

A.D. 1578.

deputies to Antwerp, to advertise his Excellency of that election, and to beseech him in the name of all the four Members, but especially of the Gantois, to come thither to redress the disordered state of things. To this at the instance of the States he has agreed, and should be to-night at Dendermonde, minding as it seems to stay there till he hears the result of their assembly according to which he 'pretends' to dispose his further journey. Duke Casimir had, upon my motion, once resolved to meet him at that town; but considering what has happened since I doubt he will 'make curtesy' to perform it; which may be some impediment to the Prince's going forward. But when I have dispatched my business here, I mean to hasten to Ghent and do the best I can to procure their interview as the best means to redress the inconvenience caused by the heart-burnings between the two princes, nourished chiefly by the ill-offices of Beutrich, of whom all the world cries shame.

This action of Duke Casimir's, but especially the suspected consequence of it in respect of the French, has again set on foot the traffic of peace proposed by the Emperor; who has, as I hear, a solemn embassy at Cologne, on its way to Antwerp. But with what sincerity or likelihood of good success, time will show.

Baron d' Aubigny, declared on the side of the Walloons, has come within 5 leagues of this town, with horse and foot, and has summoned Dixmude to receive him, which they have flatly refused. So he ranges up and down that part of the country, 'sessing' and taxing the villages at his pleasure.

La Motte, who has been at St. Omer again this week, with Count Egmont, does not yet attempt any innovation. The Duke of Aerschot has returned to Antwerp with his son the Prince of Chimay, indisposed, it seems, to hazard his fortune in so desperate a cause as the Walloons have undertaken; but his brother and the rest remain behind.—Bruges, 24 Nov. 1578.

P.S.—Please suspend any further dealings on the bond for 30,000 fl. desired by Spinola till you hear further from me; both because in his hands for the former sums he dealt very lewdly with me, as you shall hear more fully hereafter, and also because I am very 'loosed handled' for my particular bonds. So that I have great cause to complain in both respects; and if you let Grobben-donck understand so much, and that you mean to deal no further but as you shall hear from me, it may perhaps make them remember themselves better.

Add. Endd. by L. Tomson. 2 pp. [Holl. and Fl. X. 43.]

Nov. 24. **400.** THE PRINCE OF ORANGE TO DAVISON.

As M. de Famar was going that way, I would not omit a word to put you in mind of me. He will tell you at large the cause of his going, and how things stand here, so I need say no more.—Dendermonde, 24 Nov. 1578.

Add. with seal. Endd. Fr. 11ll. [Ibid. X. 40.]