

and title, and his Cardinals in like manner to cōdescend to the other Cardinals of Rome. So that both these two colleges of Cardinals agreeing together: one chiefe byshop might be chosen and take out of them both, to be made the true Pope. Provided moreover, that none should seeke any relaxation or abolition from the sayd promise, vow, and bond, once passed among them: Unto al which things furthermore, euerie one subscribed with his hande. These things thus prefixed and ratified vpon the same, they proceeded to election. In which was chosen Gregorius the xij. who the same day of hys election, in the presence of all the cardinals: continued the vow, sacrament and promise made, subscribing the same with his hand in forme as followeth. And J Gregorie, thys day being the last of November, in the yere of our Lorde 1407. chosen and elected for bishop of Rome: do sweare, vowe, and promise, & confirme all the promises aboue contained, &c. Thys being done, shortly after he was crowned, being of the age of 80. yeres. As the time thus passed, the people and Cardinals were in great expectation, waiting when the Pope according to his othe would geue ouer, with the other pope also. And not long after, the matter began in debate between the two Popes to be attempted, by letters from one to another: assigning both day and place, where and when they should meet together: but yet no effect did folow.

This so passing on, great murmuring was among the Cardinals, to see their holy periured father, so to neglecte his othe, and vow aforesaid. In so much, that at length, diuers of them did forsake the Pope, as being periured (as no lesse he was) sending moreover to kings and princes of other lands, for their counsell and assistance therein, to appease the schisme. Amongst the rest, Cardinal Bituricensis was sent to the king of England: who with diuers propositions and cōclusions (remaining in the registers of Thomas Arundell) disputeth, that the pope ought to be subiect to lawes and cōmells. Then H. Henry (moued to write to Gregorie the pope) directeth his letter here vnder ensuing, which was the yere of our Lorde, 1409. The contents of the letter be theie,

The letter of king Henry the fourth, to Pope Gregory 12.

Most blessed father, if the discrete prouidence of the Apostolike sea, would call to mind, with what great perils the vniuersall world hath ben dammified hether to, vnder pretence of thys present schisme: and especially would consider, what slaughter of Christen people to the number of two hūdreth thousand (as they say) hath bene through the occasion of warre raised vp in diuers quarters of the world, and now of late, to the number of thirty M. souldiours which haue bene slaine through the dissention moued about the Bishopricke of Leodidum, betwene two set vp, one by the authoritie of one Pope, the other by the authoritie of the other Pope, fighting in campe for the title of that Bishopricke: Certes yee would lament in spirite, & be sore greeued in minde for the same. So that, with good conscience you would relinquish rather the honour of the sea Apostolike, then to suffer such horrible bloodshed hereafter to ensue, vnder the cloake of dissimulation, followinge herein the example of the true mother in the booke of kings, who pleading before Salomon for the right of her childe, rather would depart from the childe, then the childe shoulde bee parted by the sword. And although it may be vehemently suspected by the new creation of 9. Cardinals, by you last made contrary to your othe (as other men do say) that you do but little heede or care for ceasing the schisme: Yet farre be it from the hearing and noting of the world, that your circumspect feat shoulde euer be noted & distained with such an inconstancie of minde: whereby the last error may be worse, then the first. Ex Chron. D. Albani, part. 2.

King Henry the 4. to the Cardinals.

And to the Cardinales likewise, the sayde King directeth another letter with these contentes heere following: Wee desiring to shewe what zeale wee haue had and haue, to the reformation of peace of the Church: by the consent of the states of the Realme, haue directed to the Byshop of Rome our letters after the tenoure of the copie herewith in these presentes enclosed, to be executed effectually. Wherefore, we seriously beseeche your reuerende colledge, that if it chauce the sayde Gregory to be present at the councell of Pise, and to render vp hys Popedome, according to your desire, and hys owne othe: you then fo ordaine for hys state totally, that chiefly God may be pleased thereby, and that both the sayde Gregory, and also wee which loue intierly hys honor and commodity, may haue cause to geue you worthely condigne thanks for the same. Ibid.

This being done in the yere of our Lorde 1409. after-

ward in the yere next following, an. 1410. the Cardinals of both the Popes, to witte of Gregorius, and Benedictus: By common aduise assembled together at the citie of Pise, for the reformation of vniuersal peace in the Church. To the which assembly, a great multitude of Bishops and bishops being commended, a new Pope was chosen, named Alexander 5. But to thys election, neither Gregorius, nor Benedictus did fully agree, where by there were 3. Popes together in the Romaine church: (that is to vnderstande) not 3. crownes vpon one Popes head, but 3. heads in one Popish church together. This Alexander being newly made pope, scarcely had well warmed his triple crowne: but straight geueth out full remission, not of a fewe, but of all manner of sinnes whatsoeuer: to all them that conferred any thing to the monastery of S. Bartlemew by Smithfeld resorting to the same church any of these dayes following: to wit, on Maundy thursday, good Friday, Easter euen, the feast of the Annunciation, from the first ending to the latter. But thys Pope which was so liberal in geuing remission of many crimes to other, was not able to geue one yere of life to himselfe: for within the same yere he died. In whose stead stept vp Pope John 23.

