

The Recusants of Derbyshire,

BEING AN ABSTRACT OF THE ROLLS FOR THAT COUNTY.

BY PYM YEATMAN.

THE history of the "Recusants" of any county is full of interest. The progress of the Reformed Church was for many years slow and insecure, and the old Romish faith was stamped out by painful degrees. Through severe punishments and continued oppressions and exactions, it progressed towards its full establishment. Of these measures we learn something from the Statute-book, but more of their results from the documents which have long remained hidden in the Record Office called "Recusant Rolls." They are imperfect, and the first of the series is dated 35 Elizabeth, the record of these fines and forfeitures prior to this period being either lost or buried away somewhere in other rolls at present undiscovered. It is to be hoped that eventually the whole truth may be unearthed.

The fierce Acts of Henry VIII. in relation to Roman Catholics are well known, but it is not generally known that the greater part of them are still extant upon the Statute Book, and may at any moment be put in execution. One has only to turn to the edition of existing Statutes, published under the direction of Lord Cairns, to learn that by the first Act of Queen Elizabeth, which is still in force, the repealing enactments of Queen Mary, and "the Statutes, articles, and provisions made against the See Apostolic of Rome since the 20th of King Henry the Eighth were revived."

It is not proposed now to enumerate this painful catalogue, but only to refer to the Acts of Queen Elizabeth. Her second Statute (which is still the law of the land) declares that anyone writing or speaking in derogation of the Prayer Book in any interludes, plays, songs, or rhymes, or by other open words shall forfeit 100 marks, for the second offence £400, and the third time he shall forfeit all his goods and chattels, and be imprisoned for life; and every person who did not attend church and listen to those prayers soberly and orderly was to be fined 12d.

The Queen's clemency was despised. In the preamble of Chapter I. of the fifth of her reign we learn that "for the preservation of the Queen's dignity from dangers by the fanatics of the usurped power of the See of Rome, at this time grown to marvellous outrage and licentious boldness, and now requiring more sharp restraint and correction of laws than hitherto in the time of the Queen's most mild and merciful reign," any offender, besides forfeiture of goods and liberty, was to be subject to the penalties of "præmunire," by which a man was degraded to the position of a wild beast—that is, he was put out of the protection of the law, liable to be slain by anyone. The Crown took care of his lands as well as of his goods and chattels, and if he was caught imprisoned him for life. This penalty he incurred for many matters, such as for not taking the oath, and for a second offence, though it is difficult to see what was left him except his life, he incurred the penalty of high treason, with all its appalling barbarities, which are literally too disgusting to be described. It is difficult to understand the meaning of the Statute, for, whilst it added the horrible cruelties which were enforced on a conviction for high treason, it deprived the public of the right to "lynch" offenders, which had been considered a very interesting privilege of the penalty of præmunire, for the Acts prohibited the sport of hunting a man to death—in all cases except where anyone tried to execute a sentence or summons of the Court of Rome.

In the thirteenth year of her reign death was awarded for granting absolution by writing so as to catch priests abroad, or for aiding in that sacred rite, but for bringing crosses, beads, etc.,

only the punishment of *præmunire*. These punishments are repealed, but the offences are still existing as part of the law of the land, and are punishable as misdemeanours or felonies. Still the people clung to the old faith, and it was only when these persecutions ceased that they lost their love for it. There was inaugurated a system of indulgences, against which, when practised under very different circumstances by the Church of Rome, Luther had inveighed so eloquently. This system the Queen now extended to all who were convicted of "Recusancy," a crime invented to describe the act of following the Romish faith. By these indulgences her Majesty reaped a rich reward. But so weak is poor human nature that the persons who had defied the rack and the headsman, now that they were permitted to follow the dictates of their consciences, for a pecuniary consideration soon gave up the ancient faith. By the 23rd Elizabeth, an Act which is now repealed, Catholics were allowed to compound for their offences, of not going to church, etc., by the payment of £20 a month, and subject to this might live in peace; this included all who had attained sixteen years. One-third of the sum was enjoyed by the Queen herself, one-third was given to the poor, who, since the suppression of monasteries, were becoming troublesome, and one-third was given to the informer.

