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Rome, June 4.

THE Duke of Parma having writ to the Pope, to acquaint him with what passed lately in the Island of Ponza, it has occasioned several Conferences at this Court, and the Spanish Ambassador has offered to restore that Castle, upon condition, that it do not for the future serve for a retreat and shelter to the French Privateers, who by that means may very much infest the Coast of Naples. Great Solicitation is made, to induce the Pope to make a Promotion of Cardinals to fill the many Vacancies there are at present in that College, but hitherto he seems not inclinable to gratifie them herein. It was expected the Pope's Gallies would have sailed ere now for the Levant, but it seems the Soldiers were not ready to embark, which has delayed their departure; tho' 'tis thought the next Letters from *Giovanni Vecchio* will give an account of it.

Genoa, June 6. By several Vessels come from the Coast of Barbary, we hear, that the Algerines have lost again all the places they made themselves Masters of the last year in the Country of *Tuniz*; and that *Mehemet Bey* was returned to the City of that Name, and was making Preparations to carry the War into the Territories of *Algiers*. There are now at *Final* several Regiments of *German* and *Italian*, who are going to serve in *Catalonia*. The last Letters from *Piedmont* say, the Siege of *Casal* is resolved on, and that the Forces of the Allies are marching thither for that purpose; The French in the mean time continue in their Quarters, and 'tis probable *Monsieur Catinat* does not think himself strong enough to take the Field, by reason of the great Detachments he has sent to *Provence*, to be employed for the Security of that Coast.

Milan, June 8. Our Governor, the Marquis of *Ligues* is returned to the Camp before *Casal*; from whence our last Letters gave an account, That the Troops of the Allies had finished their Works on one side the *Po*, in which they were much hindered by the Rains that have lately fallen; and they had begun a great Redoubt on the other side of the River, to secure their Bridge, which, the weather being changed, would not take up so much time as the other has done. They had raised a Battery of 6 pieces of Cannon against the place, which had beat down several Mills the Enemy had upon the River; And a great Council of War had been held in the Camp, where it was resolved to change the Blockade into a formal Siege; *More* Forces were therefore sent for, and 'twas

believed all things would be in a readiness to open the Trenches about the middle of this month. The Troops designed from hence to *Catalonia* are now at *Final*, where they daily expect the Transport Ships, with a Convoy from the Fleet Commanded by Admiral *Russell*, to carry them to *Barcelona*. A considerable number of Recruits are lately arrived here from *Naples*.

Venice, June 11. The Inquisitor General is at present busied in making an Inquiry into the Miscarriages, which are thought to have occasioned our late ill Success in the Sea-fight with the Turks, and the loss of *Scio*, which last was the Consequence of the other; at the same time the Senate employ their utmost care to reinforce their Fleet and Army, and are treating with several Persons, about the hiring of Ships, and the raising of Men: And in the beginning of the next Month a great Convoy will be sent from hence to our Fleet. All the Advices from *Turkey* speak of the great Preparations the Turks make for the next Campaign; and that the Grand Signior continues his Resolution of commanding in Person his Army in *Hungary*; His Forces that are to act against the *Venetians* assembled near *Thebes*; and because the Enemies design seems to be to enter into the *Morea*, the last Letters from thence say, the Captain General had ordered strong Detachments to secure the Pass of *Corinth*, by which alone they can march into that Country.

Vienna, June 11. The last Letters from *Hungary* tell us, the Count of *Staremberg*, who at present Commands the Imperial Forces on that Frontier, had been at *Peter Waradin* to view the Garrison; and the new Fortifications of that place, and was afterwards returned to *Esseck*. Our Forces march to the Rendezvous; and the Train of Artillery has by this time joined them between *Buda* and *Baya*; General *Caprara*, who is to have the Chief Command under the Elector of *Saxony*, is still here, staying for his Electoral Highness, with whom some Matters are to be regulated, before he goes to the Army. The Turkish Troops begin to assemble near *Belgrade*, and the Grand Vicer is expected there this month to put all things in a readiness against the Sultan's arrival. Prince *Charles of Neuburg* is coming hither to desire the Emperors Protection in the Dispute he is like to have with some of the great Men in *Poland*, about the Guardianship of his Daughter, who, by her Mother, inherits a great Estate in *Lithuania*. The Duke of *Manus* has sent a Minister hither to endeavour to remove the Opinion they may have at this Court of his Partiality to the French, and that he may receive no prejudice in his Right, in case *Casal* be taken by the Allies.

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