

DEANS DEPRIVED UNDER QUEEN ELIZABETH

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THE BISHOPS WHO WERE DEPRIVED at the accession of Queen Elizabeth are well known to such Catholics as read ecclesiastical history. Their lives and sufferings have given rise to two books, marked by much original research and, indeed, by an infinite capacity for taking pains, which, in such matters, is far preferable to genius. Little, however, is generally known of the lesser ecclesiastical dignitaries, whose sufferings for the faith were not (in some cases) less. It has, therefore, seemed not amiss to try to collect some of the facts about them; and in this paper an attempt will be made to give some accounts of the Deans of Cathedral Churches, who, on the accession of Queen Elizabeth, preferred to follow their consciences rather than the dictates of worldly prudence. Dr Nicholas Sander, in his *De Visibili Monarchia* published in 1571, mentions ten by name. The following list will account for thirteen names, representing fourteen deaneries:

I. JOHN BOXALL, D.D. (Oxon), 1558: Dr Boxall's life has been written in the *Dictionary of National Biography* (hereinafter referred to as D.N.B.), in the *Bibliographical Dictionary of English Catholics*, by Mr Joseph Gillow (hereinafter referred to as Gillow), and elsewhere. It has not, however, I think, been pointed out that he lost more than most men for his faith. He had ceased to be Dean of Norwich and Warden of Winchester College before Queen Mary died, but he lost one secular appointment, that of Secretary of State, and nine ecclesiastical preferments, by the accession of Queen Elizabeth, and the consequent change of the Established Religion. The nine ecclesiastical preferments were: (1) the Deanery of Peterborough (1557), (2) the Deanery of Windsor (1557), (3) the Archdeaconry of Ely (1556), (4) the 1st Stall in Ely Cathedral (1554), (5) a Canonry at Windsor (1557), (6) the prebend of Newington in St Paul's, London (1558), (7) the prebend of Grantham in Salisbury Cathedral, (8) the prebend of Ilton, Bath and Wells, and (9) the Rectory of Hatfield, Hertfordshire. He was in the Tower of London from June 18, 1560, to September 15, 1563, when he was committed to the custody of Dr Parker, the Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, in the which he died at Lambeth, March 3 or 4, 1570-1. It is, perhaps, worthy of notice that he received all Sacred Orders together in London in June, 1554.

II. HENRY COLE, D.C.L. (Oxon.) 1540, D.D. (Oxon.) 1554: Henry Cole, like the preceding, was educated at Winchester College, and at New College, Oxford, and is the subject of notices in D.N.B. and Gillow. Yet his life, too, may be supplemented. He seems to have forfeited five preferments: (1) the Deanery of St Paul's (1556), (2) the prebend of Wenlakesburn in St Paul's (1541-2), (3) the provostship of Eton College

(1554), (4) the rectory of Wrotham, Kent (1558) and (5) the rectory of St Deans deprived under Queen Elizabeth I in Helen's, Isle of Wight. He was early committed to the custody of Grindal, Protestant Bishop of London, whence he was removed to the Fleet, May 20, 1560. There he remained till April 17, 1575, when he was released on bail. In November, 1577, he was living at 'Yeling' – i.e. either Eling near Southampton or Ealing near London – but in 1579 he was back in the Fleet. Here he died, aged eighty-four or eighty-five, and was buried February 4, 1579-80. He had been Rector of Newton Longville, Bucks, 1545-53.

III. EDMUND DANIELL, B.D. (Oxon.) 1556 Edmund Daniell gave up four preferments: (1) the Deanery of Hereford (1558), (2) the 5th Stall at Worcester (1556), (3) the Sub-deanery of the Chapel Royal, (4) the Rectory of Kingsland, Herefordshire. On St Stephen's Day, 1558, he was ordered by Queen Elizabeth not to elevate the Host in the Chapel Royal, but he courageously refused. In 1562 he was in the custody of the Lord Treasurer, but escaped abroad, and was in Rome before 1564. He gave evidence against Queen Elizabeth there in 1570, and died there October 30, 1576, aged fifty-six. He was sometime Fellow of Merton College, Oxford.

IV. JOHN GOODMAN, B.C.L. (Cantab): Of John Goodman Dr Sander knows nothing. He became Dean of Wells 1548, was deprived in 1550, restored in 1553, and again deprived in 1560. He was in prison in the Fleet from February 12, 1550-1 to May 25, 1551. He became a Prebendary of Salisbury in 1558. Possibly he conformed enough to keep his prebend, though he lost his deanery; but, in fact, nothing is known of him.

V. JOHN HARPSFIELD, D.D. (Oxon.) 1554: John Harpsfield, who succeeded Boxall in the Deanery of Norwich in 1558, lost his Deanery and four other preferments in 1559 or 1560. Like Boxall and Cole, he was a Wykehamist, and has had his life written, not quite accurately, in the D.N.B. and Gillow. The four preferments above mentioned are: (1) the Archdeaconry of London (1554), (2) and (3) the prebends of Holborn (1554) and Mapesbury (1558) in St Paul's and (4) a prebend at Exeter (1558). On July 7 or 9 (accounts differ) he was committed to the Fleet, where, on July 28, 1562, he was ordered to be kept in close confinement. He was released on bail August 19, 1574. On July 18, 1577, he was committed to the custody of the Bishop of Lincoln, whence he was transferred, on the ground of serious illness, to the custody of the Bishop of London, November 5, 1577. There seems nothing to show that he ever passed out of it, but it is asserted that he died in the house of a relative in the parish of St Sepulchre August 19, 1578.

