

The popes church poysoned with idleness and belly cheare.

thelues, and they eate the bread therof in idleness, because when ocher men watch and labour to mayntaine themselves and their little ones, the are they with their lemmions or els they walke in some Littie, carrying hawkes on their fistes, or els they sit at the good wyne in their Concubines, and there they sing and play the Lucians, & eat of the best and therfore al that willingly bring and geue to them, shal be made partners of that curse which is geuen them of God, because they eate their bread vniustly, whereof Saul wytteth in the 2. to the 2. thess. the 3. chapter: He that labourerth not, let him not eate.

The Popes church infamous with notorious lies.

The 11. article is, that they are notorious liers, because to the end that they may please men, they tel many tales & lies, which in the holy Scripture haue no foundation nor proof. Of such wytteth Iohn in the Apoca. 21.

The Popes church erreth in diminishing one part of the Sacrament.

The 12. article is, that they doe not rightly giue or minister to the people the body of our Lord Iesus Christ, and they geue it not as God hath instituted it and commanded. This is a great & a deuillish sinne and to great malapertnesse. Heerein we wouide ouercome them, wpyth the testimonies of the Euangelistes: I say we wouide ouercome the Pope, and all his Priestes, with the authorities of Marke, Luke and Saule. Rom. 12. and we wouide suffer, that Kinges, Princes, Lordes and all that are willing to heare, should heare it.

The Popes church charged with partialitie.

The 13. Article is, that they sit in spiritual iudgement, and then many times they iudge according to fauour, and not according to the righteousnesse of God, and they take bribes giuing sentence for hym, which in Gods sight hath the wrongfull cause. wo be to such sentēces, as it is wytteten in I say 5. wo be to ye that. &c.

The 14. Article is, that they sit hearing confessions, and when there come to them vltures, rautters, and theues, they take bribes of them of their ill gotten goodes, to spare them; and they willingly suffer them in cities and towne. And likewise of adulterers, and other notorious whoremongers and whores, and they neuer let or stay them in their great sinnes, to the end that the scripture may be fulfilled in them, which sayeth: Bittes and the loue of money do draw to hell, and do blinde the eyes of iudges.

He meaneth of claiming tithes by mere necessitie of the olde lawe: and not by the positive law of princes.

The 15. Article is, that they receive tithes of men, and will of right haue them, and preache and say that men are bound to giue them tithes, and therein they say falsly: For they can not proue by the new Testament, that our Lorde Iesus Christ commanded it, and his disciples warned no man to do so, neither did themselves receive them. But al though in the old Testament, it were commanded to geue tithes, yet it can not thereby be proued, that christian men are bound thereto: For this precept of the olde Testament had an end in the first yeare of our Lord Iesus Christ, like as the precept of Circision. wherfore welbeloued, consider and see, how your bishopps seduce you and hur your eyes with things that haue no proof. Christ sayeth in the 11. of Luke. Geue almes of those thinges that remaine, but he said not, geue the tenth of the goodes, which yee possesse, but geue almes. But when they heare the word, they may say as the lawyer said to Christ: Maister when thou sayest so, thou geuest offence. Luke 11.

The Popes church charged with vsury.

The 16. Article is, that they in many places lende money of goodes to haue treasure or vlturie, and they haue in cities and towne, yearly payments and perpetual reuenues, as great Princes and Lordes. wherin they doe against the Gospel, which sayth, do not ye possesse gold nor siluer. And whereas they lend for gaine and vsury, againste that speaketh the Lord. Deu. 24. Lend not to vsury to thy brother. &c. Ye honest discrete and well beloued Lordes, all the foresaide Articles we wil proue against the Pope, and all his priests, with many testimonies of the holy Scripture, which for breuities sake, we haue not here mentioned. But note ye chiefly these 4. Articles, for which wee strue, and desire to defend them to the death.

The first Article is, that all publicke, and customably mortall sinnes ought to be forbidden and prohibited to all Priestes and laymen, according to the commaundement of the holy Scripture.

He meaneth the immoderate riches & temporal possessions.

The seconde Article is, that richesse ought to be taken from the Pope and all his Priestes, from the hyghest to the lowest, and they ought to bee made poore, as the Disciples of our Lord Iesus Christ were: who had nothyng of their own, neither possessions in this world, neither worldly power.

Mé appointed to preach though the Pope forbid them.

The third Article is, that the word of God ought to be free for every man appointed and ordained thereto, to preach and read in all places, whether they shal come, without resistance of any man or without any inhibitiō of either spirituall or earthly power openly or manifestly.

