

was made to recover this lost territory. The days of the Crusades were over. The Archbishop of Canterbury proclaimed a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer over the dire catastrophe, and it was then that the collect used on Good Friday for "Jews, Turks, Infidels, and Heretics" was first appointed to be read.

It was frequently the case that when a new archbishop was appointed the lives and conduct of the clergy were scrupulously investigated, and the advent to power of Thomas Bouchier proved no exception to the rule. He found much folly, foppery, and neglect existing among the clergy, and took what measures he could towards repressing the evil.

He had some trouble with Reginald Pecock, Bishop of Chichester, who had written some books that were pronounced dangerous in their tendency and teaching. It was not that they were Wycliffite or "Lollard" in tendency—though Foxe claims him as one of the martyrs (indeed, they were remarkable for upholding the authority of the Pope)—but that they were of a liberal character, in an age when the free use of the pen was a dangerous practice. Archbishop Bouchier caused the books to be examined by a committee, who pronounced them to be heretical. The bishop was then made to recant publicly; his books were burned by the public executioner; he himself was deprived of his office and imprisoned in Thorney Abbey for the rest of his days. The Pope issued bulls in his defence, but Bouchier disregarded any interference from without. The treatment that Pecock received was harsh and ungenerous. He was first compelled to go through the degradation of a recantation, and then mercilessly punished after it.

The unfortunate king, having recovered temporarily from his illness, assumed again the reins of government, taking the chancellorship away from the Earl of Salisbury. It was bestowed upon the archbishop, as a compromise between the two parties, for, though he was a decided Yorkist, he still was much respected by Queen Margaret, who, in the weak state of her husband's health, was thrown into the active stream of political events. The birth of a young son, an heir to the throne, made her very jealous over the growing power of the Duke of York; still she had a reverence for the archbishop, and to some extent relied upon him.

In other respects, however, she was not so temperate, her attitude towards the house of York being so hostile as to arouse the duke of that name and his friends to action. Among these friends was the famous Earl of Warwick, afterwards known as the "King Maker." Alarmed for their own safety they took up arms, marched towards London and won the battle of St. Alban's, at which the Duke of Somerset, their deadliest enemy, was killed. At a parliament shortly afterwards assembled, the Yorkists,

having declared that they had no feeling of disloyalty towards the king, but had simply taken up arms for their own defence, an amnesty was obtained for them, largely through the influence of the archbishop. Shortly afterwards (in November, 1455), on a recurrence of the king's disorder, the Duke of York was again declared Protector, Bouchier remaining Lord Chancellor. In February of the following year, however, the king having again partially recovered, the Duke of York was deprived of his position, and two decided Lancastrians, the Duke of Buckingham and Henry Beaufort, son of the Duke of Somerset, who had fallen at St. Alban's, were called to the royal council. Under this régime Bouchier felt it impossible for him to retain the chancellorship. He therefore resigned it, and Waynfleet, Bishop of Winchester, accepted it. The new chancellor, however, was on the very best of terms with the archbishop, and rendered what assistance he could in trying to bring about a reconciliation and agreement between the two great political parties, whose feuds were assuming most threatening aspects.

The peacemakers were successful. The two parties were brought together in love, and every one rejoiced. The happiest man in England was the archbishop. This peace, however, lasted but a short time, owing, it would seem, to the rash action of the queen, who seemed to wish, not the pacification, but the annihilation of her dreaded foes. An attempt on her part to send the Earl of Warwick to the Tower aroused the sleeping dog, which it would have been much better to have let lie. This powerful earl was commander of the fleet at Calais. The Yorkist leaders, heavily oppressed by the queen, "the foreign woman," as many in England were now beginning to call her, set sail for the continent to consult with him upon the gravity of the situation. The archbishop himself was greatly alarmed, and all his own retainers were armed. Whenever he moved about they accompanied him. He was as a general at the head of a small army. In this way he marched to the seashore at Sandwich. He was there to welcome the Yorkist leaders from across the channel. They arrived in their ships, and knelt down to receive the primate's blessing. At last the archbishop was driven to take a decided stand. He had brought the two parties together in every outward demonstration of peace and love. Unreasonable jealousy and hatred on the part of one of them had speedily broken this up. He now welcomed those whom he considered honest-hearted Englishmen, who had come to save his country from the apparent madness of a foreign woman.

The archbishop marched with these earls of England to London, men of arms joining them as they proceeded until a large army was gathered. Several attempts were made still by the archbishop in the interest of peace, but the