

The lies and  
fictions innumer-  
able in the  
Popes Church.

toward the churche of Christ, not muche regarding what corruption encread therem, so that there conmodities might not decrease. Thus out of this fountayne haue gushed out so many prodigious lies in Churche Legendedes, in Sainctes lies, in monikhe vniuers, in fabulos miracles, in false and forged Reliques, as in peices of the holycrosse, in the bloud of halcs, in our Ladies milke in y nayls of Christ, which they make to a great number. Likewise in their false and blinde errores, corrupt doctrines, abling inuentions repugnant to y truth of the woord. Item in their bastard booke, forged Epistles, their Apocrypha, and Pseudopigrapha. Here commeth to their forged Canons, theyr soysing and cogging in ancient counells & deccrees, as in *os èt epov h̄t̄pov in Canons of the Apostles* (if those Canons were the Apostles) Excepta Romana sede, soysed into the deccrees by Gratianus, also the cogging in a false Canon to the conuencell of Nica for the mayntenance of the see of Rome, as appeareth in the *Synode of Carthage*.

Here commeth in also the Epistles of Clement, and other sondry epistles Decretall, which as they are no doubt falsly ascribed by other, so are they the welhead of many superstitious traditions, oppressing this day the churche of Christ. To speake moreouer of the liurges of St. James, of Chrysostome and other, of the first masse sayde by saint Peter at Rome, and that St. Peter late 25. yeares Bishop of Rome. To speake also of the works of Augustine, Ambrose, Hierome, and Gregorze, what doctour or famous writer hath there bene in the churche, vnder whose name some counterfayted booke haue not falsly been fatered, and yet stand farr authorised vnder their patronage, to the great detriment of the churche: what shoulde I speake of Abdias, Amphilochius, Dionysius Areopagita. The Dialoges of Gregorze, which falsly to this day haue been ascribed to Gregorze the first, where in dede they were first written in Brecke, by Gregorze the 3, and afterward translated out of Brecke into Latine, by pope Zachary, vide supra pag. 120. Likewise that worthy and Imperiali sermon intituled Eusebij pamphili Sermo ad Conuentum Sanctorum, hath to thys day wrongfully borne the name of Eusebius, where as in very truth it was made by the good Emperor Constantinus himself in his owne heretall stile in latine, and afterward translated out of Latine into Brecke by Eusebius, as he himselfe confesseth in his worke De vita Constant.

lib. 4. But as touching this sermon although the name be chaunged, so godly and fruifulit is, that it mattereth not much, vnder whose name it be read, yet worthy to be read vnder y name of none so much, as of the Emperor Constantine himselfe, who was the true autho, and owner therof.

Nicely except it be the irokes onely of the new Testamente, and of the olde, what is almost in the popes church, but either it is mingled or depeynted, or altered, or corripted, either by some addicions interlaid, or by some diuinis mangles and gelded, or by some grosse adulterate, or with manifest lies contaminate. So that in theyr doctrine standeth little truthe, in theyr Legendedes, Doctours, & malice-booke lesse truthe, in their miracles and Reliques least truthe of all. Neithir yet doe theyr sacramentes remayne cleare and woyd of manifest lies and corruption. And especially here commeth in the mayster bee, whiche bringeth in much sweet hony into Popes hunes, y maister lyce, I mean of all lies, where the P. leauing not one cronne of bread nor drop of wine in the reverent communion, vtruly and idolatrously taketh away all substance of bread from it, turning the whole substance of bread into the substance of Chirkles owne body: whiche substance of bread, if the Pope take from the sacrament, then muste he also take the breaking from it: for breaking and the body of Christ, can in no wise stand literally together by the scripture. Thus then as this is proued by the word of God to be a manifest lyce: so thinke not much good Reader hereat, as though I passed the bondes of modestie in calling it the Archlye or maister lyce of all lies. Because vpon this one, an infinite number of other lies and errores in the popes churche, as hanowaydes doe wayte and pend.

But soformuch as I stand here not to charge other me so muche, as to defende my selfe, ceasing therefore, or rather differing for a time to stir this slinking pude of these wilfull and intended lies and vnruthes whiche in the Popes Religion and in papistis booke, be innumerale I will now returne to thole vnruthes and impudent lies which M. Cope hath hunted out in my history of Actes & Monuments, first beginning with thole vnruthes whiche he carpeth in the storie of the foresayde sy: John Oldcastle, and sy: Roger Acton, Bowrie and the rest.

And first, where he layeth to my charge, that I cal them Martyrs, whiche were traytors and seditious rebels agaynst the king, and theyr Country: to this I haue aum-

swere before suffiently.

