

great preparations of War, and that they are certainly designed against this State.

Here is a report, that our ships have by the Kings Order been seized in all the Ports of France, which if not yet done, we cannot but expect it will be very suddenly. The States have appointed Commissioners to examine the Officers to be employed in the new Levies they are now going to make.

The Heer van Werckendam, Ambassador Extraordinary from this State to the Crown of Denmark, continues still at Amsterdam, by reason of an indisposition which surprized him there, as he was ready to part on his journey towards Copenhagen, at present he is said to be somewhat better, and that he may in a day or two be in a condition to set forward on that journey.

The Heer Gise, Envoy from the Crown of Denmark to his Majesty of Great Britain, may in a day or two part hence for England, the States having appointed a small Vessel for his Transportation thither, and the necessary Passports to that purpose being already arrived from England.

His Highness the Prince of Orange is preparing a very noble and splendid Equipage for the Field. From Westphalia they write, that the Bishop of Munster is bringing together a very considerable Force, besides which, they tell us of Foreign Troops he is to receive into his Countreys, so that the danger begins now to draw near us from all sides, to the great disheartning of the people here.

Paris, April 9. The third instant dyed here, Madame Marguerite de Lorraine, Dutchess Dowager of Orleans, after a long and tedious sickness, in the 57 Year of her Age, to the great grief of their Majesties and this whole Court; the next day the Body was Embalmed and exposed to publick view on a Bed of State, in the usual manner; the 5 it was conveyed to St. Dennis, accompanied by Mademoiselle d'Orleans, the several Princes and Princesses of the House of Lorraine, and many other persons of the most eminent quality here, where it was Entered with the usual solemnities.

His Majesty having appointed the Duke de Bethune to be his Lieutenant General of the Province of Picardie, in consideration of his having at his Majesties instance, resigned the Command of Captain of his Guards to the Duke of Duras, he the said Duke of Bethune, hath accordingly had the usual Oaths administered to him, and may very suddenly go hence to take possession of that Government.

The third instant the Deputies of the States of Brittain, had Audience of the King, having been presented by the Duke de Chaumes, Governor of that Province, to acquaint his Majesty with some matters relating to their Province. The Conde de Molins, Ambassador from the Crown of Spain, having for several days deferred his publick Audience, because of some difference in point of precedence, between his and the Coaches of the Princes of the Blood, the matter hath at length been adjusted, so that that Ambassador made his publick Entry the sixth instant, and may in a day or two, have his first publick Audience of the King.

The Count de Lislebonne, who was here on the part of the Duke of Lorraine, in order to the concluding the Treaty on foot, for that Dukes re-establishment, is preparing for his return hence, not having been able to bring that affair to any final conclusion, by reason the King had insisted to have the Prince of Vaudemont quit the Service of the Spanish Neatherlands, and immediately retire with his Troops from thence, which this Envoy had said, since he was already engaged in that Service,

he could not now do; in the whole, we are told, that the King being informed of the Duke of Lorraine continuing in his practices against his Interests, and to favor in what he can his Enemies, hath broken off this Treaty, so that this accommodation, seems at present as far as ever. Upon the advice we had here, of the Spaniards having stopped several Vessels laden with Corne at Namur, in their passage towards Liege, the King hath sent one of his Gentlemen in ordinary, his Envoy to the Count de Monterey, Governor of the Spanish Neatherlands, to complain of this proceeding, and to know the reason of it. From Port Louis we have advice, that there was arrived a Ship very richly laden from the East-Indies, for the account of that Company here; and that another is likewise daily expected to arrive there from the same parts.

Here is lately arrived the Baron of Schouborn, Nephew to the Elector of Mayence, in Quality of Extraordinary Envoy from that Elector, and hath since had Audience of the King, his errand being as we are told, to renew the Treaties that Elector hath formerly made with this Crown.

We are told of six new Edicts that are now lately transmitted to the Premier President, with directions to him to have them verified in Parliament; The first for suppressing the many Secretaries of the Kings Household, and of the Crown; The second for suppressing a considerable number of the Treasurers of France; The third for imposing a Tax of 20 Solz on every Mark worth of Plate sold by the Goldsmith; and 30 Solz for every ounce of Gold; The fourth, for laying a Tax on all Roturiers or persons not Noble, which hold any Lands in Fief; The fifth, for making the places of Procureurs, Notaries, &c. Hereditary, on their advancing now a considerable sum of Money; The sixth, for laying an Imposition on Monies put out to use.

The seventh instant was Published here with sound of Trumpet, and the other usual Ceremonies, the Kings Declaration of War against the States General of the United Provinces, containing; That the dissatisfaction his Majesty has in the carriage of the States General of the United Provinces of the Low-Countries, towards him for some years past, being come to that point; that his Majesty cannot longer without diminution of his own Glory, dissemble the indignation raised in him, by a Treatment so unsuitable to the great Obligations which his Majesty and the Kings his Predecessors have so liberally heaped upon them, His Majesty had resolved to declare War against the said States; forbidding therefore all his Subjects to hold any correspondence with them on pain of death, &c. As by the Declaration at large will more fully appear.

Whitehal, April 6. His Majesty hath been pleased to issue his Proclamation for the better cleansing of the Streets in Westminster and other adjacent places in the County of Middlesex; by which his Majesty requires the Inhabitants there to cause such Rates to be assessed, as may be sufficient for the defraying the extraordinary charge of the Scavenger in cleansing the Streets; Forbids all Carmen and Waggoners to stand with their Waggon, or to feed their Horses in any Street, except such Waggon as stand in the Hay-markets, and Commands the Inhabitants constantly to observe the days of sweeping and cleansing the Streets, and to set out their dust in a readiness to be removed by the Scavenger; and lastly that all Paviers do use in Paving great and hard Stones, or Pebbles, and that so soon as any Pavement is finish'd, they cause all the Gravel and Dirt they made use of, to be carefully carried away.