

1709.

“ before that Intrenchment was a Village, cover’d strongly by Hedges and Ditches; And the Woods, on both Wings were fell’d and entrench’d, and Cannon were in the Avenues.

“ THE Enemy having made this Disposition, our whole Army, which faced them, at a small Distance, mov’d towards them, the eleventh, in the Morning early. The Signal was given, by Firing fifty Cannon, for attacking the Enemy at once, on all Sides: That is to say, General *Schulenburg*, with the Troops from *Tournay*, was drawn up to the Right of the Wood of *Sart*; The Infantry of the Prince of *Savoy*’s Army, along the great Road, which passes thro’ that Wood; General *Lotum*, with Part of the Foot of the Right Wing, to the Left of the same Wood; The Rest of the Infantry of that Wing, consisting chiefly of *Hannoverians*, had in Front the Lines, in the Opening between the Village and the said Wood. The Infantry of the *State*, commanded by the Prince of *Nassau*, some Battalions excepted, who attack’d the Wood of *Jansart*, had, in Front, the Lines between the Village and that Wood. The Horse of the whole were posted behind the Foot, to support and second them, where the Ground would permit.

“ AT the Signal, all moved together, and began the Attacks, with incredible Bravery; And with such Success at the Wood of *Sart*, that after an Hour’s Resistance, the Enemy, at all the three Attacks there, were driven out of the Wood, and out of their Intrenchments. On the Left, between the Village, and the Wood of *Jansart*, the Fight lasted longer; And

“ And our Men there, having three Intrench-
 “ ments before them, forced the two first, but,
 “ in the Attack of the third, were repuls’d by
 “ the great Fire of the Enemy. However, rally-
 “ ing again, and the *Right Wing* having, in the
 “ mean Time, made themselves Masters of the
 “ Wood of *Sart*, and coming to flank the In-
 “ trenchments, between the two Woods, the
 “ Enemy quitted those Intrenchments. This
 “ gave the Horse Opportunity to break into the
 “ said Intrenchments; And tho’ the first Squa-
 “ drons, which enter’d, were repuls’d, yet, all
 “ the Cavalry broke thro’, advanced into the
 “ Plain, and there charg’d the Enemy’s Horse;
 “ Whereupon the Enemy’s whole Army fell
 “ into Disorder: Our *Left Wing* having, in the
 “ mean Time, made themselves Masters of the
 “ Intrenchments, in the Wood of *Jansart*, which
 “ was facilitated by some of our Squadrons
 “ falling upon the Enemy’s Flank there.

“ THE Enemy’s Troops being thus brought
 “ into Disorder, their Infantry were entirely put
 “ to the Rout, on all Sides, leaving behind them
 “ their Cannon, and what else they had, and
 “ made off to the Plain of *Bavay*. The Prince
 “ of *Savoy*, who was slightly wounded in the
 “ Head, in the Beginning of the Action, the
 “ Duke of *Marlborough*, and Count *Tilly*, were,
 “ during the whole Fight, on the *Right* and
 “ *Left Wings*, continually at the Head of the
 “ Troops, in the hottest of the Fire, leading
 “ them on; The Field-Deputies animated the
 “ Troops, all the while, by their Presence, and
 “ Monsieur *Gossinga*, had a Horse shot under
 “ him. All the Generals, Officers, and Soldiers,
 “ shewed, in this bloody Battle, as great Reso-
 “ lution, Daring, and Firmness, as ever were

1709.

“ seen, or ever can be expected from valiant
 “ Men. The Fight was very obstinate, from
 “ half an Hour past eight in the Morning, ’till
 “ half an Hour past two in the Afternoon; And
 “ the Enemy was so advantageously posted, that
 “ when the Battle was over, we wonder’d how
 “ we had surmounted such Difficulties. Great
 “ Numbers fell, on both Sides; But it is yet
 “ impossible to have any exact Account of the
 “ Killed and Wounded, &c. In the mean Time, it
 “ is certain, the Enemy’s whole Infantry is
 “ ruin’d. How many Prisoners, Cannon, Co-
 “ lours, Standards, Kettle-Drums, &c. are
 “ taken, was not known when I came away;
 “ But the Number cannot but be great, and the
 “ Particulars will be sent by the succeeding Posts.
 “ This Victory is as glorious as any obtained
 “ this War, for which sufficient Thanks cannot
 “ be return’d to the ALMIGHTY.