The clergy were sometimes among the informers. In Lansdowne MSS., No. 153, there is a letter of the Vicar of Blackburn, always a Popishly inclined place, which is very instructive. He writes under date 17th June, 1611, giving the names of parents who had had children born under five years "not baptised in the parish church, etc., which," he adds, "I merely think were baptised by Popish priests, who do swarm in these parts." In a chapelry near there had not been twenty baptized within seven years at the church, and he winds up his letter, "non sine summo animi dolore." In a postscript, in spite of this grief, he adds, "I still hope to find out many more within these two months." One-third of the fines had evidently debauched the charity of this worthy man. In the same MSS. (1607) are recorded considerations "touching his Majesty's (James I.) revenue, answerable by recusants. By

deaths, or conformations (many having submitted themselves since last Act) the revenue must decay dailie; even if new recusants do increase, the result to the revenue will be very small because of the many graunts the king has made of Recusants not in charge, reserving only $\frac{1}{3}$ of the 2 parts of their land and $\frac{1}{3}$ of their goods." No doubt the revenue had decreased for another reason, because thousands of families were now ruined by the process. £9,000 a year revenue was to be entirely maintained, the overplus to be disposed of by the king "if it shall please his Majesty, one-fourth part to the officers and procurers thereof, the other three parts to whom it shall please his Majesty in ready money."

"Those that be noted to be able to answer £200 a year according to the Statute doe amount to £15,600 per ann. the other that be summ^d amount to £10,000 per ann. & those that are mentioned will be as much."

From the 40th Elizabeth to 11 James I. £117,063 18s. 4½d. was paid, an immense sum at that period.

The following paper shows the actual sums paid at a particular period by the Derbyshire recusants:—

Mem. of suche money as was received by Mr. Chambers & his deputies for any recusants, goods, or lands found within the Counties of Staff., Derb., &c., by virtue of His M. grant dated 24 Jun in the 7 year of his reign.

	£	s.	d.
Derbyshire—Henry Lister	26	6	8
Thos Barlowe	16	10	0
Oliver Bagshawe	61	16	8
Humphrey Buckstone			
George Lowe			
Rich. Madley			
Thos. Frost			
John Fox	15	10	0
Mrs. Powtrell	24	10	0
Elenor & Dorothy Powtrell	20	10	0
Mrs. Bucks	20	0	0
John Hawksworth	11	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Kathe. Fox	10	10	0
Kathe. Brittlebank	8	0	0
Henry Barney	10	10	0
Richard Barker	10	10	0
Wm. Parson	7	10	0
John Pickering	7	10	0
Fras. Jackson	11	10	0
Robt. Cam	7	10	0
Croth Syddall	6	0	0
Will. Smelter	8	10	0
Marg' Syddall	5	0	0
Thos. Morris	4	0	0
Miles Wilkin	5	10	0
Anthony Heald	4	15	0
Thos. Swetnam	1	0	0
Will. Hall	1	0	0
Jo. Frogatt	1	0	0
Rowland Abel	2	0	0
Elzth. Mansfield	2	0	0
Mch. Elverston	6	10	0
Mary Langford	100	0	0
John Abel	11	10	0
Thomas Eltofte	6	0	0
Sum tot.	£433	18	4

Sig. George Chambers.

Abell Alice 41 E. 2 J.*

„ John 38 E. 35 E. Eyam

„ Alice, Eyam 35 E.

Alestra Thos. Etwall 41 E. Cathe. ux ej

Alexander als Clark Cathe. ux Wm. Etwall 41 E. 35 E.

Allen Stephen, Gresley 3 J. & Joha. ux ej 41 E.

Allmytt Thos., Longford 2 J.

* Abbreviations—E., Queen Elizabeth; J., King James.

