

*Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.*

WEDNESDAY, October 19, 1748.

VIENNA, July 24. N. S.



As the restitution of the Low Countries depends in some sort upon the evacuation of the duchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guastala, the court has sent orders to count Brown to make the necessary preparations, that this evacuation may suffer no delay, but may be made in the time agreed upon. It has also given orders to adjust as soon as possible the differences which subsist between this court and the republic of Genoa, as well in respect to the Austrian prisoners who are in that capital, as in regard to the pretensions on both sides, in the end that nothing may obstruct the execution of what shall have been stipulated at Aix.

*Aix la Chapelle, July 23. N. S.* The king has been pleased to appoint sir Thomas Robinson, his majesty's master penitentiary at the court of Vienna, to be joint plenipotentiary with the earl of Sandwich, at the congress at Aix la Chapelle. And also to appoint Richard Lovelace Gower, and Edward Wortley Montague, to execute the office of his majesty's secretary at the said congress.

*Aix la Chapelle, July 25.* On the 23<sup>d</sup> inst. being July 12 weeks after the preliminaries were signed, the French cavalry began to move out of the conquer'd country, the entire evacuation of which is to be made by the middle of August, and the places belonging to the Dutch restored. As to the Austrian Netherlands, news is expected of the evacuation of Parma and Placentia, in order to fix the time of their restitution; but this, 'tis thought, will be in a fortnight, or three weeks, at farthest.

*Braunschweig, July 31. N. S.* The duchess of Newcastle passed through this city in her way to Hanover: As soon, however, as count Saxe was informed thereof, his serene highness sent expresses to Meens and Antwerp, with orders to receive that lady there with all the honours that were usually given, on the like occasion, to persons of the first distinction.

*Hanover, July 18.* The duke of Newcastle makes a great figure here, and has a very numerous train. All his liveries, they say, cost at least 70*l.* each; and he has brought with him his magnificent service of gold plate, which is said to be the richest in all Europe, being valued at 100,000*l.* sterling, and is made hereditary in his family, and not to be alienated on any pretext whatsoever.

*Hague, July 27.* Some particular letters mention a proposal said to be made, by which the reversion of a pension, now enjoyed by Stanislaus king of Poland, duke of Lorraine, will be granted to the STUART family for it's future subsistence, without being further burthenome to the court of Rome, which for fifty years past has contributed largely to the support of that family.

*Peswaric, July 10.* According to the advices which we have received concerning the fire which happened at Vilna, the inhabitants might easily have extinguish'd it at it's beginning; but the hatred which they bore to the Jews, amongst whom it began, prevented them from exerting themselves 'til it was too late: For the flames having communicated themselves to the cathedral church of the Greeks, a violent high wind arose, which carried the fire into several streets at once; this in short occasioned such deolation, 10 churches, together with several religious houses, and above 20 magnificent palaces, were reduced to ashes; as was likewise the quarter of the merchants, together with their merchandize. More than 300 inhabitants perished in the flames, and were buried under the ruins. This year, since the month of May, it is remarked, fires have been very fatal to this kingdom [*Poland*]; since not only the great city of Mohilow, upon the frontiers of Russia, a part of the domain of the crown, has been reduced to ashes, but the large city of Trucki, and the cities of Poloczka, Jaroslow, and Pofnania, have greatly suffered by fire.

*Dresden, July 15.* There is an account of a terrible fire which happen'd the 30<sup>th</sup> ult. in the town of Pofig, and which consum'd a great number of houses. The last letters from Warsaw brought a full account of the ravage made by the late fire at Vilna, the capital of Lithuania; where the flames have consum'd 12 churches, 4 convents, and 2564 houses; and 313 persons perished.

*Aix la Chapelle, July 21.* The restitution of the several places in Flanders will take place next month; and, 'tis said, will be begun by Bergen op zoom and Dutch Flanders; after which they will proceed to the evacuation of the Austrian Low Countries; but 'tis assur'd, that his most Christian majesty will keep two or three thousand men there, 'til the court of France receives advice of the restitution of Cape Breton.

*Extract of a private Letter from Paris, July 19.*

"We have three great projects upon the carpet,—one of which is the repairing and restoring our marine; and in respect to this, the court de France, and those who act under him, are most indefatigable in their endeavours. They have not only taken pains to procure the most expert workmen for our yards, that we may be speedily in a condition to put a small squadron to sea of 20 ships; but have procur'd others also to be built in much greater number, in Sweden and elsewhere, of which 30 will arrive in our ports by the end of September at farthest. They have also taken the most effectual step for procuring seamen from all nations, in order, as is generally imagin'd here, to purchase considerable fleets to sea as soon as the season will permit. The first of these will be sent to Canada, and to take possession of Cape Breton, upon the conclusion of a peace, and will carry engines to repair, as well as a garrison to defend that fortress, with naval and military stores for that service. The second is design'd for the islands, where we are sensible that provisions, the utensils requisite for plantations, as well as all the other necessaries and conveniences of life, are excessively scarce, or rather entirely exhausted; so that were it not for such a plentiful as we have unexpected supply, numbers of great planters, who have many slaves, might be tempted to follow the example of those, who when the war first broke out, retired to Surinam, and settle under the protection of the Dutch. The third will proceed to the East-Indies, to recover any places that may be taken, and to repair the losses our company may have sustained by the superiority of the English in those parts. You will easily judge, the putting our navy, which is so much weaken'd, even into a tolerable condition all at once, must be attended with a very large expence; yet the funds for this are already settled, and it is positively assur'd, that there are still in France a considerable number of rich merchants, who, in case their funds should prove deficient for the present, will advance what shall be necessary for these services, as well for their own takes, as for that of the public. At a convenient season I may possibly enlarge more upon this subject, to which the people in this country, of all ranks, shew an infinitely greater attention than at any time past; in which the English have been their masters, and have taught them a lesson, with respect to maritime power, which they are not likely to forget in haste."

*Paris, July 19.* The detachments which marshal Saxe had orders to draw from the army in the Low Countries, are design'd to form the camp of Compegnie, which it is said will consist of between 25 and 30,000 men. And as a proof that the peace is not yet absolutely concluded, 'tis assur'd that the troops of the king, notwithstanding a suspension of arms, will continue to encamp or canton in or upon the frontiers of the conquer'd countries. And 'tis appears less doubtful to those, who know, that four days before the departure of the king for Choisy, M. d'Argenson declar'd, that all the officers, without distinction, who had left the army, even by permission of M. Saxe, were to repair as soon as possible to their corps; unless