

## Original Documents.

### TREATY AGAINST THE TURKS, BETWEEN HENRY VIII. AND FRANCIS I., CONCLUDED AT CALAIS IN 1532.

THE document, of which a transcript is here given, supplies a *hiatus* in Rymer's great national collection, and, in continuing the new edition of that valuable work, it should unquestionably take its place. The original is in the possession of W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., M.P., to whose kindness the members of the Institute were indebted for its exhibition at the meeting of June last.

There is no instrument given in Rymer which has any reference to this treaty, now for the first time printed; although there are, of course, many which relate to various confederacies against the Mahomedans.

The progress of the Turks in Europe had, for a long period previous to the date of the present instrument, engaged the most anxious attention of the Christian princes, and the English sovereigns had not been backward in aiding the common cause. Leagues had been entered into and subsidies paid; and when more direct help was required, the English princes were fairly excused on account of the distance of the field of action;—"cum tanta Turcorum a regno suo distantia in persona ire prohibeatur." In these confederacies the Head of the Church, as might be expected, took the most active part. Pius II. had personally superintended the first rendezvous of the allies, and numerous and urgent were the efforts of Leo X. to persuade the princes of Christendom, that opposition to the fierce enemy of their faith should be paramount to all personal and political feelings. Even if such disputes could not be entirely put aside, they were recommended to be forborne for a period, during which a combined course of action for the great object might be carried out. To this effect bulls were promulgated by the Pontiff, treaties were negotiated, and plans devised by the faithful sons of the church.

There is at the Rolls Record Office a plan, attributed to Cardinal St. Croix, for such a general scheme of operations. It begins,—"*Imprimis inter Christianos principes pax aut fedus meatur ad quinquennium. Et quod ad idem quinquennium bellum Turchis incessanter inferatur, usque ad eorum internicionem expulsionemque penitus ex Europa, quo capite infidelibus amputato relique eorum vires infirmiores et nullius aut minimi momenti erunt.*" It proposed the formation of two armies, each of 60,000 men; one, the northern, to operate on the Danube; the other on the Mediterranean. The Pope was to give the sovereigns power to raise a tenth for this purpose.

Henry VIII. declared his acceptance of the quinquennial truce enjoined by Leo X. in March, 1517, for the important purpose of enabling all Christian princes to resist the Turks. The draft of the letter, corrected by the king, and expressing his assent, exists in the Repository above men-

tioned, and it may suitably be introduced here in connexion with the subject under consideration. The letter is as follows :—

Cum nuper sanctissimus dominus noster, Leo papa decimus, gregis dominici sibi a Deo commissi tamque bonus pastor, paternam sollicitudinem gerens, et tranquillitatem ac pacem omnium Christianorum principum mira cordis affectione desiderans, videns insuper immanissimos Turchas velut lupos rapaces ad dispergendas oves, et ad gregis dominici internitionem paratos, imminere, nisi pastoris vigilantia et diligentia a Christianorum invasione et ab ovili dominico arceantur et repellantur; presertim cum nuper eorundem Turcharum tyranni vires et potentia eo usque creverint, ut devicto Sultano cum toto Mamaluchorum exercitu tota Syria et Egypto, cum omnibus provinciis dicto Sultano quondam subjectis, sit potitus; et nunc, omni alia cura prope solutus et liber, nil aliud moliri quam Christianorum cedibus et sanguine inhiare videtur. Considerans preterea que culpa Christianorum principum, qui inter se miserabiliter potius pugnare, quam dictorum Turcharum feritati resistere eosque adoriri, retroactis temporibus voluerunt, tot regna a Turchis et Sarracenis ante hec tempora occupata coinquinata et federata fuerunt, pastorali officio suo convenire putavit, ut Christianos principes omnes contra Turchas pugnare et susceptas injurias ulcisci hortaretur. Et, cum hoc commode fieri non posse idem sanctissimus dominus noster prospiceret, nisi prius ipsi principes Christiani inter se pacem habentes de communi hoste propellendo cogitarent, ac unitis animis et viribus gladium, quem eis divina majestas ad vindictam malorum tribuit, in Turchas, qui salvatorem Christum verum deum esse abnegantes legem evangelicam evertere atque extirpare conantur, exercere velint. Ac propterea idem sanctissimus dominus noster, habita super hoc cum sancte Romane ecclesie Cardinalibus matura deliberatione, Reges, principes et potentatus Christianos, necnon res publicas, comunitates ceterosque Christi fideles quinquennales treugas et inducias (ne tam necessaria at salutifera expeditio in Turchas aliquo impedimento differatur, sed potius debitum et optatum exitum consequatur) suscipere sit hortatus; atque easdem, anno Incarnationis Dominice Millesimo quingentesimo decimo septimo, sexto Idus Marcii, publicavit, Christianos et ceteros predictos hortans per vicem misericordie Domini nostri Jesu Christi, et per passionem qua nos redemit, et per judicium extremum quod unusquisque secundum opera sua est accepturus, et per spem vite eterne quam repromisit Deus diligentibus se, ut hujusmodi treugis et induciis durantibus in caritate mutua et amoris ac benevolentie unione persistentes ab omni prorsus abstineant offensione, ut tam sanete contra nephandissimos Turchas expeditioni (omni prorsus metu et suspitione cessantibus) intendere possint.