- Also Joha. ux Wm., Longford 35, 39, 41 E.
 Isabella ux Rich., Longford
 Alte Margarett, Bubton 41 E. 2 J. & Helen, Maria, Long-
 ford 35 E.
 Alton Helen ux Robt., Wirksworth 2 J.
 ,, Joha. Norbury id.
 Arthington Rosamonde ux Cirill Norton 35 E.
 Ashmore Francis 41 E.
 Ashton Joha. ux Laurence Mapelton 2 J.
 ,, Richard
 Aynesworth Anna Etwall 25 E. 41
 Bagshaw Oliver Tideswell
 ,, Chapel en-le Frith 40 E.
 ,, Dorothy ,,
 ,, Wm. ,,
 ,, Grace ux Wm.
 ,, Agnes
 ,, Henry
 ,, Florence
 ,, Marie
 ,, Prudence
 ,, Joha. ux John Tideswell
 Bakewell Robert Okemanton 35 41 E. Rich. Joha. John
 Cathe. Wm.
 Bakewell Richard Longford
 Bamford Marg. Kirk Langley 2 J.
 Bailey Thomas Hathersage 38 E.
 ,, Thos. Hathersage & Matilda 38 E. John Longford 2 J.
 ,, Anna ux Jo. Barton
 Barber Christopher Belsham 41 E.
 Barker Richard als Makeworth & Elzth. ux ej. 41 E. of
 Norton Joha. Maria
 ,, John Marie
 Barking Dorothy Emma Alice Okemanton 41 E. Hathersage
 Barlow Christopher 41 E.
 Bayley Jo. Barton Blount 41 E. & Agneta

- Baslow Thos. Hathersage 41 E. Matilde ux ej.
 „ Christopher & Agnes ux ej. Duffield 41 E.
 Beard Elz. ux Rich. Heyfield 35 E.
 Bilston Anna 41 E.
 Beesley John Longford 35 E.
 Berde Wm. Heyfield 41 E.
 „ Elizth. ux Richard
 Bentlie Roger 41 E.
 Beredet Frances Sutton
 Blakiston Wm. 40 E.
 Blackwell Dorothy ux Humph 2 J. Tideswell and Florence
 Jana Longford 35 E.
 Bighton Thos. 41 E.
 Boswell Wm. & Edward Snelston & Jo. ux 41 Lawrence
 Bowen Ed 39 E.
 Bowman Edward Longford 2 J.
 Bowshaw Edward 41 E.
 Bradborn John Bakewell 41 E.
 Bradbury Wm. & Anna 41 E.
 Braddock William Norbury 41 E. & Johanna ux ej.
 Bradley Margt. Snelston 41 E.
 Bright Isabella West Hallam
 Brinley John Longford & of Shirley 2 J.
 „ Edward Snelston & Joha. ux ej. 41 E.
 „ Lawrence & John Norbury 35 E. Edmund
 Bromley Edwd. Norb.
 Britton Jo. Gresley 3 J.
 Brittlebank Hugo & Alice, Christopher, Hathersage 35 E.
 „ John Brookfield 41 E. & Cath.
 Brough Eleanor 35 E. 39—41 E.
 Browning Maria 2 J.
 Brown Mary W. Hallam 41 E.
 Brownell ux Rich. Hathersage 35 E.
 Buck Margaret Sudbury 2 J.
 Butler Nich. Bolsover ux Wm. 35 E.
 Buxton Humph. Tideswell 41 E.

- Cannel Helen Longford 2 J.
 Came Richard Longford 35 E. & Cath.
 Carden Anna Longford 2 J.
 Caune Christopher Hathersage 2 J.
 Cawood Thos. Staunford 37 E.
 Champion Milo 33 E.
 Champney Nic. Hathersage 41 E. & Ezth. 35 E.
 Chittam Grace 41 E.
 Clay John 2 J.
 Clark Agnes Bretby 41 E. Cath. ux Thos. Etwall & Anna
 35 E.
 Cobstake Anthony Chesterfield 35—41 E. Qy. Copestake.
 Colleson Robt. 37 E.
 Collier Rich. Sutton 2 J. & Thos.
 Conze Thos. 41 E. Hugo
 Come Roger 35 E.
 Cotton Thos. Kirk Langley & Jane 41 E.
 Cox Anna Repton ux 41 E.
 ,, Beatrice do.
 Crowshaw Wm. Longford 41 E.
 Dakin Margt. ux Wm. 35—41 E. Norbury
 ,, Robt. Shirley
 Dance ux John Norton 35 E.
 Danton Jo. 3 J. Etwall
 Daore Margt. Hathersage 41 E.
 Dawkwell Michael Longford 3 J. & Margt.
 Diacoft Edward & Cath. Roger Shirley
 Dounlow Elzth. ux Robt. 39 E. 42
 Dowman Edward Longford 37 E.
 Drabble Geo. Hathersage 2 J.
 ,, Jana ux Thos. Chesterfield 2—3 J.
 Dunhow Elz. Longford 37 E.
 Duke Richard S. Wingfield 35 E.
 Eaton Eleanor Wo. of Jo. Etwall 35-40 E. Marg. Marie
 ,, Wm.
 ,, John 2 J.

