

William submit (see the earlier section "All (fairly) quiet on the Scottish Front" for details), and locked Eleanor up. Then he met the boys. There were lots of tears and manly hugs, and Henry agreed to give the boys a bit more pocket money. So that was all right then.

✓ **Henry vs. Young Henry, Round Two:** Young Henry was getting into debt, and his dad refused to bail him out. So Young Henry started plotting another rebellion. This time Richard stuck by his dad, but Geoffrey joined in and so did the new King of France, Philip Augustus. Henry won again (You win again!), and Young Henry had to run away. And he died. Dysentery. Very sad.

Henry now had to do some re-jigging of his will. Geoffrey could keep Brittany, but Henry wanted Richard to give up Aquitaine to John (because, duh, Richard was going to be getting England and Normandy and Anjou - everything Young Henry had been down for, in fact). But Richard had become very attached to Aquitaine (he was very close to his mum), and he decided he didn't trust his father. So that led to the battle between Henry and Richard; see the next bullet item.

✓ **Henry vs. Richard:** Richard got together with French King Philip Augustus and ambushed Henry after a peace conference to try to sort everything out. Henry escaped to Anjou (his home), but then came the Bad News. John had joined in the rebellion. John! Henry's favourite, the one he had always felt closest to. And the whole quarrel had started because he was trying to get John some land. It broke Henry's heart. And killed him.



St Thomas à Becket

Who won, Henry or Becket? Henry, you might think, since the man who had plagued him was now gone. But if it's hearts and minds you're after, then Becket won hands down. Priests do get murdered, but killing an archbishop in his own cathedral was going way too far, even for the twelfth century. Henry had to pay a harsh penance: He was stripped naked while the monks of Canterbury whipped him mercilessly. Becket became St Thomas of Canterbury, and his shrine in Canterbury Cathedral became one of the most popular places of pilgrimages in England. It's where Chaucer's pilgrims in *Canterbury Tales* were all heading, nearly two hundred years later.

English kings weren't very fond of St Thomas, however. He had defied the King, and they didn't want other people getting ideas. Henry VIII had Becket's shrine destroyed and told everyone to scratch out St Thomas's face from any picture of him they might have in their local churches. You can still see these defaced Becketts to this day. And to add real insult to injury, the French playwright Jean Anouilh wrote a play about Becket which has him as a Saxon. That would really have had him spinning inside his shrine!

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