

The London Gazette.

Established by Authority.

From Monday July 15. to Thursday July 18. 1678.

From the Imperial Camp near Oberweiler, July 9.

THE sixth instant Count Staremberg had a brisk Encounter with the Enemy; he had drawn out of Rhinfeldt three Battalions of the Regiments of Souches, Mansfelt, and Portia, and some Regiments of Horse, with four pieces of Cannon, with which he encamped near the Town: of which the Marechal de Crequi having advice, he caused part of his Army to march in the night, in order to the attacking the said Troops, which was begun with his Dragoons; the Fight was very furious near our Intrenchments, till such time as all the Enemies Infantry falling upon us, we were forced to yield them the Field, and so retire to our Bridge; the Enemy pressed so furiously upon us, that they passed pell-mell with us into the Gates of the Town; but the Dragoons of Lorraine, and the Imperial Foot having rallied, and being reinforced with some fresh Troops, we with great difficulty repulsed the Enemy, and set fire to the Bridge behind us, the Baron de Mercy behaving himself very bravely on this occasion. The Enemy lost a great many men as well in the heat of the Fight, as in their retreat; and we have an account of 73 Wagons that were sent with wounded Men to Balle, among which is the Son of the Marechal de Crequi. We do not miss above 1000 Men; Count Portia, his Lieutenant-Colonel, Prince Charles of Baden, his Lieutenant-Colonel, the Baron de Heister, Captain Pertagnas, and Captain Scheez, are killed or drowned Major Godelinsky, the Governor of Rhinfelt, Monsieur Tredler, Captain Schellinbow, and General Staremberg, are wounded; Colonel Roche, and Captain Capomerca, are wounded and prisoners. In the heat of the fight on the Bridge, many on both sides were pressed into the Rhine, and others leaped into it to save themselves from being burnt, and few of the Enemy that came upon the Bridge escaped. We lost two small Field-pieces, and miss four Colours. Since this action the Enemy hath taken Seckingen, which was burnt, and is now encamped near Rhinfelt, and have begun to batter the place with their Cannon and Bombes. We have sent our Baggage by the way of the Mountains to Rhinfelt, and to morrow we decamp and shall march directly to the Enemy.

Strasbourg, July 12. We have this following Relation from a Person of Quality in the Imperial Army, of the Fight between the Germans and the French near Rhinfelt, July 6. 1678.

THE French understanding that the Count de Staremberg commanded a Body of about 6000 men, and that he was encamped with them on this side the Rhine, near the Bridge of Rhinfelt, resolved to attack them; and accordingly the 6th instant the Marechal de Crequi marched with part of his Army from his Camp at Neuburg; the Germans, who thought this had been onely a small detached Body, resolved to keep their ground, and to expect them, and began to skirmish with the French Vanguard, whom they put in to disorder, and pursued till within half a League of their Camp, when they understood that the Marechal de Crequi was ad-

vancing with 8 or 10000 men to protect the said Vanguard; whereupon the German Foot, which consisted in 3 or 4 Battalions, posted themselves in the Vineyards, to hinder the passage of the French, and so give leisure to their Horse to retire, where they did all that could be expected from them; but after two or three hours dispute, they were attacked from behind by the French Dragoons; and the greatest part of them cut in pieces or taken prisoners. The Marechal de Crequi having the passage open, caused his Troops to advance with orders to attack those that were retired toward the Bridge, and having beaten them, to enter pell-mell into the Town; but the Germans and the Lorrainers defended themselves so well, that after a Fight of an hour, or an hour and half on the Bridge, which they set fire to, the Marechal de Crequi was obliged to withdraw his Troops. It is true that the Germans have lost a great many men, and several Officers of Note, and among others Prince Charles of Baden, Count Portia and his Major, the Lieutenant-Colonel of Souches, and the Major of Mansfelt; but the French's loss is rather more than less, and we are told that they have a great many Officers killed and wounded; and their Dragoons of the King and the Queen were entirely defeated. The Germans have not lost any Cannon or Colours as was at first said.

Cologne, July 19 The Marechal de Schomberg having sent a detachment of 4000 Horse to the Duke of Luxembourg, is retired towards the Meuse, and the Confederate Troops, who together make 15 or 16000 men, follow him.

Brussels, July 19. Yesterday we received Letters from Germany, which gave us an account of the action that passed the 6th instant between the French and the Germans near Rhinfeldt, that the Imperialists being over-powered after a sharp dispute, were forced to retire towards the Bridge, which they passed; but the Enemy pressed so hard upon them, that they would certainly have entered the Town with them, had not the Baron de Mercy with great bravery defended the Bridge, till he had set fire to it; by which means most of those that were then upon the Bridge, were forced to save themselves from the Flames, by leaping into the Water, where many as well French as Germans were drowned, and of the latter, Prince Charles of Baden. The Imperialists lost 2 or 3 small Field-pieces, and 3 or 4 Colours, and it is reckoned that there were near 2000 men killed on both sides, and between 3 or 400 were taken prisoners by the French. Immediately after this Engagement the Marechal de Crequi sent a detachment under the command of the Marquis de Choiseul to take Seckingen, one of the forest Towns, which they did, and put a Garison into it, but the place by accident was burnt. The Letters add, that the Marechal de Crequi had posted himself with his whole Army near Rhinfeldt, in order to the attacking it; that Count Staremberg and the Baron de Mercy were in the place with 2 or 3000 men, and that the Duke of Lorraine was marching with his whole Army to relieve it. This day we have Letters from Lille and Gaunt, which tell us of a second action between a Body of a French and Germans, and that the former were worsted and sustained great loss. The Marechal de Schomberg has repassed the Meuse below Maestricht, and was encamped the 16 instant at Reckem, intending as is said to take his march towards Mons. The Duke of Villa Hermosa has Letters from Monsieur Chauvot, giving