

(with the sayd letters) directed this his precept vnto the Deane and Chapter of his cathedrall Church of Paules, commanding them to looke to the due accomplishing thereof accordingly.

A letter of Boner to the Deane and Chapter of Paules.

A letter of Boner to the Deane of Paules.

Edmund by the grace of God, &c. To my welbeloued brethren the Deane and Chapter of the Cathedrall church of S. Paule in London, and to the other Ministers there and euery of them do send greeting. And where it is so, that of late I haue receyued the sayd foweraigne Lord the kings maiesties letter, of such tenure as is herunto annexed, and according to my most bounden dutie, am right well willing and desiring, that the said letters should be in all points duly executed and obserued according to the tenure and purport of the same, as appertaineth: these therefore are to require, and also straightly to charge you and euery of you on his maiesties behalfe, &c. that you do admonish and commaund, or cause to be admonished or commaunded, all and singuler Persons, Vicars, and Curates of your iurisdiction, to obserue and accomplish the same from time to tyme accordingly: Furthermore requiring and likewise charging you, and euery of you to make certificate herein to me, my Chauncellour or other my officers in this behalfe, with such conuenient celeritie as appertaineth both of your proceedings in the execution hereof, and also the persons and names of all such, as from hencefoorth shall be found negligent in doying their duties in the premises or any of them. Given at my house at Fulham, the 26. of Iuly, in the yere of our lord. 1549. and in the third yere of our sayd foweraigne Lord the kings Maiesties raigne.

Slacknes of Boner in furthering good proceedings.

Moreover, for so much as the king at that instant hearing the muttering of certain rebellion the stirring (whereof more shall be said the Lord willing hereafter) & also being credibly informed by diuers, that through the euil example, slacknes of preaching and administering the sacraments, and carelesse contempt of Boner B. of London, not onely many of the people within the city of London, & other places of his Diocesse, were very negligent and forgetfull of their duties to God in frequenting the diuine seruice then established and set forth by the authority of parliament: but also that diuers other vtterly despising the same, did in secret places of his Diocesse, often frequent the poppish masse and other forraigne rites not allowed by the lawes of this realme, he thought it therefore good (hauing thereby iust cause to suspect his former dissenting doubles) to appoint the A. Protector, and the rest of his priuy counsaile to call the sayd B. before them, and according to their wyse and discrete iudgements, to deale with hym for the same.

Popishe Masse priuily frequented in places against the law.

Anno 1549. Boner called before the Counsaile.

Certaine priuate Injunctions geuen to Boner by the Counsaile. Boner assigned by the Counsaile to preach at Paules Crosse.

Wherupon the xi. day of August (an. 1549.) they sent a messenger for him, and vpon his appareance, made first declaration of such informations and complaints, as had bene heretofore made against him. And then after sharpe admonitions and reproches for his euil demeanors in the premises, they deliuered vnto him from the kyng (for bys better reformation and amendment) certaine priuate Injunctions to be necessarily followed and obserued of hym selfe. And where as in the first branch of the said Injunctions, he was personally assigned to preach at Paules crosse, the sonday thre weekes then next ensuyng (because both the dangerous and sickle estate of the tyme, and also partly his owne suspicious behauior so required) they farther deliuered vnto him in writing such articles to intreat vpon in his Sermon, as they thought them most meete and necessary for the tyme and causes aforesayd. All which Injunctions and Articles, for the farther manifestation thereof, I haue here inserted, as followeth.

Certaine priuate Injunctions and Articles geuen to Boner by the Counsaile.

Admonicio geuen to Boner by the Counsaile.

As much as we are aduertised, that amongst other disorders of our subiects, at this present there be diuers of our cite of London, and other places within your Diocesse which being very negligent and forgetfull of their dutie to almighty God, of whom all good things are to be looked for, doe assemble themselves very seldom & fewer tymes then they were heretofore accustomed, vnto common prayer and to the holy Communion, being now a tyme when it were more needfull with hart and mynde to pray to our heauenly father for his ayd and succour: wherof as we be right sorry, so we do vnderstand, that through your euil example and the slacknes of your preaching, and instructing our sayd people to doe their duties, this offence to God is most generally committed: for where heretofore vpon all principall feastes, and such as were called *Maius duplex*, you

