



ARCHBISHOP TILLOTSON.

than the High Churchmen, and showed a desire for still more ceremony, some of them wishing to return to the Prayer Book of Edward VI. They, however, were entirely a separate body, and were not allowed to hold communion with the Church as upheld by the laws of King William. These men held aloof from the great struggle that was pending.

The friends of the Church in its ancient form rallied and canvassed vigorously in preparation for the Convocation that was to assemble, and as many delegates as possible were appointed to do all in their power to conserve its interests. The consequence was that when Convocation met in November (1689) the High Churchmen or conservative party were in a strong majority. Tillotson was proposed as Prolocutor by the king's party, but the conservatives, by a majority of two to one, rejected him in favor of Dr. Jane, Dean of Gloucester, a man on whom they could rely. The motto suggested by him was "No change," "*Nolumus leges Angliæ mutari*" It was at this time that men like Sancroft and Ken would have been most useful in the Upper House of Convocation. The Bishops, too much under the sway of the king, sent down a message thanking his majesty for his zeal "for the Protestant religion in this and all other Protestant churches." The Lower House altered this by leaving out the words "this and," for they had a great dislike to being put upon the same level with the Presbyterians, who were bitterly persecuting Churchmen in Scotland, and who had made England a sea of discord and trouble.

When the Tillotson and Burnet party saw how strong their opponents were, they did not bring forward their proposed changes, and the

Church and Prayer Book were thus saved from dismemberment and mutilation.

In a couple of months after this agitation was finished the day arrived when the non-jurors were to be deprived. The great majority of them remained firm to their resolve, and on the first of February, 1690, Archbishop Sancroft was deprived of all his offices and required by law to leave Lambeth palace and subsist for the rest of his days on £50 a year. With him five other bishops left their palaces and their livings, and about four hundred clergy their benefices and their homes, thrown upon the charities of the cold world for simple loyalty to a foolish king who knew not how to conserve the best interests of his subjects. These "non-jurors" were poor but honest. They carried with them the "Apostolic Succession" and full autonomy of the Church, for they had the Primate and five other bishops, and could thus have established a schism; but King William's laws bore heavily against them. When they met for service it had to be in a clandestine manner. They had no means of subsistence, and had to depend upon one another's poverty for support, and therefore could exercise but little influence. As years went by they did attempt to preserve their position as a separate church, and the deprived bishops consecrated a few others, but when James Stuart died the zeal of many died also, and by degrees the results of the unhappy separation disappeared.

Sancroft declared he would not leave Lambeth till forced to do so by law. Nor did he. He threw upon his opponents the odium of forcible deprivation. He retired to his native place, Fressingfield, in Suffolk, where he lived contentedly on his £50 a year till the 24th of November, 1693, when his earthly troubles were brought to a close.

Of John Tillotson, Sancroft's successor, it becomes us now to speak. He was born in the year 1630, and was the son of a clothier at Sowerty, near Halifax. He grew up as a boy under the troublesome days of Charles I., and was about seventeen years old when Laud, and afterwards the king, were executed. His father was a nonconformist, a Calvinist, and as such young Tillotson was brought up. His grandfather, Mr. Dod, a strict Puritan, superintended his early education. He entered Clare Hall, Cambridge, where his tutor, Mr. Clarkson, a strict Puritan, continued his Calvinistic training. He was elected a fellow of Clare in 1651, under the rule of Oliver Cromwell, whose attorney-general, Mr. Prideaux, entrusted him with the tutoring of his son.

At the Restoration, Tillotson, then a man of thirty years of age, found himself, as a nonconformist, on the losing side. He was deprived of his fellowship. The return of the nation to its ancient Church, the restoration of monarchy, consequent upon the failure of Puri-