

How convincing is the interpretation about Edward I and Scotland?

An interpretation of King Edward I and Scotland.

Adapted from 'Edward I' by John Chancellor, 1981.

Was the Scottish King a vassal of the English King? This question, known as the "Great Cause", obsessed Edward I. When dealing with Scotland, Edward showed his insensitivity and brutality. Some claim his short-sighted Scottish policy disqualifies him from being seen as a great king. Just when he needed to concentrate on defeating France, he risked the safety and prosperity of England in order to humiliate a weak but mainly friendly Scotland. His mistaken toughness on Scotland created an impossible situation.