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28 Feb. [1532]
Vienna Archives

832. CHAPUYS TO CHARLES V.

Since writing last the King has proposed to Parliament to withdraw the annates paid to the Pope for vacant benefices, and have them paid to him as sovereign of the ecclesiastics in his kingdom; also to abolish the papal right of collection. The prelates would not consent. The King sent to tell the Nuncio that these measures were not taken by his consent, but were moved by the people, who hated the Pope marvellously, and that if his Holiness would do something for him he would thank him well, and do wonders against the Turks, but otherwise he would do nothing.

On going to see the duke of Norfolk for the despatch of the deputies for the diet about the treaty, who left the day before yesterday, he showed me eight or ten plans for fortifying and rebuilding places on the Scotch frontier, among them a plan for a citadel to be built at Berwick like that at Tournay. He boasted that that town would soon be one of the strongest places in Christendom. I do not know whether they really have any fear from that side, or whether it is merely a pretext for asking money from the people. Perhaps there are both reasons.

The Scotch king-of-arms is still soliciting the safeconduct of the ambassadors whom his master wishes to send to France. They are a bishop and two of the chief lords of Scotland.

The herald's host tells me that they are going to ask one of the French king's daughters in marriage for the Scotch king, which this King wishes to prevent.

The Queen sent to say that she had heard that the King was sure that the Pope would prolong the cause till your Majesty went to Spain, and, if so, she despaired of her case. She has therefore charged me to beg your Majesty to ask the Pope to decide the case, for she has suffered as much as she can bear. Nothing has been settled in the Parliament. London, penult. Feb. '32.

Fr. From a modern copy.