

The London Gazette.

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From Tuesday August 29. to Saturday August 31. 1717.

AT the Court at Hampton-Court, the 22d of August, 1717.

P R E S E N T,

The King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

UPON reading this Day at the Board a Presentment by the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, dated the 19th of July last, to the Lord's Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, in the Words following, *wz.*

WE have had frequent Complaints from our Officers in several Parts of the Coast of this Kingdom, that the Smuglers are now grown so very numerous and insolent, that they appear in Bodies from 20 to 30 armed Men, and in Defiance of the Officers of the Customs, do forcibly run great Quantities of Goods, to the great Prejudice of the Revenue and the fair Traders, a fresh Instance whereof we have now before us from one of our Officers at Stockton; who hath represented to us in his Letter of the 7th Instant, (Copy whereof is hereto annexed, for your Lordships more particular Information) that upon Notice of a considerable Quantity of Goods being run near that Port, he applyed to the Commanding Officer of two Troops of Dragoons now quartered there, to assist him in securing the said Goods, but was refused such Assistance by the said Officer, notwithstanding the Clause in the Act of Frauds, 14. Car. II. requires the same: Such Commanding Officer alledging, that he had no Orders to assist any Officer of the Customs in the Execution of his Duty. We have therefore thought it our Duty to lay this Matter before your Lordships, and humbly pray that you will please to be a means, That the Military Officers quartered not only in and about Stockton, but also on other Parts of the Coast of this Kingdom, may be directed to assist the Officers of the Customs, as there shall be Occasion, in Seizing uncustomed and prohibited Goods:

HIS Majesty taking the same into Consideration, is pleased, with the Advice of His Privy Council, to Order, and it is hereby Ordered, That His Majesty's Secretary at War, do forthwith cause Directions to be given to the Military Officers quartered on, or near the Sea Coast, throughout England as well as Scotland, That they be assisting to the Civil Magistrates, when desired by them and the Officers of the Customs for the Executing Legal Processes, and other Matters relating to His Majesty's Service, in hindring the Exportation of Wooll, and Illegal Importation of French Silks, Brandy, and other Goods, and preventing the evil Practices complained of in the said Presentment.

J. A. VERNON.

Geneva, Aug. 23. The Cantons of Zurich and Berne having at length agreed, that Zurich alone shall send a Deputy to the King of Sicily, with a Letter written in Be-

half of this Town in the Name of the whole Evangelick Body, the Regents of Zurich have notified here, that they have nominated one of their Secretaries for that Commission, who is expected here next Week in his Way to Turin. The King of Sicily is at Rivoli. The freshest Letters from Turin do not make the least mention of any Preparations of War in Piemont, nor on the Frontiers. His Sicilian Majesty has dismissed the Marquess de Courtanze from the Employment of ~~General~~ to the Prince of Piemont, and he is retired from Court to his Country-Seat near Asti.

Madrid, Aug. 23. 'Tis advised from Barcelona, that 60 Transport-Ships were getting ready in that Port to take on board a good Number of Horse, and that they are to follow the Fleet as soon as some Men of War that are appointed for their Convoy, are arrived from Cadiz. A few Days ago the Duke of St. Aignan, the French Ambassadour, received an Express from Paris, with Orders from the Duke Regent, to inquire what Enterprize the Spanish Fleet is to be employed in, and to represent to his Catholick Majesty the Engagements the Crown of France is under to maintain the Neutrality in Italy. After some Sollicitation, a Letter was given him directed to the Prince of Cellamare Ambassadour of Spain at the French Court, which he was desired to send to him, and was told it contained an Order to that Prince to inform the Duke Regent upon what Motives and with what Design the Fleet had been fitted out. In the mean time the Expedition it is gone upon, is still kept secret here. The Marquess of Valdecannas, Governour of the Kingdom of Valencia, is removed from that Employment, and forbid the Court.

Genoa, Aug. 24. On the 19th Instant Sig. Mariconi, the Emperour's Resident here, received an Express from the Marquess of Rubi Viceroy of Sardinia, with an Account that on the 10th of this Month 10 Spanish Men of War and 30 Transports came to an Anchor in the Bay of Cagliari. Sig. Mariconi has since received Letters of the 18th from Sardinia, advising that the Spaniards had not yet begun any Hostilities, nor summoned the Viceroy; so that he had offered to allow them to furnish themselves with fresh Provisions if they wanted, but at the same Time signified to them, that they must retire within three Days. 'Tis thought they waited to be joined at Cagliari by the rest of their Fleet. On the 28th Instant 750 Men of the Imperial Regiment of Hamilton, are to arrive here from Milan, in order to be transported to Sardinia or to Naples, as there may be Occasion.

Amsterdam, Sept. 3. Sir John Norris and Mr. Whitworth had their Audience of Leave of their Czarish Majesties on the 1st Instant; their Majesties went hence by Water next Day for Bergen-op-Zoom, where 'tis said they will stay two Days, and then proceed to Berlin; but all their Train went directly for Cleves