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30 June [1529] MS. 5, 499, Bibl. Nat. **5741.** THE BISHOP OF BAYONNE TO FRANCIS I.

Has received his letters of the 21st and 25th inst., which he communicated to Wolsey, and afterwards to the King, who came to visit the Cardinal at his lodging. Henry expressed the greatest satisfaction at the contents of the first, as showing the great affection of Francis, and his resolution not to treat of anything which is not quite in accordance with his pleasure; but on learning by those of the 25th that Madame was going to Cambray without further delay, notwithstanding the remonstrances of Suffolk and Fitzwilliam, he showed himself displeased, seeing that it would be impossible for him to find ambassadors in time, as Du Bellay has already pointed out by his letters of the 21st. He paused a long time in considering whether the ten days, commencing on the 25th, at the end of which time it was resolved to allow Madame to treat with Madame of Savoy, would be sufficient to allow the ambassadors he had chosen, viz., the bishop of London and Master More, to be present in proper time; and finding that it was not possible, considering the instructions that had to be made out, and that the matter affected all the treaties he had ever had with the house of Burgundy, and moreover that, considering the age and quality of the ambassadors, they could not be expected to travel in post, he requested me to ask you to delay the proceedings till his ambassadors should arrive. They are to be despatched on Friday at the latest. I showed him the difficulty you might have in waiting so long, considering the great importunity made to you by Madame [2543] of Savoy, both for the coming of Jean de Saulx towards you, and for that of my Lady to Valenciennes. Could make no impression on the King by his remonstrances, who insisted upon the request, as if half a kingdom depended upon it, and said that Francis had not only promised Suffolk and Fitzwilliam to wait these ten days, but since then had agreed that if he heard from Henry within five or six days he would put the matter off for some days longer. Represented to the King the great expence that Francis had been obliged to bear, and requested him for a sum of money in consideration not only of the treaties but of their mutual amity. Has not been able to obtain any definite answer, but he assures me that if the negotiations for peace should fall through, he will not fail to assist you with all his power, not on account of the treaties, but from friendship.

As it appears by the conversations Francis has held with Suffolk and Fitzwilliam, that he considers Henry bound to the contribution, the King has referred the matter to his Council, who, on examining the articles of the treaties, consider him in no manner bound. Gives their reasons for this opinion. The King thanks Francis for taking so much to heart the matter of his marriage, and for the despatch of Monseigneur de Tarbes. He hopes to succeed, especially if the Pope do not revoke his commission, as he cannot honorably do. The cause was called on again yesterday, when the King's proctor appeared, and the Queen was a second time put in default for non-appearance. The bishop of Rochester, however, who is accounted one of the best and most holy divines in England, especially in his opposition to these last heresies of Luther, was there with other councillors, but not as her proctor, only to remonstrate with the judges, offering to prove that she had a good cause, by a little book, which he had thereupon made jointly with his companions; which he then presented, enlarging upon the Queen's cause with many wise words. A rather modest answer was made by the judges, that it was not his business to pronounce so decidedly in the matter, as the cause was not committed to him. The dénouement will take place on Monday next, and from that time pleadings will be held three times a week, when not interrupted by holidays. The Queen's agents at Rome obtained at a public audience a commission, which the Pope may have ignored or passed over, to cite the parties;—which they did; but no further proceedings were taken under it; and I think the Pope will take care that it go no further, as it is impossible to hinder the affair which is here commenced.

French, from a transcript, pp. 7.