

SIR THOMAS WYATT
THE YOUNGER,
c.1521–1554
AND
WYATT'S REBELLION

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WYATT'S REBELLION

JAMES D. TAYLOR, JR.

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A little rebellion now and then...is a
medicine necessary for the sound health of
government.

— *Thomas Jefferson*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	1
CHAPTER 1. THE WYATT FAMILY ANCESTRY	3
Sir Henry Wyatt	3
Sir Thomas Wyatt the Elder	9
CHAPTER 2. THOMAS WYATT THE YOUNGER	21
CHAPTER 3. PRELUDE TO REBELLION	59
CHAPTER 4. LONDON BRIDGE HAS FALLEN DOWN	91
CHAPTER 5. MARY, BLOODY MARY: THE AFTERMATH	113
CHAPTER 6. RETROSPECT	135
APPENDIX I. WYATT FAMILY ANCESTRAL CHART	145
APPENDIX II. A TREATISE ON THE MILITIA	149
APPENDIX III. THE TRIAL OF NICHOLAS THROCKMORTON	167
APPENDIX IV. OFFICERS OF STATE	209
APPENDIX V. RELEVANT CORRESPONDENCE	215
Letter I. From the Council at Boulogne to the King	215

Letter II. From the Council of Boulogne to the King.	216
Letter III. The Earl of Surrey to Mr. Secretary Paget.	217
The Lane Letters	220
APPENDIX VI. MAPS	231
Map 1. Where Wyatt's proclamations were issued	231
Map 2. Proclamations and Anti-Proclamations	232
Map 3. Boulogne and Fort Chatillon	233
BIBLIOGRAPHY	235
Primary Sources	235
Secondary Sources	236

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

While working on my last book, *The Shadow of the White Rose, Edward Courtenay Earl of Devon, 1526 to 1556*, I realized that I was only telling part of a story, as there are many links between Edward Courtenay and Thomas Wyatt the Younger, son of Thomas Wyatt the Elder. Thomas Wyatt the Elder receives partial credit for introducing the sonnet into English literature, later refined by William Shakespeare. Thomas the Younger is mainly known for leading a rebellion against the advent of the Catholic Queen Mary Tudor.

This work is the product of many years of research in which I reviewed all that 600 years of history has recorded, and as when researching Edward Courtenay, I was particularly intrigued by references to missing or altered documents. The most valuable references are those from the period of Wyatt's lifetime and immediately thereafter, such as the account recorded by John Proctor, who was a schoolmaster from Tunbridge Wells and published the events of the rebellion the following year, 1554. Although Proctor's account may be slightly biased, his account is a valuable asset in comparison to those of other historians who do not offer as much detail. One additional account that is especially useful is provided by Raphael Holinshed, whose chronicles offer a rare and detailed account of a complete court trial of one of the conspirators; it is included in this edition.

Other notable historians of the period only recorded bits and pieces over the span of Wyatt's life, but when these fragments are assembled, a portrait begins to emerge of a well-educated, intelli-

gent and disciplined man. Wyatt stood firm in his belief to the very end and discarded what could have been a comfortable life, perhaps following his father in ambassadorial duties and a comfortable and dignified retirement.

Though nothing new was discovered, this is the first complete edition about Thomas Wyatt the Younger and of the rebellion he led — which cost the lives of many who followed him — against the marriage of Queen Mary Tudor and Prince Philip of Spain. The resulting executions totaled into the many hundreds and earned Queen Mary the nickname of Bloody Mary in one of England's most violent periods of history.

The documents used in this edition are reproduced as near as may be to the way they were originally published (or the way they were originally handwritten). Due to the challenges of evolving standards of grammar, typography and orthography, some inconsistencies are unavoidable. My aim is to enable readers to see how each writer expressed himself or herself, preserving the flavor of Medieval English.

