

CHAPTER 7

ENGLISH HISTORY AMERICAN HERITAGE

A PRINCESS MARRIED THEN REJECTED

With a brief reflection on history, we can get a glimpse of how events starting forty years before the Jesuit Order was founded, was to lead to later intrigues and conspiracies that constantly kept all of Europe in a state of bloody and violent uprisings. Efforts, spurred on by Rome and her Jesuits with seething hatred and vengeance; instigated to repulse the advancement of Protestantism. — It was in year 1501, that the youngest daughter of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain was married, at age 15, to Prince Arthur, the brother of Henry VIII of England. At this very same time, Christopher Columbus, who was seeking permission from the king and queen of Spain, for his fourth and last voyage to the New World, was being postponed because of the wedding.

However, the marriage of Catherine of Aragon, as she was known, to Prince Arthur was short; for he died within the year. It not being normally lawful for a man to marry his brother's widow, yet with some string pulling and with the reason given that it would unify the kingdoms of England and Spain, a papal dispensation was granted. Catherine remarried Henry VIII of England in 1509; it being Henry's first wife. Catherine had six children by Henry, of which only one, named Mary, survived. Mary later, in 1553-1558, became queen of England and tried to restore Roman Catholicism. By burning over 300 Protestants as heretics, she earned the name "bloody" Mary.

King Henry VIII wanted a male heir, which Catherine was not providing. Meanwhile as a pretense, Henry began to feel

some scruples as to the validity of his marriage to his brother's widow. He applied to Pope Clement VII for an annulment. Catherine then appealed to her nephew, German Emperor, Charles V, for help. Through the influence of Emperor Charles V, the pope denied Henry an annulment. Henry, determined to be free of the marriage, obtained his own annulment, declaring his marriage with Catherine invalid, in 1533, without the pope's consent. This led to Henry VIII's separation from Rome and excommunication. In rebellion against the authority of the pope, Parliament passed the 'Act of Supremacy' law, making the king the Supreme Head of the Church of England, in place of the pope. Parliament also enacted statutes suppressing the monasteries in England and confiscating all their property.

King Henry VIII was an unscrupulous and tyrannical monarch. In all, he had six wives. Two he had beheaded. Yet, the greatest scandal of England was the notoriously immoral lives of the clergy, especially the monks, where two-thirds were frauds, gluttons, worldly, sensual, living in concubinage, and peddlers of indulgences and relics. The lives of nuns being not much better were also scandalously immoral. They were a hindrance to the royal authority, and the excessive gold and silver sent to Rome to replenish the papal treasury, was a severe drain that weakened the resources of Henry's realm. Henry cleaned it up. Stopped the flow of wealth to Rome, and confiscated the pope's properties; in essence, he conducted a much needed reform.

Religion did not motivate Henry. Instead, he was obsessed with strengthening his royal throne. In fact, Henry hated the doctrines of Luther and detested Protestants. He never gave up the Mass or the dogmas of the Roman faith; but made them law for the Church of England. However, even though Henry brought down upon his head and his English kingdom the hatred and anathemas of Rome, he also threw wide open the door (even though it had been long in the making) for the English Reformation.

A DEADLY CONTEST

What Henry began in England, soon developed into a deadly contest that became spearheaded by zealous Jesuits urging on raging Roman Catholics, who vigorously opposed

the English government and denied the right of a Protestant even to live. That Jesuit 'contempt' for what Protestants hold most precious — the free circulation of the Scriptures among the people, free inquiry and private judgment — never died; even until today. It spanned the sea, right into the English colonies of the New World, and quietly planted its diseased roots in the seat of the fledgling American government biding its time. In spite of Henry VIII's fanatical despotism, which only reflected his Roman Catholic heritage, he paved the way for the freedom we Americans enjoy today and take so much for granted; as Rome now lurks behind the scenes, poised to steal it all away.

