

of this sedition to the death of John Hus, and of Jerome, but also missech as muche in the order and computation of the yeres. For neither was sir Roger Acton with his fore- said fellowes alive at the tyme of the counsell, neither doth hee agree therein with any of our English wyrters, except onely with Hall, who also erreth therein as wide as he.

3. 4. Vntruth.

For the third and fourth vntruth I note this, where he addeth and sayth, that after this rebellio raised against the king, the sayd sir John Oldcastle being there present himselfe, was taken and prisoned in the tower, and after ward escaped out of the laide tower by night, wherein is concei- ned a double vntruth. For neither was sir John Oldca- stle there present himselfe, if we beleue Fabian and Cope, Dial. 6. pag. 833 lin 11. neither yet did he euer escape out of the Tower after that conspiracie, if euer any such conspiracie was.

Copus pag. 833. lin 11.

5. Vntruth.

This v. but not the last vntruth in Polydore is this, that he sayth, Tho. Arundel to haue died in the laime yere, no- ting the yere to be An. 1415. where as by the true registers he died. An. 1413.

An other Vn- truth in Poly- dore noted.

To this vntrithe an other also may be ioyned, where he erring in the computation of the yeres of the said Tho- mas Arundel Archbilhop of Canterbury, repositeth hym to sit 33. yeaeres. who was there Archbilhop but onely 18. yeres, as is to be fene in the records of Canterbury. The wordes of Polydore be these: Thomas Arundellius Cantuari- ensis antistes annum iam tunc sedes tertium & trigessimum e- vita excessit lib. 22. Ang. hist. All be it in thys I doe not greatly contend wyth Polydore, and peraduenture the aduertary will finde some easie shift for this matter.

But let vs passe now from Polydore, not (as they say) out of the hal into the kitchine, but out of the kitchine into the hall, examining and perpending what sayth Edward Hall an other wtines in this matter: vpon whom maister Cope bindeth so fast, that hee suppoeth hys knot is vncer- able to be lofed. And mozeouer to treadeth me downe vnder his feete in the dirt (as a man would thinke hym some dirt daubers sonne) so that the spots thereof he sayeth, will neuer be gotten out while the world standeth, & a day longer. For wythstanding I trust M. Cope that your dirtie penne with your cockish bzags hath not so bedaubed and bespotted me, noz yet conuicted me to be such a depraue of histories, but I hope to spunge it out. At least way, with a litle asperges of the Idopes holy water, I trust to come to a deal babor, well enough.

The testimony of Hall against the L. Cobham examined.

But certes, M. Cope, your maister ship must first vnderstand, that if yee thinke so to deprecie me, and disprone me of vntruth in my history, you must go moze groundly to worke, and bring against me other authozs then Edward Hal: You must consider (M. Cope) if you will be a cotrol- ler in storie matters, it is not enoughe for you to byng a railing spirit, or a minde disposed to carpe and cauil where any matter may be picked, diligence is required, and great searching out of booke and authozs not only of our time, but of all ages. And especially where matters of religion are touched pertaining to the church: it is not sufficient to see what Fabian, or what Hall sayth, but the records must be sought, the Registers must be turned ouer, letters also and ancient instruments ought to be perused, and authozs wyth the same compared, finally the wtizers among them selues one to be conferred wyth another. And so wyth iudgement to be waied, wyth diligence to be labored, and wyth simplicitie pure from all addiction and partialitie to be vttered.

Thus did Auentinus, thus did Sleidanus wytte. These helpes also the eldest and best Historicians semed to haue, both Titus Linius, Salustius, Quintus Curtius, and suche lyke, as by their letters and records infered may wel appeare. The same helpes likewise both in your Fabian and in your Edwarde Hall were to be required, but especially in you (M. Cope) your selfe, whych take vpon you so cockishly (rather then wisely) to be a controller and maister mode- ratour of other mens matters. In which matters (to say the truth) you haue no great skill, and lesse experience, ney- ther haue you either suche plenty of authozs meete for that purpose, noz yet euer traunailed to search out the origins & groundes of that wherof ye write. But onely contented with such as cometh next to hande, or peraduenture re- ceiuing such almost as some of your poore friends bestowe vpon you, think it sufficient if you can alledge Fabian and Hall for your purpose.

Now what purpose & affection herein doth lead you, rather doeth digne you to the carping and barking against the history of these good men, y be hence gone and had their punishment. all men may see it to be no simple sinceritie of a mind indifferent, but y zeale only of your sect of Popery, or rather of fury, which setteth your railing spiritte on fire.

Cope a carper of stories wherof he hath no skill.

