature might ordinarily expect to find there, each author being treated in as much detail as the scale of the book seemed to allow. The book begins with lists of general bibliographies, literary histories etc., and each of the six periods begins similarly with general works concerned solely or largely with a single period.

(iii) *Arrangement.* The canon of an author's works is represented only in selection; and when, as in most cases, a list of biographical and critical works is added, only standard biographies and major and general critical studies are entered. The emphasis is heavily upon books as opposed to articles, and though critical essays of eminence have often been listed specialist articles are never included. The division establishes the most elementary distinction in enumerative bibliography, that between primary and secondary, 'works by' and 'works about'. The canon is preceded, where they exist, by standard bibliographies, concordances and other reference books concerned with a single author. The structure of each author-section is therefore as follows:

### NAME (dates of birth and death)

Reference works, e.g. bibliographies and concordances

A SELECTION FROM THE CANON, in order of publication

Collected works, letters and journals

Standard biographies and critical studies

(iv) *Style of entries.* The short title of each book is entered as it appears on the title-page of the first known edition, unless otherwise noted, except that punctuation is systematically enforced, capitalization reduced to the usage of current prose, contractions expanded and the use of *i, j, u* and *v* modernized. The short title is followed by the name of the editor, if any, the place of publication (unless it is London)<sup>1</sup> and year of the first edition,<sup>2</sup> whether such information appears in the book or not, followed by the year of publication of the author's final revision, if any, and details of the most modern and scholarly editions. But in this last respect some concessions have been made to the principle of availability, and useful modern reprints as well as scholarly editions have often been entered. It will be seen that *Concise C.B.E.L.*, unlike *C.B.E.L.* itself, attempts to list only the most *significant* early editions, namely the first edition and that representing the author's final intention—the

<sup>1</sup> For this purpose all books published in England by the Oxford University Press have been entered as 'Oxford'.

<sup>2</sup> No attempt has been made, however, to adjust the year of publication as recorded in the book itself when a discrepancy of months between the recorded and actual dates of publication is such that the book actually appeared in the year before or after the recorded date.

## PREFACE

probable foundations of the text of a modern edition.<sup>1</sup> Changes other than revision are specifically noted, e.g. 'enlarged', 'abridged' etc. Editorial notes are bracketed or distinguished by italic type.

*Acknowledgements.* My first thanks are due to the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press, whose invitation to prepare this book single-handed came as my work as editor of the *C.B.E.L. Supplement* was nearing its end. The invitation forced me to put my ideas on the nature and purpose of bibliographical reference into strict order, and if I have solved the essential problem of achieving conciseness in this complex field without gross falsification, it is due to the sympathy with which they considered my first specimens and their advice at later stages. Professor John W. Clark, Mr J. C. Maxwell and Professor George Whalley, along with many other patient and obliging friends, have made an important contribution at the proof stage, and I have been fortunate, too, in enlisting the help of six scholars who have each read one period-section and who, without subscribing to all my methods and conclusions, have made many hundreds of suggestions and saved me from many errors: Mr R. W. Burchfield in the Old English section, Dr J. A. W. Bennett in the Middle English, Dr Ethel Seaton in the Renaissance, Mr Herbert Davis in the eighteenth century, Mr Michael Sadleir in the nineteenth and Mr H. S. Harvey in the twentieth. A seventh scholar, Mr F. W. Bateson, has a graver responsibility. It was he who first introduced me to the work of the *Cambridge Bibliography* six years ago, when it stood in urgent need of a Supplement, and who urged me to undertake a *Concise C.B.E.L.* For so much encouragement, and for his suggestive comments on reading the book in manuscript, I wish here to record my thanks.

GEORGE WATSON

<sup>1</sup> In a few cases (e.g. FitzGerald's *Rubáiyát*), intermediate editions representing successive revisions of special interest have also been recorded.

## PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION

The demand for a second edition has enabled me to make some corrections and many additions to this bibliography, especially in publications of the last seven years.

