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From Monday May 27 to Thursday May 30. 1695.

By the Lords-Justices,

A PROCLAMATION,

For a General FAST.

The Chancellor. J. Sommers C. S. Pembroke C. P. S. Devonshire, Shrewsbury, Dorset, Godolphin.

WE taking into Our most Serious Consideration the Continued War, in which His Majesty (Our Gracious Sovereign) together with most of the Princes and States of Europe, are Engaged against the French King, and that upon the Success thereof the Common Safety of His Majesties Kingdom doth, under God, wholly depend; And putting Our trust in Almighty God, that He will Vouchsafe a Special Blessing on His Majesties Righteous Undertakings; and Consummate the Continuance of these Nations, by Settling the same in a firm and lasting State of Peace, Security, and Prosperity; Have thought fit to Appoint, and do (by and with the Advice of His Majesties most Honourable Privy Council) hereby Appoint and Command a General and Publick Fast, and Fasting, to be Observed throughout His Majesties Realm of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, in most Devout and Solemn Manner, by Applying Almighty God for the Pardon of Our Sins, and for Imploping His Blessing and Protection in the Preservation of His Majesties sacred Person, and Prosperity of His Arms both at Land and Sea, on Wednesday the twentieth Day of June. And for the more orderly Stilement of the same, We have given Directions to the Right Reverend the Bishops of this Kingdom, to Compose a Form of Prayer suitable to this Occasion, to be Used in all Churches and Chapels, and other Places of Publick Worship; And so take Care for the timely Dispersing of the same through their several Diocesses in the whole Kingdom. And We do strictly Charge and Command, That the said Fasting and Prayers be Sobriety, Reverently and devoutly Performed by all His Majesties Loving Subjects, and they tender the Favour of Almighty God, and upon the Use of such Punishments, as His Majesty can justly Inflict for such Punishments, as His Majesty can justly Inflict for such as shall Contemn or Neglect so Religious a Fast.

Given at the Council Chamber at Whitehall the Thirtieth and twentieth Day of May, 1695. In the Seventh Year of His Majesties Reign.

Paris, May 14. The Popes Gallies will depart in few days from *Crosia Picchia* to join the Venetian Fleet in the *Levant*; and the Gallies of *Malta* are to meet them at *Messina*; and with both these Squadrons there will go about 1000 Land Soldiers. The Venetian Ambassador follows the Pope to furnish him with the assistance of the Republick in *Dalmatia*, but is here without any effect.

Genoa, May 14. By several Vessels that are come in here this week from *Provence*, we have an account, that the People of the Maritime Places in that Country are under great apprehensions, that some attempt will be made upon them by the Confederate Fleet, and for their defence many Batteries are raised, and several Forts built all along the Coast; At *Toulon* and *Marseilles* they endeavour to secure the Entrance into those Harbours with Pontons and Chains, behind which they intend to post some of their Gallies; and 3 or 400 of the Inhabitants are divided into Companies, and ordered to come together upon any alarm, to put out the Fires that may be occasioned by the Enemies Bombs, and to be employed in such Services as shall be found necessary.

Lisbon, May 16. The 13th Instant arrived here the *General Gallie*, Capt. Young Commander, from *London*, who took some days ago a French Schooner of 6 Guns, but being with bad Weather, was off of *Cape* separated from his Prize, which we hear is put into *Captivity*. The

Great Dukes Gallie, which carried the *Marquis Salvati* to *Marseilles*, returned hither the 14th Instant, and confirms our former Advices of the great fears the People there are in of being bombarded; That several Families are removed from thence; That there are 300 Pieces of Cannon planted at *Toulon* and *Marseilles*, and that they are still at work in raising more Batteries, and new Fortifications; The Expence whereof is laid upon the Inhabitants, which they are in no condition to bear, being impoverished by the great Losses they have of late suffered at Sea, and by the Interruption of their Trade.

From the Camp of the Confederate Forces before *Casal*, May 16. We continue to work on our Lines about *Casal*; and are making two Redoubts, to wit, one on each side the *Po*, above the Town, to cover our Bridge or Communication; The Imperialists are employed on one side the River, and the Spaniards on the other, and the Troops of his Royal Highness carry on the Work on both sides that is to join to theirs. On the 10th Instant a Captain of Horse in the Emperors Service going with a Party to reconnoitre the Town, was killed with a Musket Shot from thence, but all his Men came off, and brought with them a French Dragoon whom they had taken Prisoner. The 17th we killed 8 French Soldiers, who came out of the Town to cut Wood.

*Turin*, May 20. The Forces employed in making the Line of Circumvallation about *Casal*, work thereon without intermission; The Troops of the Duke of *Savoy* passed the *Po* some days ago under the command of my Lord *Galway*, and Encamped on the North side of the River above the Town; They are building several Redoubts, and the whole Work will be finished, in few days; by which the Garison will be so streightned, that in all probability they will be necessitated in a short time to capitulate. The Horse and Dragoons in the Service of the Duke of *Savoy* are ordered to Rendezvous at *Orbassino*, about 3 Leagues from hence. The Enemies Troops continue still in their Quarters.

*Venice*, May 21. The Senate has received advice, that the Convoy which sailed from hence about the end of *March* is safely arrived at *Napoli di Romania*, and that Signior *Alexandro Molino*, who went out with it in the Quality of *Proveditore-General* or Governor of the *Morcia*, and had a Commission sent after him to be Captain-General of all the Forces of this State, was received by the Fleet and Army with great satisfaction, and that his Predecessor Signior *Zeno* would return home with the first opportunity. The Venetian Fleet was refitting with all the diligence possible; and General *Steinart* was marched with 10000 Men to the *Isthmus* of *Corinth* to secure that Pass; the Turks, by the motion of their Troops, seeming to have a design of entering on that side into the *Morea*. They write from *Sicily*, that the two *Zaland* Privateers, which took lately two rich French Ships bound home from *Smirna*, and carried them first to *Palermo*, arrived the 24th past at *Messina* with their Prizes, called the *Madonna de Bon Reposo*, and the *Francisco de Xavier*. By the way of *Ragusa* we have advice, that the new Grand Signior continues his Resolution of going in Person into the Field the next Campaigne; and that he had sent Orders to the *Bassas* of the several Provinces to use their utmost diligence in raising Men for the War.

*Vienna*, May 21. Several Vessels are sent daily down the *Danube* with Ammunition and Provisions for the Imperial Army, which is to Rendezvous near *Pest* over against *Buda*. General *Veteran* assembles his Forces near *Wissenburg*, on the frontiers of *Transylvania*, and from thence will march towards *Lippa*. An Officer is come hither from the Elector of *Saxony*, to adjust several matters with the Imperial Ministers about the march of his Electors Rhynish Troops towards *Hungary*; Whether the Elector himself will begin his Journey the 9th or 10th of the next month. The Imperialists work very hard on the Fortifications of *Peter-Waraden* and *St. John*. Some of our