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field, Owen, Digby, and divers other Englishmen. Mr Inglefield is at Luxembourg. There are daily skirmishes between those of Namur and the camp of the Estates. It is believed here that new companies of Spaniards and Italians, to the number of 4,000, are landed not far from Genoa, and shall come into the Low Countries. —Paris, 19 Nov. 1577.

[*The following in cipher, deciphered, inscribed: For Mr. Walsingham, appears to form part of this letter, though on a separate sheet.*]

Their [*Qy.* D'Aubigny and Mansart] speech tended to this end, that this peace could not hold, that the treasons were manifest, that the league with the Spaniards was indissoluble, that the King of Navarre had protested late in open assembly to spend his living and life in the cause of religion, that foreign aid should be sought, and that the fault of former times should be reformed, God forbid that this opportunity should be lost. I trust the Queen will consider of it; war at home or war abroad are in her choice, and without the last the first cannot be avoided. If the French King be occupied, the Spaniards can do no part. The French King is said to hate the Prince of Orange as much as the Prince of Condé. It is said that Alençon will do all that he can to corrupt the Count of Lalaing, and some wish that the Prince of Orange were advertised of it, because the Count has good towns in his possession. M. de Mansard tells me that D'Aubigny is not so good an Englishman as he would wish. A President of Paris hath said that when Flanders shall be appeased, the French King and the King of Spain will set upon England.

Add. Endd.: "19 Novr. Sr. Amyas Poulet," and (*in the hand of L. Tomson*), "19 Novemb. 1577, from Sr. Amias Paulett. Ciph." 3 pp. [*Ibid.* 51.]

Nov. 20. 448. The PRINCE OF ORANGE to the MARQUIS OF HAVRECH.

The States-General sent me yesterday a copy of certain notes which they write me that they sent you on the 7th inst., upon the proposals made by you to her Majesty. I see in them that the Estates refer to my advice. I was certainly much distressed, the more so that by this method of proceeding in our affairs it is impossible to look for any furthering, but rather great detriment. On the other hand, I fear lest after receiving the notes you may take some opinion adverse to me, whereby I might be taxed with negligence or failure in duty in a matter of so great importance. This has been my reason for writing this word, begging you to hold me excused that my advice did not accompany the notes of the Estates when they sent their last dispatch. I sent them immediately on being asked, and I hope that they will forward to you with all diligence their wishes in regard thereto, especially saying if they mean to conform to it. I send a copy herewith.

As for what has happened at Ghent, I wrote to you lately that I would willingly do all in my power to settle everything as regards the Duke of Aerschot, both for the affection I bear him,

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and for the desire I have to serve him. I have done all my duty in the matter to the utmost, in such wise that your brother is back in his own house at Brussels, of which I am very glad. Always at your service whereinsoever you may be pleased to command me. --Antwerp, 20 Nov. 1577.

Copy. Endd. by L. Tomson: P. of Or. to the Marq. Fr. 1 p. [Holl. and Fland. III. 116.]

[Nov. 20.] 449. The REASONS that may move her MAJESTY to stay her giving of CONSENT to the REQUEST of the STATES for MEN and MONEY.

K. d. L. x.
109.
(in French.)

1. It is not seen what point they will fall to with the Archduke, touching the placing him as Governor; nor on what conditions.
2. It is doubtful whether benefit or peril will grow to them thereby.
3. They are not at union among themselves, which cannot be helped till the suspected patriots are removed.
4. Some of those whom they specially chose to direct their policy are still under arrest at Ghent, as Ressingham and Swevingham; showing plainly the division there is among them.
5. The Prince of Orange does not reside continually at Brussels, where his presence were always to be desired; and it is supposed that this is due to some doubt of his safety.
6. They are over long in their deliberations, as appears by the prolongation of the present negotiation with her Majesty.
7. They make no account of the ministers they employ toward foreign princes; as appears by the not acquainting the Marquis with their proceedings, that he might inform her Majesty.
8. They seem to make small account of the aid of men demanded by him at her hands, preferring the service of the Scots; which shows either distrust or lack of judgement.
9. They have no choice men of counsel for the war, having to encounter the principal martial men of Christendom; so that if the Prince of Orange should quail, the whole cause would be in peril.
10. The soldier of that country is not generally thought a match for the Spaniard or Italian.
11. When they had the advantage of forces, they attempted nothing against the enemy. If they had used their opportunity, they would probably have reduced him to extremity.
12. He is now reported to be superior in forces; and the stronger for being united.
13. There is confusion from the number of heads, which can hardly be reduced without jealousy.
14. The States being greatly impoverished, cannot long endure the cost of the present war.

Endd. 1½ pp. [Ibid. III. 117.]