G. W.

*St John's College, Cambridge*  
*March 1964*

## ABBREVIATIONS

|          |                               |        |                            |
|----------|-------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|
| Acad.    | Academy                       | MS(S). | manuscript(s)              |
| addn(s)  | addition(s)                   | OE     | Old English                |
| AS       | Anglo-Saxon                   | OSA    | Oxford Standard<br>Authors |
| b.       | born                          | pb     | published                  |
| bk(s)    | book(s)                       | pbn(s) | publication(s)             |
| d.       | died                          | Proc.  | Proceedings                |
| ed.      | edited by                     | pt(s)  | part(s)                    |
| edn(s)   | edition(s)                    | ptd    | printed                    |
| EETS     | Early English Text<br>Society | Q(q)   | quarto(s)                  |
| EL       | Everyman's Library            | rev.   | revised                    |
| EML      | English Men of Letters        | RL     | Reynard Library            |
| facs.    | facsimile                     | rptd   | reprinted                  |
| Fr.      | French                        | ser.   | series                     |
| illustr. | illustrated by                | Soc.   | Society                    |
| introd.  | introduction                  | tr.    | translated by              |
| It.      | Italian                       | trn    | translation                |
| lib.     | library                       | univ.  | university                 |
| lit.     | literature                    | unpbd  | unpublished                |
| ME       | Middle English                | vol(s) | volume(s)                  |
| ML       | Muses' Library                | WC     | World's Classics           |

# CONTENTS

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <i>Preface</i>                                      | page vii |
| <i>Abbreviations</i>                                | xi       |
| GENERAL INTRODUCTION                                |          |
| Bibliographies                                      | 3        |
| Other Reference Works                               | 4        |
| Literary History and Criticism                      | 5        |
| Collections and Anthologies                         | 7        |
| Prosody   | 8        |
| Book Production and Distribution                    | 8        |
| Grammars, Dictionaries etc.                         | 10       |
| THE OLD ENGLISH PERIOD (600-1100)                   |          |
| Bibliography  | 15       |
| Literary History                                    | 15       |
| Collections and Anthologies                         | 16       |
| Grammars and Dictionaries                           | 17       |
| Authors etc. (Ælfric to Wulfstan)                   | 17       |
| THE MIDDLE ENGLISH PERIOD (1100-1500)               |          |
| Bibliographies                                      | 29       |
| Literary History                                    | 29       |
| Collections and Anthologies                         | 30       |
| Authors etc. ( <i>Alexander Romances</i> to Wiclif) | 31       |
| THE RENAISSANCE TO THE RESTORATION (1500-1660)      |          |
| Bibliographies                                      | 51       |
| Literary History and Criticism                      | 51       |
| Collections and Anthologies                         | 53       |
| Authors etc. (Andrewes to Wyatt)                    | 55       |
| THE RESTORATION TO THE ROMANTICS (1660-1800)        |          |
| Bibliographies                                      | 105      |
| Literary History and Criticism                      | 105      |
| Collections and Anthologies                         | 106      |
| Authors (Addison to Young)                          | 107      |



## CONTENTS

### THE NINETEENTH CENTURY (1800-1900)

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bibliographies                 | <i>page</i> 151 |
| Literary History and Criticism | 151             |
| Collections and Anthologies    | 153             |
| Authors (Acton to Yeats)       | 153             |

### THE EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY (1900-1950)

|                                   |     |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Bibliographies                    | 213 |
| Literary History and Criticism    | 213 |
| Anthologies and Periodicals       | 214 |
| Authors (Auden to Virginia Woolf) | 215 |

|              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| <i>Index</i> | 265 |
|--------------|-----|

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION



## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

*Period bibliographies, literary histories, anthologies, grammars etc. will be found at the beginning of period-sections, below.*

