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Falmouth, Febr. 20.

THe sixteenth instant, a *Barbadoes* Vessel belonging to *Southampton*, was off the Lands end set upon by two French Pickaroons, one of eight, the other of twelve Guns; with whom she fought with much resolution, till ten of her twenty six men which she had aboard her, being killed, and several others hurt, she was at the last taken, thirteen of her men being afterwards put on shore at the Lands end, but the Master and two others carried away with the Vessel.

Warsaw, Febr. 13. This Court having nominated their Ambassadors and Eivoyés to the several Princes of Christendom to implore their Assistance against the Common Enemy, one of them is designed for the Court of *Sweden*, with whom we have now a right understanding. We are in great apprehensions of the preparations and threats of our Enemies, the Grand Signior much encouraging the Cossacks and Tartars, and 'tis said is raising an Army of 20000. men to assist them in their next Summers Expedition.

The Cossacks in *Ukrania* are divided into several Factions, one party still continuing firm in their obedience to this Crown, another party declaring for the *Muskovites*; and a third for the Tartars.

Lithuania, *Wolonia*, and *Rolafsché*, lie at the present most subject to the incursions of the Enemy; but such care is taken for the uniting the Forces of the Neighboring Countreys, that whatsoever part shall be invaded, all the rest may be ready in a Body to assist them.

An Assembly will be suddenly called to consider seriously of the dangerous posture of the Affairs of this Kingdom, and 'tis much hoped they will be easily induced for the future to lay aside all Animosities and Disputes, and take into their thoughts the Publick Concernments of the whole Kingdom.

From *Moskow* we are informed that there is in that City a great Convention of the Prelates of the *Gracian* Church, amongst whom are two Patriarchs, viz. *Priscus* of *Alexandria*, and *Macarius* of *Antioch*; the Patriarch of *Constantinople* having in his place substituted *Ligariidius* the Metropolitan of *Moskow*, who is accepted of in his absence. The Occasions of this Synod, are thought to be principally the Differences and Novelties that have of late years crept into the *Moscovian* Church; and the exorbitant actions of *Nican*, the great Patriarch of *Russia*, whose removal 'tis believed will be endeavoured by this Convention. But he is seeing the form, has sheltered himself in a strong Cloister, called *Jerusalem*, about twelve miles distance from *Moskow*, where he is attended by several Polish Jesuits, and experienced Captains, from whom 'tis feared there may arise some tumults and disturbances; the consideration whereof has been a principal motive to incline the Grand Czar to the more speedy conclusion of a Peace with the Poles.

Zurick, Febr. 15. These Countreys as well as our Neighbors, are sollicit to contribute their assistance to the *Venetians*, for the defence of *Candia*; where the vigorous proceedings of the *Turks* have given a strong allarm to the Princes of Europe, especially those of *Italy*, to take some effectual course to prevent the nearer approach of so powerful an enemy. *Maltha*, *Sicily*, *Naples*, *Rome*, and *Florence*, are fitting up their Gallies for their assistance, and if the *Turks* make any farther progress into *Dalmatia*, both this Countrey and *Berne*, will be induced to lend their assistance, and

supply them with some Companies to be employed there.

The Cantons intend in short time to assemble themselves at *Baden*, where several points will fall under their consideration, as

First, To find out some expedient to obtain the arrears due to them from the Crown of *France*.

Secondly, To put the Frontiers of their Countrey into a posture of defence, by reinforcing *Constance*, and other Towns of concernment.

Thirdly, To regulate several abuses crept into their Courts of Justice, and to reform some Errors in the publick exercise of Religion.

Much hurt has been lately done by the Snow, particularly in the Vally of *Sina* in the Cantons, where three Villages have been covered with Snow, by the violence of the Winds blown upon them, under which, above 100 persons perished, with a great number of Cattle. And in the *Grisons* near *Gampoblia*, so great a quantity of Snow was blown into the River, that the current being stoppt, so sudden an Inundation immediately followed, that several houses were ruined, eight persons drowned, with some thousands of Cattle.

The Duke of *Savoy* has ordered all his Boats to be fitted up, which with the forces ordered to march towards *Geneva*, has much allarm'd the City, where they continue their Fortifications with much labor and expence, little hopes as yet appearing of the composition of their differences.

