Pearson Edexcel Level 3 GCE

History

Advanced

Paper 3: Themes in breadth with aspects in depth

Option 30: Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399–1509

Wednesday 21 June 2017 – Morning

Source Booklet

Paper Reference

9HI0/30

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Source for use with Section A.

From the Chronicle of the Benedictine Abbey of Crowland, Lincolnshire, written by monks of the abbey, 1486. It was written after Richard III's reign, in the reign of Henry VII.

Richard III, wishing to present himself as King to the people of the North in 1483, left the royal city of London and, passing through Windsor, Oxford and Coventry, came at length to York. There, on a day appointed to confirm his coronation, he presented his only son, Edward, whom, that same day, he had created Prince of Wales, with the insignia of the golden wand and the wreath upon his head. He arranged splendid and expensive feasts and entertainments for the purpose of gaining the affections of the people. There was no shortage of treasure then to satisfy the aims of his so self-important mind. As soon as he first thought about his intrusion into the kingship, Richard had taken possession of everything that his deceased brother, the most glorious King Edward, had collected with hard work and the greatest care, many years before. Edward had entrusted these treasures and wealth to Richard for the carrying out of his will and to ensure the succession of his son. In the meantime, and while these things were going on, the two sons of King Edward remained in the Tower of London with the specially appointed guard. A rumour then arose that King Edward's sons, by some unknown manner of violent destruction, had met their fate.

At last it was determined by the people in various southern counties to rebel and a public proclamation was made that Henry, Duke of Buckingham, had repented of his former conduct in his support of Richard in seizing the throne, and would be the organiser of this rebellion.

Following the presumed death of the princes, all those who had begun this agitation realised that if they could not find someone new to be their king and challenge Richard, it would soon be all over for them. They then remembered Henry, Earl of Richmond*, who had been for many years living in exile in Brittany.

*Henry, Earl of Richmond – later Henry VII

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