

hereafter, no Paquets arriving this week from any of those parts.

Venice, Feb. 26. The Senate sits close, and are employing themselves with all the prudence and diligence imaginable, for the defence of their territories, against the more than usual preparations of the Turks. The Convoy under the Command of his Excellency *Morosini*, we suppose, by this are near arriv'd where they were intended, having been met some time since near *Istria*, sailing with a very fair wind, and will be in few weeks followed by another Squadron, that are fitting up for that service, and are to take in considerable quantities of Provisions and Ammunition for the supply of the Fleet, which with our Admiral, continue still at *Paros*, where the Gallies and Galleasses are refitting and furnishing, with all things necessary, and will in few days part hence for *Candia*. Our two great Vessels that have been for some weeks upon the Stocks, will, in less time than was expected, be fit to be launched, they are much larger than any ships that have been hitherto built in these parts, and we doubt not, but in the service in which they are to be employed, they will fully answer our expectations.

The Prime Visier is returned to *Danea*, where 'tis believed he will continue some time, as in a place of greatest security for him, during the Infection of the Plague, which rages violently in his Camp. Their Admiral *Bassa* is retired to the *Dardanello's*, with the greatest part of their Fleet, leaving only ten of his nimble Gallies at *Napoli de Matussia*, to attend upon those Forces that are designed to be sent into *Candia*, and four others at *Nigropont*, to wait their opportunities of supplying them with Provisions, which our Squadrons, by their constantly plying upon these Seas endeavour to prevent. The great want of Rowers, that the Turks are sensible of, they hope will be supplied from the *Tartars*, whom they have ordered to send all the Slaves they take in their Incursions, into their service, to be employed aboard their Gallies.

Paris, March 9. Our Martial preparations are still advancing, and Monsieur de *Louvois* ordered to give an account to his Majesty of the number of what Soldiers are already under pay, of whom we find, that at the least 3000 have within these two months deserted the service. His Majesty has given Command for the making of 12000 Belts, against the 25 of this month.

Several Commissioners are nominated to visit the principal Towns and Forts upon the Frontiers, and to take an account of the Artillery and other Provisions for the War, with power to turn several Officers out of their places, whom they shall find incapable of well executing the Charges they have undertaken.

Monsieur *Colbert* is lately arrived here, where he has taken some pains about the regulation of the Taxes; and had some Conference with sixteen of the most principal persons interested in this affair, whom he has acquainted with his Majesties design to take up four Millions upon that security, for which sum they shall have interest paid them for four years.

Some few days since, Monsieur *Colbert* went to the Parliament, where he made a motion in behalf of the *Sieur Simonet*; that they would please by their Order to prohibit his Creditors from any further rigorous proceeding against him; assuring them, that he was not broken and bankrupted, as was too generally believed, but onely retired for a while, to take order about his affairs of concernment.

On Sunday last the Prince of *Conde* was brought from *Chautilly* to this City, in a Litter, in a weak condition. About a fortnight hence his Majesty intends to be at *Versailles*, where he intends to make his Carrousal in the same Splendor and Order, as formerly in the Carnival. The *Chateau de Vincennes* is ordered to be prepared for his Reception, where he intends to entertain himself the next Spring.

The Count de *Duras*, Lieutenant-General of his Majesties Armies, formerly professing the Reformed Religion, hath made his formal Abjuration at *St. Germain*, and 'tis

said, is to be made Captain of his Majesties Guards, in the room of the Count de *Charoff*.

'Tis here discoursed, that the Swisse Canton of *Berne*; bordering upon *Geneva*, has sent 2000 Men to assist that City against the Duke of *Savoy*, whose Forces have past the Mountains, and expect the conjunction of 6000 men, ordered thither, under the command of Monsieur *Pradell*; but the foundation of this report is much suspected.

Here is lately arrived from his Majesty of *Poland*, Monsieur *Morsain* Great Referendary of that Kingdom, earnestly pressing his Majesty for his assistance against their powerful enemies, the *Turks*, *Tartars*, and *Cossacks*; what success he is like to have upon his desire, is not yet known, though much doubted.

The publication of the *Code Louis*, with a Declaration for the reformation of abuses in the Courts of Justice, is with some impatience expected, and 'tis believed will be accordingly finished before *Easter*.

Portsmouth, March 7. The Captain of the Fire-ship was according to his Sentence, shot to death aboard his own Vessel, where he died with much penitency and courage; his Body was yesterday brought thence into this Town to be interred.

Alborough, March 7. On Tuesday in the afternoon, passed by to the Southwards, a Fleet of loaden Colliers of 150 sail, with the *Pearl*, and two other Fregats their Conroy; since which the wind hath blown hard at North-east, but we hope they will arrive safely.

Whitehal, March 8. This day His Majesty by the advice of his Privy Council, ordered his Proclamation to be issued out for the discovery and apprehension of *George Duke of Buckingham*: Importing, that forasmuch as it appears to His Majesty, that the said Duke, who was of His Majesties Privy Council, and otherwise employed in great Trust, relating to His Majesties Person and the Publick; and not onely bound by common Duty and Allegiance, but farther obliged by especial and extraordinary ties of Gratitude and Fidelity to the Crown; hath notwithstanding held and maintained secret correspondencies by Letters and other Transactions, tending to raise mutinies in some of His Majesties Forces, and stir up sedition amongst his People, and other traiterous designs and practices; and whereas for prevention of the mischievous Consequences, that might thereupon ensue, especially as the present state of affairs now are; and intending the matter might be examined, and the said Duke be brought to answer what should be objected against him, His Majesty gave order to one of His Serjents at Arms, to use all diligence to apprehend him: in execution of which Command, His Majesties Minister was ill treated, and contemptuously resisted, not without the knowledge of the said Duke himself; as His Majesty hath just cause to believe, and he (as conscious of his Demerits) secretly escaped, and hath withdrawn himself, and doth hide and obscure in places unknown. His Majesty therefore by His Proclamation, doth enjoyn and command the said Duke with all speed, after the Publication thereof, to render himself to one of His Majesties Secretaries of State, or his Lieutenant of the Tower; straitly charging and commanding all Justices of the Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bayliffs, Constables, and other Officers and Subjects whatsoever, to be diligent, and use their best endeavours to search for, and apprehend the said Duke, and safely to convey him to one of His Majesties Secretaries of State, or His Lieutenant of the Tower; further declaring, That if any person or persons, after the publication thereof, shall directly or indirectly conceal or harbor the said Duke, or shall not use their best endeavours, for his discovery and apprehension, they shall be proceeded against with all severity.

We are ordered to give Notice,

That His Majesties Exchequer, in pursuit of the payment of the Loans, upon the late Act for 1250000 *l.* are now paying the 136 Order in Number, and so are proceeding to the ensuing Numbers, as they stand Registered in court: according to the Act, so fast as the Tax comes in.