

SUMMARY OF CONTENTS.

VOL. I.

INTRODUCTION.

Concerning the archives of Venice, and the antiquity of Venetian "Reports"—Earliest MSS. and printed copies of them existing in England—Impartiality of the Venetian diplomatists—Anglo-Venetian commerce and diplomatic intercourse—Englishmen of note connected with Venice in the 14th and 15th centuries—Venetian ambassadors in England from 1497 to 1515—Discovery of the Giustinian correspondence, and mode of editing it. pp. ix—xxviii

PRELIMINARY ACCOUNT OF THE GIUSTINIAN FAMILY.

Notices of the Giustinian family; of the first patriarch of Venice, and of the writer of these despatches, Sebastian Giustinian—His account of Hungary, A.D. 1500-1502, and details of the Corvinian library—His career from 1503 to 1515—His portrait of Henry VIII. at variance with a more recent sketch—Offices conferred on him from 1519 until his death in 1543—Opinion of his son with regard to the comparative valour of the English and French pp. 1-30

DESPATCHES OF SEBASTIAN GIUSTINIAN.

A.D. 1515.

January 12 to March 30.

Departure from Venice of Sebastian 'Giustinian—His letters from Ferrara, Lucca, and Genoa—Account of a supper given at Avignon to his colleague Pietro Pasqualigo—Instructions from Doge Leonardo Loredano—State of the roads—Entry into Paris of the Venetian ambassadors—Account of the French Court pp. 31-59

A.D. 1515.

April 7 to May 3.

Passion Week at Boulogne—Earliest news of the first treaty between Henry VIII. and Francis I.—Meeting with the French ambassadors at Dover—Entry into London, viâ Rochester and Deptford—Retrospective account of Andrea Badoer's adventures on the road between Venice and London, A.D. 1509—His

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06001-1 - Four Years at the Court of Henry VIII: Selection of Despatches
 Written by the Venetian Ambassador, January 12th, 1515, to July 26th, 1519: Volume 1
 Sebastiano Giustiniani Edited and Translated by Rawdon Lubbock Brown
 Table of Contents

[More information](#)

iv

CONTENTS.

wardrobe—His comments on English fashions and servants—Favour shown him by Henry VIII.—His negotiations and complaints—Fees paid by him to London physicians—His mode of living—His audiences of Henry VIII.—Statue of Charles VIII. and coffin of Louis XII.—Regalia at St. Denys—Amiens—Canterbury and St. Thomas à Becket's shrine—St. George's Day at Richmond, and May Day at Greenwich—Breakfast, mass, and dinner—Robin Hood and archery—A procession of giants—Music and jousting pp. 60—94

A.D. 1515.

June 15 to September 20.

Venetian politics—Sack—Thomas Wolsey, Archbishop of York—St. James of Compostella—Sir Thomas Dackwra, Grand Prior of St. John's, and the English Knights of Rhodes—Opinion entertained by Henry VIII. concerning Louis XII. and Francis I.—Reported embassy of the Earl of Worcester—Conversations with the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk, the Archbishop of York, and the Bishop of Carlisle—The "doughty" Duke of Albany—Ferrara and Mantua—A mendacious friar—A French ambassador—Queen Margaret of Scotland—Louise of Savoy—Knighthood conferred on Andrea Badoer, and the red hat on Thomas Wolsey pp. 95—128

A.D. 1515—16.

September 26 to January 2.

Congratulations addressed to Cardinal Wolsey—His complaints of Francis I. and the Duke of Albany—Greek apothegms—Battle of Marignano—Costly pledge or present from King Ferdinand the Catholic—Mission to England of a French King-at-arms—Naval preparations in the Thames—Launch of "*The Great Harry*," alias "*Henrye Grace de Dieu*," at Erith—Meeting of Parliament—Venetian news imparted by Cardinal Wolsey and the Archbishop of Canterbury—Departure from England of Andrea Badoer—Treaties between the European powers—Unpopularity of the French ambassador in England—Purchase by Henry VIII. of bills of exchange—Reasons assigned for this investment by Cardinal Wolsey, the Duke of Norfolk, and the Archbishop of Canterbury—Its effects on the rates of exchange—Statements concerning it at variance with the assurances of Cardinal Wolsey and his colleagues—Wish of Cardinal Wolsey for the mediation of Venice between England and France—Demand for the restitution of her jewels to Maria Tudor, Queen Dowager of France pp. 129—160

A.D. 1516.

January 5 to March 10.

False report of the capture of Brescia by the Venetians—Conversations with the Duke of Norfolk, the Bishops of Carlisle and Winchester, and the French ambassador—The wrongs of Margaret Tudor, Queen of Scotland—Arrival in England of an ambassador from the Emperor Maximilian—Court paid to Henry VIII.—Assertions of Cardinal Wolsey concerning the bills of exchange purchased by him—Their confirmation by the Bishop of Carlisle—

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06001-1 - Four Years at the Court of Henry VIII: Selection of Despatches
Written by the Venetian Ambassador, January 12th, 1515, to July 26th, 1519: Volume 1
Sebastiano Giustiniani Edited and Translated by Rawdon Lubbock Brown
Table of Contents

