

early surrender prevent the destruction of himself and his Garrison; which the Governor having done, and understanding that the said Mines were so placed, that they could not fail of having the intended effect, and that in such case it would be impossible for him to defend the place any longer, he desired to come to a Capitulation, but that being denied him, he surrendered upon discretion. In the Castle was found many pieces of Cannon, with a great quantity of Ammunition and Provisions, and several of the King of Denmark's best Horses; and it is added, that 48 Danish Vessels great and small which lay at *Helsingburg* have been burnt.

*Strasbourg, Jan. 8.* The French having assembled a Body of Men together in the *Upper Alsace* are now marching this way, having with them a great number of Carriages and Wagons; what their design may be we know not. We have advice, that since the 6th instant the French at *Haguenaw* have been at work to demolish the Fortifications of that City; and at the same time it is reported here that they likewise intend to demolish *Saverne*, which though we should be glad to see, yet we can hardly believe.

*Frankfort, Jan. 9.* The Duke of *Neubourg* is returned from *Dantz* to his Residence at *Neubourg*, having changed the intention it is said he had of accompanying their Imperial Majesties to *Vienna*, upon the difficulties that it was foreseen would arise in the matter of ceremony between his Highness and the Ambassadors residing at that Court. The discourse is that the said Duke is to have an interview with the Elector of *Bavaria*, and that the Count de *Montecuculi* is to assist at on the part of the Emperor, in order to the endeavouring to persuade that Elector to quit the Neutrality he at present professes, and to enter into an engagement with his Imperial Majesty. The Imperialists make Levies in all these parts, to recruit their Army against Spring; and it is said that the Emperor means to have two Armies in the Field, the one to be commanded by General *Montecuculi*, and the other by the Duke of *Lorraine*. The French in *Alsace* are drawn into a Body, and seem to have a design at least to pillage some Towns and Villages, which are not under their Contributions.

*Brussels, Jan. 11.* The French continue to block up *Cambray*, *Valenciennes*, and the other Garrisons in the Province of *Hainault*, and have forbid the Country people to carry any Provisions to any of the said Places, upon pain of death, and confiscation of their Horses, Wagons &c. The Enemy we hear, has drawn a Body of Men together at *Treves* and *Kieuvain*, which gives us an apprehension that they have a design upon *St Ghislain*, the execution of which will be made much more easy through the Frost, the great strength of that place being the Waters and Marshes that environ it, which are now frozen. Our Governor General will make a step to *Antwerp* the next week, to hasten the payment of the million of Crowns which was remitted hither from *Spain* by the last Ordinary. We are told from *Liege*, that the Dutch Troops of *Hussell*, do miserably harass the Neighbouring Country, and exact so great Contributions from the people, that they do not only quit the Villages, but likewise many Towns, and retire to *Liege* and other places. The greatest part of the Walls and Fortifications of *Limborg* are blown up, and three Battalions of Foot that were in Garrison there, are marched with the Cannon, Ammunition, and Provisions to *Maestricht*, and it is believed that by this time the place is totally demolished, and the rest of the Garrison likewise retired. From *Germany* they write, that the French are demolishing *Montbeliard*, having already

conveyed the Cannon and Ammunition from thence to *Bezfors*. The Letters we receive this day from *Paris*, tell us, That Tents are distributed to all the Troups of the King's Household; That his Majesty has given orders for their being ready to march the 15 of the next month; That the Prince of *Conde* hath filled up the Company of his Guards, in order to his going into the Field; That all things necessary for the Campaign are taken out of the Arsenal, and that nothing can hinder his Majesties opening the Campaign at the time appointed, but the severity of this Season, which we therefore desire may continue. The same Letters add, That the King has ordered a reinforcement of 4000 men to be sent for *Italy*.

*Ditto, Jan. 14.* The Most Christian King has caused a Placet to be published within these few days by which he requires all persons who have any Estate within his Conquests, to repair forthwith to the same, upon pain of confiscation, which will oblige several Gentlemen to quit this service. His Excellency continues his resolution of going for *Antwerp* the next Week, to remove the difficulties that are made by the Merchants about paying the Moneys lately remitted from *Spain*. We had yesterday advice, that the French Troops are marching from several parts to the Rendezvous at *Arras*, and that Marquis de *Louvois* was come privately to *Peronne*, as is believed for the carrying on some great design; which however will we hope be prevented by the great thaw we have had since the last night, insomuch that his Excellency having ordered a Regiment of Foot to march hence yesterday in the afternoon towards *Mons*, they are returned again this morning, not being able to continue their march by reason of the illness of the ways, occasioned by the said thaw. Our Letters from *Strasbourg* inform us, that the French are likewise drawn together in a Body in *Alsace*, and that they were marched with a great many Carriages towards *Haguenaw*, which place they are demolishing, and, as is said, intend to do the like to *Saverne*. By the way of *France* we have advice from *Spain* that *Don Juan of Austria* was come to *Madrid*, which it was believed would occasion a great change in affairs there.

*Antwerp, Jan. 15.* The Enemy has not only blocked up all our Places in the Province of *Hainault*, but we have likewise advice that they have lately possessed themselves of 3 or 4 Castles in the Neighborhood of *St Omer*, by which means that place is likewise blocked up. We receive advice from all parts, that the French Troops are every where leaving their Winter-quarters, and advancing towards these Countreys, their design in all probability being to take the advantage of an early Campaign, knowing that our Allies cannot be so soon in the Field as they. The French at *Maestricht* being reinforced with the Troops that were in Garrison at *Limborg*, have had a design as we are told upon the City of *Lecuwe*, but did not succeed; and we believe they will be obliged to defer the other enterprises they may have intended, through the suddain thaw, accompanied with much rain, which hath set these Countreys almost under water.

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