

A.D. 1576.

from the Low Countries, they beg that he will postpone sending the assistance which he promised for a fortnight until they may understand Don John's resolution.—Brussels, 25 Nov. 1576.

Copy. Endd. Fr. P. 1.

Nov. 25. **1030.** INSTRUCTIONS for M. D'AUBIGNY.

He is to go with all speed to the Duke of Alençon, and to thank him in the name of the States for his goodwill towards them, and inform him of the sudden arrival of Don John at Luxembourg; Also that they have sent deputies to Don John to arrange for the withdrawal of the Spaniards without further effusion of blood within 15 days. He is, therefore, to humbly beg his Highness to hold his forces in readiness to assist them in case Don John will not agree to their requests.

Endd., 25 Nov. 1576. Fr. P. 1.

[Nov. 26.] **1031.** DON JOHN of AUSTRIA.

Advice of the Prince of Orange concerning the arrival of Don John in the Low Countries:—

First, that he shall withdraw all the Spaniards, and not recall them without the general consent of all the towns and states of the Low Countries; that he will raze the citadels; that he will confirm the privileges and grant to all the provinces the same clause that those of Brabant had at the "Joyous Entry," namely, that in case of the violation of any of their privileges they shall not be bound to render any service or obedience until they shall be satisfied. That he shall only admit natives of the country to his Council, and that all affairs shall be discussed openly by those whom the States shall appoint to assist him in council. That he will appoint no governor to any province without the agreement of the States of the same. That he will not put garrisons in any town against their consent. That he will not have any foreign guards. That he will not make war at home or abroad without the consent of the States. That he will observe the ancient customs of each province in appointing officers and magistrates. That in all the above points there shall be no difference made in any of the 17 provinces, their several particular rights and privileges being reserved.

Endorsed incorrectly "1583." Fr. P. 1.

Nov. 27. **1032.** The DUKE OF ALENÇON to the STATES of the LOW COUNTRIES.

Has been advertised that Don John is endeavouring to induce them to lay down their arms without fighting, saying that there is great division in France, and that the King's and Duke's party is the smallest; and further, that many noblemen are going to send large forces to assist the Spaniards. Assures them that there is no truth in this. Begg them not to allow the artifices of Don John to sow