

trators which included such eminent personages and scholars as abbots, pre-fects, commendators, deans, a prior, and several lords. The constitution of this arbitration commission, it is related, was made an occasion for the singing of "a great number of triumphal songs."¹

The preamble of the record of the awards made by the commissioners sets forth the purpose of their appointment and the way in which they gave publicity to their decisions :

"We, the arbitrators or friendly adjusters of the differences arisen between the Frisians, on the one side, and the city of Groningen, on the other, and their abettors, * * * * before whom the said dissension was finally compromised by the oath of each party that they would stand to our decision, no less by an assenting unanimity, which we have made known for a perpetual remembrance of the matter, for the present as well as for the future, that having shared in the determination of each party, we ordain and promulgate for the good of peace and harmony."²

One of the most sweeping of the different provisions of the decree was evidently that relating to the fortifications of the city of Groningen: "In the first place, that the people of Groningen, in consideration of the honor of the Frisians, shall pull down from the foundation the stone wall of their city, from the Ebbingegate, included, all the way to the tower nearest the west gate, Botteringegate, also included, with all their intermediate parts, and that the people of Groningen shall put in place of it a wooden wall with gates of wood. Also that they shall reduce the six fortresses." Other requirements of less note, to be obeyed both by the Groningenburghers and the Frisians, are recited in the instrument, as also are enjoinders for the payment of compensatory sums of money. The sealing of the decree and its publication are particularized in the closing sentences of the instrument :

"In perpetual remembrance of all which testimony and the carrying out of the matter the seals of the countries of Frisia, Hunsingo, Fivelgo, Drenthe, Groningen, Vredewold, Langewold, Hummerse, and the Eight Parishes are appended to these presents. Given and published by Selwert, in the year of the Lord one thousand three hundred and thirty-eight, in commemoration of the Blessed Paul. Wherefore we, the other compromisers or arbitrators aforesaid, are contented with the aforesaid seals."³

¹ "*Aan een groot getal van Zegsteden.*" Tegenwoordige staat der Vereenigde Nederlanden. Stad en Lande. Twintigste deel, p. 92.

² "*Nos arbitratores sive amicabilem compositores super discordiis exortis inter Frisones, ex parte una, et civitatem Gronicensem, ex altera, et eorum, * * * * in quos dicta discordia fuerat finaliter compromissa, juramento utriusque partis, ut nostre starent ordinationi, nihilominus accedente consensu, ad perpetuam rei memoriam notum facimus, tam presentibus quam futuris, quod nos communicato consilio utriusque partis ob bonum pacis et concordie ordinavimus et promulgavimus inviolabiliter observandum.*" Vide: Text and translation in the Appendix. Document No. 1.

³ "*In quorum omnium testimonium et rei geste perpetuam memoriam sigilla terrarum Frisie, Hun-*