

<p>On the death of Stephen, Henry II Ascended the English throne; The cause of England's law & justice beckoned, And Henry made it his own: Church law he viewed with increasing mistrust, And looked upon its courts with contempt & disgust, "Two crimes to hang a priest," he said, was so unjust, That the seeds of discord were sown...</p> <p>For it soon became Henry's most fervent wish that No "criminous clerks" be released, Appointing his old friend, Becket, Archbishop So the rank injustice might cease; But no sooner was Becket on Canterbury's throne, Than his new conscience gave him a mind of his own, For he said he was "the servant of God alone", And Protector of every Priest.</p> <p><i>Two crimes it took to hang a priest, two crimes! It took two crimes to hang a priest... And King Henry's wish appointing Becket Archbishop Was for clergymen more justly policed. But this highest of pastors would not serve two masters, So tension between them increased ~ While it still took two crimes for a priest to be hanged, It still took two crimes to hang a priest.</i></p> <p>So with scores of murderous clergy still escaping retribution, Taking shelter 'neath the Church's wing,</p> <p>Henry would, in the 3rd of sixteen Clarendon Constitutions, Have them sentenced in the courts of the King...</p> <p>Becket passed them, only next day to rescind them, As tempers grew frazzled and short; And charged with embezzlement, fast fled the kingdom, After one trying day in court... But during those years Becket wasn't around, To put the succession on firmer ground, The king had his eldest son Henry crowned By Roger, Archbishop of York.</p> <p><i>*~ Two crimes it took to hang a priest, two crimes!...</i></p> <p>Yet, the King was more than anxious for a reconciliation, And wanted the feuding stopped: He hoped that Becket might agree to bless the coronation, If the charges against him were dropped...</p> <p>So Becket returned but, to Henry's consternation, Would compromise, not in the least: And news of Roger's and his bishops' excommunication Reached Henry at his Christmas feast; Whence he lived to regret till the day he was dead, That irrevocable moment of wrath, when he said, "Are there none of you dastards here, eating my bread, Who'll rid me of this turbulent priest?"</p> <p>Four knights, more naïve than evil, Left for England that night; And dashing Becket's brains out on the stones of his cathedral, Set opinion alight. Though submitting to the Pope, Henry pledged to atone: A scourging by the monks; a night with Thomas in stone; For years, Becket's shadow darkened the throne, While the star of his sainthood still shines bright...</p> <p><i>*~ Two crimes it took to hang a priest, two crimes...so tension between them increased And while it still took two crimes for a priest to be hanged, It took just one to make a martyr of one 'shamefully contemptuous*' priest... ...who'd be even more trouble deceased.</i></p>	<p>Stephen sitting on the throne fades out to be replaced by Henry</p> <p>The scales of justice appear above Henry & float down on to his lap Henry gets smaller and moves to the top of the slide to watch a court room presided over by a bishop (a mitre & crozier) and two priests in monks habits A bubble from bishop's mouth "For the crime of murder, you are both henceforth defrocked & excommunicated. Go & sin no more"</p> <p>Henry increases in size and the court room fades out; A bubble from Henry: "So they get off scot free!!! A monstrous injustice!!!" Becket appears standing and the mitre and crozier appear on his head & in his right hand... Becket on the throne of Canterbury a bubble "Man cannot serve two masters; I now serve only God"</p> <p>Chorus words appear line by line Henry on the left of the slide Becket on the right Henry's bubble "I want clergy guilty of murder, rape and robbery transferred to the royal courts for sentencing"</p> <p>Becket's bubble "No priest can be judged by man, only by God ~ the church courts have precedence" <i>(This appears for all three choruses exactly the same each time)</i></p> <p>Two monks waylaying a traveller ; beating him up & taking two money bags from him; running off the slide; A church fades in the two monks appear from the other side and run into the church <i>(I know this is probably impossible, but static poses will do fine)</i></p> <p>The whole text of the 3rd Constitution of Clarendon. I have it complete if you can't find it. It needs the same sort of treatment as Gladstone's 1864 Speech on "Every Man, who...." Scroll w/ CLARENDON on it Becket on the throne of Canterbury CONSTITUTIONS across the scroll ACCEPT replaced by REJECT A court room with Becket in the dock & a judge reading out "You are charged that as chancellor you did misappropriate funds...." Map of England with 1. Becket crossing to France 2. York Minster marked on the map and the coronation of young Henry being crowned by Archb. Of York</p> <p>As above for 1st chorus</p> <p>Same map of England Henry in England Becket in France</p> <p>TRUCE stamped in the Channel between the two men</p> <p>Becket on Canterbury's throne again</p> <p>A scroll with BULL OF EXCOMMUNICATION ...</p> <p>Henry in France (I think it was Rouen) with 25th December Henry receives scroll from messenger Henry bubble "<i>Are there none of you dastards here, eating my bread, Who'll rid me of this turbulent priest?</i>"</p> <p>Four knights with their names above them setting sail for England</p> <p>A single picture of them smashing Becket's brains out in the Cathedral</p> <p>Henry walking from London to Canterbury with scroll PENANCE on it Scourged by the monks & then sitting by Becket's tomb all alone Becket canonised "St Thomas" above his picture with a halo round his head</p> <p>Same as first two verses.</p>
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