THE farther Particulars remitted to the
 States, the Reader will see in the following
 Letter:

*A LETTER of the Field-Deputies of the States to
 their High Mightinesses. Dated from the Camp
 before Mons, September 14, N. S.*

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

*A second Letter
 of the Field-
 Deputies to the
 States Gene-
 ral.*

“ WE have had only the Honour to con-
 “ gratulate Your High Mightinesses, on
 “ the most Glorious Victory obtain’d over the
 “ Enemy, by the Troops of the States, and
 “ those of the High Allies, without being able
 “ to give any Particulars of that important Ac-
 “ tion. The Enemy was forced to retire with
 “ as much Precipitation as Consternation, behind
 “ *Quefnoy,*

“ *Quefnoy*, where, according to our Advices, they
 “ are now actually assembling their Army. Our
 “ Cavalry pursued them hard by *Bavay*, where,
 “ and in the Neighbouring Places, they made
 “ all their wounded Men Prisoners of War, with-
 “ out including those who were found in the
 “ Field of Battle, of whom Lists shall be made,
 “ which we shall have the Honour to transmit to
 “ Your High Mightinesses. The Troops of the
 “ Household of the French King were for the great-
 “ est Part ruin’d. We have taken a great Num-
 “ ber of Colours and Standards, and amongst
 “ others, the first Standard, call’d *La Cornette*
 “ *Blanche*, with 15 Pieces of Cannon or more.
 “ The Marshal *de Villars* is dangerously wounded
 “ in the Knee, or Thigh, by a Musket-Shot.
 “ The Number of their Slain, Wounded, and
 “ Prisoners, cannot be yet known; Nor can we
 “ yet give an Account of the Loss of the Troops
 “ of the State. Your High Mightinesses cannot
 “ but be sensible, that the Enemy could not be
 “ forc’d from three Intrenchments, well pro-
 “ vided with Cannon, without a considerable
 “ Loss, but the Glory and Honour the Troops
 “ of Your High Mightinesses have gained in this
 “ Battle, with an incomparable Valour, which
 “ the Prince of *Savoy*, and the Duke of *Marl-*
 “ *borough*, cannot sufficiently praise, will give
 “ an immortal Name to the Forces of Your
 “ High Mightinesses. It has not been possible
 “ hitherto to make any List of the Officers and
 “ Soldiers, killed or wounded, because several
 “ of the latter dy every Day. Mean Time we
 “ beseech, that Your High Mightinesses will give
 “ us leave, with all Respect, to represent to
 “ You, how necessary it will be, for retrieving
 “ the Loss sustained, that Your High Mighti-

1709.



" *nesses* should earnestly recommend to the *States*
 " of the respective Provinces, to have, in the
 " filling of the Vacancies of the chief Officers
 " and Subalterns, that have been killed, all
 " possible Regard to the Provisional Nomina-
 " tion, to be made by the Generals, and the
 " respective Colonels. We are persuaded, that
 " we need not represent to Your *High Mighti-*
 " *nesses* the Consequences thereof, it being, in
 " our Opinion, the only Means for preserving
 " Glory and Emulation among such valiant
 " Troops. We add here the Disposition we
 " have made, in Concert with the Generals,
 " under the Approbation of Your *High Mighti-*
 " *nesses*, for exchanging the greatest Part of the
 " Regiments that were in the Fight, with those
 " that are, at present, in their respective Garri-
 " sons. To-morrow being appointed for a
 " Thanksgiving Day, on which the usual *Salvo's*
 " are to be made, for this great Victory, we
 " promise ourselves that Your *High Mightineesses*
 " will not take it ill, that we cause the said So-
 " lemnity of Thanks and Rejoicings to be
 " observed in *Tournay*, To-morrow come Se-
 " vennight. We remain, &c.

