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From Monday, December 20. to Thursday, December 23. 1669.

Valmuth, Decemb. 23.

The 10th instant several Ships put to sea from this Harbour with a fair gale; the 20th came in here the *Johann Abgar* of London to take Pilchards for the *Streight*; the next day came in several Ships from *Bayonne* and *Bourdeaux*, but bring not with them any news considerable.

The 14th pulled before this Harbour the *Saphir* with about 40 Merchant-ships under her Convoy bound for the *Streights*, and the same day put in here the *Robuck* having sprung a Leak which is here to be stopped, and one Ship from *Dantzick* with a Ladging of Wheat and Rye intended for *France*, but yesterday upon the French coast by foul weather sprung her main Mast and Mizzen by the board, and with some hazard did much damage in her lading recovered this Harbour.

Phymouth, Dec. 23. Here are still remaining in this Harbour about 20 sail of Ships waiting for a fair wind to convey them to their Ports to which they are designed.

Dantzick, Dec. 14. The 4th instant the King of Poland left *Crisovitz* intending to be the 8th at *Caenstachow* a place by Devotion dedicated to the *Virgin Mary*, which City he hath presented with a Golden Heart of a considerable value and from thence may in little time pass to *Warsaw*, though divers are of opinion he may rather return again to *Prague* there to expect the arrival of the Imperial Princess his Inherited Queen, it being fully resolved that the Marriage shall be solemnized before the meeting of the States of this Kingdom in the General Diet.

The King has great hopes of reducing the *Cossacks* in *Ukraine* to their Obedience, which has been heartily endeavoured by the Senators, they having sent several persons to treat upon Conditions: the last Condition which arrived from those parts informs, that there has lately happened a great Combat between *Dziwisch* and *Janakoff*, the Heads of the several factions amongst the *Cossacks*, in which *Dorofensko* is said to have obtained a considerable Victory; and that he has sent an Express to his Majesty to acquaint him with his success, and with a promise to submit himself with all Humility to His Majesty and the Republick of *Poland*.

There is no certain account of the Treaty between *Poland* and *Muscovy*, nor of the probability of the Compromise of the differences between *Switzerland* and *Sweden*; but the most likely News is, that the States of the United Provinces have not expected the return of the *Charles* to *Moscow*; whence he has been long absent, because which he could not make any progress in the designed Mediation.

Venice, Decemb. 23. To his Majesty's Secretary *Lord Mordaunt*, and *John Lubin* Agents for the same, with the presents delivered for the King and Queen, and the principal Ministers of State, and by the said *John Lubin* delivered to his Majesty's Secretary *Lord Mordaunt*, and *John Lubin* Agents for the same, where they were presented to the King and Queen, and the principal Ministers of State, and by the said *John Lubin* delivered to his Majesty's Secretary *Lord Mordaunt*, and *John Lubin* Agents for the same, with 14 Men of War, having sent the greater part of his Fleet to *Zante*, and dismissed several Ships from the Service of the Republick.

Segnier Coraro, Provost to the Armies, is lately arrived at *Zante*, having upon the Coast of *Morve* received several testimonies of the *Turks* inclinations to keep the Peace, and of their Civilities and kindness in the readiness of all their Officers to furnish him with all Necessaries.

On Sunday last General *Barbero* embarked himself for his Voyage into *Dalmatia*, to take possession of his Charge of Provost-General in the name of *Segnior Antonia Pruit*; but the Gally *Arpeana* which was thought to have been designed for his Convoy, is employed to attend the Prince *Araultis* and his Family to *Corara*, on his way for *Naples*.

Here are lately arrived two Ships, one from *Constantinople*, the other from *Alexandria*; but sufficiently sensible how much the Trade of those parts has been abated by the great vent of late Five Solz-Pieces.

Our Letters from the *Levante* inform us, that the Grand Visier continues in *Candia*, where he has made considerable progress in the Reparation of the Fortifications and Houses; and that he finds a great want of Artillery for his Gallies, in so much as he has obliged all the Island under his power to contribute men to be employed in that Service.

