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Constantinople, August 16.

COUNT Virmont, the Imperial Ambassadour, having been informed in his Journey hither, that contagious Distempers were rife in this City and the adjacent Suburbs, did not think proper to go directly to Pet to the House fitted up there for his Reception; and therefore dispatched to the Ottoman Court M. Dirling, Secretary to the Imperial Embassy, and M. Theils Imperial Interpreter, to desire that some healthful Place without the City might be assigned him; accordingly the Court gave Orders to prepare Tents for him in two Gardens, lying three Miles Distant from the City Walls. On the 31st of July his Excellency arrived in this Neighbourhood with his Retinue, coming last from Ponte Grande, and encamped under his Tents as usual. His Excellency was met in his March near Ponte Piccolo by an Interpreter, sent by the Deputies of the Republick of Ragusa residing at the Ottoman Court, who complimented him on their Part, and assured him of the Republick's Esteem and Respect for his Imperial Majesty; for which Compliment the Ambassadour returned them Thanks in a very obliging Manner. Immediately after the Ambassadour's Arrival in this Neighbourhood, he sent Major Baron Seebach, Marshal of the Embassy, to compliment the Grand Vizier, and to acquaint him with his Excellency's Arrival. On the first of August the Grand Vizier sent the Interpreter of the Ottoman Court, and a little while after, to shew his particular Esteem for the Ambassadour's Person, an Aga (which was never done to any before him) to return the Compliment, and to present him with Sweet-Meats and Fruits. That Day his Excellency sent to notify his Arrival to the Foreign Ministers, viz. Baron Locher de Lindenheim to Mr. Stanian, Minister of Great Britain; Baron Studenitz to the Marquis de Bonnac Minister of France; and M. Wetstein to Count Collier, Minister of the States General; who all returned him their Compliments. On the 2d the Ottoman Court sent to desire his Excellency to take his Audience of the Grand Signior during their *Ramezan*, and to be pleased to be present at the Distribution of Pay to the Janizaries. To which his Excellency readily consenting, he gave Orders, notwithstanding the Shortness of Time, to prepare for his Entry. On the 3d his solemn Entry into Constantinople was made. That Morning at Five a-Clock arrived at the Ambassadour's Tents a great Number of Horses finely furnished, out of the Grand Signior's Stables, for the Service of his Excellency, the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Officers of his Retinue. At Seven a-Clock arrived there the chief Interpreter of the Ottoman Court, with a Compliment from the Grand Vizier; and soon after the Signal was given by Sound of Trumpet to mount. The March to the City was perform'd with the same Splendour, and in the same Order as was represented on the 23th of April last at Vienna, when the Ambassadour went to his Audience of Leave of the Emperour, except that there were six Coaches more with fine Sets of Horses. Half Way from the City they were met by the Chiaus Basshaw, with two Generals of the Cavalry, and a great Number of Chief Officers, who received the Ambassadour, and marched before him on Horseback. A Mile from the City they stopped at a Seat belonging to the Grand Signior, where an Entertainment was prepared for the Ambassadour and his Retinue, his Excellency being served by the Grand Vizier's Pages, which is an Honour unusual on such Occasions. An Hour and a half after they proceeded in the same Order, with Colours flying, with the Musick of Hoboys, Trumpets, and Kettle-Drums, and Drums beating, the Imperial Grenadiers carrying their Fire-Arms shouldered, and the Officers having their Bayonets fixed to the Muzzles of their Pieces: They passed through great part of the City, the Janizaries with their Officers being ranged on both Sides of the Streets. The Grand Signior himself and the Grand Vizier came incognito to see the March, which for its Pomp and Magnificence,

particularly with regard to the Habits of the Ambassadour's Retinue, was univerally admired by the Inhabitants both Turks and others. On the 5th the Imperial Ambassadour went to pay his Visit to the Grand Vizier, in the same Order which had been observed at his Entry, except that the Trumpets, Kettle-Drums, Hoboys, and Colours were left behind, as being unusual in the like Visits. The Ambassadour's Grenadiers were left to Guard his Tents, and his Excellency was attended only by his Heidukes, with their Scimitars by their Sides, and their Maces in their Hands: His Excellency was mounted on a Horse which had been sent him by the Grand Vizier; he entered the furthestmost Court of the Grand Vizier's Palace, and alighted at the Door of his Apartment. The Emperour's Letter to the Grand Vizier was delivered to him by Count Bathian, and that of Prince Eugene by Captain Oschlewitz. The Grand Vizier presented the Ambassadour with a Robe lined with Sables, besides the Horse which he had mounted, an Honour not usual in Visits of other Ambassadours: The Gentlemen of his Retinue were presented with Caftans, or Turkish Vests. The 8th of August being fixed for the Ambassadour's Audience of the Sultan, the Ceremonies of which are so many that they take up a long time, the Procession began two Hours before Sun-rise by the Light of Flambeaux. The Ambassadour sat in a Coach, dressed in a rich Habit of State, attended by his Heidukes on both sides. He was received by the Chiaus Basshaw at the City Gate, where he mounted on Horseback, and was conducted to the Scraglio: The Ambassadour's Retinue alighted in the first Court, as did his Excellency at the Gate of the innermost Court; from thence he went to the Hall of the Divan, where all his Retinue was admitted, the Heidukes and Footmen excepted. Upon his entering the Hall, the Grand Vizier rose from his Seat, which was placed fronting the Door, and covered with silk Tapetstry; on his Right at three or four Paces Distance sat the Captain Pashaw or Admiral, and on the Left likewise at some Distance, the two Cadilequers, or chief Judges of Anatolia and Romania. A Chair covered with Scarlet Cloth, laced with Gold, being brought for the Ambassadour, he sat down, and heard a Law-suit determined. He afterwards sat down on a Bench covered with Cloth, on the Right Hand of the Grand Vizier, over-against which sat 3 Tefterdars or Treasurers, and behind them the Reis Effendi or Secretary of State, Mehemet Effendi, the 2d Plenipotentiary at the Treaty of Passarowitz, with several other Effendis and Officers. Then Notice was given to the Grand Vizier, that an Order in Writing from the Grand Signior, directed to him for paying the Janizaries, was coming; at which he immediately rose and went to meet it without the Divan, kissing it with Marks of great Veneration; he ordered the Money designed for that Payment to be brought into the Hall of the Divan, which was done accordingly, and it was laid down in order on the Floor in 2400 Purfes. Then the Janizaries were called and received their Money at the Door in the Order contained in a written List, which was read aloud. After them the Spahis or Horse, received their Pay, as did also the Gunners and other Soldiers, which took up about three Hours Time, during which the Grand Vizier invited the Ambassadour to an Entertainment prepared for him; but the Strictness of the Turkish Law not permitting the former to taste of any thing, by reason of their Fast, the Ambassadour excused himself also, being unwilling to sit at Table by himself, and chusing rather to be a Spectator of the said Ceremony of paying the Forces; but his Retinue were conducted to an Entertainment prepared for them in another Room. The Payment of the Forces being over, the Ambassadour was conducted into a Court, where a great Number of the Chief Ministers and Officers of the Court attended, as likewise all the Janizaries; there his Excellency had a Robe of Sables put about him, as usual, and above 100 Caftans were given to his Retinue. A while after the Grand Vizier was sent for by the Sultan, and soon returned