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Madrid, September 12.

ON the 6th Instant an Express from Paris arrived at the Escorial, with Advice of the Engagement between the British and Spanish Fleets, on the 11th of August off Syracuse, in which several Spanish Men of War were lost. This News was received with great Consternation; but People's Spirits have since been raised a little, by a Report given out, that a Courier who was dispatched from Rome by Cardinal Acquaviva, on the 27th of August, and arrived at the Escorial on the 8th Instant, brought a more favourable Account, namely, that the Marquis de Mari's Squadron did indeed suffer much, and lost three or four Ships, but that the Loss of the English was not less than ours. We are expecting an Express from some of our Commanders, with the certain Particulars of all that has passed. On the 9th came Advice, that the People of Bilbao and of the adjacent Places had made an Insurrection, that they required the Deputies who had lately been employed to solicit the Court to redress their Grievances, to sign a Paper in the Form of a Proclamation, by which the new Duties collected by the Officers of the Customs were declared to be abolished, and upon their Refusal killed them, plundered several Houses, and committed other great Disorders. It is not yet known what is become of the Corregidor and other Magistrates and Officers, because there is a Stop at present to the passing of Letters. Upon Advice of this Insurrection, the Deputy of Biscay who resides here, repaired to the Escorial, where he was told that a Council would be held to consider what Resolution might be pro-

per to be taken on this Occasion. Don Andres de Pez, President of the Council of the Indies, has offered to resign that Employment, alledging that his bad State of Health obliges him to retire from Business. But this Disposition of his to resign, is imputed rather to his seeing the Authority of the Council restrained and diminished daily, and little Regard had to their Representations. He has been ordered however to continue in his Employment, the King not thinking fit at present to dispence with his Service. 'Tis said the Court will remove from the Escorial to Balsain the End of this Month, to take the Diversion of Hunting for a Fortnight or three Weeks, and will then return to Madrid. Such Representations have been made to the Court, of the great Inconveniences arising from the Order given for all the Silver belonging to private Persons which came by the last Flota to be sent to the King's Mints, that 'tis hoped that Order will be recalled.

Bayona, Sept. 10. By an Express which arrived Yesterday from Bilbao we have an Account, that on Sunday the 4th Instant 8000 Peasants and others, well armed, drew together from the neighbouring Country, and advanced to Begogne, which is at a very small Distance from Bilbao, where dwelt one of the chief Gentlemen of the Province who had been sent Deputy to Madrid to plead for their Privileges. They killed him, plundered and burnt his House, and some others near it. Then they entred Bilbao, to sieze the Officers of the Customs, but they had made their Escape. They plundered the Custom-House and burnt it. They also plundered 10 or 12 private Houses, burnt three or four, and killed seven or eight Persons. The Inhabitants used all manner
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