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22 Jan. [1532]
Vienna Archives

737. CHAPUYS TO CHARLES V.

Parliament will open on the 16th. It is summoned principally for the divorce, and to ask money from the laity; but nothing has yet been proposed, and they will probably temporise until they have news from France and Rome. Almost all the great lords, spiritual and temporal, will be present, except the bishop of Durham, one of the Queen's champions, who has not been summoned. It is said that the bishop of Rochester is not summoned, but he will come with the intention of boldly speaking the truth about the divorce to the King. On hearing of his arrival, the King sent to say he was glad of it, and wished to speak with him; but he, fearing lest the King might forbid him to speak about the divorce, presented himself to the King just as he was going to mass; and though he was well received, he left before the end, to avoid any conversation. He thanks the Emperor for his message, and offers his services. He begs Chapuys to write to him only in cypher. **The son of the Princess's governess,¹ who refused the archbishopric of York because he would not adopt the King's opinions, could not obtain licence to study abroad until the other day. He told the King that if he remained here he must attend Parliament, and if the divorce were discussed he must speak according to his conscience. On this, the King immediately gave him leave to go, and promised to continue his income of 400 ducats, and to allow him to retain his benefices.**

Last week the King sent out three ships, well equipped with artillery, and with 150 marines in each, in pursuit of some ships belonging to the king of Denmark, which have taken some English merchantmen. The new ambassador to the Emperor² will start in a few days. Does not know why they are discontented with the present ambassador.³ This man is one of the doctors who was at Bologna with the earl of Wiltshire, on whom and his daughter he depends entirely. He has written in favor of the divorce, and was one of the translators of the King's book. Expects he will be ordered to obtain opinions from the German universities, whether Lutheran or otherwise. If he has no better future than the Augustinian Lutherans (*les Lutheriens Augustins*), whom the King caused to come here with a safeconduct, he will not do much. The said Lutheran (*le dit Lutherien*⁴) returned as he came, with much ill-will from the English.

Judging from what Wiltshire said the day before yesterday, they expect that if the Emperor does not leave for Germany before Candlemas, he will go by sea to Spain, which they wish.

Hears that the King intends to make Wiltshire a duke, to enhance the alliance.

Jean Jocquin had been asked by the King not to leave until the return of the bishop of Winchester; but he left yesterday, either in consequence of orders from France, or because the English thought he might help the said Bishop. On taking leave of Chapuys, he would not speak clearly, and assured him that he knew nothing more of the Bishop's charge than Pommeraye had said. Pommeraye accompanied Jocquin, and spoke of the peace and union of Christendom, with praises for the Emperor's wish for the preservation thereof, which would be easy, were it not for the dissensions caused by "ce diable de Pape." London, 22 Jan. 1532.

Fr. From a modern copy.

1 Reginald Pole, the son of the countess of Salisbury.

2 It does not appear that any new ambassador was really sent to the Emperor for some time after this date.

3 Sir Thomas Elyot.

4 See No. 593.