

Facility:
Date: 22nd may 1455

Location: St Albans,
Hertfordshire, England.

Result: Yorkist victory

House of York

Casualties and losses: 60

Strength:3,000 - 7,000

House of Lancaster

Casualties and losses: 100

Strength: 2,000

Background:

After recovering from his illness, the Duke of York was no longer protectorate. The Duke of Somerset was reinstated and given York's former position of Captain of Calais. Henry and the nobles decided to hold a great council at Leicester, but York and Warwick, believing this council would question their loyalty, gathered their forces and tried to stop the king from reaching Leicester. They met at St. Albans.

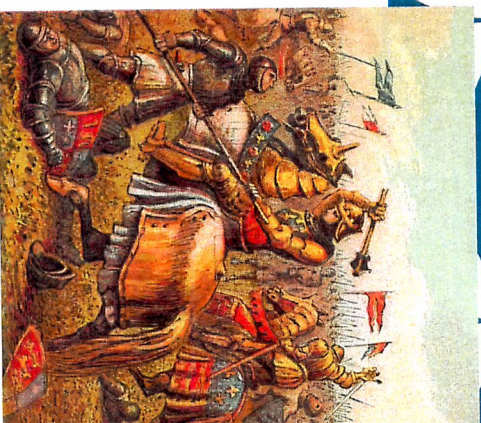
THE 1ST BATTLE OF ST. ALBANS

What happened:

After peace negotiations failed, York decided to attack.

The king's forces were overwhelmed by the surprise ambush, as Warwick's army appeared in the market square where they were resting, and did not expect to be involved in fighting. Warwick charged immediately, scattering the Lancastrians and killing the Duke of Somerset.

Archers then shot at the men surrounding the king, injuring several including the Duke of Buckingham. Fearing another attack from behind, the Lancastrians fled.



Aftermath:

A complete victory for York and Warwick. York captured the king and restored himself to full power, while several of his arch enemies fell.

LOVEDAY

24th March 1458

Attempt by Henry VI to reconcile his arguing nobles.

Made enemies walk arm in arm to St. Pauls:

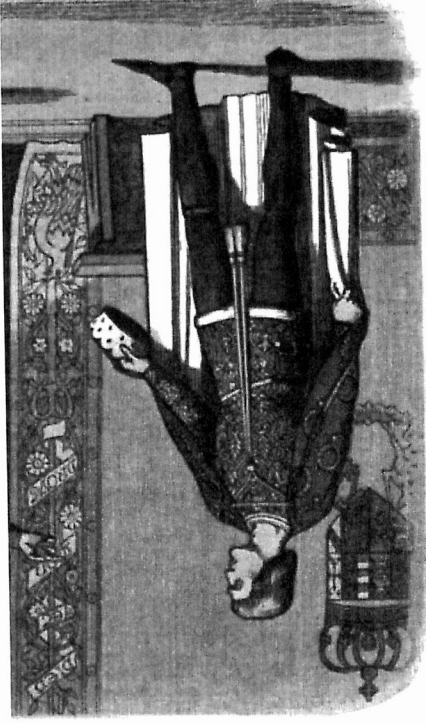
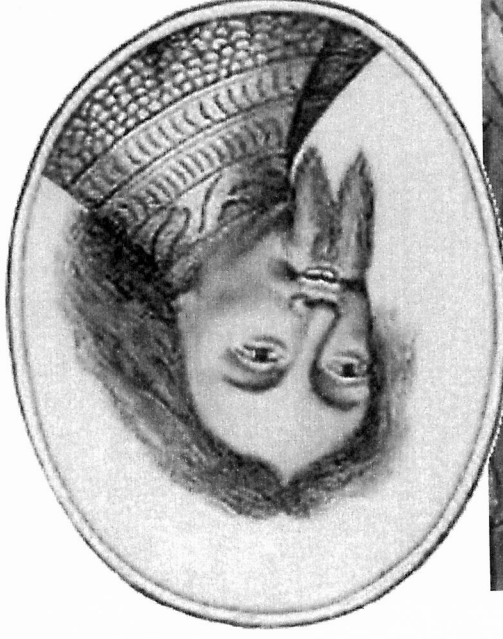
- Margaret of Anjou and Richard Duke of York
- Somerset and Salisbury
- Warwick with Henry Percy

Served to demonstrate for all to see that there were 2 sides in England at this time and that they were prepared to fight.

Armed guards in London: clearly expected fighting.

York and Salisbury were still excluded from court proceedings: Loveday pointless

This attempt for peace failed: within year after Loveday fighting had recommenced.



