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Turin, Decemb. 24.

THis day his Highness the Duke of *Sauoye*, who hath been for some time diverting himself with Hunting in the Country, returned hither, with intentions to keep the Holidays here. His Highness hath sent one of the Gentlemen of his Bedchamber, in quality of his Envoy to the Elector of *Bavaria*, to Compliment him upon the Birth of the young Prince his Son.

We are told, of Commissions that have been given out, for the raising of four Regiments of Foot, to be Commanded by the Marquis de *Leghorn*, the Count *Maffei*, the Count *Keruc*, and the Count *Vulpiam*. The French continue to work very hard on the Fortifications of *Pignerol*, which it is said, they advance apace.

Rome, Decemb. 26. The Marquis d' *Astorgas* continues to make his last visits, but so slowly, that it is easie to observe, the little inclination he has, of leaving this Court as yet, it being generally thought, he would first see Father *Nishard* assured of a Cap, at the next promotion of Cardinals, before he begin his journey towards his Government of *Naples*.

Here is lately arrived an Envoy from the Elector of *Bavaria*, to acquaint his Holyness with the Birth of a young Prince in that Family, to whom he is likewise to desire, his Holyness to be Godfather. On Tuesday and Wednesday last the Pope was somewhat indisposed, so that he could not perform the Ceremony of going on Christmas day to *St. Maries Magior*, which was however done by the Cardinal *Barberini*, who officiated in the room of his Holyness in the Functions of the day.

Milan, January 3. According to the orders our Governor had received from the Court at *Madrid*, the Troops begin to march, for the reinforcing our Frontiers, especially towards *Riedmont*, *Montsenat*, and *Finale*. Considerable quantities of Corn and other Grain, have been lately sent hence towards *Genova*, and other Sea Ports, in order to its being shipped there for *Sicily*, where it seems, notwithstanding all the care that hath been taken by the Vice-Roy the Prince de *Ligno*, to furnish them with Corn from *Tunis* and other parts, they continue in great want of it, to the extreme disheartning of those Inhabitants.

Madrid, January 6. Here is lately arrived the Conde de *Montoro* from the Court of *France*, whether he went in quality of Envoy Extraordinary from hence, From *Rome* they tell us, of the indisposition of our Ambassador the Marquis d' *Astorgas*, by reason of which, he had till then deferred his journey towards his Government of *Naples*, where Don *Pedro d' Aragon*, the present Vice-Roy, hath, as is said, been likewise lately very ill.

From *Malaga* of the 29th ult. they tell us, that they were assured from *Tangier*, that *Rassileta* was in the Field with a powerful Army, being as was thought, on his march towards *Argiers*. By a

Courrier arrived from *Portugal*, we have advise that the Queen was ill of the small Pox.

Venice, January 8. Here hath happened this week several accidents of Fire, in divers parts of this City, which though happily quenched, did howl ever very considerable dammage. Our Letters from *Zanz* tell us, that Cavalier *Qutrini*, who went hence in *September* last, in quality of Ambassador to the Port, had arrived at *Tenedos* in a very weak condition, on his way to *Constantinople*, and that he is since dead there; but since the Senate hath had no particular advice of it, we suspend our belief, till we hear farther; the same Letters likewise add, that the disorders in *Asia* are not as yet quite appeased, but seem however, so inconiderable, as not to give the Grand Signior any great trouble. The Corsairs of *Barbary*, have of late very much infested these Seas, though the *Malteses* with other Christian Gallies, continue to do them much dammage, having very lately taken two Vessels belonging to the said Corsairs, very richly laden, as they were passing from *Barbary* to *Candia*.

The Consuls whom the Republick sent the last year to *Soria*, *Tripoli*, *Sidon*, and *Aloppo*, have made very prosperous Voyages, so that they have here great hopes of a flourishing Trade in those parts.

Trier, January 8. Here hath been for some days the Marquis de *Louvois*, who was yesterday with our Elector to desire passage for some Troops, which he readily agreed to, provided they committed no disorders on their march.

Luxembourg, January 11. The French Troops assemble daily in these parts; yesterday 6000 Horse marched through *Wasserbillich*, and this day passed the River *Sour*, to which end, they had provided a Bridge of Boats, and so continued their march towards the Territories of the Elector of *Treves*; it is said, that Monsieur de *Louvois*, had before, written to Monsieur de *Louvoigny*, Commander in chief here, to desire passage for these Troops, which he said, his most Christian Majesty, sent as Succors to the Elector of *Cologne*, according to the Treaty of 1668 with that Elector.

Cologne, January 15. The Ratifications of our Treaty being interchanged, with the usual Ceremonies, between us and our Elector; there at present remains nothing more to be done, but that we have the Guaranty of the Emperour, and the Electors of *Montz*, *Trier*, and *Brandenburgh*, in which we cannot fear the least difficulty will be made; so that this whole affair, seems as good as concluded. Against the third of the next Month, the Troops of the Circle of *Westphalia*, will be ready to come into *Garrison* here, under the Command, as is said, of Monsieur *Valpot*.

From *Trier* they write, that Monsieur de *Louvois* had been there, to desire passage of that Elector, for 2500 Horse, which we are just now told, are already on their march, under the Command of the Duke de *la Feuillade*. The French Commissaries are providing great store of small Boats in these parts, to be employed, as we are told, for the making

king a Bridge over the Rhyn near *Keyserwaert*. The Bishop of *Strasburgh* and Prince *Willem* of *Furstenbergh* are both at *Bon*, where there is an assembly of the States of these Countries.

