

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 Chauvines 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 Colledges, of the Parliament of Bourdeaux, had with too great liberty and Sharpness Discouraged 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 Seignior has declared his willingness to Preserve and maintain Peace with the Emperour, on Condition that the Hungars, 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 Wiltbroek 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 all the 21 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 Baron 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 Pot taken from Dunkirk, some of the Bay being imposed upon into the hands of some of the Officers of the Customes. Here arrived also one Swede from Stockholm, with Iron and one of this place with Oxen and Iron from Hamboogh.

Barbours, Dec. 28. Several Ships laden and bound for London, came from Bourdeaux, one from Marseilles, and one from Rouen, forced in here by English privateers and were put out again, and some of the Ships were there, and some of the Ships were put back again.