

to rest in them, for conspiring against God, the Church, the King & their countrey. But what cannot the fetching practice of the Bishops Prelates bring about, where they haue once conceived a malice? wherefore maruell not (good reader) at this, nor iudge thou accordinge to the wordes which thou hearest. But suspēd thy iudgement a while, till the matter be moze opened vnto thee. Examples of like handling be not so rare, but yett maist loone iudge by other tymes the like also of these. George Egic, of whom mention was made before, did but preach in tyme of Queene Mary, and yett commissiō was directed against him, as in case of raising vp a commotion against y^e Queene. Adā Damlip in Calice did but preach, & y^e receiuing of one poze crowne 2. yeares before at Rome was enough to make him a traitor. In the tyme of K. Henry y^e 8. one Cingleton chaplein to Queene Anne, the Queenes maistres mother that now is, did but preach y^e Gospel, moued by zeale (as I haue credible witness of his owne scholar that heard him speake it being to him) & yett by vertue of commissiō it was objected to him: for rayling by commotion agaynst the kyng, yea and also for killing of Wakington, & suffering for the same as a traitor. So here, what matter of maruell is it, if the kyng intended, or rather circumuened by the wrong information of the Prelates (whom he beleueh) gaue out his commissiō, agaynst thynges neuer wrought nor thought.

wherefore I exhort thee (Christian Reader) as I sayd before, iudge not by and by the truth, by the wordes of the Commissiō: but iudge the wordes rather of the Commissiō by the truth. Neither measure thou the lyne by the stone: But the stone rather by the lyne. At least yett differ thy sentence, till both the Commissiō and the Iudgement beyng layd together, thou mayest afterward see and perceive moze, what is to be iudged in the case.

In the meane season marke well these wordes of the kyng in this Commissiō, (A) Cum nos plenius informemur &c. By the which wordes it is case to be vnderstand, that the kyng himselte had no certaine knowledge thereof, but onely by information of others, (of Bishops no doubt & Prelates) & thereupon gaue forth his Commissiō afore-sayd. And then how will this stand with our Chroniclers & other Epitomes and Summaries who Maister Cope doth alledge. For if it be certaine that Robert Fabia sayth, that the kyng himselte beyng in the field tooke certayne of them, as Syr Roger Acton, Maister Browne, and John Buerclay, & your owne Edw. Hall, also & your Epitome agreeth to the same, and sayth mozeouer that they were brought before y^e kynges presence. Who Couper also who you alledge, addeth further and sayth, that the kyng there by strength dyd take them.

I pray you (Maister Cope) what needed the kyng to write this by information, when as he both himselte was present at the fact, was the taker of them, and a witness of the dede? The which and if it be true, that the kyng heard this but by way of information, how will you then defend your Chroniclers and your Epitomes. But herein I will neither greatly sticke with you, nor contend with them: Desiring thee Reader this onely to heare in mynde the date of this present Commissiō when it was geuen, (B) which soundeth to be the x. day of January, & afterward to compare the same with the date of Iudgement here vnder following, whiche I will (the Lord willing) also hereunto annex, leauyng nothing out: Yea rather ministeryng to the aduersary all manner of helpes, whatsoever they can seeke or require for their most abuauntage in this matter, to be desired: So sure and confident I am in the innocent cause of these good men nor fearing whatsoever blind malice can canill agaynst them.

The Inditement of the Lord Cobham, Syr Roger Acton and others, with notes following vpon the same.

Parliamēta coronæ corā domino rege apud Westm. de termino sancti Hillarij, anno regni regis Henrici quinti, post cōque. primo Rot. vij. inter parliamēta regis. Alias corā Gulielmo Roos de Hamlak, Henrico le Scrop, Gulielmo Cromwre maiore ciuitatis London, Hugone Huls & focijs Iustici domini regis, ad inquirend. per sacram. proborū & legal. hominū de ciuitate domini regis Lodon, & suburbij eiusdē, ac de Com. Midd. tā infra libertates, quā extra de omnibus et singulis proditionibus & insurrectionibus, per quā plures subditos domini regis Lollardos vulgarit. nuncupatos, et alios in ciuitate, suburbij, et com. predictis factis et perpetratis, nec non de omnibus proditionibus, insurrectionibus, rebellionibus, et felonij in ciuitate, suburbij, et com. predictis, per quoscunque et qualitercunque factis, siue perpetratis, et ad eadē proditiones, insurrectiones, rebelliones, et felonias audiend. et terminand. secundū legē et consuetudinē regni domini regis

