

# The London Gazette.

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Palermo, Jan. 16.

**O**ur Vice-Roy the Prince de Ligne having thought fit to summon a general meeting of the States of the Kingdom, they accordingly met the 10th instant for the first time, where his Excellency being seated under a large Canopy of State, all other the Ceremonies usually practised on the like occasions having been first performed, he acquainted them that the occasion of their being assembled, was to consult of the best and most effectual means for the relieving the present necessities of the Kingdom, and the putting themselves in such a posture of defence, as that they might not have cause to fear the power of the Ottoman Port: further telling them, That considering the great preparations the Grand Signior continues still to make throughout all his Dominions, without declaring against whom he designs to employ those forces, and how open they lie, especially, since the loss of *Candia*, to any attempt from that Port, they ought to be very quick and sudden in their resolutions for the publick safety; and the more, seeing the time for action advances so considerably upon them; which hath had that effect amongst them, that they have already framed several Laws, much conducing to the welfare and safety of the kingdom; so that it is said, they may in few days part again, leaving the execution of what they concluded on, to the care and direction of the Vice-Roy, who intends very suddenly to goe and visit the chief places of strength in the Kingdom, to take care for the repairing their fortifications, and providing them with all other necessaries they may at present want.

Some days since the Commander *Ottavio Castelli*, Son to the Marquis *Capici*, made his publick entry here, in quality of Ambassador from the Great Master and Order of *Malta*, attended with the usual Ceremonies.

*Naples, Feb. 3.* The Marquis de *Villa Franca*, having by the Queen Regent been appointed chief Governor of these Countries *pro interim*, in the absence of Don *Pedro d' Arragon*, our Vice Roy, hath made of late some considerable alterations in the affairs of this Kingdom, having put most of the former Officers out of their places, which he hath filled up with others, and as is said, Creatures of his own; he hath likewise abated the prizes of Provisions, and given order for the payment of the Troops at present in the service of this Kingdom, partly, as is said, even with his own Money; but it is thought that Don *Pedro d' Arragon*, who is suddenly expected back here from *Rome*, will not be very well satisfy'd with the proceedings. The Prince *Ottavio de Medicis* is returned hither from *Florence*, where he had been to compliment the Great Duke upon his coming to that Government.

*Milan, Feb. 14.* Some days since arrived here the Count de *Melgar* with his Lady from *Spain*, having been met at the Gates of the City by our Governor the Duke d' *Ossuna*, and several other persons of Quality, who were not wanting to take the first opportunity to welcome him to his Government of *Navarre*, of which he comes to take possession.

We are here in daily expectation to receive the necessary Orders from *Spain* for the disbanding several of the new raised Troops, and so to ease these Countreys of part of the charge they at present lie under.

From *Madrid* our last Letters tell us, of several Troops that were there raising, which were to be employed for his Catholick Majesties service in *Flanders*, and *Sicily*; and that very considerable sums of Money had been lately made over to *Vienna*, for the raising of 3000 Germans in those parts.

*Dantzick, Feb. 28.* From *Warsaw* our Letters tell us, that their Majesties of *Poland* were gone to *Czenstocow*, where they intend to pass this Lent at their Devotions, and to be back again by *Easter*; that it was reported by some, that the Empress Dowager was to come thither *incognito*, to see the Queen her Daughter, and conferre with the King about the present state of his affairs; but this seems not very probable. That the Popes Nuncio had lately made some propositions to that King and Senate, for the framing a strict Alliance between the neighbouring Princes against the Ottoman power, as being their common interest to unite for the opposing the Arms of the Port, from whence they must continually live in apprehension of some unexpected attacke, it being very certain, that they are onely beholding to the troubles and factions which are at present at *Constantinople*, for the peace they may expect to enjoy this Summer; and that the Grand Signior, when those differences are once accomodated, will not be long ere he employ his forces in another way: to which his Majesty made answer, That according to the constitutions of the Kingdom, he could not do any thing in an affair of so much importance, till it had been proposed to the Grand Diet, to be held here about the beginning of *April*, and their consent obtained in the matter.

The Envoye from the Great Cham of *Tartary* is at present there, and hath had Audience of his Majesty, whom, after having paid the usual respects, he assured of the constant amity and friendship his Master was resolved to maintain with this Crown; he hath since received several rich Presents by the Kings order, and may now, having dispatched his affairs in that Court, suddenly return home again.

The Grand Marshal *Sobietzky*, and the under General *Demetrius Wisnowisky*, with other the principal Officers of the Army, are on their way thither, in order to be present at the Council of war which is to be held there the 10th of the next month.

From *Moscow* our Letters give us an account of the defeat of the Rebels, and quite contradict what was formerly reported of a victory they had obtained over the Emperors forces under the Command of his chief General *Dolorucko*, who being approached with the Czars forces near the place where the Rebels lay encamped, gave them battle, and as is said, after some hours dispute, totally routed them, several thousands being slain, and their General *Stephan Radzin* narrowly escaping, with some few that attended him; upon this victory, several places that had formerly revolted, have rendered themselves to the Emperors mercy; which if it prove true, as it is much hoped it will, it is expected that the rest will follow