

NOTE ON CONVENTIONS

Where an established English version of a foreign place-name exists (Antwerp, Corunna, The Hague, Venice, Vienna) I have used it, otherwise I have preferred the style used in the place itself today (Mechelen, not Malines; Aachen, not Aix-la-Chapelle; Regensburg, not Ratisbon). The exception is the capital of the Ottoman empire: all references to it taken from original sources preserve the contemporary usage 'Constantinople'; all others refer to 'Istanbul'. Likewise, where an established English version of a protagonist's name exists (Francis I, Clement VII, Don John of Austria) I have used it, otherwise I have preferred the version used by the protagonist. Different people with the same name form an exception. Although the context usually clarifies their identity, 'Catalina' refers to Charles's youngest sister and 'Katherine' to their aunt, Katherine of Aragon; 'Margaret' means Charles's aunt Margaret, archduchess of Austria and dowager duchess of Savoy, and 'Margarita' means his illegitimate daughter, duchess of Florence and later of Parma (known in contemporary sources as 'Madama'); 'María' normally means Charles's older daughter; 'Marie' means his sister the queen of Hungary (after 1526 dowager queen); and 'Mary' means either Henry VIII's sister or older daughter, both of whom were at one stage betrothed to Charles.

Protagonists who changed their style or title present a special challenge. Antoine Perrenot de Granvelle (1517–86) used the style 'bishop of Arras' between 1540 and 1562 and thereafter 'Cardinal Granvelle', but he appears throughout this book as 'Perrenot' to distinguish him from his father, Nicholas Perrenot de Granvelle (1486–1550), who appears throughout this book as 'Granvelle'.¹ Charles's grandfather Maximilian (1459–1519) also changed his style. He started life as archduke of Austria, adding duke of Burgundy after 1477 when he married Duchess Mary; in 1486 he began to style himself 'king of the Romans' and after 1508 changed it to 'emperor elect'. After the death of his father Emperor Frederick III in 1493, however, his contemporaries normally referred to Maximilian as 'the emperor' and

that is how he appears throughout this biography. Charles, too, was ‘emperor elect’ after he became king of the Romans, until the pope placed the imperial crown on his head ten years later; but after 1520 almost all his contemporaries referred to him as ‘the emperor’. Charles himself followed the style used by the ruler in each of his dominions. In Spain, he used the title *Rey Católico* (‘the Catholic king’), granted to his grandparents Ferdinand and Isabella, and signed all documents *Yo el Rey* (‘I the king’) even when writing to his wife or his children. He signed documents in Latin, German and Italian, ‘Carol’ or ‘Carolus’; and those written in French, ‘Charles’. In this book, Charles is referred to as ‘emperor’ from his coronation as king of the Romans in 1520 until he transferred the title to his brother in 1558; and ‘the Empire’ (with an initial capital) refers to the ‘Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation’ over which he ruled.

Finally, some terms changed their meaning over time, which can cause confusion. Thus ‘Protestant’ first appeared in 1529 as a political term for those who protested at the abrogation of the toleration granted to German Lutherans three years before. It acquired a doctrinal meaning the following year, when the followers of Martin Luther presented their Confession of Faith to the Diet of Augsburg; but, as Bob Scribner observed, throughout Charles’s reign it remained ‘something of a politico-religious centaur, a theological statement worked out under diplomatic and political pressure to meet the demands of a political situation.’ The emperor used interchangeably the terms ‘those who have deviated from the true church’, ‘Protestant’ and ‘Lutherans’ (even for those who rejected aspects of Luther’s teaching, such as Heinrich Bullinger in Zurich and Martin Bucer in Strasbourg); but in this book ‘Lutherans’ refer exclusively to followers of Martin Luther and ‘Protestants’ to all who rejected papal authority.²

