

Pope Innocent VI. determined to propose the paternal arbitration of his Legates.

The Bishop of Patti, after having rendered an account of his mission in Southern Slavonia, vainly petitioned to be allowed to return to his people in Sicily. Although he had not been entirely successful in his former legation, he had nevertheless evinced so much diplomacy and such great energy that the Sacred College knew well how to appreciate his worth. Having but recently visited Venice and Hungary, he had gained an insight into the manners and customs of the people and had won their esteem and veneration. Surely no one could be better fitted to act as a messenger of peace between the conflicting parties.

Five different bulls relating to the mission of Hungary were issued in the month of July—or, as some say, August—1356.

Peter Thomas and Stephen (a Franciscan and Bishop elect of Agram in Croatia) were sent to the King of Hungary, and also to John Grandenigo, then doge of Venice. The first subject to be broached was the cessation of the unfortunate spirit of animosity which existed between the two sovereigns, while the second was to invoke their assistance against the enemies of the Church.

To Louis they were authorized to offer the position of Commander-in-Chief of a large army—all devoted Christians. The main object being to bring Stratimir into subjection, the next to marshal their forces against those Italian nobles who had revolted against the temporal power of the Holy Father. To promote the desired ends, they would constitute King Louis vicar of the Sovereign Pontiff in Italy, and standard-bearer of the Holy Catholic

Church. To provide for the expenses of the expedition, the King was at liberty to retain the ecclesiastical tithes throughout his domain for the period of three years.

To the doge, the legates were to recommend that he should hold entirely aloof from *all* negotiations with the Esclavonions (a name similar to the Rasciens) and to do all in his power to aid the cause of the Church.

Innocent VI. invoked also the co-operation of the Patriarch of Aquileia, and the Archbishop of Salzburg, prince of the Holy Empire. These prelates were to watch diligently and strive to dissipate any trouble that might arise in Hungary—and, under penalty of excommunication, they were to avoid being on intimate or too friendly terms with any heretic or schismatic.

The intrepid Peter once again crossing the Alps, and taking in Lombardy, arrived before very long at Venice. He was received with every mark of respect, and before an illustrious assemblage of dignitaries, he demonstrated the motives which should convince the Republic of the advantages of peace. In response to his paternal remonstrances, the "Council of Ten" made many fine promises, but owing to the absence of the first magistrate, they could enter into no definite agreement. The doge, Grandenigo, was dead. His death had occurred on August 28, and John Delphino, at that very time in the besieged city of Treviso, had been chosen as his successor. There was certainly cause to fear that it would be very difficult to gain his consent to pacific measures in the midst of a turbulent army. The Venetian troops were, generally speaking, hirelings who thought only of gain, or parties who, living by means of the pillage rendered easy by the constant