



ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, WINNIPEG.

## THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY.

BY THE EDITOR

(Continued.)

## REIGN OF MARY

**H**E name of Reginald Pole is closely connected with that of Queen Mary. Mary herself, as a girl, as a princess, had had an exceedingly sad life. As the daughter of Catharine of Aragon she shared her mother's misfortunes, and incurred the dislike and displeasure of Henry VIII., her father. During the reign of Edward VI. also her life was one of anxiety and trouble, arising from the fact that she refused to conform to the reformed faith, or the "new religion," as the enemies of the Reformation styled it. She insisted upon having her own chapel where the mass, according to the old style, might be said.

Among those who sympathized with her in her troubles was Reginald Pole, of whom now it becomes necessary for us to speak. His mother was Margaret, daughter of the Duke of Clarence, and niece of Edward IV., and first cousin of Elizabeth, the Queen of Henry VII. She was afterwards known as the Countess of Salisbury. His father was Richard Pole, a gentleman who made his fortune by the sudden accession to power of Henry VII., from whom he received knighthood, and was known as Sir Richard Pole.

Reginald Pole was, therefore, on his mother's side, closely related to royalty, and at an early age attracted the attention of Queen Catharine, who, it is said, selected him as the future husband of her little daughter Mary. As,

however, Reginald was sixteen years older than the princess, ample time remained for the development of the plan. His mother was sponsor at the christening of the royal child.

Reginald, when only seventeen years old, was the recipient of much patronage at the hand of the king, receiving prebends and deaneries, though, of course, from his age, not yet in holy orders. The king (Henry VIII.) showered all this upon him to enable him to pursue his studies in divinity.

These studies he prosecuted on the continent—in Italy and elsewhere—where he met many

eminent men, whose influence told greatly upon his future life. On his return to England in 1527, after an absence of several years, he saw the commencement of the unhappy divorce case which brought such trouble to his much-prized friend, Queen Catharine, and when it all culminated in the success of her rival, Anne Boleyn, Pole could no longer remain at court, but withdrew to pursue quietly his studies elsewhere.

The king, however, continued his patronage, and even offered him the Archbishopric of York, a tempting offer, indeed, for a young man as yet only in deacon's orders. The offer was made in such a way as to show that the king would expect him to assist him in all his base designs against his wife. This young Pole positively refused to do, and therefore lost the high position.

He then—in 1532—in order, probably, to escape the dangerous displeasure of Henry VIII., went abroad, residing at Avignon, where by means of his scholarly writings he attracted the attention of the pope and the Italian clergy. While abroad he surprised the world by writing a fierce invective against the English king in a treatise which he called "De Unitate Ecclesie." The world was equally surprised to find that a short time after the appearance of this book he was made a cardinal by Pope Paul III., a position which he accepted, although not yet in holy orders. This was in the year 1536.

Some historians think that Reginald Pole never lost sight of the prospect held out to him in early life, that he might some day be the husband of the Princess Mary, and that it was this which largely influenced his life. It would account certainly for two things—otherwise not