

Sigismund the Emperor which burned Hus and Hierom before, now is fayne to entreat for hys kingdom.

The death of I. Hus & Hierome reuenged.

The Cardinall of Winchester sent into Germany to rayse warre agaynst the Bohemians.

Three armies set against the Bohemians.

God rescueth his people newly conuerted.

The popes army flyeth.

Lyke captayne, lyke fouldiour.

communing muche to them as touching his right & title, and the recouering of his fathers kingdom, promising if there were any cause, which did alienate the Bohemians minds from him, that he would take away al the occasion thereof. They made answer, that he had made warre vpon them without cause, and that he had suffred their country men contrary to his promise, to be burnt at Constance not being heard, and the kingdom to be contumeliously interdicted, and the Nobles of Boheme to be condemned by the church of Rome as heretickes: and that he should thincke the force and power of the Bohemians not to be so small, but that they would prouide for their owne honor. wherunto the Emperoz answered very gently, & offered them a general counsell, wherem they might declare their innocency, if they would submit themselves to the iudgement of the vniuersal Church: but the Bohemians which were now become valiant victors in armes, would not now be overcome with wordes, and so nothing being finally concluded, the Emperoz returned home.

Then pope Martin perceiuing the Gospell to increase daily more and more, sent the Cardinall of Winchester an Englishman, bozne of a noble house, into Germany to moue them vnto warre against the Bohemians, wherunto the Emperoz also did assente him.

There were three armies prouided. In the first armie were the Dukes of Saxony, and the lower cities.

The 2. armie, which was gathered of Franconians, was vnder the conduct of the Marques of Brandenburge.

The 3. armie was led by the archbishop of Treuer, whom the Bohemians, the Bauarians, and the Imperiall cities of Swenia followed. These armies entring into Boheme, in 3. severall partes, after they were passed the woode, they ioynd together & pitched before Wilsna. This towne a certayne learned and eloquent protestant, named Buzichio, the night before, had wonne from the papists: wherfore the army was determined first to recouer y^e citie, before they would goe any further. But when as newes came vnto the host, how the protestants had gathered an army, and came with speede towards them: they fled before they saw their enemies, and went vnto Thaconia, leauing behind them their warlike engines with a great pray. The Cardinall was not yet come into the campe, but meeting them in their flight at Thaconia, he maruailed at the cowardly flight of so many Noble and valiant men, desiring them that they would turne againe vnto their enemies, which he sayde, were farre weaker then they. which thing when he had long traualled about in vaine, hee was faine to be a companion with them in their flight. They were scarcely eured the woode, when as the Bohemians comming vpon them, let vpon their reuerward. Then was they^r flight muche more disorderd and fearfull then before, neither did they leaue flying before the Bohemians lest following. When all impediment or let being taken away, they vanquished Thaconia: and hauing obtained great store of warlike engines, they destroyed Wilsna. And when they would haue returned home by Franconia, they had great summes of money sent vnto them y^e they shuld not wast or destroy the Countreis of Brandenburge and Rozenberge: wherby the host of the Bohemians was greatly enriched.

Sigismundus the Emperour hauing newes of these things, went straighte vnto Rozenburge, and gathered there newe aide and helpe. Also Pope Martin sent Julian the cardinall of S. Angel into Germany with his ambassade, to make warre against the Bohemians, and that hee should in the Council of Basill, which doth nowe shortly draw on, be president in the popes name. He entring into Germany, went straight to Rozenberge to the Emperoz, wheras many of the nobles of Germany were assembled.

There was a new expedition decreed against the Bohemians, against the 8. kalendes of July, and Fredericke Marques of Brandenburge appoynted generall of that warre, which should follow the Cardinall. He entred into Boheme by the way that leadeth vnto Thopa, and Albertus prince of Austria was appoynted to bring hys armie thozough Morauia.

In this expedition was Albert & Christopher of Bavaria, and Fredericke Dukes of Saxony, John and Albert princes of Brandenburge, with their father, which was generall of thole warres. Also the bishops of Hyperbolis, Bamberg, and Eissen. Also the company of the Swenians, which they called the company of S. George, and the Magistrates of the imperiall cities, the bishops of Mentz, Treuers and Colce: sent their aides, and with them the chieftaines of their prouinces. It is sayd that the number of their horsemen were about 40000. But their footmen were not full so many, for the Germans for the most part do vse to fight their battels on horsebacke,

