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**LETTER** from his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, by his Majesty's Command, to the Secretary at War.

S I R,

**H**IS Majesty being determined to provide as soon as possible for the broken Officers, and those who are upon half Pay, as well with intent to ease the Nation in time of the burthen thereof, as to reward the particular Merit of those Officers who have distinguished themselves by their Service during the Course of the late War.

I am commanded to signify to you his Pleasure, That as any Commission shall happen hereafter to become vacant in the Army, of what Degree soever it be, the same shall always be filled up with a half Pay Officer; and that for the future no Person through Favour, Interest, or other practices may unjustly obtain a Commission to which he has no Right, in prejudice of another Officer elder than himself, It is his Majesty's further pleasure, that the first Regard shall always be had to the Seniority of the Commission, provided his Majesty shall have good reason to be satisfied of the Character and Merit of the Person, and of his Zeal and Fidelity for his Service, still observing that a reduced Officer of the same Rank in the Regiment where such Vacancy happens, is to be preferred before all others. This his Majesty's Pleasure you are to Cause to be Enter'd in the Books of your Office as a standing Rule and Direction in this behalf. I am,

S I R,

June the 30th, 1715.  
To the Secretary at War.

Your most Obedient  
Humble Servant,  
Marlborough.

It is his Majesty's Pleasure That all the Colonels now and late in the Army, do certify to me the Date of each Officer's Commission reduced out of their respective Regiments, to the intent that all Officers so reduced may be provided for according to his Majesty's Pleasure signified to me as above by his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, and the said Colonels are hereby required to send such Certificates as soon as possible.

Wm. Pulteney

*Venice, June 21.* 'Tis advised from Naples, that 3000 new raised Soldiers, Natives of that Kingdom, are ordered to march to Manfredonia, where they are to be embarked for Trieste, and thence to proceed to Hungary. The 16th Instant Signor Francesco Soranzo was chosen Procurator, in the room of Sig. Ascanio Giustiniani lately deceased: On this Occasion Masquerading was allowed for three Days; the new Procurator gave magnificent Entertainments with Musick and Balls, and caused Wine and Bread to be distributed very plentifully among

the Poor. On the 18th the Man of War called Regina del Mare sailed for the Levant, having on board Sig. Lelio Priareggio, a Genouese, Colonel of the Marines: Some Transports are gone under her Convoy, carrying 1500 Soldiers, 110000 Ducats in Specie, and Stores of Ammunition and Provisions. Two British Ships called the Fortune and the Elizabeth, arrived here this Week from London. The St. Luorenzo Giustiniano Man of War was launched yesterday at our Arsenal: She is to carry 80 Guns. On Sunday next the Trionfo, of like Force, is to be launched. The last Letters from our Fleet came by the way of Otranto and are dated the 27th past: They relate, that the Captain-General was at Patras with the Gallies; and that the Men of War of the Line, to the number of 20, were at Chimino near Santa Maura.

*Brussels July 6.* The Subsidies granted by the States of these Provinces, for subsisting the Walloon Troops, being expired, the Ministers of the Conference and the Council of State are consulting by what Means to provide for those Troops till the said States resolve upon a further Supply. Count Maldeghem of the Council of State is nominated to go on the 10th Instant to the Assembly of the States of Flanders at Ghent, in order to demand a Subsidy of two Millions and an half of Florins towards subsisting the said Forces one Year, beginning the 1st of November next: And in the mean time certain Bankers have agreed to advance a Sum for the Service of such Walloon Regiments as are on the Repartition of the Province of Flanders, on Promise of being repaid out of that new Subsidy. 'Tis believed the like Method will be used for subsisting those of the Walloons who are on the Repartition of Brabant, and of Hainault. On the 28th past, the Count de Vehlen, Commander in Chief of the Imperial Forces in the Spanish Netherlands, wrote a Letter to the Council of State, representing that the Townsmen of Louvain are so turbulent and vexatious to the Regiment of Imperialists quartered there, and the Animosities between them are risen to such a Height, that for preventing Tumults he desires that Regiment may be removed from thence and quartered in Dieff, at the Expence of the Burghers of Louvain; which Letter the Council of State have sent to the Ministers of the Conference, desiring them to comply with the Count de Vehlen's Request.

*Ratisbon, July 1.* Count Metternich the Prussian Envoy has published a sort of Manifesto here, setting forth the Reasons of the King his Master's undertaking the Sequestration of Pomerania, and the necessity of advancing with his Forces, and taking other Measures to prevent the King of Sweden's Designs of renewing the War in those Quarters. Prince Lewenstein the Emperor's principal Commissioner at the Dyet, was to set out on the 29th past from Vienna, in order to return to his Post here: His Son in Law Count Stahrenberg is to follow in three Weeks, as principal Ambassador of Austria. There is yet no certain News when the French Plenipotentiary Count Gergy will be here; and the Minister