

1703

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From ~~Monday~~ **Monday** November 29. to **Thursday** December 2. 1703.

Venice, November 10. N. S.

A Convoy of Money, Arms and Ammunition, is preparing here for the Forces of this State in the *Levant*, which will be ready to sail in few days. The Imperial Forces in *Lombardy* have lately received a good number of Recruits, and a Supply of Horses to remount their Cavalry; and we are in great Expectation of the Success of some Design they have in hand, which is hitherto kept secret. Several Vessels laden with Corn and other Provisions are lately arrived from *Segna* at *Mezzola*, to supply the Imperial Magazine there.

Milan, November 10. The Duke of *Vendosme* has made some stay at *Casal*, to receive the Duke of *Savoy's* final Answer to the Proposals which he had Orders to make to him on the Behalf of the *French King*; but finding him fix'd in his Resolution not to depart from the Engagements he is lately entered into with the Emperor, and the other Confederates, against *France* and *Spain*, he has begun Hostilities against his Royal Highness, by possessing himself, as it is said, of *Asti*, on the Frontiers of *Piedmont*, where he found neither Inhabitants, nor any Provisions or Effects of any Value, that Place having been abandoned by the Duke of *Savoy's* Order, after the Fortifications had first been demolished. We do not hear that the *French* Forces have made any further Progress, nor can it be expected they should make any great Impression on that side, the Season being so far advanced, that they cannot keep the Field much longer. The Duke of *Savoy* assembles his chief Force about *Cbieri*, in order to cover *Turin*. We know not yet whether the *Marquis de Visconti* has been able to join him with the Detachment of Imperial Horse under his Command, or whether he has been obliged to march back again towards *Ostiglia*, as the *French* give out; but of this we are certain, that his advancing so far, as we know he has done towards *Piedmont*, has made a Diversion of the *French* Forces, which will prove of great Benefit to the Duke of *Savoy's* Affairs.

Cologne, November 27. The Prince of *Saxe-Zeitz*, Bishop of *Raab*, who has resided here some time as the Emperor's Minister, is shortly expected from *Vienna*, some of his Servants and part of his Equipage being already returned hither. Upon Advice that the *Marthal de Tallard*, after the Action at *Spire*, was sending a strong Detachment to *Hombourg*, the *Palatine* Forces which were in Garrison there have

abandoned that Place, having first demolished the Fortifications. We hear the Governor of *Gelder* has sent an Officer to *Wezel*, with new Proposals for surrendering that Place. According to our last Advices from the *Upper Palatinate*, the Forces before *Amberg* had raised several Batteries against that Place, and already made a considerable Breach; so that we hope our next will bring an Account of its being surrendered.

Liege, November 27. The Barons of *Meern* and *Autremont*, who had been deputed from our Chapter to wait upon the King of *Spain* at the *Hague*, are returned hither. A considerable number of Forces are to remain in Garrison this Winter at *Mastricht* and in this Place, which will be ready at hand to oppose any Attempts of the *French* on this side. The Damage which the Fortifications of *Huy* have sustained during the late Siege is repaired, and Directions are given for adding some new Works to the former. Several Persons who are lately come from *Namur* report, That the *French* have made great Rejoycings there for the taking of *Landau*, and their late Success near *Spire*, tho' they cannot deny that both have cost them a considerable number of Men, among whom are reckoned several of their best Officers. The Elector of *Cologne* is said to lie dangerously ill at *Namur*.

Falmouth, Nov. 25. Her Majesty's Ships the *Orford*, *Warspight* and *Lichfield*, sailed hence yesterday for *Spithead*, and with them the *Elizabeth* of *London*, from *Montserrat*, and 3 Coasters. A *Dutch* Privateer sailed from hence at the same time to cruise.

Plymouth, Nov. 28. Her Majesty's Ships the *Edgar* and *Resolution* sailed from hence the 24th Instant to the Eastward, and under their Convoy the *Charles*, a Transport-Ship of *London*, *Joseph Strowde* Master, bound home from *Jamaica*; the *Rook* Galley of *London*, *William Cherry* Master, bound home from *Viana*; the *Turner*, *William Degaver* Master, and the *Young Jacob*, *John Bow* Master, both from *Surinam*; the *Nightingale*; the *Arms* of *Amsterdam*, and the *King David*; the 5 Ships last mentioned belonging to *Amsterdam*, and bound home. The same day came in the *Sidney*, Captain *Upton* Commander, and the *Two Brothers* of *Pooles*; *Thomas Thompson* Master, both from *Falmouth*.

Yesterday we had a dreadful Storm, and 3 or 4 Merchant Ships were cast away, and one was stranded, but many of the Men were sa-