

exalted idea of the historical narrative style gave him a cold, elegant stateliness that becomes tiresome, and is far inferior to the thrilling style of Macaulay. One cause of this difference, no doubt, is the improvement in our prose since his time. (See *Literature Primer*.) He is accused of another fault, a much more important one in a historian, viz., that of adducing as facts what he has not proved to be such by sufficient investigation. The want of authenticity is the one fault never overlooked in a historian.

Two earls—Kent and Shrewsbury.

Fotheringay castle—in Northamptonshire.

Crossing herself—or, signing herself—making the sign of the cross before herself.

Sacred person—Is a sovereign's person any more sacred than another's? Both Mary and Elizabeth had the exalted idea then prevalent of the majesty of kings, which finally led to the overthrow of the Stuarts, who professed to reign by "divine right."

Babington—a Roman Catholic. The plot was to murder Elizabeth and to raise Mary to the throne. There is no doubt that Mary was aware of this plot, and had countenanced it.

Almoner—a distributor of alms. They were generally clergymen.

Institutions—i.e., the rights established or instituted by the church, such as confession, absolution, &c.

Her attendants—Note the stiff and artificial nature of the following sentences. The effort at effect is apparent.

Decency—i.e., with due decorum. What is the more usual meaning?

Testament—i.e., will. Explain the word by derivation.

King of France—Henry III., her brother-in-law. A firm Catholic. Assassinated 1589.

Duke of Guise—The third duke, her own cousin. A celebrated French family, coming from Lorraine in the 15th century. James V., of Scotland, married a daughter of the first Duke of Guise, and she was the mother of Mary. The Guises were all staunch Romanists.

Wonted—accustomed: from Anglo-Saxon *wonian*, to be accustomed. *Woned* = lived, is also used.

Majestic mien—This is in keeping with his stately style.

Sir Amias Paulet and **Sir Drue Drury** were placed as keepers over Mary.

Agnus Dei—i.e., Lamb of God. A medal with the figure of a lamb bearing a cross, given by the Pope to the faithful.

Pomander—(*pomme-ambre*=amber apple)—literally, a scented ball.

Beads—from *bid*=something to be counted, and originally used to count prayers on.

Crucifix—the image of Christ fixed on a cross. See Dictionary.

Sir Andrew Melvil—the Scottish ambassador.

Expected—longed for; *looked for* with desire. Its usual meaning is *to look for* as certain.

My son—i.e., James VI., of Scotland, afterwards James I., of England. Mary had been deposed and imprisoned by the Scottish parliament, and James was brought up a Protestant.

Men-servants—This is the form we have of indicating gender in English. The *ess* is only a borrowed expedient, and used with French words chiefly. "Ster" and "en" were the old Saxon feminine endings, but as such, are now only found in spinster and vixen.

The use of different words for gender is unnatural, and was owing to some circumstance affecting one sex of the animal and not the other, by which it got a new name, after which the old name would be used for the other sex. Thus the female of a peculiar breed of horses might be imported from a country where the general name for horse was "mare"; this name would then be confined to the female, while the old general word "horse" would become masculine. Many of the so-called different words, however, are really the same word with gender endings, but so much corrupted as to be disguised; such are:—duck, drake; gauder, goose; nephew, niece, &c.

Beale—A noted jurist and diplomatist.

Valets—varlet and vassal are other forms of the same word. Does this reproof of Mary's aid dignity to the narrative?

Attire—See Dictionary; here, head-dress, an old meaning.

Discovered—laid open or disclosed. Give all its meanings.

And the dean, &c.—"and" refers to "the Earl of Kent answered." What is the meaning and derivation of "dean"? When introduced? Has it any relation to "deacon"?

Any other but—We now use "than" after other.

Pick out sentences that show a stiff, artificial style. Pick out words used with meanings not now common. What relation was Mary to Elizabeth?