

Contents

	Preface	9
	Acknowledgements	13
	Abbreviations	14
I	Introduction	15
II	Chaucer's Franklin: The Clues	28
III	The Etymology of the Word <i>Franklin</i>	32
IV	The Legal and Manorial Background	37
V	The Economic Background: Wealth and Status	65
VI	The Social Background: Gentility and Social Flux	91
VII	Was Chaucer's Franklin a Gentleman?	118
VIII	Chaucer's Intentions: "A Drop of Water in a Furnace Full of Fire"	142
IX	Conclusions	179
	Appendix	185
	Bibliography	187
	Index	199

Index

- accumulation of land, 47-48, 69-70, 76-77, 80-86, 102-103, 110-12, 119, 122, 132-33, 179-80
 Ærnaldus de Ravele, 57
 agricultural crisis, 81, 102-103, 179
 Alexander Monachus, 58-59
 ancient freeholds, 62-64
 ancient village community, 63-64
 "anlaas", 29, 120, 122
armati, 88, App.
armiger or *armigerus*, *see* esquires
 arms, heraldic, 100 ff.; fifteenth century grant of, 106-107
 Arnold, Matthew, 15
 "array", 19
 Arveragus, 166-74
 Augustine, St., 142, 159-50, 169
 Aurelius, 166, 173, 174
- Bailly, Harry, *see* Host, Chaucer's
 Baker, D. C., 146 n.
 "Balade de Bon Conseyl", 168, 170-71
 Ball, John, 94-95
 Baudouin de Conde, 147
 Bennett, H. S., 25 n., 49 n., 70 n., 120 n.
 Bernard of Chartres, 22
 Black Death, 81
 Blake, N. F., 161 n.
 Blenner-Hassett, R., 160 n.
 Boccaccio, *Il Filocolo*, 164, 167, 169, 173-74
- Boethius, 97, 147-49, 171 n., 172 n.
Boke of Curtasye, 104
Boke of Nurture, 76, 108-109, 119
 Bokesworth, manor of, 140
 "bonde-men" or "bondmen", 35-36; *see also* villeinage
 boon-works, 51, 58-60
 Boulay, F. R. H. Du, 82 n., 92, 97 n., 98 n., 102, 108 n.
 Bowden, M., 21, 120
 Bracton, 26, 30, 48 n., 55, *et passim*
 Breton *lais*, 31, 165
 Brewer, D., 15 n., 120 n.
 Bridbury, A. R., 84 n.
 Burlin, R. B., 143, 158
 Burrow, J. A., 15 n.
 Bussy, Sir John, 134-36, 144-45
- Calendar of Inquisitions post Mortem*, 140
Calendar of the Patent Rolls, 26, 139
 Cam, H. M., 47 n., 92, 94 n., 98 n.
 Campbell, M., 25 n., 98 n., 111 n.
 Cange, Du, C. du Fresne, 32-33, 114 n.
 Canterbury Pilgrims, the, 18-24, 95, 153, 173-74
Canterbury Tales, the, 15-24, 74-75, 93, 95, 115, 120-21

Cartularium Monasterii de

Rameseia, 47, et passim

Catholicon Anglicum, 32

"chaf", 163

Chaucerian "ethos", 146, 150-51,
153, 156-57, 164, 168-72,
174-76.

Chaucer, Philippa, 138-39

Chaucer the Pilgrim, 18-19, 160-62

Chaucer, Thomas, 177-78

"cherles", 35, 94 ff

Childe of Bristowe, 72 n., 114

chivaler, see knights

Chrétien de Troyes, 30

Chronicle of Pierre de Langtoft,
114-15

Clark, C. T., 88

class and status distinctions, 92-
117; social mobility, 92-94,
100-108

Colmer, D., 143 n., 167 n.

commutation from labour to rent,
51, 54, 62

"condicioun", 19

Consolation of Philosophy, see
Boethius

Corfe Castle, 45-46

Corpus Christi gild, 137

cotehardie, 122-23

Coulton, G. G., 17 n., 66 n.

