

dementes, of the loue and knowledge of God, of Mactrimony, of Denance, of the three enemies of mankind, of the prayer of our Lord, and of the Supper of our Lord.

The same day Pope John the 22. chainged his apparel & conueyed himselfe secretly out of Constance, fearing the iudgement by the which afterward he was deuiued of his papall dignitie, by means of most execrable & abhominable forsaite and doynge. This was the cause that John Hus was transported and caried vnto an other prison: for the Popes seruantes which had the charge and keeping of John Hus, vnderstanding that their Maister was fled & gone, deliuered vp the keyes of the prison vnto the Emperour Sigismund, and to the Cardinals, and followed their Maister the Pope. When by the whole consent of the Councell, the sayd John Hus was put into the handes of the Bishop of Constance, who sent him to a Castle on the other side of the Riuer of Rhine, not very farre from Constance, whereas he was shut vp in a Towre, with fetters on his legges, that he could scarce walke in the day tyme, and at night hee was fastened vp to a racke agaynst the wall hard by his bed.

In the meane season certaine noble men and Gentlemen of Pole & Boheme, did all their iudicour to purchase his deliuerance, hauing respect to the good renowne of all the Realme, the which was wonderfully defamed and slandered by certaine naughty persons. The matter was growne vnto this point, that all they which were in the towne of Constance, that seemed to beare any fauour vnto J. Hus, were made as mocking stocks, and derided of all men, yea euen of the slaues and base people. wherfore they tooke counsell and concluded together to present their request in writing vnto the whole Councell, or at the least vnto the foure nations of Almaine, Italie, Fraunce, and England: this request was presented the 14. day of May, an. 1415. The tenour here ensueth.

The first schedule or Bill, whiche the nobles of Boheme deliuered vp to the Councell for the deliuerance of Iohn Hus, the 14. day of May. Anno. 1415.

Most reuerend fathers and Lordes. The Nobles and Lordes of Boheme and Pole here present, by this their present writinges doe shew and declare vnto your most reuerences how that the most noble King and Lord, the Lord Sigismund King of Romanes, alwayes Augustus King of Hungary, Croatia, Dalmatia, &c. hearing of the great dissention that was in the kyngdome of Boheme as heyre, King and Lord successeur, willyng & mynding to foresee and prouide for his owne honour, he sent these noble men Maister Wenceslate de Duba and John de Alim here present, that they would bying and assure Maister John Hus vnder the King his name and safe conduct. So that he would come to the sacred general Councell of Constance, vnder the safe conduct of the sayd King, and the protection of the sacred Empire, openly geuen and graunted vnto the sayd Maister John Hus, that hee might purge himselfe and the kyngdome of Boheme from the haunser that was rayled vpon them, and there to make an open declaration of his fayth to euery man that would lay any thyng to his charge. The which the sayd Nobles with the forenamed Maister John Hus haue performed and done, accordyng to the Kinges commaundement.

When as the sayd Maister John Hus was freely of his owne accorde come vnto Constance, vnder the sayd safe conduct, & greuously imprisoned befoze he was heard, and at this present is tormented both with fetters and also with hunger and thirst. Albeit that in tymes past at the Councell holden at Baylan. 1410. yere of our Lord, the heretikes whiche were condemned, were suffered to remaine there at libertie, and to depart home freely: notwithstanding this Maister John Hus, neither beyng conuicted nor condemned, no not so much as once heard, is taken and imprisoned, when as neither any King or any Prince Elector, either any Embassadour of any Uniuersitie was yet come or present. And albeit the Lord the King, together with the Nobles and Lordes here present most instantly required and desired, that as touchyng his safe conduct they would foresee and haue respect vnto his honour. And that the sayd Maister John Hus might be openly heard, for so much as he would render and shew a reason of his fayth, and if he were found or conuicted obstinately to affirme or maintayne any thyng agaynst the truth or holy Scripture, that then he ought to correct and amend the same, according to the instruction and determination of the Councell: yet could hee neuer obtayne this.

