

Sardinia, in order to obstruct the march of the latter, has ordered trenches to be cut in the gorges of the mountains, and redoubts to be erected on their tops. A great snow is also lately fallen, which has again choaked up the passages that were before almost practicable.

By the last advices, the Spanish army has passed the Var, and the advanced guard of that of M. Belleisle, which marched by St. Remo and Oneglia, is arriv'd on the Genoese territories, while the rest of his army has taken the route of Piedmont.

*Genoa.* On the 15th of June, the Genoese General Finelli, having been intercepted at La Scoffera with the French General Lannoni, made an effort to re-open the passage on the side of the Bisagno. His strength consisted of 500 French, and an equal or greater number of Peasants. The Croats and Waraldins, who defended the posts that this corps attacked, soon repulied them, and pursued them sabre in hand above a quarter of a league, cutting in pieces all those who were not more nimble than themselves: The Genoese General was kil'd on this occasion.

The Duke de Boufflers, who commanded the French troops at Genoa, the Marquis de Taubin, commander of the Spaniards, and a nobleman of the house of Pallavicini, died there in the end of June; the two last of their wounds, the first of the small-pox: The Duke de Boufflers is succeeded in the government of Flanders by his son.

*From the London Gazette, Extraordinary, July 22.*

*Turin, July 21.* On the 19th the Count de Briqueras, with 10 battalions of Piedmontese and 4 of Austrians, was attacked in his intrenchments on the heights of Assiete, near Exiles, by 40 battalions of French, whom he obliged to retire with the loss of at least 5000, amongst which are the Chevalier de Belleisle, and 300 officers. The Piedmontese lost but 120.

*From the LONDON Gazette, July 28.*

*Head Quarters at Rycbolt, July 31, N. S.*

We received here, four or five Days since, the first Report of the Victory obtain'd the 19th Instant, by the Imperial and Piedmontese Troops, from the French Camp in our Neighbourhood, where they own the Loss of 4500 Men, and 400 officers, upon that occasion. This good News comes now confirmed by Count Brown's son, whom his Father has sent Express with it to his Royal Highness. He arriv'd this Day, and brings the following Particulars.

*Account of the Action between the Allied Troops and those of France, near the Col della Sieta, as it was sent to General Count Braune, by the Major General Count Colloredo: Dated at the aforesaid Place, July 20, 1747.*

I Would not fail of sending your Excellency a faithful Report of the March of my four Battalions towards the Col della Sieta, and of the glorious Attack of our Intrenchments by the Enemy, and the good Success with which we repulied them, and gained the Victory.

The 16th of this Month, I received Order from Turin, to march forthwith the four Battalions towards Perusa, and set forward accordingly: But before I got thither, I had notice, from the Commandant of Feneffrelles, of the Approach of the Enemy, and was earnestly press'd by him to advance that very Day to that Place, which I executed after a very fatiguing March.

The 17th, as the Enemy approached more and more, I ordered the two Battalions of Traun and Hagenbach to march quite up to the Intrenchments at the Col della Sieta, advancing myself with the two other Battalions, viz. those of Colloredo and Forgatsch, upon the Heights of Barboti, from whence I saw, in the Valley opposite to me, a body of the Enemy, from twelve to fifteen Battalions.

The 18th, we still saw the Enemies Tents, but the greatest Part of their Troops was gone; whereupon I quitted that Post towards the Evening, advancing in the Night, with incredible Fatigue, thro' Roads almost impassable in the Mountains, as far as Valsta, and reached the Col della Sieta before Day break, keeping along the side of the Intrenchments.

The 19th, the two Battalions had hardly encamped, when the Enemy came up exactly in the Front of the Intrenchment, consisting, according to the Account of their own Officers, now our Prisoners, of 44 Battalions.

