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From Saturday January 17. to Tuesday January 20. 1719.

Rome, December 31.

ON the 24th in the Evening being Christmas-Eve, the Pope preceded by 24 Cardinals, went to the Chappel in the Palace of the Quirinal, where he began the Vespers: After which several of the Cardinals, with the Constable Colonna and the two Princes of Bavaria went to the great Hall of that Palace, to hear a Pastoral performed by a Consort of the best Voices and Instruments that could be procured: In the mean Time a very sumptuous and splendid Collation was placed on the Table; and when Supper was over their Eminencies returned to the Chappel, and staid till the Midnight-Mass was sung by Cardinal Priuli, who officiated for Cardinal Spinola the Pope's Chamberlain. The next Day, the Pope preceded by 30 Cardinals, and other numerous Representatives of the whole Ecclesiastical Hierarchy, was carried in his Chair with great Pomp to Chappel, where he officiated at Mass, and performed the Ceremony of blessing the Sword and Hat, which the Popes are used annually to send for Presents to Persons of great Distinction, as a Reward of the Valour exerted by them in the Service of Christendom and of the Holy See. On the 26th a Congregation was held, concerning the Passage of the Imperial Troops through the Ecclesiastical Territories. The German Garrison of Comacchio has been considerably reinforced. The 29th being the Festival of St. Thomas à Becket, Archbishop of

Canterbury, the Cardinals and Prelates of the Congregation of Ecclesiastical Immunity held a Chappel in the Church of the English Nation dedicated to that Saint. Yesterday Morning the Congregation de Propaganda Fide met at the Palace of Cardinal Sacripante their President, and had a long Conference with Cardinal Albani, about the Instructions to be given to the Apostolical Missionaries who are to be sent to China. The Pope has made a Grant to the Republick of Venice of 50000 Ducats to be levied on the Clergy in their Dominions, towards the Charge they are obliged to be at for repairing the Damage done by the Lightning at Corfu. We have an Account from Ferrara, that on the 20th at Night a Fire which first broke out in the Vice-Legate's Kitchen, consumed his and the neighbouring Houses; that four Persons who worked to extinguish the Fire perished; and that the Damage is computed at 200000 Crowns.

Venice, Jan. 6. The Procurator Ruzzini is getting his Equipage ready, and will shortly set out on his Ambassy to the Ottoman Porte. The Senate has nominated Sig. Francisco Grimani, to go Ambassadour Extraordinary to the King of Great Britain. Sig. Fiorelli Secretary from this Republick to the British Court, is appointed to go and reside at Naples, in the Room of Sig. Alberti who is recalled. We have Advice that a Marriage is concluded between the Prince of Darmstad Governour of Mantua, and the Princess Eleanora of Guastalla, Widow of the late Cardinal Duke Francis de Medicis. On Sunday last solemn