Sign'd,

J. V. RANDWICK.

W. Hoost.

S. V. GOSLINGA.

P. F. YEGELIN VAN CLAËRBERGEN.

GENERAL,

GENERAL, Count Tilly, likewise wrote two Letters, one of the eleventh; to Their High Mightinesses, and, the other of the sixteenth, to Mr. Secretary Fagel, giving a particular Account of this Glorious Action; But, to avoid Repetition, I shall only mention a Circumstance or two, which are omitted, in the former Letters.

1709.

Extracts of two Letters from Count Tilly to the States General.

He says, 1. " That not long before the Battle, the Marshal de Villars received his last Re-inforcements, namely, the Body under Monsieur d'Artagnan, which had encamp'd between Betbune and La Bassée, join'd by all the Infantry, that could be drawn out of the Garrisons of Ypres, Aire, and other Places, on that Side; So that he much out-number'd the Allies, in Battalions and Squadrons.

2. " THAT the Fire was, indeed, very violent every-where, but more especially at the Attack of the Infantry of the States, who suffered much, because of the double Intrenchments which were on that Side; So that it was impossible to carry them, notwithstanding the good Conduct and Bravery of the Prince of Nassau, and the Vigour of the Officers and Soldiers, who may all be said to have distinguish'd themselves, the last Battalions, who supported, advancing with the same Courage as those who had suffer'd first. The Infantry of the Right Wing (continues he) made all imaginable Efforts, likewise, and soon possess'd themselves of some Posts, but were stopp'd by other Intrenchments, where the Fire continued very hot, 'till about two in the Afternoon, when the Fire of our Infantry began to be superiour, &c.

1709.

3. " THE Enemy (*says he, in his Letter of the sixteenth,*) continued their Retreat; One of their Brigades of Foot retired towards Condé: Three others were, the next Day, before Valenciennes, at the Time the Gates are usually opened. The preceding Day, the Prince of Liege caused *Te Deum* to be sung, in Valenciennes, believing the Enemy had the Victory. Good Part of the Infantry of their Right Wing retired towards Maubeuge; But the Gross of their Horse and Foot, who were in the Main Body of the Army, having pass'd the Defiles of *Amfroidpré*, halted between *Warnies* and *Commines*, and, the same Night, pass'd the Rivulet of *Renelle*, encamping, with their Right, at *Quesnoy*, and extending their Left towards *Valenciennes*, along *Quirimin*, and *Simeon*. They still remain in the same Posts. The Marshal *de Villars* finding himself very ill of the Wound he received in his Knee, the Marshal *de Boufflers*, who was with their Army in the Fight, has taken upon him the Command of it.

I SHOULD now proceed to give my Readers, a Letter or two, written on the other Side of the Question; But shall beg Leave first to mention an Incident, with Regard to this Battle, which will not only give a Light to one Circumstance of it, but furnish me with an Opportunity of doing Justice to a Gentleman of great Worth, whom I have had the Honour personally to know; I mean Lieutenant-General (afterwards Count) *Rantzau*.

*Reflections on
the Conduct of
Lieutenant-Ge-
neral Rantzau.*

THERE was a Report spread in the Army, and was written by some, from the *Hague*, to the Army; " That this General-Officer refused to
" march

1709.

“ march with the Battalions of *Hannover*, to the
 “ Assistance of the Troops of the *States*, altho’
 “ his Highness, the Prince of *Friesland* had sent
 “ him his Order to do it; And that this Refusal
 “ was the only Cause of the great Loss sustain’d
 “ by the *Dutch* Infantry.” To clear himself
 from this Aspersion, the Lieutenant-General
 wrote a Letter to the Baron *de Bualan*, General
 in Chief of the *Electors* of *Hannover*’s Forces in
Flanders, of which the following is a Transla-
 tion:

“ I CANNOT (*says he, having premised the Re-* *his Justifica-*
 “ *port,*) forbear to expose to all the World, the *tion.*
 “ Falsity of that Calumny, and, in Order there-
 “ unto, I shall give an exact Account of every
 “ Thing, that happened at my Post, from the
 “ Beginning of the Battle to the End of it, and
 “ of my Conduct therein, with the four Batta-
 “ lions of *Hannover*. His Highness, the Prince
 “ of *Friesland*, may remember, that the Morn-
 “ ing a little before the Battle begun, when I
 “ had the Honour to meet him, he ask’d me,
 “ what Orders I had? And that I answered, I
 “ had none, and expected that he should order
 “ me, whether I should regulate myself, ac-
 “ cording to my *Right* or *Left*. His Highness
 “ told me, thereupon, that, in all Appearance,
 “ it was to the *Right*, and that I should do well
 “ to regulate myself so, accordingly. The
 “ Major of *Brigade* brought me, in that very
 “ Instant, the Disposition of the Attack on the
 “ *Right*. Not long after, observing that the
 “ Troops of the *States* attack’d a second Time,
 “ the Intrenchment of the Enemy, and that
 “ they met with very great Difficulties, I sent to
 “ their Assistance, (*without being required to do it*

1709.

“ by any Body,) the Battalions of *Gauvain* and
 “ *Tecklenburg*, which, with the Forces of the
 “ States, got into the Enemy’s Intrenchment,
 “ and forced them to quit it. It was there, that
 “ those two Battalions had all their Officers
 “ either kill’d or wounded, excepting one En-
 “ sign, in that of *Gauvain*, and Captain *Lim-*
 “ *burg*, with a Captain-Lieutenant, in that of
 “ *Tecklenburg*.

“ NOTWITHSTANDING those Troops had
 “ forced the Enemy’s Intrenchment, they con-
 “ tinued to make a great Fire from their Line,
 “ which was before me; Upon which I caused
 “ the other two Battalions, that were with me,
 “ to make a Motion on the Right, to endea-
 “ vour, if possible, to dislodge the Enemy from
 “ that Post. At that Time, Monsieur *Goslinga*
 “ came full Gallop to me, and asked me, Whe-
 “ ther I would not advance; Whereupon I
 “ answered, that he might see I was advanc-
 “ ing, and desired him to order the *Prussians*,
 “ on my Right, to make the same Motion, and
 “ march forwards as I was doing; Because I
 “ was not able to maintain myself, with two
 “ Battalions only. Monsieur *Goslinga* stopp’d a
 “ Moment, and then went away with Precipi-
 “ tation; Because the Enemy had forced our
 “ Left to abandon the Intrenchments. I main-
 “ tained, however, the Post I had gained in
 “ Advancing, notwithstanding the great Fire
 “ the Enemy made upon me, from a hollow
 “ Way, by which the Regiment of *du Breuil*
 “ had above forty Men kill’d in the first Dis-
 “ charge. In the mean Time, Prince *Eugene*
 “ sent me twice Orders, by his *Aid de Camp*, to
 “ return to my former Post, which I did ac-
 “ cordingly. Quickly after, that Prince, and
 “ the

1703.

" Duke of *Marlborough* pass'd by my Post, to-
 " wards the *Left*, and Monsieur *de Vinck*, Lieu-
 " tenant General, brought me Orders from
 " them, not to quit the Post where we were,
 " 'till my Lord Duke himself ordered us to
 " march. We continued, accordingly, there,
 " 'till all the Horse and Foot of the *Right*
 " advanced, and then we did the same, pushing
 " on the Enemy, and drove them from the
 " Hollow Way, where they made still a Stand,
 " 'till at last the Battle ended.

" THE Loss of the four Battalions, I had
 " with me, will appear, by examining the Lists;
 " Which will shew, that they have suffered ~~very~~
 " near as much, as the other Battalions which
 " were commanded for the Attack. And since
 " they write from the *Hague*, that the Prince of
 " *Friesland* sent to me, to desire some Succours,
 " for seconding the Troops of the *States*, I de-
 " clare it is a notorious Falsity. That Prince
 " may have given such Orders to somebody;
 " But I maintain, that no Body said a Word to
 " me of it. I, therefore, only desire, that they
 " would tell me the Name of the Person, who
 " was appointed to bring me that Order, and
 " see whether he will dare to say, that he gave
 " me any. The Want of this Circumstance
 " will shew the Injustice and Wrong they have
 " done me, in publishing such Calumnies at the
 " *Hague*. By these Means, I shall discover the
 " Author of those Impostures, to look upon him
 " as the vilest and most dishonest of all Men,
 " for having endeavour'd, by a false Report, to
 " blacken as well my Reputation, as that of
 " those Battalions.