"countour", 29-30

country gentry, 25, 86-90, 97-
112, 117-21, 123-41, 145-46,
176-77, 180-81

courtly love, 165, 167

critical assumptions, 15-24, 142-46

Cursor Mundi, 94, 115-17

cursus honorum, 130, 132, 133,
152, 177, 181

custodes pacis, 125

customals, manorial, 53, 67

Dante, *Convivio*, 175

Dayuill, John, ffrankeleyn, 78

deadly sin, 149

"degree", 19, 103

De Laudibus Legum Anglie, 109-10

"delitz", 147-48

demesnes, 50-52, 58, 61, 77, 102;
leased or farmed out, 81-82,
179-80

demographic decline, 81

Dempster, G., 165 n.

Denholm-Young, N., 97 n., 98 n.,
et passim

De Republica Anglorum, 107

distrainment of knighthood, 89, 99,
101-102, 153 n.

Dobson, R. B., 56 n.

dominus ville, 88, App.

Donaldson, E. T., 18, 146 n., 153

Dorigen, 165 ff.

dramatic approach, 19-20

dramatic irony, 154

dream vision, 16, 71

Druitt, H., 120

Duncan, C. F., 146 n.

Dyer, C., 82 n.

effigies, monumental, 121-23, Pls.
IV-VIII

Eliot, T. S., 15 n.

Ellesmere MS of the *Canterbury*
Tales, 18, 120-21, Pls. II-III

enfranchisement, 54

English, Henry, 132-33, 140

Epicureanism, 147-52, 165

Epicurus, 147-48

Erec et Enide, 30-31

escheat, 43

esquier, see esquires

esquires, 86-90, 92, 98, 101-102,
108-10, 113-14, 117, 119-21,
127-28, 160, App.

estates satire, 23, 93-94

estates, social doctrine of the three,
23-24, 93-94

Evans, Joan, 121 n., 123 n.

exempla, 165

- fealty, 43
feodum militis, see knight's service
 Fiammetta, 173
Filocolo, II, see Boccaccio
firmarius, App.
 fish pond, 119
 Foerster, W., 30
 forfeiture, 43
 Fortescue, Sir John, 109-10
Fortescutus Illustratus, etc., 110-11
franc-, 33
franchise, 144, 173
 Franklin, Chaucer's: critical approaches, 9-10, 142-46; clues to social identity, 28-31, 118 ff.; company, 118-19; way of life, 119-20; dress and appearance, 120-21; visual evidence, 120-23, Pls. II-VIII; *cursus honorum*, 123-35; unexceptional member of the country gentry, 133-34, 141, 180-81; or portrait of a real life model, 134-41; Manly's John Bussy, 134-36; Wood-Legh's Stephen de Hales, 136; William de Spaygne, 136-41; the Lumiansky "school" of interpretation, 142-45; a different reading of Chaucer's intentions, 145-78; in the General Prologue, 147-53; in the Squire/Franklin Link, 153-64; in the Franklin's Prologue and Tale, 164-76; a possible family likeness, 176-78; conclusions, 178-82. *See also* franklins.
 franklins: sources, 24-27; etymology and usage, 11, 32-36, 91-92, 135, 179-82; typology, 23-24, 26-28, 32-36, 71-80, 82-83, 108-17, 118-23, 141, 177-78, 180-81; conditions of tenure, 44-48, 65; relative economic position, 65-71, 109-10; standard of living, 70-76, 109-10; dominant position in village community, 77-80; money-lenders, 79-80; beneficiaries of "agricultural crisis", 81-86; material status compared to esquires and knights, 86-90; "gentlefolk" or "simple" folk, 97-117; visual representations, 120-23, Pls. II-VIII. *See also* Franklin, Chaucer's.
 "freedom", 173-74
 freeholders or free tenants, 32-33; legal and manorial position, 41-44, 56-64; overseers, 58-60, Pl. I; origins of freeholds, 61-64; social and economic stratification, 65 ff.; land management, composite holdings, and "sub-manors", 76-82; changes in pattern of landholding, 80-84.
 free socage, tenure by, 38, 41-43
 free status, relative importance of, 65-67
 Friar Huberd, 74-75
 Froissart, 71
 "fruyt", 163
 Fryer, A. C., 121 n., 122 n., 123 n.
 Fuller, Thomas, 111
 Gaylord, A. T., 143, 172 n.
 General Prologue (to the *Canterbury Tales*), 16-24, 28-31, 93, 98, 147-53
gentillesse, 9-10, 144, 153, 155-58, 163-64, 166, 173-76, 178
 gentility, criteria of, 100-108
 gentlefolk, gentlemen, and "gentils", 91-92, 94-97, 100-17, 119-21, 124, 128, 132-34, 141, 144-46, 156, 159-61, 164, 173, 176-77, 180-82.
 "gentleman": as specialized term of rank, 103 ff.; interchangeable with "franklin", 108-11, 141, 180