It must be seen by anyone who has given the slightest thought and study into this subject, that the intense struggle here is not just about religion, but something vastly more important. Religion is only a tool, a vehicle, the perfect means to reach an end. A system to become rich and powerful absolute. All religion is false; man made. To worship the God of creation in 'truth' is not religion but, truth indeed, where only love, peace, and joy reigns. Both pope and king alike were conceived to rule and regulate the masses; positions of power and luxury that only corrupts the mind and character.

The noble aristocrat looked upon all who were below his status, as less than human. They were his slaves; their lives worth nothing, other than to work his fields, cook his food, dig his gold, make his clothes, dress him, be there for every beck and call. For an aristocrat to get his hands dirty from menial labor was a disgrace. Columbus could write in his log how sweet and gentle a people the natives of the New World were, and then bring back a boat load chained as slaves. That's an aristocrat's mentality. They have no conscience, no feeling, no compassion, for anyone they judge below them. In their arrogant, haughty, conceited, self-centered minds, how could they even imagine 'inferiors' to be able to think independently, to have a voice in government, and run their own lives. It just wasn't "natural". Stirred to a fanatical fear and desperation, in seeing a social change where nobles would lose all control, in the name of "religion" they rallied to the call of Ignatius and joined his Jesuit soldiers.

THE JESUIT INSTITUTION

The Jesuits took to the field; as they added to their numbers, they were everywhere. Each was assigned to the task which his talents or his disposition best adapted. To one, the instruction of children; to another, a career of letters or science; some planted their missionary stations among Peruvian gold mines, or in the marts of African slave-trade, among the islands of the Indian Ocean, in the cities of Japan and China, in the recesses of Canadian forests. They had the most important chairs in the universities; they had control of the schools of Italy, France, Austria, and Spain; and they became the most eloquent, learned, and fashionable preachers in all Catholic countries.

They grew to be an awesome institution, — an organization with twenty thousand eyes open upon every cabinet, every palace, and every private family in Catholic Europe, and twenty thousand arms extended around the necks of every sovereign and all their subjects assigned to the care of royal consciences; whereby, unseen, their whispered word would guide the destiny of nations. They adapted their doctrines to the taste of the rich and powerful, in the elegance and arrogance and worldliness of their dignitaries. Jesuit La Chaise travelled in a coach with six horses and was an elegant and most polished man of the world. He had to be in order to be selected by King Louis XIV of France to be his confidential and influential confessor. And no matter how low his station or elevated his position; in the backwoods of America or kings' courts of Europe, superiors had to make long and detailed reports of every act of significance, and were required to send them to the Jesuit General in Rome: those in Italy, once a month, elsewhere in Europe, every four months, and those overseas, annually; source materials to guide the world back to Rome.

ROME'S ATROCITIES

Volumes have been written about the horrendous accounts of Protestant blood spilled during the 150 years following the founding of the Jesuit Order. Many counter: well, Protestants killed too! Yes, and in answer to that; any man worth being a man, when someone comes into his home to rape and butcher his wife, and dash his children to pieces, certainly will fight and kill too, if need be, to save those he loves. To read an account

is quite different than having to live through it. To literally witness the terrible scene and to see those you hold dear being mangled and slaughtered before your eyes has to make an image so vivid, never abled to be erased, and yet, some of the most horrible scenes ever to take place were during that time period; far too many and much too savage to try to describe. It must take an awful cold heart and willful blindness not to see the overwhelming atrocities that Rome and her cohorts have inflicted upon the human beings of this world.

Not even to mention the wholesale genocide of the South American Inca and other nations who were systematically worked to death digging for silver and gold; or other natives on islands in the West Indies and Caribbean, where today there is no trace of aboriginals; the very place where Columbus landed, planted his cross, and ceremoniously dedicated the New World to the pope; where in those same islands the population is ninety per-cent Catholic, and in some of those islands, its people are the poorest in the world. No, we won't get into any of that. Instead, we will just touch on six of the most dramatic events, those your own reference books will confirm; just six, among others too numerous, and history really wants to forget anyhow.

