

Cromwell's commissions of 1535 were important in the dissolution of the monasteries, but they weren't the only reason. There were other factors that also played a part.

Cromwell's commissions were significant because they provided evidence that Henry VIII could use to justify closing the monasteries. The commissioners went around England and reported on the state of the monasteries. They often exaggerated or made up stories about the bad behavior of monks and nuns. This made people think the monasteries were corrupt and needed to be closed.

The activities of monks and nuns were another reason for the dissolution. Some monks and nuns weren't following their religious rules properly. There were stories of them drinking too much, having relationships, and not praying enough. This made people lose respect for the monasteries and think they should be closed down.

Monastic lands were also an important factor. The monasteries owned a lot of valuable land and property. Henry VIII wanted this wealth for himself and the government. By closing the monasteries, he could take control of their lands and sell them to make money. This was a big motivation for the dissolution.

Another reason was Henry's break with Rome. After he became head of the Church of England, he wanted to reduce the power of the Catholic Church in England. The monasteries were seen as loyal to the Pope, so closing them helped Henry strengthen his control over the church.

There was also a growing criticism of the monasteries among some people. They thought the monks and nuns were too rich and not doing enough to help ordinary people. This made it easier for Henry to close the monasteries without too much opposition.

In conclusion, while Cromwell's commissions were important, they weren't the only reason for the dissolution of the monasteries. The behavior of some monks and nuns, the desire for monastic lands, Henry's break with Rome, and criticism of the monasteries all played a part. The commissions provided an excuse, but there were many other factors that made the dissolution happen.