

A.D. 1568.

April 29. **2232.** The PRINCE OF ORANGE to CECIL.

Thanks him for his assistance with the Queen of England, and hopes that he will always continue well affected to the cause of religion.—Hornebach, 29 April 1568. *Signed.*

Add. Endd. Fr. P. 3.

April 29. **2233.** ADVICES from ANTWERP.

Defeat of M. De Villiers near Maestricht by the Count of Ernstein. Insurrection in Guelderland. Reported attempt to assassinate the Duke of Alva.—Antwerp, 29 April.

Ital. P. 2.

May 2. **2234.** ADVICES from ANTWERP.

In the fight near Maestricht, out of 3,000 men about 1,400 were killed, and the rest, with the exception of 400, wounded and made prisoners; M. Villers and twenty-two other gentlemen were also taken. Their design was to have joined with the Prince of Orange and 700 horsemen who had intelligence in many places where a great number were ready to rise. There are 4,000 others of the Prince's party who have fortified themselves in Guelderland, against whom has gone Count Meghem with 7,000 foot and 1,500 horse. There is another band under Count Louis in Friesland, 200 of whom have taken a strong place near Bois-le-Duc. The German reiters in France are quartered in some villages on the frontier. They commit no spoil, except taking provisions. The Duke of Alva is levying a great number of troops. The plot against the Duke of Alva was undertaken by M. Chiarlot and a gentleman of the Count of Egmont's, who have fled. Their design was to have slain him and his son. Chapin Vitelli has placed 100 pieces of artillery in the castle. Certain of the townspeople have been arrested on suspicion of having intelligence with those who were defeated near Maestricht.—Antwerp, 2 May.

Endd. Ital. Pp. 2½.

May 12. **2235.** NEWS from ANTWERP.

A Zabra from Biscay has brought news of fresh reinforcements from Spain. Preparation of forces in Germany. News of a plot against the King of France, where matters stand in a very uncertain state.—Antwerp, 12 May.

Endd. Ital. P. 1.

June 5. **2236.** LORD WINDSOR to CECIL.

Last Monday were eighteen gentlemen beheaded in Brussels, and on Tuesday the 2nd instant were executed certain gentlemen taken at the conflict near Maestricht, and it was the common talk that the Counts of Egmont and Horne should have been brought there and executed on the 3rd. Was unable, at his being at Brussels, to wait on Alva as the Duke was very sick. Some say he is sick for that he does execu-