

# The Oxford Gazette.

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*Plymouth, Decemb. 24.*

**T**HE *Prudence* of London from Zant, (which was thought to have been taken by the French in the Straights) arrived here, with another ship from Geneva, who both set sail this day for London, under Convoys of the Paul. About twenty Prisoners made their escape out of the Castle on Friday night last: some of them are since apprehended, and diligent enquiry is made after the rest.

*Bristol, Dec. 25.* Six Vessels bound for this Port are arrived at Milford, but from whence we know not. Of all the Fleet bound from this place, we hear only of one (bound for the West Indies) that miscarried, who losing the rest of the Fleet in the night, met with a *Flybinger* that took her. Some more of the Dutch Prisoners lately made an escape, who, after they had rambled a while in solitary places, came in and rendred themselves again, not knowing any one to whom they might apply themselves for shelter. And the truth is, since they have been, according to the agreement we heretofore told you of, at their Masters (the States) Allowance, their want and misery is so great, that were it not for the charity of private Persons, who notwithstanding all the cruelty ours are said to suffer in Holland, cannot but give some relief to so great necessity, they must all inevitably starve, as in truth some have already done.

*Venice, Dec. 18.* 'Twas thought the Marquess of Oddi was gone from Cattaro for the Levant, but it seems he remains still there dissatisfied, as it is thought, because the Senate have not given him a charge suitable to his quality, he expecting to be the next Person to the Marquess de Villa; however he continues still at Cattaro, expecting the Senates resolution. They write from Ragusa, that the great preparations from Constantinople are wholly intended against this State; to which purpose the Grand Signor intends to set out above 100 Gallies, besides the Vessels which are to be furnished from the Coasts of Barbary, having already issued Orders to the Bassa of the Black-Sea, to take up all the Slaves he can to serve in their Gallies, and to give notice to the rest of the Bassas to doe the like. The Grand Signor has likewise sent to Bossina to make provisions of Corne for this service, with commands to the several Governours thereabout, to be in readiness with the Militia upon the shortest warning.

*Rome, Dec. 12.* On Monday last a Consistory was held, where the Cardinal de Retz took up more time than ordinary at his Audience, with which his Holyness seemed not to be very well pleased. When the doores were shut, the Pope admonished them among other things, against talking in the Chappel during the Service, as that, which might give just scandal to Strangers; and at his going forth, he stood by the Cardinal Palotta, discoursing near half an hour with him, without suffering him to rise by reason of his distemper of the Gout; seeming at the same time to take no small pride in his own strength and vigour. Upon instance of the Apothecaries at Rome, the Clergy, particularly, the Jesuits del Collegio Romano, are forbid to sell any more Medicaments. The place of the Duke Cesarini is yet undisposed.

*Weyfel, Dec. 26.* The Forces belonging to the States are now all drawn into Garrisons, and the Elector of Brandenburg's Towns, in the possession of the States, are like to bear the burthen of it, and this place particularly to have a large share, which it is much doubted how that Elector will take. The great expectations from the French and Prince Maurice, are now visibly disappointed; and the truth is, the Game was not worth the Candle. The States Deputies urged the reducing of those places the Bishop of Munster had gain-

ed from them, and prevail'd so far with their Army as to force Boeckholt, and some other Forts; but finding the besieged obstinate, they presently deserted them. Prince Maurice indeed was willing so to gratifie his Masters, as to have spent more time and men to retake them; but General Bradel told him, It was not a Season for sieges, and that he could not answer it to his Master to lose his Army before such small places, and this is no small discouragement to see them hang so ill together.

*Madrid, Decemb. 9.* What the last of the second instant mentioned as current News of the Portugesses having taken the Town and Castle of la Guardia, is since confirmed: Besides which 'tis advised from Andalusia, That another Portugess Army or Party, hath lately been within six leagues of Sevil, and within half a league of Huelvas, where the Duke of Medina Sidonia resides, and carried away with them a great quantity of Cattle of all kinds.

They write from Tangier, That his Majesty of Portugal hath, by Letters, signified to the Lord Bellesir, that all Vessels going from that Garrison, shall have free admittance and Pratick in any of his Ports, upon producing Certificates from his Lordship (given upon his Honor) that the Place is in good health; and hath likewise given order to his Governour of the Algarves, to furnish them with whatever that Kingdom affords. They say further, That their Neighbouring Enemies did then shew themselves in the Fields near adjoining, more then formerly, with an intention (as they imagined) to plough; but what their number or farther Design was, or whether Gayland was there in person, they could not certainly know.

