

Redoute they had raised to cover their Blockade, he order'd the Convoy to advance towards the Cittadel, and the Whole was not only introduced that same Night, and the next Morning, but he was also inform'd soon after, that the Enemy had left the Town, and the Rear Guard of their Garrison, was actually marching out of it. Upon this a Detachment from the Cittadel immediately took Possession of it: And here likewise about 1000 of the Spaniards were made Prisoners; Half of them sick, and the other Half having taken Refuge in Churches and private Houses: Some small Magazines of theirs were likewise found here, and Baron Leutrum's Aid de Camp, who brought this Account the 11th at Night, likewise acquainted his Sardinian Majesty, that, upon his coming away, his General had been inform'd by the Parties he had sent out, that Marshal Maillebois had quitted the Post of San Salvador, and was drawing by the Mountains towards his Bridges on the Tanaro, to be nearer at Hand to pass that River, in Case he should be pressed, which it was not questioned but he would soon do. In this the French General judged right; a Body of Austrian Troops having been order'd to pass the Po on the 13th at Ponte di Stura, and to endeavour to cut off his Communication on one Side, whilst M. de Leutrum did the same on the other; which could not have failed, had he continued where he was; But on the 12th we were inform'd by another Courier from M. Leutrum, of the Marshal's having passed the Tanaro, and marched towards Tortona, where he may join or be joined by M. de Gages. He has left about 400 Men in Valencia, but both the Town and Garrison are so ill provided for Defence, that it is not questioned but they will withdraw on our approaching to attack them, or that they will be soon forced to submit, the Place having neither Cannon or Pallisadoes, and the Breaches of the last Siege being hardly repaired. The same Number of Men is likewise left in the Castle of Casal, which is in no better Condition. As to the Town, it is already return'd into the King of Sardinia's Possession, and when the Troops, which are extremely fatigued, have taken some few Days Rest, we do not question but the Castle with the Garrison will be in our Power. Whilst Baron Leutrum was thus pursuing his Success on the other Side the Po, several Austrian Detachments were employ'd on this, in very useful Diversions; the French, in several Posts of the Lunellina and Montferrat, abandoning them with much Precipitation and Disorder, as the Imperialists approached, and in most Parts leaving behind them their Sick and Magazines. General Platz with eight Battalions, and 18 Companies of Grenadiers was to have attacked Montcalve in the Hills, on the Borders of the Po, that divide the Province of Casal from that of Asti, and consequently a very important Post; but he could not arrive in Time, so that three French Battalions that were quarter'd there, found

Means to escape, as he drew near to invest it; However, he left wherewithal to blockade the Castle, and marched to join Baron Leutrum. This Castle has since surrendred, and besides 200 Prisoners, there were found in the same, pretty considerable Magazines of Substances of all Kinds. In all these Affairs we have only lost about 30 Men and a Subaltern Officer of the Artillery; and we have made between 7 and 8000 of the Enemy Prisoners, rescued a Cittadel blockaded by 15 Battalions under it, and an Army quarter'd in all the Villages and essential Posts about it; recover'd three large Towns, with a very considerable Tract of Country, and driven the French Army under Marshal Maillebois out of it. By all the Accounts we have of M. de Gages, (who is still in the Milanesè with the whole Body of Spanish and Neapolitan Troops) he is very much embarrassed what Measures to pursue in this Extremity, and still more so with the Person of his Prince, which he is at a Loss how to dispose of in a safe Manner. General Brown (who we have Reason to believe is by this Time, or must shortly be, in Motion towards the Adda with a considerable Body of Troops already arrived from Germany) must perplex him greatly, and render his present Situation very difficult to maintain. It is conjectured, that when he has once secured the vast Train of Artillery he had brought to Milan, for the Siege of the Castle (for which we are informed the necessary Preparations were making with the utmost Diligence) and lodg'd it with a strong Garrison in Pavia, he will pass on the other Side of the Po with his whole Army, and place himself between Pavia and Placentia, where he will be at Hand to join M. de Maillebois upon any Emergency, in a March or two, and where he may draw his Substances from the Parmesan and Plaisantine, and from the Genoese State. In order to improve the Advantages thus obtained, three Battalions of regular Troops, and some Thousand Militia, are ordered to march from the Province of Mondovi into the Genoese Territory, towards the Riviera di Ponente, and that Part of it that lies between Oneglia and Final, in order to keep the French Troops in the County of Nice, under M. Mirepoix, at a Stand, and to prevent their reinforcing Marshal Maillebois, as also to oblige the Genoese to employ the greatest Part of their Force in the Defence of their own Dominions; and lastly, to cut off, if possible, Part of the Spanish Cavalry, which was to march from Provence into Italy about this Time.

*Vienna, March 19.* A Courier is just arrived from Count Brown, who has sent a Billet he had just received from Prince Lichtenstein, with Advice of the Surrender of Asti with 5000 French Prisoners of War, 400 Officers, and six General Officers; and that the three Battalions, blocked up at Monte Calvi, were upon the Point of surrendering, while Count Brown himself had by his Parties