

and Prelates of the Realme were present in mourning apparell at the Kynges coste and charge.

¶ THE. XXIIII. YERE.

IN the beginnyng of this. xxiiii. yere, the Lady Anne Bulleyne was so moche in the Kynges fauour, that the comen people which knew not the Kynges trew entent, sayd and thought that the absence of the Quene was onely for her sake, which was not trew: for the king was openly rebuked of Preachers for kepyng company with his brothers wife, which was thoccaseyon that he eschued her companye, tyll the truth wer tryed.

The last daye of Aprill the parliamēt sittynge, the kyng sent for Thomas Awdeley, Spekar of the common house, and certain other, and declared to thē, how they had exhibited a boke of their greues, the last yere against the Spiritualltie, whiche at their requestes, he had deliuered to his spirituall subiectes, to make answeere there to, but he could haue no answeere, till within three daies last past, which answeere he deliuered to the Spekar, sayng: we thynke their answeere will smally please you, for it semeth to vs very slender, you bee a greate sorte of wisemen, I doubt not but you will loke circumspectly on the matter, and we will be indifferent betwene you. And for a truth their answeere was very Sophisticall, and nothyng auoydyng the greues of the lay people: and farther the kyng saied, that he marueiled not a litle, why one of the Parliament house spake openly of the absence of the Quene frō hym, whiche matter was not to be determined there, for he saied it touched his soule, and wished the matrimony to be good, for then had he neuer been vexed in cōscience, but the docters of the vniuersities said he, haue determined the mariage to be voyde, and detestable before God, whiche grudge of conscience, caused me to absteyn from her compaignie, and no folishe or wanton appetite: for I am said he. xli. yere old, at whiche age the lust of man is not so quicke, as in lustie youth: and sauynge in Spain and Portyngall it hath not been seen, that one man hath married two sisters, the one beyng carnally knowē before: but the brother to mary the brothers wife was so abhorred emongest all nacions, that I neuer heard it, that any Christen man did it but myself: wherfore you se my conscience troubled and so I prairie you reporte: so the Spekar departed, and declared to the commons the kynges sayng, bothe of the Spirituall mennes answeere, and also concernyng the kynges mariage, which slight answeere displeased the commons.

The occasion why the Kyng spake of his mariage, was because one Temse in the common house, moued the commons to sue to the kyng, to take the Quene again into his compaignie, and declared certain greate mischiefes, as in bastardyng the Lady Marie, the kynges onely childe, and diuerse other inconueniences, whiche woordes were reported to the kyng, whiche was the cause that he declared his conscience.

The. xi. daie of Maie, the kyng sent for the Spekar again, and. xii. of the common house, hauynge with hym eight Lordes, and saied to them, welbeloued subiectes, we thought that ȳ clergie of our realme, had been our subiectes wholly, but now wee haue well perceiued, that they bee but halfe our subiectes, yea, and scace our subiectes: for all the Prelates at their consecracion, make an othe to the Pope, clene contrary to the othe that they make to vs, so that they seme to be his subiectes, and not ours, the copie of bothe the othes I deliuer here to you, requiryng you to inuent some ordre, that we bee not thus deluded, of our Spirituall subiectes. The Spekar departed and caused the othes to be redde in the cōmon house, the very tenor whereof ensueth.

Othe to the
Pope.

“ I Ihon bishop or Abbot of A. frō this houre forward, shalbe faithefull and obedient to saint Peter, and to the holy Church of Rome, and to my lorde the Pope, and his successors Canonically enteryng, I shall not be of counsaill nor concert, that they shall lese either life or member, or shall bee taken, or suffre any violence, or any wrong by any meanes, their Counsaill to me credited, by theim their messyngers or letters, I shall not willyngly

