

stand obliged to perform that Voyage, void; the other, prohibiting all Sea-men to go into the Service of any King, Prince, State, or Republick whatever, and commanding all that are already in Foreign Service to return home, upon pain of banishing them, their Wives and Children, and forfeiture of their Goods. And yet all this will not do to keep our Sea-men at home, who, whether out of necessity, by reason of the decay of Trade, or some apprehension of the hardship and hazards they must run through in the States Service, do daily transport themselves to *Ostend*. It is now too late to look after them, when so many have found the benefit of serving there; and the truth is, their private advantages draw them so fast away, That the States were never in such want of men, as they are like to be this Spring, to furnish out their Navy. The Captain of the *Charity*, who was taken prisoner in the last Summers Engagement, was buried the seventh instant, in the Vault of the French Church at *Rotterdam*, his Sword being laid on his Coffin, and several Friends attending him to the Grave. He had not been above five days discharged from his imprisonment upon exchange; when, what with the alteration of Diet and Lodging, in both which the Dutch had treated him with the greatest severity, he fell sick and died.

*Hague*, Jan. 12. Most of the cheif Officers are come hither, except the *Marquês de Pradel*, who hath work enough at *Weyssel* to keep the French in order. Prince *Maurice* is much dissatisfied at the entertainment he findes from the States General; and they on their side, seem as little satisfied with his and *Monsieur Pradel's* conduct. The Deputies which governed the last Campagne, giving in several accusations against him, which, he hath declared, he will answer in Writing; so that upon this mutual disgust, we are to seek where to have a Head, should we finde it fit to take the field again this Winter; which is now in deliberation, and is very much pressed, as well by the French Kings Letter of the 25 of *December*, to *Monsieur de Estrades*, as by the Envoy of the Duke of *Lunenburg Gell*. In the mean time, the Bishop braves us and our Succors; and whilest we are withdrawn into *Garison*, he spoils and ravages the whole Countrey, having by the help of the Ice, among many other spoils, taken and plundered *Frisseveen*, a place in which were great numbers of Cattle, and much Goods and Household-stuff lodged for security, by the Countrey people of all ranks, and defended by 400 men, who were all taken prisoners at discretion. Great industry is used in the preparations for next Spring, and in the mean time to get out a Winter Fleet to countenance Trade and preserve our Reputation. The number will be about fifteen or seventeen, whereof five or seven are from *Holland*, and the rest from *Zealand*, who have the name to keep up a Fleet in Winter as well as in Summer, though indeed the true reason of it be, that they have not money to pay them off. *Rotterdam*, *North-Holland*, and *Friesland*, have not been able to contribute one shippo to this equipage: And indeed, they give us but little hopes of being in a condition to do much better in the Spring. This Squadron hath already Rendezvouzed in *Zealand*, but how they shall be farther disposed of, is not said. The States of *West-Friesland* have made a fresh complaint of the ill Government and spoils committed by the *Lunenburg* forces in *Frese*: The reason may be, the new differences that are risen betwixt Count *Waldeck* and his Masters, who hire him to their service; and those who pretend to know the intrigue, say, That unless they make up a Treaty with the Elector of *Brandenburg* (which is now as good as quite broke off) there is no good to be expected from the *Lunenburg* forces. It is fresh now again, that *Monsieur de Estrades* is to be re-called home, and *Monsieur Courvin* to come in his place; and that old *Boreel* shall come from *France*, and *Van Benningen*, the now Favorite, succeed in that employ.

*Brussels*, Jan. 8. By Letters from the Prince of *Munster* Camp of the third, we have the particulars of a late advantage obtained by those of *Munster* against a party of the French Succors; who, it seems, designing an Ambuscade of 7 or 800 of their best Horse, lodged in a valley, in wait for those of *Deutecum*, where Colonel *Post* is Commander, and sent out 20 of the forwardest young Voluntiers, being all persons of

quality, who advanced under the Walls of the Town to draw out the enemy; but the Governor suspecting the design, very warily entertained this Forlorn-hope with little skirmishings, till he had commanded out a party, who passing at a distance undiscovers by a hollow way, got between the French and home; and then falling in upon them, killed eight upon the place, and took the remaining twelve, who are judged to be persons of condition, being all excellently well accoutred, and the worst of their Horses, valued at between 300 and 400 Duckats. What their names and qualities were, was not then known.

*Paris*, Jan. 9. The face of affairs in this Kingdom looks very frowningly, and it is feared matters cannot long stand in the posture they are now in, without some farther mischief. To day no more of what past when the King was last at Parliament, the effect of which, upon the peoples temper, every body may read. You would wonder to hear what a strange noise the Kings pardoning of the Partizans makes among them. In that act they look upon themselves as a people condemned to the violence and extortion of the Kings Officers, when after the discovery of such horrid abuses, the actors are only punished with a Fine, and come off gainers by the bargain: A precedent that will invite men to the like crimes, when the greatest punishment is but to be made the Kings Sponges; to have that which they suck from the people, to be queezed out into the Kings Coffers. Those of the Robe, which are considerable in this Kingdom, both for number and interest, are much aggrieved at the price set upon Offices; and in this point the King findes others obstinate as well as those of *Paris*. The Parliament of *Rhemes* hath refused to attend to it, and expect what will be the issue at *Paris* with those that gave the example, where the Assemblies continue still, and sent the Premier President two days ago to the Louvre to know His Majesties intention; who, it seems, answered, They might if they would continue to meet, but that they should not dare to deliberate.

The Taxes are now Levied by Soldiers, and yet that does not aw the people into a payment. No less then Ten Companies *des Gardes* sent to *Orleans*, to raise the money there, where we cannot tell yet how they sped; but we hear the Citizens shut their doors against them; and now you need not wonder at Orders to raise 200 Cornets: They will hardly be enough to fetch in Contribution.

*Legorn*, Dec. 26. The Great Duke, notwithstanding the Proclamation prohibiting Commerce with *England*, hath since shewn this favor, That all Fish from *England* shall immediately be sent ashore; but the Ships and Mariners must make Quarantine.

*Bristol*, Jan. 5. Here arrived this week ten Vessels from *Ireland*, *Rochel*, *Bourdeaux*, and *Pharo*, laden with Wines, Fruits, and Oyls, and commodities natural to those places. A *Sette* came also from *Malaga*, a Vessel rarely seen in these parts; she is about fifty Tuns, and her Masts like a pair of Taylors Sheers opened; she had much ado to endure the Seas, and had not some English men aboard her, she had been lost. The Master reports, that the Dutch upon a rumor, that Sir *Jeremiah Smith* was coming, drew up their ships close to the shore, and are looking about for places of security.

*Hull*, Jan. 5. There have been of late three or four Dutch Men of War seen about *Flambrough Head*, and *Bridlington* Bay, from 30 to 40 Guns apeece; they forced one great Collier ashore, and not being able to fetch him off, fired the Vessel: One or two they took that came from the Southward, and were seen in chase of two others, but it is hoped they may have escaped.

*Dover*, Jan. 7. Sir *Thomas Tiddiman* is at present here, intending the next week to his command. Yesterday a Privateer brought in a small Vessel laden with Salt, pretending to be bound for *Flanders*.

*Oxon*, Jan. 9. His Majesty hath issued forth a Proclamation for recalling all private Commissions or Letters of Marque whatsoever granted to any Vessel of *England* or *Ireland*, to be delivered up and vacated, before *February 14* next coming.

The Account of the Weekly Bill at *London* runs thus, Total 265. Plague 89. Increas'd 12.