

erscheint „als eine Sache des otium, der Mußestunden . . . , die keineswegs die ganze Person prägen“ (234) – eine Beobachtung, die sich auch an anderen „Humanisten“ der Zeit bis hin zu dem fast um zwei Generationen jüngeren Peutinger bestätigt.

Göttingen

B. Moeller

D. S. Chambers, *Cardinal Bainbridge in the Court of Rome.* (= Oxford Historical Series, Second Series). Oxford (University Press) 1965. XII, 178 S., geb. 30/- S.

Christopher Bainbridge (1462/63–1514) was the only English Cardinal to reside at the Court of Rome during the century before Henry VIII's break with the papacy. His career has therefore an intrinsic interest and importance in English political and ecclesiastical history, but, as Dr. Chambers shows, it is also significant for the light it sheds on the place and importance of curia cardinals in the study of the papacy as a political institution and force in European diplomacy in the late mediaeval period. It is with Bainbridge's diplomatic activity that the writer is primarily concerned in this fresh and stimulating study which is based on a thorough and detailed knowledge of primary material.

Two introductory chapters set the stage by outlining the form of English representation prior to Bainbridge's arrival and in sketching his own remarkable rise in administration. Under the patronage of his mother's brother, Thomas Langton, the distinguished prelate and diplomatist, and amply provided with benefices Bainbridge had at Oxford and in Italy obtained for himself that legal training so necessary for ambitious young men of his time, and on his return to England quickly identified himself with the Tudor regime. By 1504 he had been appointed Master of the Rolls and at the same time rose rapidly in the ecclesiastical hierarchy to become Archbishop of York in 1508. With his academic, administrative and ecclesiastical background he was in every way suited to be a resident ambassador at Rome, and to provide the new monarch, who was anxious for the reputation of his dynasty and the security of its religious sanctions, with the advantage of a native born subject as a curia cardinal.

At the Court of Rome Bainbridge consistently supported anti-French policies, from which Dr. Chambers infers that he had been sent there expecting sooner or later the outbreak of an Anglo-French war and this expectation guided his activity in consistently interceding on behalf of Venice, and in building up, under papal patronage, a league against France. To obtain this latter objective Bainbridge worked hard actively supporting Julius II in the war against Ferrara.

This War and the consequent need of the papacy for English help to drive the French out of northern Italy undoubtedly accounts for Bainbridge's elevation to the cardinalate in 1511. His red hat was an inducement to Henry VIII to give active support, but, as Dr. Chambers points out, Bainbridge's own qualities and worth ought not to be discounted.

Immediately thereafter Bainbridge became prominent in the curia and was appointed Cardinal Legate in the renewed but disastrous campaign against Ferrara which led to the loss of Bologna. Of this campaign Dr. Chambers provides a detailed account in a separate chapter and concludes that 'Bainbridge as Legate had tried to make the best of a bad job'.

The unsuccessful outcome of the war resulted in combined pressure from the Pope, Venice, Bainbridge and Ferdinand of Aragon upon England which at last drew a cautious assent from Henry VIII to join the Holy League. With this accomplished the high-water mark of Bainbridge's diplomatic activity had been reached. The English Cardinal's part in these endeavours is discussed in detail, particular attention being given to his unsuccessful attempts to secure the transference by papal authority to Henry VIII of all Louis XII's rights including the title 'Most Christian King'. Had Bainbridge's efforts in this matter, which has not hitherto been given much attention, succeeded they would have signified the greatest triumph in his career as a diplomatist. Many factors combined to bring about their ultimate failure,

including the death of Julius II and the election of Leo X who pursued a more pacific policy towards France. Throughout the tangled web of international activity Bainbridge was, by the end of 1513, having to contend with what seems to have been a deliberate attempt, in all probability supported by Wolsey, to undermine his influence and the last phase of his diplomacy is a tale of reverses and Nemesis. To the circumstances surrounding his death on 14th July and the question of poisoning careful and detailed investigation has been given; the author, however, is able to derive only negative conclusions. The possibility of direct complicity by Wolsey is regarded as 'thin', and the case against Silvestero Gigli, Bishop of Worcester and Bainbridge's fellow English Ambassador, as 'unproven'.

In Rome Bainbridge enjoyed considerable favour with both Popes under whom he served and amongst his fellow cardinals. He was rewarded with numerous benefices although his wealth has been greatly exaggerated. To the English Hospice of which he was an active protector he was most generous and for his fostering of the *fiesta* of Pasquin he may be regarded as a minor patron of literature and learning, but although he lived at Rome while Michelangelo was working on the Sistine Chapel and Raphael in the Stanza della Segnatura no evidence has come to light of his having shown any interest in the visual arts.

In two appendices Dr. Chambers gives a detailed list of all extant correspondence and prints twelve hitherto unpublished letters.

In treating in such detail the career of Bainbridge at Rome Dr. Chambers has provided fellow historians with a useful monograph worthy of its place in the Oxford Historical Series.

St. Andrews

James K. Cameron

Reformation

Fritz Tschirch: Probeartikel zum Wörterbuch der Bibelsprache Luthers (= Nachrichten der Akademie der Wissenschaften in Göttingen, I. Philologisch-Historische Klasse. Jahrgang 1964 Nr. 3). Göttingen (Vandenhoeck u. Ruprecht) 1964. 197 S., kart.

Mit dieser Nummer der Nachrichten der Göttinger Akademie legt ihr derzeitiger Präsident H. Neumann einen Probedruck für ein Wörterbuch der Bibelsprache Luthers vor, für dessen inhaltliche und formale Gestaltung der Kölner Germanist F. Tschirch verantwortlich zeichnet. Wohl niemand – er sei Theologe oder Philologe – wird sich der Notwendigkeit eines solchen Unternehmens verschließen, zumal mit einem umfassenderen Lutherwörterbuch, der Fortführung und Neubearbeitung des 1870 von Ph. Dietz begonnenen Wörterbuchs,¹ sowie mit einem dringend benötigten frühneuhochdeutschen Wörterbuch² in nächster Zeit noch nicht zu rechnen ist; im Gegenteil, es kann nur freudige Zustimmung geben. Denn Konkordanzen haben spezielle Aufgaben und damit ihre Grenzen, unsere Kenntnis des Lutherwortschatzes aber ist noch sehr lückenhaft. Man muß daher der Göttinger Akademie dankbar sein, daß sie dieses Vorhaben in den Kreis ihrer Forschungsunternehmen einbezogen hat.

¹ In Tübingen wird unter Leitung von Prof. Bebermeyer an der Fertigstellung und Neubearbeitung des Dietzschens Wörterbuches gearbeitet, jedoch befindet sich dieses Unternehmen noch im Stadium der Materialsammlung.

² Im Institut für deutsche Sprache und Literatur der Deutschen Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Berlin ist eine Gemeinschaftsarbeit mit tschechischen und ungarischen Germanisten zur Erfassung des frühneuhochdeutschen Wortschatzes auf ost-deutschem Gebiet geplant, doch auch dieses Unternehmen befindet sich erst im Stadium des Aufbaues eines Zettelarchivs.