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London, Sept. 17.

Yesterday was held a Court-Marshal on board his Majesties Yacht, called the *Bezan* in the River of *Thames* near *Tower wharfe* for the tryal of Captain *John Pierce* Commander of His Majesties late ship the *Saphire*, unfortunately lost the 31. of *March* last upon the coast of *Sicily*, and of his Lieutenant *Andrew Logan*; where upon diligent examination and inquisition, it was clearly and fully evidenced by the testimony of Twelve credible witnesses upon oath, that the said ship was basely and shamefully lost through the default and cowardise of the said Captain and Lieutenant, who upon the approach of Four sail, supposed to be Turks men of war, being possit with a pannick fear, ordered the ship to run from them, refusing to let go the Anchor, till the ship was struck, contrary to the sence, not only of the Master and Purser, who perswaded them to fight, the ship being in a fit posture, but of the whole company, who declared their readines and desire of it by their chearful acclamations; upon these and other evidences, the said Captain and Lieutenant were by a general and unanimous consent adjudged and sentenced to be shot to death on Monday the 26th instant, on board any of His Majesties ships or vessels of war, according as the President of that Court, Sir *Feremiah Smith* should direct.

Rome, Aug. 30. The Pope has of late fallen into many fainting and swooning fits, which have much empaired the vigor of his body and mind, so that 'tis believed he will not very long hold the Chair; he has not yet taken the resolution to promote any Cardinals in the vacant places. Cardinal *Chigy* is using all his interest to prefer Cardinal *Piccolomini* to the Bishoprick of *Massi* in the Dutchy of *Florence* which is become void by the death of the late incumbent *Accaregi*, but Monseigneur *Bichi*, the present Bishop of *Rhodes* is his competitor, and like to succeed in that See.

The Inquisition is now employd about the examination of several Theses which have been held by the Sorbonists at *Paris*, about the limitation of several Canons in order to the national Council at *Orleans*, with other matters which they suppose to tend to the diminution of the Popes authority; they are also considering how to inhibit the Duke of *Savoie* from erecting a scale of Trade at *Villa Franca*, and making it a free Port: they are also projecting how to refuse to the Genoueses that authority, which after the example of *Venice*, they have much solicited by their Minister *Durazzo*, of limiting the power of the Inquisition in that State.

The Pope has lately bought the house of Segnior *Berzoni*, to adjoin it to his Palace, designed for those of his Family; and name: Cardinal *Altieri* has endeavoured to place a new Governor in *Rome*, instead of Monseigneur *Vareze*, which is said to be designed for Monseigneur *Alberguti*.

Warsaw, Sept. 1. From *Moscow* they write, That the Heer *Heinfus* is dayly promised his dispatches and dismissal, for which he has long attended with

much patience, but with little hopes of prevailing in point of Mediation.

We have this more certain news of the procedure of the Rebels in *Muscovy*, that upon their approach towards *Astracan*, the Governor of that place, had sent out a body of 6000. men, to secure a passage leading to the City; which being defeated, the City opened their gates to them, who plundered the Town; but upon the intercession of the Metropolitan, were prevailed with to spare the Churches and Religious houses; their Cruelty was notorious in cutting off the hands and Feet of all Military Officers and Noblemen, with the Governor and his Brother and two of his Sons. This success has much increased their number, as well as their insolency, and given an Allarum to the Great Duke, who has Ordered his General *George Alexiewitz Dolgarouka* to command all his forces to march towards them for their suppression.

Genova, Sept. 6. Three days since arrived here one of the Great Dukes Gallies with 300 Bales of Silk for this place, and the next day put out again to sea intending for *Legorn*: as yet the Popes Gallies appear not with their lading. *Centurione* with his Gallies hath been seen about *Palermo*; those Gallies which were some time in this Port, are plying about the Isle of *Corsica*, but intend to return again hither to demand justice against a Captain of a ship of this place, who lying by them in this Port, had endeavoured by a Saw, conveyed under water, to have cut their Cables, of which they made complaint to the Duke, but the Captain and Seamen which were concerned, had then concealed themselves.

Two days since arrived here Two ships from *Cadix*. One of them the *St Andrew* a Dutch ship, the other the *Beata Rosa* of this place, bringing with them 300 thousand pieces of Eight in Money, Fifty Chests of Indico, Twenty of Cuccinelle, and Five hundred and fifty bags of Pepper, besides other Goods of value, the rest of the Convoy past by for *Legorn*; about 17 days since they left Sir *John Harman* with Two men of War, a Fireship, and Four Merchants bound for these parts, and are daily expected.

From *Milan* they tell us, that the Duke d' *Ossuna*, Governour and Captain-General of that State, intending to have made a considerable progress to visit the fortifications, returned much sooner then was expected, having only seen *Lodi*, and has deferred his visit to the remoter parts till after the lying in of his Lady. The Marquis de los *Balbaces Spinola* is not yet gone for *Vienna*, but has taken his leave of the Duke and Dutchess in order to his departure. The Duke has been very instrumental in composing the differences between the people of *Monferat* and *Piedmont*, which might otherwise in probability have speedily drawn on a war.

They suddenly expect the arrival of Don *Raphael Vigliosa* to enter upon the employment conferred on him by the Queen Regent of *Spain*, of Chancellor of the State of *Milan*.

Legorn, Sept. 9. The 4th instant arrived the Dutch Convoy of two men of War and six Merchant Ships from *Spain*. We are here informed that Captain *Beach* on his way from this place