

Lutheran theology and encouraged the Swedish national church throughout his long kingship. At his death in 1593 there was a period of civil war with more complications than we can go into in this course and with much religious intrigue including a lot of activity by the Jesuit politician, Possevin. Eventually Karl of Soderlund seized the throne and withstood a few assaults of disgruntled catholic leadership. The Augsburg confession was accepted and Sweden became the most totally Lutheranized country in Europe. Her warriors brought a lot of help to the protestant cause in the Thirty Years war.

Norway

The Norwegian Diet, under the strong influence of the Danes, voted to accept the Lutheran church order proposed by Christian III of Denmark. In 1569 a new creed of 25 articles was subscribed and Jesuits were prohibited from entering the country at all...an act repealed only in 1956.

Although there were some doubtful days, the Scandinavian countries emerged through the Reformation as strongly Lutheran and avowed opponents of Rome.

II.9.d Scotland

Scotland

We have said little of Scotland although the final importance of that land is immense. Scots churchmen and theologians have exercised an influence in the church far greater than their numbers. It was a key country both for the reformation and the counter-reformation and we have put it all together at this point. It would shortly become the most protestant of all the non-catholic countries.

Historical Note

Scotland was an independent country from England since the days of the Angle, Saxon, Celtic wars. It had its own kingly line and had fought some fierce wars with the English. It was a territory ruled by clans and when the situation called for it, the clans could band together and give anyone a tough time. Often their warfare, however, was among themselves. While much of the terrain was mountainous, the Scottish lowlands were almost an extension of England. The cultures of the two lands were also similar and both had been marked with a very strong