PREFACE

Horace admonishes us to wait nine years before publishing the product of our pen:

*. . . If ever you write anything,
. . . Keep it to yourself for nine years,
For what has never been divulged can be destroyed,
But once published, it is beyond recall.*

The somewhat dure prescription of the author of the Ars Poetica has been more than fulfilled in the present work, begun in 1937, completed in its original form in 1940, and now submitted to publication. During the interim, since 1940, in imitation of many a mediaeval craftsman, the writer has returned to labor on his opus whenever indulgent fate has allowed. Additional sources have been consulted and old references more thoroughly studied, the advice of competent specialists has been solicited, and several revisions have been effected in the interests of accuracy and clarity.

At length the work is dispatched with fond farewell. Admittedly imperfect, as any translation, especially of this sort, must be, it begs the reader's indulgence. The confession of shortcomings that John of Salisbury quotes from Martial, may well be echoed here, with the same realistic remark that: "Otherwise, oh Avitus, there would be no book."

In accomplishing the present project, the writer has incurred a vast indebtedness. Professor David K. Bjork of the University of California, Los Angeles, his master in mediaevalia and sage mentor, has consistently encouraged and guided oft faltering footsteps o'er the arduous ways of scholarship. Professor Emeritus Ernest Carroll Moore, former Provost of the same University, who originally suggested this particular endeavor, has ever remained its staunch and efficacious supporter. Without his generous coöperation and that of

his wife, Professor Emeritus Kate Gordon Moore, the publication of this work would not have been possible.

The contributions of the writer's mother, Ana Doyle McGarry, deceased father, Daniel Francis McGarry, and wife, Margaret, defy definition. Edward M., Alice M., and Mae A. Doyle have also aided in many important ways. A fellowship provided by the late Archbishop of Los Angeles, John J. Cantwell, made possible an invaluable year of research in Europe. More recently, aid from the Graduate School of Indiana University permitted active resumption of the project, while a grant from the American Philosophical Society facilitated its successful completion. Nor can enough be said of the patient forbearance and invaluable suggestions of the editorial staff of the University of California Press.

Gratitude is further expressed to the administration of the Corpus Christi College Library at Cambridge, the Bodleian Library at Oxford, and the British Museum for their courtesy in permitting the microfilming of fundamental manuscript codices.

Without the assistance of the dean of Salisbury scholars, Clement C. J. Webb, this undertaking would have been incalculably more difficult. Dr. Webb's critical edition of the Metalogicon has provided a sound starting point for most of this translation, and the distinguished scholar has been unstinting in his aid to the present writer.

Among numerous others who deserve thanks for their assistance and encouragement are Frederick W. Householder, Albert L. Kohlmeier, Arthur P. MacKinlay, Bishop Joseph T. McGucken, Charles R. D. Miller, Dayton Philips, Jean R. Redon, Robert Gordon Sproul, Stith Thompson, and Leon Van der Essen.

Even partial realization of the writer's hope that this work will help to further our understanding of the foundations of Western education and learning, and broaden the basis for further research relative to educational theory and practice in the formative Middle Ages will constitute ample repayment for any labors involved in this undertaking.