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Vienna, April 7.

Frequent Councils have been held here since the arrival of the Duke of Lorraine, to concert the Operations of the approaching Campaign; But the Generals that are to command the Imperial Forces in the Empire, and in Hungary, are not yet declared. The Turkish Envoys seem desirous to return home, having, as they declare, no Power to proceed in the Treaty upon the Demands of the Emperor and his Allies; But it's believed they will be re-conducted to the Castle of Plattendorf, and treated there in the same manner as the Count de Caprara the Emperor's Envoy was formerly at Constantinople. The Elector of Bavaria is expected here towards the end of this Month. The Emperor hath lately written the following Letter to the King of Poland.

LEOPOLD, &c. Your Serenity will have sufficiently understood by our former Letters to you, how Unjustly and Treacherously the Crown of France, Violating the Treaties of Westphalia and Nimeguen, and the Twenty Years Truce concluded a few Years since, hath invaded us and the Empire at a time that we expected nothing less. But the enormity of this Invasion is infinitely aggravated by the horrid Cruelties and Barbarities they continue to exercise in the places they have possessed themselves of, pillaging whole Towns and Countries, which, to preserve themselves, surrendered upon Articles, and afterwards paid the Contributions imposed upon them, against the Faith given 'em, and consumed by the King himself or the Dauphin; And afterwards destroying them with Fire, or leveling the Walls and Houses to the Ground, and carrying away the Inhabitants bound as Slaves in a manner only practised among Barbarians; And forcing them, with Threats of Death, to follow the French Army into other Parts; Not sparing the Stately Houses and Palaces of Princes, which had been preserved for Ages, and in the Bloodiest Wars; And not withholding their impious Hands even from the Churches; And exercising many other Cruelties and Inhumanities, such as are seldom committed by the Turks themselves, and which can hardly be found in any History to have been ever practised among Christians; Which, as they must deservedly excite the Hatred of all Christendom against France, so they especially lay a necessity upon us of providing for the Safety of the Roman Empire, and of using all means to free it from such unbecoming Violence and Oppressions. And to this purpose the States of the Empire assembled, by their Deputies, at Ratisbonne, have unanimously besought us, that a just War being declared against France, we would not only, as soon as might be, make an Honourable Peace with the Turks, but would also invade the Kings and Republics, our Friends and Allies, to join with us in the War, and to continue their Friendship and Alliance with the Empire, thereby to prevent and render ineffectual the pernicious Designs and Contrivances of France, and its Adherents against us and the Roman Empire. Wherefore having, for what concerns a speedy and Honourable Peace with the Turks, already declared in our former Letters our Sentiments to your Serenity, and being glad to hear that your Serenity is sending to us an Envoy Plenipotentiary, we have now thought fit, at the instance of the States of the Empire, and out of the Fraternal Confidence we have in your Serenity, to write this, not that we think your Serenity wants to be exhorted to prefer the Friendship, which for so many Ages has continued without Interruption between us, the Roman Empire, and the Crown of Poland, before the Machinations of France; Or that your Serenity, after having fought so Gloriously against the Common Enemy of Christendom, can now be induced to favour their Abettors, Adherents, and Confederates, to wit, the French (for why should we not call them so, who at this very time offer to make an Offensive Alliance

with the Turks,) or to assist directly or indirectly their Designs, and thereby become a Partner in their detestable Perfidiousness; which we persuade our Serenity is very far from your Serenity's Piety, Integrity and Prudence, who, not many Years since, had such Experience of the Malice of France; But amicably and Brotherly to advise you, on our part, and in the Name of the Empire, to take such Measures and Resolutions with the whole Republick of Poland, that, proceeding with United Councils and Forces, the horrid Perfidiousness of France may be punished; And a firm and lasting Peace at last established in Christendom. Thus we the rather promise our Selves from your Serenity and the Kingdom of Poland, for that it is an undeniable Truth, that our Common Interests, or those of Germany and Poland, are equally concerned, and that those Attempts made by the French upon us, and the Empire, in favour of the Turks, during our Offensive Alliance against the Infidels, are likewise prejudicial to the Kingdom of Poland. For it is they that, being Enemies of our Glory, and our Holy League, as well as of your Serenity, and the Republick of Venice, do stop the Course of those Noble Conquests, which we had yet reason to hope, and which we had proposed to our Selves for the Advancement of the Glory of GOD, and the Christian Religion. We therefore doubt not your Majesty will return us an Answer agreeable to our mutual Friendship, &c. Given at Vienna the 18th of March, 1689.

Frankfort, April 16. The Confederate Troops march towards the Rhine. The Marechal de Duras is gone to Heilbrunn near Mombellard, where he intends to form his Camp. It's said the French are going to demolish Philipshausen.

Cologne, March 19. The Detachment that was sent from France to attack and demolish the Fort the French have lately built on the other side of the Rhine over against Bonn, having been discovered in their march, they found, at their arrival there, that the Garrison was reinforced to 500 Men, which obliged them to retire after the first attack, in which Colonel Leyden, who commanded this Party, was kill'd, with about 25 Soldiers; The Enemy thereupon made a Sally, but were beaten back with the loss of several of their Men. Upon advice that 4000 French passed yesterday the Rhine at Bonn, the greatest part of this Garrison is preparing to march towards Brevil to observe them. Prince Max decke has lately had a Conference with General Schening at Santen, from whence the Brandenburg Troops commanded by the later are marching towards Keppen, Lechenich, and Bonn. There are now in Coblenz 4 Regiments of Foot, and 2 of Horse, of the Duke of Hanover's Troops; And 1500 Men the Duke of Zell's Forces, with two Imperial Regiments, are daily expected there.

Brussels, April 22. Yesterday morning arrived here a French Officer, who, addressing himself to the Baron de Fry Governor of this City, was by him introduced to our Governor-General, to whom he presented a Letter from the Marechal d'Humieres; Wherein he acquainted his Excellency, that the King his Master had declared War against the Crown of Spain, both by Sea and Land: In the Evening the said Officer returned towards Philipville, where he left the Marechal d'Humieres, who is drawing together all the Forces he can on that side. The Spanish Regiment of Manriques, that was here, is marched to Charleroy, and the German Regiment, that was sent from Namur to Huy, is returned thither; And we hear, that the Dutch Troops are likewise retired from Huy, that place not being tenable. They write from Vienna, of the 10th instant, that the Duke of Lorraine would part from thence in few days to command the Imperial Army on the Rhine.

Hamburg, April 17. They write from Pomerania, That the King of Sweden is expected there the next month.

Hague,