Now here then must the reader needes stay a little at M. Copes request, to see my vanitie and impudencye yet more fully and amply represt in refuting a certain place in my Latine story, concerning the kinges statute made at Leicester, whiche place and wordes by him alledged, be these pag. 107. *Quod circa Rex indicio Leicestri concilio (quod fortassis Londini ob Cobham factores non erat tutum) proposito edito in manu eius in uerba possum his, quicunq; deinceps hoc doctrina genere sectarentur, usq; adeo in eos seuerus, ut si modo haereticos, sed perduelliones etiam haberi, ac pro inde genimo eos supplicios, suspedio simul & incendio afficiendos statuerit. &c. Et mox, Adeo ille vires, ratione que intendebat omnes aduersus Wiclefianos: Wiclefiani ad temporis decebantur, quicunq; Scripturae Dei sua lingua lectitarent &c.*

Upon these wordes out of my foresayd Latine booke alledged, maister Cope perwaded himselfe, to haue great aduantage agaynst me, to proue me a notorious lyer, in thre sondry pointes. First, in that, whereas I say, that the king did hold his parliament at Leicester, adding thys by the way of Parenthesis (quod fortassis Londini ob Cobham factores non erat tutum &c.) here he concludeth thereby simpliciter and precisely, that the Lord Cobham and sy: Roger Acton with his felawes, were traytors &c. Wherby a man may soone shape a casyller, by the shadwe of my master Cope. For where as my Dialysis out of y teixe speakeþ doubtfull and uncertainelie by this word (fortassis), meanning in dede, the king to be in state of the Bishoppes, that he durst not hold his Parliament at London, but went to Leicester: he argueth precisely therfore, that the Lord Cobham, sy: Roger Acton, and his felawes went about to kill the king. Secondly, where I affirme that the king in that Parliament made a grievous law agaynst al such as hold the doctrine of Wickliffe, that they shoulde be taken hereafter: not for heretiques, but also for felawes, or rebels, or traytors, and therfore shoulde susayne a double punishment, both to be hanged, and also to be burned &c. Here cometh in maister Momus, with his Cope on his backe, and prouing me to be a lyer, denyng playnly y the king made thise statute. vid. pag. 835. line 6. Where hys wordes be these: *Atqui quod haereticis pro perduellionibus & deinceps geminatas poenas suspediti & incendijs luerent, ut nugatur Foxius, nullo modo illuc traditur &c.*

First here woulde bee asked of maister Cope, what he calleth patria hostes, et proditores? if he call these traytors, then let vs see whether they that followed the sect of wycliffe, were made traytors & heretiques by the kings law, or not. And first let vs heare what sayth Polydore Virg., his owne witness in this behalfe, wholle wordes in his xij. booke, pag. 44. be these: *Quare publice edixit, vt si ipsi deinceps reperirentur, qui eam sequerentur sectam, patria hostes haberentur, quo sine omnini lenitate seuerius ac ocyus de illis supplicium sumeretur &c. That is, wherefore it was by publice statute decreed, that whosoeuer were founde hereafter to follow the sect of wycliffis, shoulde be accounted for traytors, whereby without all lenitie, they shoulde be punished more seuerely and quickly. &c.*

Thus haue you (maister Cope) the playne testimonie of Polydore with mee. And because ye shall further see your ielse more impudent in carpynge, then I am in depraying of histories, you shall understand moreouer and heare, what Thomas walder, one of yor owne catholique brotherhode, & who was also humble stille, & a doer in the saunc Parliament, being the provincial of the Carmelites, saith in this matter writing to Pope Martin, wholle very wordes in Latine here follow, written in his Prologue to the sayd Martine, in this wise: *Nec mora longa proceſit, quin statutum publicum per omne regni concilium in publico emanavit edictu, quod omnes Wiclefisti & sc̄i dei proditores essent, sic proditores regis, proscriptis bonis censerentur et regni, duplice pena dandi, incendio propter deum, suspedio propter regem &c. That is. And it was not long after, but a publicke law and statute came out, by the common assent of the general parliamēt of the wholle Realme, that al wiclefistics, as they were traytors to God, so also shoulde be counted traytors to the king and to the realme, hausing their goods lost and confiscate unto the king. And therfore shoulde suffer double punishment, as to be burnt for God, and to be hanged for y king &c. And thus haue you (Maister Cope) not onely my sentence, but also the very wordes of my storie confirmed by this autho: because ye shall not think me to speake so lightly or impudently without my booke. And mozeon to conffirme the said sentence of Tho. walder, it followeth also in an other place of the foresayde autho.*

Tomo. 1. lib. 2. De doctrinali fidei Ecclesi Cathol. Cap. 46. Where he writh in these wordes. *Et tamen iam cum regnare coepisset illustris rex Henricus 5. qui adhuc agit in sceptris, et de coru perfidia cap. 46. lib. 2.*

3. Pointes  
1. Obiectiōn

Cope cau-  
lēt with-  
out cause.

Stat. an. 2.  
Hen. 5. cap. 7  
2. Obiectiōn

Copu. pag.  
835. lin 6  
Obiectiōn

The seete of  
Wickliffe  
made heretie  
and treason  
by K. Hērys  
Polyd. Virg.  
lib. 22.

The. Walde  
in somo pri-  
mo. Doctri-  
nali, ad  
Mart. pagā  
in prologo.

Waldē tomo  
1. De offi-  
ciis ecclie.  
cap. 46. lib. 2