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From Thursday April 29. to Monday May 3. 1703.

By the QUEEN,
A PROCLAMATION,
 For a General FAST.

ANNE R.

W Hereas We are Engaged in a just War against France and Spain, on the Success whereof the Common Safety of Our Kingdoms doth, under God, wholly depend; And putting Our Trust in Almighty God, that He will Vouchsafe a Special Blessing to this Our so Righteous Undertaking, We have, out of Our own Religious Disposition, Rejoiced, and do hereby Command, That a General and Publick Fast be Observed throughout this Kingdom, in such manner as is herein after Directed and Prescribed, that so both We and Our People may Humble Our selves before Almighty God, in order to obtain Pardon for Our Sins, and may in most Devout and Solemn manner send up Our Prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty, for Imploving His Blessing and Assistance on the Arms of Us and Our Allies, and Our and Their Naval Forces, and for Restoring and Perpetuating Peace, Safety, Honour and Prosperity to Our Kingdoms and Dominions, and the Nations and States in Alliance with Us. And to the End that so Religious an Exercise may be Observed at one and the same time, We do hereby, with the Advice of Our Privy Council, Publish and Declare to all Our Loving Subjects, and so strictly Charge and Command, That on Wednesday, being the Twenty sixth Day of this Instant May, this Fast shall be Religiously Kept and Observed throughout Our Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed. And for the more Religious and Orderly Solemnizing the same, We have given Directions to the Arch-Bishops and 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 to take Care for the Timely Dispensing thereof through their respective Dioceses. And We do strictly Charge and Command, That the said Publick Fast be Reverently and Decently Performed by all Our Loving Subjects, as they tender the Favour of Almighty God, and would avoid His Wrath and Indignation, and upon Pain of such Punishment as We may justly inflict on all such as shall Contemn or Neglect the Performance of so Religious a Duty.

Given at Our Court at St. James's the First Day of May, 1703 In the Second Year of Our Reign.

GOD Save the QUEEN.

Ratisbonne, April 30. According to our Advices from *Bravaria*, the Elector having found the Count de *Schlick* so advantageously posted near *Passau*, as not to be attacked but at a very great disadvantage, contented himself with providing for the security of his Frontiers, by felling of Trees, and otherwise stopping the Passages, as he had done before, through the Woods near *Passau*, which the Count de *Schlick* had cleared, and by making new Lines and Redoubts, and sent back the best part of his Troops, some whereof, viz. his Regiment of Guards, with those of the Electoral Prince of *Lutzelburgh*, *Arco*, *Maffey*, and *Maxhausen*, are passed by this place in Boats, and they are advancing towards *Donaupwert*, where it is said they are to encamp, in order to join with the French, in their Attempts to force a Passage through the Country of *Wirtemberg* or the *Black Forest* succeed. The Elector is returned to *Munich*, where he will probably expect the Issue of that Enterprize. Thus all is very quiet on the Frontiers near *Passau* and *Schwarding*; and the Count de *Schlick* having detached all the Saxon Forces he had with him, under the Command of Lieutenant General *Schuylenberg*, to join the Count de *Seyrum*, they marched through *Bohemia* into the *Upper Palatinate*, where, as it is said, they in their way made themselves Masters of the Town of *Furey*; they have already passed through the Country of *Cham* without any opposition, and will be this day at *Bircklenfeld*, being ordered to follow the Count de *Seyrum* with all possible Diligence, who is broke up with his

Troops from *Ambach*, and marched towards *Nerlingen*, in order to observe the Motions of the *Bavarian* Troops.

Heilbronn, May 1. Our Advices from France Lewis's Camp near *Biehl* say, That in the late Action there, his Highness exposing his Person in those Places where there was most danger, had several Wounds inot under him, and received a Musquet-shot on his Armour; That all his Troops behaved themselves with great bravery, particularly the *Prussian* and the *Dutch* Forces; That a Party of the latter sallied out of the Lines while the French were retiring, killed a great number of them, and took many Prisoners, among whom were above 60 Officers; That it was said another Party had taken several Pieces of Cannon from the Enemy; And that the French in their Retreat having out of Revenge burnt several Villages, Prince Lewis sent out the Marshal de *Villars*, That if this Practice was allowed among them, he would order the French Prisoners in his hands to be burnt alive; to which the Marshal replied, That it was done contrary to his Orders, and that he had caused 20 of his Soldiers to be hanged for this Fact. Just at the Departure of the Post from hence, it is said, That the Marshal de *Villars* has endeavoured to force a Passage through the Valley of *Kintzig*, but was repulled there also by the German Forces, under the Command of Count *Prosper of Furstenberg*, with the Loss of 2000 Men; But this being only a Report, we know not what credit is to be given to it, and impatiently wait for a more certain and particular Account. It is also reported, That the Castle of *Rochemberg* in *Franconia*, which was blockt up by a Detachment of the Count de *Seyrum's* Army, is surrendered upon Articles, the *Bavarian* Garrison, consisting of 400 Men, being allowed to march out with Arms and Baggage.

Frankfort, May 3. The News of the Marshal de *Villars's* being repulled in his late Attacks on Prince Lewis's Lines near *Stollhoffen*, has occasioned great Joy in these parts. We are assured, that the French buried in the Church-Yard of *Biehl* above 1200 Men; who were killed in that Action, besides what they buried in other Places; That so many of their wounded Men were brought to *Strasbourg*, that they were forced to make room for them; that near 500 of the Enemy were taken Prisoners, among whom are many Officers, and their Loss in this Enterprize is computed at above 4000 Men, who were either killed, taken, or deserted, besides that of above 200 Wagons laden with Provisions or Ammunition, 8 Pieces of Cannon, 5 Standards, 6 Colours, and one pair of Kettle-Drums. The Enemy being retired from before our Lines, the Count de *Villars* repass'd the Rhine, on the Bridge which they have lately made at the Port of *Kehl*; and the Marshal de *Villars* marched to *Offenbourg*; but upon the receipt of some Orders from the French Court the Marshal de *Tellard* has passed the Rhine a second time, and joined the Marshal de *Villars*, in order to attempt the forcing of a Passage through the Valley of *Kintzig*, which is guarded by a Body of Imperial Forces under the Command of Count *Prosper of Furstenberg*; whereat Prince Lewis having Advice, he has sent him a Reinforcement of several Regiments of Horse and Foot; So that we hope they may have the like Success in this Attempt, as they had in that which they made upon Prince Lewis's Lines.

From the Camp before Bonn, May 4. Several Boats arrived here this day Sevenight from *Coblenz*, with 4 Pieces of heavy Cannon, 2 Mortars, several thousand of Salts, a great quantity of straw, and other necessaries, which were sent by the Elector of *Trier*, doing what he had promised to furnish towards this Siege. The next day some other Boats, with the heavy Artillery, Ammunition and Stores, came up from *Cologne*, and more have followed every day since. That day the Elector Palatine, being come to his Castle at *Siegenberg*, sent a Compliment to the Duke of *Maximilian*, by the Count de *Lescheraines*, whereupon his Grace went the 30th part to wait upon the Elector, whom he met towards the Camp, diverting himself with Hawkings, and after about an hour's Conference on Horseback, his Grace returned to his quarters; His Electoral Highness