A *Corsica* Slave belonging to *Duligno* some weeks since seized and made Prize of a Freegar belonging to *Zante*, and brought her into *Duligno*, but upon Application made to the Balla of that place, she was immediately dismissed, with all her Men and Lading.

Yesterday in the morning the Ambassador from *Vienna* took his leave at the College, being ordered by the Duke his Master to repair immediately to *Rome* under the same Character, to be present at the Election of a successor to the Pontifical Chair.

Vienna, Dec. 14. On Wednesday last arrived here the Polish Ambassador *Buxovinsky*, and has continued hitherto in *Vienna*, but intends to move to make his solemn entry with much magnificence: Two other persons of the greatest Quality are also expected from *Poland*, to attend the Arch-Duchess into that Kingdom, the Emperor's Eleazar intending to accompany her as far as *Cracow*.

His Imperial Majesty expects suddenly the arrival of the Regiments of *Kulmenek* and *Portia* with 500 other German Soldiers formerly employed in the defence of *Candia*; with which he intends to recruit his other Regiments, designing to increase his standing Regiments to the number of 25000 men, hoping that care will suddenly be taken for the raising of the 30000 men ordered for the security of the Empire.

The Pope's Nuncio has in an Audience from the Emperor's Ambassadors, nearest and strictest alliance against the *Turks*; saying, that His Holiness would be willing to entertain twelve thousand men for that Service, which might be maintained out of several Religious Houses he intended to suppress; and to bestow the Revenues arising from the sale of their Lands for the common Defence of Christendom.

December 23. At *Corara*, where we are advised that the Governour of that place endeavouring to put in execution His Majesty's Edict, commanding all French aboard any Dutch Vessels to quit their Employment and return to his Service; Officers of that party, who were unwilling to give their Obedience, Force might be used to reduce them: And, being inform'd that two English Men were aboard a Dutch Convey then in the Port

Port, he demanded them of the Captain, who refused to deliver them, urging, that they had been 20 years in Holland, where they were seized with their Wives and Children; and, to avoid any farther Dispute, put out to Sea, beyond the reach of Gun-shot, expecting to have been followed by the Ships under his Convoy; but these not taking their time, were stopped by the Governours Orders, and still remain under an Embargo; of which the Dutch Resident intends to make his Complaints.

The King is daily consulting about the best Methods of making himself considerable at Sea; and, for a supply of able men fit to Command aboard His Men of Warr, is resolving to have 200 young Gentlemen always maintained aboard His Admiral and Vice-Admiral, where they shall be instructed in the Art of Navigation, and all other Affairs belonging to Marine Service; and intends further to convert all the Colledges on the Sea-Coasts into Nurseries for Seamen, and has already established one at Brest for Pilots.

The King intends to divert himself about a fortnight at Versailles, which place he is so much pleased with, that he intends to have a Wall built about it, and to forme it into a City, and has encouraged his Nobility to build Houses there for their own use.

A Courier lately arriving here from Rome, sent hither by Cardinal Ursini, informs, That the two Parties, of the Chigi and Rospigliosi have united themselves, hoping to make their Party so considerable in the Colledge, as to carry the Election without Dispute; and that the Conclave was to be composed the 19th Instant; so that it is much doubted here that the Election may be over before the arrival of the Duke de Chaulnes His Majesties Ambassador.

The Abbot de Courville is gone Post for Rome, with Dispatches from His Majesty to the Cardinals of the French Faction, who 'tis supposed may arrive some time before the Duke or the French Cardinals, who are all upon their way thither, except only Cardinal de Retz, who is stopped by an extraordinary Rheume, which has fallen with such violence into his Eye, as to deprive him of his sight.

Upon Information given that some Colledgeours, of the Parliament of Bourdeaux, had with too great liberty and sharpness Discour'd against some of the late Edicts which his Majesty had verily'd in Parliament, his Majesty has thought fit to banish them for some time, and to Confine them severally to St. Malo's, Alagon, and Sens.

'Tis believed, That the Treaty now on Foot with the Duke of Lorraine, may be suddenly concluded, 't being carrying with it greater advantages to the said Duke then has been of late years granted him by former Treaties.

