779. Bishop of Mâcon to Francis I.

The Pope asked him to write to Francis to use all his influence with Henry in favor of the bp. of Rochester. Replied that he would write in that sense, but feared it would be of little use; for the Imperialists were saying that the creation of Fisher had been at the request of the king of France—hoping by such speeches to make Henry suspicious of Francis. If the latter should now intercede for Fisher, the suspicions would be confirmed, and the request might be refused. The Pope was greatly distressed, and declared himself ready to pass a formal attestation that he had not been requested by any prince to make Fisher a cardinal. If he had done so it was merely on account of his fame for virtue and learning, and rather with the intention of pleasing the King than from any ill-feeling towards him.

*Hol., Fr., partly cipher. Abstract by Mr. Friedmann.*