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Naples, Decemb. 1.

WE have for some time had very bad weather in these parts, which hath not only detained in Port the Gallies and other Vessels designed for Sicily, but keeps us likewise from receiving any news from thence; the last Letters spoke of a design which the Duke de Vivonne had had to attack Melazzo, and that that had been the cause of the sudden departure of the Marquis de Castel Rodrigo from Catania to Melazzo, where he arrived time enough to give such orders as prevented the Enemy in the execution of the said design. As for the Enemies besieging Catania, the news we had of it some time since is not confirmed, so that we do not give any credit to it.

Vienna Decemb. 20. The Emperors marriage having been solemnized at Passow the 14 instant, the three following dayes were spent in such diversions as the place could afford, and the 18 their Imperial Majesties, being accompanied with the Duke and Dutchess of Neuburg, parted thence for Linz, where they arrived the same day, and mean to remain till the 7th or 8th of the next month, when their Imperial Majesties will set out from thence on their return hither. In Croatia the people are very apprehensive, that during this great Frost, which has made all the Rivers passable, the Turks will make an incursion into that Country; and from Gratz they write, that 6000 Turks had already passed the River Raab near Furstenfeld, and had committed great spoils. Count Montecuculi, who will command the Imperial Army next Summer, is preparing his Equipage, and, as we are informed, means to begin his journey to the Army about the beginning of March. Great murmurs and complaints continue in the Empire, on occasion of Winter quarters, but in the present conjuncture of affairs they cannot be remedied.

Dantzick, Decemb. 23. Our Polish Letters arrived this morning inform us, that several of the Provincial Dyets held for the choosing Deputies, and the instructing them for the General Dyet which will be assembled the 14 of the next month at Warsaw, were successfully ended, and that the necessary resolutions had been taken in them for the ratifying the late Peace concluded with the Ottomans. The same Letters add, that the King had disbanded 14000 men, but make not any mention of their going out into the service of Sweden, so that we know not what credit to give to what was writ concerning it from Livonia and Courland by the last Ordinary. That the King of Poland had been invested by the French Ambassador with the Order of the Holy Ghost; that the Ceremony had been performed with extraordinary State and Magnificence; and that at the same time the said Ambassador had presented to their Majesties, on the part of the King his Master, several Presents, which were valued at some millions.

Berlin, Decemb. 24. The 22 instant arrived here an Envoy from the King of Poland, who, without making any stay here, forthwith continued his journey to Potsdam, where our Elector at present resides; we do not yet know what he came about, but are the more cu-

rious to be informed, for that it has been formerly reported, as if some difference was so he feared between that King and our Elector, concerning the Duchy of Prussia. We have advice from Stralsund, that the Frost was so hard, that they could pass over the Ice from Stralsund to the Isle of Rugen, and that the Swedes, to secure the same against the attempts of the Enemy, had cast up several Retrenchments, and played Cannon on them.

Copenhagen, Decemb. 26. Since the Fight between the Armies in Schonon on the 14 instant, several persons come to light, which were supposed to have been slain in it. The Swedes in the mean time remain Masters of the Field, and seem to have an intention of continuing abroad the whole Winter. The other day part of their Army appeared before Landskron, but soon retired again; and about the same time another Party came to Helsingborg, and attacked the Castle there, but not succeeding in it, marched off again, threatening however to return shortly with a greater Force; the King of Sweden has since the Fight received a Reinforcement of several Regiments, and is still encamped near Malmoe. We are informed that the said King having caused the slain, which remained on the place of Battle, to be counted, they amounted to 9400 men, of which we say that not more than 3400 are missing on our side. The conquered places in Schonon not being able to receive all our Troops, several Regiments are come over, who are to winter here in Zealand. Our King has given orders for the preparing a new Train of Artillery, which is to be composed of 60 pieces of Cannon, against Spring, as likewise for the making the Recruits and new Levies. It is said that his Majesty purposes to be in the Field again within five or six Weeks.

