

appearance, and in recompence of that failor, the French King hath offered by the Marshal d'Aymonte, Governor of *Bologne*, 2000 Land-men to pass on Board *de Ruyter*, which he refused to accept of, having already on board him, more of our own men then were useful to him.

Orders are issued to *de Ruyter* to take all New-ter Ships carrying Counterband Goods, be they bound whither they will. In consequence of which, he hath sent up two Swedish Fluits laden with Pitch, Tar, Iron, &c.

On Monday Colonel *Jterfom* arrived at the *Bricelle*, with 1000 of those Land Men which had been out with the Fleet, he himself giving the Deputies for Sea affairs this account, that they had endeavored to have landed about *Margate*, but found the Coasts so well guarded, that no design of that nature could safely be put in practise, so that *de Ruyter* had again returned them to their Garrisons, reserving only 400 pickt men, whom he employes in his Fleet to supply the defect of Seamen.

At *Rotterdam* there are four Fireships hastning out, that were new Fregats from 28 to 36 guns, formerly Convoyers to the Herring Busses, besides these, several little Vessels which are sent from the *Texell* with provisions are said to be by *de Ruyter* converted into Fireships, in whom we place much confidence.

On the 23 instant, the Swedish Minister gave in his Credentials, and Propositions for a Mediation, desiring their speedy answer in writing, and offering conference upon the business, and his said proposes a Cessation of armes during the Treaty. The States hav taken time for the return of their answer, pretending first to sound the Intentions of the French King in the King of *Denmark*, and to that end have ordered a conference with their Ministers here. But the truth is, there seems to be, notwithstanding all the vain boasting and appearance of our present expedition to sea, a secret disposition to an Accommodation even in the most interested among us, could it be discreetly brought about. We finde what we are to trust to in our Alliances, and besides all the other cheats put upon us, it appears now we deceive our selves too. *Holland* is now deliberating upon the point; and its likely their opinion will be followed by the other Provinces, and it may be even without consulting *France* before hand, only in good manners the resolution will be communicated to them when taken.

*Denmark* would fain perfect the close Alliance heretofore proposed, and prolonge the Treaty with *Lunenburgh*; but that scarce probable, while that Dukes forces continue, whether we will or no in *Friesland*. The *Sieur Haygens* and the rest that are gone into *Flanders*, have orders not to see the *Marques Castel de Rodrigo*, he having not given that satisfaction that was expected in the matter of our Resident.

Upon further debate of the ways to make ready a good reserve for our Fleet, as no stone now is left returned to effect it, its found, that instead of new Contributions, several Provinces are strangely in arrear of the old, *Geldre* especially, and *Overyssel*, and *Zealand* too, is very backward. So as it is proposed, that these Provinces be taxed the two hundredth penny, as the rest have been; but they absolutely refuse. And in all these cases, the credit of *Holland* must be made use of, to make up what is wanting, so as that Province hath been found to put off the intended Payments of the Land Army for some time.

*Ditto*, 27. Of the Captains that in the last Engagement carried Prizes home (as they pretended) are fined in a Council of War, *Vander Zaen* 3000 Gilders, *Hendricke Adrians*, 1000, *Jac. Adr. Sxeers* 2500. *Jacob Willems* 2000. *Ruth Maximilian* 1000.

We have declared our Acceptance of the Swedes Mediation, and expect the King of *England* will agree with us of the time and place, *de Heve* and *Omeren* have Orders to acquaint the French and Danes Ministers with this Resolution, and we seem to be desirous on either hand of a Truce in the mean time.

*Paris*, July 18. No more news yet of our Fleet; the Swede hath received here satisfaction in point of the Subsidies or Payments due to him upon our Treaty, concerning the affairs of *Poland*, and 150000 Crowns which was the last payment in arrear, is transmitted to him.

*Hamburgh*, July 14. The *Thorne Letters* of the 4. say, the two Armies of the King and Confederates had engaged the third, that the Kings was totally routed, 5000 killed, and many more taken prisoners; seven pieces of Ordnance taken, of which, four thrown into the *Wessel*. General *Parz* mortally wounded, the King retired into *Great Poland*, and pursued by the Confederates. The truth of which, with the further particulars, is expected by the next.

The Swedes Levies continue, and the Bishops new ones are much discoursed of. The Treaty of *Bremen* is yet on foot, yesterday was a day of Conference. Troubles teared on that side of the *Elbe*; the *Moscovite* its said, taking the advantage of the dist action in *Poland*, hath broken into *Lithuania*, and made great waste, finishing no opposition.

*Elfenour*, July 15. *Adelacers* nine ships from *Holland*, have brought store of Hemp, Pitch, Tar, &c. but are not yet come up close to *Copenhagen*. 'Tis said the whole Fleet is to take the West Sea, and to that purpose an Express hath been sent to the Swedish Governor of *Elfsinburg*, to acquaint him (according to an Article of the Treaty) from this King of his intentions to pass through the *Sound*. The design given out to be against *Hamburgh*, but never true. All ships are searched, except Swedes. The *Dollins* Resident celebrated their pretended Victory with great ceremony, but in the very time a Thunder-bolt fell on the Kings Banquetting-house; as also upon the ship the *St. Michel*, an ship in the *Mist*, and killed a Seaman; and after all, the Resident himself fell down suddenly dead.

Some German Princes and their Ministers are observed to be frequent in discourse and conference with this King, what the Argument is, not yet known.

*Legorne*, July 12. The eighth instant, eight English Ships from *Messina* laden with Oyls from *Puglia*, and eight others with Currants, &c. arrived here.

*Alborough*, July 21. On Thursday morning the Dutch Fleet after a Gun given, weighed Anchor and moved to the South-East, further into the Sea, and seem not now so numerous as formerly.

*Harwich*, July 21. On Thursday last came out of the *Holland* fleet, a small Frigate and a Ketch standing two several ways into *Alborough*-Bay, below *Lantgard Fort*, where at their meeting they counterfeited a fight, broad siding one another; but after much of this sport, perceiving their design would not take so, as to draw out any Vessels into their Snare, they fairly quitted the stage, and returned to their Fleet.

On Friday, the *Rupert* sailed hence, and in her passage struck upon the *Altar*, where she stuck, but presently came off again, and is now in the *Rowling Grounds* with a Fireship and the *Fansun*, expecting the motion of our fleet. This Evening 14 ships that made the *Vanguard* of the Dutch fleet, left the *Gunfleet*, where they used to lie, and returned to their fleet.

This morning we had sight of the Dutch fleet about the *Sledway* and *Longsand-Head*, but are since told they are most of them gone off to Sea.

*Whitehal*, July 22. Thursday morning about six a Clock, the wind at S. W. our whole Fleet weighed from the Buoy in the *Nore*, and fell down that Tide to the Middle-ground, and Anchored about two Miles below the *Shoore*. But the 20th, the wind coming about to N. W. considering the shallow water there, and that the Generals are desirous to pass them all out at one Tide, they are forced to stay till they may have Gale enough to Stem the Tide of Flood, which they extremely long for; all men expressing infinite impatience to engage the Enemy, who seem now retired further in to Sea, and to lie more close than ordinarily in the figure of a Half-moon, having called in their Van that lay in the *Gun-fleet*.

It will not be wondered at, That the Enemy having his hearts by all Arts possible endeavoured to dissimble their Losses in the last Engagement, we at this distance have not been able to get an exact Account of them, whilst their own people at home are kept in the Dark: But this Week we find they have indeed missing Fifteen of their Ships, and Twenty one Captains, as they are ingenuously given in by Name from one of their own Captains, who surely is best able to give us the certainty of it.