|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The children were seen shooting and playing in the garden until the Easter after the King died. After Easter there was much whispering among the people that the Brother had to put the children to death. | Written a few years after the Cousin became King, some people believed that the Knight decided that the Princes should be murdered in their beds. It is said that he ordered Two Men to smother the princes with a pillow and bury them at the bottom of the stairs. | The Knight was executed by the Cousin for treason. Before his execution he was tortured and confessed to the murder of the boys, on the Brother’s orders. |
| The Brother who became King wanted a Knight to carry out his wishes. | The Cousin had always been loyal to his brother the King and had fought alongside him. | Murdering the princes would have been bad for the Brother’s reputation. It would have been difficult to cover up. |
| During the Knight’s life he confessed that the Princes were smuggled abroad. | A later historian wrote: “The Brother had no reason to kill them. The Cousin had every reason. The Cousin was capable of such a crime, so they were murdered quietly.” | The Cousin had a distant claim to be king. When he defeated the Brother he also had the Brother’s son executed as he could have claimed the throne. |
| The Prince’s Mother may have trusted the Brother and never accused him of murder. It is believed when the Cousin married the Mother’s eldest daughter, he sent the Mother to a nunnery. | There were many rumours at the time. Some said that the two boys had fallen off a bridge. Other said that the eldest Prince had become ill and died a naturally and that the Young Prince was taken abroad. | When the Cousin became king he gave land and important jobs to the Knight and the Two Men. |
| The Cousin would never have become king if the boys had survived as they would have been directly in line to the throne. | The Brother proved that the eldest Prince could not become king as his Mother and the King were not legally married at the time the Prince was born. | There was a rebellion against the Brother, to remove him from the throne and restore the Prince to the throne. With the Princes still alive, the Brother felt threatened. |
| The Brother was the Prince’s Protector. A Lord Protector is someone that rules the country if the rightful king is a child. | As their Protector, the Brother had the princes under the guard of his men in the White Tower. |  |