

The London Gazette.

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From Thursday May 14. to Monday May 18. 1696.

Madrid, May 8. N. S.

ON the 2d Instant came hither a Gentleman dispatched by the Viceroy of Mexico with Advice, That the Spanish Flota arrived safely at Vera Cruz in September last, and the Galeons about the same time at Porto Velo; That the two Spanish Ships which sailed 3 years ago upon a Voyage to the Philippines, and were believed to be lost, not having been heard of these two years, were at last both returned to Acapulco very richly laden, and in a short time would proceed on their Voyage to Spain; That a Ship which sailed some months past for the Caracas, was safely arrived in the Indies, and that they would all come to a good Market, much Plate lay there ready for them; This Gentleman came away on the 20th of January last. Letters from Malaga of the first Instant say, the Toulon Fleet had been several days off that Port; That two French Ships came into the Road, anchored just out of Gun-shot, and sent to the Governor, to desire liberty to buy fresh Provisions, which was refused; That they suffered very considerable damage in a Storm off Ivica, 6 Ships being forced to go to the Islands of Formentera to refit, and two of 70 and 60 Guns, were so leaky, that they were ordered back to Toulon, the others returned to the Fleet. The 30th of April the Wind came fair for them, and the whole Fleet sailed towards the Streights Mouth, which they have passed, as we understand from Cadix. The Queen Mother is very ill with the Cancer in her Breast which is broke. The Marquis de Gastañaga is recalled from Catalonia, and there is a Discourse that Government will be given to Don Francisco de Velasco, now Governor of Cadix. We have Advice, that a small English Privateer, fitted out at Legborne, has lately taken 4 French Prizes, one of them a Ship of 24 Guns, the other 3 Barks laden with Corn, and has also taken a Genouefe Ship laden with French Goods, and bound from Marseilles to Genoua. The French, as the last Letters from Barcelona inform us, are fitting out their Gallies at Marseilles, and several Men of War at Toulon. The Moores continue the Siege of Ceuta, but make little or no progress in it; and have lately drawn off part of their Forces, to join their Army to oppose the Dey of Algiers, who is marching into the Territories of the Emperor of Morosco, upon some new Differences arisen between them.

Turin, May 8. The Troops of the Allies in these parts are marching from their several Quarters, and are to be at their Rendezvous the 16th of this month. The French pretend to come very strong into the Plains, but we do not doubt, but we shall break their Measures.

Vienna, May 9. The Advices from Turkey say, the Grand Signior went from Constantinople the 8th of April to his Tents near that City, would stay there till the 14th, and then depart for Adrianople, and having kept there the Feast of Biram, which begins the 3d of May, would begin his march towards Hungary. The Imperial Forces are now marching from their several Quarters to the place appointed for their Rendezvous, and the Elector of Saxony who is to command them, will depart hence in few days. Four thousand Saxon Foot are expected here by Water from Lintz, where Boats are provided for them by the Emperor's Order, and from hence they will forthwith proceed to Hungary. Great diligence is used in fitting out the Emperor's Gallies that are to serve on the Danube.

Frankfort, May 16. The Forces of the Allies are in motion towards the Rendezvous near Hailbron; where several Regiments of Franconia and Sussia are already arrived; And Prince Lewis of Baden is shortly expected. The Troops of the Landgrave of Hesse march towards Coblenz. The last Letters from Alsace say, the French Troops assemble near Neustadt. A Regiment of 2200 Foot, commanded by the great Master of the Teutonic Order, passed by this place yesterday by Water, going to serve in Hungary.

Cologne, May 18. The Brandenburg Troops quartered here and in this Diocess, are marched towards the Meuse. One thousand Bavarian Horse are gone by this place towards Flanders.

Wormburg, May 18. The Treaty with the Duke of

Holstein is concluded, by which he is to assist the Allies with 2000 Foot and 500 Horse, and they will begin their march in a day or two.

Paris, May 18. The Marechal de Choiseul, who is to command the French Army on the Rhine, continues still here, but they say he will set out in 2 or 3 days: Our Forces on that side not being strong enough to hinder the Germans from passing the Rhine, 6000 Men are ordered to be detached from Piedmont, to strengthen them. The Duke of Chartres, the Duke of Bourbon, and the Prince of Conti, will part hence the beginning of the next week for Flanders: The late K. James's Equipage is come back from Bologna, so here is now no more talk of his returning thither. The Marquis de Nesmond sailed the 9th Instant with his Squadron from Brest, 'tis believed he is gone to meet the Fleet from Toulon, of which we have yet no news: They write from Dauphine, that the Marechal de Catinat would march into the Plains of Piedmont before the end of this month.

Brussels, May 20. The Campagne is now going to open on both sides; The Forces marching to the places of Rendevou, and the Trains of Artillery being ready for that purpose. Our Troops, which were cantoned in the Neighbourhood of Alost, are marched towards the Schelde.

Hague, May 22. N. S. The King intends to leave this place to morrow, and to stay 2 or 3 days at Loo, while the Troops are drawing together, and to go from thence to the Army. We have Advice, that the Enemy are forming a Camp under the Command of the Marechal de Boufflers between Marchienne au Pont, and Florus, and another between Harlebeeke and Deynse commanded by the Marechal de Villeroy. The Allies are likewise forming two Armies, one at Mariekirke near Ghent, which will be commanded by His Majesty, and under him by the Prince de Vaudemont; and the other near Louvain, commanded by the Elector of Bavaria, with whom the Brandenburg Troops are to join, to which end they are now on their march. The Yachts that came over with His Majesty sailed yesterday for England.

Deale, May 14. Yesterday morning passed on the back of the Goodwin 6 Dutch Men of War, commanded by Vice-Admiral Everetz, who are going to join the Fleet.

Portsmouth, May 15. Yesterday came to St. Helens Vice-Admiral Aymer in His Majesty's Ship the Elizabeth, with the Trident, Lincoln, and Severn, as also a Dutch Vice-Admiral with 6 Men of War, and they are all going to sail again with the Bomb Vessels (refitted in this Harbour) to the Westward. The outward bound Merchant Ships will sail to morrow.

London, May 16. An Express came in this day from Falmouth, with an account, that the Nassau from the East-Indies arrived the 10th Instant at Scilly, as also 4 Merchant Ships called the Encouragement, the Burlington, the Adventure, and the Durham-Yard, from Barbadoes.

Whitehall, May 16. The last Account we have from Sir George Rooke is, That he was the 12th of this month off the Lizard, the Southerly Winds for the 3 last days having kept him on our Coasts, and he was then standing over towards Brest. The Lime Frigate came into the Fleet the 11th in the Evening from the Mediterranean, and brought an account, That the French Fleet passed the Streights the 21th of the last month.

We have Advice by a Danish Ship, That De Bart was the 13th Instant with 3 Sail near the Weibank, taking his Course Northward.

Whitehall, May 16. His Majesty has been pleased to Constitute and Appoint the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England or Lord Chancellor, the President of the Privy Council, the Lord Privy Seal, the First Commissioner of the Treasury or Lord Treasurer, the First Commissioner of the Admiralty or Lord High Admiral, the Principal Secretaries of State, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the time being; and the Earls of Bridgewater and Tankerville, Sir Philip Meadhouse, William Blithwayt, John Pollexfen, John Lock, Abraham Hill, and John Methuen, Esquires, to be Commissioners for Encouraging, Improving, and Protecting the Trade of this Kingdom, and the Plantations, Manufactures, and Fishery of the same.