

A.D. 1577.

will not have you to know the truth except as they please, in order to stir up war and make themselves rich at your cost. It rests with your own prudence, with the help of God, to see that you are not abused and circumvented.—[Namur, Aug. 24.]

Copy. Fr. 14 pp. [Holl. and Fland. II. 51.]

147. EDWARD WHITECHURCH TO DAVISON.

Aug. 24. There is little news here. I hear from Namur for certain that
K. d. L. ix. 481. Don John brought into that town the day before yesterday two ensigns of infantry, and about as much cavalry. Of Brussels I only hear that they are '*par playe*' reserved for fire and blood, unless something different is done than hitherto, the people being stupid enough to believe that Casimir has routed the whole of the "Guisart's" company. The story you have heard was, I think, invented and concocted by some of those ecclesiastics in order, if possible, to smother the report which came yesterday of the said Guisart. This very day a certain state clerk came up to three bishops and an abbot on the steps of the town-hall here, and said: "Gentlemen, use all your efforts to make them resist these Spaniards by arms to the utmost; there is no other means to preserve our liberties, our wives, our goods, and also to save you your conventicles, and your lands." "No, my son," replied our good abbot, "hold your peace. You are quite right, but there is no money. It is better to seek peace, as the Lord saith, for assuredly we can have it." "How," said the other, "no money, my good friend? Only let them go on with the cause, and I will undertake to show you where there are barrels of gold;" well showing what he meant by that. There are others, too, who are trying to put the matter by for six weeks; of this lot of priests, that is. Nothing else is said here, still less done.—Brussels, 24 August, 1577.

Add. Endd. Fr. 1 p. [Ibid. II. 45.]

Aug. 25. 148. DAVISON TO [LEICESTER?].

Draft of letter containing the same information as that to Walsingham of the 24th (no. 142). $\frac{3}{4}$ p. [*Ibid.* II. 50.]

Aug. 26. 149. THE PRINCE OF ORANGE TO DAVIDSON.
K. d. L. ix. 484.

I have received yours of the 11th inst., and thank you for it. I shall be always at your service.—Gertruidenberg, 26 August, 1577.

Add. Endd. Fr. $\frac{3}{4}$ p. [Ibid. II. 52.]

[Aug. 26.] 150. THE ESTATES TO DON JOHN.

Reply to his Highness' letter brought by the Bishops of Ypres and Arras.

1. The Estates thank his Highness for desiring peace, and for his promise to avoid all breach of the pacification.

H 2