Also Benatus prince of Lozaine promised to come to these warres, but being letted by his ciuill warres, for so much as hee went about to vanquish the Earle of Wandome, wherby he could not keepe his promise, neyther the Countie Ballacine of Rheine, which did aide and succour the Earle of Wandome, coude not goe against the Bohemians. The Cardinall staying for them, deferred his iourney vntill the kalendes of August. In the meane time, Albert leading his armie out of Austria, vnderstanding that the Cardinall was not present at the day appoynted, and seeing himselfe vnable to encounter with the Bohemian power, he returned backe againe. After this the Cardinall entred into Boheme with an huge army, & destroyed many of the protestantes townes, killing men, women, and children, sparing neither olde nor yong: notwithstanding, this his tyranny was exercised in the vttermost borders of Boheme, for his captaines feared to enter sacre into the land. The Bohemians as soon as they that heard of their enemy was come, made ready, & gathered their host with all speede, and laid siege to a towre called Strimurge, and brought it vnder subiection.

In the meane season there fel such a maruelous sodein feare amongs al y^e papists throughout the whole campe, y^e they bega most shamefully to run away before any enemy appearing in sight. The cardinall Julianus maruelling at this most sodein feare, and what should moue so great an army to flie, went about vnto y^e captaines, exhorting them to put on armor, to order their battels, & courageously to abide their enemies, saying: they did not fight for the glory of their kingdom, or for the possessio of lands, but for their liues, and the honor & religion of Christ, and for the saluation of soules. How ignominious a thing is it (saith he) for the Germans to flie in battell, whole courage and valiantnes all the world doth extoll: It were much better for to die, then to geue place to any enemies, before they were seene: for they can by no meanes liue in iustitie wythin the walles, which geue place vnto their enemy in the field, for it is the weapon that defendeth a man and not the walles, and except they would enen presently defend their libertie with the sword, they should shortly be in greater bondage, more miserable then any death. But this exhortation was all in vaine, for feare had put away all boldnes: for the engines were snatched vp, and as though there had bene no captain in the hoste, euery man ran headlong away. No man regarded any commandement, neither once toke his leaue of his captaine, but casting away their armor with speedy flight they ranne away, as though their enemy had bene at their backes. The Cardinall also, although it were against his will, was forced to doe the like.

Thus the protestants by y^e feare of their enemies made the more bolde and courageous, pursued them thozow the wodes, and had a great pray & spoile of them. Notwithstanding, Albertus, when he heard tell that the Cardinall was entred into Boheme, with all speede came a gayne out of Austria with his army, & besieged the strong towne of Buzorabia: but when he vnderstode howe the Cardinall was fled, he left of his purpose, and returned thozough Morauia, which was not yet subiecte vnto him, and destroyed about 50. townes with fire and sword, toke many of their cities by force, and spoiled them, committing great murder and slaughter, and so afflicted them, that they toke vpon them his yoke, and promised to be subiecte and obedient to him vnder this condition, that as touching religion he would be bounde to doe that whiche the Council of Basill should determine.

Then was there an ambassade sent out of Boheme vnto Basill, wher as Sigismund held the Council, who during the time of warres, had kept himself at Rozenberge. When as hee should take his iourney vnto Rome to be crowned Emperour, hee wrote letters vnto the nobles of Boheme, wherin was contained, how that he was a Bohemian bozne, and how he was not more affectioned to any nation, then to his own, and that he went to Rome for none other cause, but to be crowned, the which his honor should also be a remoune to the Bohemians, whome to aduance it hath bene alwaies his speciall care.

Also, how that thozough his endeuor the Council was begon at Basill, exhorting all suche as were desirous to be heard as touching religion, that they shuld come thether, and that they would not maintaine any quarell contrary to the holy mother church, that the Council would louingly and gently heare their reasons: that they should onely endeuor themselves to agree with the Synode as touching religion, and referre and kepe a quiet and peaceable kingdom for hym, against his returne: Neether should the Bohemians thincke to refuse his regiment, whose brother, father, and vncle, had reigned ouer them, and that hee would

Cardinall Julian, with a maine host entred Boheme. The cruell slaughter done by the Cardinall.

God striketh a feare in the popes army.

*Rather for the religion of Antichrist This Cardinall belike loued to preach rather in the campe then in the church.

The Cardinalls army ranne away for feare.

Great slaughter in Boheme by Duke Albert.

The council of Basill.

A letter of the Emperour to the Bohemians.

Anno. 1542. The Pope rayseth warre the second time against the Bohemians.

A newe warre rayseth by the pope against the Bohemians.

The number of the popes army against the Bohemians.