

the *Sambre* and the *Meuse*; will be able to hinder the arrivall of our Convoys from *Namur*; and, it is much feared, will endeavor to force our Lines, which are very large, by reason of the Mountains on the one side, and the River on the other, as also the great Inundation the Garison hath made; which makes our quarters so much separated, that they cannot suddenly relieve each other. What measures our Generals will take upon the near approach of this Enemy is hard to judge as what will be the success of the Enterprize, the place being one of the most regular Fortifications, and the best in these Provinces. Besides which, the rainy season will much retard the Siege, the ground about the place being very spongy in wet weather. We have nothing of consequence from *Mousson*, both Armies continuing near each other on the other side of the *Meuse*, and the *Marschal de Schomberg* on this side with 26 Squadrons and some Infantry as well to oppose the incursions of the Imperialists into *Champagne* as to hinder their Foragers, which, considering the Duke of *Lorraine* has no Convoys nearer than *Treves* and *Luxembourg*, will, it is feared, reduce him suddenly to great straits for Provisions for his Army. There pass skirmishes daily between both Armies; in one of the last, *Baron de Mallowitz* of the Imperialists was killed; *Count Strum* had his Leg broke with a Musket shot, and the *Count de Linville* shot through the knee. On the side of the French some Officers were taken prisoners, and several persons of quality killed. The Armies in *Alsacia* continue in the same posture; the Duke of *Saxen-Eysenach's* indisposition, which is returned upon him, having hindered him from undertaking any action against the French.

*Ditto*. Yesterday parted hence a Convoy of 3000 Wagons (of which 400 were laden with Powder) 40 pieces of Cannon, and 6 Mortar pieces, for the Camp, under the command of Lieutenant-General *Agourto*. To morrow the Trenches before *Charleroy* will be opened.

*Ditto*, Aug. 17. On Saturday in the evening we received the surprizing News of the raising of the Siege before *Charleroy*, occasioned by the slow march, and many halts made by those who were to cover it, who coming not timely enough to prevent the Enemies taking so near and advantageous a Post, on the other side of the *Sambre*, with an Army of near 40000 men, and it being judged impossible to continue the Siege without first forcing them to retire from thence, a Council of War was called, to consider what measures were fittest to take. In the interim his Highness the Prince of *Orange* sent orders to stop the great Cannons and Mortars (sent hence by the last Convoy) till the result of the Council was known. After a warm debate of six hours, the Generals being much divided in their Judgements, whether to raise or continue the Siege; it was at last resolved that the Army should draw off which was accordingly done on Saturday morning to *Fleurus* Abby, from whence his Highness removed to *Sombrefe*, and his Excellency the Duke of *Villa Hermosa* to *St. Amand*, half a League from *Fleurus*. It is impossible to relate the consternation of these people for the ill fortune and miscarriage of this design, and their indignation against all those who were any way concerned in the management of it; yesterday the Burghers in a rude manner stopped the Prince of *Vaudemont* at the Port, treating him besides with very ill language. It is said this march to *Charleroy* hath cost the King of *Spain* Three Millions of Florins, the payment of the Pioneers and Wagons only amounting to Thirty thousand

Florins a day. On Sunday some of our Cannon and Mortars came hither with a Convoy of 1000 Horse and Dragoons, commanded by the Count de *Schellard*, who returns again to morrow to bring away the rest of the Cannon, which remain at *Genap*, where the Count de *Horn* is encamped with them. This day his Highness's Army went to forage, and had orders to make provisions for four days. The French Army continues posted on the other side of the *Sambre*, and the Duke of *Luxembourg* having lately sent a considerable detachment from it to the *Marschal de Crequi*, we begin to be in some pain for the Duke of *Lorraine*, who is at present in *Mousson*, and fear this miscarriage will also have a fatal influence upon his Army; and, it is said, a great detachment will be suddenly sent to his assistance. This afternoon we have advice, that a Body of Horse and Dragoons are marching towards the Canal from *Arth*, and those parts; their design is supposed to be upon the *Billanders* which brought the Cannon from *Holland*.

*Buges*, Aug. 14. The 12 instant the *Marquis d'Offersa* returned from *Ipres*; the Force, under his command lie still encamped under the Cannon of this place, being not at all encircled since our last. We are in great trouble for our Flemish Fleet, consisting of four Merchantmen, and one Man of War of 48 Guns, which though it departed above seven weeks ago from *Spain*, is not yet arrived at *Offend*.

*Versailles*, Aug. 16. This morning his Majesty received Letters of the 14, from *Monieur de Louvois*, with advice of the Confederates having quitted the Siege of *Charleroy*, their Baggage and Cavalry being actually marched away; that at the same time the Duke of *Luxembourg* marched towards *Fleurus*, and that the *Marschal d'Humieres* had possessed himself of *Nivolle*, with the Body of an Army he had lately drawn together.

*Paris*, Aug. 18. The great News here is, that the Confederates have raised the Siege of *Charleroy*, not being able to subsist. It is said they are marched towards the *Meuse*, and the Deserters report they will besiege *Muesricht*, but to this little credit is given, and the Campaign is lookt upon as in a manner ended with so much honour and advantage to this Crown. The 12 instant the *Marschal de Crequi* was at *Stenay*, and the Imperialists at *Mousson*, much weakened since they came into the Field, by sickness, desertion, and the frequent skirmishes they have had with the French.

#### Advertisements.

About 14 days ago, was found in the way betwixt *Islington* and *London* at the *Post-house*, a small Picture set in Gold; the true Owner may hear of it at *Mr. Tho. Townleys* Goldsmith in *Lumard-street*.

These are to notify to all Persons, Owners, or Traders, for any English Oak, Timber, or Plank, or for the like, or any other Naval Provisions or Materials, whether of English or Foreign Growth, employed in the Building and Equipping of Ships of War; such as Pitch, Tarr, Rozen, Hemp, Masts, Firr-Timber, Deales, Sail-Cloth, Oaken-Standards, Knees, or Plank, &c. That the principal Officers and Commissioners of his Majesties Navy, sitting at the Office of the Navy in *Mark lane*, *London*, are and will upon Wednesday and Friday in every Week, be ready to receive any Tenders in writing that shall be made them of any of the said Provisions or Materials (and more especially for Oaken Timber, Standards, Knees or Plank) and to Treat and Contract with the Tenderers thereof, at the reasonable market Rates, given for the said Goods respectively, and upon terms of payment to be punctually made them out of the Monies arising upon the late Act for raising the Sum of Five hundred eighty four thousand nine hundred seventy eight pound two shillings two pence half-penny; for the speedy Building thirty Ships of War; and according to the course of payment provided for in the said Act.