

unto the counsell, who by chance was fallen into his hands, because he heard an euill report of hym, y he was suspected of the heresies of wickliffe: that the Councell might take order for hym, whose part it was to correct & punish such as did erre and stray from the truth, besides many other flattering tales which were writtten in the sayd letter for the prayse of the Councell. After this they read the citation which was gotten out by the counsell agaynst maister Hierome, wherof we haue spoken before. Then certayne of the Bishops sayd vnto hym: Hierome why diddest thou flye & runne away, and diddest not appeare when y wast cited? He answered, because I could not haue any safeconduct, neither from you, neither from the king, as it appaereth by these letters patentes of the Barons, whiche you haue, neither by my open intimationes could I obtain any safe conduct.

wherfore I perceiving many of my greuous & heauy frendes to be here present in the Councell, would not my selfe be the occasion of my perils and daungers, but if I had known or had any understanding of this citation, without doubt, albeit I had bene in Boheme, I would haue returned agayne. When all the whole cabbell rising vp, alledged diuers and sondy acculations and testimonies agaynst hym with a great noyse and tumulte. When the rest held their peace, then spake maister Gerlon the Chancelour of Paris: Hierome when thou wast at Paris, thou thoughtest thy selfe by meanes of thy eloquence to be an Angell, & diddest trouble the whole Vniuersitie, alledging openly in the schooles many erroneous conclusions with their correlaria, and specially in the question de vniuersalibus & de Ideis, with many other very offensive questios. Vnto whom Maister Hierome sayd: I answered to you maister Gerlon: Those matters which I did put forth there in the Schooles at Paris, in the whiche also I answered to the argumentes of the Maisters, I did put then forth philosophically and as a Philosopher, and maister of the Vniuersitie: and if I haue put forth anye questions whiche I ought not to haue put forth, teach me that they be erroneous, and I will most humbly be informed, and amend the same.

whilste he was yet speaking, an other (as I suppose, the maister of the Vniuersity of Colleyne vpon the Riuer of Rheine) rising vp la yd: when thou wast also at Coleyn in thy position whiche thou diddest there determine, thou diddest propound many erroneous matters. Then sayd M. Hierome vnto hym, shew me first one error whiche I propounded, wherewithall he being in a maner astonished, sayd, I do not remember them now at the first, but hereafter they shall be objected agaynst you.

And by and by the thirde man rising vp, sayde: when y you were also at Heidelberg, you propounded many erroneous matters as touching the Trinitie, and there painted out a certayne shield or scutchine, comparing the Trinitie of persons in diuinitie vnto water, snow, and yse, and such like. Vnto whō M. Hierome answered: Those thinges that I wrote or paynted there, the same will I also speake, write and paynt here, and teach me that they be erroneous, and I will most humbly reuoke and recant the same.

Then certayne cryed out, let hym be burned, let him be burned. Vnto whom he answered: if my death doe delight or please you, in the name of God let it be so. Then sayd the archbishop of Salisburg, not so maister Hierome, for so much as it is writtten: I will not the death of a sinner, but rather that he conuert and liue. when these and many other tumultes and cries were passed, whereby they did then most disorderly and outrageously witness agaynst them, they deliuered the sayd maister Hierome being bound, vnto y officers of the Citie of Constance, to be caryed to prison for that night: and so euery one of them returned to their lodgings.

In the meane tyme, one of the friendes of M. J. Hus, looking out at a window of the Cloyster, sayd vnto hym, M. Hierome. Then sayd hee, you are welcome my deare brother. Then sayd Peter vnto hym: Be constant & feare not to suffer death for the truth sake, of the whiche whē you were in tynes past at libertie, you dyd preache so muche goodnes. Vnto whome Hierome answered, truly brother I do not feare death, and for so much as we know that we haue spoken much thereof in times past: let vs now see what may be knowne or done in effect. By and by hys keepers comming to the window, threatening hym with strokes, dyd put away the sayd Peter from the window of the Cloyster.

Then came there one Vitus vnto M. Hierome & sayd maister how doe you? Vnto whom he answered: truly byether, I do very well. Then hys keepers comming a-

bout him, layd hold of the sayd Vitus, saying, this is also one of the number, and kept hym. when it drew towards euening, the archb. of Rigen, sent certayne of hys seruants which lead away M. Hierome, being strongly bound with chaynes, both by the handes and by the neck, and kept him so for certayne houres. when night drew on, they caryed hym vnto a certayn tower of the Citie in Saint Pauls Churchyarde, where as they tyng him fast vnto a great blocke, and his fetter in the stocks: hys handes also being made fast vpon them, they left hym: wher as the blocke was so high, that he could by no means sit thereon, but that his head must hang downeward. They caryed also the sayd Vitus vnto the archbishop of Rigen, who demanded of him, why he durst be so bold to talk with such a man being a reprobate of all men, and an hereticke: and when as he could finde no cause of imprisonment in hym, and y he sayd he was maister John de Clums friend (taking advantage and promise of him that he should not go about to enamage the Councell, by reason of that imprisonment and captiuitie) so dismissed hym and sent him away.

