

*Netherlands*, the States have resolv'd to send 10 Regiments of Foot, to reinforce such of the Spanish Garrisons, as lye most exposed to the attempts of the French, and it is said, that these Troops have already Orders to march. The beginning of the next week his Highness the Prince of Orange will part hence for *Cloves*, in order to the holding a Conference with the Elector of *Brandenburg*, who according as his Minister here assures us, will be there about that time. It is expected that Count *Waldeck* will in few days return hither from *Vienna*, where, as we are told, he hath very well succeeded in the Matters he went to Negotiate. The Minister that is here from the States of *Orange*, hath two days since given in a Memorial to the States General, representing, that the French being about quitting of *Maseyk*, have declared, that they would spare the Walls of that City, in case the Allies will solemnly promise not to possess themselves of that place during the War, which Memorial hath been referred to the Ministers of the several Allies, residing here. It being not at all doubted, but that the French will accept of *Nimegen*, for the place of Congress, as this State and their Allies have already done, at the Mediation of his Majesty of *Great Britain*, The States have already resolv'd to send three Deputies thither, to prepare the place for the Reception of so great an Assembly, which it is hoped will be now begun very suddenly, in order to the restoring a general Peace to *Christendom*, so much desired and wished for, the only obstacle which remains to the forming of the said Assembly, is the affair of the Prince of *Furstenberg*. We are told, that his most Christian Majesties last Declaration upon that subject was, that he would be content the Prince should be put into the hands of some Neutral Prince; and that his Imperial Majesty has answer'd thereupon, to the Ambassador of *Sweden*, just before his departure from *Vienna*, that all that he could yield to was, That he would cause the Process depending against the said Prince, to be stop'd till the conclusion of the Peace.

Paris, March 15. We have now a particular account from *Messina*, of Monsieur de *Vivonne's* arrival there, and the advantage obtained by him over the Spanish Fleet, viz.

The 29 of *January*, the Duke de *Vivonne* parted from *Toulon*, with 9 Men of War, one light Frigate, 3 Fireships, and 8 Victuals, laden with Provisions for the *Messineses*, the Winds were so favourable, that the 11 past he came within sight of the Spanish Fleet, not far from the *Fare* of *Messina*; the Duke divided his Fleet into three Squadrons, the *Sieur du Quesne* led the Van, as Vice Admiral, having with him, the Ship called the *Esprit*, on board of which he was; the *Faithful*, Commanded by the *Sieur de Cogoulin*, the *Amiable*, Commanded by the *Sieur de Barr*, and one Fireship; The Duke was in the middle on board the *Scepter*, with a light Frigate and a Fireship, the other two Men of War of his Squadron were the *Happy*, Commanded by the *Sieur de la Breteche*, and the *Perfect*, the *Sieur Chisteureuf*, Captain; the *Marquis de Prouilly d'Humieres*, in the *St. Michael*, had the Rear, the other Ships of his division, being the *Ap'o*, the *Sieur de Fourbins*, Captain; the *Valiant*, the *Sieur de Septeme* Commander, and a Fireship. In this Order the Duke had put himself, when the Spanish Fleet of 20 Men of War, Commanded by Don *Melchior de la Cueva*, and 17 Gallies, of which the *Marquis del Viso* was General, came down upon him with a fair wind; the Van, Commanded by the *Sieur de Quesne* bore the Enemies first attack, but the Duke de *Vivonne* soon came in to his assistance; and these two divisions maintained the Fight with the Spaniards whole Fleet

several hours, for the *Marquis de Peuilly* in the Rear, being to Leeward, could not come up to them, which the Duke de *Vivonne* observing, tack'd, and stood towards him, accommodating in the mean time his Rigging and Sails, which were torn, &c. and the *Sieur de Quesne* did afterwards the like. Things were in this posture, when about noon the Chevalier de *Vall'elie* appeared with his Squadron of six Men of War, coming before the Wind from *Messina*, directly towards the Spaniards; the Duke thereupon so ordered his course, as to get the Enemy between him and Monsieur de *Valbelle*, which he should have gone, but that they began to give way, though in some order; the *Sieur de Quesne*, whose Ship sailed the best, joined with the Chevalier de *Valbelle*, who being likewise come within shot of the Enemy; several discharges passed between them, but it seems the Spaniards being unwilling to continue the Engagement with the French, after so considerable a reinforcement, as the Chevalier had brought them by whom they had been so ill Treated, before, they quitted the Fight, and retired in confusion; the Chevalier de *Valbelle*, and two other Men of War, finding out their Chaloups, manned with Soldiers, they took a Spanish Man of War, who being disabled, could not keep way with the rest, called *L'Madona del Popolo*, mounted with 40 Guns and 200 Men. The night coming on, hinder'd the French from continuing the pursuit and besides, the Duke was unwilling to lose any time to succor the *Messineses*, whom he heard were in great extremity; the next day being the 12, he arriv'd at *Messina*, to the unspeakable joy of those people, and to the astonishment of the Spaniards, who thereupon, quitted several Posts about the City. The same day arriv'd a Vessel at *Messina*, the Matter of which reported, that the night before, he passed through the Spanish Fleet sailing towards *Naples*, that it consisted only in 15 Men of War, one of which was without any Masts, and the other very much torn and shattered, that 4 of their Ships being very leaky, had sunk in the night. The Spanish Gallies are, as is said, put into *Melazzo*. On the French side, about 200 Seamen have been killed and wounded, with some Officers, the Duke himself has received three light hurts.

*Ditto*, March 16. His Majesty having received the particulars of the Duke de *Vivonne's* arrival at *Messina*, hath resolv'd to send immediately thither 4500 Foot of his old Troops, which is not doubted, but will sufficiently enable those People to defend themselves against the Spaniards. The King has named the Prince de *scubize*, Captain Lieutenant of his Gen'd' Arms, the *Marquis de la Tr'osse*, Captain Lieutenant of the Dauphins Gendarms, the *Marquis de Kanne*, Colonel-General of the Dragoons, the *Sieurs de Chazeron, de Monclar, Calvo, and Wornus*, to serve as *Marschals de Camp* in his Armies this next Campaign. It is expected that in a day or two his Majesty will likewise declare the Lieutenant Generals, and the Brigadiers of the Cavalry. Yesterday was a general review of the Troops of the Kings Household, as well Horse as Foot, the several Companies being very compleat, and in excellent order. The King has given a Regiment of Horse to the Prince of *Gurment*, who has these two years served in quality of Captain of Light Horse. The Duke de *Vitry*, who hath long resided on the part of his Majesty, at the Court of *Bavaria*, is returned hither; and we understand, that the *Sieur de la Hay*, formerly Ambassador at the *Port*, is arriv'd at *Munich*, to remain there in the same employment. The Enemy hath, we hear, spread abroad several reports concerning a Plot, which its said, hath been discovered at the Court of that Elector, though without the least Truth.