

Whitehall, May 24. 1697.

This Morning came in the Mail from Holland of Friday last, and brought the following Advices.

Published by Authority.

Warsaw, May 18. N. S.

THE Dyet for the Election of a King was opened the 15th Instant, and the first meeting was in the open Field, in the usual manner; But they have not yet made choice of their Marshal or Speaker; There are many Pretenders, each Party labouring to put into this Station one of their own side; and in all probability the choice will be deferred till all the Nobility, who are to appear on Horseback, are arrived; Those of the Provinces of *Cracaw* and *Sandomir* are come within a mile of this City; but the rest will not be here till the next week; so great a number cannot continue long together, so that the Election will be soon over. Twenty Regiments have already quitted the Confederacy, and returned under the Obedience of the Crown General; Which has been chiefly effected by the Money which the Queen Dowager has furnished for this purpose.

*Vienna, May 18.* The Emperor's Troops are marching from all sides to their Rendezvous: And the Forces designed for the Siege of *Bihatz* in *Croatia* are gathering together about *Carlsstat*; We hear of no motion of the Turks. An Ambassador from *Moscovy* is on his way hither with a Train of 200 Persons. We have Advice from *Hungary*, that the Imperial Magazine of *Segedin*, consisting of Meal and other Provisions, took fire some days ago and was burnt, whether by Accident or Treachery is not known, but a great quantity of Powder that lay very near happily escaped.

*Frankfort, May 26.* The Forces on both sides, that are to act on the *Upper-Rhine*, march to the places appointed for their Rendezvous, and in few days may be joined together.

*Cologne, May 23.* The Forces of *Zell*, *Hanouer*, and *Wolfenbussell*, were to pass the River *Laen* as this day at a place called *Limbuck*; The Cavalry being to pass the *Rhine* at *Coblenz*, *Newits*, at this place, and *Keyserwaters*, in their march towards *Flanders*, and the Foot comes down by Water.

*Paris, May 29.* They write from *Marseilles*, that 6 Gallies parted from thence the 16th Instant, and that 20 more were to follow the 25th, with Men, Ammunition, and Provisions for *Catalonia*, being intended, as they give out here, for the Siege of *Barcelona*. The *Sieur d'Andemmes*, who sailed from *Brest* some time ago with 4 Men of War to cruise, meeting with some English Ships bound to the *West-Indies*, took a small Frigate, a Fire-

ship, and 2 Merchantmen; The first they burnt, and have sent the other 3 to *Port-Louis*; The French Ships afterwards engaged the 3 other English Men of War, but were forced to leave them. 'Tis said, that the *Marquis de Nesmond* is bound to the *Streights*. They talk here very much of a Peace.

*Brussels, May 29.* The ill Weather has hindered the March of our Army; it has rained 24 hours together. We hear from *Ath*, that the French began to batter the Town the 27th Instant; and have carried on their Trenches to the Counterscarp. The *Lunenburg* Forces continue their march towards this Country. The Earl of *Portland* is come hither, being indisposed, from the Camp.

*Hague, May 31.* The last Letters from *Flanders* say, that our Armies continued encamped near *St. Quintin Limock*, having had a great deal of Rain and Tempestuous Weather. The Enemy were to begin to throw Bombs into *Ath* on Wednesday last; Their Armies lie so near one another that they can join them at any time on occasion. The Ambassadors had another meeting at *Ryswicke* on Wednesday last. They write from *Stockholme* of the 18th, that the day before a great Fire happened there in the King's Palace, which was burnt down in few hours, and great part of the Town.

*From His Majesty's Camp at Iseringhe, May 28.* The ill Weather has obliged the King to continue in his Camp, where we were joined yesterday by the Troop of Grenadier Guards, and this day by the 3 Troops of English Guards: His Grace the Duke of *Ormond*, the Earl of *Rivers*, and Sir *Henry Bellesis*, are likewise arrived here from *England*.

The Enemies Loss in the Rencontre on Monday last with Brigadier *Lumley*, whom the King has now pleased to make a Major General, was greater than it was first understood to be, there were near 50 Prisoners brought in, and among them 6 or 7 Officers, with at least 50 Horses; Sir *William Russell*, a Captain in Col. *Coy's* Regiment, Commanded the Advance Party which attacked the Enemy, and took the Colonel with most of the Prisoners.

We have no certain Intelligence from *Ath*, but it is said the Enemy possessed themselves last night of the Counterscarp, and that they were busied to day in changing their Batteries; We have heard no firing from thence to day, as we did for 2 or 3 days past, which makes it seem the more probable. The Army marches to-morrow towards *Hall*.

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