History of English literature is very closely related to the history of the English people. It began with the emergence of the English nation and then onward kept on developing with the social development of the nation. In the history of the English there had been several religious and political changes. Several scientific discoveries and inventions also changed the mode of life. Each of those changes reflected a change in its literature. Alfred the Great who reigned over England from 871 to 901 encouraged education and supervised the compilation of The Anglo Saxon Chronicle. Literary Works of This Period: Beowulf, the earliest epic of English literature, was written in this period. The book was originally written in Latin in 1516. Edmund Spenser (1552-99), the poet of the poets. Where after 1815 English Literature helped to export a certain idea of a pre-existing canon in empire, these conditions have now decayed to the extent that a re-emergence of a 'placed' literature of England is inevitable. This study relates the emergence of England in literature to the constitutional changes which have unwound in devolution, and shows that these intimately related moments of rupture will have widespread impact on the Humanities. ...more. Get A Copy. Amazon.