(1) QUEEN MARY

When Henry VIII of England died, he left one son, Edward, and two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth. Edward VI was ten years old when he came to the throne, but because of sickness, reigned only six years, favoring Protestantism, and then died. Mary, who had become a very embittered lady, because of the harsh treatment by her father, Henry VIII, towards her and her mother, reigned next with a vengeance. Determined to reverse what her father had done religiously and bring England back under the Roman Catholic Church, she took the first step that would ensure powerful backing, by marrying in 1554, Philip of Spain, the son of her cousin, Emperor Charles V; the same Emperor that her mother appealed to for help to save her marriage. This union, along with reestablishing Roman Catholicism, brought great consternation and distress among the people of England. To crush all opposition, she began a reign of terror, with over 300 Protestants being executed. She too died

early of sickness at age 42, having reigned only five years, 1553-1558. But that five years, fixed forever in the minds of the English people, out of fear and dread, if for nothing else, to hate and be wary of everything that was Roman Catholic. The Protestant Church of England, also named Anglican, after Angles, the Germanic tribe from which England derives its name, and also the name Episcopal, became permanently the official religion of England; but not without an intense contest.

(2) ST. BARTHOLOMEW MASSACRE

Huguenot Protestants in France united together and became a show of real strength, causing great concern for twenty-two year old King Charles IX and his dominate mother, Catherine de' Medici, who actually was the real power behind the throne. Upon Catherine's suggestion, a plan was put forth to rid the Protestant Huguenots once and for all. A royal wedding was arranged in Paris, France between Margaret of Valois, the sister of Charles IX, and Henry of Bourbon, a Protestant nobleman; a deceptive gesture to bring religious unity and peace to France. Knowing that the royal event would bring many thousands of Protestants to Paris, plans were carefully laid for the date 24 August 1572, at midnight, and at the ringing of the church bells, to become the time and signal to begin a massacre of all Protestants in the city.

The St. Bartholomew massacre, as it is known in history, began in Paris, but then quickly spread to other provinces all over France, continuing for over a week. Without gory details, it was reported that close to 100 thousand Protestants were butchered unmercifully during those few days; the river Seine literally ran red with Protestant blood, and could not carry away all the headless, mutilated, and putrefying corpses; it was so full. Upon Pope Gregory XIII hearing the news, (the same pope who had Bavarian mathematician Jesuit Clavius to devise the Gregorian calendar; the one we use today) he rejoiced, ordered a jubilee in celebration, and had a medal struck in commemoration of the glorious Catholic achievement.

(3) THE SPANISH ARMADA

In England, fourteen years before the Bartholomew massacre, Elizabeth, the younger half sister of Mary, took the throne as Queen. With flint like determination, she set a course

to rule England that favored Protestantism. Pope Pius V ruled...

We declare the aforesaid Elizabeth to be a heretic and abettor of heretics and We declare her and her supporters to have incurred the sentence of excommunication...We declare her to be deprived of her pretended claim to the aforesaid kingdom and of all lordship, dignity, and privilege whatsoever. Also, We declare that the lords, subjects and peoples of said kingdom and all others who have sworn allegiance to her are perpetually absolved from any oath of fidelity and obedience. Consequently, We absolve them and We deprive the same Elizabeth of her pretended claim to the kingdom...And We command and forbid her lords, subjects and peoples to obey her...We shall bind those who do the contrary with similar sentence of excommunication.

So haughty are the claims of these degenerate men to believe in their minds to be the Pontifex Maximus; God's representative on earth. As such, they believe they have unlimited power to depose every monarch, hand over every country to foreign invasion, deprive everyone of his possessions without legal process. Any one offering help to one deposed — even basic human kindness — would be excommunicated. This peril stared Elizabeth straight in the face, as behind the scenes, the popes and his Jesuits encouraged civil disobedience. However, the popes, (and as incredible as it seems, in Elizabeth's forty-five year reign, she saw nine popes come and go) they all fully underestimated the patriotism of the English people, and the English Oak heart of their Queen.

