

the whole Imperial Army would begin to march by the middle of the next month. On Tuesday last in the afternoon arrived here the Sieur *Bevilacqua*, the Popes Nuncio. The Duke of *Newburgs* Troops, which have had their Winter-quarters in the Country of *Berg*, have passed the *Rhine*, and are gone into Garison in *Duren*, *Hinsberg*, *Caster*, and other small places in the Dutchy of *Fuliers*. Yesterday we had Letters from *Ham*, which said that the Elector of *Brandenburg* purposed to be at *Wesel* in seven or eight days; and that he had caused three Regiments to march, who are to pass the *Rhine* at *Wesel*, to join the other Troops designed for the brideling the Garison of *Maestricht*.

*Hague*, March 30. We are told that the States of *Holland* have finally agreed to the Project framed by the Deputies of the respective Admiralties concerning the equipping of 15 Men of War to be employed this Summer in the *Baltick*, in conjunction with the ships fitted out by the King of *Denmark*; and that *Don Emanuel de Lyra*, the Spanish Minister, has by a Memorial to the States, desired them to grant a certain number of Passes to be made use of by such French Vessels, as are named by him, being designed to transport Salt from *France* to *Gulicia*, and that these Passes may continue in force ten or twelve months, to which, it's believed the States will consent. The Letters which arrive this morning from *Brussels*, and other parts say, that *St Omer* was not besieged, as had been given out, and that it was the general opinion it would not, until the siege of *Cambray* was finished, of which these Letters can give no account, farther than that according to the report of the Country people, who had been in the French Camp, the Trenches were to be opened on Saturday or Sunday last. From *Nimeguen* they write, that the Sieur *Christin*, the third Ambassador from *Spain* was arrived there, and had appeared in publick. That the Sieur *Somnitz*, the *Brandenburg* Ambassador, who had been to attend his Electoral Highness at *Ham*, was come back to *Nimeguen*. The Prince of *Orange*, according to our last advice, was still at *Breda*, using all possible diligence to have all his Troops transported into *Flanders*; his Highness will have a brave Army this Campagne, consisting, as is said, in near 40000 men; besides which, the Emperor will send a Body of 8 or 10000 men, to the assistance of the Spanish Netherlands, under the command of the Marquis de *Grani*, which, together with the Spanish Troops, and those of *Osnabrug*, will form an Army apart.

*Tournay*, March 23. In my last I advised you of the taking of *Valenciennes*, and at present I am to tell you that *Cambray* is besieged, that the place was invested the 19 instant, and that the King is there in person. The Duke of *Orleans* commands a separate Army, and will, as is said with it besiege *St Omer*, though as yet we do not hear that he has begun it, but that in the mean time it is closely blocked up.

*Brussels*, March 30. We have here a very imperfect account of what passes before *Cambray*, all we know being from Couriers and Country people, who pass that way; they tell us that the Trenches were intended to be opened on Sunday night, and that the Besiegers had not yet made any use of their Cannon and Bombes. The news we had two or three days since of the Siege of *St Omer* proves a mistake, for we have Letters from thence of the 26th instant, which say, that they had indeed expected to be besieged when they saw on the 22 several French Troops arrive, and that on the 24th the Duke of *Orleans* likewise arrived with 12 or 13000 men more, but that after all, the Enemies design at present seemed

only to keep the Town blocked up. On Sunday last the Count de *Raete*, our *Maitre de Camp* General, was sent by the Duke de *Villa Hermosa* our Governor, to *Breda*, to adjust some matters with the Prince of *Orange*, who continued there till all the Troops that are to compose his Army are passed towards *Flanders*; and, we are told, that his Highness purposes to take a turn to *Wesel* before he comes hither, if the Elector of *Brandenburg* in disposition will permit him to repair hither, to concert the operations of the Campagne. The Count de *Waldeck* is in the mean time in *Flanders*, with 22 Regiments of Foot, and 12 Regiments of Horse, the first are quartered between *Ghent* and *Bruges*, and the latter in the Country of *Waes*, at which those Inhabitants are much dissatisfied. We are assured that the Princes whole Army this Campagne will consist in 53 Regiments of Foot, and 22 Regiments of Horse, and 1800 Dragoons, of which 5 Regiments are in conjunction with some *Brandenburg* and *Neuburg* Troops, who have their station near *Rurmond*, for the keeping in the Garison of *Maestricht*. The Baron de *Platen*, Marechal of the Bishop of *Osnabrug* is come hither, to demand the payment of the arrears due to his Master. The Duke of *Lorrain*, has, we are informed, written to our Governor to give him part of the conclusion of the marriage between him and the Queen Dowager of *Poland*, the Emperors sister. On Saturday arrived our Spanish Ordinary, and brought Bills of Exchange for 300000 Crowns, with an assurance, that further Sums shall be remitted hither by the next Ordinaries. The Letters tell us, that the Queen had left *Madrid*, and was retired to *Toledo*, where her Majesty would constantly reside.

*Antwerp*, March 31. Part of the Prince of *Orange's* Army lies at present quartered between *Ghent* and *Bruges*, where the remaining Troops will likewise arrive in a few days. We are assured that if *St Omer* had been besieged by the Duke of *Orleans*, as the report some days since was, that the Count de *Waldeck*, who commands these Forces, would have immediately marched to the relief of it, but what will be at present undertaken we are to learn. The States of the Countrey of *Waes* are much discontented that several of the said Dutch Troops are quartered upon them, and have made their complaint to the Duke de *Villa Hermosa*, who has sent the Count de *Raete* to the Prince of *Orange*, to desire his Highness among other things, to recall those Troops out of the said Countrey. The French, we hear, pretend to be Masters of *Cambray* before Easter, but that time will show, the Governor of the place *Don Pedro d'Avala* has the reputation of a brave Soldier, and an experienced Officer.

*Paris*, March 31. We have Letters from the Camp before *Cambrey*, dated the 29 instant, which inform us, that the Lines of Contravallation and Circumvallation were quite finished; that the Cannon was arrived, and several Batteries prepared; That on Saturday night last, being the 27, the Trenches were opened, and carried on very far that night, without the loss of one man; That the next day some were killed in the Camp by the Cannon of the Town, of which the Besiegers proposed to be Masters in 5 or 6 days, and of the Citadel in 12 or 14. Some days since we had an account, that *St Omer* was likewise besieged by the Duke of *Orleans*, but at present we understand that that siege is deferred till his Highness receives farther orders from the King, but in the mean time continues with the Army under his command near the place, and keeps it blocked up. The Enemy we hear are drawing together in *Flanders* between *Ghent* and *Bruges*, but what their design is we are yet to learn. From *Germany* they write, that a detachment of three Companies had been made out of each Imperial Regiment, to form a flying Army, which marched under the command of the Duke of *Lorrain* towards the 24. ult.