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From Thursday February 19. to Monday February 23. 1707.

Milan, February 8. N. S.

Recruits for the Imperial Army arrive here every Day, and greater Numbers are still expected. Our Advices from Naples acquaint us with great Preparations that are making for the Expedition into Sicily. They say also, That many French Officers are lately landed there, who give Directions for repairing the Fortifications of Messina. They add, That the State has resolv'd upon a Tax of Six per Cent. on all the Revenues of the Kingdom of Naples; and that Two Vessels laden with Corn from Apulia had sail'd to Barcelona. The Tartan in which the Money arising from the free Gift made to his Catholick Majesty is to be transported had put to Sea; and many Persons of Quality took Opportunity of waiting upon the King, some of whom design to serve as Voluntiers in this Campaign in Spain. Letters from Turin inform us, That his Royal Highness the Duke of Savoy had given Orders for raising 7000 Men, and commanded some Troops to march into Pignerol, for the protection of the Inhabitants against the Incursions of the Enemy, who demand Contribution of the Country, and threaten Military Execution. By our last Advices from Barcelona we are inform'd, That the Duke of Moles, Envoy Extraordinary from his Imperial Majesty, is made Chief Minister to his Catholick Majesty, in the Place of the late Count of Oropesa.

Frankfort, February 19. General Thungen has receiv'd Advice from Landau, That the French had began to demolish the Fortifications of Bischweiler and Drusenheim; and have a Design to raze also those of Haguenau, in order to bring the Gallies of those Places into the Field the next Campaign. On the 17th Instant the Elector of Mentz arriv'd here from Bamberg, and proceeded the next Day towards his own Court. The Troops which Marshal Villars had left encamp'd near Colmar, Scheffat, and Huningen, have follow'd the rest into Winter Quarters. The Confederate Forces which were appointed to observe their Motions are also resolv'd; but posted in such a manner, that they can be in a readiness to face the Enemy on the first Alarm.

The French continue in the mean time their Preparations for an active Campaign, and demand exorbitant Contributions on the Rhine; but the adjacent Countries resolutely persist in refusing to comply with their Exactions. They raise great Numbers of Men at Erfort, and the Territories thereabouts, for the Emperor. There still pass through this Place Recruits of Horse and Foot, in large Bodies, for the Imperial Army. Letters from Swisserland report, That the Diet of Baden is broke up without coming to any final Determination in the Affair of Neufchatel. It is confirm'd from thence, that the Canton of Berne demanded an Acknowledgment, That Neufchatel is Part of the Helvetick Body, and needed no other Title to a Neutrality than that by which the other States of Swisserland enjoy their present Repose; but the Roman Catholick Deputies refus'd to join in that Demand, which occasion'd the Adjournment of their Session. They write from Ratisbon, That the Diet had answer'd the Letters from the States General and his Electoral Highness of Hanover in a very satisfactory manner; and after having thank'd em for the Part they bore in the common Cause, and their friendly Advice, concluded with the utmost Assurances of their Zeal and Dispatch of all Affairs which lay before them, with all the Expedition the Nature of the Things in Debate would admit. The Duke of Wirtemberg is gone to Thungen, to pass away the Carnival. The great Quantity of Snow which has lately fallen in Alsatia prevents any sudden Attempt of the Enemy.

Brussels, February 23. N. S. Don Bernardo de Quiros, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from his Catholick Majesty, arriv'd here on the 16th Instant, and the next Day had a Conference with the Ministers of the Regency. The 17th being the Anniversary of the Birth-day of Her Britannick Majesty, Veldt-Marshal d'Auverquerque made a magnificent Entertainment for all the Generals residing in this Place. The Palace was adorn'd with Illuminations, and all the Foreign Ministers distinguish'd their Houses in the same manner. The Earl of Albemarle, Captain of Her Majesty's First Troop of Guards, made a Ball in the Evening, and gave a sumptuous Banquet to a great Assembly of Persons of Quality of each Sex.

Falmouth, Feby. 16. Yesterday arriv'd the Cornwall Galley of and for London from Leghorn, Edward Loyd Commander; as also the Fortune of and for Stockholme from Bourdeaux, Olif Vanto Master. This Day came in the Viana Merchant of and for London, Richard Monther Master; and the Gardnerwood of and from Bourdeaux, Tyley Hanton Master.

T. M.