

= Cardinal protector of England =

The Cardinal protector of England was an appointed crown @-@ cardinal of England from 1492 until 1539 . A cardinal protector is the representative of a Roman Catholic nation or organisation within the College of Cardinals , appointed by the pope . The role was terminated as a result of the English Reformation .

The role of national protectorships within the College developed during the fifteenth century , due to developments in the emergence of national monarchies and Renaissance diplomacy . Cardinal protectors of Roman Catholic religious orders date back farther to the thirteenth century . According to King Henry VIII , the cardinal protector " indueth as it were our owne Person , for the defence of Us and our Realme in al matiers [in the Curia] ... touching the same " . The cardinal protector represented the monarch in consistory , especially in cases where the right of investiture was divided between the pope and the monarch , and also led the English diplomatic corps in Rome .

Although earlier cardinals had filled similar roles , " the existence of national protectorships was first openly and regularly recognized only " by Pope Julius II . The terms ' cardinal protector ' and ' cardinal procurator ' were " used very loosely and sometimes interchangeably during the fifteenth century " . The earliest reference to a ' cardinal protector ' of England dates from 1492 , but according to Wilkie , this results from a confusion between this office and that of cardinal procurator .

Unlike other national cardinal protectors , the cardinal protectors of England , Scotland , and Ireland were generally chosen exclusively by the pope . The cardinal was " imposed from above , rather than chosen " and often had no direct relationship with the governments of these countries . The English cardinal protector played a large role in English ecclesiastical appointments , and a substantial role in similar appointments in Scotland and Ireland .

= = History = =

= = = Piccolomini (1492 ? 1503) = = =

Francesco Piccolomini , the future Pope Pius III , was the first cardinal protector of England , elevated on the initiative of King Henry VII , and also the first officially approved cardinal protector of " any nation whatever " . Henry VII viewed good relations with Rome as a protection against domestic and foreign enemies and sent Christopher Urswick , his " almoner and trusted councillor " to Rome after receiving a bull of dispensation to marry Elizabeth of York . When Henry VII first sought a cardinal protector in 1492 , he feared that many of the English bishops would support his Yorkist opponents (to whom they owed their appointments) .

A variety of other disagreements existed , such as the papal income tax and the refusal of the pope to create John Morton , the archbishop of Canterbury , a cardinal ; Innocent VII had passed over Morton in his first consistory , despite creating two French cardinals . Nor had John Sherwood , the English ambassador in Rome , been created a cardinal in 1484 , despite the request of King Richard III . Piccolomini 's creation as cardinal protector was requested by Henry VII in a letter congratulating the newly elected Pope Alexander VI , and was confirmed in a response which was probably written by Giovanni Gigli .

Piccolomini was already the protector of the Camaldese Benedictines and was close to German princes , although he was not the German protector in any official sense , and his protectorship of England is " the first official one of any cardinal which can be firmly established " . Henry VII did not object to Piccolomini 's German connections , even viewing them as an asset against the French .

= = = Castellesi (1503 ? 1504) = = =

The appointment of Adriano Castellesi as cardinal on 31 May 1503 " eclipsed England 's cardinal protector " , with appointments to the English sees thereafter being referred through Castellesi

instead of through Piccolomini . Piccolomini was himself elected as Pope Pius III on 22 September 1503 , only to die less than a month later , on 18 October ; Castellesi did not vote for him and Piccolomini was chosen for his perceived neutrality rather than for his English connections . According to the account of Castellesi , Pius III acknowledged him as his de facto successor as protector .

Castellesi was a favourite of Pope Alexander VI , which became a liability during the reign of Pope Julius II . During Julius II 's reign , Castellesi , " although neither requesting nor mentioning the office of protector of England , certainly presented himself to Henry VII as the cardinal responsible for English affairs in the Curia " . In an attempt to secure his status against the intrigues of Silvestro Gigli , Castellesi donated his residence , the Palazzo Giraud Torlonia on the present Via della Conciliazione , to Henry VII . In 1504 , Henry VII named six official members of his embassy , headed by Castellesi , and also including Sir Gilbert Talbot , Richard Beere , Robert Sherborne , Silvestro Gigli , and Edward Scott .

Paris de Grassi , the master of papal ceremonies , referred to Castellesi as " Regis Protector " in his notes of a meeting between the embassy and the pope .

