

**NOTICES OF THE
REFORMATION IN
THE SOUTH-WEST
PROVINCES OF FRANCE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649659265

Notices of the Reformation in the South-West Provinces of France by Robert Francis Jameson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

ROBERT FRANCIS JAMESON

**NOTICES OF THE
REFORMATION IN
THE SOUTH-WEST
PROVINCES OF FRANCE**

66

7

NOTICES OF

THE REFORMATION

In Navarre

IN THE

SOUTH-WEST PROVINCES OF FRANCE.

BY ROBERT FRANCIS JAMESON.

||

PUBLISHED BY R. B. SEELEY AND W. BURNSIDE;
AND SOLD BY L. AND G. SEELEY,
FLEET STREET, LONDON.
MDCCLXXXIX.

H

CONTENTS.

CHAP. I.

MARGUERITE DE VALOIS ET D'ALENÇON, QUEEN
OF NAVARRE. - - - - 1

CHAP. II.

JEANNE D'ALBRET. - - - - 18

CHAP. III.

LETTER FROM CARDINAL D'ARMAGNAC TO THE
QUEEN OF NAVARRE. THE QUEEN'S REPLY. - 37

CHAP. IV.

DIFFICULTIES OF THE QUEEN. ROMANISM TRIUM-
PHANT. - - - - 57

CHAP. V.

THE SIEGE OF NAVARRENX. THE COUNT DE
MONTGOMERY. ROUT OF THE ROMANISTS. - 73

CHAP. VI.

TOTAL ABOLITION OF ROMANISM IN BRAUN. DEATH OF JEANNE D'ALBRET. - - -	95
--	----

CHAP. VII.

HENRY III. OF NAVARRE, AND IV. OF FRANCE. THE PRINCESS CATHERINE OF NAVARRE -	115
--	-----

CHAP. VIII.

RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF ROMANISM. EDICT OF FONTAINEBLEAU. - - -	132
--	-----

CHAP. IX.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION. DEATH OF HENRY IV.	160
--	-----

CHAP. X.

LOUIS XIII. CONFIRMATION OF THE EDICT OF FONTAINEBLEAU. GRIEVANCES OF THE PRO- TESTANTS. - - -	163
--	-----

CHAP. XI.

PROGRESSIVE DEPRIVATION OF PROTESTANT PRIVI- LEGES. - - -	184
--	-----

CHAP. XII.

LOUIS XIV. TYRANNOUS TREATMENT OF THE PROTESTANTS. THEIR DESTRUCTION. PRESENT STATE OF PROTESTANTISM. - - -	197
---	-----

THE
REFORMATION IN NAVARRE.

CHAPTER I.

MARGUERITE DE VALOIS ET D'ALENÇON,
QUEEN OF NAVARRE.

THE doctrines of the Reformation were early disseminated in France, where many pious and enquiring minds, disgusted by the general laxity of clerical manners, and revolting from a mental subserviency to an ignorant priesthood, had already become desirous to receive, if not to attempt reform.¹ A conviction appears to have impressed those, who were thus weakened in clerical allegiance, that the doctrines professed and taught by a demoralized clergy, must either be erroneous

¹ 'La corruption des mœurs, la dissipation, le jeu, l'avarice, l'ignorance et l'oisiveté parmi les ecclésiastiques furent les avant-coureurs de ce schisme.' *Bordenave, Etat des Eglises, &c.*

or not have been brought forward to their full extent. The principle was the same: the repression of truth must either produce or advance error. It struck obviously on the opening intellect of the age, and roused enquiries, which, however, were left unsatisfied, from the difficulty of attaining information, since the Romish church had closed up the only source of truth. The full and broad flood of Gospel light which beamed on such minds, when Luther and his brother reformers broke down the barriers which had excluded it, was truly genial in its influence. As the holy light rose on the nations, though the great masses of ignorance and superstition stood unpenetrated and darkening all within their shadow, yet the rays shot hither and thither on many 'a happy valley;'—mind after mind was enlightened, heart after heart was warmed. In no part of Europe was this renovating influence more rapidly and consentaneously experienced than in the southwest provinces of France, lying between the Garonne and the Pyrenneés. This extensive tract of country had, formerly, been governed by petty but independent princes, the Counts of Foix, Bèarn, &c. but, at the commencement of the sixteenth century, was under the dominion of the house of Albret: Jean d'Albret (the first of that name) having by his marriage with Catharine de

Foix, obtained the crown of Navarre, of which kingdom these provinces formed a principal part. In the year 1512, Jean d'Albret the 2nd, (son of the preceding) was excommunicated by Pope Julius II. as an adherent to the council of Pisa, which had been convoked against the decrees and interests of that pontiff. Three centuries previously, one of Jean d'Albret's maternal ancestors, Gaston, Vicomte de Bèarn, had been equally distinguished by the rational glory of Popish excommunication. He had allied himself with the Comte de Thoulouse in defending the persecuted Albigenses.

By the Bull which Julius II. issued against Jean d'Albret, the kingdom of the latter was declared forfeited, and given to the first who could seize it. Ferdinand of Spain gladly availed himself of this licence, and forthwith took possession of High Navarre, or that portion of the Navarrese domain which lay on the southern side of the Pyrenneès. The loss of this territory, which has ever since remained annexed to the crown of Spain, was not a circumstance likely to dispose the king of Navarre to a more amicable feeling towards the head of the Roman church. His successors inherited this aversion, though it did not break out into open opposition to the Romish doctrines till the reign of Henry d'Albret the 2nd.

It was during the earlier period of his reign that Luther's opinions became generally promulgated. In France, as we have already observed, these opinions were eagerly received by many; by none with more devoted earnestness of heart and head than Marguerite of Valois, Duchess d'Alençon, and sister of Francis the 1st of France. This amiable, intelligent, and accomplished Princess was the daughter of Charles d'Orleans, Comte d'Angouleme, and of Louise of Savoy. She was born at Angouleme on the 11th of April, 1492. On the death of her father in 1496, Marguerite, with her mother, brother, and sister, were taken under the protection of the French court, and provided with the most ample means of instruction which that age afforded. Marguerite early distinguished herself by a love of study. She acquired a thorough knowledge of the Italian and Spanish languages, and is even said to have taken lessons in Hebrew from Paul Paradis, a celebrated scholar of that day. But it was not only by the embellishments of education that she was distinguished; she had a natural elegance of mind, a quick and judicious perception, which, joined to a peculiar sensitiveness of feeling, produced strength and rectitude of thinking, and established her character as a sensible and amiable woman. Her early piety was remarkable, the more so, since she