But the great religious dissensions then existing materially impeded the execution of the best concerted schemes for opposition to the common enemy, and in the year 1530 the position of Christendom was one of the most imminent peril. Solyman the Great, who had led the Turkish armies victoriously against every enemy, had invaded Hungary at the head of an immense host; but he was at last successfully opposed. Henry VIII. assisted in the general alliance entered into for that purpose. Before, however, the danger was really past, it was again increased by the jealousies of the Allies, and their combinations, avowedly entered into for opposing the Mahommedan power, were secretly intended against each other.

The Emperor of Germany, from his position, the natural leader of the

Christians in such a contest, was then upon very doubtful terms with the two leading Sovereigns of the West. The Italian possessions of Francis I., and his feelings and actions in respect of them, were ever a fruitful source of discord between him and Charles V. ; while the matrimonial relations of Henry VIII. with a kinswoman of the Emperor, and his backwardness in carrying out the principles involved in the title "Defender of the Faith," rendered a cordial understanding between them very difficult. In the year in which the following treaty was made, their jealousies of Charles V. had led Henry VIII. and Francis I. into complete accord. Though called upon, Francis had excused himself from assisting the emperor with money and arms against the Turks. Henry VIII., having created Anne Boleyn Marchioness of Pembroke, paid a state visit to Francis. Landing at Calais on the 10th of October, 1532, he advanced after a few days to meet the French King at Boulogne, and was there received with great pomp.<sup>1</sup> Both had complaints to make against the Pope, who was then on good terms with the Emperor. On the 25th of October, Francis I. accompanied Henry to Calais, and was there entertained by him until the 30th, with feasting and splendid solemnities.

The treaty which follows was the chief result of their interview, and in concluding it both sovereigns publicly vindicated their Christian zeal, and privately took measures for their political security against a dangerous neighbour.<sup>2</sup>

