

A.D. 1577.

But the party having no other matter to charge him withal, I caused to be released.

*Draft. Endd. 1½ pp. [Holl. and Fland. II. 108.]*

- Sept. 19. **236.** INSTRUCTIONS to the PRELATES of VELLIERS and MARVILLES, the SENESCHAL of HAINAULT, M. DE FRESIN, and M. DE CAPRES, with regard to the matters of which they have to treat with the PRINCE of ORANGE.

To go to Antwerp and present to the Prince the congratulations of the Estates-General assembled at Brussels.

To thank him for the trouble he has taken in restoring the country to tranquillity, and delivering it from the more than barbarous tyranny of Spaniards and other strangers.

To pray him to come to Brussels as soon as possible.

To point out that the Estates have entire confidence in him, and pray that neither on his part nor on that of his followers may anything be done to cause scandal or ill example against the Catholic religion, and that he will agree as soon as possible to give satisfaction to the towns not yet satisfied.

And with regard to the last request made to his Excellency touching power for the Catholics to exercise their religion in Holland and Zealand without hindrance, that he will further a favourable answer by the Estates of those provinces, according to the good hope which the Estates-General have thereof.—Brussels, 19 Sept. 1577.

By order of the Estates. (*Signed*) Cornelius Weellemans.

*Copy. Fr. 1½ p. [Ibid. II. 109.]*

- Sept. 19. **237.** *Another copy of the same. 1 p. [Ibid. II. 110.]*

- Sept. 19. **238.** The ESTATES to the PRINCE of ORANGE.

Letter of credence for the Deputies above-mentioned; with expression of the Estates' wish to "*bienveignir*" his Excellency, and to see him at Brussels as soon as may be.

*Copy. Fr. ½ p. [Ibid. II. 111.]*

- 239.** A. HESSELS, Pensionary of Bois-le-Duc, to the STATES-GENERAL.

- Sept. 19. M. de Champagny having, on the 16th and 17th of this month, found himself on terms of such difference with the four companies of Germans at Bois-le Duc that we regarded everything as broken down, and having yesterday gone so far in agreement as to promise them five months in money and one in cloth, to be paid outside the town, two months immediately after their departure,