

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

European History

This series includes accounts of historical events and movements by eye-witnesses and contemporaries, as well as landmark studies that assembled significant source materials or developed new historiographical methods. It covers the social and political history of continental Europe from the Renaissance to the end of the nineteenth century, and its broad range includes works on Russia and the Balkans, revolutionary France, the papacy and the inquisition, and the Venetian state archives.

Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro

Edited by the retired politician and archaeologist Sir Austen Henry Layard (1817–94), this 1891 publication reproduces the despatches of Michele Suriano and Marcantonio Barbaro, Venetian ambassadors to France in 1560–1 and 1561–4 respectively. Addressed to the doge of Venice, the documents provide valuable accounts of one of the most fascinating periods of French history, covering the death of Francis II, the accession of Charles IX, the regency of Catherine de' Medici, and the negotiations for the marriage of Mary, Queen of Scots. The documents appear in their original Italian and in English translation. Evident in Suriano's and Barbaro's letters is the underlying tension between French Catholics and Protestant Huguenots, which would culminate in the St Bartholomew's Day Massacre of 1572. The book was produced for the Huguenot Society of London, and Layard, the Society's first president, was himself of Huguenot descent.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro

Venetian Ambassadors at the Court of France, 1560–1563

EDITED AND TRANSLATED BY
SIR HENRY LAYARD



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.
It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108077316

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2015

This edition first published 1891
This digitally printed version 2015

ISBN 978-1-108-07731-6 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect
the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published
by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with,
or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

DESPATCHES

OF

MICHELE SURIANO AND MARC' ANTONIO BARBARO,

1560–1563.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

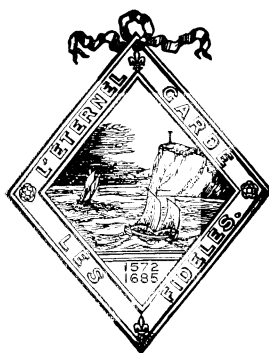
Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

THE
Publications
of
The Huguenot Society
of
London.

FOUNDED A.D. MDCCCLXXXV.



Volume VII.

1891.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

The COUNCIL of the HUGUENOT SOCIETY OF LONDON
desire it to be understood that they are not answerable for any
opinions or observations that may appear in the Society's pub-
lications; the Editors of the several Works being alone responsible
for the same.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

The Huguenot Society of London.

(Inaugurated 15th April, 1885).

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR MAY 1891-92.

President:

THE RIGHT HON. SIR HENRY LAYARD, G.C.B., &c.

Vice-Presidents.

SIR HENRY WILLIAM PEEK, BART.
ARTHUR GIRAUD BROWNING, F.S.A.

MAJOR-GEN. SIR E. F. DU CANE, R.E., K.C.B.
WILLIAM JOHN CHARLES MOENS, F.S.A.

Council.

EDWARD BELLEROCHÉ.
WILLIAM J. COLLINS, M.D.
FREDERICK A. CRISP.
JOHN EDWIN CUSSANS.
COLONEL M. W. E. GOSSET, C.B.
JOHN WILLIAM DE GRAVE.

ROBERT HOVENDEN, F.S.A.
*GENERAL F. P. LAYARD.
HENRY MERCERON.
WILLIAM MINET, F.S.A.
CHARLES FREDERIC ROUSSELET.
WILLIAM CHAPMAN WALLER, M.A.

Treasurer.

REGINALD ST. AUBYN ROUMIEU, 10, Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C.

Hon. Secretary.

REGINALD STANLEY FABER, M.A., 10, Oppidans Road, Primrose Hill, N.W.

Assistant Secretary.

G. H. OVEREND, F.S.A., 1, Stockwell Park Road, S.W.

* General Layard was a Member of Council from the founding of the Society in 1885 to 1888, and from 1889 to 1891. He was again elected for the year May 1891–May 1892, and his name is therefore retained in the List, though he died a few days after his election and before the issue of the present volume.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Despatches

OF

Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro,

VENETIAN AMBASSADORS AT THE COURT OF FRANCE,

1560–1563.

EDITED FOR THE HUGUENOT SOCIETY OF LONDON

BY

THE RIGHT HON SIR HENRY LAYARD, G.C.B., D.C.L.

MEMBRE DE L'INSTITUT DE FRANCE,

PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

London.

1891.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LYMINGTON :

ONLY FIVE HUNDRED COPIES PRINTED FOR

THE HUGUENOT SOCIETY OF LONDON,

BY CHAS. T. KING.

No.

Cambridge University Press

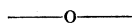
978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Contents.



DESPATCHES OF MICHELE SURIANO ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ MARC' ANTONIO BARBARO ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
DISPACCI DI MICHELE SURIANO ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	i
„ MARC' ANTONIO BARBARO ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	lx
INDEX ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	cli

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors
at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)**Corrigenda.**

PAGE	1 and after	<i>for</i>	Roche-sur-Yonne	<i>read</i>	Roche-sur-Yon.
„	28	„	„ Basque gentlemen	„	Basque gentleman.
„	54	„	„ Matignon	„	Maligni.
„	62	„	„ Baron de Senegas	„	Count of Senegal.
„	74	„	„ January 17	„	January 21.
„	77	„	„ Vieilleville	„	Vieilleville.
„	78	„	„ Soins	„	Sens.

