

session of them. These matters will however be settled in a few weeks, as they are such as the parties concerned have a very strong interest in settling, and as soon as this great business and that of the public entries is over, a congress will be formed for adjusting the general alliance, that has been so long talked of amongst all the princes and states of Italy.

By a private letter from Hamburgh we have advice, that the election of a duke of Courland will be infallibly over by the 10th of April next; and that, from the harmony which at present subsists between the Russian and Polish commissaries at Mitau, it is generally believed, that all things relating to that election are compromised between the courts of Petersburg and Warsaw, and that the new duke will be equally agreeable to both courts.

By letters from Antibes we hear, that the fort which the marshal Belleisle has caused to be built, by the express orders of his most christian majesty, at the village of St. Augustin, from whence it takes its name, situate on the third day of the Nar, in order to secure that passage, is perfectly finished. And 'tis generally thought, that he will order several others to be erected for the same purpose, in case the king of Sardonia shall think proper to pursue the scheme which, as we are told, he has laid for raising a fortress on the other side of that river, in order to render the port of Villa Franca not only larger, but more commodious.

Letters from Spain mention, that the Margareta was arrived at Cadix from the Havanna, who brings advice, that admiral Reggio was ready to sail for Europe with seven large ships, with an immense treasure on board; and that the Aurora, a large Dutch ship, with upwards of 60,000 pieces of eight on board, was seized and confiscated by the Spaniards on the coast of Spain, and the captain, mate, and some of the crew sent to the gallees.

*Extract of a Letter from Paris, March 14.*

"All our letters from the sea ports mention scarcely any thing else but the great preparations making there for embarkations of all kinds; many people are going over to settle in the Island of Tobago; but what some of the other embarkations are designed for, does not yet plainly appear, though it runs strangely in some poor folks heads, that they may be intended for playing off a fine firework in a certain northern kingdom.

The king has just received a courier from the duke of Parma, with the news of that prince's arrival and settlement in his new sovereignty. An express is also arrived from London, charged with dispatches full of representations to the court about the Island of Tobago, which the king has given in sovereignty to marshal Saxe.

The last letters from Avignon say, that the young pretender having received a considerable remittance, had order'd all his retinue to hold themselves in readiness to accompany him in a journey which he designs to make; but he has not given them the least hint of the route he is to take."

*Whitehall, March 7.* A proposal having been presented to his Majesty, for the establishing a civil government in the province of Nova Scotia in North-America, as also for the better peopling and settling the said province, and extending and improving the fishery thereof, by granting lands within the same, and giving other encouragements, to such of the officers and private men lately dismissed his majesty's land and sea service, as shall be willing to settle in the said province: And his majesty having signified his royal approbation of the purport of the said proposals, the right honourable the lords commissioners for trade and plantations do, by his majesty's command, give notice, That proper encouragement will be given to such of the officers and private men lately dismissed his majesty's land and sea service, as are willing to accept of grants of land, and to settle, with or without families, in the province of Nova Scotia.

That fifty acres of land will be granted in fee simple to every private soldier or seaman, free from the payment of any quit rent or taxes for the term of ten years; at the expiration whereof, no person to pay more, than one shilling per annum for every fifty acres so granted.

That a grant of ten acres, over and above the said fifty acres, will be made to each private soldier or seaman, having a family, for every person, including women and children, of which his family shall consist, and further grants made to them on the same conditions, as their families shall increase, or in proportion to their abilities to cultivate the same.

That eighty acres on like conditions will be granted to every officer under the rank of ensign in the land service, and that of a lieutenant in the sea service: and to such as have been for

ten acres over and above the said eighty acres, for every person of which their families shall consist.

That two hundred acres on like conditions will be granted to every ensign, three hundred to every lieutenant, four hundred to every captain, and six hundred to every officer above the rank of captain in the land service; as also the like quantity of four hundred acres, on the like conditions, to every lieutenant in the sea service, and six hundred acres to every captain; and to such of the abovementioned officers as have families, a further grant of thirty acres will be made over and above their respective quotas, for every person of which their families shall consist.

That the lands will be parcelled out to the settlers as soon as possible, after their arrival, and a civil government established, whereby they will enjoy all the liberties, privileges, and immunities, enjoyed by his majesty's subjects in any other of the colonies and plantations in America, under his majesty's government; and proper measures will also be taken for their security and protection.

That all such as are willing to accept of the above proposals, shall, with their families, be subsisted during their passage, as also for the space of twelve months after their arrival.

That they shall be furnished with arms and ammunition, as far as will be judged necessary for their defence, with a proper quantity of materials and utensils for husbandry, carrying on the fishery, and such other purposes as shall be necessary for their support.

That all such persons as are desirous of engaging in the above settlement, do transmit by letter, or personally give in their names, signifying in what regiment or company, or on board what ship, they list served; and if they have families, what number of persons belonging to such families they intend to carry with them, distinguishing the age and quality of each person; to any of the officers appointed to receive and enter the same, in books open for that purpose.

And that proper notice will be given of the said books being closed, so soon as the intended number shall be completed, or at latest on the 7th of April.

It is proposed that the transports shall be ready to receive such persons on board on the 10th of April, and to be ready to sail on the 20th; and that timely notice will be given of the place or places, to which such persons are to repair, in order to embark.

That for the benefit of the settlement, the same conditions which are proposed to private soldiers or seamen, shall likewise be granted to carpenters, shipwrights, smiths, masons, joiners, brickmakers, bricklayers, and all other artificers necessary in building or husbandry, not being private soldiers or seamen.

That the same conditions that are proposed to those who have served in the capacity of ensign, shall extend to all surgeons, whether they have been in his majesty's service or not, upon their producing proper certificates of their being duly qualified.

*By Order of the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations,*

THO. HILL, Secretary.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, April 6.

On monday last his excellency the governor, the honourable council and assembly of this island, were entertain'd by rear admiral Knowles, on board his majesty's ship Cornwall, where they were received with all the suitable dignity and honour due to so great a body.

And, On Thursday our merchants were most elegantly entertain'd by rear admiral Knowles on board said ship.

April 15. Yesterday rear admiral Knowles, in his majesty's ship Cornwall, saluted the fort at Port Royal, and sailed from thence for England, and we are assured the Stafford sails tomorrow.

BOSTON, May 22.

*Extract of a Letter from Amsterdaam, dated March 14, 1748-9.*

"Politicians at the Hague and here are very sanguine of a war in the North being inevitable, between the kings of Sweden and Prussia, against the empress queen and the Czarina, all of which have been this winter making the utmost preparations; and the last mail brings an important melancholy piece of news from Vienna, viz. that a courier was arrived from Dalmatia with advice of the Turks being resolved to assemble a most numerous army on the frontiers of that province; and that immediately upon the proclamation thereof, an almost incredible number were in motion to the said frontiers: This is looked upon to be at the instance of the above king, and the king (who has just concluded a peace with the