

T H E  
M A R Y L A N D G A Z E T T E,

No. 170

*Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.*

WEDNESDAY, July 27, 1748.

M E C H L I N, May 2.

**T**HE detachment commanded by M. de Colignon, lieutenant general of a body of Hussars in the service of the States General, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of last month carried off all the corn which was to be sent to the camp before Maestricht, which greatly alarmed us; and the next day the same officer set fire to all the boats laden with hay, straw, and fascines which were at Schelt, a village upon the Scheld. He was pursued, but it was impossible to overtake him.

Petersburg, April 2. The Weather having begun to be more moderate, double Diligence is used in equipping the Men of War, Frigates and Gallies, to the End that the Fleet may be ready to sail towards the End of next Month. 'Tis still assured that 10,000 Foot will be put on board this Fleet to be transported to the Low-Countries, in case the French make any Delay in concluding a just Peace.

Vienna, April 21. It may be depended upon, that we have at length gained a considerable Ascendency over the French at the Porte. The Baggage of the Turkish Ambassador is already arrived, and he is speedily expected in this City, with presents to the Value of 200 Sequins. The Weather being grown better, the Russian Forces march at a great Rate, and will arrive at Moravia some Days sooner than was expected. It is said that Prince Charles of Lorraine will very speedily set out for Italy, in order to take Possession of the Duchy of Guastalla, which he is to hold as a Fief of the Empire. Her Imperial Majesty has directed Prince Lewis of Wolfenbuttle, to acquaint Major General Haddich with her Intention to bestow upon him the first Regiment of Hussars that shall become vacant. We begin to conceive great Hopes of the Conferences at Aix la Chapelle, where it is said, that the Count de St. Severin acts with greater Candour than the Ministers entrusted with the French Affairs did at Breda; so that we shall very soon know whether a Peace is to be expected from the Negotiations there or not.

Hague, May 3. His Serene Highness the Prince Stadtholder, when he took Leave of the Council of State; delivered himself to this Effect:

Noble and Mighty Lords,

*You know but too well the unhappy and critical Circumstances into which our Country has fallen within these few Years, by the unjust Procedure of the Court of Brabant, without its being in the Power of your Noble Mightinesses to hinder it, which has been no less afflicting to the People in general; than prejudicial to the Glory of my Ancestors; and of the Welfare of the Low-Countries: I have, for these Reasons, thought it my Duty, not only in virtue of the Dignity which which I am invested; but from the Effect of that sincere Love which I have for our Country; and the Consideration of the Necessity of Affairs, to put myself at the Head of my Army; being ready to sacrifice my Blood for the sake of Liberty and Religion. It is not any Motive of my particular Glory that engages me to this Step; the Sole End I propose it to revive the Glory of my Ancestors; and I hope I shall not return till our inestimable Liberty is effectually secured by a good Peace, or by the Success of my Arms. I had not in the least doubt but your Noble Mightinesses will support and assist me; with the same Zeal and Fidelity with which I am ready to sacrifice my Life for the Preservation of my Subjects. It is upon this that I rely; and shall sit out this Evening or Tomorrow Morning.*

Accordingly his Serene Highness set out from hence on Wednesday, the first of this Month, at Half an Hour after one, for Breda, accompanied by her Royal Highness, who parted with him between Delft and Rotterdam, and returned hither the same Evening. It is believed that his Serene Highness reached Breda Yesterday, whither the General Officers, that composed the Council of War, will go on Monday next.

Lige, April 23. The French began to fire upon Maestricht the 21<sup>st</sup> Inst. at eight in the Morning with 103 Cannon and

Mortars, but the Fire from the Town was so brisk and well served, as to entirely dismount a large Battery of Cannon, and another of Mortars. The French suffer much by Water in their Trenches; the Horses sink above their Knees in the Camp; and the want of Forge begins to be felt among them, which will not soon be remedied, as there are only three Boats now lying at Namur. Part of the Cavalry which was about Brussels has been moved so as to be within 24 Hours March of the Camp. The Enemy have not entirely finished the second Parallel, nor brought their Batteries near enough to rain the Defences of the Town. M. Aylva has hitherto made a gallant Defence, and the French confess no Artillery was ever better served. The wet Weather has made their Troops very sickly.

April 30. The Night between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> the Garrison made a Sally, tore up the Besiegers Gabions, and level'd Part of their Works. The French continued advancing their Works towards the Cover'd Way till between the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Inst. when Marshal Saxe attacked it with a large Body of Troops, and after a vigorous Resistance carried it; but the Enemy confess 900 Grenadiers kill'd, besides what the several Regiments have lost, and wounded. During this, M. Aylva made a Sally on the Wyke Side, which succeeded beyond Expectation, for they nail'd up 14 Pieces of Cannon, and kill'd near 1000 of the Besiegers: A French Regiment that was in the Trenches behaved ill on this Occasion; The Marquis de Bay, Lieutenant General, had his Leg shattered in this Action, which was cur'd off soon after. We are positively assured by a French Officer of Rank, arrived this afternoon from the Camp of the Besiegers, that they have been entirely beat out of the Cover'd Way again. The Bombardiers of the Garrison acquire great Reputation, and the French do them Justice in all their Accounts. The Governor is already preparing for the Defence of a Breach; and the Besieging Army has suffered so much by the bad Weather, and other Accidents that attend it, that it is said they will be obliged to go into Quarters as soon as the Siege is over. The Weather is now dry, but very cold. This Day the River became navigable.

Steenbergen, May 6. By virtue of the conditions settled with the French at Aix la Chapelle, it was agreed, that Maestricht, after the siege was over, should remain provisionally in the hands of the French, till the ratification of a peace; and then to be evacuated at the same time and in the same manner as the other places belonging to the States General, possessed by the troops of France. The Duke of Cumberland, to ease the place from undergoing the fatigues which would have risen from the continuation of the siege, on the 3<sup>d</sup> in the morning, sent from his quarters at Salein, Lord George Sackville, one of his aide camps, to marshal Saxe, that he may propose to agree with him about an honourable capitulation for the place, by which the garrison should march out with all the honours of war, and the town be entered by the French, upon special condition, that they should touch neither the artillery, nor the magazines thereunto belonging, and that every thing in respect of the inhabitants should positively remain in the same state, till the time of its being restored.

Hague, May 7. N. S. An express arrived here early last Sunday morning from the Prince of Orange with the News that preliminaries were signed at Aix on the 30<sup>th</sup> of last month. The States General were immediately assembled and acquainted with this important news; the preliminaries have not yet been laid before them; but it is said that the Prince of Orange intends to do it himself the day after tomorrow, and that his highness is to return on purpose to the Hague.

Paris, May 3. We have a report here that the court has received a confirmation of the taking of Pondicherry by the English and Dutch; which, however, seems to have no influence on our actions, for they are mounted up to 1235 livres, tho' it is said this is owing to the strong hopes of a speedy peace.