The fourth article is, that the body of our Lord Iesus

Christ ought to be deliuered to every christian as our lord hath ordained it, and as the holy Euangelists haue wyrteten. We haue also vnderstood that there shalbe a Councell in Basile: wherfore let no mā be exalted, but let them diligently kepe their wiues, their daughters and their virgins from Byshops, Priestes, and Monkes. And do not thinke y there is made any holy assembly of Bishops and Priestes for the common comodity and profit of Christendome, but onely to thys end that they may hide their secret vices and heresies, with the cloke of hypocrisie, and let and hinder y righteousness of God, which is muche contrary to them: and for this cause consider ye diligently, that they will not make an holy assembly, but the congregation of Sathan. And take ye heerde that it be not done as some did at Constance, who toke money of Bishops and Prelates, & suffered them to sleepe with their wiues. Ye welbeloued and honest Lordes, if ye finde any thing in these foresaide Articles or wordes wyrteten some what sharply, we did it not to offend or contemne you, but to the end that ye shoulde diligently consider and deuile howe Christendome is so ill kept and led by the Priestes of this present age. Our Lorde Iesu Christ keepe you both in body and soule. Amen. In the year of our Lord, 1430.

Preropus, Smahors, Conradus, Samsmolich, Capitaines of Bohemia.

When the Pope holdeth his council, let me looke to their wiues & daughters where the council is kept.

Ex Gestis simo sodice manu scripto.

Great lamentatiō for Zilca.

Howe to prosecute the warres of the Bohemians agayne, after Zilca was dead, wherof we did intreat before, there was great feare, sorrow, and lamentation in the army, the soldiers accusing fortune which gaue ouer such an inuincible captaine to be overcome with death. Immediately there was a division in the host, the one parte chusing Procopius Magnus to be their captaine, the other parte saying that there was none could be found worthy to succede Zilca: wherupon they chusing out certaine to serue the warres, named themselves Dyphanes.

The army of Zilca deuided.

Thus the Thaborites being deuided into two armies, the one part retained their olde and accustomed name, and the other by meanes of the death of their captaine, named themselves Dyphanes. And all be it, that oftentimes there was dissension betwene them, yet when soeuer any forrein power came towards them, they ioynd their powers together in one campe, and defended themselves. They seldome went vnto any fenced towne except it were to buy necessaries, but liued with their wiues and childre in theyr campe & tents. They had amongst them many carres, the which they bled as a Bulwarke: For when to euer they went vnto battell, they made two wings of them, whiche closed in the foremen. The wings of the horsemen were on the our side, and when as they sawe their time for to ioyne battell, the wagon men which led the wings, going forth vnto the Emperours standers, and compassing in such part of their enemies as they wouide, did close themselves in together, whereby the enemies being inclosed, so that they could not be rescued, they were partly by the foremen, & partly by the men that were in the carres to their dares slaine. The horsemen fought without the fortification: and if it happened that they were oppressed or put to flight, by and by the carres opening themselves, received them as it were into a fenced Citie: and by this meanes they got many victories, for so much as their enemies were ignorant of their policies.

The order and policie that the armie of Zilca vied in warre after his decease.

The 2. armies went forth, the one into Slesia, and the other into Moravia, and returned againe wpyth great pray, before their enemies knewe of their coming. After this they belieged y towne of Swetley in Austria, where as the Thaborites and the Dyphanes, two nightes continually assaulked the walles without ceasing, but Albert Duke of Austria comming wpyth his hoste to aide the Citizens, they fought by the space almost of foure houres, the valiantest warriors being slaine on both parties. At the length the battaile was broken of, and the Thaborites lost their carres, and Albert was put out of his camp & tents, within a while after, Procopius Magnus came agayne and inclosed the cite of Rhetium in Austria to a notable siege. They of Prague were in his army, and Wollaus Cygnus, of whome we spake before, was slaine there wpyth a dart, & the city of Rhetium was taken by force, sacked and burnt. The Burgrane of Malberurge Lord of the towne, was also taken and caried vnto Prague, where also hee dyed in prison.

Procopius Magnus.

These thinges thus done, the Emperour sent for the nobles of Boheme, which went vnto him vnto a town of Hungary, called Bosonium in the borders of Austria, wpyth the banks of the riuer of Danubius; but they wold not enter into the towne, but remained about the towne in their tents, whether as the Emperoure going out vnto them,