

*Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.*

WEDNESDAY, November 16, 1748.

*The HISTORY of EUROPE.*

From the WESTMINSTER JOURNAL, August 20.

WE have advice from several parts of Germany, that the three columns of Russian troops are actually on their march back to their own country, which they hope to reach in November: And from France and Flanders, that an equal number of French troops, among whom are those of the household, are drawing off from the army on the frontiers, according to the convention of the 2d inst. N. S. The convention shews us what that number really is; viz. 37000, which agrees pretty near with the highest estimation we have had of them during their march Southwards.

The king of Sweden is so well recovered, that he hath again appeared in public, and is retired to take the air at a country palace. Advices from his capital confirm what we had heard concerning the motions of the Russians in Finland, and the augmentations making in their garrisons and magazines; but assure us, on the other side, that such precautions will be taken as may secure the Swedes against any surprize. There is great probability that this Northern cloud will suddenly blow off, especially if all should become clear in the South, according to expectation.

His Danish majesty has ordered a commission to enquire into the state of his fleet. The courts of Hanover and Berlin seem to be very much taken up with diversions, under which appearances some will have great mysteries to be concealed. As to the intermarriage between these courts it is less talk'd of than it was some time ago; and there are some sharp sighted politicians, who have now pick'd out a prince of Brunswick Wolfenbuttel instead of the sister of his Prussian majesty, for the consort of his royal highness the duke of Cumberland.

The new military establishments in the Austrian hereditary provinces have been received, and the regiments are now to recruit themselves, instead of being recruited by the states. His said empress leaves her interests at Aix la Chapelle entirely to the Maritime powers: Yet insinuations have been thrown out from France, that it is not improbable a separate peace may be made, either with her Imperial majesty or those powers. But who will give any credit to French insinuations?

It should seem that the sacrifices to be made in Italy are of all the most disagreeable to the court of Vienna, which discovers a reluctancy to the making of evacuations, and drawing off her troops in that country. Those that were actually upon their march for the hereditary provinces, and many of them temporary soldiers who had served out their term, have orders to stop on the frontier of the Venetian dominions, under pretence of some affront given to her Imperial majesty by the inhabitants of Vicenza and it's district. As this is quite a new affair, we must wait for the particulars both of the affront and the resentment: But of this we may be certain, that the Venetians will not easily suffer themselves to be drawn into a quarrel.

As the Spaniards have been vigorous in exacting contributions from the duchy of Savoy, the court of Turin is making reprisals upon the Western Riviera of the state of Genoa. In the mean time the Genoese, and the inhabitants of all the trading ports in the Mediterranean, are full of joy upon the entire cessation of hostilities by sea.

Some of the French still remain in the county of Nizza; but the Spaniards have crossed the Varo, and are filing off towards Aix, in their way to Languedoc.

We do not yet know what the particular pretensions are, which the court of Madrid has to discuss at Aix la Chapelle; but the ministers were coming back to that place when the last news came from thence, and the arrival of M. de St. Severin was to fix the time for opening the congress.

The Imperial troops are decamped from Ruremonde, and going into quarters of cantonment. The Dutch were suddenly

to quit their unhealthy camp at Breda, and take another in the neighbourhood of a place called Hoop Sand: As to the inter or state of the Dutch republic, it is still in a very unsettled state.

L O N D O N.

July 12. The correspondence by letters, between these kingdoms and the kingdom of France, is now opened; and the first mail will be forwarded from the General Post Office on Monday next, the 14th instant.

And the said mails for the kingdom of France, will continue for the future to go out from hence, upon the Monday and Thursday of every week; and that they will convey all letters to and from Spain, Italy, Sicily, Switzerland, Turkey, and his majesty's island of Minorca, as usual heretofore, in times of peace.

August 4. An order is issued for a number of guard-ships to be directly mann'd out at Portsmouth.

By a French mail on Sunday last, there is an account that a Dutch man of war of 70 guns, and three other Dutch ships, were stranded near Calais.

We have an account from several of the dock-yards, that a great number of shipwrights, &c. have been discharged, who are immediately hired by French agents, who are there for that purpose.

The swift, capt. Brooks, has carried into Cagliari a French polacco of 300 tons, her cargo valued at 17000 dollars.

August 9. Letters from Paris intimate, that in the convention concluded between the count de St. Severin and the ministers of the Maritime powers, relating to the Russian troop, it is not only stipulated, that they shall with all convenient speed return into their own country; but they shall not, whilst they are in the pay of England and Holland, go into the service of any other power, nor be employed under any pretence whatsoever against the French king or his allies.

We are inform'd, that a noble duke has planned and proposed a provision for the sailors who may be discharged upon the conclusion of a peace, by sending them to man all the forts and garrisons throughout England, that they may be ready on an emergency.

August 6. This week James Hamilton, Esq; set out from his house in York Buildings, for his government of Pennsylvania.

August 13. Before the great shower of rain which fell on Thursday evening in the evening, some curious gentlemen near St. James's observing some unusual clouds, discovered, by the help of optic glasses, that they were swarms of locusts; a great number of which were yesterday evening taken up in St. James's park, and places adjacent. They resemble the great green grasshopper found in the corn fields in all the parts of England about the time of harvest, except in the colour, which is in the body of a light brown, ribb'd with white, with two large wings longer than the body, and they have fewer legs than the grasshopper; in their flight they make a buzzing noise, like that of the black beetle.

Last Tuesday a sailor in Nightingale-lane, who a few days since received upwards of 300*l.* prize money, hang'd himself at his lodgings.

August 18. A few days ago a gentleman of distinction, possessed of 3000*l.* a year, was married to a beautiful young girl, who dealt in butter and eggs; various means were tried to seduce her, but her virtue proving inflexible, he was so much enamour'd as to make her his wife; and has now matters at home to teach her all the accomplishments of a fine lady, and designs soon to make a tour with her to France.

Last Saturday a gentleman with his lady in their chariot, were attacked in Hedge-lane by four footpads, two of whom had pistols; upon which the gentleman immediately jump'd out of his chariot, and knock'd down the two villains that were arm'd, and the other two made off; but as it was dangerous