DR. GAIRDNER'S. NEW WORK the english church.
Dr. Gairdner's Antecedents.
Boston Ṣacred Heart Review (Continued from last week) PRE-REFORMATION TIMES. The four different historical treat ises, originally published as pre-
faces to our four volumes of "I,etters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII.," edited by Professor
Brewer for the Master of the Rolls, Brewer for the Master of the Rolls,
proved to be too valuable and too decidedly of general interest, to be confined to the ponderous
tomes with which they were tomes with which they were
at first connected, and in which they were not likely to be
seen by nany readers. They are
now to be foum by themselves in two rolumes of abont 500 page ture of this part of Henry's reign
as Mr. Brewer saw it in his mind's eye after his careft researches. Bebook, we wil! gatote from Vol. I Mr. Brewer's book, page $5 \%$,
following significant words:success of the Reformation was mainly due to the purity of the
morality it inculcaced, or rather the general compution of an classes
-of the clergy in paricular-in the fifteenth century. The declamations invectises of satirists, wen the evisubject as this, whether in the wth to be decisive. Neither authenti documents, nor the literature and tional ethics are essentially con tic tendencies, warrant us in be-
lieving that the era preceding the Refornation was more corrupt impessible that the clergy can have
been niversally immoral, and the laity have remained sound, tem-
perate and loyal. But if these general arguments are not suffi curious document, dated the 8 thi of July, 1519, when a search was made by different commissioners, on Sunday night, in I,ondon and its suburbs, for all suspected and dis-
orderly persons. I fear no parish in London, nor any town in the United Kingdom, of the same amount of population, would at
this day pass a similar ordeal with equal credit."
To quote Mr. Brewer again, page
254 :- The sixteenth century was not a
mass of moral corruption out o which hife emerged by some proan addled egg cradling a living And in a forerse page, we read :-
"Luther's most earnest remonstrances were directed, not against
bad, but against 'good works,' and bad, but agains good works, and advocates of the old religion. If that religion had been in its prac represented by modern writ such denunciations were idle. Mr. Brewer represents Henry
VIII. in his early reign as affectionate to his as kind and affectionate to his good Queen
Katherine, and devotedly loved by her, and especially as manifesting union.

HENRY VIII. AND THE REFORMATION.
To quote the Rev. Henry Wace M.A., Mr. Brewer had for years
"lived in daily intercourse, as it were, with the chief actors in the reign of Henry VIII., read their private letters, followed therm into lives." We can, therefore, readily see upon what a path of minute
and toilsome labors his successor, Dr. Gairdner, entered for the strong foundation of his own work of his result? Continued addition to the vast change, prognosticating one vast more vast, that has come over the face of history in regard to the This we find clearly indicated by Dr. Gairdner's new volume. Therein
he declares that "the Reformation had undoubtedly been brought grading agencies. He immoral and deKing, changed from his earlier days and steeped in sin, profligate, a
murderer, a despot, false to Church. He tells of the Church properties plundered, and given over to the nobility. Of Henry's hyp "The King . . was doing all professing still to be orthodox. for as yet, he Had not even thrown off though he was preparing to do so mined the liberties of the Church in the way he did except by profess-
ing to be the Church's patron and friend. And all the while he was
thus engaged at home, either in the mderhand encomragement rocation, he was pursuing conse of siaregy in the court
Reme, the final issue of which wa lear enough to him, but dark to
veryboty else.
He narrates
He narrates the uprismgs of an north from Westmoreland to I, incolnshire, demanding justice. The uprisings was martial law; and here ensued "a series of butcherie as had never lefore been seen.' Whole, the nation had shown lit anthority. "What little was said," indeed from a repudiation of the and of its existing head. It was "eedless speahing against a juris
dietion so firmly establisehed.," And Mr. Rrewer distinctly says that demand for a divorce from Kathe rine, there would have been no re
rolt from the Pope's thority in England. But, failing in this, the monarch threw off his old ead of the Eurlish Church and "brutally despatched" to and would not perjure themselves wh acknowledging this degrading su remacy: men like Bishop Fisher Earl of-i,dare and his five uncles Earl of Kildare and his truly mar tyred Carthusians.

## FOXE AND CRANMER

As to the Protestant historian Foxe, and his renowned "Book of sure-house of Reformation history writers, Dr. Gairdner has small sympathy or respect for either prejudiced, and implies that the worst is not yet known of him And of some of Foxe's 'martyrs' he writes :-
Foxe mentions three hanged in chains for burning the Rood a says they were moved by the Spirit of God,-and also a kinsman of his own, John Randall, who, even from his own account, evidently either was murdered, or hanged himself. And Alan Cope, soon after the pub-
lication of Foxe's book, had no diflication of Foxe's book, had no dif
ficulty in showing the latter to ficulty in showing the latter to
have been the case. Various, in deed, were the human materials out 'martyrs.'
As to Cranmer, how far he cat ried the question of the king's su premacy we may judge from Dr Gairdner's account (page 365) of
his trial at Oxford, Sept. 12, 1555, his trial at Oxford, Sept. 12, 1555
in Mary's reign, as follows:"He said the king of a realm was did not the Church in it, and he pressed upon him that in that case Nero, who put St. Peter to death was head of the Church at Romenay, that the Turk was head of the Church in Turkey.
Dr. Gairdner declares:
"The experience of years had convinced Mary, and no doubt her Papal authority had shaken the foundation of all other authority whatever. Rebellion and treason had been nourished by heresy-nay,
heresy was the root from which they sprang.'
with deep reapect herself


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