

of General *Spain*; who we then told you had fallen into *Westphalia*, and taken and plundered one or two considerable places; It is probable, that upon the Bishop of *Munster* drawing his Forces together, for the opposing their farther design, they are retired again towards *Lipsiadt*, and some other places thereabouts, from whence they at first came. We are now assured that the *Swedes* will suddenly be able to bring a very considerable Body of Men together here in *Germany*, several Thousand Men being already arrived from *Sweden* and *Lithuania*, and more daily expected; and at the same time we are told, that the Elector of *Brandenburgh* begins to be very jealous of the intentions of that Crown. From the *Rhyn* our Letters bring us nothing remarkable, the *German*s continue still in one Station, and after having amused us all this Summer, with the expectation of some considerable assistance they would have afforded the *Dutch* in this War, all that they have as yet done is, that they have extremely harassed, and almost ruined a great part of the Empire, where they have the daily Curses of the poor Inhabitants; whilst on the other side the *Dutch* hardly give them thanks for their Succors, though they are forced to give them Moneys.

*Nevers*, Decemb. 17. Yesterday died here *Jean Casimir*, late King of *Poland*, in the 64 year of his Age, having by his Testament disposed of all his Jewels, Plate, Hangings and other Moveables, to the value of 5 or 6 Millions of Livres to the Princess Palatine, whom he left his sole Heir, and Executrix. It is said by his death are become voyd seven or eight of the most considerable Abbeyes in this Kingdom, which we must expect to hear how they will be disposed of.

*Hague*, Decemb. 21. the Heer *Craikow*, late Envoy from the Elector of *Brandenburgh* in *England*, is arrived here, and hath acquainted this State with the success of his Negotiation there. Here are as we are told arrived Imperial Commissioners, to demand the payment of the Subsidies this State stands engaged for; though the people look not very kindly upon them, and think it unreasonable they should be paid for doing nothing. We expect hourly to hear of great matters from our Army, which joyntly with the Spanish Forces, now Besieges *Charleroy*.

*Paris*, Dec. 24. The 21 instant his Majesty parted hence for *Compiègne*, where it is thought he may continue some time, in order to his being nearer the Frontiers of *Flanders*, to give all necessary directions, in the present conjuncture; in the mean time our Letters from those parts tell us, That the *Dutch* and Spanish Troops, being counted in all 22 or 23000 Men, lay still before *Charleroy*, not having as yet ventured to make any attack upon the place, for which we are now out of all pain, not doubting but our next Letters will tell us of its being relieved. The 20 instant the Marquis de *Foix*, Governour of the Province of *Foix*, after having had the usual Oath of Fidelity administered to him as such, took his leave of his Majesty in order to his departure towards that Government. We are told that the Cardinal *Bonzi*, President of the Province of *Languedoc*, hath given his Majesty an account, that those States, being lately assembled, resolved to make a Present to his Majesty of two Millions of *Livres*, for the carrying on the extraordinary preparations for the year ensuing, of which they humbly begged his Majesties acceptance; and at the same time we hear from *Montpellier*, that the difference between the Duke de *Verneuil*, Governour of that Province, and

the said Cardinal *Bonzi*, is now laid aside, his Majesty having permitted the said Cardinal to be absent at the last Session of the Estates, by which means all occasion of this dispute was taken away. We are told of a Courier that hath been dispatched to *Spain* with Orders to the Marquis *Villars*, Ambassador there from this Crown, to complain of the proceeding of the Governour of *Flanders*, and to know her Majesties mind thereupon. From *Mentz* we have advice, that the Auxiliary Armies had passed the *Main*, and that it was thought the Imperialists would return towards *Bohemia*, to winter there, whilst the *Brandenburgh* Troops went likewise to seek winter Quarters for themselves; and by Letters from the Army of the 17 instant we are told, that the Prince of *Conde* was arrived there in person, having been received by Monsieur de *Turenne*, about four Leagues above *Treves*.

*Brussels*, Decemb. 22. Our last Letters from *Brussels* of the 18 instant, brought us the news of the Inveiting of *Charleroy* the day before by the Prince of *Orange*, assisted by all the force the Count de *Montreux* could possibly make, under the Command of the Count de *Marcin*, and of the great expectation all those parts were under, of the success of that Enterprize; Since which, viz. Thursday the 19 instant in the night, by an Express to His Majesty from his Grace the Duke of *Monmouth* from *Calais*, confirmed few hours after by a Courier from his most Christian Majesty from *Compiègne*, to his Excellency the French Ambassador here, we have this Account of the issue of that Siege; That the Sieur de *Montal* Governour of *Charleroy*, having received at *Tongres*, where he was by the Kings Order, the news of that Place being Besieged, resolved, at what price soever, to put himself into the Town, to which end he parted from *Tongres*, Saturday the 17 instant, with about Four score Horse, Commanded by the Sieur de *St. Clair*, Colonel of Horse, and marching all that day and night, had the good fortune to pass the Enemies Guards undiscovered, except the last, through whom he very bravely forced his passage, and so got into *Charleroy*, where his presence extremely encouraged the Garrison, now very much wearied with continual Duty, besides that there were many sick in the place, That the next Morning early they made a Sally upon the Enemies Guards, of whom they killed a considerable Number, and totally Routed the rest; Monsieur de *Louvigny* was shot in the heel with a Canon Bullet, and several principal Officers were killed upon the place; upon which, the Enemy finding a resistance far beyond what they might have expected, from six or 700 Men that were in the place, and after having with much pain made some Form of an Attack, and approached the place with their Canon, begun on Thursday the 22 instant in the Morning to break up, and Retreat by the way of *Mons*, leaving the Governour and Garrison there extremely troubled, that their so quick departure had deprived them of the occasion of giving farther proof of their Courage and Resolution to defend the place.

The farther particulars hereof, and what may have since happened upon so distonourable a Retreat, we must expect to hear by our next *Flanders* Letters, of which we have now four Posts owing to us, without being able to imagine the cause of it, except it be, that they on that side are unwilling to let us have an account of this action, which no doubt they would be glad they could keep the World ignorant of.