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Constantinople, August 24.

IT is generally believed that the Plague is abated. The Number that it is said have died thereof in three Months, is too incredible to mention, however it is positively affirmed, that they amount to 73800 Persons. With the Calamity of the Plague and Fire, we had, on the 4th Instant in the Morning, a violent Storm of Thunder and Rain, attended with a Shock of an Earthquake; the Inundation was so violent, that in one Quarter of the Town it carried away 15 Houses, drowned several of the Inhabitants, and most of the Houses in Town have more or less suffered. We have neither British nor Minorcan Ships in the Port; some are expected from London; but as the First is to touch at Smyrna, it is hoped they will not arrive till the Distemper has ceased.

Naples, Sept. 14. It is still confidently reported, that Cardinal Spinelli has renounced the Archbishoprick of this Capital; and that great Interest is making by Mess. Filomarino and Spinelli, by M. Enriques, Nuncio in Spain, and by M. Caraccioli, at Venice, to succeed him in that distinguished Post. Last Week the Secretary of State received Notice, that the Commissary at War of the King's Troops at the Presidii, had escaped from Orbitello with the Military Cash, consisting of about 10,000 Zekeens for the Payment of the Troops. The King, upon a Representation from the Governor of Orbitello, that four Algerine Shebecks, and a Frigate Corfair, were Cruizing on the Coast of the Presidii, and that a few Days ago they had taken, at about two Miles Distance from the Port of Leghorn, a Neapolitan and Genoese Bark, loaden with Corn and Wine, bound for that Port, belonging to his Subjects, has ordered that the Ships of War and other armed Vessels should be fitted out with the utmost Expedition, in order to go in Pursuit of the said Pyrates. At the Desire of the Court, divers Orders of Monks and other rich Fryars in this City have contributed large Sums of Money towards the Building a large Hospital for the Poor, amongst whom the Carthusians have given 24,000 Ducats.

Rome, Sept. 18. On the 6th Instant Cardinal Portocarrero, attended by a Retinue of 40

Persons, and a large Equipage, set out for Parma, to perform the Ceremony of Christening the young Princess of Parma, in the Name of the King of Spain. He carries several rich Presents of Jewels, &c. to deliver to the Dutchess from his Catholick Majesty.

Petersbourg, Sept. 21. On the 19th Instant an exceeding fine new Man of War, of 80 Guns, built by the Direction of Mr. Sutherland, an Englishman, was launched here in the Presence of her Imperial Majesty, and the Great Duke and Great Dutchess, and named the St. Chrisostome.

Florence, Sept. 23. On the 17th Instant an Edict was published by Order of the Regency, to indemnify the Magistrates of Health, of the Expences they have been at, for a few Years past, to preserve the Cattle in Tuscany from the Epidemical Distemper with which those in the Neighbouring States have been afflicted; a Tax is for this Purpose laid upon Land, those of the State of Siena and the Lunigiana only excepted. From Modena we are informed, that the Duke had hastened his Return from Massa to this City on the 15th Instant, on Notice that the Prince his second Son was taken ill of the Small-Pox, of which he died on the 16th. Last Week anchored at Leghorn, a Squadron of the Pope's Gallies to cruize, jointly with those of Genoa, against the Barbary Pyrates, who continue to infest these Seas, having a few Days ago taken some Barks from under a small Tower on the Coast of Tuscany. This Government is extremely uneasy on the Republick of Genoa's having (in order to entcrease their Commerce, and encourage Foreign Merchants to settle there) granted new Privileges to their Free-Port, and reduced, for the Term of ten Years, the Duties on all Merchandizes; which, and the constant Interruption the Barbary Pirates occasion to the Commerce of Leghorn, cannot fail to be an additional Prejudice to it.

Turin, Sept. 24. The King and Royal Family continue to enjoy perfect Health at the Venerie. Count Rocque, Inspector General of Foot, is appointed to review the Foot Forces of this Dukedom, in order to see what Progress the Soldiers in each Regiment have made, in the new Exercise, for which Purpose he will soon set, out for their respective Quarters. A few Days ago Orders were dispatched to all the Com-

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