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Melazzo, Jan 31.

Within these 3 or 4 days several French deserters are come hither from *Messina*, they tell us, that the French Fleet lately arrived there had not brought any supply of Soldiers or Ammunition. That there was a great scarcity of Provisions, and that the French Fleet had been much shattered in the Fight with the Dutch on the eighth instant, and that they were refitting, with intention in 3 or 4 days to return towards *Provence*.

Naples, Febr. 25. The day after the date of our last, which was the 18 instant, Lieutenant-Admiral *de Ruyter* sailed with the ships under his command for *Melazzo*, having, while he was here, been treated by our Viceroy with great respects and kindness. The Prince of *Montesarchio* is, as we are told, commanded to *Madrid*, to give an account of several matters relating to his conduct of the Armada. Our advices assure us, that the Provisions which the French lately brought to *Messina*, were not at all proportionable to the necessities that City was in, and that those Inhabitants continue still in great want of Victuals. The French we hear have lately seized six Barks laden with Oyl and Corn, which would have passed the Fare.

Madrid, Febr. 26. Five hundred thousand Crowns have lately been remitted from hence to the Duke of *Villa Hermosa*, Governor of the Spanish Netherlands; and we are told, that far more considerable Sums will follow so soon as the Gallions arrive, which are expected the next Month; for by a Vessel arrived from *Cuba*, we have advice, that on the 29 of *November* last, the Gallions arrived in the *Havana*. Some days since parted hence *Don Diego de Ibarra*, for *Alicante*, from whence he will pass to *Italy*, to command our Armada in those parts. The Viceroy of *Catalonia* presses very much for succors from hence; some Moneys have been sent him: it's believed the Enemy will attack us very briskly on that side this Summer. *Don John of Austria* continues at *Saragoza*, and the Kingdom of *Arragon* without a Viceroy, those States desiring that the King would first do them the honor to come among them, and to take the usual Oath, for the maintaining their ancient Liberties, &c. The Marquis de *Villa Garcia*, who hath resided some time on the part of this Crown at *Genoua*, is now going with the Character of Ambassador to *Venice*, in the room of the Marquis de *la Fuente*, who, it's said, is to go and reside in that quality in *England*. From *Lisbon* they write, that they are fitting out a Fleet again, to be employed as was given out, against the Corsairs of *Barbary*: and that the Prince Regent was sending an extraordinary Embassy hither.

Copenhagen, Febr. 10. On Sunday last died here the Velt-Mareschal *Sedel*. To morrow a Squadron of our Men of War will set sail, to hinder the Swedes from sending any succors over to *Pomeran*; and the rest of our Men of War are sitting with the greatest diligence possible, the Seamen and others working on them

even on Sundays after Divine Service. Yesterday arrived here several Vessels from *Wisnar*, with Soldiers and some Cannon. *Tonningen* in *Holstein* is demolishing with all speed, by order from hence. This afternoon arrives here a Vessel from *Danzick*, the Master tells us nothing of news, not having met any ships at Sea.

Dijon, March 1. We have had of late much talk here of a great Fight of Birds near *Dole*, which is told thus, (with what truth we know not) That on the 26 past, about nine in the morning, were seen between *Dole* and *Salins*, a most incredible number of Birds, who by their multitude darkned the Sky; after having for some time as it were skirmished together in great confusion, they separated into two Bodies, and after most horrible cries, they engaged against each other with such a fury, that several thousands have been found upon the earth, some smothered, with most of their Feathers off, and others all bloody and torn; these Birds were of 100 several sorts, of several sizes, and several colours; those which were most numerous weighed 4 or 5 pounds, their claws were like those of Indian Hens, nibs crooked like Parrots, and their feathers of an Ash colour. About 500 paces of ground were covered with these dead Carcasses to a mans height, besides several thousands that were found dispersed here and there, insomuch that it being feared the Air might be infected by them, Pioneers have been sent from *Dole* to bury them.