- gentry, *see* country gentry
 Gerould, G. H., 9 n., 38 n., 77 n.,
 112 n., 114, 115 n.
 "gipsy", 29, 120, 122
 gluttony, 151
 Godefroy, F., 34
 Golding, M. R., 146 n.
 gormandize or good eating, 147-52,
 165
Gouvernaunce of Prynces, *see* Yonge,
 James
 Gower, John, 30-31, 93-94

 Hale, M. B., 122 n.
 Haller, R. S., 143 n.
 Harrison, B. S., 146 n.
 Harrison's *Description of England*,
 105-106
 Hengwrt MS of the *Canterbury*
 Tales, 161 n.
 Henry de Birley, franklin, 74, 83
 Henry de Pudsay, senior and
 junior, 90
 heriot, 53
 Hill, F., 137 n., 138 n.
 Hilton, R. H., 54 n., 56 n., 70 n.,
 78 n., 83-85
 historical approach, 20-22
 Holdsworth, W. S., 48, 92,
 et passim
 homage, 43-44
 Homans, G. C., 41 n., 47 n., 48 n.,
 66 n., 92
 Hoskins, W. G., 56 n., 111-12
 Host, Chaucer's, 17-18, 31,
 157-64, 174
House of Fame, 16, 17 n.
 human imperfection, 147-51, 169,
 173
 Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester,
 108-109
Hundred Rolls, *see* *Rotuli*
 Hundredorum
 Hundred Years' War, windfalls of,
 102-103

 hunting, 96, 119
 husbandman, 104

incerta, villeins holding *ad*, 55
 illuminated MSS of the *Canterbury*
 Tales, 120 n., 120-21

 Jacob, E. F., 52 n.
 Januarie, *see* Merchant, Chaucer's
 Jaunvill, William, *vallettus*, 99
 Jean de Conde, 147
 Jean de Meun, 167
 Jefferson, B. L., 148 n., 171
 John de Morpath, *f فرانkeleyn*, 78
 John de Multon, 140-41
 John de Waldesheve, 129
 John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster,
 136, 138-39
 Joseph, in *Cursor Mundi*, 115-17
 Julian, St., 28-29, 152, 178
 justices of the peace, 29, 124-27,
 129, 136, 163

 Kearney, A. M., 143 n., 167 n.
 Keen, M., 89 n.
 Kettlethorpe, manor of, 139
 Kimball, E. G., 136 n., 137 n.,
 138 n.
 Kittredge, G. L., 16, 19-20, 146 n.,
 166-67, 175
 Knight, Chaucer's, 159, 173-74
 Knight, S., 143 n.
 knights and knighthood, 30, 36,
 38-40, 45, 86-90, 93-94, 99,
 101-102, 110, 120, 127-28,
 134-35, *App.*
 "knights of the shire", 29, 99,
 127-30, 132-33, 136-37, 177
 knight's service, tenure by, 38-40
 Knight's Tale, 152
 Kosminsky, E. A., 37 n., 49, 56-57,
 68-70, *et passim*