your selfe were wont to execute in person, now since the tyme that we by the aduise of our whole Parliament haue set a most godly and deuout order in our Church of England and Ireland, ye haue very seldom or neuer executed vpon such or other daies, to the contempt of our proceedings & euil example of others: & soasmuch as it is also brought to our knowledg, that diuers as well in London as in other places of your Diocesse, do frequent and haunt forraigne rites of masses, and suche as be not allowed by the orders of our realme, & contemne and forbear to praise and laud God, and pray vnto his maiestie after such rites and ceremonies, as in this realme are approued & set out by our authority: and further that adultery and fornication is maintained and kept openly and commonly in the sayd cite of London & other places of your Diocesse, whereby the wrath of god is prouoked against our people: of the which things, you being heretofore admonished, yet heretofore haue made no redresse, as to the pastoral office, authority, & cure of a bishop doth appertaine: we therefore, to whom the supreme cure and charge of this Church doth appertaine, to auoid scd vs the high indignatio of almighty God, by the aduise of our most entirely beloued Uncle the A. Protector, and the rest of our priuy Counsaile, haue thought it no leise then our most bounden dutie, now at this present, and euenlynes peremptorily to admonish, charge, & warne you, that you do most straightly looke vpon the premises and see them so reformed, that there may appere no negligence on your behalfe, vpon such payne as by our lawes Ecclesiasticall and temporall, we may inflict vpon you, vnto deprivation or otherwise, as shall seme to vs for qualitie of offence reasonable. And to the intente you should the better see to your reformation of the sayd abuses, we haue thought good to geue you these Injunctions following.

Boner restrained to execute all principal feastes, contrary to his wonted manner.

Boner noted of slacknes in his duty, & of contempt of publicke lawes.

1 First, ye shall preach at Paules Crosse in London, in proper person, the Sunday after the date hereof in. weeks, and in the same Sermon declare and set forth the Articles herunto annexed: and ye shall preach hereafter once euery quarter of the yere there, exhorting in your Sermon the people to obedience, prayer, and godly liuyng: and ye shall be present at euery sermon hereafter made at Paules Crosse, if sicknesse or some other reasonable cause doe not let you.

Certaine priuate Articles intyened to Boner by the Counsaile. Boner admonished to preach euery quarter at Paules Crosse.

2 Secondly, you your selfe in person shall from henceforth euery day which heretofore was accounted in this Church of England, principall feast, or *Maius duplex*, and at all such tymes as the Bishops of London your predecessors were wont to celebrate and sing high masse, now celebrate and execute the Communion at the hygh altare in Paules, for the better example of all other, except sicknesse do let.

3 Thirdly, ye shall your selfe according to your dutie & the office of a bishop, call before you all such as do not come vnto and frequent the Common prayer and seruice in the Church, or do not come vnto gods word, and receyue the Communion at the lest once a yere, or whosoener do frequent or go vnto any other rite or seruice, then is appointed by our booke, either of Matins, Euen-song, or masse in any church, Chappell, or other priuate places within your Diocesse, and ye shall see all such offenders conuicted before you and punished according vnto the Ecclesiasticall lawes, with seuer and strait punishment therof. Lykewise ye shall see one onely order vied in your Diocesse according to our sayd booke and none other.

4 Fourthly, ye shall both by your selfe and all your officers vnder you, search out & conuent before you more diligently then heretofore ye haue done (as appertaineth to your office) all adulterers, and see the same punished according to the ecclesiasticall lawes, and to the authority geuen you in that behalfe.

5 We haue heard also complaints, that the Church of Paules and other Churches of London are, of late more neglected, as well in reparation of the glasse, as other buildings and ordinaunces of the same, then they were heretofore wont, and that diuers and many persons in the cite, of malice denyeth the payment of their due tith to their Curates, whereby the Curates are both injured and made not so well able and in maner discouraged to do their duties. The which thyng also our will and commaundement is, ye shall diligently looke vnto, and see redressed as appertaineth.

6 And soasmuch as al these complaints be made as most done & committed in London, to the intente you may looke more earnestly, better and more diligently to the reformation of them, our pleasure is that you shall abide and keepe residence in your house there, as in the cite, sea, and principall place of your Diocesse, and none other where for a certaine tyme, vntill you shall be otherwise licensed by vs.

Boner Bishop of London commaunded to keepe his owne house.

And