Strasburg, March 9. The 7 instant arrived here *Mon. Verjus*, Envoy from the Most Christian King: as yet he has not had Audience of our Magistrates, nor made any overture to them. We have advice from *Saverac*, that the Wagons which were made use of for the bringing the late Convoy thither from *Metz*, have been sent to *Nancy* to lade quantity of Provisions there likewise for *Saverac*. The French begin to draw together in these parts, and though we are now assured that the Most Christian King does not design to come into *Germany* this Summer, yet we have reason to believe, that the Campaign will not be less brisk on this side.

Cologne, March 1. On Tuesday last happened a little War between the Students of this City and the Inhabitants of *Duyts*, on the other side of the *Rhine*, on this occasion; The said Students having resolved to pillage the houses of some Jews, and of other Inhabitants of *Duyts*, with whom they had had a quarrel the day before, and repairing thither in a Body to execute their design, the Burghers put themselves in Arms, and going about to oppose the Students, several Muskets were discharged on both sides, by which 4 or 5 were killed. Nothing was done farther at that time, but the thing is not yet accommodated. Six hundred Men are marched from *Bonne* towards *Treves*. The Duke of *Newburg* continues his Levies of Infantry, but has not as yet begun to raise any Cavalry.

Hamburg, March 11. The stopping of our Ships by the Danes at *Gluckstadt* (of which we told you in our last) has occasioned great disorder here; for no sooner was the news come to Town, but the Seamen gathering together

together in great numbers, went in a Tumult to the house of the *Sieur Habens*, the Imperial Commissary, to demand satisfaction of him, but he retired in time out of Town. The Tumult continues still, and to appease it, our Magistrates have promised that 30 Vessels shall be forthwith sent out with two Convoys, for several parts. The Confederates have appointed the 24 instant the day for the Rendezvous of the Troops designed for the siege of *Stade*.

Disso, March 13. The disorders of the Seamen are now appeared upon the return of our Deputies that were sent into *Gluckstadt*, with a promise, that the ships arrested there, should be released again. The 24 instant, the Confederate Troops are to Rendezvous at *Ferden*, from whence they will march directly to the Siege of *Stade*, which is already blocked up both by Water and Land. The preparations in *Denmark* are carried on with more than ordinary application, and it is expected that we shall very suddenly hear of some action on that side, that King intending as is said to pass the *Sound*, and to endeavor to recover the Isle of *Schonen*, which formerly belonged to *Denmark*.

Brussels, March 14. His Excellency the Duke de *Villa Hermosa* has directed our Magistrates to provide a place for the laying up in this City a considerable quantity of Corn, for the use of the Army this Summer. His Excellency has likewise caused a free Pardon to be published for all such as have deserted this service, provided they return into it within three Weeks. We are told that the French will not be so strong in Cavalry this Campagne as they were the last, and that their Forces on this side will not consist in above 8000 Horse, and 25 or 30000 Foot. The Most Christian King does certainly come into these parts, and accordingly the necessary preparation is making at *Courtray*. The French are still at work for the plaining a large way between *Chievre* and *Hayne*, which makes us apprehend their design may be upon *Mons*. The *Sieur de Louvigny* being made choice of to command the *Luxemburg* Troops, which are to come to our assistance; the *Marquis de Conflans* will command in *Luxemburg* during his absence. The Son of the Count *Tassis* having been on Friday last as far as *Scarlebeck*, to take the Air, was surprized by a French party, and carried away Prisoner to *Charleroy*. On Thursday last arrived here from *Holland* the Prince of *Vaudemon*, where he had been to make a visit to the Prince of *Orange*. Several Dutch Troops are arrived at *Antwerp* by Water from *Holland*.

