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16 April [1534]
Vienna Archives

490. CHAPUYS TO CHARLES V.

Since my last of the 12th nothing imporant has occurred; so I shall not make this long, especially as I do not know if it can go securely. On Sunday last the deputy of Calais opened the budgets of two couriers coming from Flanders, let one of them go, as his letters were only mercantile, but sent the other on in company with a gentleman, to whom his packet was consigned addressed to him in a new cover. This gentleman with the courier arrived two days ago, and as nothing has yet been said to me about it. I have this morning sent to speak to Cromwell, who replied to my man that what the Deputy had done was owing to some strange words used by the said courier, and that as to the said packet, on his honer and conscience it had not been touched, but would be sent to me tonight, with such apologies that I should be satisfied. Nevertheless I think they will have some work to excuse it. The pretext they have put forward is not probable, because if the courier had been taken for words that he had spoken, there would have been no occasion to examine his budget.

The Scotch ambassadors have much communication with those here, and besides being frequently at Court. Cromwell and the Chancellor often go to visit them at their lodgings, where they will dine today. It is said that one of them will go shortly to the King their master to settle matters (*pour estraindre les affaires*), and some say that there is talk of a meeting of the king of Scotland beyond sea with the French king and the King line, which I do not believe unless there be first an agreement between the said king of Scotland and this King, who is very suspicious of the French in this matter. One of the said aid *** has of late twice sent to tell me that he had done nothing yet and that he would come to see me, but the said communications have prevented him, and I suspect there is some commencement of a treaty. **I am told this morning that the bishop of Rochester, the late Chancellor and several other good men have been sent to the Tower because they have refused to swear to the statutes lately made**, and in this fear the mayor and governors of this city have today been compelled to sweer. London, 16 April 1534.

Fr., pp. 2. From a modern copy.