" I HAVE Reason to flatter my self, that Your
 " Excellency, who commands, in chief, His
 " *Electoral*

The Life of JOHN,

“ *Electoral* Highnesses Troops, will not suffer;
 “ that they should be unjustly run down; But
 “ that, on the contrary, your Excellency will
 “ give a full Account of this Affair to my Lord,
 “ Duke, and desire him, that it may be exa-
 “ mined into, by his Order, that the Generals
 “ may judge, whether, on this Occasion, the least
 “ Fault can be laid, either upon those Troops,
 “ or upon my self.

I am, &c.

THIS Letter, which *Monf. de Bothmar*, his *Electoral* Highness's Envoy Extraordinary at the *Hague*, communicated to the Ministers of the Congress, together with the Declaration, which the Prince of *Friesland*, and other Generals, made thereupon, convinced the World of the Malice of such who gave Birth to that false Report. I come now to the *French* Letters, I promised.

I SHALL begin with two Letters from the Marshal *de Boufflers* to His most *Christian* Majesty, one written the Day of the Battle, the other two Days after; Thro' the Vanity and Adulation of which, the Reader will, however, sufficiently see the Advantage the *Confederate* Army had over that of the Enemy; And the greater the Resistance on that Side was, which the Marshal extols above the Skies, the greater was the Glory of the *Allies*, in surmounting so great Difficulties, and obtaining a *Compleat Victory*, in Spite of so much Valour and Conduct; And as for what he pretends of the great Superiority in Number of the *Confederate* Troops, that is already obviated.

Two Letters, from the Marshal de Boufflers, to
the King of France.

I.

S I R,

“ THE Marshal de Villars has, this Day, *A Letter from*
 “ received a considerable Wound; But *the Marshal de*
 “ the Surgeons say, there is no Danger. It is a *Boufflers to the*
 “ great Affliction to me, Sir, that I am unfor- *French King.*
 “ tunately obliged, to send You the News of
 “ the Loss of a new Battle; But I can assure
 “ Your Majesty, never was Misfortune attended
 “ with greater Glory. All Your Majesty’s
 “ Troops have acquired the Greatest Reputa-
 “ tion, as well for their Valour, as for their
 “ Firmness and Obstinacy, not yielding at last,
 “ but to the Enemy’s Superiority (of Courage
 “ and not Number) and having all done perfect
 “ Wonders. All the Marshal de Villars’s Dispo-
 “ sitions were entirely good, and the best that
 “ could be made by the most accomplished and
 “ experienc’d General. He behaved himself, in
 “ the Action, with all imaginable Bravery and
 “ Activity; And, besides his good Example,
 “ gave all possible good Orders; But his
 “ Valour, and Want of Care of his Per-
 “ son, occasioned his Wound, which was
 “ very prejudicial to the Affair of this Unfor-
 “ tunate Day.

“ HE did me the Honour to entrust me with
 “ the Right, and himself took Care of the Left.
 “ We repulsed the Enemy more than three or
 “ four Times, at both Attacks, with incredible
 “ Bravery,