- Eaton, Helena
 „ Francisca Repton 35-41 E. 2 J. of Hathersage
 „ Richard
 Ebbeth Nic Eyam 35 E.
 Elde Anthony uxor Hathersage 35 E.
 Eliva Nic & Francisa 35 E. Eleanor N. Wingfield 35 E.
 Ellis, Robt. & Elzth.
 Elmis Nic 38 E.
 Elstoft Thos. Dronfield, Claria
 Elson Elenora ux Edward Sutton 35 E.
 Elston Margt 2 J. Sutton
 Eliza
 Milicent
 Elvidge Nich. Norb. 41 E.
 Everard John Sudbury & Alicia his wife 2 J.
 Eyre John
 „ Laurence 35 E.
 „ Robt. Chesterfield 35-40 E.
 „ Edward 35-41 E.
 „ Edmund Norton 35 E.
 „ Nicho. 35 E.
 „ Godfrey 35 E.
 „ Marie, Jane 35 E.
 Fearne Elzth Longford 35 E.
 Fearnley ux Ed. 35 E.
 Fidler Beatrice 35-41 E & Cathe.
 Fishbourne John 37 E.
 Fitzherbert Dorothy Somsall 2 J.
 „ Edward Sudbury 2 J.
 Foljambe Anna ux Godfrey Longfield 35-41 E. Constance
 Ford John Wberly 35 E.
 Fox Eleanor Marsten 35-41 E. ux Anthony
 „ Cathe.
 „ Anthony
 „ Joha. N. Wingfield 35 E.
 Freemantle Rich. Bakewell 41 E.

- Frost Thos. Longford 2 J.
 Fulbrooke Walter W. Hallam 41 E.
 Fulwood Walter „ „ 2 J.
 Ganes Thos. Hathersage 35 E.
 Garrett Martha Bentley 41 E.
 Gerrard Elzth. Dna 35-41 Etwall
 „ John „
 Giffard Roger
 Gilbert Anna 41 E. Norbury
 Gill Rich. Norb. & Anne ux ej 2 J. 3 J.
 Glossop Maria W. Hallam 2 J.
 Goodwyn John Etwall 35 E.
 Greatorex Augustine 41 E.
 Eliza ux Robt. Tideswell 2 J.
 Greaves Eleanor Wberly 35 E.
 Gree John Morley & Agusta ux ej 35 E.
 Green Lucia W. Hallam
 „ John, Hallam, Longford
 „ Mary, Longford
 Greensmith Maria ux Thos. Norb. 2 J.
 Gregory Elzth. Norbury 41 E.
 „ Emma 35 E.
 Hall uxor Thos. Hathersage 35 E.
 Hall Wm. Chesterfield 2 J.
 Hallam Anna ux Wm. Scarcliff 2 J. Joha. Longford
 Hanson Wm. W. Hallam 41 E.
 Harrison Richard Norbury 35 E.
 „ Margt. ux Rich. Duffield 35-41 E.
 Hawfield Alice 41 E.
 Hawksworth Jo. Hathersage 2 J. uxor Hugo 35 E.
 Heald Anthony Hathersage 2 J.
 „ Margt 35-41 E. Eyam
 „ Fras. 41 E 2 J. Eyam
 Hene Alicia ux Edward Longford 41 E.
 Hewston Ed. Rependon 41 E. & Elzth. ux ej.
 Hezall George & Maria ux 41 E.

