

"Turks more than his Catholic Majesty" (Spain) "—by reason of the ease (with which he can reach), and proximity to, the scene of action, because of the huge size and might of his country, because of the invincible valour of his generals, feared not only by many nations in Europe, but feared by the Turk himself and held in very great respect—he begs Your Highness to make use of Your authority and best persuasion to suggest to and inspire that king" (i.e. of Spain) "to undertake an expedition to Cyprus, an island abounding with provisions of all kinds, with ports most suitable for wintering his fleet, and near at hand for an attack later on Syria and the city of Aleppo, and so join up with the Persian army advancing to the notable loss and confusion of the Turks.

[Marginal comment: "About this too there will first be mention, and to the point, in the 'Brief.'"]

"4. And, since the Turkish dominions extend alongside those of various sovereigns in Europe, the most serene king of Persia begs Your Holiness to counsel and persuade every sovereign to make war across from their frontiers, i.e. the king of Poland by way of Wallachia, and his Majesty the Emperor by way of Buda.

[Marginal comment: "This will also be done."]

"5. And, because there is no thing so prejudicial in a great confederacy as private agreements, he begs Your Holiness to use all persuasion to the end that every private friendly compact with the Sultan of Turkey be rescinded, and to counsel the other countries now estranged from each other to become reconciled and abandon their private quarrels, and employ their forces against the common enemy.

[Marginal comment: "King of France and king of England."]

"6. And, because no state is naturally complete and self-supporting, but they derive assistance from foreign aid, like the Turkish Sultan, who makes use of the amity of certain princes of Christendom and by their means is furnished with all sorts of munitions by land, and particularly by sea, . . . and all kinds of supplies for his galleys, and is enriched by the money of Christian traders—money which is the sinew of war: and also by their intermediary he gets news of what is happening in all countries, kingdoms and confederacies, the king of Persia most warmly begs Your Holiness to procure the general dissolution of all that traffic.

[Marginal comment: "There should be a discussion about this with the king of France and with Venice."]

"7. And, since in every great undertaking, and particularly in matters of warfare, it is most expedient that all the confederate members should be always kept informed of the progress made on one side and the other, the king of Persia urges that Your Holiness send an ambassador plenipotentiary, who will also be the leader and head of all the Christians there are in his dominions, and his Majesty will give him full powers so that he" (such ambassador) "may control them according to reason; while the king of Persia will send another who will have his residence at this" (Your Holiness') "Court, and thus every movement can always be made after consultation and counsel for the better execution of all common actions.

[Marginal comment: "Consideration will be given to the matter, and in due course I shall inform" (him).]

"8. The king of Persia invites Your Holiness to post an archbishop and establish him at the 'Three Churches'" (i.e. Echmiadzin) "in Greater Armenia, the place of residence of the patriarch of that race, through whom Your Holiness would easily be able to convince the latter and make him submit to the obedience of the Holy Roman Church, seeing that by virtue of Your (influence) they (the Armenians) would become exempt from many burdens and impositions which they now have to endure by reason of the war; for then they would be freed by the help of Your Holiness—I mean, when there be dispatched from here" (Rome) "the bishop whom the king would plant down there.

[Marginal comment: "Thought will be given to this, too."]

"9. The king of Persia begs Your Holiness to have particular care in the choice of