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11 Aug. [1534]
Vienna Archives

1057. CHAPUYS TO CHARLES.

The day after the date of my last the Scotch ambassador came to dine with me, and besides confirming what he had sent to tell me by my man, said many things tending to show the singular affection and confidence his king and realm had in your majesty. He gave me to understand that neither his master nor the kingdom was much disappointed at not having the daughter of France, hoping to make alliance with your majesty, which is the thing they always have desired most, although they have not been able to declare it hitherto on account of their treaty with France, and that the king of France had hitherto excused himself by the age of his daughter, but that now, when that excuse no longer availed, the King his master had shown to the French ambassador the treaties and made the requisite protestations, “quilz remeunent (?), car soubdainement il en vouloit envoyer a vostre majeste.” I held favorable language to him generally, and coming to the matter of the marriage pointed out the great good it would be if his master tried to obtain the Princess; which he acknowledged, if there were any hope of success. He said also, that at his departure from the King his master's court, there was no news of the person sent by your majesty, nor of the movements in Ireland, which might open the eyes of their men, especially one of their earls, who is one of the nearest to Ireland, and one of the most warlike lords in Scotland, having under him at all times Wild Scots who are friends of the said Irish. He could not tell me if the King his master had any intelligence with the said Irish, although he thought he had. He also said that when peace was last treated of, the commissioners of this king had proposed that his master should renounce the right he claimed in Ireland, but it was not listened to. Among other news brought by the bishop¹ who last came from Ireland, it is mentioned that the archbishop of Dublin, chancellor of Ireland, was going to cross the Channel, when, the wind being contrary, he was driven back to some port where, as there was a fortress, he expected to be in security, but he and all his company fell into the hands of Kildare's son and his adherents, and to avoid trouble and expense he was put to death, with all his company, except two persons, who are thought to be the wealthiest of that country, and who paid a ransom. An Irishman has also told me that the said Kildare had taken four or five towns. The King, as I know from good authority, has not for a long time been so much troubled as by the news brought by the said bishop, to whom Cromwell utters a thousand reproaches, charging him with treason for leaving Ireland at a time when the Irish ought to be maintained in loyalty and obedience to the King, and moreover, when his departure might give rise to many surmises and scandals. I am told he keeps the said bishop under arrest, I know not whether to punish him or to prevent the news being made public. Three days after the said bishop's arrival, Skeffington, the deputy of Ireland, left with his train to go thither, and next day the vessel with the artillery set sail. Many think the said Deputy and ship will not escape the hands of the enemies. It seems as if the King wishes to destroy Ireland, as he does not make provision of men, and sends such a governor who is the most incompetent for such a charge that could be chosen. It is said that the same Kildare has a following of 20,000 men, [413] and that more come to him every day, and that even from Wales and Scotland there have come some; which would be a great thing if it were so, but he ought to help your majesty and his Holiness, of which I have twice written to Cifuentes, in order that he may show his Holiness that all this is done in behalf of the faith and of the Holy See.

Eight days ago there was sent thither a copy of a letter written from Rome on 26th ult., addressed to the French king, stating that the Pope had, 12 days previously, been so ill that he had declined all business except touching the preparation of his soul, and after

¹ “Bishop” is probably an error. The news must have been brought by Rie. Rawson, archdeacon of Essex. *See* No. 1045.

the King's council and the ambassador of France had discussed the matter two days, the said ambassador and Cromwell despatched a courier in all haste to Rome, although they have spread a report that he was not going beyond Lyons, and today Gregory de Casal is to leave to follow the said courier in post and from Rome to go to Venice. Nothing is known of their charge. I cannot find out that those of Lubeck have treated anything here except matters relating to the faith, unless perhaps they have asked money to restore king Christiern to Denmark. The Venetian ambassador came to me yesterday and asked what order had been taken that Venetian merchants might obtain wool from Spain, since those here make a difficulty about it, besides illtreating the merchants. He told me besides that he had written to Venice, advising strongly that they should pass such an edict as was lately made in France, as I wrote to your majesty in my last. I spoke to him encouragingly, and he left well pleased.

Of seven houses of Observants, five have been already emptied of friars, because they have refused to swear to the statutes made against the Pope. Those in the two others expect also to be expelled. London, 11 Aug. 1534.

Fr., pp. 4. From a modern copy.