

Country Habitations, and retire thither themselves. We are told of a Bridge of Boats his Excellency has ordered to be made over the *Schelde* at *Amwerp*, for the passage of Troops, &c.

*Brussels*, Ditto 18. To morrow his Excellency the Count de *Monterey* intends to go to *Louvain*, and may, as is said, from thence pass to *Lecume*, to see in what forwardness the Citadels there is; his Excellency will within few days, as we are told, appoint a Rendezvous of six or seven thousand Men, which he resolves to keep in a Body near this City, for the greater security of it, besides the Succors we expect from the United Provinces.

The three Regiments which are raising in *Germany* for the Service of these Countries, are said to be almost compleat, and may be very suddenly in a posture to begin their march hither. One of the Dutch Deputies are returned to the *Hague*, though Monsieur de *Witt* continues still here, and hath often Conferences with the Principal Ministers at this Court.

From *Luxemburgh* they write, that the French pass daily in great numbers near those Frontiers, on their march towards the Electorate of *Cologne*. We suddenly expect here the Prince of *Vaudemont* with the Regiment of Foot under his Command.

*Maastricht*, March 15. From *Namur* they write, that by order from his Excellency the Count de *Monterey*, Governor of the Spanish Neatherlands, all Vessels laden with Corne, Ammunition, or other Military provisions going down the *Meuse*, for *Liege*, had been stop't there, the same directions having been sent to all other Places, not to let any Vessels or Wagons laden as aforesaid, to pass towards that Bishoprick, where the French have erected their Magazines, and have already bought up great quantities of Corn; the States General have, as is said, at the same time, sent orders to the Governor of *Venlo*, that he take the same care there. All possible diligence is used by our Governor, for the putting this place into a good posture of defence.

*Cologne*, March 15. We begin here to be at present somewhat concerned at the abundance of Foreign Forces being quartered round about us, and especially, since our Treaty lately concluded with our Elector, seems not as yet to be in its full force, through the delay of the Emperors Ratification of it, which as well his Electoral Highness, as our Magistrates, have by their Deputies at the Court at *Vienna*, very earnestly pressed.

The Bishop of *Strasburgh*, together with Prince *Willem* of *Furstenburgh*, and the Duke of *Luxemburgh*, having been several days here, are gone again for *Bon*. Great diligence is used at *Nuis*, for the making a Cittadel there, on which they work with so many hands, that it is thought, it may be finished in some Months. The Prince of *Vaudemont* continues very active for the compleating the Regiment of Foot he is raising in these parts, for the service of the Spanish Neatherlands. We hear nothing farther of the Duke of *Lorraine's* accommodation with his most Christian Majesty.

*Hague*, March 15. The 13 instant the States of *Holland* and *West-Friesland* were assembled, when they resumed the debate of several matters, before them; the same day the Council of State, amongst whom was likewise his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, was in the Assembly of the said States, to

whom they reported several things relating to the present Conjunction. The Prince of *Oranges* Equipage for this Campaign, is preparing with great diligence, and will, as is said, be very rich and noble; his Highness is, as we are told, to have the nomination of the Officers for the Regiment of Horse now to be raised, of which, the two first Troops are more particularly designed for his Highness's Life Guard, and are accordingly to be clothed in his Livery.

Here are daily conferences between the Deputies of the Council of State, and several of the Principal Officers, as well of the Army as the Fleet, concerning our Military Preparations; it is said, that the Officers employed in our new Levies, have sent to acquaint the States, that their Companies are almost compleat, and that they may be very suddenly in a posture to march with them to the place of Rendezvous.

Major General *Spaen*, and the Heer *Romswinckell*, Envoyes from his Electoral Highness of *Brandenburgh*, having dispatched their affairs here, stay in a day or two depart for *Cleve*, who are present in the Assembly of the States of those Countries, who are now met there. The Heer d' *Amerongen* continues still at *Berlin*.

*Ditto*, 18. The 17 instant arrived here the Troop of Horse under the Command of the Heer *vander Lecque*, and will receive orders here, how to proceed farther. The Count de *Dhona*, having finally concluded his agreement with the States, for the raising 3500 Swisses for their Service, he is accordingly gone for *Berne*, in order to the beginning his Levies.

The Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyter*, together with the Deputies of the respective Admiralties, arrived here yesterday, and have since been in the Assembly of the Council of State, to give them an account of what forwardness the Fleet is at present in. The States having finally made choice of the Heer of *Werckendam*, to go their Ambassador Extraordinary to the Crown of *Danemark*, and ordered him to depart on his journey thither, so soon as may be, for that their affairs seem to require his speedy presence at that Court; it is said, his Excellency intends to go hence on Monday next, and to take his passage by Land. The two Companies of Foot under the Command of Colonel *Beaumont*, and Lieutenant Colonel *Buys*, are ordered to march forthwith to *Bergen op Zoom*, to continue in Garrison there.

From *Paris* we hear not as yet, that our Ambassador had taken his leave of his Majesty, though he had been called upon so to do, expecting, as is said, to receive first farther orders from hence; the preparations for War in that Kingdom are very great, and carried on with much vigor. The Bishop of *Munster* continues to raise Men apace.

*Paris*, March 19. The Heer de *Groot* Ambassador from the States General of the United Provinces, continues still here, by reason of some indisposition that hath hitherto hindered him from taking his leave of his Majesty, which it is said, he will do on Monday or Tuesday next, in order to his return home.

Yesterday was held an Extraordinary Council for War, where his Majesty made choice of the principal Officers to serve in his Armies this Summer. The Sieur *Canon* is at present here, on the part of the Duke of *Lorraine*, and as is said, is treating with these Ministers, concerning an accommodation between this Crown, and the said Duke his Master.