

MARYLAND GAZETTE

Containing the freshest Advice Foreign and Domestic

WEDNESDAY, January 18, 1749

An Extract of a private Letter from the HAGUE, dated September 1st

grow more and more impatient, as the time seems to draw nearer, to see the French evacuate our fortresses. It looks as if they would not very soon have an opportunity of coming by them at so cheap a rate; a resolution being taken to keep the troops of the republic always compleat, and to use our utmost endeavours to draw the most experienced officers from all parts into her service. We are very solicitous to know in what manner our barrier is to be settled, which is a point of the highest consequence to the state. In all probability it will be to the full as strong, tho' not so extensive as before, and that care will be taken to secure such a district to each fortress, as that the revenue arising from it may defray the charge of the garrison; at all events, we shall not charge ourselves as before, with the joint jurisdiction over, or defence of places.

The commissioners in Friesland find themselves a good deal embarrassed, the populace being extremely irritated against their superiors. Some of their deputies appearing before the Commissioners, and being checked for proceeding in so rough a manner with their governors, one of them made answer, *My Lords, granting it to be as you say, (tho' upon examination you will find it to be otherwise, we have only needed about for a few weeks as they have treated us for many years, without justice, lenity, or humanity.)* The middle sort of people however are more tractable; and provided they are not reduced again under the dominion of their former Lords, they seem ready enough to submit to whatever can be reasonably imposed upon them; so that we hope all disputes will be very quickly composed.

It is beyond all doubt, that after the peace is made, and all things settled here, a calm and impartial enquiry will be made into the management of civil and military affairs, for several years last past, in order to discover how the republic came to be loaded with such immense debts; while our fortresses were suffered to run to ruin, our troops were incomplete, and our naval power dwindled quite away, and all this at a time when the private subjects of the republic were exceedingly rich, and more especially those who were concerned in the great farms, or had the direction in any shape of the finances. Some say that his serene highness, as prince and holder, will soon after his return from Amsterdam make a tour to Leewarden, so that his journey to Breda seems to be settled.

Vienna, September 1. Her Imperial Majesty has caused the sentence pronounced against Count de Saxe, by which he was condemned to pay 100 florins to the inhabitants of the city of Prague, and all the costs of this and the other proceedings, which some say will amount to 2000 florins, to be reduced, which he is to forfeit all his honours, and be imprisoned for life, with an allowance of only 20 ducats per day. The Count himself of this extraordinary person, who has made so much noise in the world, is this. He is a native of Saxony, and descended from a noble family, to which he has done so great honour. At the age of sixteen he was obliged to leave his country for a murder, and some other little crimes of that sort; upon which he went first into the Polish, and then into the Russian service; where, by his intrepid courage, he raised himself to the rank of a major, which he never did not hinder Count Lovendahl from calling him to an account for some excesses he had committed, and for which he was sentenced to be cashier'd, and that too thro' favour; for if justice had then taken place he had lost his life. Upon his return into Hungary, he put himself at the head of a small body of men as desperate as himself, and with them did a great deal of mischief. Upon the breaking out of the war he obtained a pardon, and entered in o her Imperial Majesty's service, in which, to do him justice, he behaved with much

bravery; but after pillaging without mercy in Silesia, Moravia, Bohemia, and Bavaria, he thought himself at liberty to treat the subjects of his sovereign as he treated her enemies, and committed such a variety of violences as brought complaints from all quarters; so that nothing but her majesty's clemency could have entitl'd him to so mild a sentence as that which he has received. He is said to have amass'd, by these means, a fortune of better than two millions.

Hanover, Sept. 6. The chevalier Offorio, minister from the king of Sardinia, has just received an express from his court, with orders to set out forthwith for Aix la Chapelle; and assist at the pacific conferences, in quality of his first plenipotentiary. It is thought his excellency will set out next week, and we hope no farther delays will be thrown in the way; upon presentation of waiting for instructions.

Brussels, Sept. 8. The government has received orders from court to reform the new battalions raised last year, which have not served this campaign; but no term is fixed in the ordinance published for this reform.

Amsterdam, Sept. 8. The vessels that were built last year at Rospelmond, have been sold to a Dutch merchant for 100,000 livres, together with a great quantity of timber, and other materials for ship building.

Paris, Sept. 6. They have made out at the war-office a list of the regiments that are to be disbanded; pursuant to the convention of the 2d of August, within a month after we shall have received the news of the Russian troops being march'd back to their own country. Hitherto the court has not received any private advices of their returning home; nor have the powers, with whom that convention was concluded, notified in form the return of those troops.

The plan of the definitive treaty, as drawn up at Aix la Chapelle, by our minister and those of the Maritime powers, has been communicated to the duke de Huescar, the Spaniards's ambassador, who has sent it by an express to Madrid, and we are in great hopes that it will meet with his most Catholic majesty's approbation.

We are assured that the king will visit the frontiers of his dominions next spring, which we are not backward to believe; and if a peace be concluded, 'tis probable he will divert himself during the late season to visit his Italian dominions.

Rome, Sept. 21. An ordinance of the king has been published concerning the militia; and as his majesty is resolv'd to send them back immediately into their respective provinces, and is desirous that this corps, which has render'd him important services, as well in the field, as in garrison, should be kept up. This ordinance contains the several regulations, which are to be observ'd for the purpose in regard to the manner of their return, the advantages they are to receive in their respective professions, and several rights and privileges, which his majesty has been pleas'd to grant them.

As the court has received the news of the entire evacuation of the duchies of Parma, Placentia, and Guastalla, and of the infant Don Philip having left the army, in order to go and take possession of those dominions, the king has thought fit to name a part of the king and ladies who are to go and receive the infants upon our frontiers, and who are also to accompany that prince into her own dominions.

We are assured, that in consequence of this evacuation, the court has given orders for the restitution of the towns of Maestricht and Bergen op Zoom; and as the other restitutions will be quickly made, the necessary directions have been also given for evacuating the Austrian Low Countries. The conclusion and signing of the definitive treaty is look'd upon as a thing absolutely settled.

They write from Provence, that the marshal duke de Belleisle will not leave that country, 'til towards the end of next month.