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Messina, June 19, N. S.

L E T T E R S from Malta of the 9th Instant advise, that the Primrose, an English Brigantine, was arrived there, the Master of which, named Bowman, related, that a French Polack bound from Malta for Marseilles, having on board as Passengers two German Knights and two German Priests of the Order of Malta, was taken and carried into Tunis by a Galley of that Place, where were also detained six other French Vessels. The Captains of two French Men of War, in their Return from Constantinople, whither they carried the French Ambassadour in January last, came in their Boats to the Lazaretto at Malta on the 2d Instant. The Albemarle Sloop, belonging to Gibraltar, was also arrived at Malta from Tripoly in Barbary; and the Master of that Sloop reported, that a Man of War which the Grand Signior had made a Present of to the Bey of Tripoly, was through the Carelessness of the Officers lost on the Rocks going into the Harbour; whereupon the Captain of her and the Pilot were seized at their getting ashore and strangled. They had Advice at Tripoly, that the Bey of Tunis had caused all the French Vessels in that Port to be seized, and the French Merchants there to be put under Arrest. A Famine was much dreaded at Tripoly, the Crops of all Kinds throughout their Territories having failed.

Naples, June 27, N. S. The Gallies and six Tartans are to sail this Day for Port Ercole, with Stores of Ammunition and Provisions for that Place, and the other Garrison Towns on the Coast of Tuscany, where every Thing is excessive dear, and the Desertion is said to be very great among our Troops there.

Leghorn, June 28, N. S. On the 20th Instant sailed from hence for Naples, a Row-Boat called La Diligence, in order to cruize against those of Tunis. We have Advice, that some Days ago 30 French Merchant Ships,

conveyed by two Frigates, sailed from Toulon for the several Ports of the Levant, and those Frigates are to cruize on the Coast of Tunis: And 'twas said 14 Gallies and other Vessels were fitting out at Marseilles for the same Service. By the Arrival of a French Vessel in four Days from Marseilles, we are informed of the Departure from thence of two French Frigates for Tunis, with a Person authorized to treat with the Bey, for accommodating the Differences between him and the French Nation. On the 24th anchored here two of the Great Duke's Gallies, on their Return from Genoa, with the sum of 600000 Crowns borrowed there for his Use. Those Gallies are since sailed for Port Ferrajo, having under their Convoy some Transports with Ammunition and Soldiers for that Garrison.

Florence, July 4, N. S. On the 25th past M. de St. Aignan, the late French Ambassador at the Court of Rome, arrived here from thence, with his Son, and a Retinue of ten Persons. He is lodged at an Inn, where a Detachment of the Lorraine Foot Guards was ordered to attend him, which he dismiss'd. He has received the Compliments of the Tuscan and other Ministers, and 'tis said designs to make a Tour to Lucca, Loretto, Lombardy, and Turin, on his Return to France. On the 28th the Electress Dowager Palatine returned hither from the Villa della Quiete, and the next Day M. de St. Aignan waited on her. Father Ascanio, the Spanish Minister here, died Yesterday, aged 84, much lamented, and particularly by the Poor, to whom he caused very large Sums to be distributed yearly.

Whitehall, July 21.

By Letters from the Downs dated the 19th Instant we have an Account, That His Majesty's Ship the Rye was arrived there the Day before from Oponto, which Place she left the 17th of June, with 41 Merchant Ships under her Convoy.

General.

