

# The London Gazette.

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From **Thursday** February 20. to **Monday** February 24. 1678.

*Naples, Jan. 31.*

**T** Here is very little to write from hence, all we can tell you is, that they say from *Sicily*, that their new Viceroy had caused the Inhabitants of *Messina* to be all disarmed, and had deprived them of several Priviledges, which they formerly enjoyed, and that by his order the Bells of the Cathedral Church at *Messina* had been taken away, and melted down.

*Dantzicke, Febr. 8.* We have Letters from *Grodno* of the 3d instant, which tell us, that the *Moscovite* Ambassador had had Audience in the Dyet; that the substance of his Oration to them was, to persuade them to enter into an Alliance with the Czar his Master, for the pursuing the War with their joint Forces against the Turks, and to that end, to represent to them the advantages the Crown of *Poland* might expect from such a conjunction of their Forces, to which the said Ambassador was answered in general terms onely, *viz.* that they extremely valued the friendship and near Alliance of the Czar, and would on all occasions manifest that they did so, and that as to the Overture he, the Ambassador, made, it would require a serious consideration, before any answer were given in it, which when it is, will not it's believed, be to the satisfaction of the *Moscovite*; for the Poles, so lately got out of a great and dangerous War, seem not disposed to renew it at this time. The Letters add, that the Imperial Ambassador had likewise had Audience in the Dyet, to whom he had highly complained of the Polish Troops being sent to the assistance of the Rebels in *Hungary*, and prayed that the same might be redressed for the future. The difference between the Crown General *Wisnowiski*, and the Chevalier *Lubomirsky*, is composed.

*Ditto, Febr. 19.* The *Suedes*, after having sustained several great losses in their retreat, are at last got home with the remains of their Army. We are told, that they complain extremely of the Poles, who they say had not only promised them assistance, but had even invited them to this march into *Prussia*, but that being come thither, they had been disappointed in all they expected from them, and therefore had been necessitated to make this hally retreat, in which they suffered very much from those of *Lithuania*. What loss they have sustained cannot be particularized; from *Coningsberg* they write, that of 12000 men which they entered into *Prussia* with, they have not brought above 3 or 4000 home again; but we must expect to hear what account the *Suedes* will give of what has passed; and then we may be able to make a better judgement than as yet we can. The Elector of *Brandenburg* will now return for *Pomeran*, to be so much nearer the Negotiations which are said to be on foot for the making the Peace of the North. From *Poland* they write, that the Dyet would be determined in few days, though there had not when these Letters

came away, been any resolution taken in the great Point concerning the joining with the *Moscovites* in their present War against the Turks, &c.

*Coningsberg, Febr. 10.* A great many prisoners are daily brought hither, and to other places; and we are told that our Troops continue still to pursue the Enemy, who is certainly in a very ill condition, and yet perhaps not in so very ill an one as is said here. It is reported that our Elector hath written to Count *Horne*, General of the *Suedes*, to offer him free liberty for himself and his chief Officers to retire through his Territories whither they pleased, upon condition the common Soldiers laid down their Arms, and yielded themselves Prisoners of War, which they had reason to do, considering the condition they were in, and that they that escaped the Sword, would in all likelihood be starved.

*Ditto, February 17.* Our Parties which pursued the Enemy, and particularly that, commanded by Colonel *Schoning*, are coming back, having followed them as far as they thought convenient, and almost to the Frontiers of *Livonia*; from whence we have an account, that on the 10th instant the remainder of the *Suedes* Army, which might consist in 4 or 5000 men, passed by *Mittau*, the Residence of the Duke of *Courland*, which is about seven Leagues from *Riga*. On Sunday last the Elector of *Brandenburg* returned hither, and it's believed will very suddenly take his way back towards *Pomeran*.

*Hamburg, Febr. 21.* The Letters we receive by the last Post from *Prussia*, do not agree in the account they give us of what had happened since our former Letters; some say that Major-General *Frisenfeldt*, and Major-General *Schoning*, having still pursued the *Suedes*, fell upon them in a Wood, where they had posted themselves, but that they were repulsed with considerable loss; others say, that the *Brandenburgs* had obtained a fresh advantage against the *Suedes*, and had taken many prisoners, Colors, and Standards; but our next Letters will without doubt more clearly inform us of what has passed. There are Letters from *Zell*, which say, that the Princes of *Lunenburg* were treating with *France* and *Sueden*; that they offered to restore *Bremen* to *Sueden*, upon condition that *Pomeran* should remain to the Elector of *Brandenburg*, who in consideration hereof will give the Country of *Regensteyn*, and part of that of *Halberstadt* to those Princes; but this we know not what credit to give to.

*Strasburg, Febr. 20.* Yesterday and the day before the Peace was published in all places in the upper and lower *Alsace*, by order of Monsieur *Monclar*, who hath sent a Trumpet hither to signify the same to our Magistrates, and to the Commander of the Imperial Troops that are in Garrison here, and to let them know that he expects the like will be done on this side. The Soldiers continue however to work on the Fortifications of the Forts on the *Rhine*,

*Cologne,*