

Chaucer, though the brightest, was, by no means, the only luminary of this period. There were many others, of whom mention must be made of Gower, called by Chaucer "the moral Gower," author of "Confessio Amantis," or the Lover's Confession, a work which would lead us to suppose the lovers of the 15th century to have been much more communicative than are their brethren of the 20th.

The neighboring kingdom of Scotland had then also her great literary awakening. Her writers of that day are not unworthy the great men, whose careers, during that age, shed a halo of glory over the record of Scotland's story. Though having no Scotch bloods in my veins, I often wonder why it is that with a Caledonian Society receiving enthusiastic support from Scotchmen, or their descendants, flourishing in our midst and while the members of that Society, besides being an intelligent and enterprising body of men, are intensely loyal to the traditions of their race, and while it would be running an undue risk for any one to question their patriotic love for the land from which they sprang, they yet, so far as I have been able to learn, have made no effort to bring before their countrymen in this new world, the great literary works of Scotchmen who flourished during about the most glorious era of their country's history. It does seem as if Scotchmen here, in their admiration of the marvellous genius of Robert Burns, have lost sight of the great Scottish writers who preceded him. Should this hint lead that Society to take up this subject and make reading men here acquainted with the wealth of Scottish Literature, I feel assured that a valuable service will have been rendered, not only to our Scottish friends, but also to every lover of literary culture in this Province. This, however, is but a digression. I can no more than name the great Scottish poets, Wyntoun, Barbour and Blind Harry.

Among prose writers of this period were John Wycliffe,