willyngly discouer to any person: the Papacie of Rome, the rules of the holy fathers, and the Regalie of saint Peter, I shall help and retain, and defende against all men: the Legate of the Sea Apostolicke, goyng and commyng I shall honourably entreate, the rightes, honors, priuileges, auctorities of the Church of Rome, and of the Pope and his successors, I shall cause to be conserued, defended, augmented and promoted, I shall not bee in counsaill, treatie, or any acte, in the whiche any thyng shalbe imagined against hym, or the Church of Rome, there rightes, states, honors, or powers. And if I knowe any suche to bee moued or compassed, I shall resist it to my power, and as sone as I can, I shall aduertise hym or suche as maie geue hym knowlege. The rules of the holy fathers, the Decrees, Ordinaunces, Sentences, Disposicions, Reseruacions, Prouisions, and Commaundementes Apostolicke, to my power I shall kepe and cause to be kept of other: Heretickes, Sismatikes and rebelles to our holy father and his successors, I shal resist and persecute to my power, I shall come to the Synode, when I am called, except I be letted by a Canonically impediment, the lightes of the Apostles I shall visite yerely personally, or by my deputie, I shall not alien nor sell my possessions, without the Popes Counsaill: so God me helpe and the holy Euangelistes."

"I Ihon Bishop of. A. vterly renounce and clerely forsake all suche clauses, woordes, sentences and grauntes, whiche I haue or shall haue here after, of the Popes holines, of and for the Bishopricke of A. that in any wise hath been, is or hereafter maie bee hurtfull or preiudiciall to your highnes, your heires, successors, dignitie, priuilege, or estate royall: and also I dooe swere, that I shalbe faithfull and true, and faithe and truth I shall beare to you my soueraigne lorde, and to your heires kynges of thesame, of life and lymme, & yearthly worship aboue all creatures, for to liue and dye with you and yours, against all people, and diligently I shalbe attendant, to all your nedes and busines, after my witt and power, and your counsaill I shall kepe and holde, knowlegyng my self to hold my bishopricke of you onely, besechyng you of restitution of the temporalities of thesame, promisyng as before, that I shalbe faithfull, true, and obedient subiect to your saied highnes heires, and successors duryng my life, and the seruices and other thynges dewe to youre highnes, for the restitution of the Temporalities, of thesame Bishoprike I shall truly dooe and obediently perfourme, so God me helpe and all saintes."

Othe to the Kyng.

The openyng of these othes, was one of the occasions, why the Pope within two yere folowyng, lost all his iurisdiction in Englande, as you shall here afterward. The. xiiii. daie of parliament was proroged, til the. iiii. daie of February next ensuyng. After whiche prorogacion, sir Thomas More Chaunceller of Englāde, after long sutes made to the kyng to be discharged of that office, the. xvi. daie of Maie he deliuered to the kyng, at Westminster, the greates Seale of Englande, and was with the kynges fauor discharged, whiche Seale the kyng kept til Whitsontide folowyng, and on the Mondaie in Whitson weke, he dubbed Thomas Awdeley, Speker of the parliament knight, and made hym lorde keeper of the great Seale, and so was he called.

Thomas Awdeley keeper of the great seale.

The kyng beyng in progresse this Sommer, was aduertised that the Pope and the Frenche Kyng, had appoynted to mete at Marcelles in Prouince, in the begiunng of the nexte Spryng, wherefore the kyng like a wise and pollitike prince, thought it conuenient to speake with the Frenche kyng in his awne persone, before the Pope and he should come together, and to declare to hym bothe the determinacion, of the Vniuersities and Doctors concernyng his Matrimonie, and also the generall counsailes, whiche ordeined suche causes, to be tried in the prouinces and countreis, where the doubt should rise, trustyng that the Frenche kyng should cause the Pope to encline to Goddes law, and to leaue his awne tradicions and voyde dispensacions, whereupon bothe the princes concluded, to mete in October folowyng, betwene Calice & Bulleyn: wherfore the kyng of Englande sent out his letters, to his nobilitie, prelates, and seruantes, commaundyng them to bee ready at Cantorbury, the. xxvi. daie of September, to passe the Seas with hym, for the accomplishyng of the enteruew, betwene hym and his brother the Frenche kyng. Many men were sory to

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