A work of this nature can only be produced with the assistance of many knowledgeable and helpful professionals. I offer a special thank-you to the staff of the Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, the Law Library, and Angela Balla, Ph.D., of the Special Collections Library, all of the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. My gratitude goes as well to the staff of the Purdy-Kresge Library at Wayne State University for their patience and assistance, and to the many who gave their assistance and guidance from the British Library, whose references and vast holdings helped make this book possible. Further thanks go to the Royal Historical Society University College, London, for providing copies of the original document and allowing the reproduction of the *Treatise on the Militia*. I also must thank the staff at the Pitts Theology Library at Emory University; the Bodleian Library and Ashmolean Library at Oxford; and the William Andrew Clark Memorial Library at the University of California, and the Folger Shakespeare Library; and last but most certainly not least Dr. Charlene Berry of Madonna University for her spiritual support, guidance and invaluable critiques throughout this project.

CHAPTER 1. THE WYATT FAMILY ANCESTRY

Sir Henry Wyatt

Henry Wyatt was born into a Protestant family that had lived in Yorkshire for many generations and accumulated a great deal of land. History has not recorded the early years of his life, but it is possible that he was born between 1460 and 1465, to Richard Wyatt and Margaret, daughter of William Baliff, during the reign of Edward IV. For reference, the ancestral charts of the Wyatt family are located in Appendix I. History has recorded very little about the Wyatt family prior to Henry Wyatt, as it would appear that no noteworthy circumstances attracted attention.

Henry Wyatt resisted the ascent of Richard III to the throne because of political differences and as a result was arrested and confined in the Tower for two years. One account indicated that he was restrained on a rack in Richards's presence and vinegar and mustard were forced down his throat. An apocryphal tale recounts that a cat brought Henry Wyatt a pigeon every day from a nearby dovecot while he was a prisoner in the Tower of London, preventing him from starving to death. This story is so popular that a couple of portraits are known to have survived representing Wyatt and the cat.

Richard III, last of the Plantagenets, died in battle against a distant cousin, a Lancaster, who assumed the throne as Henry VII in 1485. Richard was the last king descended from the House of York, and his demise meant the end of the War of the Roses.

Henry promptly married Elizabeth of York, uniting the bloodlines, although that was not sufficient to resolve the feud to everyone's satisfaction.

King Henry soon made new assignments in the government. The following year Henry Wyatt received a position as Clerk of the King's Jewels, and Clerk of the Mint two years later, and then he was given the assignments of Master of the Jewel House, Keeper of the Exchange and Assayer of the Coinage. Soon after, he became a member of the Privy Council and served as Esquire of the body for the King. With this very prestigious assignment he gained a great deal of recognition. For outstanding services to the King, Henry Wyatt was not only generously rewarded with annual salaries, but more importantly, the lands he received in the county of Kent and other locations were to serve as the foundation of the Wyatt's wealth. It was with these accumulations of land that the Wyatt family became more recognized and more often recorded in history.

Henry Wyatt was not only involved in administrative functions, but military also, which included leading the battle against Scottish incursions in Carlisle, most likely under the command of Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick. Wyatt then served as an agent for King Henry VII in Scotland and kept the King informed of the events there. In June 1486, England entered into negotiations with King James III of Scotland and the outcome was a treaty for a three-year truce.

Wyatt then assisted the King in Ireland during the Perkin Warbeck rebellion that began in late 1491 and lasted until Perkin surrendered six years later. It is not clear at what point Wyatt served in Perkin's suppression.

Perkin Warbeck first appeared in 1491 in Ireland, a pro-York stronghold, where opposition to king Henry was strong, as a French silk seller; claims were made that he was in fact the Earl of Warwick. Rather, he claimed, he was none other than the younger son of King Edward IV, one of the princes who had been kept in the Tower, now returned from hiding and claiming a right to the English throne. Perkin Warbeck had spent some time training and learning about the family and court of Edward IV, and very interesting accounts describe his impersonations of that monarch (there have been suggestions that he made other impersonations also).

He did not get far in Ireland but was then invited to Paris by French king Charles VIII, who wanted to stop Henry VII supporting Brittany, which he was trying to take over. From there Warbeck moved to Flanders, where he was taken in by Margaret of York (sis-

ter of Richard III), now Duchess of Burgundy, who was happy to claim him as her nephew and to back his claim to the throne. This move led Henry VII to cut off all trade with Flanders. Warbeck tried at several more invasions, all of which failed. The Desmonds in Ireland supported Warbeck in 1495, then James IV of Scotland allowed him refuge. But when Henry VII offered James IV his daughter's hand in marriage, Warbeck was forced to flee.

The Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian then recognized Warbeck as King of England. However, the Emperor had limited authority across the empire and even less authority in English politics. Henry VII's cause was also helped by Charles VIII's loss of interest in Warbeck.

In August 1497, after one more failed attempt with an army raised in Cornwall, Warbeck gave himself up and was sentenced to remain at court under watch; as a foreigner he could not be hanged for treason. He soon learned that he could, however, be hanged for trying to escape.

The Warbeck rebellion was important as it showed the fragility of the new Tudor dynasty, but by the time Warbeck was executed and treaties were signed with Spain, Scotland and other neighbors, England was strong and stable, allowing Henry VII to arrange for his first-born son Arthur to marry Catherine of Aragon. (The marriage took place after they both came of age, in 1501, but Arthur died within months.)

In the meantime, Henry Wyatt had also served among the leaders in the fight at Blackheath against Cornish rebels who were protesting the subsidies levied to pay for the Scottish wars. During the year 1492, Wyatt purchased the estate of Allington Castle and gained other grants and properties in Yorkshire, Middlesex, Northamptonshire, Surrey, and Berkshire. Henry Wyatt continued to serve King Henry VII in military and administrative matters until the King died of consumption at the palace of Richmond after a twenty-three year reign at the age of fifty-two.

On 23 April 1509, his son and heir, proclaimed King Henry VIII, took his place as ruler of England. King Henry VIII was now free from an oppressive and stern father and grandmother, and he stood proud with a fortune greater than that of any English king before. The kingdom rejoiced at their new king and an air of fresh hope fell upon the realm.

Among the King's first tasks was the formation of a new council and among those chosen was Sir Henry Wyatt. The new council members were familiar with the late king's method of conducting

government and their knowledge would help smooth the transfer. Though this was the first mention of Henry Wyatt as “Sir,” his knighthood did not come until King Henry’s coronation. On 22 May, King Henry VIII made Henry Wyatt the Campsor and Assayer of the Treasury and Master and Keeper of the Jewels in the Tower of London, with a salary that came from the funds paid to Norwich castle. King Henry also awarded him the stewardships of Hatfield, Thoorne, and York that would remain in effect as long as Henry Wyatt lived.

Henry Wyatt’s first mention as a member of the Privy Council is in a license the King issued on 15 June 1509 empowering him to authorize merchants to buy tin within the realm of England.

As King Henry settled into his duties, one of his first priorities was to take a wife. He had been engaged to Catherine of Aragon shortly after Arthur’s death, but by the time he was old enough to marry, his father Henry VII had changed his mind. Now Henry VIII was his own man and was intent on following through; the marriage ceremony occurred at Greenwich soon after. The daughter of Queen Isabella I of Castile and King Ferdinand II of Aragon, Catherine was five years his elder. This union disappointed the Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I, who had been pressing for a marriage with his granddaughter. The marriage entailed various controversies, but they were not publicly aired for some time.

Preparations became frantic as the day of the coronation grew closer. King Henry announced that all those who were to perform any service for him on his coronation day were to assemble at Whitehall on 20 June. On 22 June, twenty-six honorable persons were to muster in the Tower of London to serve the King at dinner, and those who were to receive a knighthood of the Bath would bear dishes to the King as a token. Among those twenty-six nobles, Henry Wyatt was one. From a tradition that dates to about AD 1127, special knighthoods were granted on royal occasions such as coronations. The name derives from the ancient ceremony where individuals participated in a vigil of fasting, prayer, and the ritual of bathing on the very day they were to receive their knighthood.

King Henry VIII’s coronation ceremony took place in the palace of Westminster on 24 June where the Bishop of Canterbury anointed and crowned him. After the ceremony a banquet was held; it was described as “greater than any Caesar had known,” and was followed by a tournament that lasted well into the night. Several days of jousting, feasting, and merriment followed the coronation, as King Henry spared no expense.

