saye naye: bysyde that, my Lord we neuer offended in the Premunire, for we medeled neuer with the Cardinals facultys, let the Bysshoppes and Abbottes which have offended paye. Then the Bysshoppes officers gane to the priestes hyghe wordes, whiche caused them to be the more obstinate. Also dyuers temporall men whiche were present conforted the Priestes and bade them agree to no payment. In this rumur, dyuers of the Bysshoppes seruantes were buffeted and stryken so that the Byshop beganne to be a frayde, and with fayre woordes appeased the noys, and for all thynges whiche were done or sayde there he pardoned them and gane to them his blessyng and praided them to departe in charite. And then they departed thynkyng to heare no more of the matter, but they were disseyued, for the Byshop went to syr Thomas Moore then byeng Lorde Chaucellor (which greatly fauoured the Byshop and the Cleargye) and to hym made a greuouse complaynte and declared the facte very greuously, whereupon commandeement was sent to syr Thomas Pargitor Mayer of the Citie, to atache certayne priestes and temporall men, and so. xv. priestes and. v. temporall men were arrested, of the wych, some were sent to the Tower, some to the Fleece, and other Prisons, where they remayned long after.

In this season were dyuers Preachynges in the Realme, one contrarye to another concernyng the Kynges Maryage, and in especiall one Thomas Abell clerke, bothe preached and wrote a Booke, that the Mariage was lawfull, whiche caused many sumple men to beleue his opinion: This Abell was the Queenes Chaplayne, and wrote this Booke to please her withall: wherfore the Kyng caused a Determinacié of the Vniuersitie, & all the judg-mentz of gret Clerkes to be compiled into a Booke and to be Printed, whiche Booke dyd satisfye the myndes of all indifferent & discrete persons: but some men were perciall that neither learnyng nor reason could satisfie their wyffull myndes.

This yere the Kyng kepe his Christemas at Grenewyche with great solempnityte, but all men sayde that there was no myrthe in that Christemas because the Queene and the Ladies were absent.

After Christemas the. xv. daye of January the Parliament began to sytte, & amongst dy-uers gryeffs whiche the Commons were greued with, they sore copleynd of the crueltie of the Ordinaries, for callyng men before theym Ex officio: that is, by reason of ther office: For the Ordinaries woulde sende for men and ley Accusaciones to them of Heryse, and say they were accused, and ley Articles to them, but no Accuser should be brought forth, whiche to the Commons was very dreedeful and greuouse: for the partie so Assited must either Ab-jure or be burned, for Purgacion he myght make none.

When this matter and other Exactions done by the Clergy in theirCourieres were long de-bated in the Common House, at the last it was concluded & agreed, that all the gryeffs which the temporall men were greued with, shoulde be putte in writyng and deluyered to the Kyng, whiche by great aduyce was done: wherfore, the. xviii. day of Marche the Com-mon speaker accompanied with dyuers Knygthes and Bargesses of the Common House came to the Kynges presence, and there declared to hym how the temporall men of his Realme were sore greued with the cruell demeanoure of the Prelates and Ordinaries, which touched bothe their bodyes and goodes, all whiche gryeffs, the Speaker deluyered to the Kyng in writynge, most humbly beseachyng his grace to take soche an ordre & direction in that case, as to his hygh wysedome myght sene most conuenient. Further he beseachd the king to consider what payne, charge and cost, his humble subiectes of the nether house had susteynd sith the begynnyng of this Parliament, and that it woulde please his grace of his Princely benignitie to dissolve his courte of Parliament, that his subiectes myght re-payre into their countryes.

