

# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Contested Succession

### Mary's Legitimacy

Henry's Annulment (1527-1533)

Catherine & Mary dismissed; separated

Mary "illegitimate"; removed from succession

Henry's New Wife & Daughter

Elizabeth born of Anne Boleyn

Mary

Required to surrender 'Princess'

Acknowledge her own illegitimacy

Refuses

Household dissolved; Elizabeth's lady in waiting

Deaths: Catherine & Anne

Catherine (Jan. 1536)

Mary forbidden to visit her dying mother

Anne Boleyn (May 1536)

Reversal of fortunes for Mary

Act of Submission to Henry: Requires

Henry as Supreme Head of Church of England

Repudiation of Pope's authority

Marriage to Catherine 'incestuous & unlawful'



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Contested Succession

Edward's Reign (1547-1553)

Mary Passed Over

Mary: 31 years old

Edward: 9 years old

Acquiescent to Henry; Not So Much to Edward

Not fully compliant to Henry's religion; resigned

Edward's religious reforms are intolerable

Mary insists on traditional Mass in her chapel

Cousin Charles V provides leverage

At Edward's Death

Successor: Lady Jane Grey

Protestant

Chosen as means of avoiding Mary & Elizabeth

Northumberland's Fall; Mary's Rise

Privy Council turns on Northumberland

Privy Council, English Nation supports Mary

Henry's Rightful Heir

Joyfully received in London



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

### Clemency

Contrary to (later Protestant) Characterizations

Mercy to

Henry Grey, Duke of Suffolk

Lady Jane Grey, HRH, Queen of England (9 days)

John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland

### Reversals

First: Undo Edwardian & Henrician Reforms

Edward's Reforms

Repealed by Parliament within a few months

Sets clock back to 1547

Mary's Catholics:

Big tent, diverse, unable to advise Queen

Fail to remove non-Catholic bloc in Commons

Henry's Reforms

Harder to undo

Dickens: Parliament won't return to Middle Ages

Second: Restore Communion with Rome

Sticking Point: Repeal of Supremacy; Mary's '&c'

Unpopular: Marriage to Philip of Spain



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

### Marian Churchmen

Reinstatement of conservative bishops

Reformers: exile, imprisonment, martyrdom

### Marian Church Leadership

'Supreme Head of the Church of England'

Remained such *de facto*; '&c'

As sovereign, intent to determine nation's religion

### Injunctions of 1554

Bishops should restore the old order

Removal of all married priests from their cures

Holy days are to be kept

Heretical clergy to be deprived

Bishops glad to do it

Gardiner leads a purge

About 20% of clergy removed

### Restoration of Churches

Stone altars to replace wooden tables

Ornaments and images reclaimed, restored

Vestments mended

Search for plate and books



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

Religion: Relative Success

‘Ecclesiastical Conservatism of Common Man’

Some Pushback

Foreign Policy: Failure

Mary's ‘Great Mistake’

Marriage Treaty with Prince Philip of Spain

Signed at Westminster, Jan. 12, 1554

Unpopular

Embroided in Continental & Mediterranean Politics

Spanish Control?; Why not marry an Englishman?

Marriage

July 25, 1554

Philip's sovereignty precipitates reunion with Rome



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

The Road to Reunion With Rome

Financial Obstacles

Henrician & Edwardian Dissolutions

How to make restitution?

Reginald Pole

English Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church

Support Henry's annulment for York or Winchester?

Chose self-imposed continental exile at that time

Attacking Henry?: book on the unity of the church

1541: Pole cardinal & legate; Henry executes family

Under Mary & Philip, Pole returns as legate



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

The Road to Reunion With Rome

Parliamentary Acts towards Reconciliation

Revival of the Heresy Acts

Letters Patent of Richard II

Act of Henry IV

Act of Henry V



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

### The Road to Reunion With Rome

#### Parliamentary Acts towards Reconciliation

“For the eschewing and avoiding of errors and heresies, which of late have risen, grown, and much increased within this realm, for that the ordinaries have wanted authority to proceed against those that were infected therewith: be it therefore ordained and enacted by authority of this present Parliament, that the statute made in the fifth year of the reign of King Richard II, concerning the arresting and apprehension of erroneous and heretical preachers, and one other statute made in the second year of the reign of King Henry IV, concerning the repressing of heresies and punishment of heretics, and also one other statute made in the second year of the reign of King Henry V, concerning the suppression of heresy and Lollardy, and every article, branch, and sentence contained in the same three several Acts, and every of them, shall from the twentieth day of January next coming be revived, and be in full force, strength, and effect to all intents, constructions, and purposes for ever.”





# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

The Road to Reunion With Rome

Parliamentary Acts towards Reconciliation

Act of Repeal

Annulment of all church legislation since 1528

Except for the dissolution

A deal struck with the papacy

Pole Absolves the Nation



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

### Marian Persecutions

Reunion with Rome: prelude to persecutions

Reforming bishops

Already imprisoned

Or in exile on continent

Bishop Stephen Gardiner

A series of trials to persuade to consensus

At first no coercion or pressure

Opportunities to recant of heresy

Cranmer & Latimer: no conscientious denial

Beliefs

Deeds

Martyrs

Conscience

Clergy, lay; noble, common; learned, illiterate



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

### Marian Persecutions

Latimer, Ridley, & Cranmer

All imprisoned since April 1554

Latimer & Ridley

Condemned at trial; Led out to execution

October 16, near Balliol College

Cranmer

September 1555

cited before papal tribunal

accused of heresy

December 4: excommunicated

Reginald Pole succeeds him as AbC

Attempts to persuade Cranmer to recant

Mary does not really want to burn him

'Conversion' would have been a win for crown

Cranmer comes close to submitting

Documents repudiating beliefs

Final confession reverses all; ascribes it to fear

Not that simple?



