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ALL PLOTS ON OTHER SIDE

**Trial of Mary Queen of Scots, 1586 & Consequences of the death of Mary**

Elizabeth put Mary on trial for treason. Mary was found guilty and sentenced to death, but Elizabeth repeatedly refused to sign her death warrant. She finally agreed to it in February 1587.

Her execution had a limited impact –

* No further Catholic plots after her death
* James VI protested but took no real action
* France did nothing, wanting a good relationship with England vs the growing power of Spain.
* Phillip II of Spain was already planning an invasion.

**Early Toleration**

In the 1560s, Elizabeth adopted an attitude of tolerance-

**Recusancy** – In 1581 Elizabeth made the fine £20, it was a treasonable offence to convert people to Catholicism. She wanted to stop spread of Seminary Priests. In 1568, William Allen set up a college for priests in Douai, Flanders. These priests were sent to England, 438 in whole. In 1585 they were ordered to leave by Parliament and 98 were sentenced to death.

**Jesuits** – Part of the ‘Society of Jesus’, tried to destroy Protestantism. Arrived in England in 1580, swearing an oath of loyalty to the Pope.

**Government response to recusancy** **–** in 1581, acts were passed to increase fines and make converting people to Catholicism treason. In 1585, Jesuit and Seminary priest ordered to leave. 1593, act banned gatherings of Catholics, confined Catholics to 5-mile radius of home

**Case of Edmund Campion –** Born in London, trained in Douai. He then became a Jesuit. Arrived in 1580, arrested in 1581 then hanged for treason.

**Mary’s Younger Life**

**Mary sent to France –** Born in 1542, father died when she was a baby and mother became a regent. At age 6, sent to France. Married Prince Francis at 15 who died one year into his reign. **Mary returns to Scotland** – married Henry Stuart (1561), Lord Darnley. Gave birth to James (1566). 1566, Darnley stabbed Mary’s Italian secretary, Rizzio, to death.

**Excommunication of Elizabeth, 1570** Issued a **Papal Bull**. Called upon Catholics to remove Elizabeth from the throne. Parliament passed a **Treason Act in 1571**. This made any reference to the Papal bull illegal. Confiscated property of Catholics fled abroad 12+ months.

**Mary’s Arrival in England, 1568**

Elizabeth had several choices but chose to hold her captive. Her other options were: send her back / execute her / make her the heir / allow her into France / help her get her Scottish throne back.

**Mary and Bothwell**

Became friendly with the Earl of Bothwell. In 1567, Darnley became ill with smallpox, Mary put him in a house in Edinburgh which blew up later that year with Darnley’s body strangled outside. Bothwell was accused of murder, found not guilty then married Mary. Protestant lords rebelled , she was imprisoned. In 1567, she was forced to abdicate in favour of her protestant son

**Rebellion of the Northern Earls, 1569**

**Causes** – Arrival of Mary in 1568. Earl of Westmorland and Northumberland, planned to depose Elizabeth and marry Mary to Norfolk. He was executed but the other two avoided capture. **Events** – in 1569, 4,600 men marched Southward. Plans to besiege York failed and they retreated. Two earls fled– Scotland. **Reasons for the Failure** – Poor planning and leadership, lack of foreign support, Elizabeth was very popular.

**The Aftermath** – Northumberland was captured and beheaded, Westmorland died in Flanders (in poverty). Norfolk released from prison. 800 rebels were executed.

The Catholic Threat

**The Babington Plot**

Anthony Babington, a young catholic nobleman. Walsingham intercepted his and Mary’s letters. In 1585, Babington sent her the plan which she accepted. In 1586, Walsingham struck, Babington and six other plotters were executed. Through the letters, Walsingham now had complete proof that Mary was involved.

**Increasing Catholic Threat**

In 1583, John Summerville tried to assassinate Elizabeth with a pistol, he was locked up and committed suicide in prison. In 1584, William of Orange was assassinated. Concerned for her safety, Parliament issued a bond of association which meant that should she be killed, the murderers would be punished. In 1585, Spain declared war on England.

**Throckmorton Plot, 1583-84**

The English Catholic organised a plot. French Catholics and Spanish forces backed by papal money to free Mary. Throckmorton acted as the go-between. He was arrested, tortured then executed. Mary was moved, banned from receiving visitors and her mail was checked.

**The Ridolfi Plot, 1571**

Organised by Roberto Ridolfi, a Florentine Banker. It involved Mary, Norfolk, Phillip II, the Spanish Ambassador and the Pope. Plan was for Spanish army to land.

Plan was found by William Cecil and Francis Walsingham, who organised the arrests. Norfolk was found guilty of treason and killed, Ridolfi and De Spes were expelled from England.

The Catholic Threat