But the sayd Maister John Hus, notwithstanding all this, is most greuously oppressed with fetters and yrons, and lo weakened with thyme and slender diete, that it is to be feared least that his power and strength beyng hereby consumed and wasted, hee should be put in daunger of his wytte or reason.

And although the Lordes of Boheme here present are greatly slandered, because they seying the sayd Maister John Hus, so to be tormented and troubled contrary to the Kinges safe conduct, haue not by their letters put the King in mynde of his sayd safe conduct, that the sayd Lord and King should not any moze suffer any such matters, for so much as they tend to the contempt and disregard of the kyngdome of Boheme, which is the first originall and begynnyng, since it receaued the Catholike fayth, it neuer departed or went away fro the obedience of the holy Church of Rome: yet notwithstanding they haue suffered & borne all these thynges patiently heretofore, least by any meanes occasion of trouble or vexation of this sacred Councell might arise or spryng therof.

Wherfore most reuerend fathers & Lordes: The Nobles and Lordes befoze named do wholly & most earnestly desire & require your reuerences here present, that both for the honour of the safe conduct of our sayd Lord the King, & also for the preservation and increase of the worthy fame and reuowme both of the foresayd kyngdome of Boheme, & your own also, that you will make a short end about the assayes of J. Hus: for so much as by the means of his strait handling he is in great daunger by any longer delay, eue as they do most specially trust vpon the most vpright consciences & iudgements of your fatherly reuerences. But forasmuch as most reuerend fathers and Lordes, it is now come to the knowledge and vnderstanding of the Nobles & Lordes of Boheme here present, how that certaine backbiters and slanderers of the most famous kyngdome of Boheme aforesayd, haue declared & told vnto your reuerences how that the Sacrament of the most precious bloud of our Lord is caried vp & downe through Boheme in vessels not consecrated or halowed, and that Coblers do now heare confessions & minister the most blessed body of our Lord vnto others: The Nobles therfore of Boheme here present require and desire you that you will geue no credit vnto false promoters & tale tellers, for that as most wicked and naughty slanderers & backbiters of the kyngdome aforesayd, they do report & tel vnto your reuerences also your reuerences, that such Lutheran persons of the kyngdome aforesayd, may be named & knowne. And the lord the King together with your reuerences, shall well perceiue and see that the Lordes of Boheme will go about in such manner to recell and put away the false & frivulous slanders of those naughty persons, that they shall be ashamed to appeare hereafter befoze the lord the King and your reuerences.

As soon as this their supplication was red, the Bishop of Luthonis rising vp said. Most reuerend fathers I well perceiue and vnderstand that the last part of this writing doth touch me, my familiars & friends, as though the kyngdome of Boheme were slandered by vs, wherfore I desire to haue time & space of deliberation that I may purge my selfe from this crime that is laid against me. The principal of the counsil appointed him the 17. day of May, at the which day the lordes of Boheme should be present again, to heare both the answer of the counsell, and also the excuse of the bishop of Luthonis, the which thing in dede was afterward performed: for the 17. day of May, which was the 4. day befoze the whittontide they met there againe, where first of all a certaine bishop in the name of the whole council answered by worde to the nobles of Boheme, the contentes of whose answer may easely be known by the second supplication, which the Bohemians put vp to the council. But first I haue here in these fewe wordes following, shewed how the bishop Luthonis defended himselfe agaynst that which is befoze written.

The answer of the Bishop of Luthonis, to the last part of the supplication, which the nobles of Boheme presented vnto the Councell.

Most reuerend fathers and noble Lordes, as Heret de Madonewitz bachelor of Arce: in the name of certain of the nobles of the kyngdome of Boheme in his writings, amongst other thyngs did proponde how that certaine slanderers and backbiters of the sayd kyngdome haue brought to the eares of your reuerences, that the most precious bloud of Christ is caried vp and downe in Boheme in bottles, & that Coblers do heare confessions, and minist-

The extremities Iohn Hus suffered in prison

The constitution of certain slanders.

The Bishop of Luthonis.

The answer and accusation of the Bish. of Luthonis against Iohn Hus.

Pope Iohn fled out of Constance

Noble men of Boheme labour for Iohn Hus.

The safe conduct of the Emperor challenged.