

The same time that vast armies were maintained in the South, was absolutely impossible: It was therefore necessary to be rid of one drain.

*Kersfells, Nov. 23.* The earl of Suffolk and the lord Cathcart, whom the king of Great Britain has sent to France, to remain there as hostages, agreeable to the 9th article of the definitive treaty of peace, signed at Aix la Chapelle on the 18th of last month, had yesterday the honour to be presented to the king, and to deliver to his majesty a letter from his Britannic majesty.

*Paris, Nov. 8.* It is at length settled, that the publication of the peace shall be made on the 15th of March next; and the magistrates of this city have caused a plan to be made of the space between Pont Royal and Pont Neuf, in order to execute upon the river a most beautiful and magnificent fireworks, for which vast preparations are making with all the diligence possible.

*Nov. 25.* We are now very well assured that there will be a reform in the king's troops of 200,000 men, and that only 180,000 will be kept on foot: But no part of the troops will be disbanded, as we are told, 'till the beginning of the spring.'

*Liege, Nov. 26.* Letters from Maastricht assure us, that all things were ready for the evacuation of that place, and that the Dutch troops were at hand, in order to take it forthwith into their possession.

*Hagar, Nov. 30.* The people of Leyden having formed some new pretensions, and assembled in a seditious manner, to compel the regency to comply with their demands, the magistrates sent notice thereof to the prince of Orange; upon which his highness thought proper to order a detachment of dragoons and foot-guards to march to Leyden last Friday night, to protect the magistrates from the insults of the people.

*Nov. 21.* As Bergen op Zoom is to be surrendered forthwith to the troops of the States, his highness the stadtholder has nominated major-general Stuart, colonel of a Scotch regiment, to be grand major of that place; and he has already acted in that capacity, having substituted several inferior officers to aid and assist him. The inhabitants of that place, for above a month past, have had the privilege of going in and out of the city at pleasure, without any special license for so doing. The French garrison, which is now actually there; and which is obliged to continue to be so 'till the time of the evacuation, amounts to above three hundred men, including the detachments that are in the forts. The inhabitants that withdrew from the town on account of the siege, are returning daily; besides there are several families arrived there from Holland, Zealand, and elsewhere, in order to reside and settle there; inasmuch that 'tis hoped as things are now circumstanced, that the town of Bergen op Zoom will recover, in a few years, the misfortunes that have so lately attended it.

*Jan. 21.* A dreadful fire happened last week at Flushing, which consumed the arsenal, the prince of Orange's house, the great church, and a considerable part of the town.

*Liege, Jan. 25.* The Austrian troops took possession of Tienen on the 23d instant; and by an express just arrived there advice, that they enter'd Louvain this morning. 'Tis expected that Brussels will be be sieg'd up on Tuesday next.

*Paris, Jan. 30.* The squadron equip'd at Brest is still in port, nor is it known when it will put to sea. A report circul'd that it was destin'd to transport the troops that are to be sent to take possession of Cape-Verde; but this was asserted without any foundation; for that island is to be deliver'd up to the troops that are in Canada.

We continue building new men of-war in the ports of this kingdom; and 'tis confidently asserted, that upwards of twenty millions of livres will be expended on the marine, the funds are already found; and they likewise say, that orders have been issued for recruiting and completing all the old corps of the king's troops.

Our nobility and gentry vye with each other in civilities to our English hostages, all studying how to make them pass their time in as agreeable a manner as possible; as nothing could be more agreeable to the nation, than the occasion of sending our allies.

*Amsterd., Nov. 23.* We have advice from Ostend, that the French have embarked all their heavy artillery in order to transport it into Dunkirk, where they have already begun to demolish those batteries which had been erected on the river.

*Jan. 4.* The Pretender's arrival at the 24th of Decr.

Dunkirk, preceded by a company of the pope's troops, and followed by several other coaches in which were the principal nobility. He was conducted to the episcopal palace, where Mr. A. Assensac complimented him in the name of the city; and the next day he received the like compliments from the respective tribunals and colleges. In the evening fireworks were play'd off, and there was a ball, which lasted all night. We don't yet know whether he will fix his residence here, or go to Malaga, as has been reported.

*Dunkirk, Nov. 21.* They write from Alsace, that the French are forming great magazines there, and buy up all the corn and provisions they can get with along the Rhine.

*Edinburgh, Nov. 3.* Tuesday last the reverend the synod of Lothian and Tweeddale met, when the reverend Mr. George Wilmot, one of the ministers of this city, was elected moderator. In the afternoon, they went upon the question relating to Mr. Whitefield's conduct; and, after long reasoning, by a majority of voices, the same was declared irregular, and a recommendation given to the Brethren within the bounds not to employ him.

*Nov. 17.* Yesterday there was a numerous meeting of the seceders at Mr. Gibb's meeting-house, in Bristol Street, in order to swear the new modell'd solemn league and covenant. Several hundreds adventur'd on the oath, tho' the greater part took it to a visandum; they solemnly engaged to strengthen one another's hands, in the use of lawful means, to extirpate Popery, Prelacy, Arminianism, Arianism, Trithemism, Sabellianism, George Whitefieldism, &c. &c. The whole was gone about with that gravity and solemnity which became an action of that importance.

## L O N D O N

*November 12.* We hear commodore Griffin has taken six French ships in the road of Pondicherry, and destroyed several others; and that he has likewise taken the St. Louis, a French man of war of 40 guns; another account says, it was not a man of war, but a large ship: Six small trading ships are also said to be taken by him, and that he is gone in order to attack Pondicherry.

*Nov. 22.* Last Saturday his royal highness the prince of Wales was pleased to give orders to all his servants, not to appear before him any more in any foreign manufactures, but that of the manufactures of Great Britain. A laudable example, and worthy a great prince.

*Nov. 26.* Yesterday died, sunk under bodily infirmities, and a weight of years, the ingenious and truly venerable Isaac Watts, D. D. a man of exalted piety, and the most amiable exemplary virtue.

*Nov. 28.* By letters from Stockholm in Sweden, there is advice, that to men of war of the line, from 50 to 70 guns, which have been built in Sweden, for the service of the French king, were actually sail'd for France. And they have orders to build 16 more, from 50 to 80 guns, as soon as possible. What can be the meaning of this, after the sword is sheath'd, we know not, but time perhaps will tell.

We are inform'd, that his majesty has declared it as his royal will and pleasure, that the sum of 50,000<sup>l</sup>. be divided among such of the disbanded soldiers as are incapable of getting their livelihood, proportionable to the length of time they have served the crown.

Many private letters from Holland give us reason to expect the presence of their serene highnesses the prince and princess of Orange at our court for a few weeks this winter.

*Extract of a Letter from Newton, in Lancashire.* There has been a great disturbance here, by a meeting of gentlemen who put white cockades in their hats, and assembled at several houses, drinking unreasonable healths, and forcing others to do the same; inasmuch that the people of Wigan in the same county, were obliged to raise a posse of about 500, and proclaim king George at the cross; on which a great skirmish ensu'd, and in the fray several lives were lost; but the Jacobite mob was routed, and they are now hunting for them about the country.

We are assured, that before the fireworks begin to be play'd off, there will be a hundred and one fine pieces of brass cannon discharged, which were never made use of before; and that there will be a band of upwards of a hundred of the best musicians play'd in a gallery in the front of the fireworks, to play during great part of the time the fireworks are play'd.