Ditto, Decemb. 27. The Swedes continue at Helsingborg, and though there commands in the Castle a very eminent Officer, who, we are assured, will not be wanting on his part to defend it to the utmost yet we are in pain for it, seeing the Enemy is absolute Master of the Field. We lost in and after the late Fight 22 pieces of Cannon, which, it is said, were most Field-pieces, and instead thereof a new Train of 69 pieces is preparing. There lies at present two Men of War at Helsingborg, commanded by Admiral Wibe, which very much contribute to the defence of the Castle there.

Calogne, Jan. 1. This Diocess is almost quite ruined by the Troops that have at present their quarters in it, and as yet we see no likelihood of being eased of this burthen; for notwithstanding the repeated Orders of the Emperor, the Osnavrug Troops seem resolved to winter here. The French are going to quit Lemburg, and the Governour of that place has summoned the Boords of the Country of Friesland, to work for the demolishing the Fortifications, &c. Some dayes since, his Excellency my Lord Ambassador. Hyde passed through this City in his return from Poland, his Excellency purposing, to call in at Nimeguen in his way home.

Brussels, Jan. 5. Two dayes since arrived here from *Cambray*, *Don Francisco Marcos de Velasco*, Lieutenant General of the Cavalry, who hath given our Governor General, the Duke of *Villa Hermosa*, an account of the present condition that place is in. We are told that his Excellency has received advice, that three Regiments of Foot, and four Companies of Dragoons are got safe to *Valenciennes*, having taken a great march about, between *Douay* and *Bouchain*, and by the advantage of the Ice passed the Rivers that lay in their way, which is a piece of News that does not a little please us, seeing we look now upon *Valenciennes* as sufficiently secured against the attempts of the Enemy, that place being provided with Provisions and other things necessary to serve them five or six months, before the expiration of which, our Governor doubts not but he shall be at the head of an Army able to defend these Countries, to which purpose Commissions are daily given out as well for the making of Recruits as new Levies, which will be now carried on with a great deal of vigor, seeing the Spanish Courier which arrived yesterday, brought us an assurance, that the bills of Exchange for the remitting hither two millions of Crowns, were actually preparing, and that they would be ready to be brought over by the next Ordinary without fail. From *Liege* they write, that the French seem in good earnest resolved to quit *Limburg* this Winter, that in order thereunto above 200 persons are daily at work, for the preparing the Mines to demolish the Fortifications, and that a great number of Wagons hath been summoned in by the Governor of *Limburg*, for the removing the Provision and Ammunition from thence to *Maastricht*. The weather is here extraordinary cold, and we hope that this hard Winter will be a disappointment to the Enemy, and hinder them from beginning the Campaigne so soon as they seem to intend, for after that the abundance of Snow which now covers the ground, is thawed, the wayes will for some time continue so bad, that they will not be passable, especially for Artillery, and particularly in the Province of *Haynault*, which the Enemy, by the blocking up of *Cambray*, *Valenciennes*, &c. seem intended to make the Seat of the War the next Campaigne, for that the ground is generally softer there, and the wayes deeper than in any other of the Provinces. It is said that his Excellency has sent into *Holland* certain persons to buy several Men of War for the service of *Spain* in the *Mediterranean* next Summer.

Ditto. Jan. 8. We have the confirmation of three Regiments of Horse and four Companies of Dragoons being safely got into *Valenciennes*, having in their march passed by the Gates of *Bouchain*, without meeting with any Troops to disturb them. It is all the news at Court, and we are told that his Excellency has himself declared it, that the last Spanish Ordinary brought him Bills of Exchange for a million of Crowns to be employed for the service of these Countries. From the Northern parts they write, that the King of *Denmark* hath sent to the Elector of *Brandenburg*, to the Duke of *Zell*, and the Bishop of *Munster*, to desire them to assist him with some of their Troops, and that the Duke of *Zell* has promised to send him six Regiments of Foot. The Letters we receive from *Italy*, do not make any mention of the taking of *Catanea* by the French, which some pretend to have news of by the way of *France*, but say that the Viceroy of *Sicily* had caused 2 new Bastions to be raised at *Catanea*, for the greater security of that City, and had also fortified a very ad-

vantageous Post between *Catanea* and *Melazzo*; which will very much hinder the incursions of the French. They add, that the Viceroy of *Naples*, and Governor of *Milan*, have sent considerable supplies of Men and Money into *Sicily*, and that in *Milan* great Levies are still making for that service.