Ditto, Our advices daily tell us, of the nearer approach of several French Forces towards these parts; the 17 instant Monsieur de *Louvois*, is expected again at *Bon*, to confer with our Elector, concerning the march of the said Troops, and the appointing them Quarters in these parts. Yesterday went hence the Prince de *Vaudemont*, in order to his marching with his Regiment, at present quartered in the County of *Waldeck* for *Flanders*; the other Regiment which he is to bring into the Service of those Countries, being in the mean time raising in the parts hereabouts, and may in a short time be compleat, and ready to follow him to *Brussels*.

The Deputies of the Circle of *Westphalia*, are all parted from hence, on their way home, though some of them have promised to be here again, the beginning of *February*, when the Troops the Circle is to send hither, are to enter into Garrison here.

Brussels, *January 17*. Yesterday went hence Count *Marcin*, by order of his Excellency the Count de *Monterey* towards *Gelderland*, to visit our Fortifications in those parts. The Marquis del *Fresno*, designed Ambassador to His Majesty of *Great Brittain*, is still here, being as is said, to expect the arrival of the Deputies of the States General, to know what their Errand may be, before he begin his journey for *England*.

From *Luxemburgh* we have advice, of 4000 French Foot and 2000 Horse, that had passed through those Territories, on their march towards *Treves*, from whence they are, as is said, to proceed for *Bon*, *Nuis*, &c. and that Monsieur de *Louvois*, had sent before to desire free passage for them. The great preparations that are making in *France*, daily more and more startle us, though after all, we seem to promise our selves an unconcern at them.

Hague, *January 19*. Yesterday his Highness the Prince of *Orange*, returned hither from *Utrecht*; and this evening we likewise expect here the Velt-Marshal *Wurtt*. Yesterday the States of *Holland* were assembled the whole day, and then debated several matters of great importance, of which, the particulars are not yet certainly known. We cannot but wonder, that we as yet hear nothing farther, concerning the distributing the Commissions for the new Leavies, and the more, seeing it is reported, that they may be yet deferred for some time.

We are told, of an Extraordinary Ambassador the States General are thinking to send to His Majesty of *Great Brittain*; and that Monsieur *Beuering*, or *van Beuningen*, may be the person designed for that employment; the Heeren *Ruwaert van Putten*, and *Vrybergen*, together with the *Rhyngrave*, are now ready for their departure for *Brussels*, whither they will certainly begin their journey to morrow or next day at farthest.

Colonel *Bampfilds* Regiment, at present at *Cologne*, is, as we hear, thus disposed of; four Companies are to march to *Rynbergh*, of which the Colonels to be one; six Companies to *Doesburgh*; two Companies to *Emmerick*, and as many to *Acrnhem*.

Ditto, 22. On Tuesday last the States of *Holland* and *West-Friesland*, after long debate, which held them till almost ten a clock at night, at last resolved on the choosing a Captain General, and to give that Command to his Highness the Prince of *Orange*

for this Campaign; which resolution they yesterday acquainted the States General with, who it is said, seemed not at all satisfied with it, the rest of the Provinces desiring, the Command of Admirals might be annexed to that of Captain General, and that both might be conferred on his Highness during life, or at least until farther order; in the mean time the respective Deputies, have sent to acquaint their several Principals, with what the States of *Holland* have done herein, whose resolutions thereupon we may suddenly expect will be returned hither, and so this affair finally concluded; though many are of opinion, that some of the Provinces will make difficulty to agree with that of *Holland*, in the point of time.

It is now discoursed, that instead of raising the new Troops, we shall receive into our Service, several Foreign Forces from some of our Neighbours, who have offered to serve this State; with several Regiments both of Horse and Foot. On Monday last the Spanish Envoy here, received, as is said, farther orders from the Court at *Madrid*, to perfect the Treaty as present on Foot, between that Crown and this State. The Deputies of the States of *Holland*, have daily conferences with the Council of State, concerning the Military affairs, where the Prince of *Orange* was yesterday and this day present.

Here is at present an Envoy from the Duke of *Curland*, and is, as we are told, treating with the States, concerning that Dukes sending two Regiments into the Service of this State, under the Command of the Prince his eldest Son. We hear not as yet, of any answer the States have returned to the Memorial given in by his Excellency the English Ambassador, in which it is said, he demands satisfaction for *van Ghents* having refused to strike this last Summer to the *Merlin*.

Paris, *January 23*. We are told of a Treaty concluded by Monsieur de *Louvois* with the Elector of *Treves*, by which his Electoral Highness promises to continue Neutral, and to give free passage to such Troops, as his most Christian Majesty shall have occasion to pass through his Territories, &c. From *Metz* they write, of 12000 Men that had marched in three several Bodies from thence, towards the Electorate of *Cologne*; and were upon their arrival there, to be quartered in *Nuis*, *Bon*, *Keyserwaert*, and *Lin*. At *Liege* great quantities of Corn and other Grain, have been of late provided for the use of his Majesties Troops.

From *Theonville* they tell us, of the 14 instant, that there had some days before passed near that place 2000 Horse, on their march towards the Territories of *Cologne*; and that they daily expected 2000 Switzers, together with other Troops, who were to take the same way. Monsieur l'Éstrade, hath been some days since to visit the Dutch Ambassador here, by order from the King, what his Errand was, is not certainly said, though we since hear, that the said Ambassador despairing of being able to effect any thing, in order to the settling matters between his Majesty and the States his Masters, is preparing for his return home.

Plymouth, *January 14*. Yesterday arrived here the *Holmes* Frigate from the *Streights*; at the same time came into this Port four English Merchant men from those parts; the Seamen tell us, that they met with an *Argiers* man of War, who offered them not the least violence, but on the contrary, used them with much Civility; from which Treatment of the *Turks*; we conclude, that Sir *Edward Spragge* hath certainly concluded a Peace with them.