

It is now discours'd that the States intend to have three considerable Armies this Summer in the Field, one to be commanded by Prince *Maurice of Nassau*, to secure the Frontiers towards *Flanders*; a second under the command of the Field-Marshal *Wurtz*, to lie about *Mastricht*; and a third towards *Wesel*, but under whose command is not yet said.

The *Here de Groot* is intending suddenly to set forwards on his Embassy for *Sweden*, and is accordingly hastning his preparations. The *Her Van Beverning* design'd Plenipotentiary from the States to assist at the Treaty at *Aix la Chapelle*, expects daily the News of the arrival there of the Ministers from the Crown of *France* and *Spain*, upon which he intends to set forwards.

*Brussels, March 27* Some few dayes since, upon information that a Body of the French appeared upon the Channel, between this and *Antwerp*, upon pretence of fetching in Contribution, the Alarm was given in all quarters of this City, and the Horse immediately drawn together, and parties sent out for farther discovery; but the Enemy retiring, our forces again returned to their quarters.

A Courtier lately arriving from *Spain*, brings with him Letters of the 10th instant from *Madrid*, informing us, that *Don Juan* had of late been somewhat indispos'd, for which he was taking Rhyssick, but in so hopeful a condition, that he concluded to depart thence on the 15th, having all things in readines for that purpose.

Yesterday his Excellency the Marquis *de Castel Rodrigo* went hence with his Daughter to *Antwerp*, from whence she may stay for some time, till the arrival of *Don Juan*; and afterwards with the Marquis to return for *Spain* by the way of *England*; having been refused passage through *France*.

Yesterday arrived here an Exprels from *Paris*, telling us that the French King has given Orders for the re-delivery of *Guenap*, as having been taken in a time allow'd by him for a Cessation of Arms; and saying, that the Cessation of Hostility is to be continued for a longer time, for the better carrying on of the Treaty at *Aix la Chapelle*; which on Sunday last the Baron *de Bergeick* began his journey, with a Plenipotentiary power to assist at that important work: where in so short time may be expected the rest of those Ministers design'd to assist at the Negotiation.

In the mean time we forget not what is necessary for the defence of these Countreys, and to prevent all abuses crept into our Military Affairs; to which end the Marquis has order'd a Placard to be published, requiring all Governours to muster their respective Garrisons twice every Moneth, and to take care that all Officers and Souldiers forthwith repair to their several Commands and Companies, and that strict Order be taken for the future prevention of false Musters; by which the Garrisons are in most places found to be more thinly manned than ought to have been expected.

The 24th instant divers French Inhabitants of this place, that were banish'd the last Summer from this City, having returned to their several habitations without leave, were by Order imprison'd, and 'tis believed may be put to a ransom for their liberty.

Many hands are here at work in raising five great Bastions, or Bulwarks about this City, which may contribute much to its strength. This last week the Castle of *Braine le Chastreau* was by misfortune or negligence of the Garrison burnt down.

The Deputies from the States of the *United Provinces* returned on Thursday last to this place from *Majines*.

*Paris, Mar. 28.* Our letters from *Rochel* inform us, that 4 of His Majesties great ships are put to sea, with Orders to joyn with some others already order'd to sail for *Portugal* to take in the French forces lately employ'd in the service of that King. Letters from *Lisbosne* tell us, that the States of that Kingdom are busily consulting for the settlement of all affairs there, and 'tis believ'd will favour the Marriage of the Prince Regent with the Queen.

From *Bress* we are advis'd that the Duke of *Beaufort*

is put out of that Port with several men of war lately equip'd there, but continues as yet in the Road, and may sail with the first favourable wind.

His Majesty has been pleas'd to grant the Mediators a farther time for their Resolution upon the Alternative till the 25th of *May* next ensuing, but intends not to lengthen out the Cessation beyond the end of this Moneth, after which time he reserves to himselfe the liberty of drawing his Army into the Field to pursue his Conquests, but in the mean while promising to restore whatsoever he shall happen to win by his Armies by the 25th of *May* before-mention'd, if it be the peace be in that time concluded, signed and ratified by the Queen Regent of *Spain*.

So that notwithstanding the Negotiation for Peace, the preparations for war are carried on with all imaginable diligence; the Rendezvous for the Artillery being appointed to be at *Amiens*, all the General Officers preparing for their march to the Frontiers, His Majesty intending to appear in the field at the head of an Army of 80 thousand men, and to begin his journey towards the Frontiers, about the beginning of *April*.

Several of his forces are already drawn together about *Metz*, being part of the Army which is to be commanded by the Prince of *Conde*; the Commissaries for Provisions are order'd to provide for 700 men more than the 25 thousand formerly design'd for that Army.

From *Swisse* we are inform'd that the Canton begin to show themselves somewhat dissatisfied with His Majesties late Conquests in *Franche Comte*, and are suspicious of the arrival of *Messieurs de Longueville* at *Neuchastel*; and have call'd a General Assembly at *Basse* to consider of their affairs in this Conjunction.

On Saturday last was solemniz'd here with Extraordinary Magnificence the Baptisme of the Dauphins whereat there assist'd the Prince of *Conty* in the place of the Queen Mother of *England*, when the young Prince received his Name of *Louis* from the Cardinal Duke of *Vendosme*, Legate a *Latre* from the Pope.

The two Envoyes from his Electoral Highness of *Branckenburg* are gone to *St. Germain* to take their leaves of his Majesty.

*Walsmouth, Mar. 16* The 12th instant arriv'd here two vessels from *Plymouth*, bound for *Newfoundland*. On the 9th instant a French ship from *Bourdeaux* laden with Wine and Brandy intending for *London*, was in her way taken and made prize by 3 *Offend* men of war, one of which had Guns only, the other two of 8 Guns a piece.

*Hull, Mar. 17.* The weather has been of late very stormy, but we hear not of much hurt done thereby at sea; only a large Collier of *London* with about 200 Chaldron of Coals from *Newcastle*, was cast away on *Humber* on the Sand called the *Bull*, of 17 men only the Master and 3 others escaping the wreck. On Sunday noon arriv'd here 2 vessels from *Holland*, and the day before one from the same place. Several ships lie ready here, bound some for *Holland*, others for *London*, expecting only a fair wind.

#### Advertisement.

Whereas the Tallies struck heretofore upon the Farmers of his Majesties Customs, have used to be paid promiscuously, without any certain Order; the Lords Commissioners of His Majesties Treasury have lately caused so many of the Tallies on the Customs unpaid, as have come to their knowledge, to be registred in a certain course in which they are to be paid, which Register is to be seen, either in Sir Robert Long's Office, or at the Custom-House; where all persons concerned may see the Course in which they are to be paid: and if any persons have Tallies unpaid, which are not in the said List, they are desired, within 14 dayes from the date hereof, to shew their said Tallies to Sir George Downing, that he may take notice thereof, to the end they may be put in a Course of payment after those already registred, least otherwise any new Charge upon the said Revenue excludes them.