

pöstolique see, Rob. Rigges professour of diuinitie, and Vicechancellor of the vniuersitie of Oxforde, greeting with due honour. Your letters bearing the date of the 14. of Iuly I haue receaued: By the authoritie wherof, I haue denounced and called to be denounced effectually, the foresayd Nicholas and Phillip, to haue bene and to be excommunicate publicly and solemnly in the Church of S. Mary: and in the schooles, and to be cited also personally, if by any meanes they might be apprehended; according as you commaunded. But after diligent search layd for them of my part to haue them personally cited and apprehended, I coulde not finde neyther the sayd M. Nicholas, nor M. Phillip: who haue hyd or couayed themselves; vnknowing to me, as here is well knowne. Whereof I thought here to geue signification to your Fatherhoode. Sealed and testified with the seale of mine office. From Oxford the 25. of Iuly.

The 25. day of Iuly, an. 1382. Herford & Repington repulled from the Duke of Lancaster.

The 23. day of October. Repington released by the Archb. I. Aishton reconciled by the Archbishop.

A parliament summoned. The 15. of October. 1382.

The conuocation of S. Frideswide in Oxford. The 18. day of Nouemb.

The 19 day of Nouemb. anno. 1382.

Rob. Rigge displaced from Vicechancellorship.

Inquisitiö made at Oxford.

The 24. day of Noueb. an. 1382

The abiuration of Phillip Repington.

In y meane time Nicholas Herford, and Repington being repulled of the Duke, and destitute (as was sayde) of his suppoztation, whether they were sent, or of theyz owne accord went to the archbish. it is vncertayne. This I finde in a letter of the tozelayd archbishopp, containyd in his register: that Repington the 23. day of October the same year 1382. was reconciled agayne to the Archbishop and also by his generall letter was released and admitted to his scholasticall actes in the vniuersitie. And so was also John Aishton, of whom Christ willing more shall follow hereafter. Of Nicholas Herford all this while I finde no speciall relation.

In the meane time, about the 23. of the month of September the sayd year, the king sent his mandate to the Archbishop for collectyng of a subsidie and to haue a conuocation of the clergie summoned, against the next parliament, which should begin the 18. day of Nouember. The Archb. likewise on the 15. day of October, directed his letters monitorye (as the manner is) to Robert Wzaybroke bishop of London, to geue the same admonition to al his suffraganes and other of the Clergie within his prouince for the assembling of the conuocatiö afozelsayd. All which done and executed, the parliament begon being holden at Oxford the 18. day of Nouember, where the conuocation was kept in the Monastery of Frideswide in Oxford. In the which conuocation, the Archbishop with the other bishops there sitting in their pontificalibus, declared two causes of that their present assembly, wherby (sayth he) to repress he-rcelies, which began newly in the realme to spryng, and for correctyng other excesses in the Church. The other cause (sayd he) was to ayde and support the king with some necessary subsidie of mony to be gathered, whiche thus declared, the conuocation was continued till the day following which was the 19. of Nouember.

At the sayd day and place, the Archbishop with the other Prelates assembling themselves as before: The archbishop after the vsed solemnitie, willed the procuratoures of the clergie appoynted for euery dioces, to consult with themselves, in some convenient seuerall place, what they thought for theyz partes touching yz redelle of thinges, to be notified and declared to him and to his brethren, &c.

Furthermore, forsomuch (sayth he) as it is to noyted through all the realme, that there were certayn in the vniuersitie of Oxford, which did hold and mayntayne conclusions (as he called them) heretical and erroneous condemned by him, and by other laywers and doctours of Diuinitie. He therfore assigned the bishops of Saram, Herford and Rochester, with William Ruggge then Vicechancellor of the vniuersitie of Oxford (so) belike Robert Rigge was then displaced) as also William Werton, and John Wadleton Doctours: geuing them hys full authoritie woth cursing and banning, to compell them to search and to enquire woth all diligence and wayes possible, ouer all singular whatsoeuer, eyther Doctours, Bachellers, or scholars of the sayd vniuersitie, which did hold, teache, mayntayne and defend, in schooles or out of schooles, the sayd conclusions heretical (as he called them) or erroneous, and afterward to geue certificat truly and playnly touching the premises. And thus for that day the assembly brake vp to the next, and so to the next, and the thid being monday, the 24. day of Nouember. Ex. Regist. W. Courtney.

On the which day, in the presence of the Prelates and the clergie in the chapter house of Saint Frideswide, came in Phillip Repington (otherwise called of the brethren afterward Rampington) who their abiured the conclusions and assertions afozelsayd, in this forme of wordes as followeth.

