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Plymouth, Decemb. 25.

AN *Hamburgher* lately arrived informs us of five French Men of War of 50 and 54 Guns, that ten days since were crossing, and lay then ten Leagues off of *Ouestant*, but were but slenderly manned: Yesterday arrived the *Sancta Maria* of *Newport*, who came out of *Coquette* in company with 60 sail of French Merchants bound for *S. Maloes* and *Hawre de Grace*, another Vessel newly come in advises us of three Capers plying about *Scilly* of 6 or 8 guns apiece, but had not as then met with any booty.

Alborough, Decemb. 26, This morning some sayles being discovered from hence, coming out of the Sea from the North-East, a boat was immediately sent out by us to take an account of them, who going aboard one of them, which proved a *Swede*, returned with this information: That the whole Fleet of Men of War and Merchant ships, amongst whom were some *Swedes*, being in all about 70, set sail together from *Gottenburgh* the 18 or 19 instant, and off the *Sea*, for two daies met with a cross Wind at W. S. W. but then the Wind coming about to E. N. E. blew so hard, that they were obliged to separate and keep at good distance in their return. Seven Men of War and one Fireship are now in view of this place, the Fireship having had the luck in the storm to run aboard a Dutch ship and sunk her, besides these another *Fregat* even now appears out of the North-East, and we suppose the whole Fleet will suddenly arrive, this being the first land they have made since they put out to *Sea*.

Portsmouth, Decemb. 27. Yesterday a private man of War plying off the *Iste of Wight*, sent in hither a supposed prize, but a pretended *Offender*, bound homewards with French-Wines, and this morning Captain *Hogg* of the *Flying Horse* sent in another Vessel with the same lading, pretending to be a *Swede* belonging to *Stockholme*; our ships cruising about these Seas, have so well leured them, that no Enemy has of late shown himself.

Normich, Decemb. 26. The Account of our Bill of Mortality for this last week runs thus, buried of all diseases 21. whereof of the *Plague* 11.

Warsaw, Decemb. 1. The Diet is of late fallen into some disputes, especially about the vacancies, and are resolved to set all other business aside, till they are first disposed of, but more particularly they are concerned for those two greater charges of the Generalship of *Lithuania*, and the Great Chancellorship of *Poland*; the former, vacant by the death of *Sapia*, the latter, by the promotion of the Chancellor to the Archbishoprick of *Gnesnes*; whose *Pallium* for investiture, being not yet come from *Rome*, he seems at present unwilling to part with the Seal, till he be better assured of the *Crozier*; which pleases not the Lower House, and therefore they have pressed, that he speedily declare himself which of the two he resolves to hold, having voted one of them to be void, and to be disposed of before they make any farther progress into other business. While this business was in debate, The *Lands* Ensign of *Bielky* in much zeal minded the Diet of three other vacancies which were very pernicious to the Kingdom, viz. *Fides*, *Veritas*, and *Iustitia*, there being neither Faith, Truth, nor Justice to be found amongst them, particularly instancing about the recompence that was to be given to Prince *Radivil* for his right to *Bar*.

The *Swedes* Envoyé Extraordinary who continues still in this Court, intends (as 'tis said) to give in a Memorial to the Diet, supposed to amount to a complaint of the violation of

the last Treaty in the Articles concerning Religion, the Protestants having been of late severely dealt with, and a Church taken from them at *Torne*, expressly contrary to that Treaty. The Jesuite *Piharsky* in his Sermon this day preached before his Majesty bitterly inveighed against the *Evangelists*, and besought his Majesty not to admit them to any publick employment or trust, giving much vent to his passion, with such expressions as much dissatisfied the *Roman* Catholicks themselves.

The *Cossacks* and *Tartars* are certainly entred into an Alliance, (and 'tis now feared) against the *Poles*, which, if true, will much frustrate the hopes we have hitherto entertained, of regaining *Ukrania* trans *Boristhenem*.

Lubomirsky upon his pilgrimage for *Loreto*, is as yet got no farther than *Breslaw*, where, 'tis said, he intends to make some stop, expecting the issue of the Diet, which we begin to fear, will not conclude so peaceably as was at first imagined.

Ditto, Decemb. 5. The affairs of this place carry not so smooth a face as they did at the beginning of the Diet, which meets every day with new difficulties and contests, that about raising of moneys for the payment of the soldiery and publick debts, being none of the least; and 'tis much doubted, that in this, as well as other particulars, this Assembly may end with little satisfaction to his Majesty. The Elector of *Brandenburgh*, and Duke of *Gurland*, press hard for the money owing to them from this Crown. The greater part of the Nobility are much dissatisfied with the French, who (they suppose) have largely contributed to the disturbances of the Kingdom; and 'tis thought, they will ere long prevail for their banishment, excepting onely such of them as are domestick servants to her Majesty.