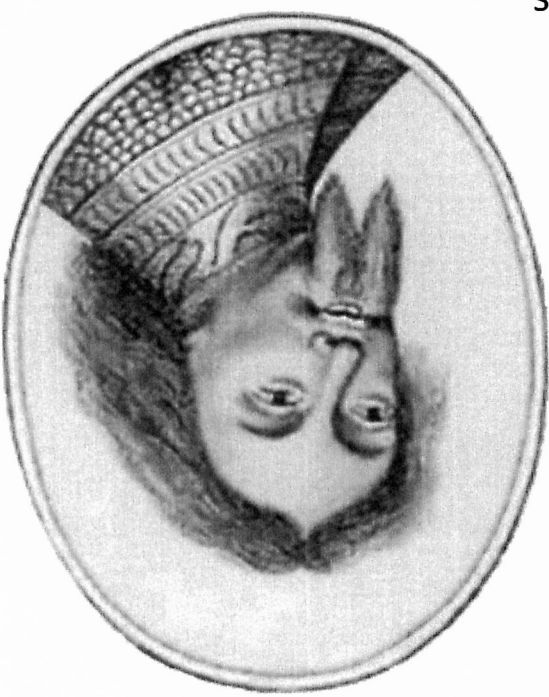
Parliament of Devils

- On this day in 1459 the Wars of the Roses increased in ferocity
- Parliament had not met for three and a half years, as it had been dissolved following the resignation of York and the loss of authority by the mentally unstable Henry VI
- Order disintegrated over the following months and England moved closer to civil war
- Armed conflict finally broke out in the autumn of 1459
- In response parliament was summoned and three days later, rather than confront the king in battle, the Yorkist forces scattered overnight – its leaders fled abroad
- The parliament of devils was a session of the Parliament of England held at Conventry
- The parliament was summoned on October 9th 1459 for a first meeting on 20th November
- The main business of the Parliament was to pass bills of attainder for high treason against the leading Yorkist nobles following the start of a new stage in the wars of the roses
- The parliament was dissolved on 20th December 1459 and York was not invited to this parliament

Act of Attainder

- Bill of attainder may be defined as an act of parliament for putting a man to death without a trial
- It is an act whereby the judgement of the entire parliament is exercised
- The act of attainder was used to execute many dukes accused of treason during the wars of the roses.

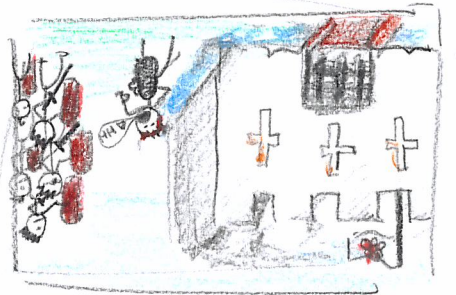
THE ACT OF ACCORD



- It was an act passed to place Richard, Duke of York and his heirs as heir to the throne after Henry VI's death.
- He announced this by putting his hand on the throne and claiming it as his own.
- His supporters however did not approve of him claiming the throne outright, as their aim was to get rid of his nobles that were unpopular and leading him to make mistakes.
- Richard was also named Protector of the Realm again, due to the king's mental illness, making him effectively king without the title, also meaning he has control over parliament.
- Margaret of Anjou did not accept this Act of Accord because it disinherited her son, which she had been working at all costs to protect.
- She gathered supporters for her and raised an army to attack the Yorkists.

The Battle of Wakefield ~ November 1460

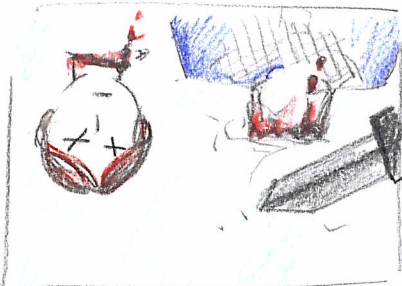
York tricked out of his castle by Lancastrians



York's head was put on a spike outside the castle wearing a paper crown



Queen Margaret's army captured & executed York's second son



Margaret had her revenge



Lancastrians had won and the army continued to London.



