

to provide for the future general peace of the whole Empire.

*Brussels, Jan. 23.* This day we are informed, that the Duke of *Lorraine* has upon the instance of His Most Christian Majesty, already disbanded a considerable part of his Army. The French forces still continue in motion, not without giving some jealousy to our People in *Burgundy*, lest they may receive some disturbance from them.

The Constable of *Castille* hath been somewhat indisposed since his arrival here. To-morrow Sir *Edward Spragge* Envoy from His Majesty of *Great Britain*, intends to take his leave at the Court, and return by the way of *Ostend* into *England*.

We daily expect here the arrival of some Deputies from the States of the United Provinces, with whom somewhat may in little time be resolved as to their satisfaction for the expenses they were at the last Summer, in order to the preservation of these Countries, as also for the well starting of other affairs on both sides, as may most conduce to their mutual interest in the present conjuncture.

We see not yet any probability of a good issue from the Conference of ours with the French Commissioners at *Lille*, and do not a little apprehend the consequence of the high Demands and Pretensions of the French to the Dependencies on their late Conquests.

*Paris, Jan. 23.* The last night arrived here a Courier from *Lorraine*, and this day returned hither the Chevalier de *Lorraine*, by whom His Majesty is sufficiently informed of the readiness of the Duke of that name to comply with His Majesties pressing desires, and by laying down his arms to submit the differences with the Elector Palatine to a reference, so that the King has now laid aside his thoughts of marching towards those parts, preparation being making here for his divertisement by a Grand Ballet, and Masquerades; but as yet his forces are not remanded, but the Troops of his Household continue to march towards the Frontiers. Marshal de *Bellefonds* is said to be declared General of some forces which may be sent into the service of the Republick of *Venice*.

On Thursday next, the King intends to order the verification of several new Edicts in Parliament, most of the Masters, and other Officers of the Chamber des Comptes, having been sensible of his Majesties disavow for the publick Renunciation made by them against an advancement for raising a stock for the driving on of the East India Trade (of late much encouraged by His Majesty) have thought fit to revoke the Acts of their said Renunciation, and may be also induced to contribute their proportions to it.

From *Franche Comte* we are told, that the Inhabitants are busily employed in restoring their formerly ruin'd fortifications, and are drawing forces into that Province for its defence, and that already are arrived at *Besancon* some Companies of Swisses lately raised for the Spanish service in those parts, under the command of the Sieur *Fiffer*.

From *Rome* we are lately advised, that the Pope has nominated and appointed Cardinal *Mancini* for his Legate à *littere*, who, under that character, is to be speedily dispatched into *Portugal*, to give a Benediction to, and to confirm the Marriage of the Prince and Princess, with power to establish Bishops in all the vacancies throughout that Kingdom; and to give order for their Consecration, and to settle the Rights and Revenues of the Church in the same method they were formerly.

From *Perpignan* we are advised, that the Negotiations between Her Catholick Majesty and *Don Juan* are still continued, with much hopes of a composition to the satisfaction of all parties, and 'tis believed, that Prince may be yet prevailed with to undertake the Government of the Spanish Netherlands.

They further tell us, that Six hundred Neopolitan Soldiers are lately arrived at *Barcelona*, to whom they talk of adding some others to make up a Regiment to be sent into *Flanders*, and that *Don Juan de Pignatelli* is making his ad-

resses to the Court, and solliciting for the Command of them.

*Paris, Jan. 26.* The Sieur de *Marsel*, Lieutenant General of the Naval forces, has this week received Orders from His Majesty to depart hence for *Thoulon*, and from thence in little time to put to sea with 14 men of war which are there in readiness with 16 Gallies and two Galliot; aboard whom are to be sent a considerable force, with intention to attend the motion of the Corsairs of *Algier*, *Tunis* and *Tripoli*, who have of late seized upon some of our Merchants ships in the *Mediterranean*; though others are of opinion they may be sent to the succors of *Candia*, for which service the Marshal de *Bellefonds* has obtained his Majesties leave to raise 2000 men upon his own account, to be ready against the next Spring.

The Duke of *Lorraine* beginning to disarm according to His Majesties pleasure, Monsieur de *Louvois* is ordered to pass into *Lorraine* as a Commissioner to take care to see the forces disbanded, and the Order given for the march of our forces is recalled.

Yesterday arrived here the Count de *Coningsmark* from the Prince Elector Palatine, assuring His Majesty, that the said Prince had already begun to disband his forces, desiring to be protected from all violencies which may be offered by the *Lorrainer*.

*Hague, Jan. 24.* The States have lately written to the Prince Elector Palatine and Duke of *Lorraine*, offering their Mediation for the composition of the differences between them.

The French seem much concerned at the Impositions laid upon all Merchandizes going to, or coming from *France*; though carried in Spanish Bottoms; threatening that unless they are taken off within the space of three weeks, they shall be forced to proceed to Reprisals: which being insinuated to the Spanish Commissioners of *Lille*, they immediately acquainted the Constable of *Castille* with it; by whose Order the Spanish Ambassadour has here by his Memorial communicated it to the States: who have referred the Consideration thereof to some of their Commissioners.

The Baron d' *Isola* still continues here incognito, but has been honourably treated and entertained by the Spanish Ambassadour, and has frequent Conferences with the principal Ministers about the present state of affairs.

The Bishop of *Munster* is said to be putting his forces into order, and has already fortified *Bentheim*; which administers some jealousy to the neighbourhood.

The States are dispatching their Deputies to the Constable of *Castille*, to compliment him upon his entry into his Government, to conclude and come to an issue in the disputes with the Admiralty of *Ostend*, and to advise upon some proposals made by the Spanish Ambassador, relating to the Triple Alliance.

The Admiralty of *Amsterdam* is already preparing to fit up a Fleet to put to sea this next Spring, where they are also furnishing materials for the building eight great ships, as those of *Rotterdam* are for four others, the least of which are to carry 80 Guns apiece, and the biggest a hundred.

From the *Texel* we are told, that a ship called the *Spaniard*, on her return from *Bourdeaux*, entering the *Texel*, unhappily ran on ground, as did one other vessel going out, intending for *Rouen*, but by the assistance of other vessels, the greatest part of their lading was preserved.

*Portsmouth, January 19.* On Sunday came in at *St. Ellens* 14 or 15 sail of Dutch Merchant ships homewards bound, but forced in by the last Easterly Winds; they went all of them to *Cowes*, where they as yet remain, expecting a favourable wind to invite them out to Sea.

The same day came into this Port the *Roe Ketch* appointed to attend the *Portland* in her Voyage to *Corunna*; but the *Fregate* being some days past put to Sea, the *Ketch* is hastning to cleanse and take in provisions, and may in little time be in readiness to follow.