

"But a day came when England and Germany were stirred more than ever by the evil passions which ruined Solomon and so many other kings. Henry VIII wants to marry Ann Boleyn while Catharine of Aragon is yet living; Philip of Hesse bethinks himself that he can have two wives at once; Albert of Brandebourg sunders the ties which bound him to the altar and takes up new ones in adultery and sacrilege. Luther counsels, approves, ratifies all these horrors; and the horror of his own example is the culmination of his doctrine. Marriage is doomed to desecration. The torrent rushes along. One after the other every country totters and falls: Denmark, Sweden, Saxony and Switzerland are divided and France is shaken. It seems that the world is going back to barbarity and sinking down into the abyss of corruption of a new heathenism. But fear not. The Church is watching over the nuptial bed and will save the honor thereof.

The Bishop John Fisher and the Chancellor Thomas More had to pay with their heads their resistance to the tyrannical freaks of Henry VIII. But handsomer is the head of a Bishop when it falls for the sake of truth; and greater is the Chancellor who dies for justice.

"Pope Clement VII will rather sacrifice England and Germany than the intangible laws of Marriage.