

Moreover, the parochi priests or deacons temporall, not having perpetuities, nor being leant in forme a ordaynd shall sumptuously preach in y Churches where they haue charge ouely thole thinges whiche are expesivelye contayned in the prouinciall constitution set forth by Johs our predecessor of good memory, to helpe y ignorance of the priests, which beginneth Ignorancia Sacerdotum. Whiche book of constitutions, we would shoulde be had in euery parish Church in our prouince of Canterbury, within three monthe next after the publication of these presentes, and (as therin is required) that it be effectually declared by y priests themselves yearly, and at the tyme appoynted. And least thys wholesome statute might be thought dursfull of some, by reason of payment of money, or some other difficultie: we therfore will & ordayne, that y examinations of the clerkes aforesayd, and the making of thys letters by the Ordinary be done gratis and freely without any exaction of money at all, by those to whom he shal appertayne. And if any man shall willingly presume to violate this our statute grounded upon the old lawe, after the publication of the same: he shall incurre the sentence of greater excommunication ipso facto: wholfe absolution we specially reserve by tenure of their presentes, to vs and our succelours. But if anye such Preacher despising this wholesome Statute, and not weyng the sentence of greater excommunication doe the secound tyme take vpon hym to preach: saying and alledging, and stonchly affirming that the sentence of greater excommunication aforesaid, cannot be appoynted by the Church in the persons of the Prelates of the same: That then, the Superiors of the place, doe worthily rebuke him, and forbide him from the Communion of all saythfull Christians.

And that the saide person hereupon lawfully convicted (except he recant and abiure after the manner of y Church) be pronounced an heretike by the Ordinary of the place. And that vpon thenceforth he be reputed and taken for an heretike and schismatike, and that he incurre (ipso facto) the penalties of heretike and schismacie, expressed in the law: And chescly that his goodes be adjudgede confiscate by the law, and apprehende & seke by them, to whom he shal appertayne. And that hys fawtors, receiners, & defenders being excommunicated, in all cases be likewise punished, if they cease not of within one month, being lawfully warned therof by thys superius.

Furthermore, no clergy man, or parochians of any parish or place within our prouince of Cant. shall admit any man to preach vpon their Churches, churchyrdes or other places whatsoeuer, except first there be manifest knowledge had of his autorite, priuiledge, or sending thither, according to the order aforesayd: Otherwise the Church, churchyarde, or what place whatsoeuer, in whiche it was so preached, shal ipso facto, receive y Ecclesiastical interdict & so shall remayne interdicted, vntill they that so admitted and suffered him to preach, haue reformed themselves, and obtained y place so interdicted, to be released in due forme of law, either fro the Ordinary of y place, or his superior.

Moreover, like as a good householder casteth wheat into the ground (well ordered for that purpose) therby to get the more increase: even so we wil and command, that the preacher of Gods word, commynge in forme aforesayd, preaching either vnto the Clergy or Laity, according to hys matter propounded: shalbe of good behavour, sowynge such seed as shalbe convenient for his auditory. And chescly preaching to the Clergy, he shall touche the vices commonly used amongst them, and to the Laity he shal declare the vices commonly used among them, and not otherwise: But if he preach contrary to this order, then shall he be sharply punished by the ordinary of that place, according to the qualitie of that offence.

Item, so farinuch as the partis vyle, that agreeith not with the whole: we do decree and ordayne, y no preacher aforesayd, or any other person whatsoeuer, shall otherwise teach or preach concerning the sacrament of the auiter, mariage, confession of sinnes, or any other sacrament of the Church, o: article of the fayth, then that already is discussed by the holy mother Churche, nor shall bring anye thing in doubt y is determined by the churche nor shal to his knowledge priuily or apertly pronounce blasphemous wordes concerning the same, nor shall teach, preach, or obserue any sect, or kinde of heretike whatsoeuer, contrary to the wholesome doctrine of the Church. He that shall willingly & obstinately attempt the contrary, after the publication of these presentes, shall incurre the sentence of excommunication ipso facto: From the which (except in poynt of death) he shal not be absolved, vntill he hath reformed himselfe by abjuration of his heretike, at the discretion of the Ordinary, in whose territorie he so offendeth, and hath received wholsome penitence for his offences. But if the second tyme he shall