Venice, Febr. 20. Notwithstanding several reports spread abroad of a close siege laid to the City of *Candia*, our late Letters advise us to the contrary; the Chief Vicer continuing still at *Retimo*, making all the necessary provisions imaginable, in pursuance of his design; and had employed onely several of his Officers to make their approaches to the City, to take a view of its Fortifications, and to inform him in what places he might most advantagiously raise his Batteries to annoy the besieged.

The Marquis *Ville* gives great encouragement to the Garrison, which is well stored with all necessaries to endure a long siege, and many stout Soldiers well resolved to hazard their lives in its defence.

The Soldiers taken in from the Gallies, are daily employed in the new Fortifications, which are very strongly built, to hinder the near approach of the enemy; and care is taken for the removal of all combustible matter out of the Houses, to avoid the danger of their Morter-pieces, which are much threatened by the enemy, on whose execution they seem much to relie.

Vienna, Febr. 25. A Courier is dispatched from this Court into *Silesia*, with Letters to the Count *de Nostitz*, the same Courier being ordered after the delivery of them, to go forwards into *Poland*, to inform his Majesty of the good intentions of the Empeour; for the preservation of the interests of that Crown.

The *Swedes* (as 'tis given out) have lately offered their assistance to the Poles, which we hope they really intend, however, the Council of War here, has judged it convenient to order the speedy march of some Troops into *Silesia*, to prevent any inconveniences that may happen.

Our late Advices tell us that the Grand Signior has given Order to the Prime Vicer, to draw together an Army of 120000. men, to be employed in this next Summers Service, principally to assist the *Cossacks* and *Tartars* in their designs upon *Poland*.

The Ambassador from *Tartary*, that has been long expected, is not yet arrived; but Order is taken for his Entertainment,

testament, and the defraying of all his Expences in his way
hither.

The *Palatine of Hungary* continues still much indisposed, and has some intentions to resign up that Charge, which he finds is grown too weighty for the weak state of his body. The Estates of the Kingdom are assembled at *Neufchat*, where they are debating their Grievances, the result whereof will be in short time communicated to this Court.

The Empress, in testimony of her Devotion and Zeal to her Religion, has made a Present to the Church of the *Augustins*, dedicated to *St. Apollonia*, of a Massive Cross of Gold, of a very considerable value.

Letters of the 18th. from *Hildesheim* inform us of the continuance of the Assembly there; whose Consultations are very privately carried on, nor without giving occasion of Jealousie to *France*, and *Sweden* of an Alliance between both the Circles of *Saxony*, by whom a strong Body of men are to be constantly kept on foot, to be ready for their defence upon all Emergencies.

The Bishop of *Manster* is at present at *Corvey*, where have met the Ambassadors from *Brandenburgh*, *Brunswick*, *Lunenburgh*, and *Holland*, to consult about their Common Interests in this Juncture of Affairs.

From *Breslaw*, they confirm to us the death of *Lubomirski*, by which the interest of the Confederates is like to be much weakened; he having a little before his death expressly commanded his Son, and all his near Relations, not at all to interest themselves for the future in the Affairs of the King or Confederates; but to use their Endeavours to preserve the peace of their Country, and to unite themselves in its defence in this time of Common Danger and Calamity.

The Count de *Nostray*, Commissioner from His Imperial Majesty, has changed his resolution of returning home, being by late Orders obliged to continue his Residence here.

Notwithstanding the great defection of the *Cossacks*, 7. or 8000. still continue firm in their Obedience to the Crown of *Poland*, which being joyn'd with the other Forces preparing for the defence of the Kingdom, and the Troops promised them from Foreign Princes, may be able to look the Enemy in the face, and render the Conquest of the Country more difficult than they are willing to imagine.

Hamburg, Febr. 19. The Field-Heer *Wrangle* being returned hither, several Noble Persons are also arrived, who are to be concern'd either as Actors or Spectators of the Great Ballet intended by the Queen *Christina*.

The Sieur *Isbrandt* is some days since passed by in his return from *Sweden* to *Holland*; having been much hinder'd in his passage by the Ice and Snow.

The *Swedes* Forces keep still in their Quarters, but some Discourses there is of their intended removal.

The Duke of *Lunenburgh* have called an Assembly of the States at *Zelle*, to consult of fit wayes and methods for raising moneys for the maintenance of the Forces they are oblig'd to keep on foot, to attend the motion of their Neighbours.

