

# The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Thursday October 21. to Monday October 25. 1686.

*A Relation of the taking of Sign in Dalmatia by the Forces of the Republick of Venice.*

**T**HE Proveditore-General *Cornaro* and the Prince of *Parma* having drawn together near *Scalona* 1000 Horse and 5000 Foot of regulated Troops, and 5000 *Morlaques* commanded by the *Chevalier Janco*, with the Artillery and Ammunition necessary for a Siege, held a Council of War, whereit was unanimously resolved to attack *Sign*. Accordingly the march was directed thither through very difficult ways, insomuch that Men were forced to draw the Cannon, the steep passages over the Mountains not permitting them to make use of Horses. The 23 of *September* they arrived before *Sign*, situated on a Rock, and fortified with a good Wall, and a strong Castle; The *Venetians* broke ground the same day, and raised three Batteries of two pieces of Cannon and one Mortar each, with which they began the 25th to batter the Wall of the Town and the Castle, and in few hours dismounted the Enemies Cannon which were planted on the great Rondel. The Proveditore-General summoned the Besieged, offering them the same conditions that had been granted to *Neurin* and *Modon*; but the Commandant who was a *Dalmatian* Renegado, answered, That he would defend the place to the last; and would lose his Life with the Town, which the Grand Signior had entrusted in his Hands; adding, that he expected speedy relief from the *Bassa* of *Aiscegovina*, who was within 12 hours march of the place. The Truce occasioned by this Parley lasted near three hours, after which the Besiegers began to fire again from their Cannon and Mortars, which they continued to do the 26th and 27th; The 28th the breaches being large enough, and the *Palisadoes* and other Defences the Enemy had made behind them, being beaten down, the Prince of *Parma* appointed 500 Foot under the command of the *Marquis Borri*, accompanied with divers *Volontiers*, and supported by a Reserve of 400 Men to give an Assault; The *Turks* seeing them approach, put themselves into a posture to oppose them, and with Grenadoes and Stones, withstood the efforts of the Assaultants above three hours, but these being encouraged by the presence of their chief Commanders, at last gained the Breach, and drove the Enemy into their second Retrenchment, and into the Castle, where they put up a white Flag, which the Commandant pulled down with his own hand; The Assaultants soon after forced the second Retrenchment, as likewise the Castle, and cut in pieces about 250 *Turks* who composed the Garison, sparing only some few Women and Children: The *Marquis de Borri* endeavoured to hinder the slaughter, but the *Chevalier Janco* to revenge the death of some of his Relations killed in the Assault, put all

he met to the Sword. Of the Assaultants about 200 were killed and wounded in this occasion. The *Morlaques* presented above 150 Heads to the Proveditore-General, who gave them 4 Sequins for each. In the place were found 8 pieces of Cannon, with a great many Muskets and other Arms, and a very good Magazine of Powder. About 100 Women and Children were made prisoners, and 20 *Christians* delivered from slavery; the Plunder was inconsiderable, the *Turks* having before the Siege removed their best Goods to other places. The 29th the Proveditore-General, the Prince of *Parma*, and the other Generals entred into the Town, and went directly to the chief Mosque where *Te Deum* was sung. The Proveditore having given the necessary Orders, and put into the place a Garrison of 5 Companies of Foot, and 3 Troops of Horse under the Command of Signior *Isolagny*, returned with the Army to *Scalona*; and if the weather continue favourable, he will undertake some more considerable Enterprize: By the taking of *Sign* the *Venetians* are become Masters of the fertile Province of *Zetina*.

*Madrid, Octob. 10.* Don *Gonzalo Chacon* General of the Galeons has since their arrival at *Cadix* been made a prisoner, and Commissioners are appointed to form his Process; He is charged with having disobeyed his Orders, which expressly commanded him to put with the Fleet into the Port of *St. Adero*, whereby the Frauds practised at the unlading the Galeons at *Cadix* would have been prevented, and the King's Duties greatly increased. The 5th Instant an Extraordinary Council was held on this subject in the King's Presence. After which an Express was sent to *Cadix* with Orders to the Commanders of the Fleet, and the Officers of the Chamber of *Sev. l. c.* It's said the King demands of the Merchants a Million of pieces of Eight, one half by way of Tax, to be freed from all prosecution for Countersand-Goods, and the other half by way of Loan. The Lading of the Galeons amounts, as we are assured, to 30 Millions; but there are not above 12 Millions and a half Registered. The King has named the Duke of *Escalona*, who served this Campaign in *Hungary* to be his Ambassador at the Emperor's Court, in the place of the *Marquis de Byngmanero*, who is made Viceroy of *Galicia*.

*Vienn, Octob. 17.* The Duke of *Lorraine* was according to our last advice encamped with ten Regiments not far from *Pest*, having sent some Troops as we told you in our last, to possess themselves of *Hatvan* (where they found 17 pieces of Cannon, which the *Turks* had been forced to leave behind them) and a detachment to reinforce the Garison of *Buda*, which was weakened by the departure of the *Brandenburg* and *Saxon* Troops that were put into the place presently after it was taken. The Express that arrived here the 13th Instant from the Camp before *Seguin*, parted from thence the 6th; and brought an account, that the day before the

Imperial