

Chapter 6

*The enemies guilfully offer to make league with the Iewes,
3. but Nehemias procedeth in building the walles: 16. and
al bordering nations feare them.*

And it came to paffe, when Sanaballat had heard, and Tobias, and Goffem the Arabian, and the rest of our enimies, that I did build the wal, and there was no breach remayning in it (howbeit at that time I had not put the doores in the gates) ² Sanaballat and Goffem fent to me, faying: Come, and ^alet vs make a league together in the villages, in the field of Ono. But they thought to doe me euil. ³ I fent therfore meffengers to them, faying: I am doing a great worke, and I can not goe downe, left perhaps it be neglected when I fhall come, and descend to you. ⁴ But they fent to me according to this word, foure times: and I answered them according to the former word. ⁵ And Sanaballat fent his feruant to me the fifth time according to the former word, and he had a letter in his hand written in this maner: Among the Gentiles it is heard, and Goffem hath fayd, that thou and the Iewes meane to rebel, and therefore thou buildest the wal, and wil aduance thy felfe king ouer them: for which caufe ⁶ thou haft fette vp prophettes alfo, which should preach of thee in Ierufalem, faying: There is a king in Iurie. The king wil heare of thefe thinges: therefore come now, that we may take counfel together. ⁷ And I fent to them, faying: It is not done according to thefe words, which thou fpeakeft: for thou frameft thefe things of thine owne hart. ⁸ For al thefe terrified vs, thinking that our hands would ceafe from the worke, and we would leaue of. For which caufe

^a VVhen heretikes & other aduerfaries of the Church finde them felues not able to fuppreffe Catholiques, they offer conditions of peace, and libertie to al, fo when proteftātes beganne & where they are weake, they would haue none perfecuted for anie opinions in religion; but where they are ftrōg they hardly grant toleration to Catholiques.

I did the more strengthen my hands: ⁹ and I entred into the house of Samaia the sonne of Dalaia the sonne of Metabeel secretly, who sayd: Let vs confult with our felues in the house of God in the middes of the temple: and let vs shutte the doores of the temple because they wil come to kil thee, and in the night they wil come to flea thee. ¹⁰ And I sayd: Doth any man that is like vnto me flee? and who being as I am, wil goe into the temple, and liue? I wil not goe in. ¹¹ And I vnderstood that God had not sent him, but as it were prophycying he had spoken to me, and Tobias, and Sanaballat had hyred him. ¹² For he had taken a price, that I being terrified should do it, and finne, and they might haue some euil to vpbraide me withal. ¹³ Remember me Lord for Tobias and Sanaballat, according to such their workes. Yea and Noadiah the prophete, and the rest of the prophetes that terrified me. ¹⁴ But the wal was finished the five and twentieth day of the moneth of Elul, in two and fiftie dayes. ¹⁵ It came to passe therefore when all our enimies had heard it, that all nations which were round about vs, feared, & were dismayed within their felues, and knew that this worke was done of God. ¹⁶ But in those dayes also many letters of the principal Iewes were sent to Tobias, and from Tobias there came to them. ¹⁷ For there were many in Iurie sworn vnto him, because he was the sonne in law of Sechenias the sonne of Area, and Iohanan his sonne had taken the daughter of Mofollam the sonne of Barachias. ¹⁸ Yea and they prayed him before me, and they reported my words vnto him: and Tobias sent letters to terrifie me.