

Supplications from England and Wales in the registers of the apostolic penitentiary, 1410–1503, III: 1492–1503. Edited by Peter D. Clarke and Patrick N. R. Zutshi. (Canterbury and York Society, 105.) Pp. xv + 396 (incl. indices to vols i–iii by Kelcey Wilson-Lee and Patrick N. R. Zutshi). Woodbridge: Boydell Press (for the Canterbury and York Society), 2015. £35. 978 0 907239 78 9; 0262 995X

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The present volume brings the work to completion. Just over half of it is taken up with the essential (and formidable) indices: of people and places (the former indexed by first name, cross referenced from surnames and patronymics), of subjects and of curial personnel. There is also a chronological listing of the supplications. The first part of the volume calendars material from the pontificate of Alexander VI. As ever, the range is enormous. In May 1494 a portable altar was granted to ‘Richard duke of York’: the Yorkist pretender Perkin Warbeck, who was currently recognised as the genuine article by the Emperor Maximilian. There is another whiff of conspiracy against Henry VII in the case of Thomas Lovell, who brought about the imprisonment of Richard Howlk for keeping silent about a conspiracy against the king. Howlk died in prison and Lovell sought absolution for his part in the death (no. 3678). Elsewhere the pope is requested to retrospectively regularise a variety of tangled marital relationships, some of which seem to imply a distinctly casual attitude (nos 3628, 3686). Thomas Fiennes, Lord Dacre and his wife Anne were among the numerous petitioners who were ‘of such weak and delicate constitution that they cannot sustain their bodies adequately’ without eating eggs and dairy produce on fasting days (no. 3641). Physical frailty of a different sort lay behind the petition of John Greffe, a chantry priest at *Bepellis* [?Bexhill], who found the air there so bad that his life was at risk and sought licence to reside elsewhere without forfeiting his emoluments (no. 3644). This is a relatively mild example of the scribal garbling of unfamiliar names. As in the earlier volumes the editors have been able to go further in identifying the clergy than the laity and there are undoubtedly more identifications to be made, but users are greatly in their debt for making this material available.

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The Tudor Cistercians. By David H. Williams. Pp. xxiii + 613 incl. 4 plates and 18 figs.

Leominster: Gracewing, 2014. £24. 978 0 85244 926 7

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This book catalogues many aspects of the lives of Cistercian monks and nuns in England in the decades immediately prior to, and during, the suppression of the monasteries. Chapters include listings and maps of the monasteries and convents covered, together with discussion of their buildings, officers, abbots, secular communities, economy, uprisings that they were involved in and the process and aftermath of the suppression itself. Some parts of the book, such as the section on the economy, are frustratingly patchy: we are presented with a series of facts and