

● "You goofed on 16th Century history by saying Christmas was restored in 1554 by Mary, Queen of Scots! (Short Questions, January issue.)

"You are obviously referring to Mary Tudor, daughter of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon, who reigned from 1553 to 1558, and earned the nickname 'Bloody Mary' because of her persecution of non-Catholics."

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Our apologies for copyreader's error. Mary Tudor is right. She deserves the infamous title, "Bloody Mary," and it was her zeal which reinstated the pagan custom of Christmas and New Year's observance after a twelve-year interregnum.

To set readers straight, we quote the *Protestant Dictionary*, page 209:

"Mary (1553-1558), aided by a sympathetic episcopate, and by a House of Commons secured to her side, repealed all Edward's doctrinal reforms in one week (1553), all Henry's constitutional in another (1554), but when she sought to eradicate the Scripture doctrine by the stake" (religious persecution) "she brought upon herself the condemnation of history and the appellation, 'Bloody Mary.'"