

A.D. 1581

and that it is nevertheless necessary to the maintenance and execution of our treaties. For their accomplishment I am come to this place, and have already made so good a beginning of assembling the forces, that I hope within a few days to take steps for the relief of Cambray, where I shall be in person. The levies of the foreign troops which I wish to add to my army have already begun, and I hope to be assured before the Queen my mother leaves this place, where she is doing me the honour to visit me, of the means which the king my brother is to give me to meet this expense.

I will ask you also to use alldiligence on your side, that we may join our forces and so produce a greater effect on the enemy. My only design at present is to aim at your preservation and accomplish all that is in our treaties without default in a single point, as you shall judge from my behaviour, which is wholly directed to the maintenance of your liberty, reason and dignity.—Alençon, 10 May 1581. "*Recepta* 23 May 1581."

Copy. Endd. Fr. 2 pp. [Holl. and Fl. XIV. 68.]

May 10.
Gachard iv.
p. 288.

178. THE DUKE OF ANJOU to the PRINCE OF ORANGE.

I have always put off writing to you, though I had two of yours to answer, one received through M. de Laval, while the other of April 12 was received only after my arrival here. The first informed me (*m'a fait capable*) of the just cause which moved you to reply to the proscription laid upon you by the King of Spain; wherein you justify your past actions and enable us to judge of his, insolent and full of ambition, which he essays to nourish on the reputation, honour and blood of his relatives and nearest servants. The second mainly urges me to take the road on which I have started, as may be seen, beginning by raising the army which I am bound to conduct to the Low Countries. As to this I am taking such order that I hope to march straight to Cambray and aid them, whatever resistance the enemy may make.

As for what concerns the States-General and the contracting provinces, I may say that my mother, who is coming to see me, should be here to-morrow; from whom I hope to obtain the means of aiding, which the king my brother is to allot me; whereof I will advise you at once. Meanwhile I am levying the foreigners of whom I mean to compose part of my army, in order to lose no time. Kindly let the States know this, and that I did not wish to fail of my promise, rather to show the affection I bear them, to which end I will devote all the resources that God has given me.

(*The rest much as in the last.*) Alençon, 10 May 1581.

Copy. Endd. Fr. 2½ pp. [Ibid. XIV. 69.]

May 10. **179.** NEGOTIATIONS with DON ANTONIO.

The King my master desires that all the gold belonging to him that is in his fortress of St. George of Amina on the coast of Ethiopia shall be delivered to the persons deputed by the Queen of England to that end, to be brought to these parts. Senhor Vasco