

A.D. 1568.

if occasion were offered; to which Maria said that England was but a small country, and that King Philip had as much as 100 Englands. Smith answered that England was great enough to make above 50,000 men to invade abroad, and at least 100,000 to defend at home, besides upon the seas no one nation was stronger. "Why," said Maria, "what make ye of the English nation if they can one day defend themselves it is well; King Philip has three nations, that is, this nation, the Italians, and the Spaniards, and that any one of them was to be compared in valiancy to the English nation. Smith answered that the English nation was as good and valiant as any of these three or any other, and that he was ready to maintain the same with his sword at any time if he said the contrary. "Well, well," answered Maria, "we will talk of this matter more after dinner in another place, these be but words." Hereupon the magistrates of the town cried "Hola, hola, bestay the matter"; and the Chancellor required Maria to talk no more against the English nation, but to speak favourably thereof considering how long they both had been there that they were almost half Englishmen. To whom Maria said, "Who, I, Sir? I have spoken better of the English nation than he himself." Smith said that he who said that he had answered better for his nation than himself lied in his throat; whereat Maria turned away his head and made no answer.

*Pp. 1‡.*

[June 16.] **2240.** SUPPLICATION of the ENGLISH MERCHANTS in the LOW COUNTRIES.

Complain that being creditors of a certain cloth merchant, although they have obtained judgment upon his person and good, they cannot get execution of the same or payment because the King's commissioners have seized on the property of all fugitives. As this is contrary to their privileges and the custom of the Low Country, which is, that creditors should be paid first, and subversive of all commerce and traffic, they desire that the Commissioners may be ordered to satisfy their claims. List of creditors and the sums owing to them.

*Endd. Fr. P. 1.*

June 10. **2241.** COMMISSION by the PRINCE OF ORANGE.

Being moved by the intolerable wrongs and oppressions done to the King's faithful subjects by the Duke of Alva, and his foreign soldiers, and by the execrable Spanish Inquisition, he has determined to oppose this "tirannie Albanique." As this will be attended with great expense he commissions certain persons to collect the contributions of those of the religion, and others who are well disposed towards his enterprise, promising that the money so contributed shall be solely employed towards its furtherance.—Dillembourg, 10 June 1568. *Signed.*

*Copy. Endd. Fr. Pp. 2.*