

CHARLES

I.

1627.

Duke of Buckingham to Lord Conway.

My very good Lord,

14th August.

YESTERDAY morning I received your several letters by Mr. Bartley, for which I kindly thank you, and intreat your Lordship for a continuance. I have read Mr. Montague's relation with a great deal of contentment, in his good endeavours for the advancement of his Majesty's service. Concerning the Duke of Savoy's design upon Geneva, I conceive it to be very unseasonable, and of wondrous prejudice to the action that is now in hand, which being chiefly for the restitution of the churches, it will be subject to strange constructions, that he should at the same time attempt upon a principal member of them, and at one instant join with those of their party, and himself go against them. And therefore I think it not amiss that Mr. Montague should receive directions to divert him from that enterprize, by representing unto him the disadvantages it will bring with it, and how he may more usefully and profitably employ his forces in the prosecution of those designs, which his Majesty hath entered into with so good success, and will pursue with all possible constancy and vigour. Touching the overtures of marriage with the Count of Soissons, it is a thing very considerable, would have been entertained with more chearfulness, and pursued with such assurances, as, in contemplation of the certainty, and great benefits of this alliance, would have engaged him presently to enter into action; an act in this conjuncture of affairs of wondrous consequence. As for Mons. de Rohan, you will see, by a copy of his letter to Mons. de Soubize, the scope of his intentions. How we stood with the Rochellers, your Lordship hath understood by my last of the 28th of the last month, since which time Mons. D'Angoulesme with 6000 foot, 500 horse, and 40 pieces of ordnance, is come within less than
a mile