

**From** *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, vol. 5: 1531-1532*, edited by James Gairdner. London: Her Majesty's Stationary Office, 1880, pp. 100-101.

29 April [1531]  
Vienna Archives

**216. CHAPUYS TO CHARLES V.**

Since my last La Guiche has left. His departure was delayed 10 days longer than he expected; during which time John Joachin and he were ordered into court, and had long consultations with the King and his Council. I have not been able to ascertain particulars, but I am told it was about the pensions and payments, and the renewal ("renchange") of the commission which the said Joachin had had; and also that if the French king was to have an interview with your Majesty the King should be present. In which and all other things, I believe, La Guiche will do his best, considering the presents and good treatment given him here, and the King will not be satisfied if he do not succeed better than Joachin has done. Ever since Joachin's return the King and his Council have begun to mistrust France, both from his report and from letters received from Rome and France; for which reason, within the last few days two of the Council, viz., the treasurer and controller, spoke to him roundly and in very plain terms in the Queen's favor. The duke of Suffolk also speaks his opinion about it, showing the great need this kingdom has of living in peace and amity with the Emperor, whose goodness he highly extols. To the Duke no answer was made; but the two others were told they did not understand the matter, or know what they were [101] talking about. Norfolk was not in the company, for he had gone home to his house, where he is at present.

Talking of the Council with John Joachin lately, he spoke of the necessity of holding it, and that the King his master desired it; nevertheless, that it was believed in France that it would not take place, because the Pope, with all his fair show (*belles mines*), would resist it with all his power, and that to this effect his Holiness had set forth various inconveniences, among others that the Council would perhaps usurp authority over the Holy See, which is against all reason, and besides it seemed superfluous, because the errors of the Lutherans were already reproved by ancient Councils, so that it was not necessary to take counsel, but to punish the transgressors. The same was said the day before yesterday by the Venetian ambassador at court, and moreover that the Pope, if the Council took place, would like it to confine itself to certain articles, a sign that his Holiness has no desire to come to the point. The said Ambassador was asked about the descent of the Turk, and replied that there was no appearance of it; though they wanted to persuade him to the contrary, and that already a great number of the said Turks have arrived, who had quite recently routed the forces of the king of the Romans; and that although what the Ambassador said might be true, the neighbours [of the Turk] must not be too confident, because the delay was only to enable him to come next year in greater force; and that if your Majesty and the Pope did not take measures against the Turk, it was to be feared they were hoarding their money to avenge their old quarrels against the Signory. These things were declared to him first openly by Suffolk and Wiltshire, and afterwards by the King a little between his teeth. Your Majesty may judge of their intention.

The Princess has not yet quite recovered from her stomach attack, but it is not serious. She wrote lately to the King that no medicine could do her so much good as seeing him and the Queen, and desired his licence to visit them both at Greenwich. This has been refused her, to gratify the lady, who hates her as much as the Queen, or more so, chiefly because she sees the King has some affection for her. Of late when the King praised her in the lady's presence the latter was very angry, and began to vituperate the Princess very strangely. **She becomes more arrogant every day, using words and authority towards the King, of which he has several times complained to the duke of Norfolk, saying that she was not like the Queen, who had never in her life used ill words to him. The duchess of Norfolk has reported this to the Queen, telling her moreover that her husband was in marvellous sorrow and tribulation, and that she saw quite well she**

**would be considered the ruin of all her family, and that if God wished that she should continue in her fantasy it would be a very good thing for the Queen.**

In confirmation of what I have hitherto written to your Majesty, viz., that the King claimed to be sovereign over his clergy, I may mention that a good man preaching before the King, and referring to the story that Constantine refused to judge a dispute between two bishops, as it did not belong to a secular prince to do so, the King, who might have warned the preacher after the sermon, and made him retract, lost patience, and, opening the window of his oratory, told him in a loud voice to get on and not tell such falsehoods. The preacher, in all reverence, told him he did not think he was telling falsehoods in relating what he could show in various histories; on which the King turned his back and went away displeased. The Jew whom the King sent for from Italy has sent several times to me to justify himself, saying he has done better service than is supposed, and expects at his return to kiss your Majesty's hands; of whom, in passing, you may learn some particulars. Speaks again of his necessities. London, 29 April.

*Fr., hol., pp. 3, from a modern copy.*