Maister Hierome, vnknotton vnto vs whether he was caryed, lay in the sayd tower two dayes & two nightes relieved onely with bread and water. When one of hys keepers comming vnto M. Peter, declared vnto him howe y M. Hierome lay hard by in bondes and chaynes, and how he was fed. Then M. Peter desired that hee might haue leaue to geuen hym to geue him meat, because he would procure the same vnto hym. The keeper of the prison granting hys request, caryed meate vnto hym. within cleuen dayes after, so hanging by the heeles: he vied to small repast, that he fell sore sicke euen vnto the death. when as he lying then in that captiuitie and prison, desired to haue a Confessor, they of the Councell, demped that he should haue any, vntill such tyme as by great importunitie he obtayned to haue one: hys friendes being then there present in y same prison and tower, wherem he then lay by the space of one yere lacking but seuen dayes.

After they had put John Hus to death, then about the feast of the natiuitie of Mary the Virgine, they brought forth M. Hierome, whom they had kept so long in chains, vnto the Church of S. Paul: and threatening hym with death, being instant vpon him, they forced him to abiure & recant, and consent vnto the death of M. John Hus, that he was iustly and truly condemned and put to death by the. He, what for feare of death and hoppng thereby to escape out of their handes, according to their will and pleasure: & according to the tenour whiche was exhibited vnto hym: did make abjuration, and that in the Cathedral Church and open Session, the draught whereof penned to hym by the papistes, here ensueth.

¶ The abjuration of M Hierome of Prague.

I Hierome of Prague, Maister of Arte, acknowledging the Catholike Church and the Apostolike sayth: do ascurie and renounce all heresies, & specially that, wherof I haue hetherto bene infamed, and that which in tynes past John Hus and John wickliffe haue holden and taught in theyr workes, treatises and sermons, made vnto the people and Clergy: for the whiche cause the sayde wickliffe and Hus, together with the sayde doctrines & errors, are condemned by this Synode of Constance, as hereticke and all the said doctrine sentencially condemned, and especially in certayne articles expressed in the sentences and iudgements geuen agaynst them by this sacred Councell.

Also I do acorde and agree vnto the holy Church of Rome, the Apostolick seate in this sacred Councell, & with my mouth and hart do professe in al thinges, and touching all thinges, and specially as touching the keyes, Sacramentes, orders and offices and ecclesiasticall censures, of pardons, reliques of Saintes, Ecclesiasticall libertie, also ceremonies and all other thinges pertaining vnto Christian Religion, as the Church of Rome, the Apostolick seate and this sacred Councell do professe: and specially that many of the sayd Articles are notoriously hereticall and lately reproboued by the holy fathers, some of them blasphemous, other some erroneous: some offensive vnto godly cares, & many of them temerarious and seditious. And such also were counted the Articles lately condemned by the sacred councell, and it was inhibited and forbidden to all and singular Catholike men hereafter to preach, teach or presume to hold or mayntayne any of the sayd Articles, vnder pain of being accursed.

And I the sayd Hierome, for so much as I haue laboured by Scholasticall Artes, to perswade the opinion, De Vniuersalibus realibus, and that one substance of the common kinde should signify many thinges vnder the same

Vitus the companion of Iohn de Clum.

Hierom straightly bound hande and foote.

Vitus had to the Archbishop of Rigen.

Vitus bound by othe.

Hierome hanging in the stocks was fedde with bread & water.

Peter bringeth meate to Hierome.

Hierome in great sicknes calleth for a confessor.

M. Hierome was kept in iron in prison the space of one yere.

The forced abjuration of Hierome.

The counsell neither would geue him libertie safely to come nor freely to go.

M. Hierome was accused by M. Gerlon with comendation of his eloquence.

Gerlon reuuech olde matters.

The maister of the vniuersitie of Colceine. This man would accuse but he lacked matter. The maister of the vniuersitie of Heidelberg.

Crucifige, Crucifige eum.

Hierome is comforted by the Notarie.

Et tu de illis es. Luc. 23.