

MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS: HER LIFE STORY

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649644216

Mary Queen of Scots: Her Life Story by A. H. Millar

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

A. H. MILLAR

**MARY QUEEN OF
SCOTS: HER
LIFE STORY**

MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS




MARY STUART AS A GIRL

By JANET

*From "The True Portraiture of Mary, Queen of Scots," by permission of
Messrs Dickinsons*

©

MARY QUEEN OF
SCOTS: HER LIFE
STORY. BY A. H. MILLAR,
F.S.A.SCOT. . . . Author of
"The Castles and Mansions of Ayrshire";
"The History of Rob Roy," etc. etc.


WILLIAM BROWN
26 PRINCES STREET, EDINBURGH
SIMPKIN, MARSHALL & CO. LIMITED,
4 STATIONERS' HALL COURT, LONDON, E.C.

1905

PREFACE

THERE is no character in modern history whose romantic adventures have awakened more interest than those of Mary Queen of Scots, and there is a perennial fascination in the story of her life which even at the present day shows no sign of abatement. The peculiar time in which she lived, marking, as it did, an epoch of transition in religious affairs, and the rapid development of the resources of England, the inveterate enemy of her kingdom, made it desirable that the ruler of the country should be firm and bold to withstand southern encroachment, and liberal and politic to soothe theological differences. But any natural determination towards tolerance which Mary's character may have originally possessed was warped and distorted by her early education; and her disposition, once gentle and confiding, may have been changed by her experience of the faithlessness of mankind into that form of stolid distrust which suspects the truest friend and questions the least interested motives.

It is difficult to analyse the character of Mary, not because of its subtlety, but rather because

of that simplicity and trustfulness which—in the early portion of her career at least—led her to perform acts of unpardonable weakness, fraught with disaster both to herself and her subjects. Nor is the difficulty decreased by the fact that the historians of her reign have presented accounts of her deeds so garbled under the influence of party feeling that they have made her life a riddle and her character an enigma. On the one side, the Protestant historians and annalists of her time have vindicated their creed by aspersing the character of the Roman Catholic Queen; while, on the other side, the Romanists have brought wholesale charges against the Reformers who ruled her Councils. No doubt the truth lies between these extremes, and it is not possible to understand the complications in her life story without giving due weight to the influence of the two forms of religion which existed at the time. The faith which upheld Queen Mary through her protracted troubles, and enabled her calmly to endure the ignominious and sanguinary death which she suffered, must have been sincere; and this fact explains some of the dubious points in her history, and accounts for several of the darker deeds associated with her memory. And, on the other hand, it is beyond question that some of the Protestant leaders who surrounded her did little to recommend their creed on the score of morality or sincerity.

PREFACE

vii

Before condemning the Queen it is then needful to appreciate the difficult circumstances in which she was placed. Brought as a ruler to the people from whom she had been absent from childhood, and trained as a Catholic to suspect all Protestants, she soon found that many of the ambitious nobles near the throne desired to use her for the furtherance of their own selfish designs. Her misfortunes were often caused by her own wilfulness; her courage sometimes led her into deeds of daring foolhardiness; but those who condemn her as an inexcusable sinner are as far astray in their estimate as those who deem her a faultless saint. To explain fully the conditions under which her life was passed is not possible within limited space, but an honest attempt will here be made to place the events of her chequered career faithfully before the reader, so that he may draw his own conclusions.

(17)

(18) $\langle \text{Nominative} \rangle$ $\langle \text{Accusative} \rangle$

(19) $\langle \text{Nominative} \rangle$
 $\langle \text{Accusative} \rangle$

(20)

(21)

(22)

(23)

(24)

(25)

(26)

(27)

(28)

(29)

(30)

(31)