Whilst their advanced Posts were skirmishing with our Volunteers, and even driving them from a Hill close by our Redoubts, they planted seven cannons upon the same Hill, and began to flank our Intrenchments with them, and formed themselves there in four columns; the first of which, seeing that we

had no Artillery, formed itself at 100 Paces only, behind one of the Eminencies of the Redoubt. There they halted till such Time as their second Column, which was on their Right, had got within a certain Distance of the Eminence of our Intrenchment on the Left, and the Third to the Right, whilst the Fourth was passing through the Valley, in order to attack us in the Rear. Which Disposition being made, they began to assault us on all sides with such Vigour, or rather Fury, that their first column, under cover of their cannon, pushed on quite to the Parapet of the Redoubt; but it met there of warm a Reception from the Grenadiers of the Sardinian Regiment of Guards, that, after a combat of three Hours, it was almost totally ruined.

The second column, which attack'd the Flank where I was posted with the battalions of Traun and Forgatsch, had the Misfortune to be likewise repulied with a great slaughter, after two Hours combat.

The Third column, which pour'd down from a Mountain upon the left Flank of the Intrenchment, was repulied five Times.

The Fourth column appeared very little, and the Issue of the Whole was, that, towards seven in the Evening, the Enemy rallied their broken and flying Troops, retreating to the Place from whence they set out, and leaving us a complete Victory.

I cannot but extremely commend the bravery and conduct, as well of the Troops of Piedmont, as our own; and in particular I am oblig'd to testify my satisfaction in the behaviour of the battalion of Forgatsch, whose Lieutenant Colonel Deaschkowitz, after the enemy was on our side entirely repulied, voluntarily offered himself, as did a twenty Grenadiers, with their Lieutenant, to throw themselves into the Redoubt where the Piedmontese were posted, and where their Grenadiers and Regiment of Guards, having consumed all their Ammunition, could no longer hop the Enemy but with their Bayonets, and stones; which Redoubt our soldiers above-mentioned assisted them in defending to the End.

The Field of battle was given to our soldiers to pillage in the Face of the Enemy, and our whole Loss is inconsiderable, whereas that of the Enemy exceeds 4000 men killed, wounded, and Prisoners.

Amongst the slain is the Chevalier de Belleisle, commander in chief, and Major General Arnault, with a great Number of other officers.

Amongst the prisoners, the Number of whom amounts to 11 or 1200, is the Brigadier Bergeie. We have taken also six colours, and I send your Excellency herewith the three, which were taken by our Battalions.

The Enemy left 600 wounded men at Saye, after their Retreat, being all too much hurt to bear removing; and the French General De Mally has written to the Piedmontese General Count Briqueras concerning them.

The Enemy moves off by the Col de Sestrier, making, in all Appearance, for Briancon. It must be acknowledg'd, to their Praise, that their Dispositions for the Attack were excellently concerted, and executed by their Troops with a great deal of Bravery.

*Translation of a Letter from a late Magistrate of Antwerp, to a Burgomaster of Rotterdam, July 31, N. S.*

"The Noise of the French Artillery against Bergen-op-Zoom, cannot fail of breaking your rest; but can't be discouraged; that City still holds out, and defends herself vigorously; and notwithstanding the rude Treatment she has received from the French, and the Attempts they have made to force her to submit to their Will, she still preserves her Maidenhead, and, as assur'd, will rather suffer herself to be torn in Pieces, than that Louis the Well-belov'd should obtain it; so hearty an Aversion has she to him, for making such violent Attempts upon her Chastity. It is however to be fear'd, in spite of the Opposition which she makes to the French King's Flames, that the amiable Bergen-op-Zoom, after the Example of her fine and rich Neighbours, whether Maidens or no, matters not, may, possibly, upon being too closely tickled, yield to the Instances and redoubled Carresses of one of the greatest or Monarchs, who indeed, according to his own Declaration, is not so desirous of gaining her Maidenhead, as her Friendship and Confidence: But what will not People in his Conditon say to gain their Ends? Since after all, every Creature and Thing yields to the Force of Gold, of Cannon or of Love. I cannot tell how to answer more for Bergen-op-Zoom than for Breda, nor for Breda than Williamsstadt and Rotterdam; with all which Louis the Conqueror is evidently in Love. Be all this however as it will, the French Nation are very desirous that their Monarch was less inclin'd to tamble