

sters, together with two others, whom together with the Secretary Brande they carried to a kind of an Ale house without the Town, in order to their examination there, concerning several matters, which they were desirous to impeach them of, but especially concerning the expence of this War, which they will not believe to have been proportionable to the vast sums that have been raised, or rather exacted from the people; and now upon second thoughts, they were again returning to the Town, to fetch an other of the Lords, who they likewise thought had deserved their correction, when the Burgers sent to them to advise they might have a conference with them, which they refused to do; being nevertheless parties began to declare their grievances, and the Lords being thought like to refuse to answer to them, they determined both the one and the other would write their demands, and that they (the Magistrates) would freely divulge to the people; of what else they should think as any other private desire, upon which, as well the Burgers as the Boores drew up their demands, which were so publickly read, and are to be Printed, and to come to the approval of the Town house; in the mean time the Lords do keep Prisoners here in the Town house, till the Boores have full satisfaction given them in all points. Our Fleet is for certain said to be under sail towards the Maes, consisting of about 3000 men of War, though very ill manned, most of the best men being run away, especially from the French side.

Brussels, July 25. We have certain advice that the Bishop of Munster hath taken Coblenz, which place he will surrender the 12 instant, into which he made his publick entry the next day: the loss of this place will be of great consequence to the Province of Friesland, who now lies open to the Enemy. Last night arrived here the Comde de Molin from Paris, on his way to the French Camp, as likewise D. de Enghien, who is from the Hague. The Duke de Nivelle still continues still very much indisposed, of a Tertian Ague, which renders him almost insupportable of himself. We hear not any thing of the French Ambassadors, the taking of *Bommel* and *Crevecoeur*.

Amsterdam, July 25. The most Christian King is resolved with his Army from our Neighbourhood to follow a more general way the same miserable condition as before, showing but confusion and disorder at home, and the same of the Enemy abroad, being unconformable Companions; We are told, that the Duke of Anjou, who is his Majesty's eldest son, is commanded to bring 10000 Men in the Province of Friesland, to the assistance of his Majesty's Leagues, and to attempt the taking of *Bommel*, at present secured by the Boers with Dutch Arms, which he not doubt to make a considerable force, and to open a way into the Country, in the manner of Trade being interrupted there, abundance of poor people, who had depended upon it, begin to be reduced to great misery; and the Country people, who at the beginning retired behind their Cattle, not being able to stand where they were, are glad to sell them at any rate, hardly the twentieth part of what they are worth; we have seen a Horse with its furniture sold here this week for three Rixdollars, when the furniture alone might heretofore have been sold for more; The Country which lies for some Leagues round about under water, is quite ruined, but more the several Owners of it, who will certainly be hardly able for some years, to put things in the same posture they were in, not many Months since; the consideration of all this cannot but occasion great sorrow amongst the people, who can find no

ease in this sad condition, but by falling upon their Magistrates, whom they often take occasion to handle very severely, as being in their opinion, and perhaps not unjustly, the occasion of the ills they now suffer. Here were two great ships of 1400 Tuns apiece, bound out for the *East Indies*, though of late they have discontinued working on them, by reason of the present confusion. We have advice that the French have taken *Bommel* and *Crevecoeur*, the latter on Tuesday, and the other on Thursday last, and that *Boissaduc* is invested. After all the promises of an assistance from the Emperor, and several German Princes, and especially from the Elector of *Brandeburg*, we cannot yet certainly learn of any Forces that are on their march towards these Provinces, though we are still bid to hope they will at length come, and perhaps when it is too late.

Antwerp, July 27. The French have now taken all the strong Forts near *Boissaduc*, as *Crevecoeur*, *le Fort Orange*, the *Fort d'Ange*, &c. and *Boissaduc* is said to be besieged by the Marshal *Turenne*, and *Breda* blocked up; *Bommel* surrendered on Thursday last to the Marquis de *Chamilly*; and we have advice here, that the Bishop of *Munster* Fortes have taken *Couperden*, a place of that strength, that it was hitherto almost thought impregnable; That he was at present before *Greeningen*, and that the Inhabitants had sent out to demand Terms, and some Letters add, that the place was already surrendered, and in the hands of the said Bishop. From *Middleburgh* they tell us, of great Tumults that have some days since happened there, that the Boores in a tumultuous manner forced their entrance into the Town, and there seized on several of the Magistrates, whom they still keep Prisoners, till they have satisfaction in their wild demands. From the French Camp they write, that his most Christian Majesty intended to part thence this day on his return to *Paris*, leaving the Command of his Armies in these Countries to the Marshal *Turenne*. His Excellency the Count de *Montercy* is gone for *Brussels*, where he is to meet the Comde de *Molina*, Ambassador from *Spain* to his most Christian Majesty, who is going to the French Camp, and the Baron d' *Isola*, &c. with whom he will confer concerning the present affairs.

Bruges, July 27. Yesterday Morning the English Plenipotentiaries departed from *Antwerp*, and came that night to *Ghent*, where they were received with great respect, and this night are expected here on their way to *England*. This day his most Christian Majesty returns for *Paris*, leaving Monsieur *Turenne* to Command his Armies in these parts. *Bommel* and *Crevecoeur* are certainly taken by the French, though we cannot yet learn, that they have attacked *Breda*, or *Boissaduc*.

Whitehall, July 21. This Evening His Majesty's Plenipotentiaries the Duke of *Bucks*, the Earl of *Arlington*, and the Lord Viscount *Hallifax*, returned to kiss His Majesty's hand here at *Whitehall*, after having expected 14 days in his most Christian Majesty's Camp, the return of the Dutch Deputies, and some time after an Answer to their Propositions. A little time will tell from whence this great silence proceeds; it is commonly guessed that the promises the States have of Succors from the Empire, gives them hopes of more ease that way, than they think to have by a Treaty; so that all their Excellencies could effect for the present war, to compose a Preliminary Act between the two Kings, not to Treat or Conclude, without Participation, and Inclusion of each others Pretences.