

Henry II and Thomas Becket

Henry II became King of England in 1154. He had England without a Pope. He was quiet in France for long periods of time and wanted someone to control the Pope while he was away. He decided to send Thomas Becket to Rome to be the Pope's representative.

Thomas did not want to go. He thought the Pope would want more land for the King. Thomas was satisfied with the Pope's land. The Pope would not want more land.

Henry thought that it was bad for the King and got angry with Becket. He told Becket that he did not agree with him and that he should not go to Rome.

Henry wanted to get control of the church. He changed the law and order by giving Becket the power to control who could be the Pope.

When the Archbishop of Canterbury died in 1162, Henry had the idea of making Becket the Archbishop. He believed that Becket would be a good Archbishop and would get control of the church. Becket became the Archbishop and Becket became the Pope.

Henry wanted to be King of France and Becket would be the Archbishop of the King's court. Becket refused to agree to this. Henry was very angry and he had Becket killed.

