

# The London Gazette.

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Venice, April 17.

**W**E have Letters from *Sicily*, which give us an account, That the Spaniards having possessed themselves of the Castle of *St. Salvador*, and other Posts, which lay towards the water, with the assistance of the Dutch Fleet; and that *de Ruyter* having by the weather been some dayes after obliged to remove from his station, and to stand over to the other side of the Fare, the Duke *de Vivonne* had made use of the opportunity to regain those Posts; which he had effected, by causing 6 or 7000 Men to fall out of *Messad*, and disposing at the same time the French Fleet so, as that their Cannon did very much annoy the Spaniards, while *de Ruyter* was hindered by the contrary winds from coming to their succor. It is said that the French lost about 200 Men in the Action, and the Spaniards above treble the number, together with the Count *de Bucquoy*, and several other Officers. For the rest, the same Letters tell us, That the French Fleet consists in 32 Men of War, all mounted from 44 to 84 Guns; That nine of them are ships of three Decks, but that they are ill-manned; That the French are in possession of all the Castles and Forts belonging to the Messineses, of whom they are very jealous; That much will depend upon the Succors that are now expected thence with the French Gallies from *Marsilles*, they having at present in *Messina* hardly Corn enough to supply those Inhabitants one Month, notwithstanding they have of late taken several ships laden with that provision.

*Copenhagen*, April 25. The Squadron of Men of War that lately sailed from hence, are returned again, without having been able to effect their design, which was to make themselves Masters of the Ills of *Rugen*; the Swedes having had notice of it time enough to put themselves into a posture of defence. These Men of War have however orders to continue at Sea, and to have an eye upon the Swedish ships that are sitting at *Gottenburg*, to carry as is believed, a succor to *Suede*. Yesterday *Stiffenfelt* was for the first time examined by the Commissioners appointed for that purpose; in which four hours were spent. The tenth of the next Month he is to be examined again in the presence of the King. In the present time he cannot yet particularly learn what is charged upon him. The *Sieur Owenius* is declared Vice-chancellor.

*Vleppa*, April 19. The Emperor continues in his engagement, though, it is said, he will on Wednesday next part for *Newstadt*, with intention to continue there till June. Our last Letters from the Post told us, that the Grand Signior will not go into the Field this Summer, but that he will remain at *Adrianople*, committing the conduct of his Armies to the Grand Viceroy. Many people here seem to promise themselves, that the Elector of *Bevaria* will shortly publicly declare in favor of the Emperor; and, it is said, that he will dispose his Electoral Highness thereunto, a Marriage will be proposed between the Emperor and his Daughter, but this is as yet but discourse. We are told, that the Duke of *Lorraine* hath given his Imperial Majesty

an account, that he hoped to be in a condition to march with his Imperial Army the beginning of the next month, that is, so soon as forage might be found in the Field.

*Strasburg*, April 24. It is reported here, that the French Troops which have assembled at *Metz*, are marched to join the King in *Flanders*; which the more surprizes us, for that we have all along expected that a reinforcement would rather have been sent from *Flanders* into these parts. Vain provision is making at *Saverin* and *Haguenaw*, for the subsistence of the Army this Campaign. From *Ellingen*, the Imperial Head-quarter, they write, that all the Regiments had positive orders to be at the general Rendezvous the sixth of the next month.

*Cologne*, April 28. The Deputies sent by the Duke of *Nemburg* to *Mastricht*, have been only able to obtain a deferring of the execution for eight days longer upon those that do not bring in their Contributions in that time. In the mean time, his Highness endeavors all he can to put his Countreys into a state of defence; besides the new Fortifications we have already told you of, he has caused a Fort to be built near *Linnich*. We expect very suddenly in these parts the Troops of the Bishop of *Osnaburg*, and some *Munster* and *Brandenburg*, who will form a Body to act on the side of *Treves*. From *Strasburg* there are Letters by the Ordinary, which say, that the French did again assemble a Body of Men about *Colmar*, with design, as is believed, to put a relief into *Philipsburg*; and that the Duke of *Lorraine* was preparing to hinder it.

*Hamburg*, April 28. We have this week no very good news from *Berlin*, viz. That the Elector of *Brandenburg* hath commanded afresh, that the Ships and Goods belonging to the Subjects of this City, shall be flopt, and that his Electoral Highness had refused to receive the Letters written to him by our Magistrates on that subject, directing at the same time, that his Minister, who hath resided here, should forthwith return home. From *Copenhagen* they write, that *Ottens* is had been once examined that is accusation consisted in 12 Heads or Articles, of which the first is said to be, That he had, by surprize, got the King to sign a Paper, by which his Majesty in case of death, should appoint him sole Governor and Regent of his Children and Countreys, during the minority of his eldest Son, which, it seems was found among his Papers. 2. That he had sent orders to countermand the Dutch Ships of War, that are to come from *Holland*, to join with his Majesties Fleet this Summer. 3. That he had not sent any succors to the *Sieur Gualdenieu*, Viceroy of *Norway*, and had not communicated seven several Letters which were written by his Excellency, to demand a supply. 4. That he had sold all Places and Offices to persons that were not capable of them. The other Articles we as yet know not. There seems at present a good appearance of accommodating matters between the King of *Denmark* and the Duke of *Holstein*, which would be well for the *Sieur Kicmar*, President of the Dukes Council; who is now a prisoner at *Copenhagen*. We have