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

v

Refusal of Francis I. to stand godfather for the Lady Mary Tudor—Turkish news communicated to Henry VIII. by Sebastian Giustinian—Disfavour of the Republic of Venice in England after the battle of Marignano—Remittances to the Emperor, or to the Switzers—Confederation with the Archduke Charles, Prince of Castille—Death of King Ferdinand the Catholic—Birth of the Lady Mary Tudor—Her sponsors—Reply of Henry VIII. to congratulations on this event—His insinuations against Francis I.—Their corroboration by Cardinal Wolsey—Comments of Cardinal Wolsey concerning the bills of exchange, the policy of France and Scotland, and the health of Francis I.—Royal navy in the Thames—Announcement by Cardinal Wolsey that he effected the peace between England and France in 1514, and the marriage of Maria Tudor and Louis XII.—News of Italy by the Bishop of Carlisle—Arrival in London of the first embassy to Henry VIII. from the Archduke Charles, after his accession to the throne of Spain—Complaints against the Venetians by a prisoner of war—Conflicting claims on the Kingdom of Naples—Flattery lavished on Henry VIII.—Abuse of Venice pp. 161—191

A.D. 1516.

March 11 to April 26.

Henry VIII. sick and choleric—His own account of his wealth and authority—Complaints of being slighted by the Venetians—His influence over the Emperor Maximilian and King Charles of Spain—Supposed to be raising mercenaries against Scotland—Threats of Sultan Selim deplored by Cardinal Wolsey—Vain attempts to detach Venice from France—Contemptuous language addressed to Sebastian Giustinian—His rejoinder—Apologies of Cardinal Wolsey and Thomas Ruthal—Francesco Chierigato and Peter's pence—Seizure of the letters of the French ambassador, and reprimand given him for their contents—Mediation of Venice demanded by Cardinal Wolsey—Ambition of Francis I.—Retreat of Maximilian—Recall of the President of Rouen pp. 192—218

A.D. 1516.

May 1 to July 6.

Nullity of the marriage of Margaret Tudor to the Earl of Angus, and report of her betrothal to the Emperor Maximilian—Understanding between the Empire, Spain, and England—City news by Master Friskiball—Richard Pace in Switzerland—Arrival in London of the Queen of Scotland—Conversation with the Duke of Suffolk, and Sir Thomas Dackwra—The plague in London, and removal of the Venetian embassy to Putney—Remonstrances of Sebastian Giustinian against the seizure of his letters, and device adopted by him to prevent their being decyphered—The miseries of Turkish aggression anticipated—Treaty proposed by Cardinal Wolsey for the expulsion from Italy of Francis I.—Reply of the Venetian ambassador—*Tête à tête* at Greenwich with Henry VIII.—Modification by Cardinal Wolsey of language used by the King—Attempt made to effect the dismissal from the Court of Sebastian Giustinian—Surrender of Brescia to the Venetians—Renewal of the trade between Venice and England . . . pp. 219—250

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06001-1 - Four Years at the Court of Henry VIII: Selection of Despatches
 Written by the Venetian Ambassador, January 12th, 1515, to July 26th, 1519: Volume 1
 Sebastiano Giustiniani Edited and Translated by Rawdon Lubbock Brown
 Table of Contents

[More information](#)

vi

CONTENTS.

A.D. 1516.

July 17 to August 11.

A hitch in the Anti-Gallican league—A split in the English Cabinet—Perpetration of a pun—Festival of St. Mary Magdalen—Betrothal of King Charles of Spain—Venetian history—Table-talk with Cardinal Wolsey and Thomas Ruthal—White-Rose—Attention of the King of Denmark to his brother-in-law—Remittances to the continent made by Henry VIII., and discontent caused in England by the waste of his treasure—Attempt to intimidate Venice—Cardinal Wolsey's abuse of Francis I., and defence of him by Sebastian Giustinian—Distrust of Francis I., entertained by Leo X., on the authority of Thomas Ruthal—A quarter of a century of Venetian politics. pp. 251—275

A.D. 1516.

August 17 to September 30.

Efforts of Cardinal Wolsey to detach the Republic of Venice from her alliance with Francis I.—Answers to his arguments by Sebastian Giustinian—The sack of Vicenza—The contest for Verona—Bribes offered to a Prime Minister—Henry VIII., Catharine of Aragon, and Margaret Tudor in the country—The treaty of Noyon—Failure of Cardinal Wolsey's negotiations for an antagonistic treaty—Hint of the secret treaty effected subsequently—Mission of English military commanders to Tournai—Succour of Verona by Marc Antonio Colonna—Understanding between Leo X. and Henry VIII., and the Switzers—Court gossip by the Papal Nuncio—Arrival in London of a French herald—Folly of fishing with golden hooks—The organist of St. Mark's and his organ—Dinner engagements of Sebastian Giustinian—Music and dancing at Greenwich. pp. 276—301

A.D. 1516.

October 14 to November 1.

Disregard of the English Ministry for the conquests of Selim I.—Arrival in London of the Swiss Cardinal—Politics talked by Richard Pace—A Cabinet Council—The Bishop of Norwich and the Laureat Skelton—Cardinal Wolsey demented—Conversation with the Duke of Norfolk—Unscrupulous mode of ascertaining the veracity of Francesco Chiericato—The novelist Bandello and Ippolita Sforza—Contradictory news of Verona—Taxation in England—Political opponents of Cardinal Wolsey—Proposal to bribe him—Church ceremonies performed by Henry VIII., for the league with the Empire and Spain—Complaints against Aldus Manutius—Compostella bells—Cabinet absentees—Peculation and treachery by a Visconti. pp. 302—327