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Whitehal, May 11,

Yesterday being the tenth instant, His Majesty was pleased in Council to Order and Declare That the Act of Parliament made in the twelfth Year of His Majesties Reign, for the encouraging and encreasing of Shipping and Navigation, and all the proceedings therein or thereby directed, be totally suspended, in all the matters and things therein contained, concerning or relating to any Ships or Vessels, their Masters or Mariners, their Guns, Furniture, Tackle, Ammunition and Apparel, or to any Goods or Commodities imported or exported to or from Norway or the *Baltique* ea. And His Majesty did farther Order, that the said Act, and all the proceedings therein, or thereby directed, be totally suspended in all the matters and things therein contained, concerning or relating to any Ships or Vessels, their Masters or Mariners: their Guns, Furniture, Tackle, Ammunition and Apparel, or to any Goods or Commodities imported or exported, to or from any Parts of Germany, Flanders, or France, whereof the Merchants and Owners shall be His Majesties natural born Subjects. And His Majesty was graciously pleased to Declare and Grant, that not only His Majesties natural born Subjects, but all Merchants of any Nation, may import from any Parts whatsoever, Hemp, Pitch, Tar, Mails, Saltpeter, and Copper, and upon importation thereof, shall be liable to pay onely such Duties, as by the Act of Tonnage and Poundage, are imposed upon His Majesties natural born Subjects, and no other. And His Majesty did farther order, that notwithstanding the said Act for encouraging and encreasing of Shipping and Navigation, and all other Acts made in the 13 Year of His Majesties Reign, Entituled (An Act for the encouragement of Trade) or either of them, it shall and may be lawful for any English Merchants, free and without interruption, to make use of and employ any Foreign Ships or Vessels whatsoever, Navigated by Mariners or Seamen of any Nation, for importing or exporting of all Goods and Commodities, to or from any Port in England or Wales, or to or from any of His Majesties Plantations, they paying onely the aforesaid Duties imposed upon His Majesties natural born Subjects as aforesaid, and no other. Provided, that no Goods or Commodities whatsoever be by them imported into any of His Majesties said Plantations, but what shall be without fraud, laden and shipped in England or Wales, and thence directly carried, and from no other place, to His Majesties said Plantations.

Provided also that such Goods and Commodities as shall be by them laden or taken on board at His Majesties said Plantations, or any of them, be brought directly from thence to some of His Majesties said Ports in England or Wales; and all Governours and Officers of the Customs are Charged and Required, strictly to observe all Rules, Directions, and Orders for taking of Bonds or other securities, and executing all Forfeitures and Penalties by the said Act or either of them required and enjoyned, save onely in the two Clauses concerning English Ships or English Mariners, before dispersed with.

And lastly, His Majesty did declare, that this shall continue and be in force during His Majesties pleasure; and when His Majesty shall think fit to determine this dispensation, he will by his Royal Proclamation give six months notice thereof, to the end no Merchant or other person may be surprized therein.

Dantzick, April 30 From Warsaw, they tell us, that they have advice from the *Ukraine*, that the Turks, are making a Bridge, over the *Danube*, in order to the passing their Artillery which is said, to consist of above 200 pieces of Canon; That this hath very much alarmed the whole Kingdom in general, who now begin to put themselves into a posture of defence, several of the Senators being about raising of Men upon their own accounts, and all the Nobility, especially in *Great Poland*, having put themselves into a readyness to come into the Field,

so soon as they shall receive his Majesties directions to that purpose. The Baron de *Srom*, Resident here from his Imperial Majesty, having heard of several malicious reports that had been spread abroad by the discontented party, concerning the Emperors intentions towards his Majesty and the Crown of *Poland*, he had immediately desired Audience of the King, in which he highly complained of the liberty these persons take to discourse so unseemingly, as well of the Emperor his Master, as of his Majesty, whom he then assured of his Imperial Majesties constant affection to his person and interests, and as a mark of it, offered him the assistance of 10000 Men, to serve him in this Conjunction against the Turks, or in any other occasion in which he should have need thereof, provided the Emperor might expect the like kindness from him in case he should want it. In the mean time the Poles expect with much earnestness the return of their Ambassador from the Port, till when, they will hardly engage themselves into any Treaty concerning this matter. The Baron d'Overbeek, Envoy from the Elector of *Brandenburg*; hath likewise in an Audience he had lately of the King, not onely assured his Majesty, that the Forces his Electoral Highness is by the Treaty of *Biadostia* obliged to send into the Service of this Crown, but likewise what other succors his Majesty should need, were in a readyness to march when his Majesty should call for them.

Maestricht, May 10. Here is some days since arrived the Regiment, under the Command of Colonel *Brempt*, and we daily expect more Forces; in the mean time we are alarmed from all sides, with the news of the approach of the French Army, whose first work will, as is said, be to attack this place; Yesterday a considerable party of French Horse, appeared almost within sight of this Town, which are thought, to be onely forerunners of the gross of the Army; notwithstanding the great Garrison we have at present here, of above 10000 Soldier, yet the Inhabitants seem much disheartned, and very apprehensive of the Enemy, though in the mean time nothing is omitted by our Governour, for the putting all things into a good posture of defence. This morning was brought in here four French Soldiers, who had been met stragling by a party of ours, which had been sent out to Scout,

Cologne, May 10. The French Troops are all gathered together at *Nuis*, under the Command of the Sieur de *Chamilly*. The Bishop of *Straßburg* having been here for some days, in which time he very nobly entertained the Duke of *Luxembourg*, and other chief Officers of the French Forces, is gone again for *Bon*, where his Electoral Highness is present. It is reported here, that several Troops are on their march hither, being sent by his Electoral Highness of *Bavaria*, to the assistance of our Elector. The Sieur *Verjus*, the French Minister continues still in these parts. The 14 instant we are told, the Prince of *Conde* intends to begin his march from *Sedan*, with the Forces under his Command towards these parts, where every thing is in the