
June 29 [1529]

482. LODOVICO FALIER TO —.

On the 16th [June] the first conference (*parlamento*) or audience (*audieatia*) took place, and the Legates Wolsey and Campeggio being assembled, the Queen appeared and said before the people that she chose to have other judges than these Cardinals, declaring them under suspicion (*sospetti*) because Wolsey had received very great benefits (*beneficii*) from the King her husband; a bishopric in England having in like manner been bestowed on Campeggio by his Majesty; wherefore she appealed, choosing to have judges unsuspected; and she delivered a writing, and then departed, and the judges rose.

On the 21st, the Cardinal judges assembled in a hall on a raised platform, the Queen having preceded them, followed by the King, who was the first to seat himself under a canopy of gold brocade, on the right, the Queen being on the left, under another canopy on a lower level. The King then said a few words in English to the judges, to the effect that he would no longer remain in mortal sin, as he had done during the last 20 years, and that he should never be at ease until the rights of this marriage were decided, requesting these judges to despatch the case, &c. &c. (*con altre parole*). Cardinal Wolsey replied, that although he had received infinite benefits from his Majesty, and was declared suspected, yet as this case had been committed to him and Cardinal Campeggio by the Pope, he would judge it according to such reason as his poor ability supplied, saying that he was unworthy to judge such a case, but would nevertheless not omit to do what appeared to him just. The Queen then rose, and, throwing herself on her knees before the King, said aloud that she had lived for 20 years with his Majesty as his lawful wife, keeping her faith to him, and that she did not deserve to be repudiated and thus put to shame without any cause; and she besought the said judges to show her favour. The Queen said nothing more, and the King sent for his privy councillors, with whom he remained for half an hour, after which the judges prorogued the term until the 22nd. On that day two bishops appeared as advocates and proctors for the Queen, namely, the Bishop of Rochester and the Bishop of Bath, saying [220] that, to prevent the King from falling into mortal sin, they would defend the rights of the Queen, and show that she was his legitimate and true wife; and they presented the writ of appeal, rejecting the judges as suspected, so that nothing farther was done.

On this evening the 23rd, the eve of St. John the Baptist, the Londoners perform a very beautiful pageant.

In a letter dated the 29th, adds,—

Two very fine entertainments were made—one last night, on St. Peter’s eve, which was a most beautiful sight, so many lights and bonfires, and so many armed men about the town, the entire population coming forth to see the pageant; nor did any strife take place notwithstanding such a quantity of weapons, which is highly creditable (*una cossa bellissima*) considering the multitude of armed men there present.

London, 22nd, 23rd, and 29th June. Registered by Sanuto 25th July.

*[Italian.]*