Hague, Jan. 9. Yesterday the Deputies of the Admiralty had a Conference with his Highness concerning the Equipage for this year; the Count *Waldeck*, and other the General Officers, have likewise frequent Conferances with his Highness about the Land Affairs. From *Nimeguen* they write, that the Imperial Ambassador, the Count *Kinski*, was arrived there, and that the Spanish Ambassador, who had hitherto remained there *incognito*, would now appear in publick, and that it was hoped the work of the Peace would advance apace, which seems to be very much desired here by all sorts of people. The Danes will not own to have lost above 3500 meh in the late Battel in *Schonen*, and on the other side affirm that the Suedes lost amounts to above 5000; and that at the beginning of the Fight, the King of *Denmark's* Army consisted only in 9000 men, while that of *Sueden* was composed of 14 or 15000; however it was, the Suedes pretend to have obtained a considerable Victory; and, in effect, they continue Masters of the Field, giving frequent alarms to the places possessed by the Danes in *Schonen*. The King of *Denmark* in the interim is endeavouring to recruit his Forces, and to obtain Succor from his Allies, that so he may be able to take the Field again, so soon as the great rigors of the Season are somewhat over. We have had a great report here of several thousand of Polish Soldiers having passed over into the service of the Crown of *Sueden*, and that more were to follow in the Spring, but the Letters we received yesterday from *Poland*, make not any mention thereof. The last Italian Post brought us Letters from *Naples*, which said that they had News there, that the French had taken *Catanea* in *Sicily*.

Paris, Jan. 10. Our Letters from *Hamburg*, and those parts, give us the confirmation of the Battel fought the 14th past between the Suedes and Danes in *Schonen*, and of the Victory which the former pretend to have obtained, having taken most of the Cannon of the Danish Army, and remaining Masters of the Field, by means whereof they promise themselves other considerable advantages. The ad instant was begun the Assembly of the States of *Burgundy* at *Dijon*, in the presence of the Duke d'*Orleans* on the part of the King. It is expected those States will grant his Majesty a Sum of Money answerable to the present Conjunction of Affairs, for the defraying the Charges of the War. We are informed that his Majesty has sent Orders to the Duke d'*Estrees*, his Ambassador Extraordinary at *Rome*, to visit the Cardinals of the last Promotion, which is done at the instance of the Pope, who, to gratifie his Majesty, has taken from the Cardinal *Altieri*, who was Cardinal Patron during the Reign of the last Pope, the Government of *Avignon*. From *Sicily* we have advice, that the Duke de *Vroume* has taken *Catanea*, and that the Spanish Viceroy, the Marquis de *Casil Rodrigo*, was shut up in *Syracusa*, which news needs a confirmation. In a day or two will be made publick here a Relation of the Ceremony of investing the King of *Poland* with the Order of the Holy Ghost.

Advertisements.

Stole out of the Stable of *John Blatch* of *Colechester* in *Essex*, Decemb. 20. an Iron Gray Horse above 13 hands and an half high, a white spot hard by his rump, a feather under his mane, and a cur tail. Whoever gives notice of the said Horse to the aforesaid *John Blatch*, or to *Samuel Herfert* Upholsterer at the *Blew Anchor* in *Fenchurch-street*, *London*, shall have 20 s. Reward.

Lost out of the *Tellmalls* a black Dog with cropt ears, and all his legs and breast speckled with white, he had a Collar about his neck, with brass letters, and a Cornet. Whosoever brings the said Dog to *Mr Willers* in the *Tellmalls*, shall have 5 s. Reward.