

being spoiled, all their hope and traffique were gone for want of havens to bring in necessary provision; saying that the king could give nothing but bare titles that were no better than smoke and deare honors without profit. And that if the Catholicke religion moved him thereunto, he might well suppose that he should bring no more to pass by force, and with his owne overthrow, than the kings of Spaine and France by so many fires, executions, and ruine, of places had done; and therefore they gave him counsell to keepe that he had, and so quench the fire that the houses of Lalain had begun to kindle, remembering their device, *De Lalain sans reproche*, and to remain in the Union with the prince and their associates; and that, if he did to the contrary, it was to be feared that he should find himself ruined when he least suspected it.

“The count all this while hearkened unto the said counsell with great patience, oftentimes changing colour, and at the last made answer with griefe, in such sort that the teares fell from his eyes, and said that he was desperate, complaining of the obstinacie of the Frieslanders \* \* \* \* making show as then as if he would be constant unto the States-General. \* \* \* \*

“After that it fell out that the States-General sent letters and commissions unto Abel Frankena, doctor of both the lawes, who had gone to Groningen about the States-General’s affaires, which letters the Count of Renneberg had caused to bee taken away from the post as he entered Groningen, in which letters he found the commission that the States-General had sent for Bartel Entens to command over his regiment, which grieved him much: for which cause he sent for Frankena and caused him to be kept prisoner in a chamber, although it was told him by divers [persons] that it was against the lawes of all nations to shew any such rigor to an ambassador; but not long after Frankena got out at a window and so escaped away, by which dealing the said count sufficiently disclosed his intention.

“For which cause, amongst others, Captain Johan Cornput (who was also of the said count’s regiment) secretly counselled some of the magistrates and bourghers of Groningen (especially the bourger, Jacob Hildebrand, and others of the Reformed religion,) to make themselves masters of the city before their adversaries should attempt it, offering to be their leader and to put the count in safe keeping. But they made answer that as yet there was no need to do it, and that they were the strongest party, and would bee carefull enough thereof. Whereupon he protested that he had given them sufficient warning, and so should be discharged of their imminent ruine, and that if they would not do it, he said he would not hazard his life any longer in that place, and so went out of the city. \* \* \* \*

“The count for his part knew so well how to flatter them of Groningen,