*Legorn, Decemb. 11.* They write from Spain, That the Dutch Fleet at the Straights mouth, will be forced to come from those parts, because they cannot obtain Pratick, nor be suffered to make Quarantine there, since they took the English Ships, so that it is supposed, they will come for Toulon. A French ship arrived here the third instant, in seventeen dayes from Lisbon, did nine dayes before her arrival, speak with some of the Dutch Fleet off Malaga, where twenty one ships rode at anchor some distance from the Town. The French Fleet continuing so long about Tunis and Malta give some jealousy of their intention. There is no advice yet concerning the two small English Vessels, which the French took off Tunis and sent for Toulon. Since they are said to have taken the Soria Merchant, a ship of this Town, bound hence for Tunis. The Great Duke, with all his Court, is expected speedily at Pisa.

*Hamburg, Decemb. 16.* The Swedes are in these parts with a considerable Army: The common talk is, as if they were coming against Bremen; but, it is believed, they have a farther Design. Count Vander Nat hath taken the Command of a General Major under the Prince of Munster, and is raising two Regiments of Horse, and two Regiments of Foot for that Service.

*Hague, Jan. 1.* The Heer Van Merode, de Wit, Olmstra, and Nieuween, four of the Deputies the States had in their Army, are returned to the Hague; the other four, Cromow, Pallant, Raedvoelt, and Van Wede, are daily expected to follow with Prince Maurice, all their Forces being disposed into several Quarters, most upon the Rhine and Issell. In Weyfel are seventy Companies, whereof twenty of the French foot, and 250 Horse; in Deventer about ten Companies of French, and 250 Horse; in Doesburgh 400 French Foot, the rest in other Garrisons. They write from Twente, that Colonel Lutzen was come to quarter in Ommarsen, a place very strongly fortified and baracado'd, and 'tis said the Bishop is expected there in Person, to hold Councils how to manage

the War this Winter season. Though the *Gazetts* here give out that the Fort at *Winschoten* is taken, we cannot find ground enough to build any certainty on it. They would have the people believe, that their Treaties with *Denmark* and *Brandenburg* are upon the point of conclusion; but the project is spoiled by a discourse that runs about, That the King of *Denmark* hath demanded three Millions, and arrested the *East-India* ships for it, and that the Duke of *Brandenburg* desires so many strong places, both on the *Rhine* and *Maes*; that the States will in no wise agree to it.

The Duke of *Lunenburgh's* forces, under the Count of *Waldeck*, remain still about *Osnabrug*; and since the Army will not march to make a conjunction, must be contented to quarter there this Winter. The Duke of *Brunswicks* Envoy hath delivered his Credentials, and Commissioners are appointed to confer with him in his Masters affair. The Sea-Equipage is carried on with all vehemency, but to get men, they are forced to allow each Sea man ten stivers; and a Land-soldier seven *per diem*, which will not do neither, without the calling in their Capers-Commissions, or reducing them to a certain number. The States of *Holland* and *West-Friesland* appointed their meeting not until the twelfth instant, but upon some extraordinary emergency assembled this day. The *Sieur Meerman* of *Leyden*, who was nominated to succeed *Bevering*, late Treasurer, is said to have excused himself from accepting that charge. The Elector of *Colens* Resident is ready to depart hence; and some give out, that the States will employ him to *Regensburgh* the next Dyer, to negotiate with the Emperor on their behalf. It is said, That *Monsieur Croon* shall be nominated to go for *Constantinople*, to make his Residence there, and take care of our Merchant affairs.

*Brussels*, Jan. 2. Several Letters are come hither from the Bishop of *Munsters* Quarters, which make mention of a third Defeat given the Dutch by the Bishop of *Munsters* forces, in which they killed and took near eight hundred; but the particulars not being yet come, we expect a farther confirmation of it.

*Dublin*, Dec. 21. The ship mentioned in the last to have run ashore in the Country of *Mayo*, proves a ship of *Middleborough*, of 7 or 8.0 Tun, the *Sea-Horse*, bound for the *East-Indies*, having in her, Arms, and six Chests of Silver; she was much beaten at Sea by storm, having spent her Main-mast and Fore-mast, and lost her Rudder on the Rocks near *Broad-Haven*. The ship was beaten in pieces and sunk, about 100 of her men escaped on Planks, and by such shifts; the rest, about 74, were all drowned. Some of the Goods are cast up by the Sea; four of the Chests of Silver recovered, and we are not without hope of getting the rest of the money, and the Guns belonging to the ship, and saving the rest of the lading, that is not perishable by Water.

The House of Commons having on Monday last, according to their former Resolve, entered upon the Debate of the Grand Bill of Settlement, past these following Orders.

