

Anno 1556. January. Tho. Browne presented by the Constable of S. Bridges.

Browne kneeleth among the trees at the Masse tyme.

B. Boners words to Tho. Browne.

B. Boner charged to be a bloudsucker.

The answer of Thomas Browne to Bishop Boner.

Sentence read against Thomas Browne.

John Tudson, Martyr.

January. 27.

Of these articles read before pag. 215. The constant persisting of John Tudson,

was presented by the Constable of the Parish to Boner. As touching whole articles, whereupon he was examined by the sayd Boner, with his answers also annexed to y same, mention goeth before, as in the generall proccesse of him and of the rest, may appeare. This Thomas Browne being had to Fulda, to the other thereto be examined, was required upon Thursday, being y xviij. day of September, to come into the Chappell to heare Masse, whiche he refusing to doe, went into the warren, and there kneled among the trees. For this hee was greatly charged of the Bishop, as for an haynous matter, because he sayd it was done in despite and contempt of theyr masse: which seemed to the Byshop and his Chaplaynes no small offence. At length being produced to his last examination before the sayd Bishop, xv. day of Januarye, there to heare the sentence diffinitive agaynst him, first hee was required wyth many saye wordes and glowing promises to renouke hys doctrine, to whome the foresayd Byshoppe speaking these wordes, sayde: Browne, ye haue bene before me many tymes and ofte, and I haue trauailed with thee, to wyne thee from thyne erreours: yet thou and suche like haue and doe repozte that I goe about to seeke thy blood, &c.

To whome the sayd Thomas Browne answered agayne: yea my Lord (sayd he) in deede ye be a bloudsucker & I would I had as much blood, as is water in the Sea, for you to sucke.

Boner then proceeding to the articles, when he hadde red them vnto him agayne, as he had done diuers tymes before, asked him whether he was content and willing to requiuithe those hys heresies and erroneous opinions (as he called them) and retorne agayne vnto the vnitie of the catholicke fayth. wherunto he made answer again saying, if they were heresies, he would forsake them. They be heresies (quoth the Byshoppe.) Howe will ye proue it, sayd Browne: for I will not goe fro myn answers, except you ca proue them to be heresies, whiche ye shal neuer do. For that whiche you call heresie, is no heresie. wyth that Boner not able, or els not disposed to supply the part of a sufficient teacher, in prouing that which the other had denyed by good authoritie and doctrine of the scripture went about wyth wordes and promise of pardon, to allure him to renoune those his heresies, as he called them and to retorne vnto the vnitie of his mother the Catholicke Church, &c.

To whom the sayd Thomas inferred agayne, as followeth: yea it (sayd he) to be heresie, that I do hold and maynayne, and I will turne to you. But you condemne me, because I wil not confesse and belene the bread and in the sacrament of the aultar (as you call it to be the body of Christ, and therfore ye spill myne and such like innocents blood, being the Queenes true subiectes, for whiche you shall answer, and that shortly.

After this being spoken, Boner as hee had done to the other before, read in wyting the sentence diffinitive agaynst him. The copie and forme of which sentence wherewith the Papistes were wont to condemne all the innocent saynts of Christes, is adoue expressed, pag. 147. And so this done hee was committed to the Sheriffes to be had away, and burned the xxvij. day of the sayd moneth of January, constantly abiding with the other, the Popes tormentes for the true confession of his Christian fayth.

4. John Tudson Martyr.

The same daye and tyme, when the foresayde John Browne, with his fellowes was condemned (as is aboue rehearsed) being the xv. day of Januarye was also produced John Tudson with the rest of the sayde company, vnto the like condemnation. This John Tudson was borne in Ipswich in the Countye of Suffolke, after that apprentise in London, dwelling with one George Wood-yeare of the parlysh of saynt Mary Botolph, within the diocesse of London, who being complayed of to Sir Richard Cholmley and Doct. Stoy, was by them sent vnto Boner bishop of London, and was diuers tymes before him in examination.