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Policy

Archbishop Pole

Priested: day before Cranmer's death

AbC: day after

Continued prosecution/persecution of heretics

Refounding of monasteries

Westminster Abbey

Observant Friars of Greenwich

Bridgettine nuns of Syon

Carthusians of Sheen



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Decline of Marian Rule

Political complications of Roman reunion

Pope Paul IV quarrels with King of Spain

King of Spain also King of England: Philip!

Pole caught in the middle

War with France ensued

Mary bears brunt of English unhappiness

English nationalism turns sentiment against Mary

Papal allegiance: ruins sovereignty. Who needs it?

Papal allegiance: persecution. Who needs it?

Mary, Pole die within hours, November 17, 1558

Interpretation: providential deliverance



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Decline of Marian Rule

### Marian Failure

Sense of vocation, vision

Failed

Too late: too much water under the Protestant bridge

Spanish marriage:

unpopular,

out of keeping with previous “Englishness”

Persecutions: too many, too much

Children of clergy?

*Te Deums* on the news of her death



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Religion

### Mary's Accession

Abundantly clear: Catholicism will be restored

Some don't wait for royal instructions

Melton Mowbray

Altar stones were replaced

Mass and *Dirige* sung for Edward!

Catholic gentry call on priests to sing mass

Priests wait for an Act

August 18: Restoration of Catholicism proclaimed

Both 'religions' permitted to be observed  
for a time

'pending further order'

Calls for national unity

Forbids: disputes, name-calling, satire, propaganda

August 24: St. Bartholomew's Day Masses

Latin

Several London parishes

By early September

"very few parishes in Yorkshire" not back to Latin

Holy bread & water, altars, images, crucifixes, etc.



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Religion

Divided Opinions / Resistances

In and Around London

Kentish parish of Adisham

Contenders

John Bland (Protestant priest & propagandist)

John Austen (Catholic churchwarden)

Continued use of 1552 BCP until November 1554

Repeated dismantling & reassembly of 'table'

On patronal feast, Holy Innocents, 1554

Hired neighboring priest

To say matins, mass, and evensong *in Latin*





# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Religion

Marian Policy: Adaptive & Constructive

No 'pamphlet war': not unintentional or failure

Marian distrust of social and religious effects of  
“the playing of interludes and printing of false fond  
books, ballads, rhymes, and other lewd treatises”  
meddling in “question and controversy touching the  
high points and mysteries of Christian religion”

No Protestant propaganda models (Bale, Becon)  
inferior means of establishing truth & stable religion  
“pernicious and hurtful devices”  
“hatred among the people and discord of the same”

**INSTEAD:**

Methods to “quieten the babble of alehouse debate”

Reestablish order & beauty of Catholic worship

Encourage regular sacramental participation

Promote parochial instruction (catechesis)

Methods to repair the damage of the schism



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Religion

Marian Policy: Adaptive & Constructive

Desire to ensure regular parochial preaching

Followed Cranmer's precedent

a book of homilies for insufficient preachers

Continued Permission to read English Bibles

Removed: Great Bibles & Erasmus' *Paraphrases*

Conducted during visitations

Bible-reading or possession never condemned

Protestant Bibles suspect, not English Bibles *per se*

Example: Reginald Pole

Evangelically-minded

Daily Scriptural exposition to his household

Legatine synod (1555): new English translation

Hated:

'religious argument'

'self-sufficiency ... indiscriminate lay-reading'

Liturgy, rite, ceremony:

Scriptural instruction's proper context/vehicle



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Religion

Need to Teach the Value of Ceremonies

Outlawed by Edward's Council & Cranmer

Rationale of Reformers:

Text over Sign

Opacity of rite vs. Perspicuity of Bible

Rebuttal: Catechesis Cures Perspicacity Problems

Long term project

Needed to secure Catholic restoration

Enable laity to understand, benefit from rites

Enable laity to understand Scripture catholically

Bishop Edmund Bonner (London)

Required clergy to instruct laity on 'true meanings'

Four times a year, preach longer sermons

Henrician precedents

10 Articles, Injunctions, *Bishops' & King's Books*

Latimer, too (medieval sources adapted to task)



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Religion

Keeping Changes from Henry & Edward

Registers of births, deaths, marriages

Basic religious instruction in English

Bonner:

AC, 10 C, 7 DS, 7 WM, 7 Sacraments

Pole:

preach every holy day

before sermon recite & teach:

Lord's Prayer, Ave, Creed, Commandments  
English

Unlearned clergy: study & report annually

Mary:

Book of homilies to assist unprepared clergy

Bonner:

A Profitable and Necessary Doctrine  
with certain homilies adjoined for the  
instruction and information of the people

*King's Book* (1543) + 7 DS & 7 sacraments

Preserving, to maintain continuity of tone



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Religion

### Parish Church Renewals

Following Henry: Protestants as Lollards

Book of 13 Homilies

Supplemental to the *Profitable Doctrine*

Drafted by Bonner's chaplains

### Marian Injunctions, 1554

Conservative turn in matters religious

Married priests out

Holy days & observances back in

'Heretics' deprived

Gardiner: c. 20% reduction in clergy



# Mary's Reformation (1553-1558)

## Marian Religion

### Parish Church Renewals

#### Restoration of Church & Ceremony

- Stone altars to replace wooden tables

- Retrieval & renewal of images & ornaments

- Production of new goods

- Bringing old goods out of storage

- Plate, Vestments, Books (Latin)

#### Only Four Years Since Edward's Iconoclasm

- Return of traditional forms largely welcomed

- Religion most people still recognize

#### Only Four Years Until Elizabeth's Iconoclasm

- Learning from Edward's 'mistakes'

- Less left to chance

