187. CHAPUYS TO CHARLES V.

Besides the Queen’s wish to write to the Pope, she is more anxious than ever, seeing that the King does not cease to despatch couriers to Rome, and has written this to his Holiness, of which I send you a copy. [90]

The French ambassadors have presented to the King a very ingenious clock, showing the movements of the spheres and the course of some of the planets. I think if Joachim had been the inventor of it, Mars would have predominated rather than Mercury. I don’t know whether it comes from him; but the same day it was presented, the Master of the Horse told the Queen that the French king had said to the Imperial ambassadors that he would never be a friend with you, on account of the rough treatment you had given him. The said Ambassadors were yesterday in court when La Guiche took his leave, and had not the compliment of dining at the King’s table, for he dined with the Queen.

The Princess has had a pain in the stomach for the last eight days, and and cannot retain much of what she eats; but from what her physician tells me, I expect she will be well again very soon.

The Venetian ambassador tells me that the men here wish for the coming of the Turk. The Chancellor told one of my men, who was condoling over the blindness of princes, that they had no thought of assisting your Majesty. And when my man said to him, that possibly seeing you were much occupied in repelling him, they might make some enterprise, he said that there was no reason to fear on this side, for there was no order nor power. As for their will, there would be more reason to doubt. London, 11 April.

Fr., hol., p. 1, from a modern copy.