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Plimouth, March 31.

Here are arrived the *Hop* of *Rotterdam* of about 140 Tuns laden with Wines from the *Maderas*, and the *Oak* of *Amsterdam* from the *West Indies*, having been taken by the *Newcastle* and *Nightingal* Frigats; The *Oak* is said to be very richly laden, of about 200 Tuns, having been abroad these two years Trading in *Guiny* and the *West Indies*.

Milan, March 19. Here are reports spread daily a broad of the design of our Neighbors to attack these Countreys, which, with many, have gained so great a belief, that they seem to be in continual fear of the approach of an enemy, however it is hoped, that though the danger appears not as yet so high us, these Alarms may the more readily induce the people to contribute towards the publick expences, and make them hear with less trouble of the new Levies, which are said to be intended to be made here.

Our Governour the Duke *d'Osuna* hath been lately to visit several of the most considerable Garisons in this State, having given every where all necessary orders, as far as the present posture of things will permit, for the providing for their security and defence against all Accidents.

The Duke of *Savoy*, as we are told, raises Men apace, having offered to serve His most Christian Majesty with 10000 men this Summer.

Naples, March 15. Our Vice Roy the Marquis *d'Asporga* continues to express, to great a dissatisfaction at the proceedings of the Court of *Rome* in the late promotion, that he hath ever since refused to give Audience to the Popes Nuncio here, and some speak as if his Excellency had warned him to leave the Court and return home, protesting he would hold no correspondence with that Government, till he was righted in this particular; his Excellency continuing to say, that his Holiness had before his departure from *Rome* promised Father *Nithard* a Cap at the next promotion, of which he had accordingly assured the Court at *Madrid*. In the mean time his Excellency is not less perplexed at the great streights these Countreys, and particularly this place is reduced to for want of Corn, which notwithstanding all the endeavors that have been used, cannot be supplied in such quantities from abroad, as may be sufficient for our present relief.

Rome, March 19. At length is arrived here the Duke *d'Esrees*, Ambassador Extraordinary from his most Christian Majesty, having been received with all the Honor and Respect due to his Character, he hath since had private Audience of his Holiness by whom he was received with much esteem, and with assurance of a ready compliance to whatever his most Christian Majesty doth desire by him, if not to the prejudice of his own affairs; his Excellency hath likewise visited the Cardinal *Patron*, and several others of the most eminent quality at this Court, but continues at present incognito, and

will not make his publick Entry till the beginning of the next Month, by reason of the orders he hath received to put himself and Family in close mourning, for the death of little Madam of *France*. Father *Gravina*, promoted lately by his Holiness to be Cardinal, continues as we are told, to refuse the Cap, preferring a Religious retirement, before the Pomp which must attend this new Dignity; however, has been perswaded by several of his particular Friends and Relations to come hither, to present himself to his Holiness, with the reasons of this his refusal.

His Holiness hath been for some days past very much indisposed, but is at present pretty well again, and gives Audience to Ambassadors and other Foreign Ministers here. The Courier which went hence for *France*, with the news of the promotion of the Archbishop of *Tholouze*, now Cardinal *Boatzi* is returned hither, and confirms what hath been said, of his most Christian Majesties dissatisfaction at the Bishop of *Laon*'s being omitted at the late promotion. From *Naples* they continue to tell us, of the great want of Corne that Kingdom is at present in.

Leghorn, March 21. We have advice that the French frigats which have lain long before *Tunis*, are gone thence on their way home; that those Corsairs have at present abroad two men of war, and are fitting out 6 more, besides other small vessels, that they had lately taken several vessels, and amongst others a French Bark and ship belonging to *Genova*.

The Great Duke after having been some time with his Court at *Pisa*, is returned again to *Florence*.

Venice, March 25. Here is lately arrived a Vessel from *Genova*, the Master of which tells us, that he met off of *Sicily* Monsieur *d'Almeran*, with a Squadron of eight French Men of War under his Command, designed, as is thought, for *Toulon*. On Monday last the Spanish Ambassador here, had Audience of the Senate, where he is said, amongst other things, to have spoken of the great preparations that are at present in several Countreys making for War, and therefore proposed a League, for the preservation of the Peace of *Italy*.

The Senate is now altogether intent upon paying their Debts contracted in the late War, and encreasing their Revenues, and have lately reduced the Interest of Money, from seven to five per Cent. which new Regulation is to commence in July next.

We had some time since advice, by Vessels arrived here from the *Levant*, of certain French Ships they had met going to *Constantinople*, and that on Board of them was an Envoy Extraordinary from his most Christian Majesty to the Grand Signor, as yet we cannot hear of his arrival at the Port, so that this begins to be looked upon for a mistake.

From *Constantinople* our Letters tell us, that their Trade had been of late very much interrupted by the Christian Corsairs in the *Archipelago*.