

lieve that they are in earnest; for the Preparations they are making, do plainly demonstrate, that they have some great enterprize in hand. We on our sides do in the mean time all we can to provide for our security, and the Duke of Lorraine has assured us, that he will be at hand to assist us, when ever there is need of it; his Highness is at present at *Gunfberg*, with his Queen; and the Imperial Troops are every where in their Winter-quarters.

*Cologne, Dec. 27.* The French are drawing their Troops together, in order, as is generally believed, to the attacking the City of *Juliers*; which puts us into so great an anxiety here, that besides the Troops we have rais'd at our own charge, our Magistrates are going to call the *Lunenburgh*, and other Troops of the Allies to their assistance, (which they would not do but on the last necessity) for we receive Advancements from all hands, that after *Juliers*, it will be our turn, and this we are confirm'd in, by their having poss'd themselves of so many important Posts in our Neighbourhood.

*Lige, Dec. 22.* This City has wholly accommodated matters with the French, so our fears are in some measure over, at least for the present. The French have forced the Spaniards that were quartered at *St. Tron*, and other places in this Country, to quit them, and have put 700 Men into *St. Tron*; and we are told that they are marching towards *Hasselt*, to oblige the Dutch Troops to retire from thence.

*Antwerp, Dec. 29.* The French, as we understand by Persons come from *Ghent*, *Aech*, &c. are preparing to quit those Places, pursuant to the Treaty of Peace between the two Crowns, which was published yesterday at *Lille*; but from *Brussels* we have advice, that they demand a very great Sum of the Inhabitants of these Countries, for Arrears of Contributions, and that the Duke de *Villa Hermosa* had sent a Person of Quality to *Lille*, to adjust this matter with the Marechal d' *Humieres*, as also to appoint the day for the evacuating the places.

*Nimeguen, Dec. 28.* The French having given in a Project of Articles for a Peace between the King their Master and the Emperor, and the Imperialists having returned a contra Project, upon which Commissioners have been dispatch'd to their respective Courts, we are now expecting the return of them, with the resolutions of those Princes upon them. In the mean time the Imperialists have made, as we are inform'd, an overture, that seeing there occurred several difficulties in the Article about *Friburg*, the Emperor would restore *Philipsburg* to the French, upon condition that place were likewise restored to him; but this the French absolutely refuse, as preferring *Friburg* before *Philipsburg*, for the use it may be of to them. Upon this and the other Points which remain in difference, the Imperial and French Ambassadors have, at the desire of the former, had Conferences together, the place was the Stadthou'se of this City, whither the Ambassadors of *Denmark* and *Brandenburgh* likewise repaired, and were present at the Conferences, though without being call'd thereunto. To morrow the Imperialists and the French will have another Conference at the Stadthou'se, and they are agreed in the Point of *Philipsburg* and *Friburg*, the Emperor being content, according to his former choice, to keep the first, and to leave *Friburg* to the French.

*Flague, Dec. 30.* The Deputies of the States have, since my last, had a Conference with the French

Ambassador, on the occasion of the Message sent by Monsieur *Calvo* to the Governor of *Hasselt*, to retire from thence. In the mean time we understand that all the Provinces, and all the Towns of *Holland* are of opinion, that the intended reduction of the Forces ought to be deferred for some time, till it appear more plainly, then as yet it does, what the intention of France is, as well in relation to this their demand of our quitting *Hasselt*, &c. as their restoring the Places in *Flanders*; which though the French, as we understand from *Flanders*, say they are ready to do, yet they pretend not to draw their Troops out of the Spanish Territories, till all the Arrears of Contributions are paid, which amount, according to their Computation, to a very great Sum. The next week the States of *Holland* meet, and then we may expect a final resolution will be taken in the point of the reduction, as well as in other matters. From *Nimeguen* we have an account, that the Imperial and French Ambassadors have had Conferences together at the Stadthou'se, which is new, for all the Negotiations between them heretofore, passed merely by the hands of the Mediators, those Ambassadors never coming together. What these Conferences, at which my Lord Ambassador *Frenkins* assisted, will produce, we must expect to hear; but because this month is now expiring, when the French declared they would be at liberty to advance new Propositions, endeavors are using to dispose the French to a prolongation of that term.

*Paris, Dec. 28.* The Peace between this Crown and Spain, hath been published here with the usual Solemnity. The Letters we receive from *Alsace* of the 19th instant, give an account, That the Troops that winter in that Country are to quit their quarters, and take the Field about the middle of *January*; that those in *Lorraine*, and the *Franche Comte*, have the same Orders; and that it's believed they will in the first place attack the Forts which they of *Strasbourg* are now at work upon. In the Electorate of *Treves*, the French fortifie the Castle of *Dann*, and several other Posts thereabouts. From *Nimeguen* we understand, that the French and Imperial Ambassadors have renewed the Negotiation, which seem'd one while interrupted; and at Court it is said, that the King has sent Orders to his Ambassadors to allow the Imperialists till the 15th of the next month, to expect the return of a Courier they had sent to *Vienna*, to know the Emperors final resolution upon the Project that had been given in by the French Ambassadors. We have Letters from *Vienna* which say, That if the War continue, the Emperor intends to have two Armies in the Field the next Campaign, to act on the *Rhine*; one below, about *Cologne*, under the command of General *Montecuculi*; and the other above, about *Strasbourg*, under the command of the Duke of *Lorraine*. The King has made Monsieur de *Montbrun* his Lieutenant in his Conquests in *Flanders* under the Marechal d' *Humieres*, and Monsieur de *Montauban* his Lieutenant in *Burgundy*, under the Marechal de *Duras*.

#### Advertisements.

The 15th instant, stolen from *Thomas Gardner* of *Hilshops* near *Taunton*. a brown bay Mare, 15 hands, a large white star in her forehead, two hind-feet white, a short stump tail full of white hairs, paces 8 or 9 years old. Whoever gives notice of her to Mr. *Henry Mortlock* at the *Phoenix* in *St. Pauls Churchyard*, or to Mr. *William Turner* Mayor of *Taunton*, shall have 20 s. reward.