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Marseilles, February 12.

From Sicily we have advice, that since the arrival of the French succors under the Command of the Marquess de Vallavoir at Messina, the affairs there had greatly mended, the Messinenses, with the assistance of the French, having retaken several considerable Posts from the Spaniards near the City. That the said Marquess was lodged in the Palace of the Viceroy, and was treated by those people with extraordinary respect and kindness. That on the other side, the Spaniards were bringing all the Forces they could together, with design formally to besiege them. We expect suddenly to hear of the arrival of Monsieur de Vivonne at Messina, who parted hence the 29 of the last month. As well here, as at Thoulon, is preparing a third succor to be sent thither; though we doubt not but the Spanish Fleet, which Cruises before that place, will strive to keep all assistance from coming to it by Sea for the future, in which perhaps they may not be more successful, than they were in their endeavours to prevent the succors that the Marquess de Vallavoir abovementioned, brought the Messinenses.

Naples, Febr. 12. The Spaniards begin to draw their Forces together in Sicily, in order to a formal besieging of Messina; in which, by the favor of those Posts they already possess, they seem to promise themselves a good success, though they might have been more confident of it, had care been taken to oppose the passage of the Marquess de Vallavoir, who brought those Inhabitants a considerable succor; however it is said here, that those Provisions are almost consumed, and that if the Duke de Vivonne, who is on his way with a farther Supply, can be hindered from entering into Messina, those Inhabitants may yet be reduced in a short time to an extreme necessity for want of Corn; and till they are reduced thereto, it may be feared our Forces by Land will not be able to effect any great matter.

Warsaw, Febr. 19. Our last advices from the Court tell us, That 16 or 17000 Tartars, under the Command of Nuradin Sultan, approached the Ukraine, and were already come so near our Troops, that several considerable skirmishes had passed between them, which had hitherto (praised be God) terminated with advantage on our side, many of the Enemy having been killed and taken Prisoners. That the 25 past, the Bassa of Silistria, with some Thousands of Turks and Tartars under his Command, appeared near Ratzkow, a place of importance in the Ukraine, possessed by our Troops; upon which, the Sieur Koritzki, who Commanded there, sent out what Cavalry he had, with certain small Field-pieces, to attack them; that accordingly there had been a sharp dispute between them, the Poles doing great execution upon the Enemy with their Cannon, but that the Colonel Przeworski, who Commanded our men, being killed upon the place, they were forced to retreat into the Town. That the Enemy pursued their point, and having notice, that the place lay open towards the Nieper, entered it on that side without any opposition, and had already begun to set fire to it in several places, when

the Sieur Koritzki, sallying out upon them with what Troops he had from several Cloysters, he forced them to retire again in great confusion, about 30 Houses having been burnt.

Hamburgh, Febr. 22. From Copenhagen they write, That the Ambassador of Sweden, who lately arrived there, had not yet obtained any answer in writing from the Commissioners appointed to treat with him; or any final Declaration, how his Majesty of Denmark intends to govern himself in the present Conjunction; and that his Excellency seemed to prepare for his return home. There remain at present hardly any of the Swedish Troops in the Hukkermark, being all removed into the hinder Pomeran, belonging to the Elector of Brandenburg. They still draw nearest to the Ducal Prussia, their principal Quarters being not above six Leagues from the Frontiers of that Countrey, which makes it generally believed, that the Swedes will attack his Electoral Highness in his Territories in Prussia, as being out of the Empire. In the mean time we do not hear that they commit any Hostilities, but that they live as well with the Countrey people, as can be expected; and some say, that they are only removed out of the Hukkermark, into the hinder Pomeran, for the conveniency of their Quarters. Our Letters from Sweden continue to speak, as if that Crown would have a Fleet at Sea this Summer, and in order to it, preparations are even making on this side of the water in the Maritime places in the Swedish Pomeran.

Francfort, March 2. From Ratisbonne they write, that the Bishop of Bamberg in the Circle of Franconia, had made farther Complaints to the Dyet, concerning the Exactions of the Brandenburg Troops, who are quartered within that Circle. And that the Bishop of Strasburg had caused a Memorial to be presented to the Dyet, in which he justifies his Retreat out of the Empire, and the putting himself under the protection of the Most Christian King. It is hardly credible, what vast provision the French make in Alsacia of all things necessary for the carrying on the War this Summer. It was intended that the French Troops should have continued in their Quarters till the middle of April, to refresh them, after the fatigues of the last Campagne; but we are now told, that Monsieur de Turenne will return into Alsacia about the latter end of this month, and take the Field very early. From Vienna they write, that General Montecuculi prepares indeed for his departure towards the Imperial Army, but that he desires to have with him 600 000 Crowns for the defraying the Expences that necessarily attend an Army. In Hungary 4000 Rebels are said to be got together again, and to have given great disturbance to the Imperialists: and 3000 Turks, belonging to Buda, have lately appeared near Newhausel, with intention (as is thought) to exact Contributions, &c.

Cologne, March 5. The Sieur de Fario hath begun to execute this Diocess, on account of the monies pretended by the States General of our Elector, who had hoped that the Letter he had written to the States, would have at least deferred the said execution, to the end the mat-