Rome, Decemb. 4. His Holiness much concern'd at the censures of the people upon his retirement from Publick business, has (though in his bed) applied himself for their satisfaction, to give Audiences, first to his Ministers and Confidants, and afterwards to Ambassadors and Ministers of Foreign Princes; whose Audiences were but short, but the Cardinal Nephew, by his Holiness's order, has in some measure satisfied them, by his discoursing their affairs more largely with them: The Astrologers who have long amused the people with their vain Predictions of great misfortunes to the Pope in this year 1666. being reproached with the small effects that are yet visible, have to save their reputation given out that the year is not ended till *March*, in which space many events may be expected: His Holiness seems much concerned that his Christian Majesty has so far entred upon that which we here suppose to be the Right of the Church, as to change and alter the ancient Orders so long continued therein, in limiting the ages of such persons as desire to be admitted into Religious Orders, and has thereupon sent to his Nuncio at *Paris*, commanding him to make his complaints to that King, and to declare, that all alterations in the Church belong solely to the Pope, and the Apostolical Chair, and to desire his Majesty to revoke his Edict.

Venice, Decemb. 10. The building of the four Gallions some time since ordered, has been till now deferred, upon consideration of a fit place to build them in, which they would not adventure to do at the *Arsenal*, fearing the Chanel might not be large enough to launch them. A more fit place is now found out, and some few daies will give beginning to this necessary work, the Workmen being already ordered to attend that business; and indeed so great a zeal appears in all persons for the effectual carrying on the War, that we doubt not of setting out as large a Fleet the next Spring as ever this

Republick formerly furnished eleven stout Gallies more, being by that time to be fitted up to carry 12000 Men, the rest of the Fleet to carry the like proportion. Several of our new ships are launched, and some of them fitted up for service, one of them a large Galley, is brought up before *S. Marks*, in which his Excellency *Morofini* intends to embark, and has accordingly commanded his Guns aboard, with all necessaries for service.

The next week the Senate to do honor to the memory of the late Signior *Ballarino*, who by his services has highly merited from this Republick, have given order for his solemn Funerals, which done, his son is to make a publick entry, and take possession of the charge of High Chancellor, vacated by the death of his Father.

The Count *Ciavarina* is making preparations for his speedy journey to *Constantinople*, as Ambassador in the room of the deceased *Ballarino*.

Three French ships are some days since arrived here with a great quantity of pieces of Eight, upon the account of our Marchants: The Duke of *Savoys* Ambassador solicites hard for the calling home of the Marquis *Ville*, whom his Master intends to employ in some service nearer home.

Letters lately arrived from the *Armata*, by the way of *Ortranto* advise us, That the *Turks* having often in vain attempted the succor of *Candia*, by the common and ordinary shipping, have lately effected it by their light Gallies, which by the advantage of their Oars, waiting not for convenient winds, have successfully landed some forces in that Island, these Gallies coming from *Napoli*, a place not far distant from the Visier *Bassa*, occasions a report, That the Visier was in person transported with an Army of 20000 Men; but of this we must expect a farther account. By a Vessel arrived from *Zante*, we are informed, that the Squadron of Ships that some time since sailed hence under the command of *Semitecolo*, have by the way met with cross winds, and are not as yet gotten beyond *Corfu*.

Paris, Decemb. 29. The Sieurs *Renouard* and *Rubentel* having been some time since suspended from their charges, are by his Majesty's favor re-admitted to their commands, as Captains of his Guards: His Majesty has named several persons Commissioners to visit the Towns of *Corbie*, *Roye*, and *Bapaume*, which he designs suddenly to dismantle. We are also informed, that the Sieur de *Bourds*, Governor of *Brissac*, is lately dead of the Plague.

The Government of *Orleans* being lately vacant upon the death of the Marquis de *Sourdiz*, the Mareschal de la *Ferte* petitioned his Majesty, that he would be pleased to give him leave to make an exchange of his Government of *Metz*, for that other lately fallen of *Orleans*, the Duchy he possesses lying within the bounds of the said Government, but his Majesty could not gratifie the Mareschal in his desires, having already disposed of it to the young Marquis, son to the deceased.

'Tis said, that he has conferred the Government of *Amboise*, which also belonged to the late Marquis de *Sourdiz*, upon *Madamoiselle de la Valliere*.

His Majesty is sending some Companies of Foot to *Madagascar*, and 'tis said others will be speedily ordered for the Plantations in *America*.

