- It was Dudley who had shown decisive leadership in defeating the Norfolk rebels in August 1549 and as a result he gained the support of the nobility in London and East Anglia.
- Dudley represented all the qualities that Somerset didn’t. He was decisive and at this period in time didn’t take the support of the nobility for granted. Somerset’s over-inflated opinion as to his own abilities were in stark contrast to Dudley and consequently led to his swift fall from power.

- Character and Personality of Edward
  - Quite vindictive! One of the few times he is known to have laughed is when a jester fell off a high rope.
  - 1st October 1549, Somerset has been altered that his rue faced a serious threat. He issued a proclamation calling for assistance, took possession of the King’s person and withdrew for safety to the fortified Windsor castle, where Edward wrote “me thinks I am in prison”.
  - Only written reference Edward made to the execution of Somerset was “the Duke of Somerset had his head cut off upon Tower Hill between eight and nine o’clock this morning”.
  - Edward openly criticised Somerset, which some historians have argued sealed his fate as he fell out of favour with the king.

Was Somerset a good Lord Protector?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Bad</th>
<th>Overall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>SHORT TERM</td>
<td>LONG TERM</td>
<td>DEPENDS ON WHETHER ITS LONG TERM OR SHORT TERM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Dissolution of the Chantries, lead to a large income.</td>
<td>- Heightened inflation by debasing the coinage.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Raised money through debasement of the currency.</td>
<td>- Spent Ints to • Currency.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Not financially secure.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Didn’t reform anything.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign</td>
<td>Improved prestige during wars e.g. Battle of Pinkie</td>
<td>Expensive war against Scotland</td>
<td>NEGATIVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fortification of Boulogne</td>
<td>- £580,393 spent on the war.</td>
<td>Spent too much money without achieving anything of great significance.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- France declared war on England on 8th August 1549.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Failed to take Edinburgh and Dunbar whilst failing to block the Firth of the Forth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>- Appeased the Gentry (sort of)</td>
<td>- Vagrancy Act of 1547, wasn’t harsh enough and wasn’t enforced.</td>
<td>NEGATIVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Anti-Enclosure, which was influenced by church and intellectuals.</td>
<td>- Continued with enclosure, which led to rebellions.</td>
<td>Too good meaning he got a reputation as a poor man’s best friend, losing some of the Feudal systems influence on people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Too good meaning he got a reputation as a poor man’s best friend.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Allowed the peasants to think they could rise above the Feudal System</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Moderate Changes</td>
<td>Moderate Changes</td>
<td>DEPENDS ON HOW YOU</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preview from Notesale.co.uk  Page 7 of 18
Northumberland is bad  

(revisionist interpretation focuses on their ability and leadership)

Somerset – Good Duke
- Established a court of requests at his own house in London that he might hear cases of the poor
- Refused to sign warrants for torture or burnings
- Had a progressive social policy, abolishing enclosure and fixing rents
- Criticised wealthy men

Northumberland – Evil Duke
- Involved in the Coup in 1549
- Ordered the arrest and execution of Somerset
- Two faced on religion; posed as a Catholic for the coup, after he became a radical Protestant, then repented back to Catholicism on the scaffold (before he was executed)
- Attempted to change succession so he retained power

Policy Evaluation

Foreign Policy

What he inherited
- On going issues with Scotland over suzerainty
- France was an expensive drain on finances, that wasn’t necessarily sustainable long term, especially Boulogne (which was captured by Henry VIII in 1544, defences had been virtually destroyed and needed to be rebuilt completely)

France
- During the Western and Kett Rebellions, the French (now under control of Henry II) had attacked Boulogne
- They succeed in cutting supply route between Calais and Boulogne, but England retained control of the channel

Northumberland’s situation
- the country was bankrupt
- he needed support in court
- had little support from Charles V (Holy Roman Empire)

The Treaty of Boulogne – 28th March 1550
- England gave up control of Boulogne for 400,000 crowns, or £133,333
- Marriage agreed between Edward and Elizabeth (Henry II’s daughter)...this never happens
- England to pull troops out of Scotland
- England and France form defensive pact
- England abandoned claim to French throne

A national humiliation?
- The capture of Boulogne had been one of the few victories under Henry VIII
- Its return was damaging to national pride

A clever move?
- Saved significant funds by no longer having to maintain an irrelevant outpost (Henry was dead, not a major issue any more)
- The French paid a lump sum of £133,333 for its return; England was bankrupt
24 November 1552

42 Articles Submitted

They were issued by the Government on 9 June 1553, but never became parliamentary law. They were based on Crammer’s ideas.

This articles were strongly Protestant, being based on the doctrine of justification by faith alone and, loosely, on Calvin’s belief predestination. The 42 Articles became the basis for the 39 articles in Elizabeth’s reign.

1553

Short catechism was produced (without parliamentary approval)

A catechism was a manual for teaching the main beliefs of the Church. It was written in a question-and-answer format

Luther and Calvin had produced catechisms.

Why is it important?

- **Good Duke vs Bad Duke**
  - where the Duke’s acting in the interest of the public or themselves?
- **The issue of succession**
  - Edward wasn’t married and had no heir, Mary (a Catholic) was officially next in line to the English throne.
  - Northumberland’s attempt to put Protestant Lady Jane Grey on the throne is a strong argument for ‘evil Duke’

Geographical Issues

- The ports of Kent, East Sussex, Essex, Bristol and East Anglia had small entrenched Protestant minorities
- However, even in London, which was arguably Protestantism’s strongest area, it was still small. Susan Bridges claims that in 1547 only 1/5 of Londoners were Protestant
- In areas of the North, especially Lancashire and the Midlands, Catholic survivalists still remained popular.

The importance of Parish records

- Parish records have been used by historians to argue what the ‘ordinary person’ believed, by looking at wills and accounts
- It shows the historians how quickly they have adapted to the requirements of the crown

The historiography of these records

- *Ronald Hutton and Robert Whitting* have suggested that these records point to a significant drop in expenditure on church goods after 1540. A sign that changes were taking place
- However, *Haigh* argues that it is merely a reaction to the destructive policies of the crown, and that people saw little point in donating to the church as it would be confiscated anyway

The use of wills (only few people at the time would have wills)

- Very few wills remain from this time period and in reality only a minority existed in the first place. However, it was possible to make deductions of religious belief on declarations of faith and how it was written
- According to *Haigh*, 70% of Northern wills left money to the church between 1540-1546; while of 32% did during the reign of Edward

What can we deduce from this information?

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