

form", though this enquiry was not followed by any formal judgment as to Jeanne's condemnation.

It is commonly held also, as stated by Mr. Murray in his introduction, that the bishop had no jurisdiction, Jeanne having been captured in one province and tried in another. Moreover she had been tried previously at Poitiers, at the request of the Dauphin, Charles VII, who would not accept her aid before being assured that she was not unworthy. Inasmuch as the Archbishop of Rheims, the Metropolitan of the Bishop of Beauvais, and his Clergy at Poitiers found no fault in her, it was of very doubtful right that she should be placed on trial a second time before an inferior Court, Mr. Murray seems to regard the first examination as conclusive against the legality of the second. But such a conclusion cannot be reached without assuming that Jeanne had not rendered herself liable for heresy, or other offence against the laws of the Church, since the examination at Poitiers, or in any event that an inferior court had no jurisdiction. However, the question of jurisdiction does not now concern much the merits of the case, in view of the many stronger grounds for condemning the trial in its form and substance—grounds which made a later ecclesiastical Court of Enquiry denounce the proceedings in most unmeasured terms, as "a pretended Process."

The Court that tried Jeanne at Rouen did not follow in form and composition the practice of the English Courts of ecclesiastical Inquiry established by 2 Henry IV, Chapter 15, which prescribed death as the penalty for heresy, although Rouen was at the time subject to English Sovereignty. It was not a Statutory Court of Inquiry at all, but it assumed the exercise of a power similar to that possessed by the aforesaid English Courts which empowered the diocesan ordinary to try persons accused of heresy and on conviction hand them over to the Sheriff without waiting for the King's writ.

The secular authority was indeed personally present but conspicuously absent as far as the exercise of his functions was concerned, at the place of execution. The sentence of excommunication which was read at the Old Market Place at Rouen on the morning of the day of Jeanne's execution abandoned her to the civil authority, represented by the Bailly of Rouen and his Deputy who were present. But immediately after the reading of the sentence Jeanne was forced by two sergeants from her platform and delivered over to the executioner with the remark, "Do thy duty." Brother M.