“ Bravery, on the Part of the Troops; But the
 “ Center being somewhat exposed, we were
 “ forced to carry Troops to the *Left*, where
 “ they were very much wanted; And the Enemy
 “ march’d so many Horse and Foot against the
 “ Center, where there were none but Horse to
 “ oppose them, that we were obliged to yield
 “ to the infinitely Superiour Number, and *prodi-*
 “ *gious Efforts* of the Enemy, after having
 “ charg’d them, however, at least six Times,
 “ with the bravest Horse, and, with the greatest
 “ Vigour, pushed and broke two or three of
 “ the Enemy’s Lines, who had been entirely
 “ beaten, were it not for their Infantry, by whose
 “ Favour, they rallied, and so returned upon
 “ our new-raised Cavalry. I can assure Your
 “ Majesty, that the Enemy’s Loss is three Times
 “ greater than ours; And that they can make
 “ no other *Advantage* of this *Unfortunate Action*,
 “ than *Gaining the Field of Battle*. And, I think,
 “ I may also assure Your Majesty; That this ill
 “ Success will not cost You an Inch of Ground;
 “ But that, on the contrary, whenever Your Ma-
 “ jesty shall think fit to make Peace, the Ene-
 “ my will have some Respect for Your Troops,
 “ and, perhaps, be more tractable, as flush’d as
 “ they are with Advantages, owing to their
 “ good Fortune, which may, hereafter, turn
 “ Sides. I cannot now give Your Majesty any
 “ Particulars of this Action; But will endeavour
 “ to send them To-morrow or next Day. I
 “ can only assure Your Majesty, that all the
 “ General-Officers did their Duty perfectly well,
 “ and with the greatest Bravery and Skill; But
 “ *Monf. d’Artaignan*, who commanded the *Right*
 “ of the Foot, distinguish’d himself in a parti-
 “ cular Manner, as well by his Valour, as his
 “ good

1709.

“ good Orders. He had three Horses kill’d
 “ under him, and received four Blows upon his
 “ Cuirass. The Duke *de Guiche*, who was also
 “ on the *Right*, a little forwarder than *Monf.*
 “ *d’Artagnan*, behaved himself, likewise, with
 “ all possible Skill and Bravery, and received a
 “ Musket-Shot in his Leg. The Marquis
 “ *d’Hautefort*, and *Monf. de la Fraizilliere*, who
 “ were also on the *Right*, and in *Monf. d’Artag-*
 “ *nan’s* Rear, shewed the same Valour, and Capa-
 “ city. *Monf. de Gassion*, who commanded the
 “ *Right Wing* of the Horse, did Wonders, at
 “ the Head of Your Majesty’s Household, and
 “ shew’d, on this Occasion, his Courage and
 “ Ability, having push’d and defeated more
 “ than once, two or three of the Enemy’s Lines,
 “ Sword in Hand. The *Gens d’Armes*, Light-
 “ Horse, Musketeers, and Horse-Grenadiers did
 “ also Wonders. The Prince *de Roban*, and
 “ *Monf. de Vidame*, did all that could be expect-
 “ ed from Persons of the greatest Valour. The
 “ *Gendarmerie* did Wonders also; and the Mar-
 “ quis *de la Valiere*, was every where, and charged
 “ with all possible Bravery, at all the different
 “ Charges. The Cavalry behaved themselves
 “ very well, and all the Troops, as well as the
 “ Foot, stood, with an incredible Firmness, one
 “ of the briskest Cannonades that ever was. All
 “ the Foot did Wonders, and distinguish’d them-
 “ selves.

“ THE *Chevalier de St. George* behaved himself,
 “ during the whole Action, with all possible
 “ Bravery and Vivacity. I say nothing of Your
 “ Majesty’s *Left*, because I was not there; But
 “ I know, that all the General-Officers, and all
 “ the Troops, animated by the Marshal *de Villars’s*
 “ Pre-

The Life of JOHN,

“ Presence and Example, behaved themselves
 “ with all possible Valour.

“ I HOPE the whole Army will be re-assem-
 “ bled To-morrow, behind the Rivulet of *Re-*
 “ *nelle*, between *Quesnoy* and *Valenciennes*; And
 “ I believe, I may tell Your Majesty, that it
 “ will be very considerable, and in a Condition
 “ to dispute the Ground with the Enemy. Never
 “ was a Retreat, after so long, bloody, and ob-
 “ stinate a Fight, made with more Order and
 “ Firmness.

“ I do not believe, that the Enemy took
 “ twenty Men from us; So that all they have,
 “ they took in the Action. Nor do I believe,
 “ that we have lost any Standards or Colours,
 “ or at least but very few; And I am told, that
 “ we have some of the Enemy's. They follow-
 “ ed us in *Battalia*, and in very good Order, as
 “ far as the *Defilee* of *Givri*; But with Respect,
 “ not daring to attack us. (*Very probable, in-*
 “ *deed!*) The Disorder I am in, thro' Fatigue,
 “ Weariness and Pain, and the Orders I must
 “ give for the Army and the Country, not per-
 “ mitting me to write to Your Majesty a longer
 “ Account of this *Unfortunate*, but Glorious
 “ Action, I will endeavour to make up the Defect
 “ To-morrow.