The Grand Seigneur has declared his willingness to Preserve and maintain Peace with the Emperour, on Condition that the *Hajduk's*, and other the Emperours Subjects be kept in better order and Obedience then formerly, and that the Emperour will Promise not to oppose him in any of his Designs.

Brussels, Dec. 26. The French have changed and increased their Garrisons, and intend to double the number of their Horse.

On Friday last arrived here from the Hague the Baron d'Yssa the Emperours Plenipotentiary, having been conducted as far as the Channel of Wildbroek in the States Yacht, the next day he had an Audience from the Constable of Castile, and on Sunday was with the Elector of Cologne Resident, treated by the Interprunct, and on Monday returned again intending for the Hague.

The same day Sir Mark Ogilvie went hence to answer to receive Moneys towards the defraying the expence of his intended Voyage into England in the room of the lately banished Don Juan de Austria.

The Deputies of Brabant have agreed to furnish their proportions towards the maintenance of the Army, having received satisfaction in their demands made to the

Constable, and are gone to demand the consent of the Commons, whose resolution will be given before the end of the Twelve days of this present Festival, about which time the Deputies of the Provinces of Artois, Namur, Luxembourg, and others are ordered to attend the Constable upon the same subject.

The Prince de Ligne is said to be fallen into a distemper which is believed will occasion him to desert his voyage to his Vice Royalty of Sicily till the Spring.

The Baron de Eergeick and the Sieur de Pape, two of our Commissioners for the tedious conference at Lille are againe here; and on Sunday last had a meeting with some of the Council of State upon the subject of the said Conference.

On Sunday last came Letters from Brno, informing that the Intendant there had published that His most Christian Majesty had revoked his Declaration of the 24th of November, taking off the Sequestrations, which though it be thought to proceed only from some particular desire of the Minister; Letters are ordered to be written to the Resident at Paris to make a farther inquiry into that affair.

Hague, Dec. 27. The States have had several conferences about the Imposition upon foreign Merchandises, intending to lay so great a Custome upon them, as that importation shall not encourage the Trade, and to prohibit the Importation of Brand-wines upon pain of forfeiture of such vessel and all other their lading as shall undertake the said Imposition, but this Act is left unfinished, nor can receive perfection till their next Assembly, which will not be till after the present Festival.

This week the Burgomasters of Zutphen gave notice to the States of the extraordinary military preparations made by the Bishop of Munster, which gave them too much reason to suspect that some war might probably be intended for the disturbance of the neighborhood, for their security, pressing that their Garrisons might be reinforced, and the frontiers put into posture of defence against any attempt, the States have accordingly resolved to comply with them, and have ordered several Companies to march towards the frontiers of *Elzanders* and towards *Maastricht*, to put an end to their fears and to be in readiness upon all occasions.

Our new Levies go on, on the 23 Instant, the Officers which were last sent into service appeared before the States Deputies, and gave in their respective securities for the faithful employ of the moneys advanced by the States for the raising of the forces for which they stood engaged; the said Officers at the same time giving in a List of their subordinate Officers, but they are not to receive their Commissions till the reassembly of the States which will be on the 7th of the next month.

The States have lately nominated the *Marquis de Witt* Counsellor of *Dordrecht*, and a near kinsman of the Pensioner of that name to be sent Ambassador Extraordinary to the King of Poland, and the Commissioners for the Affairs of Poland are ordered to draw up his Instructions.

Several debates have passed about the late interruption of our Trade in the Mediterranean, and Orders are sent to the Colledge of the Admiralty, to send higher their Deputies to consult with others appointed by the States General about the fitting up a considerable Squadron of men of war to be sent to the Straights, to possess the Trade in the Mediterranean against all disturbers thereof.

Brussels, Dec. 28. This last week arrived the *Catherine* of this place laden with Bay, Flux and Fox skins from *Dantzick*, some of the Bay being imposed upon into the hands of some of the Officers of the Customs. Here arrived also one Swede from *Stockholme*, with Iron and one of this place with Oxen and Iron from *Hambrough*.

Barbours, Dec. 28. Several Ships laden and bound for London, came from *Bourdeaux*, one from *Wich*, and one from *Rouen*, forced in here by English privateers and were put out again, and some of the Iron was taken there, and the Swede put back again into her