After the festivities settled down, King Henry began to address the issues of the realm, which included foreign affairs. The King displayed his confidence as a leader and a ruler of a land that had not been invaded in a long time. The King renewed several alliances that this father had made, including the treaty with James IV of Scotland originally formed on 24 January 1501. Henry Wyatt's name appears on the treaty with eleven other men of distinction as witnesses to its renewal, signed on 29 August 1509. Henry Wyatt's name also appears on a deed for a cancellation of debt on 22 December of the same year. This is the first mention of his title of Knight.

King Henry was not at all interested in the new prospects that Spanish explorers had discovered in the Americas but kept his interests closer, namely, in France, where English monarchs continued to feel they had a claim to the succession stemming from the days of the Plantagenet dynasty. Though an Anglo-French treaty signed in 1510 existed, King Henry met with his council to discuss war with France; but most of the council was against the idea and many gave reasons that his father would have understood. But Henry VIII was strong, backed by the fortune his father had amassed, and felt he could begin to flex his political and military muscle.

On New Year's Day 1511, Catherine gave the King a son; a cause for great rejoicing throughout the kingdom. Many festivals celebrated the arrival of Henry, Prince of Wales. However, after only seven weeks, young Henry died. The King's joy turned to grief, and from this disappointment he would devote more of himself to the prospect of war.

Thomas Wolsey, the Dean of Lincoln, was the son of a butcher who received a learned education and as he was a very able man, he quickly advanced in King Henry's administration. Wolsey won the King's admiration and advanced from a member of the Council to be the King's sole absolute minister. As preparations to invade France came together, Wolsey endorsed an outline of the King's army in April 1513 that contained several articles that shed light on the realm's strength at the time. One article indicated the budget for expenditures and another outlined the size of the King's army, which included eighty thousand well-armed fighting men, horsemen, archers, and demi-lances with complete armor and gunners.

Another article Wolsey endorsed was a description of how the army was to enter the field. This included the avant-garde consisting of thirty-two hundred; the left wing consisting of some light artillery and men to number fifteen hundred; the center consisting of several positions and about sixty-one hundred men; and the right

wing, with the majority of the ordinance. Sir Henry Wyatt was one of those men.

On 26 May, Sir Henry Wyatt received the role of Treasurer of the King's jewels. This appointment earned him two yeomen and a page to assist him in his assigned duties to the King. In June of the same year, a document titled "the Middleward" was committed to history that describes the names with the retinue of the lords, knights and other noblemen who mustered with the King. This was a list of all those about the King such as the Kings guard, the grooms and pages of the Privy Chamber and Sergeant of Arms: in total, there were fourteen thousand and thirty-two assigned to assist the King. Among the names of those who oversaw the King's artillery and ordinance, Sir Henry Wyatt appears with many other great and noble men.

During the summer of 1513, King Henry and his army secured several small victories but did not push into Paris even after arriving so close to the city; instead, the King withdrew to pursue smaller victories. Early historians suggested that because of England's long period of peace, the English army had grown soft and did not make the same decisions that a seasoned army would have. Regardless, King Henry decided to return to England because the season was changing and brought less than favorable conditions to continue with any military campaign. When the King arrived home with the greater part of his army, he found the King of Scotland marching in England with a force of about fifty thousand men. Young and fresh with victories, the confident King Henry VIII overtook the Scots in the field of Flouden and killed the King of Scotland and most of his nobles. The Queen of Scotland requested peace and King Henry readily granted her request.

The following year found King Henry again preparing for war with France but it would not occur, for within a year his sister Mary Tudor would marry the King of France. England would not go to war again with France for about eight years.

On 27 March 1514, the Lords of the Council received a report on the analysis of gold and silver made in London at the Goldsmith's Hall of English and Flemish Coin and among those present, Sir Henry Wyatt assisted in determining the differences between the various coinages. On 11 August, Henry Wyatt served as one of the five commissioners appointed by the King to review and inventory items such as tackle, apparel, ordinance, artillery, and habiliments of war that remained in a storehouse and on board six ships moored at Erith, three ships moored at Woolwich, three ships moored at

Blackwall and one ship moored at Deptford.