Angliæ, per literas ipsius domini Regis patētis, assignat. apud west. die Mercurij (A) proximo post festū Epiphaniæ domini anno regni regis Henrici quinti post conquestum primo, (B) per sacram. xij. Jur. exiit presentatū: quod Iohannes Oldcastle de Coulyng in Com. Kanc. chr. et alij Lollardi vulgar. nuncupat. qui cōtra fidē catholicam diuersas opiniones hereticas, et alios errores manifestos legi catholicæ repugnantes a diu temerarie tenuerunt, opiniones et errores predictos manutene, ut in factō minime perimplere valentes, quādiu regia potestas et tam itatus regal. domini nostri regis, quā status et officij prelatiæ dignitatis infra regnū Angl. in prosperitate perseuerarēt, falso et proditorie machinando, tā statum regni, quā statum et officium prelatorū, necnon ordines religiosorū infra dictū regnū Angl. penitus aduallare: Ac dominum nostrū regē, fratres suos, prelatos, et alios magnates eiusdē regni interficere, necnō viros religiosos, relicti cult. diuinis et religiosi obseruancijs ad occupationes mūdanas prouocare, et tā ecclesias cathedrales, quam alias ecclesias et domos religiosas de reliquis et alijs bonis ecclesiasticis totaliter spoliare cōfūdus ad terrā prosternere, et dictū Iohānē Oldcastel. (C) Regentē eiusdē regni constituere, et quā plura regimina secundū eorum voluntatē infra regnum prædictū (D) quasi gens sine capite in finalē destructionē, tam fidei catholicæ et cleri quā status et maiestatis dignitatis regal. infra idē regnum ordinare, falso et proditorie ordinauerunt et proposuerunt, quod ipse infimul cū quā pluribus rebellibus domini regis (E) ignotis ad numerum viginti millium hominū de diuersis partibus regni Angl. modo guerrino ariuat. (F) priuatim insurgent. et die Mercurij proximo (G) post festū Epiphaniæ domini anno regni regis predicti predicto apud villā et parochiam sancti Egijgij (H) extra Barram veteris Templi London. in quodā magno campo ibidem vnauinit. conuenirent et insimul obuiarent pro nephando p oposito suo in premisis perimplend. quidē die Mercurij apud villā et parochiam predictas predicti I Oldcastel et alij in hmodi proposito proditorie perseuerantes, predictum dominū nostrum regem, fratres suos, videlicet, (H) Thomam ducem Clarenciæ, Iohannem de Lancastre, & Humfredum de Lancastre, necnon prelatos & magnates predictos interficere, necnon ipsum dominum nostrum Regem & heredes suos de regno suo predicto exheredare, & premisa omnia & singula, necnon quamplura alia mala & intolerabilia facere & perimplere falso & proditorie proposuerunt & imaginauerunt (I) & ibidē versus campum predictū modo guerrino ariati. proditorie modo insurrectionis contra ligencias suas equitauerunt ad debellandū dictū Dominum nostrū Regē, nisi per ipsum manu forti gratiosē impediti fuissent. Quod quidē inditament Dominus Rex nunc. certis de causis coram eo venire fecit terminandū. Per quod preceptum fuit vic. quod non ommitteret, &c. quin caperet prefatum Iohannem Oldcastel. si &c. Et faluo &c. Ita quod haberet corpus eius coram Domino Rege, apud Westmonasteriū ad hunc diē, scilicet die Mercurij proximo post octauas sancti Hillarij isto eodem termino ad respondendū Domino Regi de premisis &c. Ad quos diem & locum, coram domino Rege vic. quod exigi faceret eum de com. in com. quousque vsigaretur si non &c. Et si &c. tunc eum caperet, & faluo &c. Ita quod haberent corpus eius coram Domino Rege in octauas Sancti Iohannis Baptiste ex tunc proximū sequē, vbicunque &c. ad respondendū domino Regi de proditionibus, & felonij superioris sibi impositis. Ad quas octauas sancti Iohannis Baptiste, an. regni R. Henrici quinti post conquestum secūdo, Iohāne Sutton, & Io. Michell vic. Mid. corā domino Rege returnauerūt quod ad com. Midd. centū apud Braynford die Iouis proximo ante festum S Barnabæ Apostoli, an. reg. R. Hen. quint. post conquestū secundo. Et ad quatuor com. ex tunc ex proximo precedentes predictus Iohannes Oldcastle exactus fuit, & non cōparuit. Et quia ad nullū eorundē com. cōparuit. Ideo presentibus coronatoribus com. predicti vilagat^r fuit, per quod inquiretur de terra & catallis suis.

¶ Notes or considerations vpon the Inditement and Commissiō aboue prefixed.

(A) Die Mercurij proximo post festū Epiphaniæ &c. (C) First here is to be noted & considered (good reader) the day and date of geuing out the Commissiō, & then of the Werdic presented by the Iurers, which was both in one day, that is, on the wednesday next after the Epiphaniæ, in the first yeare of the reign of kyng Henry 5, which was the x. day of the moneth of January (as the date of the Commissiō sayth) an. 1412, after the die of Englad, or after the Romish die. an. 1412. So that after the die euer we count whether it be an. 1412. or els an. 1414. the Dominical letter beginning at the first day of January to chaunge, must needs be G. for the yeare: & so necessarily make wednesday next after the Epiphaniæ, to be the x. day of the sayd moneth of January. Thus then this present wednesday, which was the tenth day of the moneth, being well noted and dozne in minde, on the which day both the Commissiō was directed, & also the Werdic presented, let vs now proceede further

(A) The first note concerning the date and day both of the Commissiō & of the Iurers concerning on one day.

Examples of diuers falsely accused for treasons.

Our English Chroniclers examined by the wordes of this Commissiō.

(B)

(A)
(B)

(C)

(D)

(E)

(F)

(G)

(H)