VI. SETH HOLLAND, M.A. (Oxon.) 1539: This confessor lost three preferments: (1) the Deanery of Worcester (1557), (2) the prebend of Combe IX, Bath and Wells, and (3) the Rectory of Bishop's Cleeve, Gloucestershire (1558). He was deprived of them in October or November, 1559, and committed to the Marshalsea, where he died in the following March. He had been Rector of Fladbury, Worcestershire, 1557-8. The D.N.B.

is in error in stating that he was deprived of the Wardenship of All Souls College, Oxford. He had resigned before June 9, 1558. His life is also given in Gillow.

VII. HENRY JOLIFFE, B.D. (CANTAB) 1542 Dean of Bristol (1554) and occupant of the 4th Stall in Worcester Cathedral (1542), Henry Joliffe was deprived in 1559, and fled to Louvain, where he died shortly before January 28, 1573-4. See D.N.B. and Gillow.

VIII. RICHARD MARSHALL, D.D. (Oxon.) 1552 The Dean of Christ Church, Oxford, is not included in the list of Deans deprived compiled by Dr Sander, and that probably for two reasons. In the first place, he was not deprived, but resigned in May, 1559. In the second place, he recanted when in prison in London in 1563. Yet, as he seems to have been deprived of the prebend of Neasdon in St Paul's, and of the living of Westbourne, Sussex, and as his arrest was ordered February 21, 1567-8, he being then in hiding in the North, there can be no doubt that he retracted his recantation. The D.N.B. gives no date for his death.

IX. JOHN RAMRIDGE, D.D. (Oxon.) 1542: This interesting character is ignored by the D.N.B., but has a somewhat inaccurate notice in Gillow. He lost three preferments at least at the accession of Queen Elizabeth: (1) the Deanery of Lichfield (1554), (2) the Archdeaconry of Derby (1558) and (3) the living of Longford, and had previously held many others, most of which are given in Gillow. On April 8, 1561, he said Mass in Sir Edward Waldegrave's house in Essex. For this he was committed to the Tower on April 20 or 22. He was indicted at Brentwood, Essex, June 3, 1561, and was condemned, but shortly afterwards, having been released on bail, he escaped and settled at Louvain. He was murdered by robbers at Heveren, Flanders, May 21, 1568, and buried at Mechlin. Mr Gillow does not mention that he was Rector of St Michael's, Coventry, from 1538 to 1552-

X. THOMAS REYNOLDS, D.D. (Oxon.) 1536: He was Dean of Exeter (1555), Warden of Merton College, Oxford (1545) and Rector of Holsworthy, Devon. He was deprived of all these preferments, and was committed to the Marshalsea September 4, 1559, where he died November 24 following. He had been Rector of Pinhoe, Devon, 1530-7, as Mr Gillow records. He had also been Rector of Lapworth, Warwickshire, 1540-1556. At Queen Mary's death he was bishop-nominate of Hereford.

XI THOMAS ROBERTSON, M.A. (Oxon.) 1525 D.D.(?): Dean of Durham (1557) and Archdeacon of Leicester (1540), Thomas Robertson, or Robinson, was deprived of his deanery in 1559, and resigned his archdeaconry in 1560. In 1561 he was told that he would be made dean again if he took the Oath of Supremacy, but he refused. His life is given in the D.N.B. The date of his death is unknown. Possibly he is the Dr Robinson who was living in Paris April 27, 1580.

XII. LANCELOT SALKELD: He was Dean of Carlisle, and because he signed the Oath of Supremacy in 1559, is naturally not included in Dr Sander's list. However, he was deprived in 1559 and died September 3, 1560, and was buried in Carlisle Cathedral. It may be charitably surmised that he died a Catholic. He was the last Prior of Carlisle, and the first Dean 1542, and was deprived of his deanery on the accession of Edward VI, but restored in 1553.

XIII. EDMUND STEWARD, LL.B. (CANTAB): This worthy, who became Dean of Winchester March 22, 1553-4, and Prebendary of Lichfield (Offley) 1534, was deprived in 1559, and died before August 14 in that year. He had been Chancellor of Norwich and Winchester, and Vicar of Dedham, Essex, and had been imprisoned in the Marshalsea in 1551.

The preceding list of thirteen persons accounts for forty-three 'ecclesiastical promotions' if not forty-four. The fifteen deprived bishops held sixteen. So far as the present writer is able to go, it would seem that twenty-nine Archdeacons were deprived, holding some eighty-nine promotions, and that 116 Prebendaries were deprived, holding some 276 promotions. If these figures are at all accurate, they would give some 424 ecclesiastical 'promotions' vacated, and some 173 higher clerics deprived. According to Camden, there were 9,400 'promotiones ecclesiasticae' in England on the accession of Queen Elizabeth.