

MARYLAND GAZETTE,

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestic.

WEDNESDAY, August 16, 1749.

HAMBURGH, April 5.

WE are told, that all military preparations in his Prussian majesty's dominions are very much slackened of late, from whence it is hoped that some method will be found for calming the troubles in the North, before they rise so high as an open rupture; and it is still render'd the more likely by the hanging about the following paper, which is said to be the copy of a letter to his Britannic majesty, from his nephew the king of Prussia.

Sir, and Brother,

YOUR majesty's interest and mine are the same, with regard to the tranquility of the North. Reports are spread all over Europe, that this tranquility may be disturbed. For my part, I see no likelihood of it in the main; and it seems, that nothing but reciprocal distrust, and ill-grounded suspicions, can hitherto have gained those rumours any credit.

But as the smallest objects may, by increasing, become material, as one ought to neglect nothing for the maintenance of peace, and that every thing becomes important to those who are fond of preserving it; I apply to your majesty, whom I know to be in the same sentiments, to the end that, by our joint endeavours, we may so much the more effectually contribute thereto. The suspicions which Sweden's neighbours entertain of her, can rest only on two objects.

The first, which is manifestly frivolous, regards the dangerous projects which they seem resolv'd to impire to that power against her neighbours. Your majesty's concernment is too quick, not to perceive the futility of it at the first glance. The other falls on the charge of the present form of government in Sweden; a project which they father on the prince successor. Methinks the declaration which the prince and the senate make very lately to the court of Russia upon this subject, is so perspicuous, so positive, and so prudent, that it leaves nothing farther to be wished by such powers as interest themselves in maintaining the present government of that kingdom.

The defensive alliance that I made with Sweden, to which France acceded, and the original of which was shewn to the count de Keyserling, the Russian minister at my court, and a copy of which was communicated in due time to your majesty's ministry at London, hath no relation to any new measures; but is nevertheless binding on France and myself, to maintain the succession actually established in Sweden, and mutually to defend each other, in case any should attack us.

God forbid that I should suppose any powers in friendship with us capable of so black designs, or that I should so much as suspect them of such dangerous projects! But I intreat your majesty to join your endeavours with mine, to engage both parties to proper explications, which will be found equally salutary for them. I must intreat your attention to all the points that I have been explaining, and that your majesty would employ your credit and good offices to extinguish that fire which glows at present under the embers, and which, if it once break out, will spread into flames through all Europe.

I am very ready, and offer with great pleasure, to enter into all the measures which your majesty shall think requisite for the preserving of peace, perswaded that his most Christian majesty, who has no less at heart than we the maintenance of the peace in Europe, and the tranquility of the North, will join his efforts to ours, to contribute the more powerfully thereto.

The present occasion which offers itself to your majesty, is one of the most favourable, for augmenting the glory of your reign, for supporting the welfare of your dominions, and for reiterated and authentic proofs of your sincere desire to

I am, with sentiments of the most perfect consideration, and of the most sincere friendship,

At Berlin,

S I R,

Mar. 13,

Your Majesty's good Brother,

1749.

Signed, FREDERICK.

Copenhagen, May 6. The abbe le Maire, minister of France, has, in a long conference with the king's ministers, declared, that his most Christian majesty having heard, with much dissatisfaction, of the reports which have been spread, insinuating, that he was disposed to stir up the flame which seem'd to threaten the North, and with that view was repairing his marine, &c. his majesty had charged him to declare solemnly, that after having by his great care so considerably contributed to the re-establishment of the good intelligence between the powers then at war, by the treaty of Aix la Chapelle, he had now no other views than to employ his utmost efforts, not only for perpetuating the said peace, but also for extending it throughout Europe.

Stockholm, May 2. His Swedish majesty having thought proper to send a minister to the court of London, has fix'd on the baron Charles Oton de Hamilton, chancellor of his court, great chamberlain, and knight of St. Anne, for that purpose. But 'tis thought the time of his departure will not be settled, till there is advice of his Britannic majesty's nomination of a minister to this court.

Rome, April 25. The court of France has lately purchased a great number of large fir trees, six or seven miles, in the woods of Corsica's Colonna, which being already cut down, and reced'd to their proper form, are to be transported to the Mediterranean, and will be there embarked for the French ports. We are extremely surpriz'd at the advices received from Barni, Lucca, and Basilicata, that through a strange malignity in the air, numbers of people have had their eye-sight exceedingly impaired; and that at Barni, particularly, there are no less than 200 who are actually become blind.

Paris, May 12. Expresses to and from the North come and go as frequently as ever; but the impossibility of discovering any thing of their contents is now so thoroughly known, that nobody pretends so much as to make any conjectures about them. There are some strange reports current here relating to the affairs of Corsica; and some people pretend, that we shall speedily send thither some battalions from Provence and Languedoc, to reinforce the troops that we have already in that island. Marshal Saxe has caus'd the preparations for his departure to be hasten'd; and it is reported and believed, that he will set out from hence for Bresden this day sennight. It is certain that nobody here has received any late advices from the young chevalier; and people begin very much to doubt the truth of those relations, that have been hitherto published of his departure.

Hague, May 23. The prince stadtholder has just attached more firmly than ever to his interest the tradesmen and poorer sort of people of this province: The former, by the resolution which he has communicated to the states, inviting them to follow his example to wear nothing but the manufactures of this country, and to suffer no other to be worn by his household, those of his court, and in general all in his service: And the poorer people, by the proposition his highness has made to the states, to lessen the double duty on potatoes, the moutre paid for grinding rye, and to find out some means that they may have their bring, particularly turf, as cheap in Winter, when the canals are frozen, as those have that can lay in their bring in the proper seasons.

Venice, May 10. According to letters from Constantinople, there is a great ferment among the Janizaries; the consequences of which the Porte secularly entertain'd a great concern.