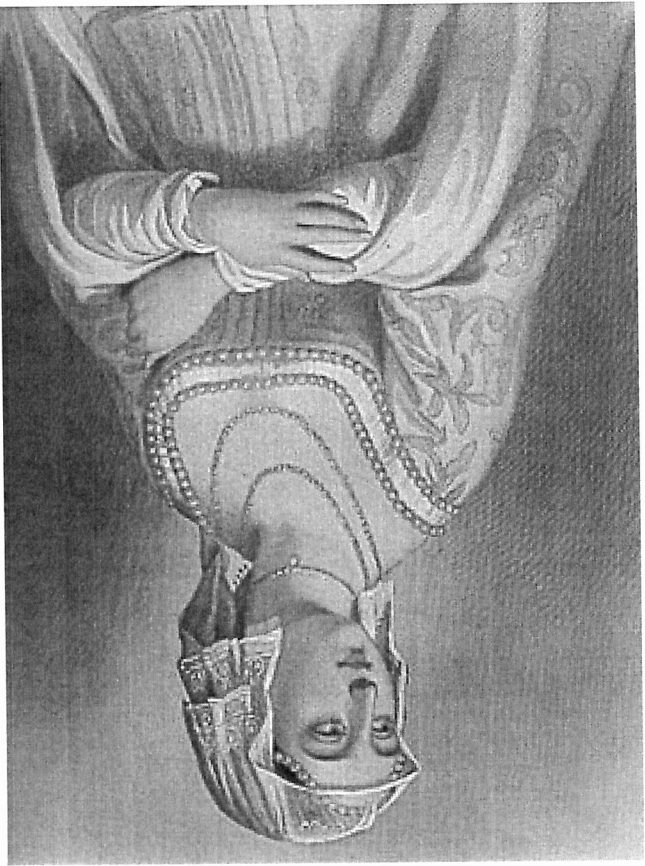
Lancastrian Win 4/5

due to the killing of York but it allowed for a stronger York

Margaret's Army Ravage towns and Villages on their way south

- Caused by the feud between Margaret of Anjou and Duke of York, she was convinced that York was a danger to her son's inheritance
- She was prepared to do anything to protect her son as heir to the throne but could not rely on Henry for support against York due to his mental state. She had to deal with this alone seeing as her depended support from Somerset and Suffolk was no longer there as they were killed in battle
- After the battle of Wakefield, Margaret and her army marched south toward London, they destroyed the small towns and villages they passed through
- Margaret had won the battle, with York dead her army felt victorious they entered every town and village on the way to London and pillaged everything
- By the time she reached London, her reputation was so bad that the city authorities were reluctant to let her in. As a result, Margaret and her army were locked out
- She had to send her army to Dunstable, as the Londoners were fearful of her army pillaging further
- The Londoners fear of Margaret's army can be attributed to Yorkist propaganda that was in circulation prior to her arrival
- By not entering London, Margaret had left her army to open to the new Duke of York who was heading south to avenge his father
- The extent of the destruction caused by Margaret's army is unclear as it is difficult to distinguish between what is Yorkist propaganda and actual events

5/10





The 2nd Battle of St Albans

February 17th, 1461



Commanders/Leaders:

Margaret of Anjou v Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick

15000 v 10000 soldiers

2000 deceased

Events

The nobles involved (Somerset, Northumberland and Clifford) all lost their fathers in the first battle of St Albans.

Following the Battle of Northampton in 1460, King Henry had been captured by the Yorkist's leaving his queen, Margaret of Anjou, in charge of the Lancastrian cause.



Having recently tasted victory at the Battle of Wakefield, the Lancastrian army now began its advance on London. Advancing through the narrow streets of St Albans, the Lancastrians initially suffered heavy casualties from Yorkist archers who had been billeted in the town. The fierce hand-to-hand fighting continued for several hours, but without reinforcements the Yorkist archers were eventually overcome.

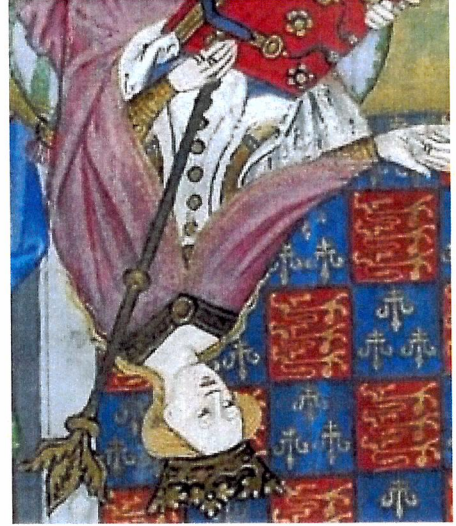
Now in control of the town, the Lancastrians turned their attention to the main Yorkist army to the north. Realising that he had been outmanoeuvred, Warwick ordered a tactical withdrawal, marching his remaining force of around 4,000 men to Chipping Norton in Oxfordshire. As they retreated the Yorkist's left behind King Henry for Margaret, who is said to have enjoyed the battle sitting under a tree, singing.

From there till London, Margaret's army raped and pillaged their way through towns and villages.

The Lancastrians were the victors

RATING- 4/5 Lancastrians

By Bella, Joe and Saskia



Battle of Towton

What Happened?

- Yorkist fought the Lancastrian forces up the steep hill at Towton
- It was snowy and windy which helped the Yorkist archers as they could fire their arrows further in to the wind
- The Lancastrians decided to charge which temporarily put a strain on the Yorkist's line
- However Duke of Norfolk, John Mowbray arrived with reinforcements and helped the Yorkist defeated the Lancastrians
- King Henry VI and his wife and their son fled to Scotland. They then went to France to seek aid
- Edward IV marched in to York and on June 28th he was formally crowned King at Westminster

YORKISTS WON

Why they won

- Yorkist assisted by the wind
- Lancastrians couldn't see because of the weather
- Duke of Norfolk sent in his reinforcement troops

Victor	Yorkists
York Leadership	Edward IV Warwick Lord Fauconberg Duke of Norfolk
Lancaster Leadership	Duke of Somerset
Size of forces	Yorkists - 36,000 Lancastrians - 40,000
Notable deaths	Henry Percy, 3rd earl of Northumberland; Sir Andrew Trollope; Lord Dacre
Links	Towton Battlefield Society

Casualties

28000 total casualties

15000 for Somerset and 5000 for Edward

