

Clay, Rotha Mary., The Hermits and Anchorites of England. Methuen & Co. London, 1914.

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PREFACE

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I have sought documentary evidence for all the statements made in this book, taking as a motto the words of the faithful old historian, Thomas Habingdon, when describing a Wor-

--vii--

cestershire hermitage : "Other thinges which I received from uncertayne rumours I will rather conceale than hazard mysealfe to father an untrithe". I trust that my readers will point out errors, and will send me additional notes. The necessity of condensing my manuscript has led, I fear, to a sacrifice, in some cases of clearness, and in others of interest of detail.

ROTHA MARY CLAY

Miller Bridge, Ambleside
St. Cuthbert and St. Herbert's Day, 1913.

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