

Archbishop that they coude not be founde, then he directed downe ozer that Citations should be set up for them on euery Church doze through all townes where they did inhabit: appointing them a day & terme whē to appeare. But notwithstanding, when as they yet could not be taken, neither would appeare, the Archbishop sitting in hys tribunall seate, proceedeth to the sentence of excommunication against them. what afterward happened to them, in the register doth not appeare: but like it is, at length they were forced to submit themselues.

The seconde apprehensio of the Lord Cobham.

Concerning sir John Oldcastle the Lord Cobham, and of his first apprehension, with his whole story & life, sufficiently hath bene exprest before, pag. 575. how he being committed to the Tower, and condemned fallsey of heretic, escaped afterward out of the Tower, and was in wailes about the space of four yeares. In the which meane time, a great summe of money was proclaimed by the King, to hym that could take the sayde sir John Oldcastle, eyther quicke or dead. About the ende of which foure yeares being expired, the Lord Powes, whether for loue and greedines of the money, or whether for hatred of true and sin-

The Lord Powes plain Judas.

cere doctrine of Christ, seeking all maner of wayes how to play the parte of Judas, at length obtained his bloudie purpote, and brought the Lorde Cobham bound vp, to London: which was about the yeare of our Lord. 1417. and about the moneth of December. At which time, there was a Parliament assembled at London, for the reliefe of money the same time to be sente to the King, whome the Bishops had sente out (as yee heard before) to fight in s'raunce. The records of which Parliament do thus say: that on Tuesday the xiiii. day of December, and the xxix. day of the sayd Parliament, Sir John Oldcastle of Towring, in the Countie of Kent, Knight, being outlawed (as is afore minded) in the Kings bench, and excommunicated before by the Archbishop of Canterbury for heretic, was brought before the Lords, and hauing heard his said conuictions, answered not thereto in his excuse. Upon which record and proceffe, it was adyudged, that he should be taken as a traytour to the King and the Realme: that he should be carried to the Tower of London, and from thence drawne thorough London vnto the new gallowes in S. Byles without Temple barre, and there to be hanged, and burned hanging.

¶ The description of the cruell Martyrdome of Sir John Oldcastle, Lorde Cobham.



Treason fallsey surmised.

Vide supra. pag. 575.

As touching the pretended treason of this Lord Cobham fallsey ascribed vnto him in his inditement, citing vpon wrong suggestion and fallse surmise, and aggravated by rigour of words, rather then vpon any ground of due probation, sufficiently hath bene disconced before in my defence of the sayde Lorde Cobham, against Alanus Copus, page. 575. where againe is to be noted, as I saide before, how by this appeared, that the Lorde Cobham was neuer executed by force of the inditement or outlawry, because, if he had, he should then haue bene brought to the barre in the Kings bench, and there the Judges should haue demanded of him, what he could haue said, why hee should nor haue died: and then not shewing sufficient cause for the discharge or delay of execution, the Judges should haue awarded and giuen the iudgement of treason: which being not so, it is cleare he was not executed vpon the inditement. Besides, to proue that he was not executed vpon the inditement, and the outlawry, the manner of the execution proueth it, because it was neither the execution of a Traytour, nor was the whole punishment thereof pronounced by the Judge, as by due order of lawe was requisite.

albeit the sayd Lord Cobham was attainted of treason by the Act, and that the King, the Lords, and the commons assented to the Act: yet all that bindeth not in such sorte (as if in deede he were no traytour) that any man may not by search of the truth, better and set forth sincerely and iustly, the very true and certaine cause, wherupon his execution did follow. which seemeth by all circumstances and firme arguments, to rise principally of his Religion, which first brought him in hatred of the Bishops: the Bishops brought him in hatred of the King: the hatred of the King brought him to his death and Martyrdome. And thus much for the death and execution of this worthy seruaut of Christ Lord Cobham.

Moreover, in the records afore mentioned it followeth, how in the sayd Parliament, after the Martyrdome of this valiant Knight, motion then was made, that the Lord Powes might be thanked and rewarded, according to the proclamation made, for his great trauaile taken in the apprehension of Sir John Oldcastle Knight, hereticke. Thus stand the wordes of the recorde. where two things are to be noted: first, how Sir John here in the recorde is called not traitour, but hereticke only. Secondly, make how this brother of Judas here craueth vs reward

Judas seeketh for his reward.

¶ B. B. iiii. reward