

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, November 18, 1747.

An Extract of a Letter from a Foreign Minister at the HAGUE, dated August 8.

ACCORDING to the best Advices which have lately been receiv'd from Paris, and by two Letters from the Army, it appears that the French Ministry are in the utmost Perplexity, as well in Regard to the unsuccessful Operations in Brabant and Italy, as to the Disgrace of the Queen Dowager of Spain, which has been occasion'd by the Discovery of the secret Intelligence that Princess held with France, and which, according to what is reported, was to have been attended with Consequences that would have astonish'd all Europe. But as what was unsuccessfull, is still so great a Mystery, that even those who are in Employment, are not come to the exact Knowledge of it, we must wait till better inform'd before we say any Thing further of it. But to return to the Advices from Paris: 'Tis said the Dutchess of Belleisle is so touch'd at the News of the Death of the Chevalier her Brother-in-Law, and mourns so incessantly for that Loss, that the Queen is greatly affected with it, and has sent several Times, as well to enquire of her Health, as to assure her of her Friendship, and the Protection of his Majesty. As Mess. de Belleisle really lived like Brethren, and their Union and Friendship were so cordial and perfect, as well in domestick Affairs, as in those which concern'd the Service of his Majesty, that at Court they obtained the Names of Orestes and Pylades; 'tis very much apprehended, lest the Death of the Chevalier should either unhinge the Measures of the Marshal, prejudice his Health, or put him upon attempting something despartate that may occasion his Death, which would be a triple Loss to France; these Brothers being esteem'd the two best Heads in that Kingdom, the Marshal for the Cabinet, and the Chevalier for War, and being perfectly united, they were alone capable of directing the Affairs of that Nation, both within and without, in Peace and in War. If any Body is oblig'd in Conscience to make a Funeral Oration for the Chevalier, it is Cardinal Tencin, who was many Years Papil of the two Brothers in Civil Law and Politicks.

Ferrara, July 30. 'Tis reported, that by Virtue of a new Treaty made between the Courts of Vienna and Turin, the King of Sardinia is to take Possession of Pavia and the Pavese, the 9th of next Month. A new Tax has been demanded of the State of Parma, to the Amount of 100,000 Florins, which however has been since moderated to 75,000, half of which is payable the 15th of August, and the rest the 30th of the same Month.

Chambery, August 10. Marshal Belleisle is fallen dangerously sick, and 'tis said that the Infant is retiring to Aix.

Paris, August 11. There is a Talk of sending Count Lowendahl into Italy as soon as the Siege of Bergen-op-Zoom is at an End, and of desiring the King of Spain to give the Command of his Army to Count Gages.

Breda, August 10. 'Tis reported that General Baronial has made himself Master of a Convoy which was going from Antwerp to the Army of Count Lowendahl.

L O N D O N.

August 13. Capt. Luke Mercer, Commander of the Besborough, being on a Cruise off the Isle of Man, had Intelligence of a French Privateer lying between that Island and Hollyhead, in order to intercept our Dublin and Liverpoole Trade; and that she had taken several Vessels, and had the Ransomers on board; on which he went in Quest of her, and was so fortunate as to meet and take her, after fifteen Hours Chase, near this Bar. She is a Half-Row Galley, rows with 28 Oars, and had 40 Men on board, besides Ransomers, and several English and Irish, who made their Escape when he drove her on Shore.

August 29. By the last Dutch Mail there were Letters from Harlem, dated the 1st of September, which say, that an Express passed through that Place in great Haste, who said that he

brought good News from Bergen-op-Zoom. Besides, there are Letters in Town of the 2d of September which confirm what is contained therein, and add, that it was apprehended, part of the French Troops had already quitted their camp; and that it was certain, that they had removed their Artillery from the Batteries they had erected before Fort Rover; that there had been for some days a great Fermentation in the French camp; and that Count Lowendahl had been under continual Apprehensions of a Mutiny, since he had hanged up a French officer for an accident, that he could neither foresee nor prevent, viz. the deserting of one Half of his Guard upon a rally from the Town.

According to private Letters from Constantinople, they have received authentic accounts there, that the Great Mogul has given the French to understand at Pondicherry, that unless they immediately restore Fort St. George and its Dependencies, to the English, he will employ the whole Force of his Empire, in driving them out of his Dominions; and will immediately make Reprisals upon the subjects of the Crown of France, and prohibit all Intercourse between their subjects and his own.

Count Lowendahl has certainly left the command of the French Army employed in the siege of Bergen-op-Zoom, and is gone, some say, to Antwerp, some to Brussels; and for this different Causes are assigned, but the best Accounts say he is ill of a Fever. The Reinforcements and supplies intended for the Garrison are received, so that every Thing goes well in the Town, and the Detachments from the grand army are arriv'd in the Lines. Whether therefore the French persist in carrying on the siege, or attempt forcing the Lines, we have Reason to hope a good Account will be given of them, and that the french King will not add a *Te Deum* for taking Bergen-op-Zoom to those which have been sung already.

Though there has been no Express for some Days past from Bergen-op-Zoom, yet we are assured there is a letter in Town from a Person of very great Distinction, which says, *That the Succours, Artillery, Ammunition, Provisions, &c. were all sent safe into the Town, that the Garrison continued in the best Spirits, and seem'd now to contain any Difficulties that might be encountered with, concerning the siege. That on Saturday last was the warmest Dispute that has been since the Commencement of the siege; that Count Lowendahl having been thrice driven from the Camp, was since gone to Antwerp; that the heavy Baggage had been sent away; and that there was all the Probability imaginable that the siege would immediately be rais'd.*

On the 12th Instant at 4 o'Clock in the Morning, his Majesty's sloop the Viper, Robert Hay commander, fell in with the Hector, a Man of War of twenty eight Guns, which had unloaded all her Cargo at the Canaries, except nine Chests of Dollars. Captain Hay went along side of her with his sloop of fourteen guns, before he hawled down his French colours and hoisted English, within half a Pistol shot. He began with the foremost gun, the Fire running aft, and in the mean time received the Hector's Broadside: In this Position he remained two Hours and a half, when the brave and gallant captain unfortunately received a six Pounder in his breast. Lieutenant Lendrick, who has bravely seconded him, and owns he profited by his Example, continued the Engagement half an Hour longer, till the Hector struck. The sloop has received but little Damage in her Hull, but the Hector is most miserably torn in every Place, not having three Feet of entire Board in the side on which she was attacked. The Hector is brought to a Standstill.

They write from Petersburgh, that certain foreign Ministers there have demanded a clear Explanation of the real Intention of the Ministry, in Reference to the present Conjunction of Affairs in Europe, that it may be known whether succours may be depended upon, how soon, and in what Degree. This is supposed to be owing to the remarkable Expedition of the Fleet, which after showing itself on the Coast of Finland, and being there received with a great Appearance of Friendship by the Swedish Government, who gave unusual and extraordinary Marks