Ordered upon the Question, That the Answer of His Grace, the Lord Lieutenant and Council, unto the humble Petition of the House, presented unto His Grace the eleventh instant, be entered amongst the Acts, Orders, and Ordinances of this House.

Ordered upon the Question, *Nemine contradicente*, That upon the confidence and assurance this House hath conceived from His Graces said Answer, they will proceed to put a Question for Passing the Bill, Entituled, *An Act explaining some doubts, &c.*

Ordered upon the Question, That the Bill, Entituled, *An Act for explaining some doubts*, arising upon an Act, Entituled, *An Act for the better execution of His Majesties Gracious Declaration, &c.* having been three times read in this House, shall pass as a Law.

The next day the House attended His Grace with their Speaker, who acquainted him with the Votes the House had past in consideration had of the Answer returned by His Grace, and in the name of the House returned him their most humble, hearty, and thankful acknowledgments for His Graces said answer. His Grace received them with an affection suitable to such

an Address, telling them, That next to that Honor His Majesty had bestowed on Him, in making Him His Lord Lieutenant of that Kingdom, He esteemed this which they had done Him; and assuring them, That He would not proceed to the settlement of His own concerns, till such time as they should receive the benefit of His promises. Upon which, the House returned with abundance of satisfaction and contentment, and appointed a Committee to attend His Grace with their desires; that He would please to permit His Speech to be Printed, which His Grace granted. A Bill past for the confirming of Marriages made in the late times. And this day the Lords pass the Grand Bill, and the Bill of Subsidies, so that on Saturday next the Lord Lieutenant goes to the Parliament, to give the Royal Assent.

*Edinburgh*, Dec. 23. A Proclamation is lately issued forth, commanding all such Ministers, who being entered before the year 49. have, since the restitution of the Church Government by Archbishops and Bishops, relinquished their Ministry, or been deposed therefrom by their Ordinary; and all such as shall hereafter relinquish their Ministry, or be deposed by their Ordinary, within forty days after their relinquishing or deposition, to remove themselves and their families out of the Parishes where they were Incumbents, and not reside within twenty miles of the same, or within six miles of *Edinburgh*, or any Cathedral Church, or three miles within any Burgh-Royal of this Kingdom, or to Reside two of them within one Paroch; and in case they yield not exact obedience hereunto, (unless they have the permission of the Lords of the Privy Council, Lords of His Majesties Commission for Church Affairs, or the Bishop of the Diocess) they are to incur the Penalties of the Laws, against movers of Sedition. All Householders, &c. are also forbid to give any countenance to such Ministers to Preach, or exercise any Office of a Minister; and all Sheriffs, Magistrates, &c. commanded to make diligent search after such Offenders, and to seize and imprison their persons, till they give sufficient caution to appear before the Lords of the Council or Commission. That which is supposed to have occasioned this Proclamation at this time, is the insolent carriage of one Mr. *Alexander Smith*, a deposed Minister, who being taken at a Conventicle, and convened before the High Commission Court, used such reviling language against the Lord Archbishop of *St. Andrews*, who sat as President, that the Lord Commissioner ordered him to be put in Irons, and laid 24 hours in the Thieves Hole.

*Falmouth*, Dec. 23. On the 21, Captain *Nevet* brought into this Harbor the *Malaga* man he surprized at *Mounts Bay*. The Skipper and some other of the men are prisoners ashore.

*Newcastle*, Dec. 25. Those that came up the River, report, that thirty or forty small ships failed yesterday, and the rest intend to go with their Convoy this day.

*Deal*, Dec. 27. The *Success* and *Little Maries* Fore-top Sails are loose, and it is said one or both go to *Dever*, to carry over the Dutch Ambassador, who is now there.

*Lyn Regis*, Dec. 27. Some Vessels lately come hither, having taken in Provision, are going to Sea. This Town hath continued yet free from any Infection, and to prevent all occasions that might bring it hither, It is ordered by the Major, Aldermen, and Common Council of this Borough, That the Mart usually held in this Town, on the third of *February*, shall not be kept this year.

*Portsmouth*, Decemb. 28. We hear not of any of the Enemies Men of War, Private or others upon our Coast; which is well guarded by His Majesties ships, still crossing up and down to secure our Merchants. Sir *Robert Southwell* is in this Town, in order to the prosecuting his Voyage to *Peru*.

*Oxen*, Decemb. 30. To morrow is appointed for the Consecration of the Right Reverend Father in God, *Alexander*, Lord Bishop of *Sarum*, which is to be performed at the Chappel of *New College*, by His Grace, the Lord Archbishop of *Canterbury*, assisted by the Lords Bishops of *Winchester*, *Glocester*, *Peterborough*, *Limmerick*, and *Oxen*.