

## MMDCXXVII.

*Questions soumises par Davison au prince d'Orange* <sup>1</sup>.

(26 OCTOBRE 1577.)

Opinion du prince d'Orange sur les diverses questions soulevées par la reine d'Angleterre, relativement à la venue de l'archiduc Mathias.

*Questions propounded to His Excellencie with his answers.*

1. Whether he was made privie to the Archduke's coming downe, in what sorte and by whome ?

1. *He was not made privie therto till such tyme as the Marquis of Havrech, ymediatly before his going into England, came to Gertrudenberg, who first acquainted His Excellencie withall.*

2. What perill or good he thinketh the same his coming may bring ?

2. *Both th'one and other are at length discoursed in th'advice gevin by His Excellencie in writing to the States, touching the manner how they should proceede in this respect.*

3. If his coming bring perill how the same may be prevented ?

3. *In geving of him a sound and good Counsaill, and otherwise in proceeding with him, according to the said advice.*

4. What His Excellencie himself meaneth to do ?

4. *To attend his gouvernement and be ready in all occurrences with his Counsaill and otherwise to assist the States, from whome he would in no sort disjoign him self.*

5. Whether, if the States may be brought to make him Mathias lieutenant, he would accept the place ?

5. *There shalbe no necessitie in this respect, if the States provide him of a sound and wise Counsaill, by whose advice onely he should governe and resolve in all matters of importaunce. Besides that His Excellencie shall have ynough to do to attend his particulier gouvernement.*

6. What he thinketh Don John will do uppon the Archduke coming ?

6. *Resolve somuch the rather to prosecute his malice against the country and States in that he takes both the King and himself to be highly injuried by his coming downe.*

<sup>1</sup> Les questions qui portent la date du 19 octobre se trouvaient jointes à la lettre que Walsingham adressa le lendemain à Davison. — Nous reproduisons en italiques les réponses du prince d'Orange.

7. Whether the States meane to accept him as governour before the Kinges assent had?

7. *They seeme resolved first to accept him and to aske the Kinge's assent afterwarde.*

8. Whether His Excellencie think that the King will geve his assent?

8. *He thinketh not, but by constraint*<sup>1</sup>.

9. If the King geve not his assent, what he thinketh the States will do, and what he would advise them to?

9. *He is of opinion they will accept him, whether the King assent unto it or no, which His Excellencie himself myslyketh not so it be according to th'advice before mentioned.*

10. What advice he would geve Her Majestie touching the mony demaunded by the States?

10. *He would with them be an humble suter to Her Majestie to contynue her gracious favour towardes them and to effect that promys which she hath so bountefully vouchsafed to make them.*

(Record office, Pap. of Flanders, vol. 31, fol. 103.)

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### *William Davison à lord Burleigh.*

(ANVERS, 27 OCTOBRE 1577.)

L'archiduc Mathias a agi, à ce que l'on croit, d'accord avec l'Empereur, son frère, mais malgré sa mère; il n'est accompagné d'aucun personnage important et ne possède rien. — Il parait avoir été appelé par le duc d'Archoth. — Il n'est appuyé par aucun prince allemand. — Les États le recevront, même sans l'assentiment du roi d'Espagne. — Il a dix-neuf ans, est moins corrompu que ses frères, a reçu peu d'éducation et, quoiqu'il soit papiste, on pourra aisément le porter à adhérer à la Réforme.

My especiall good Lorde. How farr this matter of the Archduke is proceeded and what opinion His Excellencie hath therof, Your Lordship may sufficiently understand by the particularities which herewith I send you together, with that I have written at length to M<sup>r</sup> Secretary. I will therefore herein, with Your Honour's pardon, be the shorter in aunswering the pointes of Your Lordship's laste letter.

<sup>1</sup> Davison reproduit en ces termes dans une note marginale jointe à la lettre de Walsingham, du 20 octobre, la réponse du prince d'Orange : *yea, but of necessity.*