



© Royal Collection Enterprises Limited 2024 | Royal Collection Trust

This is an extract from the Italian diary of Marino Sanuto, who lived in Venice in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries. This is from Calendar of State Papers Venice vol. 3 (London, 1869) and dated 11 June 1520.

On the day of the first conference between the two Kings, from 3,000 to 4,000 men, horse and foot, were hidden about the country, within call of the King [Francis], but this was a secret, as the number of persons allowed to attend the conference was limited. The King of England got some hint of this, and as King [Francis] had more troops actually present than the stipulated amount, the King of England took umbrage, and well nigh determined to withdraw; but when King Francis heard of this, he desired all, under pain of the gallows, to return to the village of Ardres, save those of the King's household; and thus upwards of 2,000 horse went back. On hearing this, the English King proceeded without hesitation.