- Hide Maria 41 E.
 „ Rog. Glossop 2 J.
 Hickling Elz. Norb. 41 E.
 Hill Alice ux Thos. Tideswell 2 J.
 Hodgkinson Robt. & Edith ux ej. 41 E. ux Thos. 35 E.
 Hollingsworth Wm. Longford 2 J.
 Hood Fred. Norb. 41 E.
 Hauxrell Edward W. Hallam 2 J.
 „ William
 Hunter Henry, Norton & Elzth. 35 E
 Jelett Eliz. Hathersage. See Jewett 35 E.
 Jenyson Maria
 „ Michael Etwall 2 J.
 „ Mathew
 Jewett Peter Hathersage 35-41 E. 2 J. & Joha ux ej.
 „ Jane Hathersage 35 E.
 Johnson Adam Hathersage 35 39 E. Hathersage
 „ Cuthbert Bretby 41 E.
 Jorans Peter Hathersage 35 E.
 Kempe Rich. Hathersage 2 J.
 Kirkland Elzth. Wberley 35 E.
 Kitching Joa. N. Wingfield 35 E.
 Kitte Thos Longford 41 E.
 Larone Robt. Wyberley 35 E.
 Laurence John Foremark 41 E.
 Laurence ali Giles Jo. 41 E.
 Lacke Dionisius Longford 2 J.
 Lea Anna ux Oliver Chesterfield 2 J.
 Leake Fras. 38 E. Barley 2 J.
 „ „ Sutton
 Lenton Richard Bretby & Dorothy uxor
 Levesey Henry 41 E.
 Lester Elz. Derb. 41 E.
 „ Hy.
 Locke Jas. Longford 35 E. Francis of Barley

- Longdon Robt. 41 E.
 „ Margt. ux Geo. of Tideswell
 Longford Nic. 35 E.
 Lucas uxor Robt. 35 E.
 Madeley Rich. Sutton 3 J.
 Madsfield Elz. Hathersage, 35 E. 2 J.
 Marescal Cathe. Norton 35 E.
 Mellor Thos. 41 E., Norb. 2 J.
 Merrye Margaret Barton Blount 35 E.
 „ Margt. Sutton 41 E 2 J.
 „ John id.
 „ uxor Henry 35 E. Cathe. Elizth.
 Milward Agneta Sutton 41 E
 Nic „
 Milnhouse Frasinea ux Geo. Norb. 35, 41 E. 2 J.
 Morris Thos. Norb.
 „ als. Turner Elz. 4 E.
 „ Wm. Rich & F . Norb.
 „ Thos & Joha.
 „ Isabella Norbury & Wm. 35 E.
 Mork Geo.
 Morton Eliz. Hathersage 35, 41 E. Elizth & Anna
 Nephew Fras. Bretby 41 E.
 Newton Elezeus & Dorothy ux ej 35 E.
 Norkell Wm. W. Hallam 41 E.
 North Wm.
 „ Thos.
 „ Agnes Edlaston 41 E.
 „ Anna Longford 41 E. & Agneta 35 E.
 Norton Hy. Hathersage 35, 41 E. & Maria ux ej.
 Norwell Wm. W. Hallam 2 J.
 Norwood Wm. 41 E.
 Oberling Constance Longford 41 E.
 Oldacre Robt. Chesterfield 41 E. 2 J.
 „ Alice Norbury 35 E.
 Orrel Maria
 „ Elz. Bretby 41 E.