“ I HAVE forgotten, perhaps, to speak to
 “ Your Majesty of the Men and Troops, who
 “ distinguish'd themselves, as much as those
 “ above-mention'd; But shall endeavour to
 “ make it up To-morrow or next Day; for they
 “ no less deserve Your Majesty's Esteem than
 “ the others.

“ Mons. *de St. Hilaire* play'd the Artillery
 “ perfectly well, and behaved himself with all
 “ possible Courage and Activity, during the
 “ whole

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

527

1709.

“ whole Action, which began at Seven in the
“ Morning, and did not end till two in the
“ Afternoon. Some Prisoners said, that Prince
“ Eugene received a considerable Wound, but
“ this is not certain. I send here-with the Names
“ of the principal General-Officers, who, I am
“ told, are killed or wounded; But I believe
“ there are several others, whom we are not yet
“ informed of.

“ I HEARTILY wish Your Majesty may be
“ satisfied with my Zeal and good Intentions, I
“ did all that possibly I could, to produce *more*
“ *Happy Effects.*

I am,

S I R, &c.

The Marshal de Boufflers.

“ OFFICERS KILL'D. Messieurs de Chemerault,
“ Palavicini, de Beuil, de Croni, and Starem-
“ berg.

“ WOUNDED. The Marshal de Villars shot
“ in the Knee; The Duke de Guiche, in the Leg;
“ Monf. Albergotti, in the Thigh; Monf. de
“ Tournemine's Leg broken and cut off; Monf.
“ de Courcillon's Thigh cut off. Messieurs d'An-
“ gennes, de St. Agnan, de Zele, and de Gondrin.

From the Camp at Quefnoy,
Sept. 11, 1709.

THIS List of Officers killed and wounded, is
but a very small Part of that which was printed
at the *Hague*, by *Paul Scheltus*, Printer in Ord-
inary to the *States*, which contains several Hun-
dreds,

1709.

“ who will forthwith repair to *Verfailles*, may
 “ have the Honour to acquaint Your Majesty
 “ with several other Particulars, both of what he
 “ has seen, and of what he has been told by My
 “ Lord *Marlborough*, who is his great Friend.”

“ THE said Lord offer'd Mr. *Sheldon* all the
 “ Money he might desire, to assist our wounded
 “ Prisoners; But he accepted only of fifty Pi-
 “ stoles, which he distributed as Occasion re-
 “ quired. Prince *Eugene* declares, that of all
 “ the Actions he has seen, none were so sharp,
 “ so bloody, nor so obstinate as this. Above
 “ all Things, they bestow infinite Praises on the
 “ Charges Your Majesty's *Household-Troops* made;
 “ Which, indeed, are beyond human Nature, and
 “ above all Expression.”

“ THE Enemy's Army marched Yesterday,
 “ in the Afternoon, towards *Mons*, which they
 “ are going to besiege. They reckon this En-
 “ terprize will employ them 'till the latter End
 “ of this Month; And that they shall undertake
 “ nothing more, after this Conquest; Both by
 “ Reason of the advanced Season, and because
 “ their whole Infantry were defeated, and ruined
 “ in this Battle. (*How came they then to conquer!*)

“ I COULD not get the Account of the Number
 “ of the Kill'd and Wounded on our Side; I only
 “ know, that it is very considerable; Which it
 “ is very difficult to avoid, in such terrible,
 “ long, and obstinate Actions. It cost us a
 “ great deal, and we cannot but with Concern
 “ lament the Loss of so many brave Men of
 “ Merit: But we must account a great Victory,
 “ the having retrieved and restored the Honour
 “ of the whole Nation.”

