

Monk of Tewkesbury Abbey, was compensated by the King's Commissioners.

Thus the Abbey and its inmates lived on for nearly 500 years; fifteen generations of Benedictine Monks occupied successively the cells of the dormitories, the desks of the cloisters, and the graves of the cemetery. There are no traditions of evil clinging to their memory, while their beautiful Abbey even yet, speaks of good and holy work, if all other voices were silent.

But the time came when no more generations of monks were to work in the cloister, to pray in the Abbey, or to rest in the cemetery. Warnings of change had been sounding around them for years, and at last they assumed such a form, that no more monks came to the Abbey, and as the old ones died off, the community was reduced to about forty, probably not a quarter of their usual number. How the last remnant met the final blow in 1539 is not recorded. The Abbot was created Bishop of Gloucester, the thirty-eight monks received £286 13s. 4d., the majority being sent into the world with annuities of £6 13s. 4d. to each.