

His design was to rule supreme as universal bishop over all countries. He used Beaufort as a means for trying to carry this out in England. He was to be represented there by an officer who was to be superior to the Archbishop of Canterbury—and this for life. The real primate of England was to be the Bishop of Winchester.

When Chicheley heard this he wrote in great alarm to the king, pointing out the effect that this would have upon the Church of England as a national institution, and begging him most earnestly to do all in his power to prevent it.

Henry V. was as patriotic as his archbishop, and lost no time in informing his uncle that he could not possibly permit him to retain his bishopric of Winchester if he were to allow himself to be made a cardinal. Thus by the judicious firmness of a great and good king a difficult question, for the time being, was settled, and Henry V. went on pursuing his policy of subjugating France. In 1421, leaving his young wife at Windsor, he landed at Calais, and dealt several crushing blows upon the French, till by Christmas time he had established himself in Paris. Here he heard the joyful news that a young son had been born to him, and had been baptized by the primate. In the following May the queen joined him near Paris, and was shocked to find her heroic lord much broken down in health. Neither she nor the nation, however, was prepared for the sad event which speedily followed. On the 31st of August Henry V. breathed his last, leaving only an infant to succeed him as King of England.

Profound grief oppressed the whole nation when the remains of the great king were landed upon his native shore, and the poor old archbishop could scarcely realize his great loss, as he consigned the body of his royal master to its last resting place in Westminster Abbey.

He took refuge in the more diligent pursuit of his episcopal and spiritual duties, and left the temporal affairs of the kingdom to others. In the performance of his duties he seems to have been very diligent, holding numerous visitations and trying to correct abuses wherever he saw them. Had he been as great a man as he was devout, he might have led in a great reformation that would have stamped his name forever upon the leading historical events of the Church, but he was scarcely able to contend with the threatening power of the pope, which at every opportunity exerted itself to the destruction of his own.

The strong hand of Henry V. gone from England, Martin V. resumed his attempt to subordinate the Archbishop of Canterbury to his own representative, or legate, in England. And for this contest Chicheley did not prove himself equal. Though he knew well his own rights, he did not seem to possess the

courage to maintain them. Had he done so, he would have found vigorous support from the clergy, who saw that their own independence was threatened, and, when the pope spoke slanderous words against their primate, the clergy defended him in a document which shows how good and upright a man he was. But the pope had his own policy to pursue. He wished to send Beaufort to England as his legate (the very step which Henry V. had stopped), and therefore threatened to deprive Chicheley of his position. The English government supported the archbishop, who was prepared to appeal from the pope to a general council. But his courage failed him. The threatenings of the pope intimidated him. Beaufort was made a cardinal, but the feeling of the nation was so strong against him that he did not appear in England till the year 1429, by which time a party had sprung up in England strong enough to give him the necessary support to maintain his position. How often must the poor old archbishop have wished that Henry V. had lived! The idea of cardinals being admitted into England was foreign to the taste and inclination of the English people, yet Martin V. seemed determined to make them familiar with it. The Archbishop of York at this time was John Kemp. Him the pope made a cardinal, with the idea probably of humiliating Chicheley by giving his brother archbishop precedence over him. The English House of Lords, however, would not allow the Archbishop of Canterbury to be so far degraded. In all things English, the Archbishop of York was made to keep his place. As far as Beaufort was concerned, no difficulty as to precedence arose, because, as a member of the royal family, a superior position was always accorded him. Beaufort, in fact, did not wish to lord it over Chicheley. He had a personal object in view, which was none other than the hope that he might some day be made pope. With this end in view he was glad to be a cardinal, and at the same time to retain the rich bishopric of Winchester, that he might have money enough to buy the coveted position! These hopes, however, were never realized.

Such was the wretched state of things in these dark days of English Church life. For a century longer they were destined to continue before the dawn of a brighter day appeared. The life of a kind, liberal, patriotic man like Archbishop Chicheley was embittered by the interference of a foreign power, which sought to oppress him and humiliate him in the eyes of his own countrymen. Had he possessed less fear of papal power, and more of the spirit of defiance in resisting attacks upon the liberties of his own Church, a great movement might have taken place, which would then and there have produced the Reformation. But the gentleness of a good old man, who had no