Connue ainsi soit, que ce jour duy Nous, Francoys par la grace de dieu, Roy de France trescrestien, et Nous, Henry, par icelle mesme grace, Roy Dangleterre, Deffenseur de la foy, pour la deffence et conservation de nostre religion Crestienne et a fin de resister aux efforts et dampnees machinations et enterprises du Tureq ancien ennemy commun et adversaire de nostre foy, ayons par certain accord et traicte signe de noz mains et seelle de noz grans seeaulx convenu et accorde, que le cas advenant que icelluy Tureq se voulsist par cy apre . . . . forcer ou . . . . armeee de retourner et courir sur en ladicte Crestienite, nous dresserons equipperons et mectrons sur une bonne grosse et puissante armee garnie et equippee . . . . tout et quil appartient, et que pour cest effect assemblerons jusques au nombre de quatre vingts mil hommes dont y aura quinze mil chevaux, avecques telle bende et nombre dartillerye et suite dicelles quil est requis et necessaire pur larmee (?) dessusdicte. Toutefois purvee (?) que par icelluy accord et traicte nest aucunement dict speciffie ne declaire quel nombre de gentz (?) chescun de nous payera par chacun moys tant que laffaire durera, et quil est besoing en fere ample declaration par icelle (?) . . . . a par, a fin que chescun de nous puisse entendre (?) clerement ce quil deura fournir (?); a ceste cause il a este et est convenu et accorde entre nous par ce present traicte, que nous, Trescrestien, souldoyrons pour nostre part et portion desdicts quatre vingts mil hommes, le nombre de cinquante troys mil . . . . mes, desquelz y aura unz mil chevaux et trois mil pyonniers et gens dartillerye, et nous, Deffenseur de la foy, en souldoyrons le nombre de vingt sept mil, dont y aura quatre mil chevaux

<sup>1</sup> Hall has given a curious relation of the brilliant entertainments on occasion of these interviews. See his Chronicle, fol. 206-209, edit. 1550. Stowe, Annals, p. 944. edit. 1592.

- See Sharon Turner's Hist. Eng., vol.

x. p. 328. In a note (upon Hall's authority, referring to Le Grand) the effect of the treaty is correctly given. See also Rapin, under the year 1531 : Mezeray, tome xi. p. 487.

et trois mil pyonniers et gens d'artillerie, que est en somme to . . . . nombre de quatre vingt mil hommes. Et au regard de la despence quil faudra faire pour la conduicte et equippage . . . . . artillerie et de sa suicte (?) chescun de nous satisferra au payement de celle q . . . . sera equitable (?) . . . . . audict voyage. Et quant a la despence quil faudra fere pour le faict des vivres pour la nourriture et fournissement (?) de . . . . . nostre dicte armee . . . . . semblablement est accorde, que . . . . . de nous contribuera pour . . . . . soldoyrons toutes les quelles choses . . . . . et chescun dicelles. Et nous promettons respectivement lun a lautre en bonne foy et parolles de Roys et sur noz honneurs garder et inviolablement (?) . . . . . En tesmoing de quoy nous avons signe le present accorde de noz mains et faict seeller de nosdicte grand seale. Donne a Callaix, le vingt huictiesme jour Doctobre, lan de grace Mil Cinq centz trente et deux; et le regne de nous Trescrestien le dixhuictiesme; et de nos Deffendeur (?) de la foy le . . . . .

(Signed) FRANCOYS.

(On a small rider) . . . Par le Roy trescrestien,

BRETON.

(Endorsed) Qualificacio expensarum pro bello inferendo contra Turcam, de dat' Caleti, xxvij<sup>o</sup>. Octobris.  
28 Octobr. 1532. A<sup>o</sup>. 24 H. 8.

An imperfect impression of the great seal of Francis I. is appended: it is on white wax, the counter-seal alone being in such condition that the design may be discerned. It is of small size, and presents an escutcheon charged with three fleurs-de-lys, ensigned with a crown, and supported by two kneeling angels. There is no legend. This seal closely resembles that of Louis XII., the predecessor of Francis I., and possibly the same matrix may have been used. The great seal, or obverse of the impression, represented Francis enthroned under a canopy supported by two angels. Representations of both seal and counter-seal may be seen in the "Tresor de Glyptique, Sceaux des Rois et Reines de France," pl. xv.

It should be observed, that in printing the foregoing document, wherever contractions occur, the words are given *in extenso*. Several words, of which, owing to the decayed state of the original, the reading could not be satisfactorily ascertained, are marked by a (?), and blanks are left in those passages of which portions are wholly obliterated, the parchment being destroyed or defaced. These deficiencies, however, do not materially obscure the comprehension of the import of this remarkable Treaty.

JOSEPH BURTT.