But now out of the fiery kitchin, to come to the hal againe let vs see what matter speth in the testimony of Edward Hall, to prouethese men to be traytozs. And here for so much (Maister Cope) as you seeme neither sufficiently ac- quainted with this your owne maister and authour Ma- ster Hall, noz yet well experienced in the searching out of histories, I wil take a litle paynes for you, in this behalfe, to certifie you concerning the story of this authoz, wher- of percase you your selfe are yet ignozant.

Answered to Ed. Hall.

The truth wherof is this, that as the sayd Edward Hall, your great master & testis, was about the compiling of his story, certayne there were which resorted to hym of whom some were drawers of his petigrice & vineat, some were grauers, the names of whom were John Betts, and Pyral, which be now both dead. And other there were of the same sodalitie, who be yet alive, & were then in y house of Richard Bratton, both the Printer of the sayd booke, & also (as is thought) a great helper of the penning of y same. It to befall that as Hall was entering into the story of Syr John Oldcastle, of Syr Roger Acton, & their fellowes, the booke of John Bale touching the story of the L. Cobham, was y same time newly come ouer, which booke was pri- uely couched by one of his seruants into the study of Hall, so that in turnyng ouer his bookes, it must needs come to his handes. At the sight wherof, when he saw the ground & reasons in that booke contained, he turned to the authozs in the foresayd booke alledged, wherupon within two nightes after, moued by what cause I know not, but so it was, that hee taking his pen, vntill and cancelled all that he had written before, agaynst Syr John Oldcastle & his fellowes, & was now ready to go to the Print, con- tainyng neare to the quantitie of thre pages. And least (M. Cope) you, or any other should thinke me to speake beside my booke, be it therefore knowen both to you and to all other, by these presentes, that the very selfe same first copy of Hall rased and croled with his owne penne, re- maineth in my handes to be shewed & scene, as need shall require. The matter which he cancelled out came to this effect, wherewith he following the narratiō of Polydore, be- gan with like wordes, to declare how the Sacramētaries here in England, after the death of John Husse, and Hiero- me of Prague, being pycked as he sayth, with a demoni- acall ring, first conspired agaynst the Iduelles, and after a- gainst the king, hauing to their Captaines sir John Old- castle the Lord Cobham, and Syr Roger Acton Knight, with many moe wordes to the like purpose and effect, as Polydore & other such like Chronicles doe write agaynst hym. All which matter notwithstanding, the sayd Hall with his penne at the sight of John Bales booke, did vt- terly extirp and abolish. Addyng in the place thereof the wordes of M. Bales booke, touchyng the accusation and condemnation of the sayd Lord Cobham, before Thomas Arundell Archbilhop of Canterbury, taken out of the let- ter of the sayd Archbilhop, as is in his owne story to be fene. In vita Henr. 5. pag. 2. lin. 30.

Hall raceth out his owne storie writte against the L. Cobham.

Hal. in vita Henr. 5. pag. 2. b. lin. 30.

And thus Edward Hall your authoz, renoking & cal- ling backe all that he had deuised before agaynst the Lord Cobham (wherof I haue his owne hand to shew, & wit- nes substanciall vpo the same) in his printed booke recoz- ded of him no moze, but onely sheweth y proces betwene the Archbilhop of Cāterbury and him for matters of religion. And so ending wyth sir John Oldcastle, proceedeth further to the assemble of sir Roger Actō (whom he false- ly calleth Robert Actō) John Browne, and Beuerley, the narration wherof he handlet in such sort, that he neither agreeth with y record of other wtizers, noz yet with truth it selfe. For where he excludeth the Lord Cobham out of that assemble, he disordereth therein from Polydore and o- ther, And where he affirmeth the fact of that conspiracie to be wrought before, or at the xij. day of December: that is manifestly false, if the records before alledged be true. And where he reporteth this assemble to be after the burnyng of John Hus, and of Hierome of Prague, therein he accoz- deth wyth Polydore, but not with truth. Mozeouer, so doubtfull he is and ambiguous in declaration of this sto- ry, that no great certaintie can be gathered of him.

Hall in the storie of the L. Cobham, & sir Roger Acton, agreeth not with other storics. Vntruth in Hall noted.

First, as touchyng the confession of them, he confesseth himselfe, that he saw it not, & therfore leaureth it at large. And as concernyng the causes of their death, he leaureth the matter in doubt, not daryng (as doth M. Cope) to define or pronoice any thing thereof, but onely reciteth the sum- mes and myndes of diuers men diuersly, some thinkyng it was for cōueyng the Lord Cobham out of the tower, some that it was for treason and heresie, and here cometh in the mētiō onely of a record, but what record it is neither doth he vtter it, noz doth he examine it: other some againe adit- ming (as he sayth) y it was for sayned causes furnished by the

Hall doubt- full in the story of sir R. Actō. &c.