

The London Gazette.

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From Thursday August 15 to Sunday August 19. 1672.

Whitehall, August 16.

THis day in Council His Majesty was pleased to Order His Proclamation to be Published to this Effect; That whereas several persons have of late years presumed to cause certain pieces of Brass, Copper, and other base Metal; to be Stamped with their private Stamps, and then imposed those pieces upon the poor people for Pence, Halfpence, or Farthings, having at the same time bought in and hoarded up the small Silver Moneys, that so there might be a scarcity thereof in common payments, to the great defrauding of His Majesties Subjects; His Majesty to prevent this mischief for the future, hath been pleased to Order certain Farthings and Halfpence of Copper to be Stamped at the Mint; and further to direct, that such Halfpence and Farthings so to be Coyned, shall contain as much Copper in weight, as shall be of the true intrinsique value of an Halfpenny or Farthing respectively, the charges of Coyning and Uttering only deducted; which Halfpence and Farthings so Coyned and to be Coyned, His Majesty Wills shall be current Money; And that the same from and after the instant 16 day of August, shall pass and be received in all payments, which shall be made under the value of Sixpence, and no otherwise; And lastly, That if any persons shall after the first day of September next, presume to Make, Vend, or Utter any Pence, Halfpence, or Farthings, other then the Halfpence and Farthings by His Majesties Royal Proclamation Authorized and Allowed, or shall offer to counterfeit His Majesties Halfpence or Farthings, all such Offenders shall be held utterly inexcusable, and punished with exemplary severity, as by the said Proclamation will more fully appear.

Harwich, Aug. 15. The *Mermuid* having brought in here a very rich Ship, laden with Piece-Goods, and valued at near 50000*l.* which is thought will prove prize, is failed with her said Prize for the River of *Thames*.

Maeftrecht, Aug. 16. The French approach daily nearer to us, and are at present about 25000 Horse & Foot quartered in the Villages round about us; however, the general opinion is, that they will not besiege us, but march towards the *Rhine*. Yesterday arrived several squadrons of French Horse at *Visee*, with several Waggonns laden with Ammunition, where they passed the *Meuse*; at *Contro* and *Ardennaz* have likewise passed 16000 Foot, so that in all likelihood the whole French Army will come into these parts to attend the motion of the Troops that are said to be coming down out of *Germany*. Several skirmishes have lately passed between some parties of the Spanish Cavalry, and those of the Enemy, though without doing any thing considerable. The French have taken the Castle of *Huizen*.

Amsterdam, Aug. 17. From *Groningen* we have advice, that they had received several Companies into the Town, which had been landed by our Fleet at *Delfzile*, so that we hope the Enemy may be at last forced to quit that Siege, especially considering the *Brandenburgh* Forces may now very sud-

dainly begin to march. The report we had here of the death of the Bishop of *Munster*, and the Earl of *Benthem* proves a mistake. Our Fleet was according to our last advice, not far from the *Texel*.

Rotterdam, Aug. 19. This week failed two Capers out of the *Maes*, being mounted with 12 Guns apiece; we have already a great many abroad in all parts, which will make the seas very unsecure to pass for single Ships. We are told that at the Prince of *Oranges* late being at *Amsterdam*, the Inhabitants there had desired his Highness to appoint them a Governor, they being unwilling to trust the management of affairs, especially as to the military part of it, any longer in the hands of the *Burgh-masters*; to which his Highness replied, That he would himself be their Governor, and take care, that all things should be ordered for their best security. Here have of late been several reports in Town of the Bishop of *Munster* having been wounded, or as others say, killed, with several other principal Commanders of his Army before *Groningen*; but our last Letters from thence convince us of the mistake, telling us, that the said Bishop was in perfect health, and continued the Siege with much obstinacy, though at the same time they could not but hope, that considering the good condition the place seems to be as yet in, by means of the succors they have of late received from several parts, they should be sufficiently able to defend themselves. This morning, we hear, happened great disorders at *Delf*, the occasion of which is not yet certainly said, the Commonalty having in a tumultuous manner plundered the houses of several of the Magistrates, some of whom they so severely used, that they lay without hopes of being able to live many hours; several of the Inhabitants were likewise killed and wounded in this confusion, and we cannot yet hear that things are composed there.

Groningen, Aug. 16. The Enemy continues still the Siege with much resolution, whilst in the mean time we are not wanting in any thing which may conduce to our defence; we have received into the Town several succors from *Amsterdam* and other places, and now lately are arrived several Companies from *Delfzile*, where they were put ashore from on board our Fleet, so that we seem in good heart here, and resolve to defend the place to the last; however, the enemy does us much mischief by the Firebals they continue throwing into the place in great numbers, which have in several houses taken fire, yet hitherto happily quenched without doing any great mischief; The Enemy hath made several attacks, but been still beaten off with the loss of a great many Men, and some on our side. We had some days since hoped that they would have given over the Siege, they having not fired one Gun for two days together upon us, but were satisfied of the contrary, when the third day, we saw them attack the place with greater fury than ever, though we had the good fortune to beat them off; The Bishop of *Munster* hath caused the Red Flag to be put up in the Army, to threaten us in case we prevent not the same by a timely surrender, with an absolute ruine if he be-

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