King Henry's sister Mary was wed to Louis XII of France in mid-October 1514 and Sir Henry Wyatt inventoried Mary's jewelry, gold and silver plate for the chapel, buffets, and kitchen and delivered all the items to two representatives of Louis' court on 10 and 11 October. Among the plate were several gilt images of St. Thomas of Canterbury, St. Katherine, and other saints, and a silver gilt mirror garnished with the initials "H" and "R" and red roses.

Henry Wyatt went on with his administrative duties for several more years, but in 1529 and 1530, he complained to the King that he was becoming too feeble to continue and requested to transfer some of his responsibilities to his son Thomas. Henry Wyatt retired to his residence of Allington and on 31 July 1536, King Henry VIII stopped to visit one last time as Wyatt's health was failing. On 10 November 1537, Henry Wyatt died and was later buried at Milton near Gravesend.

Interestingly, Henry Wyatt's life covered the span of five monarchs: the Yorkists, Edward IV (1461–83), Edward V (1483), Richard III (1483–85), and the Tudors, Henry VII (1485–1509) and Henry VIII (1509–1547). Henry Wyatt was survived by his wife Anne, daughter of John Skinner of Surrey, and his son Thomas. Thomas would receive his father's estate and possessions.

Sir Thomas Wyatt the Elder

Thomas Wyatt, the eldest son of Henry Wyatt was born in Allington about 1503. His childhood is rather obscure, but his primary education would have most likely been under the tutelage of his father and other family members and even possibly tutors who educated other members of the court. Based on his later interests in the classics, his education would have most likely included those studies and languages such as Latin, French, and possibly Spanish. His later contributions to the development of the sonnet would indicate a command and understanding of the English language based on a foundation laid during his basic education. A result of a good primary education prepared him for St. Johns College-Cambridge in 1515 where he achieved his B.A. degree in 1518 and in 1520 his master's degree. There is some speculation as to whether or not he may have passed some time in Paris after completing his studies. Shortly after graduating from college, he married Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Brooke Lord Cobham. There are suggestions that he made the acquaintance of Anne Boleyn several years before his marriage

and after his marriage, there were rumors that he was her lover.

In 1524, Thomas Wyatt became the Esquire of the body of the King and appointed Clerk of the King's jewels. The following year he distinguished himself at a court tournament during Christmas and the following year 1526, he accompanied Sir Thomas Cheney to France on a diplomatic mission. In January 1527, Thomas Wyatt accompanied the ambassador Sir John Russell to the papal court in Italy. History has recorded a story that John Russell encountered Wyatt while traveling down the Thames River and Wyatt requested to accompany Russell on his journey. Russell responded "no man more welcome," and so Wyatt did accompany Russell on his assignment.

In December of the same year, Wyatt translated a work by Plutarch (46-120 A.D., Greek biographer and essayist); *Quiet of Mind*, for Queen Catherine as a New Years gift and published the following year.

During his travels, Wyatt visited Venice, Ferrara, Bologna, Florence, and Rome. While Russell was in Rome, he broke his leg and Wyatt assumed his responsibilities to negotiate on his behalf with the Venetian Republic. During his return journey to Rome, the Imperial forces captured him and a ransom demanded but Wyatt escaped to Bologna. Some early historians suggest that Wyatt's son accompanied him on this trip and developed a real hatred towards the Spanish because of his fathers' ill treatment.

In 1529 and 1530, Wyatt spent a great deal of his time in Calais where he served as High Marshal. It was also during this period that rumors continued about his relations with Anne Boleyn until King Henry VIII sought her for a wife. An early historian suggests that Wyatt confessed to the King of his past intimacies with her. There are no known ill results recorded of this confession to the King, and it appears that if there was a confession, Wyatt remained in good graces with the King.

In February 1533, Wyatt was robbed in Blofflensing, Cornwall though there are no other details known of the incident. Later the same year he became a member of the Privy Council and acted as chief 'ewerer' at Anne's coronation in place of his father and poured scented water over the Queen's hands.