= = = della Rovere (1504 ? 1508) = = =

A letter from Julius II to Henry VII dated 6 July 1504 , remarks that the king had chosen the pope 's cardinal @-@ nephew Galeotto della Rovere as cardinal protector ; the letter does not mention Castellesi. della Rovere 's selection was likely arranged by Gigli . Castellesi was compensated by being promoted to the wealthier See of Bath and Wells . Castellesi lost favour with the king and fled Rome until the death of Julius II .

Rovere died on 11 September 1508 , leaving England without a cardinal protector . Sherbone and Hugh Inge were back in England ; Scott was dead ; Gigli was in England as nuncio . The " only man on whose loyalty the king could truly rely " was Christopher Fisher , who was a " single , bumbling amateur " compared to the more seasoned curial diplomats who surrounded him . Henry VII himself died on 21 April 1509 .

Another cardinal @-@ nephew , Sisto della Rovere , who received the vice @-@ chancellorship and all the benefices of his half @-@ brother , was not explicitly named as protector , although he wrote to Henry VII stating his intent to " maintain his brother 's friendships " . Henry VIII replied to Sisto that he considered his friendship especially valuable , asserting that Sisto had been close to his father . There is no evidence that Sisto was offered the protectorship .

= = = Adiosi (1509 ? 1510) = = =

Cardinal Francesco Adiosi may have become cardinal protector , but this appointment " cannot be exactly established " as his only surviving letters to England do not mention the protectorate . Adiosi is explicitly mentioned as protector in a 1509 letter from Christopher Bainbridge (the first English curial cardinal since the death of Adam Easton in 1397) , by which point Adiosi and go @-@ between Girolamo Bonvisio were on the " brink of disgrace " .

Bonvisio disclosed the contents of his discussions with the king to a French agent and confessed his being employed by Adiosi under threat of torture ; by this point Adiosi was no longer protector . According to an 6 April 1510 letter from the Venetian ambassador , the king dismissed Adiosi as protector and gave the post to Sisto della Rovere . There is no direct evidence that Sisto ever received the official title before he died in March 1517 . Until the death of Julius II , Bainbridge " filled the vacuum , real or in effect , in the protectorship of England " .

Castellesi returned to Rome on the death of Julius II on 21 February 1513 for the papal conclave , 1513 ; although Castellesi " tactually " voted for Bainbridge on the second ballot , the two inevitably came into conflict as " rival representatives of England " . The lack of consistorial records , which would list which cardinals referred the nominations of which bishops , are missing for this period , making it impossible to assess the extent of Bainbridge 's role .

== = Medici (1514 ? 1523) == =

In 1514 , Gigli (as the agent of Wolsey and Henry VIII) arranged for another cardinal @-@ nephew Giulio de 'Medici (future Pope Clement VII) to be cardinal protector of England . Medici 's letter of appointment makes no reference to Sisto della Rovere . A 8 February 1514 letter from Pope Leo X to Henry VIII of England flatters the king for having elevated the pope 's cardinal @-@ nephew and cousin as protector . The pope 's brother Giuliano de ' Medici was also made a Knight of the Garter (just as Guidobaldo II della Rovere had been made when della Rovere had been made protector) .

Bainbridge was " short @-@ circuited " by the appointment of Medici , although he continued to play a role until his death on 14 July 1514 . Gigli was accused of having played a role in the death of Bainbridge and Medici was charged with examining the facts , concluding that Gigli was innocent . The period between Piccolomini and Medici (from 1503 to 1514) is one where the role of the protector was not well @-@ defined . The importance of the office increased significantly with the appointment of Medici in 1514 , due in no small part to the friendship between Medici and Wolsey . According to Wilkie , " its importance stemmed from the special relationship of the papacy with England as the most reliable supporter of papal independence " .

Medici accepted the protectorship of France as well in 1516 , meeting Francis I of France personally in Bologna , much to the " discomfiture of England " . Medici was elected Clement VII on 19 November 1523 .

== = Campeggio (1524 ? 1539) == =

Lorenzo Campeggio was close to Medici and served as cardinal protector to Germany at the time of Medici 's election . Campeggio received a variety of appointments from Clement VII before Henry VIII chose him as protector on 22 February 1524 (conditional on the pope 's acceptance of Wolsey as legate for life) .