A mighty fleet was prepared, with numerous war gun ships and large transports, 131 ships in all, carrying over 30,000 men; two-thirds who were soldiers. The Spanish "Invincible Armada" it was called, as it boasted its superior weapons and awesome numbers of strength. They were on a deadly mission, never doubting for an instant anything but success; with breeze filled white sails glistening in the sunlight that put in motion that day on 22 July 1588, the spectacular and proud Armada glided out of Spanish Corunna harbor. Destination: England. —

Mission: invasion; to bring the English under Spanish control in full submission to the Holy Roman Catholic Church: to teach this upstart, usurper, illegitimate bastard, heretic of a queen, and all her heretic subjects with her, a lesson. — Ambitious mission; indeed!

The English had advanced knowledge of the coming Armada, and so kept a close watch for it, with preparations made to give warning signals at the first sighting. Then, the "reality" was upon them, as all England became alive with the news that the mighty fleet was approaching, spotted by a patrol one hundred miles off the coast. The English Navy sprung into action, as it put out to sea to engage the enemy. "Catholic" Spain, the most powerful European nation of the time, against small "Protestant" England. The scope of what was at stake here was tremendous, — the common man fighting for human rights, in protest of the aristocrat forcing him to be his slave.

As the Spanish Armada advanced up the English channel, it formed a 'crescent' battle formation, with most of their gun ships on either end of the crescent, and the transports in the center. The English Fleet met them with sixty gun ships that were smaller but more maneuverable, with heavier and longer range cannons, and seamen, who were excellent gunners. To break up the Spanish formation, the English, under cover of darkness, sent in several fireships filled with explosives, which sent the Spanish Fleet into a panic. From then on, the battle was in the English's favor. The Spanish were out maneuvered, out gunned, and out classed, driven on the run into the North Sea. Here the limping Spanish Fleet made a fatal decision to return home by going north of Scotland and around the west side of the British Islands and Ireland. Severe storms battered the already damaged and leaking remaining ships to pieces. The whole operation became a Spanish disaster, with nearly half of the ships lost and three-quarters of the men dead.

(4) THE GUNPOWDER PLOT

Eight years before the attempted Armada invasion, Jesuits were seditiously active plotting the overthrow of the English government. By using different disguises, aliases, and secret codes, to illegally slip in and out of England, Jesuit Robert Parson, in 1580, had led and then later organized a mission to

bring other Jesuits into England to engage in a work of subversion. When the invasion failed, these masters of intrigue turned to another bizarre scheme. Known in your encyclopedia under the subject, the "Gunpowder Plot," — thirteen Catholic noblemen and five Jesuits formed a conspiracy devising a plan to explode 36 barrels of gunpowder in the cellar of the House of Lords and kill King James I, and members of Commons as they assembled for the opening of Parliament on 5 November 1605. Their plan was to blow up the Parliament building, and out of the chaos, incite the people into a full insurrection.

From a near-by building, an under ground tunnel had been dug to the Parliament building, where they gained access and put in place 36 barrels of gunpowder. But before the date it was to be detonated, the explosives were discovered, leading to the arrest of all those involved. The noblemen, after becoming aware that the plot was known, united together, choosing to resist arrest by fighting. Five were killed in the ensuing battle, with the remaining eight being brought to trial, convicted, and executed. Of the five Jesuits involved, two escaped, one died in prison, and two were convicted and executed. These failures only became minor set-backs to the Jesuits, in their mechanical robot persistence to subdue all for Rome. But to the English government and people, each episode was a harsh and stark reality of the fanatical enemy among them; and the vigilant precautions needed to protect their freedoms from popish rule.

(5) THE THIRTY YEARS' WAR

The Thirty Years' War, 1618-1648, was a series of conflicts that became the last great struggle of religious wars in Europe. It was fought almost exclusively on German soil, (where a hundred years earlier, Martin Luther had taken his protestant stand) but before the war ended, it involved most of the nations of Europe. The underlying cause of the war was the deep-seated hostility between the German Protestants and German Catholics, with the Jesuits and Cardinal Richelieu, who was the real ruler of France, fanning the fires to accomplish their ends.