In Dei nomine Amen. I Phillip Repington, Canon of the house of Leicester, acknowledging one catholique and Apostolick sayth do curie and also abiure all heresie, name=

ly these herelies and errors vnder wrytten, condemned & repouged by the decrees canonical, and by you most true and father, touching which hereby I haue ben disffamed: condemning moreover & reproouing both them and the authors of them, & doe contesse the same to be catholically condemned: And weare also by these holy Euangelies, which here I hold in my hand, and do promise, neuer by any persuasions of men, nor by any way hereafter, to defend or hold as true, anye of the sayd conclusions vnder wrytten: but do & will stand and adhere in all thinges, to the determination of the holy Catholicke Church, and to yours, in this behalfe.ouer and besides, all suche as stand contrary to this sayth, I doe pronouice them with their doctrine & followers woithy of euerlasting curse. And if I my selfe shall presume at any time to hold or preach any thinge contrary to the premises, I shall be content to abide the severitie of the Canons. Subscribed with mine owne hand, & with mine owne accord. Phillip Repington. And thus the sayd Rampington was discharged; who afterward was made Bishop of Lincoln, and became at length the most bitter and extreme persecutor of this side, of all the other bishops win the realme, as in proces hereafter may appeare.

Philip Repington after his abiuration became a terrible persecutor.

After the abiuration of this Repington, immediately was brought in John Aishton, student of Diuinitie: who being examined of those conclusions, and willed to say hys mynde, answered: that he was to simple and ignorant, and therefore would not, and could not answer any thing clearly or distinctly to those conclusions. wherupon, the Archb. assigned to him Doctor W. Ruggge the Vicechancellor, and other deuines such as he required himselfe to be instructed in the misery of those conclusions against the after noone: who then appearing again after dinner before the archbishop and the Prelates, did in like sort and some of wordes abiure as did Repington before.

A short time my Lord, for a man in one forenoone to learne a faith against his conscience The abiuration of John Aishton. Ex chron. Monast. D. Albani. I. Aishton.

Of this John Aishton we read, that afterwarde by Tho. Arundell Archb. of Cant. he was cited and condemned, but whether he dyed in prisö, or was burned, we haue yer no certainty to the we. This is certayne by the playne wordes of the chronicle of S. Albans, that when the archbishop with his doctours and fryers late in examination vpon this sayd John Aishton, in London: the Londoners brake open the doze of the claude, iplumq; Archiepiscopum in ciuitate sedentem impediuerunt, cum processum fecisset contra Iohannē Aishton. &c. That is and did let the Archbishop himselfe sitting in the City of London, when he would haue made proccesse agaynst John Aishton, an. 1382. And thus muche of John Aishton.

The Londoners open the doze where the Archb. late against Ioh. Aishton.

As touching Nicholas Herford during the time of this conuocation, he did not appeare: and therefore had the sentence of excommunication. Agaynst which he put hys ap- peale from the archb. to the king and his Counsaile. The Archb. would not admit it, but finding staves and stoppes caused him to be apprehended and enclosed in prison. Not withstanding through the will of God, and good meanes he escaped out of the prison returning agayn to his former exercise, and preaching as he did before, albeit in as concert and secret maner as he could. where upon the Archbishop thundring out his boites of excommunication agaynst him, sendeth to al pastors and ministers, wiling the in al churches, and all festiuall dayes, to dimulge the sayd his excommunication agaynst him, to al men. wrieth moreover and sendeth speciall charge to al and singular of the laity, to beware that they simplicitie be not deceaued by his doctrine, but that they like Catholicke children will auoyd him, and cause him of all other to be auoyded.

Ni. Herford would not appeare. N. Herford appealed from the Archb. Ni. Herford cast in prison. Herford escaped out of prison.

Furthermore, not contented with this, addresth also hys letters vnto the king, requiring also the ayde of his temporal sword to chop of hys neck, whö he had already cast down. See and note reader, the seraphicall charitie of these pious prelates towards yz pooze redeemed flock of Christ And yet these be they whiche walking they handes woth yz plate, say and prettnd: Nobis non licet interficere quenquā. It is not our partes to kill any man. The cöpye of the letter wrytten to the king, is this.

The letter of the Archbishop to the king.

TO the most excellent prince in Christ, &c. William &c. greeting in him by whom kinges do reigne, & princes beare rule. Vnto your kingly celsitude by the tenour of these presentes we intimate, that one M. Nich. Herford D. of diuinitie, for his manifest contumacie and offence in not appearing before vs being called at the day and place assigned, therefore is inwrapped in the sentence of the greater curse, publicly by our ordinary authoritie. And in the same sentence hath continued nowe forty dayes, & yet still continueth with indurate hart, wickedly contemning

The cruell letter of the Archb. agaynst Nic. Herford to the kyng.