- labour services: villein, 51; exacted of free tenants, 58-61
 "Lak of Stedfastnesse", 172 n.
 land tenure, 37-67
 Langland, William, 34-35, 43, 95, 115
 Lapsley, G., 129
 Latimer, H., 105
 legal status, 37, 54-56, 69-70
 legal training, 29
Legend of Good Women, 16
Liber Niger Scaccarii, 45-46
liber tenens, see freeholders
 Little Baddow, Essex, 123, Pls. VI-VIII
 London Museum, 122
 London, The British Library, MS Royal 2 B VII, 58, Pl. I
 Lowes, J. L., 164 n., 167 n., 175 n.
 Lumiansky, R. M., 142-46, 157-58
 Lumiansky "school" of interpretation, 143 n., 143-46, 157-58, 178
 Lydgate, John, 164, 177-78
- McKisack, M., 125 n., 126 n., 130 n.
 magician, in Franklin's Tale, 173-74
 Maitland, F. W., 37, et passim
 Manly, J. M., 21, 118-19, 134-36, 144
 Manning, Robert, 95, 113-14
 Mann, J., 23
 Man of Lawe, see Sergeant of the Lawe, Chaucer's
 manorial order, 49 ff.
 manumission, 54
Marchand and his Sone, 72-74, 79-80, 114
 marriage: seigniorial rights of, 40, 44, 53, 60-61; debate on, in the *Canterbury Tales*, 163, 166-74, 175-76
 Marshall, G., 122
 May, in Merchant's Tale, 152
 medieval evidence, 10
 medieval literary theory, 22
 melancholy, 151
 Menedon, 174
 Merchant, Chaucer's, 152
 Merchant's Tale, 152
merchetum, 53, 60-61
meultz vauuez du Countee, 126-27
miles: ad valorem militis and *ad valentiam militis*, 88-90, App.; see also knights and knighthood
Mirour de l'Omme, 30
 Mohl, R., 23
 Moir, E., 126 n.
 money-lending, 79-80
 Monk, Chaucer's, 97, 159
 "Moral Balade of Chaucier", 156-57, 174-76
 mortuary, 53
 Much Marcle, Herefordshire, 121-23, Pls. IV-V
 multure, 52
Mum and the Sothsegger, 35-36, 71-72
 Mylle, Edmond, 106-107
- narrative technique, 16 ff., 166
 Nun's Priest's Tale, 163 n.
 Nykrog, P., 31 n.
- Onions, C. T., 33 n., 34 n.
 origins of village freeholds, 61-64
 Overbury, Sir Thomas, 82-83
 overseers, 58-60, Pl. I
 Ovid, 167
 Owen, C. A., 143 n.
 Owen, D. D. R., 30
 Owst, G. R., 17 n., 95
- Pantin, W. A., 17 n.
 Pardoner, Chaucer's, 95

- Parliament of Fowls*, 22
 Parson's Tale, 149-50
 partridges, 119
 Parys, Robert, 133, 140
 Paston family, 25, 103-105, 109
 patience, 167-68
 patronage, submission to, 63
 Percy, R. J., 31 n.
 Pearsall, D. A., 15 n., 18 n., 146 n., 154, 177 n.
 Peasants' Revolt of 1381, 56, 66, 83, 94, 137
 personal status, 37 ff.
Peter Langtoft's Chronicle, 114-15
 Pharaoh, 115-17
 Philosophy, Lady, 147-49
Piers Plowman, see Langland, William
 pilgrimage, 16-17
 point of view, 19
 Pollock, F., 37, et passim
 poll tax of 1379, 46, 78-79, 85-90, 101, 119, App.
Polychronicon Ranulphi Higden, 75-76
 Postan, M. M., 10, 68-70, 92, 102, et passim
prepositus, see reeve
 primogeniture, 101
 Prioress, Chaucer's, 159
 pronominal form, shift of, 158-59
 Providence, 168-69, 171
 Putnam, B. H., 124-25
 Pynchbek, Thomas, 119, 135-36, 139-40

 Raftis, J. A., 62 n.
 Ramsey Abbey, 47-48, 57-61, 69, et passim
 Randolph family, 111-12
 redistribution of wealth, 81-86, 93, 102-103
 reeve, 52-53
 relief, 44, 53
 respite of knighthood, 153 n.
 rhetoric, 31, 165
 Richard de la Cloude, franklin, 84-86
 Rickert, E., 120 n.
 Rickert, M., 120 n.
 Robert de Aula, 62-63, 77
 Robert de Gaddesby, *valettus*, 99
 Robert de Nesfeld, *ffrankeleyn*, 78-79
 Robert of Gloucester, *Metrical Chronicle*, 112-13
 Robertson, D. W., 15 n., 143, 152 n.
 Roger de Upwood, 57
Rolls of Parliament, see *Rotuli Parliamentorum*
Romance of the Rose, 175; see also Jean de Meun
 Root, R. K., 21, 143 n.
 Roskell, J. S., 127 n., 129-30
Rotuli Hundredorum, 45 n., 53 n., 57, 62-63, et passim
Rotuli Parliamentorum, 26, 38, 86, 96, et passim
 Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), 123, Pls. VI-VIII
 Russell, John, 76, 108-109, 119