The alleged past relationship Wyatt had with Anne Boleyn again caused him some turmoil when it was discovered that she was having extramarital affairs though this may have been a fabrication to justify a separation by any means of her marriage to Henry VIII because Anne had not given the King a male heir. Of course,

suspicious of Wyatt grew and later confined in the Tower on 5 May 1536. History has suggested that the reason for his imprisonment was to prevent him from acting on the side of the Queen. A few early historians suggest that his arrest was because of an argument he had with the Duke of Suffolk, but there were no legal proceedings brought against him and he was released on 14 June the same year. Unfortunately, Queen Anne Boleyn would not receive the same fate, and on 19 May 1536 at about eight in the morning, Anne was escorted to the Tower Green near the White Tower and in front of a large crowd, beheaded. Her body and head buried in the chapel of the Tower.

Speculation exists about Wyatt's affection for Anne and the sorrow at her loss contained in some of his poetry. One such example is the following sonnet:

Ye that in love find luck and sweet abundance,
And live in lust of joyful jollity,
Arise for shame, do way our sluggardy:
Arise, I say, do May some observance.
Let me in bed lie dreaming in mischance;
Let me remember my mishaps unhappy,
That me betide in May most commonly;
As one whom love list little to advance.
Stephan said true, that my nativity
Mischanced was with the ruler of May.
He guessed (I prove) of that the verity.
In May my wealth, and eke my wits, I say,
Have stond so oft in such perplexity:
Joy; let me dream of your felicity.
[Poetic Works of Thomas Wyatt, 5]

Because of Anne's execution in May, several attempts to implicate Wyatt in her misconduct resulted from his poetry. Another of many possible examples includes the last six lines of a sonnet:

Who list her hunt, I put him out of doubt
As well as I, may spend his time in vain!
And graven with diamonds in letters plain,
There is written her fair neck round about:
'Noli me tangere; for Caesar's I am,
And wild for to hold, though I seem tame.
[Poetic Works of Thomas Wyatt, xv]

It is possible to locate hidden meanings in this poetry such that

Wyatt had feelings for Anne, if a search is made with the intent to locate an attachment, platonic or otherwise. However, in reality, Anne and Wyatt were on different social levels and rank and above all Wyatt was at the time married and had a son from that marriage. No evidence is known to exist that could prove that Wyatt and Anne Boleyn had any type of relationship. Had any proof existed at the time, it seems logical that the King would not have released him from prison. Later that year, proof that Wyatt remained in the King's favor is clear by the command he was given against the rebels in the Northern rebellion where he supplied one hundred fifty men to serve from the county of Kent and supplied two hundred men who would be appointed to serve "upon the King's own person."

In March 1537, the King sent Thomas Wyatt to replace the sick resident ambassador with the Emperor Charles V of Spain and on 12 March, Wyatt received instructions on how to address various matters including how to address the French King's ambassador on several subjects. The main intention of his mission was to alleviate the animosities the Emperor fostered against King Henry because of his divorce from Catherine of Aragon. There are no known surviving correspondences from this mission, but it appears that the King approved of Wyatt's conduct.

There are some suggestions by early historians that Wyatt received his knighthood on Easter Day 16 April 1536, but the king addressed him as Esquire in correspondence of the period. Furthermore, on 5 September of the same year, King Henry VIII issued a grant to Sir Arthur Darcy and Thomas Wyatt, Esquire of the royal body. On 12 March 1537, Wyatt received instructions while a resident ambassador to the Emperor as Thomas Wyatt, Esquire. In two letters dated 6 June of the same year, one from Cromwell who chastised him for not writing more often and updating him with events at home (including news that the King was in high spirits because the Queen was pregnant), and the second from Wriothesely sending conduct recommendations, both address Wyatt as "Sir" and not as Esquire. Perhaps he received his knighthood just before he left England.

In late June of the same year, Wyatt and his company traveled along the borders of Spain while en route to Barcelona, where a servant of Wyatt complained in a letter to England of the rough treatment they received. The servant mentioned they were treated like Jews: their luggage searched and they were charged for everything unworn. Wyatt complained to their ill handlers and threatened to mention the incident to the Emperor, but it did not matter to the

men; they replied, "If Christ or St. Francis came with all their flock, they should not escape."

