

he had been received with great Respect and Civility by the Elector of *Brandenburgh*: and its said, that that Elector, among other things, complained much of his having been unfairly dealt with by the Ministers of *Holland*, they having all along assured him, that the Crown of *Denmark* and the House of *Brunswick* were already actually in their party, and would concur with them to the ruine of the Bishop of *Munster*, to that degree as that his Highness seemed in some measure disposed even to quit that side, and might at last resolve effectually to do it, if the conditions the French should propose proved not too rigorous upon him.

*Leghorn, Feb. 20.* A Gally belonging to *Genova* went lately out of this Port, designed to carry over a new Vice-Roy from that State to *Corfica*, the old one being said to lye dangerously sick. The Bishop of *Manseilles* is daily expected here on his way to *Florence*, whither he is going to endeavor to compose the differences, between the Great Duke and his Dutcheſs.

*Brussels, Marchy.* Here is a strange change in most facts here since Sunday last. His Excellency having that morning received at *Antwerp* an Express dispatched in all haste by the Marquis de *Grana*, of the taking of *Munster*, with the circumstances of a wonderful advantage obtained against a Body of the Elector of *Cologne's* Forces, which news so transported us in this Court, that immediately an Express was forwarded in all diligence to the Spanish Ministers in the several Courts of the neighbor Princes, and particularly to our Ambassador at *London*, with communication of this happy success. But our joy lasted not long, for Letters arriving the next morning from *Cologne* of the 3 instant disabused us, the whole thing appearing a made story. There are great disorders in *Burgundy*, the Marquis de *Leſtenay* is said to have taken the Field with 3 or 4000 Men; their pretences are, That their Privileges and Immunities are violated, and that upon supplication made, they can procure no Redress. His Excellency is yet at *Antwerp*, and 'tis thought will not visit *Flanders* at this time, but return straight to this place to morrow.

From *Maeſtricht* we hear, that the French begin to be buſie in the places thereabouts, intending to take the field early this Spring, and that 'tis thought, they will begin the Campagna with the Siege of that place.

*Antwerp, March 7.* Letters from the *Hague* and *Amsterdam* of the latest date, tell us, that it is now resolved, a Fleet shall be set out this next Summer, some say of 72, others of 80 great Ships, onely it will be a little difficult to get Seamen, who are in great numbers on board the Capers, and will scarce be willing to leave that Trade for fighting. Their five or six *East India* Ships, they say, will put to Sea very suddainly, without staying till the Fleet be at Sea, intending to go round about by the Back of *Scotland*. 'Tis said the Elector of *Brandenburg* is at present at *Bilevelt* with the Electrice, intending to depart from thence within few days for *Berlin*, his own affairs it seems requiring his presence nearer home. That the Prince of *Conde*, together with the Duke de *Croqui*, was on his march with Forces from the Land of *Trier*, and that 2000 of their Men had quartered, in their passage, about *Schonbec*, which is not above three Leagues from *Hildesheim*. That the 21. Feb. in the night, one of the Gates of the Town of *Munster*, had designedly been left open, in order to some surprize upon the Place, but that the Governor was timely enough advised of it, to prevent the execution of what was intended; That certain persons were taken into custody, upon suspi-

tion of having a hand in that business, and others for fear were fled.

*Ghent, March 8. Sunday March 5.* our Governor of the Count de *Monterey* received with infinite joy, at *Antwerp*, where he then casually was, the news of the Town of *Munster* being taken by the Elector of *Brandenburg's* Forces, and of several other memorable successes that had followed upon it; it arrived by Express from the Marquis of *Grana*, who Commands the Forces of the Empire in *Cologno*, who, considering the importance of the News, had it seems, sent a Copy to the Count de *Monterey*, of the very Letter, by which he had received the Account from the Baron de *Swerin*, Principal Minister in the Elector of *Brandenburg's* Court, in these terms as near as may be translated.

Copy of a Letter written by the Baron de *Schwerin*, to the Marquis de *Grana*, from *Bilevelt* the 26. Feb. 1672.

I thought it my Duty to give you Advice by this Express, how it has pleased God to prosper our Attempt upon the City of *Munster*, and that although we were not so happy at the first as we could have wished, having lost great numbers of our Men, yet we have carried the place at the last. The Bishop himself had much ado to escape out of our hands, by retiring into a Gentlemans house hard by, having with him only some few Heydakes, and some of his Horse-Guards. His Electoral Highness my Master, is just now about to invest the Place, to force him to an agreement. He has likewise given Order for the Marching of several Troops of Horse and Companies of Foot to *Warandouſe*, to make themselves Masters of that place, &c. this instant while I am writing, is arrived an Officer of his Highnesses, who tells us that a party of our Forces have beaten a party of 4000 Horse besides certain Dragoons and some Foot, under the Command of Marquis de *Renel*, Marshal general of the Elector of *Cologne*, who were posted at *Gelecque*, and that they have taken the Marquis himself Prisoner, and will bring him hither in a few hours; That Major General *Solinis* is killed upon the place, and the Count de *Liſſe* Colonel of a Regiment, being very much wounded is taken Prisoner, together with a Cousin of the Bishop of *Strasbourg's*; All the Baggage and some small pieces of Cannon are fallen into our hands, and they were in hopes that Prince *Willem* of *Furſtembergh* had been amongst the Prisoners, but these affirm he was not present at the Action; In the mean time they have taken his Baggage, amongst which is found a great quantity of Plate, Gold and Silver; and ours imagining he is not far off, spare no pains in endeavouring to take him also. The Marshal de *Turenne* was certainly upon this Advice retired in great confusion; On our side the Prince de *Anhalt* has received a slight wound, as also the Major General the Count de *Capraca*, who arrived there in the height of the Action. And our Men being yet in pursuit of the enemy, we cannot yet give you any farther particularities, or the number of the slain on both sides.

Your, &c.

The Baron de *Schwerin*.

This happy news was immediately not only spread and diffused all over the Town and Countrey; but Communication of it given in all haste by Expresses to the Spanish Ministers in all the neighbor Courts. But no ordinary Posts from *Cologne*, *Lijſtadt*, *Cree*, *Holland*, or other parts, speaking one word of it in several days, and the Circumstances when looked into, scarce well agreeing, doubts began to rise, and many wagers to be laid of its truth: At length come in the *Cologne* Letters, and discover the cheat, That it was no better than a trick, contrived to abuse those into whose hands it was played, there not having been the least ground for any such Report.

*Flushing, March 7.* This morning is brought hither an Order, That no more Privateers be permitted to put to Sea, the States resolving in the first place to provide for the Manning the Fleet, which is now resolved to be set out with all speed, to Consist of 80 Capital Ships. At *Rotterdam* they are taking up all the Workmen that can be found, to send them to *Helvoet-Sluis*, for the fitting out the ships that lie there. The Ship *Peace*, a new ship of 90 Guns, on which the Lieutenant Admiral de *Liefde* for the *Maes*, is to serve, lies near ready, and will be perfectly so in ten or twelve days.

*Hague, March 10.* The Resolution of the States of *Holland*, for the Setting out of the Fleet, was this day brought to the States General; and is, according to the usual forme, to be sent by the several Members to their Principals for their Agreement. So as now Orders are given for the going about the necessary Equipage and Preparations with all speed; No Capers are to be permitted to go to Sea henceforth, and those abroad to be Summoned in by their Owners, in order to the speedy Manning our Fleet.