

# The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Sunday February 2, to Thursday February 5, 1673.

Hague, Febr. 6.

ON Friday last the States of *Holland* met, and after a short debate, resolved as follows.

THE States of *Holland* and *West Frisland* having reassumed the debate, of what the Deputies of the City of *Haerlem* had proposed, in their Assembly, on the 23 of January, of this instant year 1672. viz. Whether this State, ought not to resolve, that after the death of the Prince of *Orange*, the Heirs-Males by his Highness in lawful Wedlock begotten, should inherit and succeed in the Stadholdership, and to the Command of Captain and Admiral General of *Holland* and *West Frisland*, and of Captain and Admiral General of the *United Netherlands*, as in the minutes of that day is more at large expressed: The Lords of the *Ridderschap*, and the Nobles, as likewise the Deputies of the several Cities, in the name, and on the part of the Burger-Masters and *Uroerschappen* of the said Cities, have unanimously declar'd, as by these presents their Lordships (the States of *Holland* and *West Frisland*, do declare, That having maturely considered the State and constitution of this Government, as, by Gods blessing, it was in former times under the most illustrious Princes of *Orange*, and particularly what has hapned these Twenty three, or twenty four years past, have found, That since the sad and unhappy year of 1650, this State has been afflicted with many calamities, both at home and abroad; That for as much as concerns the affairs abroad, it never had been without a War, or the apprehension of a War; That in the year 1653, a cruel War hapned between the Kingdom of *England*, and this State; which had very much shaken the foundation of it; That after that War was ended, we had hardly taken breath, when we were engaged in a new one with *Portugal*, in the year 1656, and afterwards in the years 1658. and 1659, this State fell again into an open War, on occasion of the Northern Affairs; That in the year 1664, a War hapned a new between His Majesty of *Great Britain*, and these Provinces, which was no longer ended, but we were presently overtaken by the present lamentable and unhappy War; and that between the times of these Foreign Wars, this State had been forced to suffer many Injuries from her Neighbors, by whom it was formerly very much respected: For what concerns the Affairs at home, that the Common-wealth has been perplexed with many Disorders and Disturbances; that from the year 1650, to the year 1660, many Members of this State had wholly taken off their eyes from the present Prince of *Orange*, the only Heir Male of that illustrious Family, whilst others with much zeal affirmed, that we ought not to neglect his Highness; That the King of *Great Britain* in the year 1660, invited to his Kingdoms by the Parliament, taking his journey thither through these Countreys, this State had promised His Majesty, as likewise the Princess Royal Dowager of *Orange*, to take care of the Education and Interests of his Highness, as sufficiently designing him to all the Dignities possessed in these Provinces by his illustrious Ancestors: That after the death of the Princess of *Orange*, this State began to cool again, and that affair was laid aside; That afterwards this State had taken again upon itself the Education of his Highness: And lastly, in the year 1671 and in the beginning of the year 1672, that great troubles and dissensions had risen about chusing his Highness to be Captain General over the Forces of this State by Land; That sad experience hath taught, that the said Dissensions had given occasion to the Enemies of this State, to insult every one over it any way, knowing, that we were thereby rendered incapable (the foundation of this Republick having been laid through the Unity of our forefathers, and so particularly blessed by God) to take care of our defence; and that the difference which did arise, concerning the chusing a Chief over the Forces of this State, and the diffidence we had by that means of each other, did retard and hold back the resolutions, which on the necessity to have been taken for the repelling a Foreign Power; that thus in disputes the time was spent, which above

all, we ought to have been careful of: That the said differences were the cause, that in the latter end of the said year 1672, when the King of *France* did suddenly declare his intentions of making War upon this State, many months passed in deliberations about making his Highness Captain General, who ought then to have been employed in the raising of Men, and bringing the Troops of this State together for the common defence; by which means it hapned, that when in the year 1672, the said King of *France* attacked this State with his Arms, we were in the greatest danger of having been totally ruined and destroyed; that thereupon their Lordships had thought, that nothing could better be wished or hoped for, then that on the one side the occasion of these differences should be totally removed, that we might no more fall into the great mischiefs, we at present lie under; and that on the other side, might be acknowledged the great services performed by the illustrious Princes of *Orange*, for the preservation of this State: And accordingly the said Lords of the *Ridderschap*, and the Nobles, as likewise the Deputies of the several Towns, in the name, and on the part of the Burger-Masters, and *Uroerschappen* of the said Towns, have unanimously conferred, as their Lordships by these presents do confer on his Highness, and the Heirs-Males begotten, by his Highness in lawful marriage, the Stadholdership; and the command of Captain and Admiral General of, and over the said Provinces of *Holland* and *West Frisland*, with all the Dignities, Preheminencies, Prerogatives, Rights, and Privileges belonging hereunto, none excepted, in the same manner as the said Stadholdership, and Captain, and Admiral General of, and over the said Provinces, is at present possessed by his Highness: And accordingly, that after the death of his Highness, whom their Lordships pray Almighty God, to preserve and bless with many years, the said Stadholdership, and the said command of Captain and Admiral General of, and over the said Provinces of *Holland* and *West Frisland*, shall devolve and descend on the Heirs Males begotten by his Highness, in lawful Wedlock, with all the Dignities, Preheminencies, Prerogatives, Rights, and Privileges thereunto belonging, none excepted, in the same manner, as the same is at present possessed by his Highness: And farther, that the said Lords of the *Ridderschap*, and the Nobles, as likewise the Deputies of the several Towns, in the name, and on the part of the Burger-Masters, and *Uroerschappen* of the said Towns, do understand and think good, as their Lordships by these presents do understand and think good, that of this purpose, Letters shall be in due form dispatched, and given out for the use of his Highness, and his Heirs-Males by his Highness begotten in lawful Marriage, under the Great Seal of the *United Provinces*: And moreover, that earnest endeavors shall be used on the part of their Lordships with the States General, that the command of Captain and Admiral General of the *United Netherlands*, may be conferred on his Highness, and his Heirs-Males by his Highness in lawful Marriage begotten; and that of this tenor, Letters shall in like manner be in due form dispatched and given out for the use of his Highness, and his Heirs-Males by his Highness begotten in lawful Marriage, under the Great Seal of the *United Provinces*: This agrees with the said Resolution.

Simon van Beestman.

This their Resolution, they deputed several of their Body to go and communicate to his Highness, and at the same time, to congratulate with his Highness thereupon; the next day, his Highness was likewise complimented by Deputations from the several Colledges, and by all the persons of quality about Town. This day the Heer *Odyk* arrived here from *Zeland*, the States of that Province being separated, and brings with him an Extract of the Resolution of those States, by which they confer the Stadholdership, and the command of Captain and Admiral General of that Province on his Highness.