

as is said, towards *Westphalia*; The 13<sup>th</sup> instant their chief quarter was at *Flerfheim*, and the next day at *Berguen*, and since we hear, they have passed the *Laen* at *Gießen*, and intend to travel *Wetteravia* and *Westersalt*. The Duke *de Duras* being reinforced with 2000 Men from the French Army, is marched again towards the *Meuse*. Our advices tell us, that the Prince of *Conde* had passed the *Moefel*, and joyned his Troops with those under the Command of Monsieur *Turenne*, and that they are coming together down the *Rhync* towards *Andernach*. The Bishop of *Munster* hath taken *Lunen* on the *Lippe*, and one or two places more belonging to the Elector of *Brandenburgh*.

*Ghent, Novemb. 27.* The whole Army of the Prince of *Orange*, and the Count *de Marcy* being broken up from *Charleroy*, and retired, the Dutch towards *Holland*, and the Spanish Troops into their Quarters, in a very bad and confused condition, it is almost impossible to express the great disorder it hath occasioned, as well amongst the Commonalty, as per sons of better quality, both here and in *Holland*, whilst the Spaniards impute the miscarriage of this design, to the Negligence and Cowardise of the Dutch, who in like manner retort all the fault upon the Spaniards; sure it is, as well the States, as the Government here, is strangely confounded, and look very sowlrely each upon the other; nor will the meaner sort of people be kept from making reflections hereupon, who seem wise enough to apprehend, that the consequence of this Enterprize may be as bad as the success hath been. From *Cologne* our Letters tell us, that part of the Confederate Army began to march the 15<sup>th</sup> instant, and that they took their way towards *Munsterland*, where it is said they intend to winter; and that at the same time the Duke *de Duras* is ordered to pass with 8000 Men, to the assistance of the Bishop of *Munster*, so that perhaps the Confederates will not find it so quiet living there, as they may have expected. That in the mean time the French keep a very strong Guard for the security of their Bridge at *Andernach*, where the French Army may pass the *Rhync*, when they shall see occasion for it. The Bishop of *Munster* hath taken *Lunen* upon the River *Lippe*, *Unna*, and *Gannen*, three places belonging to the Elector of *Brandenburgh*, with designe to put the whole Land of *Mark* under Contribution, which he hath already demanded. The Swedes we hear, come over in great numbers into the Duchy of *Bremen*, and other their Territories in *Germany*, where they will have a very considerable Army in the Field against *Spring*.

*Brussels, Dec. 23.* We are here in so strange a surprize at the news we receive of the Siege being raised before *Charleroy*, that we cannot give any particular account of the manner of it; however, we please our selves to think that we never had any real design: to attack the place, but that what was done, was only to allarme the French, and yet at the same time we are extremely troubled, that so fair an opportunity is lost, in which we might have made our selves masters of so considerable a Post, had not our Enemies been too brave and resolute for us, and had not the Governor the *Sieur de Montal* held intelligence, as we say here, with the Devil, and in despite of 23000 Men, put himself into the place with about fourscore Horse; In the mean time they endeavour to piece up the business with this short account of it from the Dutch Camp, viz. That the 15<sup>th</sup> instant about three in the afternoon *Charleroy* was invested; The 17<sup>th</sup>, the rest of the Troops, as well those under the Command of the Prince of

*Orange*, as those under the Count *de Martin*, arrived before the place; The 18<sup>th</sup>, early in the morning the *Sieur de Montal*, Governor of the place, relieved it with sixcore Horse, having passed through the Quarter of *Don Diego de Spinoza*, the Regiment of the *Baron de Couriere*, who happened to come then from the *Grand Guard*, not being able to come up time enough to engage them, except the Major, who accompanied with a small Party, endeavouring to kill *Montal*, was shot with three Bullets from a Musqueton, of which he died an hour after; That afternoon the Enemy made a Sally with forty *Maistres*, so they call them; or Gentlemen of the most Christian Kings Guards, and sixty Foot; their chief Leader who marched in the head of them, being clothed in the Habit of a Woman; The 19<sup>th</sup> the Enemy made another Sally upon the Quarter of Monsieur *de Louwigny*, and having done some execution, returned to the Town again: That Monsieur *de Louwigny* was wounded with a Cannon Bullet in the heel, and the *Baron de St. Jean* killed; and here this Account ends, without speaking of their having thought fit thereupon to break up, and quit the Siege, it being likewise doubted, that even what they do say, is not very exact.

*Ditto, Decemb. 25.* By Passengers arrived some days since from the *Hague*, we are told, for great truth, this following Story; That the Companies of Citizens of that place, Celebrating an Anniversary Feast, according to their Custom, invited the Magistrates to it; That the Entertainment passed with a great deal of order, till towards the latter end, when a great many dishes of Sweet-Meats being served up, amongst the rest, one Dish was brought up covered, and all the Company being very curious to know what Rarity might be in it, the Cover was at last taken away, but that occasioned a greater surprize in all that were present, except those who had ordered it, when they saw two bloody Hearts, artificially made in Sugar, representing those of the two late *de Witt*, and especially the Magistrates were confounded at so great a Barbarity, but were told by some of the principal Citizens, that the meaning of it was, that unless they did suddenly free them from the Miseries and Calamities they now lie under, they would Treat them in the same manner they had formerly done those two Brothers.

*Antwerp, Dec. 27.* Yesterday passed by this place several Vessels, having on board great numbers of Soldiers of the Dutch Army who are going to *Bergen op-Zoom*, and other places thereabouts; and this day several Troops of Dutch Cavalry have likewise passed here in a very sad condition, the Horses instead of bearing their Riders, being hardly able to move themselves, whilst the as poor Soldiers go tugging them along by their Bridles, and are scarce able notwithstanding to get them forward. The French we hear are bringing a considerable Body of Men together here in *Flanders*, and we very much apprehend, that they will attack some of our places, in return to what we have done at *Charleroy*, though if they imitate us too in the latter part of that action, we shall not need to fear much.

*Ditto.* All the Spanish Troops that were at *Charleroy*, are Commanded to the several quarters from whence they were at first drawn out; in the Dutch Forces are marched homewards; we are assured, that above half of the Dutch Horse are ruined, and in so miserable a condition, that they will be unfit for Service; Monsieur *Louwigny* lies very ill of the hurt he received before *Charleroy*, and at best must lose his Leg; The *Baron de St. Jean* was killed, the Count *de Vandemont* had his Horse killed under him, and several other eminent Officers were killed and wounded in the Sally the French made out of the place upon them.