

had met; insomuch, that *Tromp* should say, He would go no more to Sea with *De Ruyter*: However, the State seems well satisfied with *De Ruyters* carriage, and as much to confine *Tromps* in the last Action.

At the instance of *Holland*, we have resolved to send three Tuns of Gold to pay off the Premiums of the former *Battel* in *June*; and at the same time, require *De Ruyter* to call a Council of War, to pass upon those that have not done their Duty in this last Action, be they who they will. Order is given to all Officers to repair forthwith to their Garrisons and Commands, and to the respective Admiralties to give order to keep strict watch and guard at all the Entries and Passages down to the Sea.

The English Fleet continuing to brave it upon our Coasts, Order is given for six Troops of Horse to be sent to guard the Sea-Coasts of this Province, and one for that of *Friesland*. And to Re-man our Fleet, which is our greatest difficulty, a resolution is taken of reducing 20, or 25 Companies of Foot, and incorporating them with our Sea-force, that we may not be put to mangle and weaken our other Land-forces on all occasions.

The Deputies at *Wielingen*, in the name of the States, are to give thanks to *De Ruyter* for his good conduct in the last Fight.

Yesterday the English Fleet was told off of *Scheveling*, between 60 and 70 great men of War, which indeed is the most convincing Argument to us of their advantage in the last *Battel*: But we hope to have our Revenge ere long, *Holland* still pressing to recover the point of Honor, rather than under this disadvantage to look after a Peace, which wise men counsel.

What will be done at our Council of War is doubted; not at all to perish so infamous a Cowardise, were to authorize it to our hazard hereafter in the like occasion: And yet to do it impartially, might endanger two of the only four tried Commanders we have; for beside *Tromp* and *Meppel*, who have reason to fear a severe Council, if they were brought to it, we have no considerable Flag-Officers now left but *De Ruyter* and *Van Nus*.

*Middleborough*, Aug. 15. Our Fleets are repairing with all imaginable diligence, *De Witt* having been aboard them, who lie about *Flushing*; and has taken an Estimate of the damage received, and care is taken for the employing of all the Carpenters that can be gotten from *Amsterdam*, *Rotterdam*, and other places, who work night and day with considerable proficiency. The number that lie between *Flushing* and *Rammekins*, accounted 66 men of War, and 19 Fire-ships; but of this number 34 or 35 have their Masts torn off, and are extremely shattered, and full of holes; most of the Admirals, Vice and Rere-Admirals, and indeed generally the best ships most damaged; yet 'tis given out, we shall be again at Sea within 15 dayes with near 60 Sail; and if the English will attend us, in a little longer time we may get out 20 more, we having about 30 ships lying in several of our Ports, which by that time may be got to Sea: 5 in the *Vlieter* are near ready for service, besides 5 others in *Zealand*, 6 in the *Meuse*, 9 in *Amsterdam*, 2 at *Harlingen*, 2 at *Horne*, 2 at *Enchuyzen*, and 1 at *Medenbleek*; of these, 8 or 9 have newly received their Masts and Cordage, and the rest will shortly be furnished. We are every day bearing up for men, the *East* and *West-Frieslanders* run from us in great numbers, though endeavours are used to stop their passage at *Campveer*; but this want we intend to supply out of our Garrisons.

*Harlem*, Aug. 13. On Wednesday the Bodies of Admiral *Tirick Heides*, and his Vice-Admiral *Coenders*, passed by this place.

*Paris*, Aug. 10. We have now advice, that the Queen of *Portugal* is arrived safe in *Portugal*.

The Duke de *Beaufort* has wrote to the King an account of the Fleet, which is in excellent order, and much pleasure he takes in his great Guns, which they discharge in as good order, as the Kings Muskettiers usually do on Land.

