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*From the Imperial Camp at* Coffina de la Polvere, *between* Peschiera *and* Ponti, *July* 29. *N. S.*

THE 21st Instant, the Army being encamped between *Villa Franca* and *Povejano*, we had a confirmation, that the Enemy were posted on both sides the River *Mincio*, and were continually patrolling as far as *Peschiera*. Some Deserters came over to us, who assured us, that the Enemy daily expected their Succours, which are reported to consist of 25 Battalions of Foot, and 10 Regiments of Horse and Dragoons. Our Soldiers since the Action at *Carpi* having been very much guilty of plundering the Country, in imitation of the *French*, imagining they were now in an Enemy's Country, divers of them suffered exemplary Punishment for the same. The 22d, we foraged towards the *Mantueze*, and Prince *Eugene* sent out Lieutenant Field-marshal Count *Palfi* and Major-General Count *Dietrichstein* with two Horse to cover the Foragers, but the Enemy gave them no disturbance; Adjutant-General Baron *Charee* was sent out with 50 Horse towards the *Mincio* to get Intelligence, and routed some of their advanced Guards; We were informed that 3000 of their Succours were arrived in their Camp. The 23d, at the desire of Colonel Count *Mercy*, with a Party of 150 Horse were given him, with whom he went round the Enemy's Camp, but took no Prisoners, they all keeping close within their Lines. Prince *Vaudemont* sent a Trumpeter with a Letter to Prince *Eugene* to this effect; *That since it seems both Armies are like to proceed to open Hostilities, he made no scruple to be the first that should desire a Cartel:* To which Prince *Eugene* answered, *That tho' he had no Commands from the Emperor, yet he was willing to enter into a Treaty to this effect, upon the same Foot the Cartel was made in* Piedmont *or* on the Rhine *during the late War, upon condition that the Cartel be made between the Emperor and the Most Christian King*; Which 'tis thought the *French* will hardly agree to, by reason they would only pass for Auxiliary Troops. The 24th, a Lieutenant-Colonel went out with two Horse to cover the Foragers, and met with no Enemies. The 25th, a Lieutenant-Colonel with a strong Party was sent out again towards the *Mantueze* to cover the Foragers. The Enemy posted several Parties of Foot at *Castello Mantuano* and *Le Due Castelli* in the *Mantueze*. The 26th no body was suffered to go out of our Camp, except a small Party which was sent to get Intelligence, and brought Advice, that the Enemy was still in the same Posts; We had an Account likewise, that the Duke of *Savoy* arrived in their Army the day before; Several Deserters, both *French*, *Spaniards*, *Milanese*, and *Piedmonteze*, came over to us. Provisions of Bread, Oats and Ammunition, for several days, were distributed to the Army, and every thing was made ready for a march. We continued to get together at *Goffolengo* all the Wagons and Provisions we could. Prince *Vaudemont* sent another Trumpeter to Prince *Eugene*, to make fresh Instances concerning the Cartel, sending an Extract of the Articles of that which was observed in *Piedmont* during the late War; To which Prince *Eugene* answered, *That there were some Difficulties, upon which he must have particular Directions from the Emperor.* The 27th, in the morning, we heard some Cannon fired, and understood the Duke of *Savoy* had visited the Posts all along the *Mincio* as far as *Peschiera*, and particularly that of St. *Leonce*, where the Enemy suspected we might make a Bridge. Adjutant-General *Charee*, who was sent out for Intelligence, confirmed all this, having himself seen the Duke on Horseback; and added, that the *French* Army near *Guasto* had been reinforced with several Battalions of Foot. Prince *Eugene* and Prince *Commercy* went out with a Detachment to view the Enemy's Camp at *Guasto*, and left Adjutant-General *Charee* at *Valeggio*, with Orders to have a watchful Eye upon the Enemy, and give immediate notice if they made any motion. About 11 at night, the Army marched in 3 Columns; The Left Wing took the way of *Villa-Franca*, St. *Lucca*, and *Salione*; The Right Wing marched to the left of *Villa-Franca* by *Mendagoy*, *Gaffarola*, St. *Rocko de