

A.D. 1576.

they would have avoided this great peril of life and miserable spoil. Begg that some one may be sent over for their comfort that they may be permitted to pass out of this town for they will lack both victual and fuel and be daily in fear of the like spoil as they have sustained.—Antwerp, 10 Nov. 1576.

*Signed.*

*Add. Endd. P. 1.*

Nov. [10.] **1010.** THE MERCHANT ADVENTURERS to the PRIVY COUNCIL.

Seeing the danger in this town of Antwerp such of their society as are here remaining purposed to have in due time removed both their persons and their goods, but were not suffered to pass out of the town, although they sundry times required to have passport according to the Intercourse and sale conduct. So as on the 3rd inst. they fell in great peril of their lives, divers of their company being hurt and some slain, and by sacking this town (ever since) they are not only spoiled of their money and goods, but are further forced to ransom their persons and the goods within the principal house of their residence there: They have been constrained to give up all their money and plate, and also bills at one or two months, so as they have not money to provide for their needful sustentation. Beg that they will be a means to the Queen that speedy order be taken for their relief and release out of this place. Refer the discourse of these tragedies to be reported by the bearer Mr. Gaston.—Antwerp, Nov. 1576.

*Signed:* Thomas Heton.

*Add. Endd. with seal. P. 1.*

Nov. 10. **1011.** The PRINCE OF ORANGE to the STATES at BRUSSELS.

Assures them of his desire to assist them. Has sent his companies to Ghent. Is not yet assured of the peace, but when he is will determine on that which will be most for the public advantage. Don John being arrived at Luxembourg, and not knowing what resolution the States may take on his coming, and also being informed that his intentions are no better than those of the Duke of Alva, has determined to put himself in some strong place.—Middleburg, 10 Nov. 1576.

*Coph. Endd. Fr. Pp. 1½.*

Nov. 12. **1012.** RECEIPT by FRANCISCO GIRALDI.

Acknowledgment of the receipt of her Majesty's commission subscribed by Walsingham and delivered to him by Dr. Dale. 12 Nov. 1576. *Signed. Endd. Ital. P. ½.*

Nov. 13. **1013.** DR. WILSON to [WALSINGHAM].

Had audience yesterday before the Duke and three others only of the Council, when the Duke having caused his letter of credit to be read he spoke his mind according to his instructions, demanding the cause of the arrest of counsellors