

13. That the Popes and the Bishops indulgences be unprofitable, neither can they profite them, to whom they be given by any meanes.

14. That the laity is not bound to obey the prelates what so euer they commaund, vnles the prelates do watch to geue God a iust account of the soules of them.

15. That Images are not to be sought to by pilgrimages, neither is it lawfull for Christians, to bow theyr knees to them, neither to kisse them, nor to geue them any manner of reverence. For the which Articles the Archbishopp with other Bishops, and diuers learned commoning together, first condemned the bookes as hereticall and burned them in fire: and then because they thought the said Iohn Claydon to be forsworne and fallen into heresy, the Archbishop did proceed to his definitiue sentence against the said Iohn personally appearing before him in iudgement (his confessions being read and deposed against him) after this manner.

The bookes of I. Claydon burned.

The sentence & condemnation of Iohn Claydon.

IN the name of God. Amen. We Henry by the grace of GOD Archbishop of Caunterbury, primate of all England, and Legate of the Apostolicke sea, in a certayne cause of hereticall prauity & of relapse into the same, wherupon I. Claydon lay man of the prouince of Caunterbury, was detected, accused and denounced, & in the sayd our prouince of Caunterbury publickly defamed (as by publick fame and common report notoriously to vs hath bene known) first, sitting in iudgement seat & obseruing all things lawfully required in this behalfe, do proceed to the pronouncing of the sentence definitiue in forme as followeth. The name of Christ being inuocated & onely set before our eies, forasmuch as by the actes and thinges enacted, producted, exhibited and confessed before vs, also by diuers signes & euidences we haue found the said Iohn Claydon to haue bene and to be publickly and notoriously relapsed agayne into his former heresy, heretofore by him abiured: according to the merites and desertes of the sayd cause, being of vs diligently searched, weyed and pondered before, to the intet that the sayd I. Claydon shall not infect other with his scab, by the consent and assent of our reuerend brethre Richard Bishop of London, Iohn Bishop of Couentry and Liechfield, & Steuen Bishop of S. Davids, and of other Doctores as well of diuinity as of both lawes, and also of other discret and learned men assisting vs in this behalfe, do iudge, pronounce, and declare the sayd I. Claydon, to be relapsed agayne into his heresy, which he before did abiure, finally and definitiue appoynting him to be left vnto the secular iudgement, and so do leaue him by these presentes.

Iohn Claydon committed to the secular power.

Thus Iohn Claydon receiving his iudgement & condemnation of the Archbishop, was committed to the secular power, and by them vniuilly & vnlawfully was committed to the fire, for that the tempozall magistrat had no such law sufficient for them to burne any suche man for religion condemned of the prelates, as is aboue sufficiently proued & declared pag. 521. But to be short, Quo iure quaque iniuria, Iohn Claydon notwithstanding by the tempozall magistrats, not long after, was had to Smithfield, where meekely he was made a burnt offering vnto the Lord. an. 1415.

The lawe de com burando, insufficient.

The death and martirdome of Iohn Claydon.

The burning of Iohn Claydon, and Richard Turming.



Robert Fabian, and other Chronologers which folow him, adde also that Richard Turming Baker, of whose mention is made before in the examination of Iohn Claydon, was likewise y same tyme burned with him in Smithfield. Albeit in the Register I finde no sentence of condemnation geuen against the sayd Turming, neither yet in the story of S. Albons is there any such metio of his burning made, but only of the burning of Iohn Claydon aforesaid: wherfore the iudgement herof I leaue free to the reader. Notwithstanding, concerning the sayd Turming thys is certaine that he was accused vnto the bishops, & no doubt was in their handes, & bands. What afterward was done with him, I refer it vnto the authozs.

I. Claydon, Richard Turming, martirs.

The next yeare after the burning of these two aforesaid and also of Iohn Hus being burnt at Constaunce, whiche was an. 1416. the Prelates of England seeing the dayly increase of the Gospell, and fearing the ruine of theyr papall kingdom, were busily occupied with all theyr couniel and diligence, to mayntayne the same. wherfore to make their state and kingdom sure, by statutes, lawes, constitutions, and terrour of punishment, as Thomas Arundell and other Prelates had done before, so the sozenamed Henry Chicheley Archbishop of Caunterbury, in his conuocation holden at London, maketh another constitution (as though there had not enough bene made before) agaynst the poore Lollardes: the copy and tenor wherof he sendeth abroad, to the bishop of London, and to other his Suffraganes by them to be put in straight execution, conteyning in wordes as followeth.

Anno 1416.

HENRY by the grace of God Archbishop of Caunterbury, primate of all England, and Legate of the chiefest seat: to our reuered brother in the Lord Richard, by the grace of God bishop of London, health, & brotherly loue, with continuall increase. Lately in our last conuocation in Saynt Pauls Church in London, being kept by you and other our brethren and clergy of our prouince, we do remember to haue made this order vnderwritten by your consentes, when as among many other our cares thys ought to be chief, y by some meanes we take those hereticks, whiche like foxes lurke & hide theselues in the Lordes vineyard: & that the dust of negligēce may be bitterly shake from our feete and from the feete of our fellow brethren: In thys the sayd conuocation of the Prelates and clergy, we haue ordeined, and that our fellowe brethren, our Suffraganes and Archdeacons of our prouince of Caunterbury by theselues, their Officials or Commisaryes in all their iurisdiction, & euery of their charges in theyr country, twice euery yere at the least, do diligently enquire of such persons as are suspect of heresy: And that in euery suche their Archdeaconries in euery parish, wherin is reported any hereticks to inhabit, they cause thre or more of the honestest me and best reported of, to take their orbe vpon the holy Euangelist, that if they shall knowe or vnderstand any frequenting either in priuy conuenticles, or els deferring in life or maners fro the common conuocation of other Catholick men, or els that holde any, either heresyes or errors, or els that haue any suspected bookes in the English tong, or that do receiue any such persons suspect of heresyes and errors into theyr houses, or that be fauozers of them that are inhabitants in any such place, or conuersant with them, or els haue any recourse vnto them: they make certificates of those persons in writing: with all the circumstances wherewith they are suspect, vnto the said our Suffraganes or Archdeacons, or to theyr Commisaryes, so soone, & with as much speede as possibly they can: And that the sayd Archdeacon and euery of their Commisaryes aforesayd: do declare the names of all such persons denounced together with all the circumstances of the, the dioces, & places, & secretly vnder theyr seales do send ouer vnto vs the same: And y the same diocessians effectually direct forth lawfull proces agaynst them, as the quality of the cause requirerth, & that with all diligence they discern, define and execute the same.

Ex Regiff. Chicheley. 217.

You should be better occupied to shake of the duste from your duty pulpets. Twice euery yeare to enquire for Lollardes.

Against priue conuenticles. To differ fro the common sort in life and maners, against the popes lawe. Against Englishe bookes.

And if perhaps they leaue not such persons couit vnto the secular court, yet notwithstanding let them commit the vnto the perpetuall or tempozall prisons, as the quality of the cause shall require, vntil the next conuocation of y prelates and Clergy of our prouince of Caunterbury, there personally to remane: and that in the same prisons they cause the to be kept according as the lawe requirerth: And that of all and singular the things aforesayd, that is, what inquisition they haue made, and what they haue found, and how in the processe they haue behaued themselves, and what persons so couit they haue caused to be put in safe keeping, with what diligence or negligēce of the Commisaryes aforesayd, with all and all manner of other circumstances premised, and therunto in any wise apperteyning, and specially