

# The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Thursday May 23. to Sunday May 27. 1672.

Whitehal, May 23, By Letters from His Majesties Fleet we have this following Account.

**O**N Sunday the 19 instant, about four in the Morning, the Wind at *WNW* a small Gale, we weigh'd Anchor and stood to the Northward, to look for the Dutch Fleet, we being then about six Leagues *NE* from the *Northforeland*; at Noon we saw the Dutch Fleet *SE* of us, standing for the Coast of *Flanders*, the Wind at *SW* a fine Gale, and smooth Water; at four in the Afternoon we got up with them on the weather Gage; at six a clock the Van of our Fleet had the length of the Van of theirs, we being about two miles to windward of them, we kept our Fleet along with the Body of their Fleet, but the Night being so near, his Roy al Highness thought it not convenient to Fight them then, but to keep near them all Night, and Fight them next Morning; at Nine at Night, the Dutch tacked and stood to the *N Westward*, and we tacked and stood along with them, a small Vessel a head of us, having but four Fathom Water, on the Sands on the Coast of *Flanders*, called the *Rumbles*. At 12 a Clock the Dutch Fleet tacked again, and stood to the *SE* Eastward, we tacked and stood along with them, it being a fresh Gale at *SW* and indifferent dark.

On Monday the Weather being very hastic and foggy, the Wind at *WSW* a fresh Gale, we could not see the Dutch Fleet; at three of the clock in the Morning we tacked and stood to the *N Westward*, at Nine it cleared up the Wind coming to the *NW*, and blowing hard, we handed our Main Top Sails; at ten it clearing up to the Eastward, we saw the Dutch Fleet asterne of us about three Leagues *ESE*, We tacked and stood with them; at one of the Clock we got up with them on their weather Gage, they and we stemming up *S* by *W*, it blowing so hard, that we could not Fight them, we kept them Company till three a clock in the afternoon, about three miles to Windward of them, they standing over for the Banks of *Flanders*, and we being doubtful of the Shoals, tacked and stood away to the *NN Westward*, the Wind at *W* a stout Gale; at six a Clock at Night we anchored in 29 Fathom water, reckoning the *Northforeland* to be *SW* by *S* from us about ten Leagues.

On Tuesday, close Weather, the Wind at *W* by *South* a fine Gale, at four we Weighed and stood to the Southward; at five a clock we saw the Dutch Fleet out of the *E*, as far as we could well descry them, they stood over for the Coast of *Flanders*, it beginning to blow hard; at eight a Clock we tacked and stood for *Sould Bay*, at 12 we passed by the *Gallopert* to the Eastward of it half a mile; at eight a'clock we were before *Sould Bay*, about three Leagues off plying in.

*Antwerps*, May 17. We here have this following List of the principal Officers of the Dutch Fleet.

In the first Squadron of the *Maele* and *Rotterdam*.

*De Ruyter* Lieut. Admiral General.

*Van Esse*, Lieut. Admiral.

*De Liefde*, Vice-Admiral.

*Van Esse*, the younger, Reer-Admiral.

In the second Squadron of *Holland* and *Amsterdam*

*Van Ghent*, Admiral.

*Schwertz*, Vice Admiral.

*De Haan*, Reer-Admiral.

In the third Squadron of *Zealand*

*Adrian Bankaert*, Admiral.

*Cornelius Evertz*, Vice-Admiral.

*Fan Matthy*, Reer-Admiral.

In the fourth Squadron of *Friezland*:

*Hans Willem van Alva*, Admiral.

*Enno Loudes*, Vice-Admiral.

*B. unsfeld*, Reer-Admiral.

In the fifth Sq adron of *North-Holland*.

Admiral's place not yet supplied,

*Fan Serim* Vice-Admiral.

*David Flory*, Reer Admiral.

From the *Hague* they write, that they had Letters from their Fleet giving them account, that they had got view of the English Fleet near the *Downs*, consisting of about 30 Sail, and that they were come so near one another, that the Scouts had exchanged several Guns; That the English Feet went Westerly to joyn with the French, which by reason of contrary Winds, the Dutch could not hinder, though it is well known, that the Winds have blown altogether Easterly for many days; but those People are us'd to swallow every thing, how absurdly soever said. In the mean time we hear from *Rotterdam*, *Amsterdam*, and other places, that the Merchants begin very much to complain of the interruption of Trade, and of the great Taxes that are laid upon them, to that excess; that there is hardly any living, and which if continued, may its feared, occasion a disturbance amongst the People, who will not be long able to bear those heavy burthens.

*Ditto*, We have just now Letters from *Holland*, which tell us, that their Fleet lay in the Kings Channel, and that the English were Retreated into the River, to the number of 50 Sayl, because they were not yet joyned with the French, and that the Dutch had resolv'd to sink Ships to hinder their coming out; They farther add, that they had certain news, that the *St. Andrew* an English man of War, had been burnt in the River of *Thames*, by the carelesness of some Men on board her; with such ridiculous reports as these are, they endeavor to keep up the false Courage of the common People, who certainly would fall into great disorders, did they but know the truth of their condition at home and abroad.

*Brussels*, May 24. Our Letters arrived yesterday from *Maestricht* assure us, that his most Christian Majesty was removed with his Army from *Vifer*, and was on his march towards the *Rhine*, by the way of *Aix la Chapelle*, together with the Prince of *Conde*; and the *Marshall Turenne*, with the Forces under their respective Commands. His said Majesty hath as we are told, left about 15000 Men in Garrison in several Places in that Bishoprick, as in *Maseyck*, *Tongres*, *Vifer*, &c. which lying near to *Maestricht*, will wholly block up that place. Last night came hither two Dutch Regiments from *Mons* and *Valen-*

*ciennes*