

the 27. instant to attend her, ordering likewise 5000 men under the command of the Collonels *Porzia*, *Lesty*, and *Shaffe* of Foot, and Collonel *Zeizen* of Horie, to march towards *Roveredo* to wait there upon the Empress.

The Duke d' *Albuquerque* is by the Spanish Court chosen Viceroy of *Sicily*, and intends suddenly to take his journey to his Government.

*Hague*, Sept. 21. On Saturday last the States received Letters from the Fleet, both from *Bologne* and *Culice* Roads, which we conclude contain in them something extraordinary, they keeping that Evening in close Consultation from six till ten at night; and are very reserved, only they give out, that *de Ruyter* is hurt in the neck; which makes us generally believe, that he is dead, and that they are unwilling as yet to divulge it, till they have taken order for a new Admiral.

We are here in much doubt what will become of our French assistants, who (we are told) are pursued by the English. If the game play not well, we must be forc'd to consult our own Affairs by a good Accommodation.

*Buat* upon a late examination of six days together, as 'tis said, has acknowledged 26 persons amongst the States that are as guilty as himself; upon which, the Council of *Holland* has been with him at his prison, pressing him to name the persons, which he has refused to do; the Council thereupon threatening to extort a Confession from him by torture, in the mean time continuing his examination.

*Ditto*, 23. Monsieur *Newport*, *de Ruyters* Secretary, is returned to the Fleet, the Letter he brought to the States was unsigned, he pretending to come away in great haste, leaving *de Ruyter* very ill with an hurt received by the firing of a Gun, whose flame entering into his mouth and throat, caused a very dangerous inflammation; speaking but lightly of a hurt he received in his neck the last Encounter. Some say he is yet living, but the most knowing persons conclude him dead, which is the rather credible, because the States General with those of *Holland*, have already named a new Admiral, one *Roodthoest*, to whom they have sent Orders at *Purmerent*, whereof he is Native, and now lies there; who is to make what haste he possibly can to go aboard the Fleet. He is a person of 66 years of age, and formerly disputed the Admiralty with *Opdam*, having long frequented the *East-India* Trade, and of more then ordinary skill in Navigation, though he never yet bore any command in our Fleets.

We are now told the Court of Justice hath been with the States of *Holland* upon the matter of *Buat*, acquainting them, that they do not finde him guilty; if so, he will in probable, in a few days see an end of his persecution.

His Majesty having been graciously pleased by his late Royal Proclamation to command the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of London, with all possible expedition, to cause an exact Survey to be made and taken of the whole Ruine occasioned by the late lamentable Fire, to the end that it may appear, to whom all the Houses and Grounds in truth belong, what Term the severall Occupiers were possessed of, and at what Rents, and to whom, either Corporations, Companies, or single Persons, the Reversion and Inheritance appertained, so that Provision may be made, that every man may receive the reasonable benefit of what may accrue to him or them, for such Houses or Lands. The Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, have by an Order of the 22. instant, (which hath been Proclaimed in the City and Liberties,) admonished and desired all Corporations, Companies, and Persons concerned as aforesaid, that the last Occupiers do within 14. daies after the date thereof bring into Beadles Booths, set up in the respective Wards, for Publick Service, under his hand, a perfect survey of the Ground whereon his House, Shop, or Warehouse stood, with their Appurtenances, and his Right and term therein, and that all others who have any Right or Inheritance, Lease, or otherwise to the same, do likewise bring under their hands their respective Claims, to the end, that the whole may be there Recorded by the Clerks that shall be thereunto appointed, who shall attend to this purpose in the places aforesaid every Working-day from Eight in the Morning until Twelve, and from Two till Four in the afternoon.

And of this, all persons are desired to take special notice, as they tender their own Interest.

*Dover*, Sept. 18. On Saturday night last Captain *Digby* in the *Fersey*, with three other ships plying about *St. Valeries*, pressed to hard upon several French ships on those Coasts; that he drove two of them ashore, to which he set fire; and the next morning forced another Vessel to set fire on her self, who presently blew up; by which we supposed her to be a man of War, and by her bulk of about 30 Guns. Another considerable Vessel running ashore.

*Ditto*, Sept. 20. Wee are very much satisfied of the good estate of our Fleet, having suffered in the last storm very little damage, besides the demasting of one Fireship. The Sovereign only struck upon the Sands of the *Riff-Raffes*, but (God be praised) got well off again without any harm.

On Tuesday night several Broad-sides were heard to pass this side *Drungeonnefs*, of which we have received this account, That Sir *Thomas Allen* lying with part of his Squadron at Anchor near the *Nesse* Point. Monsieur *de la Roche* with several other French ships, separated by storm from *de Beauport*, fell in with them (as it seems) mistaking them for their own; where finding his error, after some Broad-sides received and given, he was forced to yield. His ship was never being before at Sea, having in her 54 Brass Guns, and near 500 men; the rest of his Company made all the sail they could to escape, but were pursued by several of ours; with what success we yet know not.

Upon the report of their Guns, the Prince who was then in the Downs with a great part of the Fleet, weighed, and immediately set sail to the Westwards, and (we hope) will suddenly give a good account of the French Fleet.

*Ditto*, Sept. 22. The *Ree Kerch* coming in from cruising, tells us, That meeting at Sea with an *Hamburgher*, he was by him informed, that five or six of the Dutch Fleet were riding before the *Weilings*, and that the rest of their Fleet was entred there.

*Whitehal*, Sept. 23. Tuesday last took his place in Parliament, the Right Honorable *Thomas* Earl of *Cesery*, His Majesty having done him the honor to call him thither by Writ.

Friday the 21. His Majesty according to His Message to both Houses of the 18. went to the Parliament, where being set in His Royal Throne, having on His Robes of Estate, the Crown upon His Head, and the Regal Ensigns carried after the usual manner before Him, the Sword by the Earl of *Oxford*, and the Cap of Estate by the Lord *Bellasse*; The House of Commons being called up, His Majesty was pleased in a Gracious Speech to both Houses, to express the satisfaction He had to see them happily met again; and so leaving them to their severall Consultations, the House of Commons immediately returned to their House, where the Copy of His Majesties Speech delivered to the Speaker, being read, they unanimously Resolved,

That the humble and hearty Thanks of that House be returned to His Majesty for His great Care in the Management of the present Warr; and that the House will supply His Majesty proportionably to His present Occasions. And that the Lords concurrence herein be desired by Mr. Solicitor, and Mr. Garraway.

Letters from aboard the Royal *Charles* of the 21. off of the Isle of *Wight*, assure us of the good estate of His Majesties Fleet; and that the 5. other French Men of Warr, separated with the *Ruby* (the ship taken the 18. by Sir *Tho: Allen*) were so closely pursued by some of ours, that one of them said to be the *Bourbon*, was forced to run into *Havre de Grace*; one other, a very stout ship, was singled out by the *Newcastle*, who after a sharp encounter, when he had brought the French mans Main-mast by the Board, and was now ready to board her, was attacked afresh by two other of their Men of War, with a Fireship, by which means the other escaped him. Of the gross of their Fleet, is yet no farther news.

Letters from the *Hague* of the 28th. say, *De Witte* was again posted to the Fleet, the body of which was said to lie off of the *Weilings*, and was to be immediately followed by some Deputies, in order to what Councils was not known. *De Ruyter* was reported to be alive, and on the mending hand.