The Articles and interrogatories ministered vnto hym, as vnto the rest, before are specified, with hys answers also to the same annexed, &c. After this hee was brought vnto the open Consistory: where the sayd blessed and true seruant of the Lord John Tudson, appearyng before the sayde byshoppe and his complices, was moued with sundry persuasions (as theyr manner is) to goe from his opinion (which they named heresie) and to persist in the vnitie of the Church which they were of, but hee constantly persisting in that which he had receiued by the preachers in King Edwardes tyme, refused to so doe, saying

there was no heresie in his answers. For I (sayd he) desyre all heresie. The Byshop yet still vbled his olde accustomed persuasions to renoune him, promising mozeouer all hys offences and erreours (as he called them) to bee forgiven hym, if he would retorne, &c. Then sayde Tudson: Tell me wherein I haue offended, and I will retorne. Then sayd the Byshop: In your answers. To, sayd Tudson agayne, I haue not therein offended: and ye, my Lord pretend Charitie, but nothing thereof appeareth in your wordes. Thus after a few wordes y byshop did likewise promulgate agaynst hym sentence of condemnation, whiche being red, the godly and constant martyr was committed to the secular power, and so wyth much patience finished this life wyth the other aboue named, the xxvij. daye of January.

Sentence read against John Tudson.

5. John Went Martyr.

John went borne in Langham in Essex, within the Dyoces of London, of the age of 27, & a Shereyman by occupation, first was examined (as partly is touched before) by Doctor Stoy vpon the sacrament of his popishe Aultar and because the poore man did not accord w him throughtly in the reall presence of the body and blood of Christ, the sayd Stoy did send hym by to Boner Byshop of London, who likewise after diuers examinations vpon the articles aforesayde in the Consistory, attempted the lyke manner of persuasions wyth hym, as he did to the other to recant and retorne. To whome in fewe wordes the sayde went answered agayne, he woulde not, but that by the leaue of God, he woulde stand firme and constant in that he had sayd. And when the Byshop yet notwithstanding did still vize and call vpon him wyth words and saye gloses, to geue ouer himselfe to theyr opinion, he could haue no other answer of hym but this: No, I say as I haue sayd &c. wherupon being condemned by the Bishops sentence, he was committed vnto the Sheriffes (whom that shameles shaucler at y tyme abused for hys seruile Butchers) and so brought to hys martyrdom, which he wyth no lesse constancie suffered to the ende wyth the rest of that blessed societie of Martyrs aboue named.

John Went Martyr. January. 27.

John Went withstandeth the Bishops persuasions. John Went condemned.

6. Isabell Foster Martyr.

Wyth these fine persons aboue recited and condemned, were also two women in the foresayd company condemned the same tyme, and likewise burned for the same cause, the one a wife called Isabell Foster, the other a mayde named Ioane Warne, or otherwise Lashford.

Isabell Foster, Martyr. January. 27.

This foresayd Isabell was borne in Braffstocke in the Diocesse of Carlill, and afterward married to one John Foster Cutler, of the Parish of S. Brides in Fleetstreet, being of the age of 14. yeares. She likewise for not complying vnto the Church, being sent vnto Boner, and so imprisoned, was sundry tymes examined by the sayd Byshop, but neuer overcome, nor remoued from the constant confession of Christes Gospell.

Isabell Foster constant in confessing Christes Gospell.

At length complying vnto her finall examination before the Byshop in the Consistory the xv. day of the sayd moneth of January, she was moued agayne, whether she woulde yet goe from her former answers. wherunto she gaue a resolute answer in few wordes: I will not (sayd she) goe from them by Gods grace: and thereunto did adhere, neither being cast downe by the manerlyng threates of the Byshop, nor yet yeldyng thorough his allurynge enticementes, promising both lyfe and libertie if she woulde associate her selfe in the vnitie of the Catholicke Church. wherunto she sayd agayne in this wise, that she trusted she was neuer out of the Catholicke Church, &c. and so persisting in the same, continued constant, till the sentence diffinitive was pronounced, and the she was committed by commaundement of the Byshop to the secular power, and so brought a few dayes after to the stake, the 27. day of the foresayd moneth: where she like a saythfull witness of the Lordes truth (with the other fine foresayd) ended her troubles here, to finde a better rest in the kynngdom of Christ our Saviour.

The wordes of Isabell Foster of her last examination.

Isabell Foster condemned.

7. Ioane Lashford, alias Ioane Warne, Martyr.

In a certaine place of these Actes and Monumentes heretofore, mention was made of one Elizabeth warne, pag. 1608. col. 2. who with her husband John warne (as is aforesayd) in the begynnyng of Queene Maries Reigne was apprehended in Botwe Churchyard for being there at a Communion: and both suffered for the same, first the man in the moneth of May, then the wife in July after: and now the daughter in the moneth of January followe d

Ioane Lashford alias Ioane Warne, Martyr. January. 27.