

Title: Conversations

Subtitle: Merlins prophecy's

Second Subtitle: Merlins prophecy's

Author: wizanda

Date: 1150379433

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Quote:

This is the first of Merlins prophecy's

Chapter 1

Geoffrey of Monmouth's preface to Merlin's prophecy

I had not got thus far in my history, when the subject of public discourse Merlin, I was obliged to publish his prophecies at the request of my acquaintance Alexander, bishop of Lincoln, a prelate of the greatest piety and wisdom. either among the clergy or laity, that was attended with such a great train whom his settled piety and great munificence engaged in his service. Our gratify him, I translated these prophecies, and sent them to him with the

Chapter 2

Geoffrey's letter to Alexander, bishop of Lincoln.

"The regard which I owe to your great worth, most noble prelate, has obliged me to the translation of Merlin's prophecies out of British into Latin, before I had begun my work which I had begun concerning the acts of the British kings. For my design was to be first, and afterwards to have taken this work in hand; lest by being engaged in the one, I should be less capable of attending with any exactness to either. Notwithstanding, your favour, which is paid to your penetrating judgement will screen me from censure. I therefore with my pen, and in a coarse style present you with a translation out of a language to you quite unacquainted. At the same time, I cannot but wonder at your recommending it to your low genius, when you might have caused so many men of greater learning and more profound intellect, to undertake it; who, with their sublime strains, would much more have entertained you. Besides, without any disparagement to all the philosophers, I have the liberty to say, that you yourself, if the business of your high station did not prevent, were capable of furnishing us with loftier productions of this kind than any man of our age. It was your pleasure that Geoffrey of Monmouth should be employed in this work, which will favourably accept of his performance, and vouchsafe to give a finer name to what I find unpolished, or otherwise faulty in it.