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Coire, November 18. N. S.

SINCE Monsieur Masner, who is a Counsellor here, and his Imperial Majesty's chief Commissary for the Passage of the Troops of the Allies through this Country, had the Resolution to seize the Grand Prior of France, in Reprisal for his Son, the Partisans of the French Court have, by Menaces and Instigations, under-hand endeavoured to terrifie him with the high Resentments of his most Christian Majesty, who would not fail to Revenge an Insult done to a Prince of his Family; but it is believ'd the Grisons will not think themselves obliged to give Satisfaction in this Point, it being a private Matter of Monsieur Masner's, to which the Usage he had receiv'd from the Count du Luc, the French Ambassador, gave Occasion, who abus'd the Faith and Confidence he had put in his Word and Honour, by not setting his Son at Liberty according to Agreement; besides, that Monsieur Masner seiz'd the Grand Prior in a District belonging to the Emperor, without the Knowledge of this State, and immediately carried him to Balzers, a Place in the Empire, and has since removed him; for greater Security, to Feldkirken, which is a Town farther up in the Emperor's Territories, where he is put out of the Power of the Grisons to Release him. A Courier arriv'd here three Days ago from Soleure; and brought a Letter from the French Ambassador to this Republick, which is wrote in a Stile peculiar to the Ministers of that Nation. He treats Monsieur Masner with great Scorn, and hopes the Grisons will punish him. He demands the Enlargement of the Grand Prior, and all his Retinue, without delay, and desires that a General Assembly of the Grisons may be called to return him as speedily an Answer as possible. This Incident employs us here at present, and a Congress of the Heads of the three Leagues is now Assembled, in order to Consult what is fit to be done; after which the Affair will be decided in a General Meeting of all the Commons of this Republick. The Baron de Greuth, his Imperial Majesty's Envoy here, has receiv'd Orders to Support and Protect Monsieur Masner in his Enterprize, to which the French had given so high a Provocation.

Berne, November 22. N. S. A French Man of War, called the *Eclatant*, is fitting out at Toulon, and will sail some time this Month for Constanti-nople, to bring home the French Ambassador from thence. Besides the twenty eight Squadrons of Horse and Dragoons detached from the Duke of Berwick's Army for Roussillon, the Regiment of Crony, consisting of three Squadrons, had Orders to march thither. The whole Detachment was to Rendezvous at Perpignan the 30th, but the Foot had Orders to halt, and it was said that their Number would be considerably lessened. The French continue to give out, that they still design to Besiege Gironne; for which purpose the Chevalier Blanckar, an Engineer much esteemed in France, was ordered to go and join the Duke of Noailles. We are kept much in the dark here as to what passes in Spain, and know nothing more than what the French are pleased to tell us, which is so disguised, that we cannot give much Credit to it. Our Letters from Genoa and Milan make the same Complaint; and the Reason in all appearance is, that the Enemy find ways to intercept his Catholick

seur Masner makes a great Noise here; and as the French had given him so just an occasion of making Reprisals, it is thought he will be powerfully Supported.

Hague, December 5. N. S. The Duke of Marlborough and the Prince of Savoy are continually taken up, with the Members of this Government, in concerting the Publick Affairs, and have not yet fixed any time for leaving this Place. Monsieur de Bothmar, with the British General Officers and others, are detained at Helvoetsluys by contrary Winds. Our last Letters from Paris, of any Credit, give us hopes that our Affairs in Spain go better than the French would generally make us believe they do. His Catholick Majesty seems determined to maintain his Winter Quarters in Castille, and by several Parties he keeps a Communication from Saragossa to the Country of la Mancha. By this means he has it in his Power to awe the Province of Andalusia, and will be supplied with Horses and Provisions from that and the neighbouring Countries. The Duke of Alva has given out, that King Charles had quitted Madrid, but his News is not believed, the two Armies in that Country continuing in their former Posts.

Brussels, December 6. N. S. The Advices we have here from St. Sebastian of the 18th of November say, that his Catholick Majesty continued to be Master of Madrid; and that the main Body of his Army lay extended from Aranjuez to Toledo, where the Fortifications were perfecting with all diligence. Those Letters assure us, that Ciudad Real on the River Guadiana, and several other Towns, had submitted to King Charles, whose Forces were reckoned to be superior in Number to those of the Enemy. The Duke of Anjou was not yet removed from his former Camp at Casa-TeXada, where his Troops, being for the most part new raised Men, deserted in great Numbers, which was chiefly attributed to the Hardships they underwent from the ill Situation of the Place, and the want of necessary Supplies of Provisions. The ordinary Letters from Paris talk of the Affairs in Spain according to their usual Stile; and tho' they would make us believe that our Troops had quitted Madrid, yet they do not pretend that the Duke of Anjou had taken Possession of it, who was still at Casa-TeXada, and had only sent a Detachment of Horse to observe the Motions of Count Staremberg. That General, according to the Report of Prisoners, had no design to abandon Castille, but rather made several feints by Marches and Countermarches, in order to get some Advantage of the Enemy by Surprise. The Tumults which happened in Britany and Normandy, on account of the Tax of the Tenth Penny, are said to have been appeased by the approach of some Regular Troops which were sent that way from the Frontier Garrisons. There have also been great Disorders at Lyons, occasioned by the same oppressive Imposition, and the violent Methods made use of by the Intendant in executing the Edict. Several Merchants and Bankers who refused to submit to the Exorbitant Rates they were taxed at, have been confined to their Houses, and Guards of Soldiers set upon them. We have no Accounts from the Army under the Duke of Noailles. The great Rains, and the overflowing of the Rivers, have much regarded the March of the Troops which were going to join him; besides that the Fatigues they suffer by marching in such a Season, will render them unfit