In the time of this Alexander, great strife began in the country of Bohemia, by the occasion of the booke of John Wickliffe, which then comming to the hands of J. Husse, and of other both men & women, especially of the lay sort, and artificers, began there to doe much good. In so much, that diuers of them not onely men, but women also, partly by reading of those booke translated into their toungue, partly, by the setting forthward of John Husse, a notable learned man, and a singulare preacher at that time in the vniuersitye of Prague: were in thoz time so ripe in iudgement, and prompt in the scriptures, y they began to moue questions, yea and to reason with the popes, touching matters of the Scriptures.

By reason wherof, complaint was brought to the sayd Pope Alexander the first, who caused estlowes the forenamed John Husse to bee cyted by to Rome. But when he came not at the Popes citation, then the sayde Pope Alexander addressed hys letters to the Archbyshop of Sunico, wherein he straightly charged him to prohibit and forbid, by the authority Apostolickall, all manner of preachings or sermons to be made to the people, but onely in Cathedral Churches or Colledges, or Parish Churches, or in Monasteries, or els in theyr Churchyardes. And that the articles of Wickliffe, shoulde in no case of any person of what state, condition or degree so euer, be suffered to be holde, taught, or defended, eyther priuily or apertlye. Commanding moreover and charging the sayde Archbyshop, that with foure Bachelors of Diuinitie, and two Doctours of the Canon lawe ioyned vnto hym: would proceede vpon the same, and so provide that no person in churches, schooles, or any other place, shoulde teach, defend, or approue any of the foresayd Articles. So that who so euer should attempt the contrary, shoulde be accounted an hereticke. And vnles he shall rencke solemnly and publicly the sayde articles, and shall for euer abiure the booke wherein the foresayd articles be contained, so that they may be vtterly abolished out from the eyes of the faithfull: the same to be apprehended and imprisoned, all appellation set apart, the help alid of the secular arme being called thereunto, if nede shall require, &c. These were the contentes of this mighty & fierce bull of Pope Alexander.

Against the whych bull on the other side John Husse iustly complaining, excepterth againe and obiecterth many things, as appeareth in his boke intituled De Ecclesia. cap. 18. Where he declarerth thys mandate of the pope to stande directly against the doings and sayings both of Christ and of his Apostles: Considering, how Christ himselfe preached to the people, both in the sea, in the desert, in fields, in houses, in synagoges, in villages: and the Apostles also in all places did the same, the Lord mightily working in them. He declared moreover, the said mandate or bul of the pope to redound vnto the great detriment of the church, in binding the word of God, that it might not haue his free passage. Also, the same to be preiudicial vnto chappels newly erected for the word of God to be preached in them, wherefore (sayeth he) from thys commandment or mandate of Pope Alexander, I did appeale vnto the sayd Alexander, being better informed and aduised. And as I was persecuting my appeale, the Lord Pope (sayth John Husse) immediately died.

Then the Archbyshop of Sunico aforesayde, to whome this present bul was directed, when he saw the proces, buls and mandates of the bishop of Rome, to be thus cōdemned of John Husse, and hys fellows, neyther hauing any hope of redresse in Winceslaus the king: which seemed to neglect

Ex chro. D. Albani. Anno. 1410. Concilium Pisanum. Pope Alexander. 5. 2. popes together.

The vaine remission by the popes indulgence. Pope Alexander dead. Pope John 23.

Ex loc. Chro. D. Historia Hussar. lib. 1. The Gospell began to take root in Bohemia.

The letter of pope Alexander, 5. to the Archbishop. Swinco of Bohemia.

The Popes cruell bull against John Husse.

John Husse obiecterth against the popes cruell Bull.

The popes Bull contrary to christ.

The notable iudgement of God in striking the aduersaries of the Gospell.

The oth and vow of pope Gregory. 11.

Ex Chron. D. Albani.

The pope falsely periured. Cardinals leaue the periured Pope.

Ann. 1409.

King Henry 4. to pope Gregory. 12.

2. hundred thousand slaine by schisme of Rome. 30 thousand slaine in campe fighting for the bishopricke of Leodidum.

King Henry 4. to the Cardinals.

Concilium Pisanum.