Polegola*, *Mondeglia*, *Alacka*, and *Alla-Gerla*; And before the Vanguard of both Wings marched a Squadron of Dragoons and 3 Companies of Granadiers, and each Column had 16 Guns with them; The rest of the Artillery with the Bagage made the 3d Column, and took their way to *Summa Campagna*, St. *Georgio*, *Chiraldo*, *Allacka*, and *Alachiera*. General *Palfi* with 1200 Horse, had Orders not only to cover the march of the Army, but also to advance to the Enemy's Camp at *Goito*, and to alarm them, that in case the Enemy should have notice of our march, and should make any motion, he might give them a Diversion as long as possible; At the same time Adjutant-General Baron *Riedt* was ordered to lade upon Wagons divers Boats, and other Materials for Bridges, which were got together with great privacy at *Goffolengo*, and to bring them by 10 at night to St. *Leonce* on the *Mincio*; The Army marched all night, and our Vanguard arrived the 28th, by break of day, at St. *Leonce*. Prince *Eugene* was gone thither before, and Baron *Riedt* could not arrive there till 8 in the morning, and brought only Boats and Materials for one Bridge, which was presently begun and finished by noon. The Forces arrived there between 6 and 7 in the morning. As soon as the Bridge was ready, we began to pass over it, and before night all the Regiments were got on the other side. Every body believed that this day we should have been engaged, seeing this Bridge was made so near the Enemy, not being above 2 Leagues from their main Body, and we could not comprehend why they did not make use of the opportunity they had to render our Passage very difficult, if not wholly impossible; but they suffered us to pass without any hindrance. As soon as our Vanguard was over, Parties were sent up the Hills to observe the Country, who met several of the Enemy scattered in the Fields, of whom some were killed, and 7 brought away Prisoners, with about 20 Horses; General *Palfi* met a Party of the Enemy on the other side the *Mincio*, killed several, and took 7 Prisoners, and 8 Horses. Our Foot with several Pieces of Cannon posted themselves on a Hill near our Bridge, and in the evening a Camp was marked out at this Place between *Peschiera* and *Ponti*, and the Army encamped in order of Battel. A Deserter came over from the Enemy, and said, That their Patrol brought Advice to the *French* Generals of our passing the *Mincio*, but they did not believe we could have a Bridge ready, or could pass so soon. The 29th, we rested to expect our Artillery and Bagage, and our Provision of Bread and Oats, and this whole day the Enemy's advanced Guards were not much above two Musket-shot distant from ours. Prince *Eugene* sent out Major-General *Vaubonne* with 500 Horse to attack the Enemy's advanced Guards, which he performed, and drove the Enemy to their very Camp. In this Action about 200 of the Enemy were killed, besides a General Officer Brother to Count *Melac*, and some other Officers, and about 50 Soldiers and 4 Officers were taken Prisoners. Adjutant-General *Barcet*, who is posted near *Valeggio* to observe the Enemy, has sent an Account, that this Action so alarmed them, that they all betook themselves to their Arms; and we wonder that they suffered their advanced Guards to be thus drove back to their Camp without supporting them.

*Riga*, *July* 25. The King of *Sweden* arrived the 18th Instant with part of his Army at *Mullerhoff* on the *Duna*, not far from this Place, where Boats were provided to carry his Forces over the River. Seven *Saxon* Regiments, 2 of them Cuirassiers, were posted on the other side to oppose their Passage; But the *Swedes* having placed several Pieces of Cannon on great flat-bottom'd Boats, which were towed along by other Boats, by the Means of this Artillery they forced the *Saxons* to abandon the Shore, and give them an opportunity to land; Soon after they were charged by the *Saxons*, and the Fight lasted several hours; during which the *Saxons* were very much galled by the *Swedish* Cannon placed on the Boats before mentioned; and being at last put into disorder, and many of them slain upon the spot, the rest of them retired towards *Kockenhausen*. The King of *Sweden* was present in this Action, and exposed to the greatest Dan-

ger.