Disso, March 17. The French give us daily more and more cause to believe that they design to attack *Ipres*; the Garrison there is already pretty strong, and his Excellency has within these two days sent orders to the Spanish Regiment that lies at *Bruges* to march thither, for the farther reinforcing it, and some of the Dutch Troops that are expected from *Holland* will be put into *Bruges*. There remains now not any doubt but that the Most Christian King will come in person with his Army against these Countreys, and great preparations are making at *Courtray*, *Lille*, and other places of the French Conquests, against his Majesties arrival in those parts. The *Marquis de Grana*, who arrived here from the *Hague*, having had several Conferences with his Excellency, is returned thither again, finally to resolve with the Ministers of the other Confederates there, about matters relating to the Campagne. Our last Letters from *Spain* told us, that it was feared *Catalonia* would be in great danger this Summer, for that the French make great preparations on that side. We have Letters from *Lille* which give us an ac-

count, that the *Sieur Pelletier*, Intendant there, had been sent by that City to the Most Christian King, to pray he would cause his Forces to besiege *Ipres*, which at present very much impedes its Commerce.

Hague, March 17. Yesterday the Prince of *Orange* returned from *Schenckscans*, and to morrow the States of *Holland* will be assembled. The Resident of this State at *Brussels*, is arrived here, and hath given the States an account of the present condition those Provinces are in, and of the want they have of a speedy and effectual assistance from hence. It was said hereupon, that the Prince would have gone directly from *Schenckscans* towards *Brabant*, to have halted his Troops into the Field; but it seems his Highness thought fit first to return thither, to assist in the Assembly of the States of *Holland*. Our Letters from *Hamburg* give us an account of great disorders that are there amongst the Seamen, occasioned by the stopping of their ships by the Danes at *Gluckstadt*, on pretence that they had Provisions in them designed for *Stade*. That City is already blocked up by Land and by Water, and it will not be long ere it formally be besieged. From *Copenhagen* they write, that through the great diligence that had been used there, 23 ships of War were already fitted, wanting on y their Men and Provisions, and that till they could be all supplied therewith, the King had ordered that six of the principal of them should be put into a pollure to sail, to hinder the transportation of the succors designed from *Sueden* for *Pomeren*. The States have Letters from the Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyter*, dated at *Naples*, in which he advises, that having refitted his ships, he was going to set sail from thence for *Melazzo*; though we seem to wish here, that before he have any farther Engagement with the French Fleet, the new reinforcement that is ready to sail from hence will be joined with him, for that the French at present are much stronger then he. From *Sirasburg* they write, that the French continue to draw their Troops together, in order to the forming a very considerable Body; but that it's not yet known whether their design be to make an incursion into the Countrey of *Brigow*, or to attack the Imperialists in *Lauterburg*. We have advice that the Spanish Gallions arrived the 29 of *November* last in the *Havana*, so that they may be this Month expected at *Cadix*.

Ostend, March 19. We have advice, that 7 Dutch Men of War are past by towards the Channel, two of them mounted with 60 Guns, and the other 5 from 50 to 40, being the ships designed for the reinforcing the Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyter*.

Paris, March 18. The *Mareschal de Montmorency* is parted from hence towards *Germany*, where he is to command the Kings Forces this Summer. The Prince of *Conde* continues very much indisposed at his house at *Comilly*. The Kings departure continues fixed for the 15 of the next Month. The *Mareschal de Créquy* will part hence in eight days for *Flanders*.

Advertisements.

¶ *Sylva Sylvarum*: Or, A Natural History

in Ten Centuries. Written by the Right Honorable *Francis Lord Verulam, Viscount St Albans*. The Tenth Edition In which is added an Epitomy of another piece of his Lordships Works, Intituled, *Novum Organum* (being Translated for the clearer understanding of this his *Natural History*) Never before published in English. Sold by *Tho. Lee*, at the *Turks-briar* in *Fleet-Street*.

On the 25th of *February* last, in the evening, out of the Shop of *James Crier* Apothecary, a thick gilded Book, like a Bible, with 200 Leaves written on both sides of Physick. Whoever gives notice at the *Black Dog* in *Fleet-Street*, so that the said Book may be had again, shall have 10 s. Reward.

On Wednesday night last, a large white Spaniel, with one great round yellow spot on each side with yellow ears. Whoever gives notice of him at the *Red-Horse* in *Piccadilly*, shall have 20 s. Reward.