

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, February 8, 1749.

An Extract of a Letter from the HAGUE, dated October 24, 1748.

Length the Definitive Treaty is signed by the ministers of the powers at war; and major-general Sturler, preceded by four postillions, brought on Sunday evening an account thereof to the serene Stadtholder, and to their high mightinesses, so that at present the impatience which every body had to hear that news, gives way to that of being inform'd of the exchange of the ratifications, and the evacuation of the conquests, which ought naturally to follow the act of signing, and must do so, unless something extraordinary attends the execution of those articles, such as appears in the manner of carrying on the war, and in concluding a peace by way of congress, without any such thing as a congress.

But at a time when we are going to rejoice at this agreeable news, there is other intelligence which every day more than other gains credit, not quite so agreeable; and that is, of a storm which is gathering in the North; by the intrigues of a certain power. They write from Berlin, that his Prussian majesty is altering most of the fortifications of his capital cities, as well in Silesia and Prussia; as in the marche of Brandenburg, which, it's said, has been occasioned by the publication of certain plans, which, if put in execution, neither the strength which nature assisted by art can give, will be sufficient to defend them. Besides, it's very likely that the death of the king of Sweden, who lives only by the art of the physicians, will embroil matters in the North.

Three ministers of the king of Prussia, of considerable rank, are disgraced, on account of some quarrel with Mr. Cocceii, which it is apprehended will be followed by other removals, besides those of the persons sent by his majesty into Silesia, to enquire into the finances of that duchy, and who did not pursue the good intentions of the king. His majesty will dismiss from his service, and the management of his affairs at the general diet of Ratibon, the minister of Anspach; because his majesty has not thought fit to enter into the views of the court of Saalfeld, and to acknowledge the embassy of Weymar. The king is, on the contrary, very much inclined to the house of Gbtha, as are also the electors of Cologne and Palatine, and the landgrave of Hesse, in respect to the quarrel it has with that of Meimingen.

Hague, October 25. The States General have taken a resolution, according to which, the deserters from the troops of the republic are not for the future to be punish'd with death; but to be fetter'd for life, and in that condition to work at the fortifications; and, in case there should be no work of that sort, they are to be clove confined. Such, however, as shall abandon their post, or desert to the enemy from a besieged town, or from the army on a march; or whose desertion may be attended with any other aggravating circumstances, are still to be liable to be punish'd with death. Mess. de Carwyck and Pauw return'd to this place last night, after having changed the regency of Rotterdam; in consequence of which, four of the old burgomasters and the grand baillie have been dismissed. The prince of Orange went out Wednesday evening, for the head quarters of the Dutch army at Walwyck. M. de Haren; one of their High Mightinesses plenipotentiaries, arrived here last night from Aix-la-Chapelle. And this morning an express arriv'd from the same place, with the accession of the courts of Vienna and Madrid to the definitive treaty.

October 29. A resolution has been taken to disband the militia, which were raised last year; and consequently, those belonging to this place are lately returned hither. The earl of Sandwich, who was expected here last night, is not yet arriv'd.

Milan, October 17. A letter from Turin advise, that the king of Sardinia, having obtained the security he desired for the execution of the articles of the treaty of Worms, which re-

main in force, his Sardinian majesty is determin'd to make a reduction of 3000 of his troops.

They write from Rome, that in order to enable the cardinal duke of York to make a more splendid figure, the Pope intends to confer upon him the archbishoprick of Bologna; and the perpetual legateship of that city. This archbishoprick was never before given to any other than subjects of the province of Bologna.

Dresden, October 21. All our letters from Warsaw are full of the unanimity with which the members of the diet continue their deliberations. The important article of the augmentation of the army meets with so general an approbation, amongst those who are well affected, that 'tis look'd upon as a step, in a manner, agreed upon. Thus the king will have the satisfaction of seeing the Polish nation restored to its former grandeur and power, by the wise measures taken in his reign. Hitherto no mention has been made in the diet, of the affairs of Courland; but in all likelihood they will soon be revived. There is actually a person at Warsaw, who is employ'd in promoting the interest of marshal Saxe, who still preserves a considerable party among the nobility of Courland.

Leghorn, October 10. According to letters from Malta, there is a talk of recalling all the knights of that order, to assist in the defence of that island, which is threaten'd with an attack from the Turks, upon account of the son of the captain bastia now being detain'd there as a prisoner. 'Tis thought, however, that the Porte will not go to this extremity; but will rather endeavour, by amicable means, to procure the releasement of that prisoner.

Genoa, October 5. Notwithstanding the suspension of arms, the government persists in not permitting the return of the Protestants who retired to Leghorn, at the time of the troubles here; tho' they certainly carried on a very great trade; by means of their relations in England and Holland. The refusal of their re-establishment here, is thought to be made, with a view to encourage the manufactures of France.

Petersburg, October 18. Mr. Wolf, consul of England, has just receiv'd from Vienna a diploma of baron of the holy Empire, as well for him as his descendants; with which the emperor of the Romans has honour'd him.

Ratisbon, October 24. It's reported here, that it will be propos'd to the Electoral college to proceed to the election of a king of the Romans; soon after the general peace shall have been published.

Hatfield, October 25. Yesterday prince Lewis of Wolfenbuttle took leave of the king, and is this morning set out in a post-chaise for Brunswick. 'Tis generally supposed that the king will make a great many military promotions before he departs for England.

Brussels, October 27. Preparations are making in the Hotel d'Erumont, for the reception of the duke d'Artemberg, who is appointed governor-general of the Low Countries per interim; 'til the arrival of prince Charles of Lorraine.

The duchess of Newcastle, who took her route by Eynsham, arrived here yesterday. As soon as the marquis de Constatades was inform'd thereof, he sent to the house where that lady was lodg'd, a guard of fifty men with a pair of colours, to remain there 'til the time of her departure.

Paris, October 18. The last letters from Madrid inform us, that the court of Spain is treating with that of England, on the means of obtaining the restitution of Gibraltar. It seems their hopes in Spain are founded on the disposition which king George I. appear'd to be in, in the year 1721; when the monarch, in a letter which he wrote to king Philip V. the 14th of June in that year, declared, That he should take the first favourable opportunity of regulating their affairs in concert with his Parliament. But as the thing then met with such great opposition, and the place is since become more valuable to the English,

Englth.