### *Bibliographies*

- Watt, Robert. *Bibliotheca britannica: or a general index to British and foreign literature*. 4 vols. Edinburgh 1824. *With subject-index*.
- Lowndes, William T. *The bibliographer's manual of English literature*. 4 vols. 1834; 11 vols. 1857-64 (rev. H.G. Bohn).
- Catalogue of the printed books in the British Museum. 393 pts. 1881-1900; Supplement [1882-99], 40 pts. 1900-5; General catalogue, c. 300 vols. 1931- (*complete revision*).
- Halkett, Samuel and John Laing. *A dictionary of the anonymous and pseudonymous literature of Great Britain*. Ed. Catharine Laing, 4 vols. Edinburgh 1882-8; 7 vols. Edinburgh 1926-34 (rev. and enlarged by James Kennedy *et al.*); vols. viii-ix, 1900-50, by Dennis E. Rhodes and Anna E. C. Simoni, Edinburgh 1956.
- Lee, Sidney *et al.* *The year's work in English studies*. Oxford 1921- (English Assoc.). *Annual collections of essays by various hands on current pbns since 1919*.
- Peers, E. Allison *et al.* *Bibliography of English language and literature*. Cambridge 1921- (Modern Humanities Research Assoc.). *Annual lists of current pbns since 1920*.
- American bibliography. PMLA, xxxvii- (1922-). *An annual record of modern language pbns (American pbns only before 1957) since 1921*.
- Wise, Thomas J. *The Ashley library: a catalogue of the printed books, manuscripts and autograph letters collected by Wise*. 11 vols. 1922-36.
- Northup, Clark S. *A register of the bibliographies of the English language and literature*. New Haven 1925.
- Batho, Edith C. *et al.* *Summary of periodical literature. Review of English studies*, 1-. (1925- ). *Quarterly lists of current periodical articles*.
- Kennedy, Arthur G. *A bibliography of writings on the English language*. Cambridge, Mass. 1927; 1961.
- *A concise bibliography for students of English*. Palo Alto, Cal. 1940; 1960 (*enlarged by Donald B. Sands*).
- Davies, Godfrey *et al.* *Bibliography of British history*. Oxford 1928-.
- Esdaile, Arundell. *The sources of English literature: a guide for students*. Cambridge 1928.

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- Brussel, I.R. Anglo-American first editions, Pt i, East to west, 1826-1900. 1935; Pt ii, West to east, 1786-1930, 1936.
- Cross, Tom P. Bibliographical guide to English studies. Chicago 1938; 1963 (*revised and enlarged by Donald F. Bond as A reference guide to English studies*).
- Besterman, Theodore. A world bibliography of bibliographies. 3 vols. 1939-40; 4 vols. Geneva 1955-6 (*enlarged*).
- Spargo, John W. A bibliographical manual for students of the language and literature of England and the US. Chicago 1939; 1941.
- Bateson, F. W. (ed.). The Cambridge bibliography of English literature [600-1900]. 4 vols. Cambridge 1940; Supplement 600-1900, ed. George Watson, Cambridge 1957.
- A catalog of books represented by Library of Congress printed cards to 1942. 167 vols. Ann Arbor 1942-6; Supplement, 42 vols. 1948. *Supplements in progress*.
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- Baldensperger, F. and W.P.Friederich. Bibliography of comparative literature. Chapel Hill, N.C. 1950.
- Matthews, William. British diaries: an annotated bibliography of diaries written between 1442 and 1942. Berkeley, Cal. 1950.
- Stewart, James D. *et al.* British union-catalogue of periodicals. 4 vols. 1955-.
- Sawin, Lewis *et al.* Abstracts of English studies, I- (1958-). *Monthly summaries of periodical literature*.

### *Other Reference Works*

- Chambers, Robert. Cyclopaedia of English literature. 2 vols. Edinburgh 1843-4, 4 vols. 1857-60; ed. David Patrick, 3 vols. 1901-3, 1938 (*enlarged*).
- Brewer, E.Cobham. Dictionary of phrase and fable. 1870; 1949.
- Stephen, Leslie, Sidney Lee *et al.* The dictionary of national biography. 21 vols. 1885-1909; Supplements, London (*later* Oxford) 1909-. *Complete to 1950. See p. 201, below*.
- Cousin, John W. Biographical dictionary of English literature. 1910, 1938; 1958, 1962 (Dictionary of literary biography, English and American), rev. D. C. Browning (EL).
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