

EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY

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NEW PUBLICATIONS FOR 2026

OS 368. *Caxton's Golden Legend, volume 3: The Sanctorale Part I*, ed. John Scahill and Satoko Tokunaga.

This is the third volume of the first scholarly edition of the *Golden Legend* (1483–4), the largest and most elaborate production by the first printer in English, William Caxton. It is an English version of the *Legenda aurea* by Jacobus de Voragine (c. 1267), one of the most popular and influential books in the later medieval Western world. As well as the Latin original, Caxton drew on a version of Jean de Vignay's French translation (the *Légende dorée*) and an English rendering of the latter close to the *Gilte Legende*. The first two volumes of Caxton's *Golden Legend* (containing respectively the Temporale and the Old Testament legends) were edited by Mayumi Taguchi, John Scahill and Satoko Tokunaga as OS 355 and 357 in 2020 and 2021. The latter two editors now present an edition of the final, largest section of the work, the Sanctorale — to which *The History of the Mass*, *The Twelve Articles of Faith* and Caxton's colophon are appended. This volume reproduces Caxton's text of the first half of the Sanctorale with modern punctuation and capitalization. It is of particular interest in including quires that exist in two forms: the original setting, and a second setting which contains extensive differences that cast light on practices and conditions in early printing. Following this third volume, volume 4 will complete the text, and volume 5 will feature an introduction, explanatory notes, glossary and index of proper names.

OS 369. *Liber armorum* and *The Blasyng of Armys*, ed. Richard Moll.

This is the first critical edition of the *Liber armorum* and *The Blasyng of Armys*, the two heraldic treatises in *The Boke of Saint Albans*. These works have long been known to scholars, but have been available only in facsimile editions with limited critical apparatus. First printed in 1486, the *Boke* is a miscellany of texts on hunting and armoury that had a wide appeal to the emerging English gentry; and, as the first English heraldic treatises to be printed, the two texts edited here had a major and lasting influence on heraldic culture. The *Liber armorum* begins by tracing the history of gentility to Noah before defining and dissecting gentle identity. *The Blasyng of Armys* is a practical guide to armoury, outlining the rules for describing and depicting heraldic designs with coloured woodcuts as examples. Together, the two texts provide the aspiring gentleman with the vocabulary and rhetoric necessary to participate in the visual culture of heraldic design. This edition provides an accurate and readable text based on the 1486 edition printed in Saint Albans by the Schoolmaster Printer, collated against Wynkyn de Worde's 1496 edition. The introduction treats the sources, structure and dialect of each text, and places them in their social and literary contexts. The explanatory notes and glossary clarify their engagement with late medieval heraldic practice.