



The Growth of Political Liberty: A Source Book of English History (Classic Reprint) (Paperback)

By Ernest Rhys

Forgotten Books, United States, 2016. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from The Growth of Political Liberty: A Source Book of English History In the anglo-saxon Chronicle we have the word of the man who was put upon and oppressed by the Norman advener; and in it we realise how the Saxon stem, and the Nonnan graft, alike went to strengthen the English feudal system. The century s struggle between the kings and the old nobility followed, ending with the last stand of the Norman barons against Henry II. The career of Thomas a Becket, who had the instinct of a fighting baron rather than of a saint, and who stood up armed for spiritual liberty, makes the decisive comment on this time. It is interesting to compare him with John Ball. One of Becket s last words was: God s house shall be denied to no man; while Ball said: Now the time is come, appointed by God, in which ye may (if ye will) cast Off the yoke. We see that in different ways they were moved by the same militant idea. Pass now to a very solid...



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