

The History of the Kings of Britain is arguably the most influential text written in England in the Middle Ages. The work narrates a linear history of pre-Saxon Britain, from its founding by Trojan exiles to the loss of native British (Celtic) sovereignty in the face of Germanic invaders. Along the way, Geoffrey introduces readers to such familiar figures as King Lear, Cymbeline, Vortigern, the prophet Merlin, and a host of others. Most importantly, he provides the first birth-to-death account of the life of King Arthur. His focus on that king's reign sparked the vogue for Arthurian romance throughout medieval Europe that has continued into the twenty-first century. This new translation is the first in over forty years and the first to be based on the Bern manuscript, now considered the authoritative Latin text. It is accompanied by an introduction that highlights the significance of Geoffrey's work in his own day and focuses in particular on the ambiguous status of the text between history and fiction. Appendices include historical sources, early responses to the History, and other medieval writings on King Arthur and Merlin.

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Geoffrey of Monmouth. History of the Kings of Britain translated by Aaron Thompson with revisions by J. A. Giles. In parentheses Publications. Medieval Latin. History of the Kings of Britain () by Geoffrey of Monmouth, Introduction from Six Old English Chronicles (), by J. A. Giles 50%.svg. About this time it happened, (as can be found in the Roman Histories) that Julius Caesar, having subdued Gaul, came to the shore of the Ruteni.

Arthurian Passages from The History of the Kings of Britain from: Six Old English Chronicles, of Which Two Are Now First Translated from the Monkish Latin. Discussion of the History of the Kings of Britain and how this book influenced the Legend of King Arthur. Written in the s, Geoffrey's imaginative history of the Britons from Brutus to Cadwallader, the first work to recount the woes of Lear and the glittering career of . About the source:Geoffrey of Monmouth's History of the Kings of Britain is one of the great perplexing works of the Middle Ages. It purports to be a translation of a. Complete summary of Geoffrey of Monmouth's History of the Kings of Britain. eNotes plot summaries cover all the significant action of History of the Kings of.

Geoffrey of Monmouth's Histories of the Kings of Britain was a medieval attempt Geoffrey invented a mythical back-history for the Britons, starting, as Virgil did.

Geoffrey of Monmouth was a twelfth-century Welsh cleric whose work, The History of the Kings of Britain, written in Latin, became a literary sensation shortly after.

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