

The London Gazette.

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Whitehall, August 31.

ON Thursday last arrived here one of the Kings Messengers, being dispatched from His Majesties Camp on the 23d of this month, with the good News of the Surrender of the Castle of Namur; for the Particulars whereof the Publick is referred to the Relation already Printed, which contains all we have yet received.

The Lords-Justices and Council being met the same day, appointed a general Thanksgiving to be observed all the Kingdom over; The Great Guns were fired from the Tower; And at night there were Bonfires and Illuminations in the Cities of London and Westminster, with Ringing of Bells and other Demonstrations of a General Joy, for the preservation of His Majesties Person from the many Dangers to which he has been exposed, and for the glorious Success of His Majesties Arms, in reducing a Place of such strength, which had in it a Garison, consisting (according the Paris Gazette) of 21 Battalions of Foot, Seven Regiments of Dragoons, and one of Horse, with a Mareschal of France at the head of them; and in fight of an Army of 100000 Men, drawn together from the Rhine, their Sea Coasts, and other parts; who instead of relieving it, contented themselves with making some Motions towards the Mehaigne, and with being Witnesses of the extraordinary Bravery and Courage of the Forces of the Allies, and particularly of the English and Scotch, which appeared in the last as well as all the other Attacks during the Siege, to a degree that cannot be expressed as it ought, or sufficiently commended.

'Tis probable the French will now be willing it should be forgot with what Vanity and Boasting they filled all their publick Relations, when they became Masters of this Town some years ago, seeing they could not defend it, after having fortified

it with so many new and very strong Out-works, and filled it with such a number of Troops, and such vast Magazines, (part whereof was designed for attacking the City of Liege) that they lookt upon the place, especially with the Assistance of such a powerful Army, to be impregnable.

By the Lords-Justices,

A P R O C L A M A T I O N

For a Publick THANKSGIVING.

Tho. Cantuar. J. Sommers C. S. Pembroke C. P. S. Shrewsbury.

WHereas We having a deep and serious Consideration of the War in which His Majesty, together with most of the Princes and States of Europe, was and still is Engaged against the French King, did by Proclamation, bearing Date the Three and twentieth Day of May last, Appoint a General Fast to be kept throughout this Kingdom, for Imploring the Blessing and Protection of Almighty God in the Preservation of His Majesties Sacred Person, and Prosperity of His Arms both at Land and Sea, which hath been observed accordingly: And forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God (of his infinite Goodness) in Answer to the Prayers humbly and devoutly Offered up to him, to Grant to the Forces of His Majesty, and His Allies, so great Success in taking the Town and Castle of Namur, and to Protect His Majesties Sacred Person from the many Dangers to which He was so frequently Exposed during that Siege. We therefore Adoring the Divine Goodness, and duly Considering that such Great and Publick Blessings, do call for Publick and Solemn Acknowledgments, Have thought fit, and by the Advice of His Majesties most Honourable Privy Council, do hereby Appoint and Command, That a General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for these his Mercies be Observed throughout the Cities of London and Westminster, and elsewhere within the Weekly Bills of Mortality; on Sunday the Eighth day of September next, and in all other Places throughout this Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed, on Sunday the Two and twentieth day of September next. And for the better and more orderly Solemnizing the same, We have given Directions to the Right Reverend the Bishops of this Kingdom, to Compose a Form of Prayer suitable to this Occasion, to be Used in all Churches and Chappels, and other Places of Publick Worship, and to take Care for the timely Dispersing of the same throughout their respective Diocesses. And We do strictly Charge and Command, That the said Publick Days of Thanksgiving be Religiously Observed by all His

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