Cambridge University Press

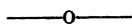
978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Preface.



THE Despatches of MICHELE SURIANO, or SORIANO,* and of MARC' ANTONIO BARBARO, of which I have presented copies, with translations, to the Huguenot Society of London, are contained in two MS volumes in the "Marciana," or Library of St. Mark, at Venice. They have not hitherto been published, and do not appear to have been known to Albèri, who collected and edited the "Relazioni," or reports, of the Venetian Ambassadors to the Doge and Senate in the 16th century. They relate to a period of great interest and importance in the history of the Huguenots, when the rivalry between the Houses of Navarre and Guise, and the religious dissensions which prevailed in France, were preparing the way for the Massacre of St. Bartholomew. SURIANO'S Despatches extend from the 1st November 1560, to 10th November 1561, when he was succeeded, as Venetian Ambassador at the French Court, by MARC' ANTONIO BARBARO. Unfortunately, the volume which contained the Despatches of the latter, during the greater part of the first year of his Embassy, is missing. The first of his Despatches preserved is of the 8th October 1562, the last of the 6th August 1563, when he was recalled from his mission. These Despatches, addressed for the most part to the Doge, contain almost daily reports of events then occurring in France.

The principal incidents described by Suriano are the arrest and imprisonment of Condé, accused of having taken part in the Conspiracy of Amboise, and his ultimate release; the illness and death of Francis II, and the accession of Charles IX; the assembly of the States General; the Regency of Catherine de' Medici; the negotiations for the marriage of Mary Queen of Scots; the quarrel between the King of Navarre and the Duke of Guise; and the Council, or 'Colloquy,' of Poissy, and the appearance before it of Beza. The Despatches of Barbaro relate principally to the siege of Rouen and its capture from the Huguenots; the capitulation of Dieppe; the death of Anthony of Navarre; the battle of Dreux; the negotiations for peace between the Huguenot and Roman Catholic leaders; the capture of Condé; the assassination of Guise; and the fall of Havre.

MICHELE SURIANO and MARC' ANTONIO BARBARO were members of distinguished patrician families. It was, indeed, only men of patrician birth who were employed by the Republic in important diplomatic missions. They had both, like others of their order, been trained from their youth to high public functions. They were both men of considerable capacity, and their Despatches are remarkable as state-papers. They were both in constant and intimate relations with Catherine de' Medici, to whose great abilities and wisdom in conducting affairs of state, and to whose energy and courage BARBARO bears the highest testimony.

MICHELE SURIANO was the son of the Cavaliere Antonio Suriano, and was himself a Knight and Senator. In 1558 he was sent by the Republic as her Ambassador to Spain; from 1560

* The name occurs in both forms. Albèri in his "Relazioni degli Ambasciatori Veneti al Senato", gives 'Soriano'; but in the original Despatches, and in the "Libro d'Oro," it is 'Suriano' and 'Surian.'

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-07731-6 - Despatches of Michele Suriano and Marc' Antonio Barbaro: Venetian Ambassadors at the Court of France, 1560–1563

Edited and Translated by Sir Henry Layard

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

to 1561 he held the same high office in France; in 1564 he went on a mission to the Cardinal of Lorraine at the Council of Trent, and to Maximilian II, who had been crowned King of the Romans. In 1570 he was Ambassador to Pius V, with whom he concluded the famous League against the Turks. In 1573 he was elected 'Riformatore dello Studio di Padova,' a post of considerable importance, which amongst its duties had the superintendence of the Press. He died at Venice and was buried in the Church of San Servolo.

MARC' ANTONIO BARBARO, the son of Francisco Barbaro, was Ambassador in England in the reign of Henry VIII, and received an addition of roses to his coat of arms from that Monarch. In 1564 he was sent by the Doge to France to congratulate the King on his victory over the Huguenots, and was knighted by him. In 1570 he was the 'Bailo,' or Ambassador, of the Republic to Sultan Selim on the breaking out of the war between Venice and Turkey relating to Cyprus. He was imprisoned in the Seven Towers, and closely confined; but contrived to keep the Senate informed of all that was passing, and contributed greatly to the conclusion of peace. For his services he was elected a 'Procurator' of St. Mark, and was subsequently sent as 'Inquisitor' to Corfu to examine the fortifications of that Island. In 1574 he was elected to the office of 'Riformatore dello Studio di Padova.' He was named one of the 'Procuratori' to carry the umbrella over Henry III of France on the occasion of that King's visit to Venice. In 1585 he was sent as 'Ambasciatore di obediienza' to Pope Sixtus V. He died at Venice and was buried in the Church of S. Francisco della Vigna.

There is, perhaps, little altogether new in the account contained in these Despatches of the events to which they refer; but the details given in connection with them by two such well-informed and impartial eye-witnesses are frequently of considerable interest, especially to the student of Huguenot history. I am consequently disposed to think that they are not unworthy of publication by the Huguenot Society of London.

A. H. LAYARD.

VENICE,

DECEMBER, 1890.