- Padley Anna ux Edmund 35 E.
 „ Anna & Francisca 41 E. ux Adam Eyam
 „ Humphry Eyam 35 E.
 Palfreyman Nic. 41 E.
 Palmer Jo. Kegworth 37 E.
 Parker Helen ux Jo. Derb. 3 J.
 Parsons Wm.
 Paselow Joha. & Elzth 41 E.
 Pawson Milborn 2 & Elz. 3 ux ej
 Peach Wm. Wberley & Elzth. ux ej 35 E.
 Pen Edward Longford 2 J.
 Plompton Anna & Francesca
 „ Peter
 „ Francis
 Poole Maria Norb. 2 J.
 „ Elzth. & Ellen in Eckington & Spinkhill 35 E.
 Powtrell Cassandra ux Walter
 Proudlow Agneta ux Geo. N. Wingfield 2 J.
 Pudsey Elz. Longford 35 E.
 Rawlin John 35-41 E. Norbury
 „ Jana.
 „ Joha. ux Nic. Norbury 39-41 E.
 „ Wm.
 Revell Edward
 Reynes Nich. Stanford 37 E.
 Ridge Elz. 38 E. Heyfield
 „ Dorothy Glossop
 „ Thomasine ux Wm. Heyfield 35 E.
 Roades Jo. S. Wingfield 2 J. Joha. ux Geo. 35 E.
 Roche Rowland Whittington 2 J.
 Roide Maria Gresley 3 J.
 Rolston Chrstr. & Matilde Rossington 35-40 E.
 „ Arthur
 Rose W. Barbro 3 J.
 Rosea Rich. Etwall 35 E.
 Rowland Ed. Dronfield 41 E.

- Rushton Anna Norbury
 Sandford Maria 41 E.
 Sawther Jo. Etwall 3 J.
 Scott Dorothy Etwall 41 E.
 Sedons Charles & Nic. Pentrich 35 E see Sidons
 Sewell Jo. 38 E.
 „ Wm. 41 E. Elzth ux Duffield
 „ Anna ux Charles 35 E.
 „ Maria ux Wm. Duffield 35 E.
 Shaw Geo. 41 E.
 Sherwin Constantine Longford 35 E. 2 J.
 Shewell Wm. Duffield 2 J. Agneta ux ej
 Sheeting Constance Hathersage 41 E.
 Sidons Nic. Ripley
 „ Char. ux Richard 41 E. Pentric
 Skynner ux Rich. Norbury 35 E.
 Smyth Cathe. ux Thos. 39 E. Heyfield
 „ Anna Barley
 Smylter Wm. Hathersage 2 J
 Sorby Roger Barley 35 E. Crich 35 E.
 Spying Peter W. Hallam 41 E.
 Spilman Clement Broughton 35 E.
 Spencer Elzth Wirksworth 41 E
 Statham Geo. senr Tansley 41 E.
 Staley Elzth. W. Hallam 41 E.
 Stanhoppe Anna ux Edward Etwell 35 E.
 Stuble Maria „ 2 J.
 Steet Wm. Hathersage Margaret 35 E.
 Swetman Wm.
 „ Rich.
 „ Anna Longford
 „ Thos. Norbury and Anna ux ej
 „ Dorothy
 „ Alicie
 Sydall Dorothy W. Hathersage 2 J.
 „ ux Robert 35 E.

- Taylor Oliver Sutton 41 E.
 Thomason Marg. 35 E. Kirklangley and Hathersage
 Thompson ux Edward Hathersage 35 E.
 Thornley Ann ux Thos. Hathersage 35 E.
 Torre Helena ux Robt. Tideswell 2 J.
 Tunstead Fras. Dronfield.
 Turner Alice ux Jo. Norb. 2 J.
 Walker Wm Hathersage 35 E.
 Waterhouse Jo. Heyfield 38 E.
 ,, Wm. Lullington 35 E.
 Wheylee Thos. Longford 35-41 E.
 Whaldene Joha. Hathersage 35 E.
 Whitall Helena Glossop 2 J.
 Whiteley Nic Hathersage 2 J. & Maria.
 ,, ux Wm. do 35 E
 Wilcockson Cathe. Hathersage 35-41 E.
 Wilde ux Edward 41 E. Crich
 Wildbrockson, see Wilcockson
 Wilkin Milo Hathersage 41 E. 2 J.
 ,, Elzth. 35 E.
 Womersley John Chapel 2 J.
 Wood Wm. Longford 2 J. Chesterfield 2 J.
 Wright Isabella W. Hallam 35-41 E.
 ,, Thomas
 Yollope Frances Hawsworth 41 E.