 Sampson, Thomas, 74, 83
 sanguine humour, 151
 San Marino, California, The Huntington Library, MS EL 26 C 9, 120-21, Pls. II-III; see also Ellesmere MS.
 satire: absence of, 152-53; at the Host's expense, 161-64
 scutage or *escuage*, 39
Secreta Secretorum, 151
seignurs, 115, 126
 seizin, primer, 44
 Selden, John, 131
 Sergeant of the Lawe, Chaucer's, 118-19, 135-36, 160

- serigeant ville*, *see* serjeants
 serjeants, 40-41, 46, 48, 61, 86-88, 117, 128, 134, App.
 serjeants of the law, 109, 118-19, 126
 serjeanty, tenure by, 38, 40-41, 46-48, 61
servitium Regis, 47-48
 sheep farming, 82-83
 sheriffs, 29, 129-33, 136-39, 163, 177
 sheriff's aid, 60
 sheriffs' returns, 99-100
 Sillem, R., 126, 136 n., 137 n.
 Silvia, D. S., 146 n.
 "simple" folk, 94-97; *see also* "cherles"
simples homme, *see* "simple" folk
 Sitwell, G. R., 74 n., 97 n., 101, 108 n.
 Sledd, J., 146 n.
 Smith, Sir Thomas, 107, 119
 Smyth, William, gentleman/ffrankleyn, 108
 socage, *see* free socage
 social order, 35-37; functional view of, 93-94
 social status, 65-69; most important general distinction, 94-97; fluidity of social barriers 102-103; *see also* class and status distinctions
 social stereotypes, 23-24
 sources, 24-27
 Spearing, A. C., 22 n., 143 n.
 Spenser, Edmund, 11
 Spurgeon, C. F. E., 15 n., 120 n.
 Squire, Chaucer's, 31, 153-55, 158-59, 164-65
Statutes of the Realm, 26, 96, 120-21, et passim
 Steel, A., 130, 132-33
 structure of the *Canterbury Tales*, 16-18
 Stephen de Hales, 136
 Stoneleigh Abbey, 83-86
Stoneleigh Leger Book, 85
Story of England, 95, 113
 Stubbs, W., 89 n., 94 n., 128, 132 n., 153 n.
 sub-infeudation, 39
 sub-manors, 77
 sub-tenancies, 59, 77
 suit of court, 40-41, 46, 57, 62, 77-78
 Sumptuary Law of 1363, 101, 120-21
 sumptuary legislation, petition for, 96
surcot, 123
 tallage, 53, 60
 temperance, 167-68
 tenure: defined, 37-38; free lay tenures, 38-48; villeinage, 49-56; origins of freeholds, 61-64
 tests of villeinage, 54-56
 Theseus, *see* Knight's Tale
 Thomas de Grauncourt, 57, 59-60
 Thomas de Midilton, ffranklan, 78
 Thomas de Pynchebek, *see* Pynchebek, Thomas
 Thrupp, S. L., 9, 73-74, 92, 108 n.
 Trivet, Nicolas, *Chroniques*, 114
Troilus and Criseyde, 16, 149
 "trouthe", 164, 169-72, 174
 unfree tenants, *see* villeinage
 untitled gentlemen, 101-102, 133-34, 180-81
valetti, 98 ff., 127
 vassal, *see* "vavasour"
 "vavasour", 30-31
 venial sins, 149-51
 "vertu", 153, 155-57, 164, 176
vicecomes, *see* sheriffs

- villeinage, 49-56
 Vinogradoff, P., 37 n., 41, 61-64,
 et passim
Vox Clamantis, 93-94

 Wagner, A. R., 97 n., 100 n., 101,
 106-107
 Walter de Helyon, franklin, 121-
 23, Pls. IV-V
 wardship, 44
 Waterhous, Edward, 110-11
 week-works, 51, 60

 White, G. M., 146 n., 172 n.
 William de Meryngton, ffrankeleyn,
 79
 William de Spayne, 136-41
 Wood-Legh, K. L., 99 n., 127 n.,
 128 n., 129, 135-36
 worldly goods, 147-49, 156, 164-
 66, 176

 Yeoman, Chaucer's, 98
 yeomen, 25, 98, 103, 105, 108-12
 Yonge, James, 151