Campeggio found his loyalty divided when he was appointed with Wolsey to judge the issue of the requested annulment of Henry VIII of England from Catherine of Aragon , the aunt of Charles V , Holy Roman Emperor . Campeggio came out in favour of the legitimacy of the marriage , after considerable delay in travelling and reviewing the canonical evidence . The final sentence in the case was handed down in Rome in 1534 , the same year the English Parliament passed the First Act of Supremacy . Henry VIII was particularly displeased by Campeggio 's " constant company with the emperor " in the years prior to his verdict and Campeggio 's rapidly growing income , having been granted the bishopric of Huesca and Jaca in 1530 , and the bishopric of Mallorca in 1532 , both by Charles V.

In January 1531 , Campeggio was dismissed as cardinal protector , although it did not become public knowledge until May . At first it was unclear whether Henry VIII intended to appoint a successor , with Giovanni Domenico de Cupis emerging as an active candidate in March 1532 . The king favoured Alessandro Farnese (future Pope Paul III) , and instructed his ambassadors on 21 March to offer it to Farnese , and then de Cupis or Giovanni del Monte (future Pope Julius III) in the event that Farnese declined or was not approved .

Not knowing that Henry VIII had already secretly married the pregnant Anne Boleyn , Clement VII decided to reach out to the monarch by appointing Thomas Cranmer , an outspoken proponent of Henry VIII 's annulment , as archbishop of Canterbury . A threatened excommunication was handed down when Cranmer pronounced Henry VIII 's marriage null and void ; Henry VIII responded by telling Campeggio 's vicar general for Salisbury to stop all revenues from his bishopric until further notice . Henry VIII then claimed the authority to act on behalf of Campeggio in making various ecclesiastical appointments . The fifth session of the Reformation Parliament deprived Campeggio and Girolamo Ghinucci of their English sees (unless they swore loyalty to the king) . Unaware of this statute , two days later on 23 March 1534 Campeggio entered Consistory for the final ruling against annulment .

According to Wilkie , " years of cooperation from both popes and cardinal protectors had taught a wilful Henry VIII to expect to have his way over the church of England " . Clement VII died on 25

September before learning of the denial of papal authority on 31 March by the Convocation of Canterbury . In the papal conclave , 1534 , Campeggio was the only cardinal to oppose Farnese 's proposal for non @-@ secret voting and the only cardinal not to kiss the feet of the newly elected Farnese as Paul III .

= = Attempts at reconciliation = =

Many in Rome still thought reconciliation with England was possible , and Paul III elevated two English cardinals , John Fisher (at the time imprisoned and sentenced to death by Henry VIII) and Girolamo Ghinucci . The execution of Fisher prompted Paul III to excommunicate and purportedly depose Henry VIII . While Campeggio lived , no attempt was made in Rome to fill any of the thirteen episcopal vacancies in England .

Queen Mary I of England briefly reconciled with Rome and appointed Reginald Pole as archbishop of Canterbury . However , " papal restoration in England was doomed even before it was accomplished " when Mary I married Philip II of Spain . In 1555 , Pope Paul IV named a new cardinal protector , Giovanni Morone , but the queen did not confirm the nomination and Campeggio remained the last cardinal protector " chosen by the crown " .

Meanwhile , loyalty to the pope became a defining feature of the movement for Irish nationalism and bishops appointed by the pope garnered a larger following than the hierarchy of the church of Ireland appointed by the crown . According to Wilkie , " the cardinal protectors had assisted in the loss of England to the papacy , and Ireland remained loyal to the papacy in spite of them " .

= = List of Cardinal protectors = =

Francesco Piccolomini (future Pope Pius III) , first cardinal protector of England (ante 8 February 1492 ? 1503) , de facto protector of Germany

Adriano Castellesi , de facto protector of England and official protector of Germany

Galeotto Franciotti della Rovere (1505 ? 11 September 1508)

Francesco Adiosi (1508 ? 1510)

Giulio de 'Medici (1514 ? 1523) (future Pope Clement VII)

Lorenzo Campeggio (1523 ? 1534 , died 1539)

Not confirmed by the crown

Giovanni Morone , (1578 ? 1579)

Philip Howard (1682 ? 1694)

Filippo Antonio Gualterio (circa 1717)

Cardinal Baschi (circa 4 November 1797)

Ercole Consalvi (circa 1817 , acting)

Similar prior offices

Thomas of Jorx , proctor for Kings Edward I and Edward II of England (1305 ? 1310)

Ferry de Clugny , employed in Rome by Edward IV of England (d . 1483)