The King has sent 200000 Crowns to *Lyons* which is to be farther employ'd to appease the *Switz*, who are not a little disgusted, that the King is in arrear to them 20 Millions: About which, they sent an Agent to the Court, who not re-

ceiving answer, they declared they would no longer depend upon the French Penions, which makes us a little jealous, that they have been dealt with by other Princes, to set up an interest against us: But we hope quickly to appease their anger, and fix them again in their old posture.

*Madrid*, July 15. The Duke de *Beaufort* in his Treat at *Lisbon*, was received in quality of his Highness, and a Chair set for him in the Kings presence; which was so ill-represented by the *Infante*, that falling foul with the *Condé de Castello*, 'tis said, he struck him: Whereupon the Countretiring, the King went to seek the *Infante*, who by the advice of some friends, retired for some time to *Scraval*, with the Marquis *Marius*, not knowing how far the King might be transported, for the affront done to his favorite.

*Weymouth*, August 6. Yesterday arrived here the *Non-such* Ketch, bringing with him a small light French prize bound for *Burdeaux*, which he took near the 7 Islands, on the Coast of France, he secured likewise three *Offenders*, whom he left with the *Paradox* Fregat, who a little before had taken a French Privateer set out at *St. Maloes* of 6 Guns, and 70 Men, the French maintaining the dispute two hours, till they had lost their Captain, and most of their men: this Vessel had done much hurt upon the Coasts, and had a little before taken a *Looc*-Vessel, which was again retaken.

*Penniss*, August 4. Yesterday came in Captain *Hall* and *Manning* with two French Prizes, laden with Pitch and *Rozin*, and retook a Vessel of this Harbor, formerly taken by a Knight of *Malta*, having on board his Lieutenant and Ensign, with five more French, whom they found bloody, and strongly suspect they have murdered the *Falmouth* men belonging to the Vessel, whom they pretended to have set on shore at the *Lizard*, but that proves otherwise, their tremblings and contradictory accounts adds much to the suspicion.

*Tarmonth*, Aug. 6. Yesterday came into this Road the *Speedwell* and *Hittle-Mary* with a Salt Prize of 250 Tuns, taken by the *Mary*, going into *Rotterdam*. On Saturday last they left the Fleet within five Leagues of the *Texell*.

On the 2. instant some of our Ships gave chase to a Dutch Merchant, who with much difficulty escaped and got into the *Maes*.

On the 3d. some of our Vessels discovered 7. small French ships whom they chased, Five of them got away into the *Texel*, the other two they forced ashore; but not being able to get them off, they took out the lading, and set fire on the Vessels, the men escaping to shore in their Boats.

*Dover*, August 7. The *Lenox* Privateer hath taken a Dutch Flyboat empty, of 300 Tuns from *Offend*, bound for *France*.

*Whitchal*, Aug. 5. This morning Her Majesty, attended by the Principal Ladies of the Court, returned from *Tunbridge* to *Whitchal*, having staid about a month in that place to take the waters.

Wednesday, Aug 8. Mr. *Peyton* was this day brought before the King and Council, and his Accusation put into Mr. *Sollicitors* hand, to put in an Information upon it at the Kings Bench.

The Farms of the Customs are upon renewing, and His Majesty this day acquainted the Council with it; the old Farmers, it seems, give over, and now His Majesty intends to let it to the greatest Offerer. The Farm will be out at *Michaels* Twelve-month.

Notwithstanding the Sickness at *Offend*, the Trade is allowed to continue with that Port.

Several people at *Weymouth* are sent up for to the Council for false news. One *Stone*, the Post-master there, having reported Sir *William Coventry* his Royal Highnesses Secretary was committed to the *Tower* for giving intelligence to the Dutch.

The Dutch Trumpetter that came over about Sir *William Barkley*'s Body, having received His Majesties Letter in answer to the States on that subject, and a fair piece of Money, is returned this day, having been well lodged and treated at the Kings expence while he was here.

The Account of this Weeks Bill runs thus. The Total 336. Of the Plague 72. Decreased in all 5. Increased of the Plague 4.