

*Naples, May 24.* The Gallies intended for the Levant, to assist the Republick of Venice against the Turk, are well furnished with all Necessaries, with 150 Soldiers in each Galley, and are set sayl, being with the Popes Gallies to joyn with those of Maltha, which attend them in Sicily.

By the way of Otranto we are advised, that the Turks had found an opportunity of conveying 40 of their Gallies with Soldiers and Ammunition into Canoa, which had so much encouraged them, that they had since given a busie Assault to Suda, a considerable Fortress of the Venetians, but were beaten off with a great slaughter. However, their Wants of Provisions are by this additional Force much increased, and the Plague rages much in all their Quarters, which 'tis believed will as yet keep them off from their Resolution of laying a formal siege to the City of Candia.

*Madrid, May 27.* The Archbishop of Ambrun having some few dayes since, in an Audience at the Court, endeavoured to assure the Queen Regent of the sincerity of the King His Masters intentions, to maintain inviolably the Peace between the two Crownes; and having in a latter Audience at the Palace presented her with a Manifesto, newly received by an Express, so much contradictory to his other Declaration; The People taking notice of what had passed, were so extremely incensed against the French, that her Majesty, fearing lest some disorder might happen, prejudicial to the Ambassado, ordered some Guards to attend him for his security; and having returned her answer to the Letter sent her from his most Christian Majesty, she has since, in a great Council of all her Ministers, debated this important Affair; in the mean while issuing out Orders for great Sums of Monies to be sent into the Netherlands, and taking such farther care for the defence of those Countreys, as the present emergency requires.

Our preparation for this present Campaigne against Portugal goes on but slowly, as it also does on the other side, by which we take our measures. The Marquis de Caracene is not yet gone for the Army, his journey being somewhat retarded by a Marriage between his Daughter, and the little son, but sole heir to the Duke De Alva.

The King and the Queen Regent intend to pass a considerable part of this Summer at Buon Retiro. Don Juan is again leaving the Court, and going for Guadaluca; The Duke de Ossone is preparing for his Vice-royalty of Catalonia, in which he is to succeed Don Vincenzo Gonzague, who at the arrival of the Duke intends to retire himself into Italy, though, 'tis said, some care is taken to give him all possible satisfaction in his pretensions at Court.

*Montgomery, June 6.* The Militia of this, as well as those of the adjacent Counties, are in a very great readines, shewing more than ordinary courage and resolution for His Majesties Service; in witness whereof, upon a late View made of the Horse and Foot of this County, at a General Muster, which continued four days, there was a very full and cheerful appearance of stout well Armed Men; where, as an experiment of their heartines, a proposal was made, of drawing out two Files of Shot, and one of Pikes out of each Company, to be employ'd upon present Service, which they so readily entertained, that there presently began amongst them a Zealous Competition for the Employment, the Right and Left hand Files claiming, and pressing for the Honour of this March as their due: The whole Companies heartily expressing their readines, to March whithersoever His Majesty should be pleased to Command them, even into the bowels of His Enemies Countreys.

*Whitehall, June 16.* The Dutch Fleet having the tenth Instant in the evening made themselves masters of Sheerness, on the eleventh they advanced up the River of Medway, and though with much difficulty passed by several Vessels which had been sunk about Musclevbank, which was the narrowest part of it, the better to put some stop to them in their passages; and with 22 Sail came up towards the Chain, where the Lord General was in person with a considerable Force to oppose them; but the Enemy taking the advantage of an Easterly Wind and the Tide, which both served them pressed on; and though their first Ship stuck upon the Chain, the second broke through it; and notwithstanding a stout

resistance, in which our Men shewed infinite courage, with considerable loss to the Enemy, yet they clapt their Fire-ships aboard the *Matthias* and the *Unity*, that lay at an Anchor, as a Guard to the Chain, and then upon the *Charles the Fifth*, all three of them Dutch Ships, that had been formerly taken from them. The same day they possess themselves of the *Royal Charles*, which was twice fired by our Men, and as often quashed by the Enemy.

On Thursday the 13. Instant, about One of the Clocke taking again their advantage of the Wind and Tide, they advanced with six Men of War, and five Fireships, and came up towards *Upnor-Castle*, but were so warmly entertained by Major Scot, who commanded there, and on the other side by Sir *Edward Spragg*, from the Battery at the Shoare, that after very much Damage received by them in the Shattering of their ships, in sinking severall of their Long Boats manned out by them, in the great number of their Men kill'd, and some Prisoners taken, they were at the last forced to retire, having in this Attempt spent in vain two of their Fireships, which attempted the *Royall Oake*, but were forced off, and burnt down without effect; but a third had its effect, the two others coming also aboard the *Royall James*, and the *Loyall London*, which are much injured by the Fire, but in probability may be again made serviceable, having been sunk before their coming up, and the greater part of them laid under Water.

Since this they have not made any considerable Attempt, and by some Prisoners we have taken, we finde that the loss we have received, has been hitherto so fully returned upon them, that they can have but little reason to brag of their Success, and less encouragement to make any farther Attempts on these parts.

Part of the Enemies Fleet hath since this Action continued about *Musclev-Bank*, where on Friday were seen 24. Sail, on Saturday only 14. which 'tis believed stay there only to get off the *Royall Charles* which is on Shoare.

On Friday about 30. more of their Fleet were discovered between the *Buoy of the Nore* and *Lee*; and on Saturday only 12. in the *Bay of the Nore*, the rest being sail down, and 'tis thought will attempt no farther this way; However, our Batteries are in all the necessary places, both in the *Thames* and *Medway*, very well perfected, and furnish with Cannon.

This day we are confidently told by a person arriving here from *Chatham*, that yesterday two Dutch men of War, whereof one of 80 Guns, endeavouring to pass up towards *Upnor Castle*, ran ashore, and were by a Fireship of their own party burnt, to prevent their falling into our hands; he says farther, that eight of their Men of War were yesterday endeavouring to Tow off the *Royal Charles* from *Musclev-bank*, and are there ran aground: upon which news twenty of their Men of War are returning to lie in the River, to prevent our Fireships, till they can find some way to bring them off, or otherwise to dispose of them.

*Whitehall, Ditto.* His Majesty having on Thursday the 13th Instant received an Address from the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, expressing their great Loyalty and readines for his Majesties service, and desiring his approbation for the doing all things that may contribute to the Quiet of the City, and repelling any Disorders, was pleased to declare himself abundantly satisfied with their Care, and accordingly leaves it to their Prudence, to doe therein what shall occur to be most necessary and effectuall to that End; promising on his own part, not to be wanting in any thing that may Demonstrate his unwearied Care and Concernment for them, of which they shall howly finde the Effects: His Majesty desiring to hear from them upon every Emergency, as they shall from him upon every necessary Occasion.

The Officers of the Receipt of His Majesties Exchequer, in continuance of their Payments in course, upon the Act for 1250000 l. are proceeded to the 321 Order in Number; and so shall continue to pay as the Tax upon that Act shall be brought in. And also the Interests of Loans as they become due.