

Project, fram'd by the Deputies of the Circle of *Westphalia*; and the Elector himself having declared, that the points he scrupled at, were of so small importance, that it could not hinder the finishing of this work: But on the contrary, the said Deputy, upon their arrival at *Breuil*, found the same difficulties and objections were made by the Elector, as formerly; and that he insisted upon an alteration in several main points, which our Magistrates had formerly declared they could never consent to; so that in the evening they returned hither again, only with this satisfaction, that they had used their endeavors, though unsuccessfully, for the putting an end to this troublesome business.

*Ditto*, The several Deputies, notwithstanding they have little reason to hope for any better success in their Negotiations for accommodating matters here, then hitherto they have met with, are resolved to continue here these Holydays: Yesterday they had another Conference, what passed in it, we as yet know not; in the interim, we are daily allarm'd with the news of the approach of more Forces towards these parts, we being at present told, of 6000 Horse that are come to quarter in the Territories of the Elector of *Metz*. The Heer *d' Amerongen*, may in few days go hence for *Berlin*, in quality of Envoy to the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, from the States General of the United Provinces.

*Paris, Decemb. 26* There are at present on their march from divers parts of this Kingdom, several Regiments both of Horse and Foot for *Chalons*, where is appointed about the beginning of the next Month, a General Rendevous, of a considerable part of the Kings Forces, most of the Guards have likewise orders to march immediately thither, the rest being to attend his Majesty, who hath declared, that he will begin his journey for those parts the 15 of the next Month; in the mean time Monsieur *de Louvois* is gone for *Flanders*, from whence he is to order, as we hear, several Troops to this General Rendevous. The Duke *d'Estrees* is preparing for his Embassy to the Court at *Rome*, on which he may set forward very suddenly.

From *Lorraine* they write, that the Mareschal *de Crequi* was on his march for *Metz*, whither he is to bring together all his Forces, in order to their farther March to the Rendevous at *Chalons*. From *Stockholm*, that Monsieur *de Pomponne* intended to part thence the second instant, having at length obtained, as they tell us, a very favourable answer from the Senate, to what he had proposed to them, by order of his most Christian Majesty; it is said, that he hath directions to continue some days at *Copenhagen* on his return home; in order to the negotiating some matters at that Court.

The Heer *Grotius*, Ambassador here from the States General of the United Provinces, having lately desired a particular Audience of his Majesty, in order to the delivering him a Letter from the States his Masters, and the making as is said, some farther Overtures, for the begetting a better understanding then at present there seems to be, between this Crown and the said States in point of Commerce; had, as we are told, for answer, that his Majesty would not be at leisure, till after his return from *Champagne*. On Munday last the Dutchess of *Orleans* gave Audience to the Ambassadors, and other Forreign Ministers residing at this Court.

*Milan, Decemb. 7.* We have advice here from *Genova*, that the Senate there, hath lately prohibited the wearing of all Forreign Manufactures in any part of their Dominions, after the seventh of

*March* next; That no Gentleman or other, shall keep more then three Servants in Liveries, together with several other matters for the suppressing the Exorbitancies of their Inhabitants.

That there was arriv'd several Vessels from *Palerme* in *Sicily*, to lade Corne, by the directions of the Prince *de Ligne*, Vice Roy of that Kingdom, for the use of those Countreys, where it seems, the scarcity of all kind of Grain continues very great; That the Prince of *Monaco* is setting out a man of War, to be employed against the Corsairs of *Argiers*, &c.

The Count *de Windisferatz*, having concluded his Negotiation at the Court at *Mantoua*, to the content of the several Parties that were concern'd in it, is returning home again, having received the Emperors Orders to that purpose.

At *Pignerol* they are at present very much busied with casting of Great Guns for the service of that place, and making other preparations for the farther Fortifying the same.

*Hague, Decemb. 29.* On Tuesday next will be a meeting of the Deputies, appointed by the States of *Holland*, for the Military Affairs, in order to the stating the several matters at present before them, that so the said States may the more readily at their next Assembly, which is to be on the fifth of *January*, come to a final resolution in them; in the mean time the report continues here of forming a Flying Army near *Wesell*, it being said, that the Spaniards have a considerable Body of Horse near *Tienen*.

The Velt Marshal *Wurtz* is gone for *Utrecht*, but intends to make no long stay there. The *Rhyngrove* is still here. The several Provinces having consented to the raising of 10 Regiments of Foot, and as many of Horse, to make up in all 14000 Infantry and 6000 Cavalry; we are in much expectation of the final resolution of the States General in this matter; we are told, that at the same time, when the States of *Holland* consented to these new Leavies, they likewise gave in their advice, concerning the next years Equipage, viz. the fitting out 48 of their best men of War, besides Fireships, Frigats, and other smaller Vessels; declaring then, that unless the rest of the Provinces did with the same zeal and readines concur with them in this matter, as they had done in that of the Leavies, they would recal the consent they had already given, for the raising the new Troops, which it seems, they did, because several of the Provinces have not appeared to forward for the carrying on the Maritime preparations, as they have been for having a good Army in the Field, though it is not to be doubted, but they will easily agree with the other Provinces in this particular.

There are certainly framing Instructions for a Captain General, to Command all the Forces of this State, in which, we are told of some difficulty, concerning his Power and Authority, in the disposing of vacant Commands, punishing and pardoning Military offences, &c. which some are of opinion, ought to be in several points limited; but of this, we shall certainly hear farther, - at the next meeting of the States of *Holland*.

Here hath been a discourse for some days, that the Heer *d' Amerongen* at present at *Cologne*, is to go Ambassador to the King of *Danemark*, and that the Heer *Brassart* is to go to the Elector of *Brandenburghs* Court at *Berlin*. Yesterday arriv'd here his Excellency my Lord Ambassador *Downing* from *England*; that which was before said of his arrival, proving a mistake. At *Cologne* there seems to be less and less hopes of an accommodation.