

The London Gazette.

Number 7434

Published by Authority.

From Thursday March 7. to Monday March 11. 1688.

Madrid, February 24.

THE 10th Instant the Queen of Spain was taken very ill with a Cholic and Vomiting, occasioned by her eating and drinking too great a quantity of Cool Things, which increased with that violence, that all the Remedies that were applied proving ineffectual, she died the 12th about eight in the morning, leaving the King and this whole Court in an unpeakable Affliction. The Body of this Princess having been exposed for three days, was carried to the Escorial, and laid in the Burying Place of the Kings of Spain with the usual Ceremonies. The King continues at the Buen Retiro, whither he retired immediately after the Queens Death, and has not yet given any Audiences.

Ratisbonne, March 7. The Margraef of Baden, the Emperors Principal Commissioner, has acquainted the Diet, That having transmitted to his Imperial Majesty their Resolution of the 14th of the last month, containing a Declaration of War against the Crown of France, &c. his Imperial Majesty had commanded him, in his Name, to declare to them, That he had with great satisfaction understood with what Zeal and Prudence the States of the Empire assembled here, had considered this Weighty Affair, and the great Care and Love they had thereby shewed for their Country; That for what concerns the Contents of the said Conclusion, and particularly, that the Crown of France, for the unjust Invasion of the Empire, and the other Hostilities committed in an unchristian and barbarous manner, ought to be esteemed, and formally declared, an Enemy of the Empire, His Imperial Majesty does graciously approve thereof, and the rather, for that it is notorious, that the said Crown did, not many years ago, with Money and all other assistances foment the Rebellion in Hungary, and did even stir up the Common Enemy of the Christian Name, against the Emperor and the Empire, and at this time endeavours, according to the certain Advices come from Turkey, to draw the Ottoman Port into an Offensive Alliance, and offers to prosecute the War, began for their Advantage and Re-establishment, jointly with them, and not to make Peace without them; That the said Crown therefore well deserves to be declared at present, (as was resolved on in the year 1544, by the States of the Empire assembled at Speers) not only an open Enemy of the Empire, but of all Christendom, no less than the Turks themselves are look't upon to be. His Imperial Majesty does likewise confirm the said Conclusion in all its other Points and Clauses, and does Esteem and Declare the said Crown of France, and all its Adherents and Abettors, Enemies of the Empire, and that the present War be look't upon as a Common War of the whole Empire, &c. The Diet has resolved to assist the Elector of Trier with Men and Money for the Defence of Coblentz and the Fortrefs of Hermsstein.

Hague, March 12. A Declaration of War has been published here against France, containing in substance as follows:

That the States-General being in perfect Peace and Tranquillity in the year 1672, with such an entire Confidence in the Treaties of Peace, Friendship and Alliance established between the French King and this State, that they were wiposided of whatever might serve for their Defence against so Powerful a King, nor being able to imagine that the said King, without any just cause, would break the said Treaties, were yet contrary to an expectation fallen upon with so sudden and heavy a War, that the State was in a short time brought into great danger, and might have been entirely subverted, had they not reflected upon the Reasons which the said King declared had moved him to the War, to wit, the Encrease of his Honour and Glory; and firmly trusted that Almighty God would not suffer their destruction undertaken with so great injustice, whereby they were encouraged in that desperate State of Affairs, under the Prudent Conduct of his Highness the Prince of Orange, to stand out all Extremitie: in

the defence of the True Reformed Religion, their Liberty and Country; That it having pleased God to procure his Mercies upon the State, after the spilling of much innocent Blood, and the great suffering of the labourer by the Cruelties of the French, a Treaty of Peace, Commerce, and Navigation was concluded in the year 1678, with the French King at Nimuegen, which the States on their part exactly and religiously observed; but that on the contrary the French King, for his own private Interest, and heavy burthen upon the Commerce of the State, and endeavoured from time to time, by all manner of way, as well in as out of Europe, to molest the same; favoured the taking of their Ships and Goods, and sought, as far as in him lay, as well directly as indirectly, entirely to ruin their said Commerce and Navigation, causing even their Ships of War to be visited by force, and some of them to be attack'd in time of Peace; That the said King had finally by new Impositions and Vexations hindered the Inhabitants of these Countries from vending in France, their Manufactures, and product of their Fishery, and had on frivolous pretence laid such great and unjust impositions upon their Trade, that it was impossible for them to continue it any longer; slighting with great contempt all the Instances made by the States on occasion thereof, and denying their Ambassadors in France the Honour and Respect which they had always enjoyed; That the said King having begun the Terrible Persecution against those of the Reformed Religion within his Kingdoms, had involved therein the Subjects of this State, residing there on account of their Trade, forcing Women from their Husbands, and Children from their Parents, and treating even the Consuls of this State in a cruel and unheard of manner, contrary to the Law of Nations, and the express Tenor of the Treaties; That the said King had farther shewed his ill design against this State, by the continual motion of his Troops towards their Frontiers, thereby to oblige them to make extraordinary Preparations by Land and Sea, to the exhausting of their Revenues; That he had sometimes with fair Words and solemn Assurances, and even by Overtures of an Alliance, endeavoured to amuse them, but that when cover they went about to provide for their own security, and the further strengthening of the Treaty of Nimuegen, by making Defensive Alliances with any of the Princes their Neighbors, He had always opposed them, and even threatened them with a War on account thereof. Lastly, That the said King has in full Peace, seized the Ships, Goods, and Persons of the Subjects of this State who were residing in France, upon the publick Faith of the Treaties, to be seized, and the Masters and Seamen of the said Ships to be imprisoned, and most barbarously treated, to force them to change their Religion, and the said Ships, Goods and Effects to be sold, although it is expressly stipulated by the Treaty of Commerce, that in case of a War, the Subjects on both sides shall be allowed six months time to retrieve with their Goods, or otherwise to sell or dispose of them; which was followed with the plundering and burning of divers Villages within the Territories of this State; and afterwards with a Declaration of War, for which no other reason was given, than that the States had made Extravagant Preparations by Land and Sea, although they had assured the said King that they were only intended for their own necessary defence, and that they would not concern themselves with the Election of Cologne; That the States having thus made manifest the Evil Designs and Malincinations of the French King against this State, do admonish their Subjects seriously to reflect upon the Treatment they are to expect from him in the matter of their Religion, Liberty, Estates, and Persons, and that they will call to mind the cruel Persecution he has undertaken against his own Subjects, and in what manner the Towns and Places, who thought they had surrendered upon good Conditions, have been treated, and whole Countries destroyed which his Troops have been forced to quit. Upon all these Considerations, and for the Preservation of their Religion, and Liberty, and the repairing the Injuries their Subjects have so unjustly suffered, the said States