so offend, being lawfully comiected, he shalbe pronounced an heretike, & his goods confiscate and apprehende, and kept by them to whom he shal appertayne. The penaunce before mentioned, shalbe after this manner: If any man contrarie to the determination of the Church, that is, in y decrees, decretals, or our constitutions prouinciall, doe openly or priuily teach or preach any kinde of heretike or seete he shall in the parish Church of the same place, where he so preached, vpon one sunday, or other solemnite day, or more, at the discretion of the ordinary, and as his offence is more or lesse, expesivelye renotre that he so preached, caught or affimed, even at the tyme of the solemnite of the masse, whe the people are most assembled, and there shall effectually and without fraud preach, and teach the very truth determined by the church: and further shalbe punished after the qualitie of hys offence, as shalbe thought expedient to the discretion of the Ordinary.

Item, so farinuch as a new vessel being long used, sa- nozech after the head, we decree and ordayne, that no schole- maisters and teachers whatsoeuer, that instruct childre in grammer, or others whic h is cur, in primitive scientes shal in teaching them, intermingling any thing concerning y catholike fayth, the sacrament of the auiter, or other Sacra- mentes of the Church, contrary to the determinations of y church. Nor shall suffer they schollers to expound the hol Scriptures, (except the text as haeb bene vied of auncient time,) nor shal permit them to dispute openly or priuily concerning the catholike fayth, or Sacramentes of the Churche. Contrariwise, the offender herein shalbe gree- uously punished by the Ordinary of the place, as a fauourer of heretikes and schismes.

Item, for that a new way doth more fequently leade a stray, then an old way: we will and command, that no booke or treatise made by John Wickliffe, or other whom soever, about that tyme exsistente, or hereafter to be made: be from henceforth read in schooles, halles, hospitalies, or other places whatsoeuer, within our prouince of Canterbury aforesayd, except the same be first examined by the Universitie of Oxford or Cambridge, or at the last by twelve persons, whom the said universitie or one of the shal appoynt to be chosen at our discretion, or the laudable discre- tion of our predecessors: and the same being examined as aforesayd, to be expesively approued and allowed by vs or our succelours, and in the name and authoritie of the universtie, to be deliuere unto the Stationers to be copied out, and the same to be sold at a reasonable price, the origi- nall therof alwaies after, to remayn in some chest of y universtie. But if any man shall read any such kynd of booke in schooles or otherwise, as aforesayd: he shalbe punished as a sorwr of schisme, and a fauourer of heretike, as the qua- litie of the fault shall require.

Item, it is a daungerous thinge (as witnesseth blessed S. Hierome) to translate the text of the holy scripture out of one tongue into an other: for in the translation the same sense is not alwayes easily kept, as the same S. Jerome confesseth, that although he were inspired, yet oftentimes in this he erred. We therefore decree and ordayne, that no man hereafter by his owne authoritie, translate any text of the Scripture into English, or any other tongue, by way of a booke, libell, or treatise, and if no man read anye such booke libell or treatise, nowe lately set forth in the tyme of John Wickliffe, or lathe, or hereafter to be set forth, in part or in whole, priuily, or apertly: vpon paine of greater excommunication, vntill the said translation be alowed by the Ordinary of the place, or (if the case so require) by the Councell prouinciall: He that shall do contrary to this shall likewise be punished as a fauourer of erro: & heretike.

Item, for that almighty God cannot be exprest with any philosophical termes, or otherwise inuited of man: And S. Augustine saith, That he hath oftentimes revoked such conculsions as hath bene most true, because they haue bene offensive to the eares of the religioun: we doe ordaine and specially forbid, that no mater o: person, of what state degree, or condition, so ever he be, doe allege or propone any conclusions or propositions in y catholike fayth, or re- pugnant to good maneres, (except necessary doctrine per- tayning to thys facultie of teaching or disputing in theyr schooles or otherwise) although they defend the same with nener so curios termes and wordes. For as sayth blessed S. Hugh of the Sacramentoes, that whiche oftentimes is well spokon, is not well understood. If any man therfore after the publication of these presentes, shalbe comiected wil- lingly to haue propounded such conclusions or propositions, except (being monished he reforme himselfe in one month by vertue of this present constitution) he shall incurre the sentence of greater excommunication ipso facto, and shall be openly pronounced an excommunicate, vntill he hath con- fessed