18 April [1535]

560. SIR JOHN MARKHAM AND OTHERS TO CROMWELL.

On Friday, 16 April, the 26 of Hen. VIII., Supreme Head of the English Church, we, the Commissioners for the true value of all spiritual promotions in the county of Nottingham, being assembled at the priory of Bevall in the said shire, belonging to the Charterhouse, the proctors and others of the convent appeared before us, showing that the Prior was absent in London, and they desired us to take presentment of lay persons, which we would not, as we had not done so in other houses. Seeing them of such scrupulosity in a friendly examination, we showed them that the King was of right Supreme Head of the Church, “dilating the story true of Lucius and Eleutherius, and of Ethelertus and Lerta (sic) his wife, and Gregory and Austen.” Hereon, one Will. Trafford, proctor of the said house, said, “I believe firmly that the Pope of Rome is Supreme Head of the Church Catholic.” On our asking he said he would abide by his words usque ad mortem. He wrote them down, and they rest with Sir John Markham, sheriff, in whose ward he is. Send word how he is to be treated in exemplum aliorum. 18 April. Signed: John Markham—Anthony Babyngton—John Constable.