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Lisbon, October 31. N. S.

TWENTY Sail of British Merchant-men are already arrived in this Port, and as many more appear coming in at the Bar, all belonging to the Fleet under the late Convooy of Commadore Edwards. They ascribe their Safety to the Bravery of their Convooy, and particularly of the Devonshire, which maintained a running Fight against Five Men of War till the Dusk of the Evening, by Favour of which most of the Transports and Trading Ships made their Escape. There are already come in about 600 of the Horse designed for the Service of his Portugues Majesty.

Form, October 22. On the 9th Instant in the Morning his Royal Highness held a Council of War at the Vineyard of the Dutchess Royal Consort, at which, besides his Royal Highness, there assisted Prince Eugene, the Prince of Hesse Cassel, the Prince of Anhalt, General Rhebender, with the Imperial, British, Spanish and Dutch, Envoys; who, when the Council was over, had the Honour to dine with his Royal Highness, at a great Entertainment which was prepared on that Occasion. The young Prince of Carignan, with the Princess Louisa, Sister to Prince Eugene, had the Honour to dine with the Dutchess Consort at another Table. After Dinner the Company waited on his Royal Highness, to see a Regiment of Dragoons in Review, and exercise at the Head of the Camp; which was about a quarter of a Mile off the Vineyard. That Regiment marched next Day to Sr. Maurice, where it will canton for some Days. Our Army hath also received Orders to canton, till it appears what Measures the Enemy designs to take, since they do not march into their Winter Quarters, but on the contrary talk of undertaking something on this Frontier. The 11th the Hereditary Prince of Hesse Cassel took Post from hence, in order to go to Cassel, and afterwards to Holland. On the 13th Monsieur Zinzerling, one of the King of Spain's Secretaries, arrived here from Great Britain, by the Way of Holland, with Letters signifying the Intentions of the Queen of Great Britain, the States of Holland, and the Elector Palatine, for transporting into Spain the Palatine Troops, that are on the British and Dutch Establishment; and necessary Measures are accordingly concerting for the speedy and effectual Execution of these Orders. On the 14th General Visconti, and several other chief Officers of Horse, waited on Prince Eugene, to receive his Highness's Orders for the Distribution of their Troops into Winter Quarters. The next Day we heard from Pignerol, That a Party of the Enemy from La Perouse, by the Favour of a Fog, surprised a small advanced Guard of Horse, which was posted on the Road to La Perouse, kill'd two Centinels, took 3 or 4 Prisoners; with 8 or 10 Horses, the Prisoners being seized as they were sitting round their Fires. It is believed their Design was to have surrounded the Captain, who was posted near that Place with 100 Horse; but finding him well prepared for their Reception, they thought fit to retire without attacking him. On the 17th General Rhebender received a Courier from the Elector Palatine his Matter, with full Orders and Instructions relating to the Embarkation of his Troops for Spain; so that we hope they will be ready to sail before the middle of the next Month. The same Courier brought Orders from his Electoral Highness to General Isebach, who commands his Troops which are in the Emperor's Pay, to return immediately for Germany. Prince Eugene having received Orders from the Court of Vienna to the same Effect, has sign'd the March of those Troops, and they were to begin it yesterday. The French have proposed to his Royal Highness a Neutrality for Mount Cenis, from the Inn on the Top of the Mountain to the Foot of it, on each Side; to which it is thought his Royal Highness will consent, it being equally beneficial to both Parties, and very convenient for the Trade that passes from this Country to Geneva. The Palatine Foot which are in the Pay of the Queen of Great Britain and the States General, under the Command of General Rhebender, have received Orders to march to the Imperial Foes on the Sea-side near Final, where they are to be conton'd till all

Things are ready for their Embarkation. The Imperial Regiment of Foot, under the Command of General Raventlau, is quartered at Novarre, from whence it is to join the other Troops design'd for Spain. A Courier is arrived here from England, with Letters from the Queen of Great Britain to the King of Spain; and is dispatched with another Express from Prince Eugene to the same Prince, who gives his Catholic Majesty an Account of the great Preparations that are making here to send his Catholic Majesty a strong and speedy Reinforcement.

Neuchâtel, Octob. 28. The Marquis de Poiseux has followed his late Memorial, and is arrived in Perfon here: He continues to frighten the People in his usual Manner; and had so little Moderation as to threaten even the Deputies which were sent to compliment him upon his Arrival with his Master's Resentment. After which he sent for the Judges themselves separately, and denounced the French King's Vengeance upon them and their Posterity, unless they chose one of his Subjects for their Prince. However it does not appear that his Menaces have had any Effect upon the People in general, or the Judges in particular; for though he went to the Tribunal himself on the 18th, and delivered a second Memorial in Terms less violent than the former, the next Day the Judges gave Sentence against his Demand, declaring, They were highly touch'd with the hard Expressions contained in his Memorials; That they could not grant any Delay in the Manner it was ask'd; but intended to proceed on the 24th Instant to judge of the Claims of the remaining Pretenders, in order to make an end of the Cause. The Tribunal mer accordingly on the 24th; but the Lawyers of the remaining French Pretenders made use of so many Arts to perplex their Proceedings, and gain time, that they could not begin to read till next Day, which they continued also the Day following, when the Governor, who is entirely in the French Interest, adjourn'd the Assembly to the 29th, and broke it up in so surprising a Manner, that the States, who can only be adjourned by themselves, had not Time enough to oppose that Innovation. But the French Ambassador received on the 26th an Answer from Court, to the Account he had sent, of the Refusal of the Delay he demanded: Whereupon he left this Place yesterday Morning, without sending any Message to the States. The Duke de Villeroy and the Marquis de Matignon have also left Nonparlier; and Monsieur de la Clafure, the French Resident, is returned to his Post at Geneva. By all which Proceedings it is supposed the Investiture will be within few Days granted to the King of Prussia.

Francfort, Novemb. 6. His Grace the Duke of Marlborough having left Dusseldorp, was met by the Elector Palatine at Bruck, about a League from his Castle of Bansberg. His Electoral Highness had ordered a good Number of Tents to be pitch'd in an open Field, and treated his Grace at Dinner under a very magnificent Persian Tent; after which the Duke continued his Journey about 20 Miles further to Weert, being conducted thither by the Palatine Guards. On the 20th his Grace lay at Limbourg, on the Laune, and arrived here on the 21st. The Electors of Mayence and Hanover were come the Day before; and on the 27th Count Wratislaw, Plenipotentiary from his Imperial Majesty, came here also; and their Conferences being ended, the Duke of Marlborough set out for the Hague on the 29th. The Elector of Hanover left this Place the same Day, in order to return to the Imperial Army, where he arrived the Day following. On the 31st his Electoral Highness visited the new Lines, and had the Satisfaction to find they were very far advanced. General Thungen had the Honour of having his Conduct, during the Absence of the Elector, very much approved by his Highness. On the 1st Instant the Count de Thirheim came into the Imperial Camp from Vienna, and brought with him the Emperor's Approbation of the Measures proposed for the Accommodation of the Troops in their Winter Quarters; as well as Orders for 60000 Guilders towards the raising of Magazines. We hear the Enemy have repass'd the Rhine, by the Ways of Fort Louis and Fort Kehl, in order to take up their Winter Quarters in Alsatia and Franche Comte. The Elector of Hanover, upon receiving this Intelligence, ordered the Lines to be forthwith finished, that his Army might march into Quarters. His Electoral Highness is expected in a few Days here, in his Return to Hanover; and in his Absence this Winter the Army is to be commanded by General Thungen.

Hague,