Paris, March 5. On Monday last his Majesty sat three times in Council, in the first debating several matters in order to the Government, and the Regulation of Justice. The second was a Council of War; and the third, to which were called onely Messieurs *Colbert*, *le Tellier* and *de Lionne*, sat from five in the Evening till eleven, where the Affairs with Foreign Princes fell under their consideration, occasioned, as tis said, by some news that day brought from *Holland*.

Tis confidently said, that his Majesty has refused to assist the Republick of *Venice*, in their defence of *Candia* against the *Turks*; being resolv'd to preserve the ancient Alliance with the Grand Seigneur, which has received some interruption by the Succors formerly sent to the Emperor in *Hungary*.

Monsieur *Colbert* came on Wednesday last to assist in the

Assembly at the Chancellors, where they have made a considerable progress into the *Code Louis*, whereof they have reviewed and ratified sixty Articles; and tis believed, two or three meetings more will perfect that work, onely three Articles remain under dispute, which they seem unwilling to verify; as being repugnant, and wholly opposite to their Authority.

A Courier is lately arriv'd from *Rome*, with his Holiness's order to his Nuncio, commanding him to declare to his Majesty, that it was not in his power to make any alterations touching the Vows of Religious persons, nor in the power of the Archbishop of *Paris* to alter the Holidays that have been established by the Councils of the Church, and observed by the Catholick Church, and as to the affairs of the *Jansenists*, his Holiness would nominate onely three Bishops whom he would empower to examine the dissenters, and not twelve as was desired by his Majesty.

We are also told, that his Holiness will not be induc'd to part with *Castro*, or accept 700000 Crowns, being half the sum for which that Duchy is engag'd; although our Ambassador to whom the Duke of *Parma* has transmitted that sum, uses his utmost endeavor to perswade his Holiness to receive it.

The Estates of *Languedoc* are willing to augment the sums offered to his Majesty as their free gift to 1400000 Livres; and to pay more over 800000 Crowns towards the great work of cutting a Channel through their Country, upon condition, that no farther enquiry may be made into the Nobility of that Province; which the Commissioners seem unwilling should be accepted, having some interests of their own in that affair.

We are confidently told, that his Majesty intends about the twentieth of this Moneth, to go towards *Chaalons*, intending to take a view of all his Garrisons in *Artois*, *Champagne*, and other places on the Frontiers; from whence he intends for *Bresl*, to take an account of his Naval forces.

The *Spaniards* continue their preparations in *Flanders*, whither they have already transported 2000 *Spaniards*, and as many *Italian* Soldiers, and expect a Recruit of 8000 *Germans*.

The 28 past, their Majesties returned from *Versailles* to *St. Germain en Laye*, much satisfied with the Divertisements of the Carneval, which continued a whole week; during which time, Twenty Tables were constantly kept for the entertainment of all persons of quality.

The Master of the Horse to her Majesty, has lately received his dispatches, and is gone for *Madrid*, about some affairs of much privacy.

His Majesty has commanded the Count de *Guiche* with all speed to leave *Holland*, where he has for some time continued, and to return into *Poland*, who is accordingly preparing for his journey, but has by the Marshal his Father, petitioned his Majesty to give him leave first to see his Lady, which is granted him, and the place for their meeting appointed at *Dunkirk*.

Hull, Febr. 22. The 19th. instant, a Fleet of *London* Colliers, passing to the South-wards, were off *Flamborough* Head, met by a *Holland* Man of War of 50. Guns and 300. men; with whom the *Pearl*, which was one of their Convoy, being a *Fregat* of 26. Guns, coming up about eleven in the Morning, engag'd him very stoutly for several hours, the weather being so very calm, that none of her company could come to her assistance, till Night approaching, and the *Little Victory* showing her self, the *Hollander* grown weary of the Fight, made away with all the sail he could, with the loss of many of his men, and considerable damage received in his Vessel. The *Pearl*, after a little chace given to the Enemy, returned to his Charge, having in the Fight lost his Boat-swain and one man more, and several others wounded.

Weymouth, Febr. 25. Yesterday a small *French* Capr was observed to cruise the most part of the day, between *Portland* and the Isle of *Wight*, but meeting with no prize, made off again to Sea.