

*Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.*

WEDNESDAY, September 21, 1748.

*V I E N N A, May 11.*



On the 18th instant in the morning Zaid Efendi, envoy extraordinary from the Grand Signior, arrived at the Schouhat, a mile from this place, with a retinue of 94 persons, where he will remain a few days before he comes to Prince Oetting's palace, which is prepared for his residence during his stay here, which will be some months.

*Liege, May 21.* The French and Swiss guards arrived at Brussels the 18th instant; they are to be quartered in the suburbs 'til further orders. The regiment du Roy is cantoned between Louvain and Brussels. In Louvain and the neighbourhood there will be 16000 men; they have actually formed a large magazine in the town. Tirlemont, and the villages round about it, will have 10,000 men. The count d'Estrees will have his head quarters at Ranst, about a league from Liers, where he will continue 'til the peace is concluded. He commands at Vilvord, Mechlin, and along the Little Neeche 'til within a league of Antwerp. He hath about 20,000 men with him, of which near 12,000 are horse and dragoons. There are erecting great magazines at Vilvord, Mechlin, and Liers. The marquis de Breze marched with his corps the 17th towards Dielt, and will be cantoned along the Demer. There remained the 18th about 8 or 9000 men encamped about Maestricht, but they were to enter yesterday into the quarters assigned them. All the battering cannon remain at Maestricht, as well as the greatest part of the field train; but they have preserved only three bridges, one near St. Peter's, one at Smermaes, and the flying bridge. This state has prevailed on the marshal general to change the cantonment of the Irish brigade, who will join M. d'Estrees's corps, instead of remaining at Viset.

*Genoa, May 4.* The felucca dispatched to observe the convoy which sailed from Savona is this day returned, with advice, that she saw it enter the gulph of St. Fiorenza, which puts us under great apprehensions for Bastia.

*Genoa, May 5.* The territory of this republic still feels the effects of a severe and calamitous war. The detachment of hussars which has been near two years at Voltaggio, being ordered to join general Nadasti, set fire to the place before they left it: Two hundred and ninety houses were burnt down, together with the church and hospital. Another Austrian detachment surprized and set fire to the village of Orba at the four corners, and the whole place would have been reduced to ashes, if the marquis de Roquepine, who commands at Voltri, had not sent 800 men there, who arriv'd time enough to stop the Progress of the Flames, and also took fifty Prisoners. Whilst the Republic is waiting to know what success she may hope for from the Conferences at Aix la Chapelle, her subjects are ruined; and 'tis reckoned that the State of Genoa has been put to the expence of one hundred millions of livres since the fatal treaty of Worms.

*Madrid, May 9.* The royal family is in perfect health, and the king continues to apply himself to business with the utmost diligence. M. Macanas passed two days ago post thro' this city for Aranjuez, where it is believed his presence will not be very welcome to some of the ministers. There are certainly some intrigues carried on by the faction of the queen dowager, with a view to restore the old system in it's full extent, notwithstanding the joint aversion of the king and of the nation. It seems the duke de Huesca, who is at present our ambassador to the court of France, has demanded his repeal on account of the tenderness of his constitution, which has given an opportunity to some of our great politicians to rid themselves of a very formidable rival, under pretence of providing for him a successor, and the person they have thought of for that purpose is the duke de Salas Monalegre, who was formerly prime minister at Naples, and who is believed had a very fair chance of becoming so here.

*Peterburg, May 8.* The court having learnt, by dispatches from it's agent at Dantzick, that count de Barke, minister from Sweden, in his passage through this last city in his way to Vienna, expressed himself there upon the affair of col. de Salle in very indecent terms, even such as tended to call in question the justice of the demand of the empress; her Imperial majesty has resolved to make known to the court of Stockholm her ascertainment at this minister's interesting himself in an affair which had no relation to his character, nor to the object of his mission, especially as that officer had no right to claim any protection from the law of nations.

*Turin, May 17.* An express which arrived here the 13th instant, brought advice to the king, that the preliminary articles for a general peace had been signed the 30th of the last month, between the ministers of France and the Maritime powers. In consequence whereof, several councils were held at court, the result of which was, that his Sardinian majesty, from his sincere disposition to promote the great and good work of peace, resolved to accede to those preliminaries, and to refer the further care of his particular interests to the king of Great-Britain and the States General; so that there remains nothing more to be adjusted with respect to that prince, than his pretensions upon some part of the Milanese, and the execution of the treaty of Worms, which has not been infringed on by the preliminaries, &c.

*Liege, May 24.* On Wednesday last arrived a courier from the court of Madrid, with letters from the privy council of our cardinal prince and bishop, requiring them to seize the effects of M. Macanas, who was ambassador from Spain to the late conferences at Breda; and the same day an express was dispatched for that purpose to M. Preal's, burgo-master of Huy, where that minister lodged; upon whose arrival M. Macanas's equipages, coaches, and papers, were immediately put under seal, and this morning deposited in the palace of his serene highness. M. Macanas himself is taken into custody at Paris: He is accused of betraying the interests of his court at Breda. His secretary is here, and has had nothing said to him, nor any question ask'd him.

*Paris, May 25.* Several copies of the preliminary articles are handed about, which differ extremely from those printed in Holland; upon which a certain great wit said merrily, that the last clause of them was, That 'til a conclusion of the definitive treaty, each power should be at liberty to publish preliminaries for the amusement of it's own subjects; and ours, from their contents, are supposed to be of the same edition. A shrewd Piece has been lately published here under the title of, *A Discourse on the Madness of Ambition*; in which the rise and progress of the present war is very freely treated, and the author pretends to demonstrate, that it has cost the crown of France eight hundred and forty millions, that is upwards of forty-one millions Sterling, and about one hundred and forty-six thousand lives, in order to obtain nothing.

*An Extract of a Letter from Versailles to a Minister at the Hague dated May 10, which though not the freshest News, shews that the King of Prussia has been in some sort the cause of the sudden Signing of the Preliminary Articles.*

"Tho' a profound silence is kept here about every thing that is treating between this court and that of Berlin, there are however people who pretend to know, that his Prussian majesty has demanded an Eclaircissement of the French court concerning the Enterprizes which their general in chief has orders to make upon the united provinces after the taking of Maestricht: 'Tis added, that the king of Prussia appears very much discontented with France for turning her arms against the provinces of the republic nearest to the Territories of his Prussian majesty, after having promised to undertake nothing in those parts, and to act solely on the side of Zealand, Breda, and Luxembourgh. Tho' the king of Prussia has had assurances of this from the French court for near four years, it appears nevertheless that his Prussian majesty begins greatly to distrust France,

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