

THE LAST DAYS OF HEXHAM PRIORY.

OUR local historians state that in 1535 Edward Jay, Prior of Hexham, was executed at Tyburn, in company with the Prior of the Charter House and others. Dugdale, indeed, ends his list of the Hexham Priors with Edward Jaye, who was confirmed in 1524, and says, "He was the last Prior." But it appears that he had a successor, and that the latter was he who was executed. Godwin calls him Thomas Lawrence, and gives Augustine Webster as the name of his fellow-sufferer, the Prior of Beverley. The State Paper here printed, which transposes these names, will probably set the question at rest, and form a preface to the Misdemeanours of the Canons of Hexham in 1536, published in Mr. Hinde's interesting History of Northumberland, p. 353.

INTERROGATORIE mynistréd by the right honourable Mr. Thomas Crumwell, chieff secretarie to the kinges highnes, unto Robert Lawrence, prior of Bevall, and Augustine Webster, prior of Hexham, and to eyther of theym, with their aunsweres to the same.

Whether they, and eyther of theym, wolde be content obediently to obeye the kinges highnes as supreme hedde in erthe, under Christe, of the churche of England called Anglicana ecclesia: And hym so to repute, take, and accepte: And to refuse all other potentates and powers, Goddes onlie power except, according to the statute in that behalf made.

ROBERT LAWRENCE, prior of *Bevall*, answered to the said question, that he coulde not consent nor beleve that the kinges highnes is supreme hedde of the churche of Englande according to the statute in that behalf made.

AUGUSTINE WEBSTER, prior of *Hexham*, answered likewise to the said questions, that he coulde not consent nor beleve that the kinges highnes is supreme hedde of the churche of Englande according to the statute in that behalf made.

Acta sunt &c. 20 Apr. 1535, coram memorato honorabili viro M'ro Thomas Crumwell ipsius regiæ majestatis secretario primario: In domo solite habitacionis ejusdem honorandi viri vulgo nuncupata *the Rolles* in continentibus civitatis London.