

A.D. 1572.

hope in Germany of the election of the Elector of Brandenburg as King of Poland; and that the Ambassador of Spain gives out that Zutphen was taken on the 15th ult. The Legate's doings are kept very secret, in so much that his secretary is not made acquainted with them; for avoiding suspicion the Ambassador of Spain has no great conference with him, but by a third person named L'Angioletto auditore della ruota, who passes daily to and fro between them, on whom the Pope lays the chiefest weight of this legation in respect of his wisdom and experience. The Duke of Savoy's repair hither makes men think that the amity between France and Spain is like to grow great, for he is termed L'Ame du roy D'Espagne, and that therefore the matters in treaty are of great weight. The doubt of the Turk's great preparation for next year is a great bridle to their intentions, and they make great offers to draw to an accord. The Venetians have been these two years past at the charge of 800,000 [crowns] the month.—Paris, 6 Dec. 1572. *Signed.*

*Add. Endd. Pp. 1½.*

Dec. 6. **659.** SIR WILLIAM DRURY to LORD BURGHELY.

What he won of the two unhappy "Castilians" his Lordship received from time to time. Their continual delays will breed trouble to others, though smart and shame to themselves. Thinks no persuasions will cause them to lean to England, as they expect French crowns and French men. Has by some in Scotland been held a favourer of them, but if the Queen uses any force against them will discover himself an enemy to their cause. If the Queen sends money for the maintenance of the soldiers serving the King, they will secretly put it into the mint and turn it into their own coin to avoid suspicion. Sends of their last coin which they value at 15*d.* the piece. Has caused one to be melted which is in value less than 9*d.* There has been of late such a number brought into the town that hardly any English silver is to be had. Has caused by proclamation the value to be known, and raised the shilling to 18 plocks. A Scotch merchant declared that 100*l.* English put into the mint would yield 1,000*l.* Scotch.—Berwick, 6 Dec. 1572. *Signed.*

*Add. Endd. Pp. 1½.*

Dec. 8. **660.** The PRINCE OF ORANGE to LORD BURGHELY.

Desires his favour for the bearer Captain Piers in his private affairs, and that he may be permitted on his return to bring over some companies of soldiers.—Delft, 8 December 1572. *Signed.*

*Add. Endd. With seal. Fr. P. ¾.*

Dec. 9. **661.** LETHINGTON and GRANGE to SIR W. DRURY.

Are sorry that after so frank dealing between them, when there was so great likelihood of a perfect end to his negotiations, so little fruit followed, as there is less appearance of a