

**From** *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, vol. 8: January- July 1535*, edited by James Gairdner. London: Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1885, pp. 350-51.

17 June [1535]  
R. O.

**886. TRIAL OF FISHER AND THREE CHARTER HOUSE MONKS.**<sup>1</sup>

i. Special commission of oyer and terminer for Middlesex to Sir Thos. Audeley, Chancellor, Chas. duke of Suffolk, Hen. marquis of Exeter, Thos. earl of Rutland, Hen. earl of Cumberland, Thos. earl of Wiltshire, Thos. Crumwell, secretary, Sir John Fitz James, Sir John Baldwin, Sir Will. Paulett, Sir Ric. Lister, Sir John Porte, Sir John Spelman, Sir Walter Luke, Sir Ant. Fitzherbert, Sir Thos. Inglefeld, and Sir Will. Shelley. Westm., 1 June 27 Hen. VIII.

ii. The justices' precept to the sheriff of Middlesex for the return of the grand jury at Westminster, on Tuesday after the quinzaine of Holy Trinity. Westm., 5 June 27 Hen. VIII.—With panel annexed.<sup>2</sup>

iii. Two copies of indictment, setting forth Act of Supremacy, &c., and finding that John Fisher, late of Rochester, clerk, otherwise late bishop of Rochester, did, 7 May 27 Hen. VIII., openly declare in English, "The King our sovereign lord is not Supreme Head in Earth of the Church of England." Also that Humphrey Middelmores, Will. Exmewe, and Sebastian Nudygate, late monks of the Charter House, London, under the obedience of John Howghton, prior, now deceased, did at Stepney, Midd., 25 May 27 Hen. VIII., each of them say to several of the King's true subjects, "I cannot nor will consent to be obedient to the King's Highness as a true, lawful, and obedient subject, to take and repute him to be Supreme Head in Earth of the Church of England under Christ."

iv. The Justices' precept to the Constable of the Tower, commanding him to bring up Middelmores, Exmewe, and Nudygate at Westminster, on Friday next after the quinzaine of Holy Trinity. Westm., 9 June 27 Hen. VIII.

v. The justices' precept to the sheriff of Middlesex for the return of a jury of inhabitants of the Tower, for the trial of Middelmores, Exmewe, and Nudygate, on Friday next after the quinzaine of Holy Trinity. Westm., 11 June 27 Hen. VIII.—With panel annexed.

vi. The justices' precept to the constable of the Tower to bring up John Fisher late bishop of Rochester, at Westminster, on Thursday after the feast of St. Barnabas. Westm., 16 June 27 Hen. VIII.

vii. The justices' precept to the sheriff of Middlesex for the return of a jury of inhabitants of the Tower for the trial of Fisher on Thursday after St. Barnabas. Westm., 17 June, 27 Hen. VIII.

viii. Record of the sessions held before the above justices, citing the preceding documents, and showing that the indictment was found on Friday next after the quinzaine of Trinity. That same day Middelmores, Exmewe, and Nudygate were brought to the bar by Sir Edm. Walsingham, deputy of Sir Will. Kingston, constable of the Tower, and severally pleaded *Not Guilty*. Venire awarded, returnable same day. Verdict, *Guilty*. Prisoners have no lands, goods, or chattels. Judgment as usual in high treason. Execution at Tyburn. Fisher is brought to the bar on Thursday after the feast of St. Barnabas, 27 Hen. VIII., by Sir Will. Kingston, constable of the Tower. Pleads [351] *Not Guilty*. Venire awarded same day. Verdict, *Guilty*. Judgment as usual in high treason. Execution at Tyburn.

Record brought into the King's Bench by Sir John Fitzjames on Monday after the morrow of Purification, 27 Hen. VIII.

1 From the *Baga de Secretis*. See Report iii. of Dep. Keeper of Public Records, pp. ii. p. 239.

2 The panel bears an endorsement stating that the jury found one bill against Fisher and others, on Wednesday after the quinzaine of Trinity, and adjourned till Friday, when they presented another bill, and day was given them till Wednesday, 16 June, for further inquiry; on which day they appeared, and were discharged.

- Cleop. E. vi. 178 b.                    2. Extract from the indictment of bishop Fisher.  
*Printed in Archæologia*, xxv. 94.
- Arundel, MS. 151, f. 193.            3. Draft of a portion of the indictment.  
B. M.                                        *Pp.* 2, Lat.
- Camb. MS. 1,266.                    4. MS. of Maurice Channey's works on the martyrdoms of Moore and Fisher, and of  
the Charter House Monks.