

and to enable him to give final consent to the Constitutions in Becket's place.

John of Salisbury's account of his proceedings contains a curious picture of the cause of God, as Becket called it, on its earthly and grosser side.

The Count of Flanders (he wrote to the archbishop) is most anxious to help you. If extremity comes, send the count word, and he will provide ships.¹ Everything which passed in London and at Winchester (Clarendon) is better known here than in England itself; and many things are reported worse than the truth. . . . I have seen the King of France, who undertakes to write to the pope in your behalf. The feeling towards our king among the French people is of fear and hatred. The pope himself I have avoided so far. I have written to the two cardinals of Pisa and Pavia to explain the injury which will ensue to the Court of Rome if the Constitutions are upheld. I am not sanguine, however. 'Many things make against us, few in our favour. Great men will come over here with money to spend, *quam nunquam Roma contempsit* (which Rome never despised). The pope himself has always been against us in this cause, and throws in our teeth that after all which Pope Adrian did for the see of Canterbury you are allowing his mother to starve in cold and hunger.'² You write that if I cannot succeed otherwise I may promise two hundred marks. The other side will give down three or four hundred sooner than be defeated,³ and I will

¹ 'Naves enim procurabit si hoc necessitas vestra exegerit, et ipse ante, ut oportet, præmoneatur.'—*Joannis Sarisburiensis Epistolæ*, vol. i. p. 188.

² 'Cujus mater apud vos algore torquetur et inediâ.'

³ 'Sed scribitis, si alia via non patuerit, promittamus ducentas marcas. At certe pars adversa