When the war was over it had totally wiped out the German economy leaving behind a waste land where one half, some historians say even two thirds of the population, were dead. Germany was left in a pitiful condition and those who survived

saw nothing but ruin wherever they looked. Whole cities, villages, and farms had disappeared and what remained was damaged or nearly destroyed. It took two hundred years for Germany to recover from the effects of the Thirty Years' War. Many thousands of weary souls fled Europe, especially Germany, fleeing Roman Catholic religious tyranny, seeking refuge both in England, and then in America.

(6) THE IRISH MASSACRE

The sixth and last event to be considered, is the barbarous Irish Massacre, with its 23 October 1641 launching date, the date that also celebrates the Catholic feast of Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuits. The appalling accounts given in the "Book of Martyrs," a historical compilation of the suffering and deaths of Christian martyrs throughout history by John Foxe, who also lived and experienced those terrible times himself personally, is a record of the most inhuman and grisly acts of man's inhumanity to man that you could ever read.

Again the plot is instigated by the Jesuits, priests, and friars, who excite the ignorant Irish Catholic people to a frenzy to commit the most unheard of cruelties. In far away France, Cardinal Richelieu, the French minister, had promised the conspirators a considerable supply of men and money. In one stroke, Catholics rose up against their peaceful and unsuspecting Protestant neighbors, and spared no age, no sex, nor condition. Led on and declared by their fanatical priestly leaders, that no Protestant should be suffered to live any longer among them; adding that it was no more sin to kill a Protestant than to kill a dog, and that the relieving or protecting them was a crime of the most unpardonable nature.

The onslaught raged on, and when it had ran its course, one hundred and fifty thousand Protestants lay mutilated, butchered, dead. No wonder establishment historians have trouble recording this type of Roman Catholic history. Nowhere in Protestantism, is there recorded a fraction of this kind of wanton murder as described in just these few instances. But for the unbiased researcher, history reeks of the butchery of Romanism, where whole cities and populations were unmercifully wiped out, just because they worshipped God in a manner that was different from Roman Catholicism.

Nonconformists fleeing Roman terrorism is European history, written with the blood of those who could not escape.

AMERICAN ENGLISH COLONIES

If the reader will notice the dates, you can see we have now entered into a time period that can be related to events we are familiar with, and events corresponding to our early American history. For example: all Protestants are familiar with the English speaking 'King James' version of the Bible. It was published in 1611, just six years after the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. Jamestown, in 1607, became the first permanent English settlement in America, a village in east Virginia. The town in south east Massachusetts named Plymouth, was founded by the Pilgrims in 1620. Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island, founded in 1636 the colony of Providence. In 1608 Captain John Smith first explored the area that is now known as Maryland. In 1632, George Calvert Lord Baltimore was granted the Maryland territory where he founded his colony.

As the English began to colonize the New World, they brought their Protestant faith and beliefs with them. They were leaving behind the European stronghold, that for centuries had been ruled under Roman Catholic despotism, to start a new life. They did not need to read history or be taught by parents or grandparents to understand Roman terror. It was raw fresh in their minds from personal experiences.

During this exact time, the Thirty Years' War was ravaging Europe, and the 1641 Irish Massacre was soon to come. It was these terrifying experiences that indelibly moulded Protestant minds and convictions against Romanism. But Romanism just would not die. That system of religion and the monarchies that supported it served only too well the ruling class of power and control over the common people. Yet the English government was quite different in that it had a Parliament and through it progress was made for the voice of the people to be heard. The struggle became relentlessly terrible but out of it produced the predominate heritage of the American colonies.

The next one hundred years, from the time that James I took the English throne in 1603, until after the "Glorious Revolution" and the invitation of Parliament asking Protestant William III, Prince of Orange, and his wife Mary to accept the English crown

jointly, in 1688 till 1702, was an era of great struggles to rid England of the shackles of Rome. Through those years, even though the Anglican Church was the official Church of England by Parliamentary law, it suffered severe setbacks from kings coming to the throne who were sympathetic to Roman Catholicism. But each setback only made the people through its Parliamentary government more determined to reduce the power of the monarchy and give the government to the people, ruled under Protestant principles. This was not accomplished overnight, but with many blunders through the years, it progressively found its way. And those Protestant principles of human rights became the foundation of our own American Republic form of government.