King Henry VIII wrote a long letter to Wyatt in early October of the same year containing further advice on the handling of various matters and stated his approval of how Wyatt handled matters so far. Cromwell wrote also and among the topics discussed was Wyatt's mediation between the Emperor and the French King. Cromwell also mentions that he "...will see that you receive your diet and post money and to be your friend so that your enemies, if you have any, shall gain little by your absence."

On 12 October, Thomas Wyatt received instructions from England to inform the Emperor of the very good news: the Queen had given birth to a son and heir to the kingdom. Edward the Prince of Wales was born on 11 October and the King finally had an heir to the throne, but his rejoicing and celebrations soon turned to sorrow as his wife Jane Seymour died on 24 October of the same year.

It was at about this point in time during his travels abroad that Wyatt wrote a couple of letters of advice to his son upon learning of his marriage to Jane, daughter of Sir William Hawte, during the year 1537. These letters are included in the following chapter about his son.

The King continued to search for a suitable bride and he clearly indicated that he would chose a woman by himself and must be comfortable with her. Henry received intriguing information about a girl, Christina, the second daughter of the deposed Christian II of Denmark and niece of the Emperor of Spain, who at the time was sixteen. In January 1538, the King instructed Thomas Wyatt the Elder, still a resident with the Emperor, to suggest her to be his bride. However, Wyatt was to make the suggestion as his own, to motivate the Emperor to offer her to Henry, but he eventually did not choose her and remained unmarried for almost another year and a half.

In early March of 1539, King Henry VIII wrote a letter to Thomas Wyatt with instructions on topics to discuss with the Emperor, which included informing the Emperor that relations between the King and the Bishop of Rome were tense and that there could no longer be a treaty. Henry also requested that Wyatt be patient, as his return in March was deferred until April.

On 12 April, King Henry VIII wrote to Wyatt informing him that Richard Tate would be his replacement and he wrote the Emperor of the changes. On 24 April, the King wrote to inform Wyatt that Tate had departed England and he had informed the emperor of the

changes. Tate may have temporarily replaced Wyatt or assumed his duties for a short period, allowing Wyatt to return to England to take care of personal matters before returning to his duties abroad.

In early June of the same year, the Emperor and the King of France had an interview with the Pope in Nice, and Wyatt was present at the event. The Emperor sent Wyatt to England to obtain Henry's instructions soon after. However, Wyatt was delayed on his arrival and unable to rejoin the Emperor within the fifteen-day allotment for his travel and had to meet up with him in Barcelona. Wyatt returned to Paris with the Emperor and wrote to his King on 2 December informing him of the meeting with the King of France and stating that peace negotiations were going well. Furthermore, the Emperor was pleased.

On 7 January 1540, Wyatt wrote a very long letter to his King. He mentioned that he and Richard Tate were together in Paris where they were attempting to question a man who escaped before they arrived at his house, and that Wyatt injured his leg but saved several letters that the man had thrown into the fire before he slipped out the back door. In the same letter, Wyatt describes an interesting conversation he had with the Emperor regarding the Inquisition and of some questions Wyatt had regarding proper English behavior; he had never seen the Emperor so vehement and imperious regarding the Inquisition.

The majority of the remaining official correspondence to or from Wyatt rarely offers any insight into Wyatt himself and only describes the events that took place. The following letter gives a rare example of one of Wyatt's attributes, his generosity. The letter was to Wyatt from Cromwell, written in the early months of 1540.

I advise you to take patiently your abode there until April, and to send me word what money ye shall need to have sent unto you, for I shall help you. Assuring you that I could not see you that went, and hath abided there honestly furnished, to return home, and at the latter end return needy and disfurnished. I do better tender the King's honour, and do esteem you better than so to suffer you to lack. Advising you, nevertheless, that I think your gentle frank heart doth much impoverish you. When you have money, you are content to depart with it and lend it, as you did lately two hundred ducats to Mr. Hobby, the which I think had no need of them; for he had large furnishment of money at his departure hence, and likewise at his return. We accustom not to send men disprovided so far.