Edenburgh, Decemb. 22. This day were executed six of the ten Rebels that were sentenced by the Justice on Tuesday last, viz. Mr. *Hugh Mackel*, one of their Ministers, a prime Incendiary, *Humphrey Colgwen*, *Mungo Karpe*, *Ralph Sheil*, *Jo. Wadrop*, and *Jo. Wilson*. The Council being pleased to exempt them from dismembring; the other four, *Tho. Lennox*, *Jo. Lindsey*, *Will. Pedant*, and *Robert Maximilian*, are relieved.

We are assured from *Dublin*, that upon the first news of the breaking out of this late Rebellion, Sir *George Hamilton*, Sir *Arthur Forbes*, *Richard Murrey* of *Broughton* Esquire, and nine other eminent Scotch Gentlemen living in *Ireland*, out of their deep sense of Loyalty to their Prince, and hearty concernment for their Country, were resolved each of them to have raised a Troop of Horse upon their own expences, and to have transported themselves for His Majesty's service, into

their own Country, to have assisted against the Rebels, but were happily prevented in their intentions by the welcome news of their defeat.

Cowes, Decemb. 28. On the 23d instant Captain *Heggs* in the *Flying-Horse*, sailing hence, the next morning hailed a *Dantzicker* bound with Salt for *Osterd*, and afterwards gave chase to three others to the Southwards, where twenty Sail coming down the Channel upon him, he adventured to stand within shot of them, whose Colours discovering them to be Dutch, he was forced to fall off, being chased by them within a league of the *Casquets*, where they left him within shot, and passed by him; that night he took one of their Fleet, being a Galliot Hoy of *Flushing* bound for *Bourdeaux*; the Fleet consisting of several Merchant ships, convoyed by four States Men of War, from twenty four to thirty six Guns.

From aboard the *Warrespight*, towards the Coast of *Holland*, Decemb. 26. The eighteenth instant, the whole fleet of Men of War and Merchants came out from *Gottenburgh*, and the same night off the *Scaw*, the wind taking us short, made us apprehend some danger in that place; but the care that was generally taken, prevented all inconveniencies: The next morning, being all together, it was thought fit to bear up for *Malstrand*, whereupon our approach, the weather growing very thick, with much Snow and Wind, the Men of War came to an Anchor: About two of the clock, we thought fit to bear away together, but ill weather again taking us, we stood over to the *Fatland* coast, where the storm growing greater, we could not lie by, but bore away for our own coast, and by its continuance all that night, we were forced to separate.

The 21 being more moderate, we lay by for twelve hours, attending the ships that were at *Stein*, of whom, we made up 18 sail, and by them being informed that the rest of the fleet were on head of us, we bore away after them.

The 25 instant coming past the *Texel*, we discovered five sail of *Hollands* Men of War standing to us; whereupon we fitted our selves to receive them, as did also the other ships in our company, viz. The *Fersey*, *Diamond*, *St. Patrick*, *Nightingale*, and *Oxford*, we then bore upon them, and our ship being a head, gave to one of the enemy a weather-broad-side, and then bore down upon the Admiral, and two others with our lower tire out; which so well shook them, that to get from us, the Admiral ran aboard one of his companions; our other ships likewise so well plied them, that in a short time we took three of them, whereof the Admiral was one; *John Bondt* Commander, of 38 Guns and 180 Men, call'd the *Cleane Harder*, her Masts being shot by the Board, we were forced afterwards to burn her, having first taken out the Men: the two others taken, were the *Leyden*, *Faan Blackenbergh* Captain, and the *Tatch Eccles* Captain *Vanberg* Commander, each of them of 36 Guns, and 140 and 146 Men, all three of them having lost in the fight about fifty men apiece. The other two Vessels endeavored to save themselves by flight, but were chased by two of our Fregats, which continued within night, but with what success we yet know not. We lost (God be praised) but few men in this encounter, and are still in a good condition for further service, the greatest hurt we received, being in our Sails and Rigging.

Alborough, Decemb. 28. On the 26 in the Evening, five more of our *Gottenburgh* fleet appeared, and yesterday in the morning nine others, all of them standing in to the *Gunfleet* and *Harwich*.

This afternoon the *Diamond* coming in to this Bay, made a Waife for a Pilot, which was immediately sent him, by whom we are informed of the encounter with five Dutch that came from the *Texel*, and the taking of three of them. They tell us farther, that two Scotch Privateers have lately taken a lusty *Danes* Man of War about the *Scaw*, and saw the wrecks of two others that have been there cast away; of which, we expect a farther account.

Above 35 Sail more of the *Gottenburghers* have these light nights been seen passing by; and even now, a great ship is seen sailing to the Southward, supposed to be the *Warrespight*.