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20 March [1532]
Vienna Archives

879. CHAPUYS TO CHARLES V.

Since answering the Emperor's letter of the 18th Feb., has received his letter of the 9th, from Mayence. The Queen is greatly consoled by the Emperor's remembrance of her, and the affection he shows her in her pitiable condition. She does not expect a good result without the Emperor's aid, [413] in consequence of the continual delays and calumnies of those who boast that when the Emperor is in Spain they will do with the Pope and the others what they please. She has, therefore, charged Chapuys to write to the Pope to hasten the sentence.

Will continue to send English news to the queen of Hungary and Mons. de Likerke (Liedekerke).

The King has been at the Parliament three times lately, and has played his part so that the article about the annates has been passed. All the bishops and two abbots opposed it. The lords (les grans), who were about thirty, all consented, except the earl of Arundel, so that the majority was for the King. The matter was decided yesterday. Hopes this disorder will not prejudice the Queen's affair, which has not yet been mentioned in Parliament. Nothing else of importance has been concluded, but on Saturday their intention will be known, as then the States will be prorogued (*licenciez*) till after St. George's Day.

Yesterday the safe-conduct was granted to the Scotch ambassadors who are going to France, for a bishop and a secretary, and not for other lords. The Scotch herald¹ will return today, accompanied by an English herald.

Two days ago, went, by order of the queen of Hungary, to speak to the duke of Norfolk about compensation for men of Dunkirk who had been plundered at sea. The Duke gave him certain hope of compensation, but said it could not be settled till after the Parliament, with which he is completely occupied. The French ambassador is more annoyed at this delay than Chapuys is, as they do not give him such good hope. His claim from the same pirates amounts to more than 10,000 fr., but the whole loss sustained by the Emperor's subjects is only 200 fr. The Duke hardly let Chapuys finish his complaint before beginning to speak of the coming of the Turk, which he said was certain. He said also that the French king had made a fair offer for resistance against the Turk, if his terms were accepted, which were, that the Emperor should return his ransom, or remit to him the kingdom of Naples, which he would defend. Replied that he could not say more than he had already done, and that the French king was too virtuous and prudent to make such proposals while he and the Emperor were perfect friends. Norfolk said he thought so too, and that the news had not come from a good source; but there was other news more certain, that the Swiss had granted the French king 10,000 foot. Asked what he wanted them for? The Duke said "Perhaps to resist the Turk."

The King has had a preacher arrested for preaching in the Great Church against the divorce. On being examined by the Council he said he was moved to do so by the truth, the service of God, and the honor of the King. Is informed that the King has ordered preachers generally to support his cause. One tried to begin in the bishopric of cardinal Campeggio, but the women and others would have treated him very ill, if it had not been for the authority of justice.

The King lately sent a post to Rome. Another will go today to frighten the Pope about the annates, and to bribe cardinals and others with money and benefices. London, 20 March '32.

Fr. From a modern copy.

1 Bute Pursuivant?