When the Kyng had receuyed the Supplicacion of the Commons, he paused a whyle and then sayde: It is not the office of a Kyng which is a Judge to be to lyghte of credence, nor I haue not, nor wyll not ssee the same: for I wyll heare the partie that is accused speake or I gyue any sentence: your booke conteyneth dyuers Articles of great and wyghty matters, and as I perceyue, it is agaynste the Spirituall persones and Prelates of our Realme, of
whiche thyng ye desyre a redresse and a reformacion, whiche desyre and request is mere
contraryant to your last Petition: For we require to haue the Parlyament dissolved and
to departe into your countreys, and yet you woulde haue a reformacion of your grieves
with all diligence: Although that your payne haue ben great in taryng, I assure you myne
hathe ben no lesse then yours, and yet all the payne that I take for your wealthes is to me a
pleasure: therefore if you wyll haue profyte of your complaynte, you must tary the tyme,
or els to be without remedy: I moche commend you that you wyll not contende nor stand
in styrfe with the Spirituall men, whiche be youre Christen brethren, but moche more me
thynketh that you should not contende with me that am youre Souereigne Lorde and Kyng,
considering that I seke peace and quietnesse of you: For I haue sente to you a byll con-
cernyng wyrdes and primer season, in the which thynges I am greatly wronged: wherfore
I haue offered you reason as I thynke, yea, and so thynketh all the Lordes, for they haue
set their handes to the booke: Therfore I assure you, if you wyll not take some reasonable
ende now when it is offered, I wyll serche out the extremite of the lawe, and then wyll I
not offre you so moche agayne: with this answere, the Speaker and his company departed.
The cause why the Kyng spake these woordes was this: Daily men made Feoffementes of
their landes to vses, and declared their wylls of their landes with soch remaynders,
that not alonly the kyng but all other Lordes lost their Wardes, Mariages and relieffes, and
the kyng also lost his primer season, & the profyte of the luyre, whiche was to hym very
preuiudicall and a great losse: wherfore he, lyke an indifferent Prince, not wyllyng to take
all, nor to lose all, caused a byll to be drawn by his learned councell, in the which was
deuysed, that euerie man myght make his wyll of the halfe of his lande, so that he lefte
the other halfe to the heyre by descent. When this Byll came fyrst amongst the Commons,
lorde how the ignornant persone were greued, and howe shamefully they spake of the byll
and of the Kynges learned Councell: but the wyse men which vnderstoode & sawe the mys-
chiefe to come, would gladly haue had the byll to be assented to, or at the least to haue put
the Kyng in a suretye of the thryde or fourthe parte, which offer I was-credebly informed
the Kyng woulde haue taken, but many frowarde and wylfull persone, not regarding what
myght ensue (as it dyd in deed) woulde neither consent to the byll as the Lordes had
agreed and set to their handes, nor yet agree to no reasonable qualificacion of the same,
whiche they sore repented: For after this, the Kyng called the Judges and best learned men
of his Realme, and thei disputed this matter in the Chauccery, and agreed that lande could
not be wyllde by the orde of the common law: wherupon an Act was made, that no man
myght declare his wyll of no parte of his land: which Acte sore greued the Lordes and Gen-
tlemen that had many chyldeyn to setfurth. Therefore you may judge what mychiefe co-
meth of wylfull blyndnesse and lacke of foresyght in so great causes.
This Parliament was proroged till the tenth day of Apryll, in the whiche Parliament was
an Acte made, that Bysshoppes shoule not paye more Annates or money for their Bulles to
the Pope: for it was openly proued that there was payed for the Bulles of Bysshoppes, in
the fourthe yere of Kyng Henry the seconde, the Kynges father, tyl this yce, one hun-
dredth thre score thousand pounde sterlyng, besyde all other Dispensacions and Pardones;
wherof the summe was incredible.
When the Parliament was begonne agayne after Ester, there came downe to the Common
house the Lorde Chauncelloure, the Dukes of Norffolke & Suffolke, the Erles of Arundell,
Oxfore, Northumberland, Rutlande, Wylshyre and Sussex, and after they were set, the
Lorde Chauncellor declared, howe the Kyng was advertised by his Councell, and in especi-
ally by the Duke of Norffolke, howe on the Marches betwene Englande and Scotlande was
very lytell habitacion on the Englysh syde, but on the Scottysh syde was great habitacion,
and the Scottes dwelled euin lust on the border, by the reason wherof thay invaded Eng-
lanuyers tyme, and dyd to the Kynges subiectes great hurte and displeasure: where-
fore the Kyng entended to make dwelling houses there, and also to make new diuers Pyles
and stoppes to let the Scottysh men from their inuasions, to the great commoditie of all his
people.