“ YOUR Majesty's whole Army is re-assembled
 “ between *Quefnay* and *Valenciennes*, encamp'd
 “ in

“ in very good Order, in a Line, and very well
 “ disposed to begin another Action, if Your Majesty’s
 “ Service should require it: (Why did not they then
 “ relieve Mons?) And instead of being Cast-down,
 “ I can assure Your Majesty, that they look more
 “ Audacious. (As the Lions at Smithfield-Bars.)
 “ The Front of the Camp stretches near three
 “ Leagues, and is certainly very respectable. As
 “ Men who were thought dead come in daily,
 “ and therefore I could not get an exact Account
 “ of the Kill’d, Wounded or Prisoners, nor con-
 “ sequently the Employments that are vacant, I
 “ shall not have the Honour to propose any
 “ Thing to Your Majesty in Favour of any
 “ Body; Nor even to give you an Account of
 “ distinguish’d Actions, till I am better acquaint-
 “ ed with the whole; Which will be as soon as
 “ possible.

“ THE Marshal de Villars has pitch’d on the
 “ Marquis de Nangis, to carry to Your Majesty,
 “ the Enemy’s Colours and Standards, which
 “ have been gather’d up, (but not taken,) and
 “ which already amount to a pretty good Num-
 “ ber. The said Marquis shewed to me some
 “ Reluctancy (well he might!) to accept this Com-
 “ mission; By Reason of the Misfortune we had to
 “ lose the Field of Battle: But this Battle, and our
 “ Retreat, have so much the Air of a Victory,
 “ and the Enemy’s prodigious Loss, looks so
 “ like a Defeat, that I have persuaded him to
 “ gratify Mons. de Villars’s Desire: Nor is any
 “ Body more capable to give Your Majesty a
 “ better Account than the said Sieur de Nangis.
 “ Tho’ he fought only at the Left Wing, he had
 “ an entire Knowledge of the general Disposi-
 “ tion before the Action, by Reason of his Parts
 “ and Military Genius, which makes him form

1709.

“ true Notions, both of what he has seen, and of
 “ what has been related to him, by Credible
 “ Persons.

“ I HERE subjoin the Account of the Quarters
 “ which I am told the Enemy are to take before
 “ Mons : As soon as I shall have certain Intel-
 “ ligence of their new Posture and Disposition,
 “ I may, perhaps, advance nearer them, to
 “ streighten them in their Subsistence.

“ I LIKEWISE subjoin here a Letter, which
 “ Mons. de Grimaldi, Governour of Mons, writes
 “ to the Marshal de Villars, by which Your Ma-
 “ jesty will see he acquaints him, That, the
 “ Enemy's Left Wing, which was engag'd with
 “ our Right, was entirely defeated. (And yet that
 “ very Right Wing run away!)

“ It is certain, that the Enemy suffered ex-
 “ tremely in this Unfortunate, but Glorious Ac-
 “ tion.”

Remarks on
 these Letters.

IT is hard to say, whether these Letters con-
 tain more Instances of *Vanity* and *Flattery*, or
 more *Inconsistencies* ; I have just hinted at some
 few ; But they are too palpable to need any
 Illustration, I shall, therefore, only ask ; If the
 French Officers and Troops perform'd such Wonders,
 as even surpass'd human Nature (as Mons. de Bou-
 flers expresses himself) what must not those Officers
 and Troops of the Confederate Army, have done,
 who subdued these super-natural Persons, and drove
 them from the Field of Battle, their fortified Camp,
 and treble Intrenchments ? Sure they must have been
 something more than super-natural ! And as for the
 pretended Superiority of Number of the Confe-
 derate Troops, tho' it be not so in Fact ; Yet
 supposing it to be Truth, and that they had been
 twice the Number, the Advantages of the Ene-
 my's

1709.

my's Camp, as well with Regard to the Situation as the Fortifications of it, rendered the Attempt very hazardous, and the *Glory of the Victory incomparable*. In the Marshal's Account of this Action, we must make some Allowance for the Vivacity of a *French* Genius, and the Necessity he lay under, of blinding the old King his Master, and hiding his Loss: And, indeed, he trifles so egregiously with Him, that it is difficult to account for his Want of Respect to His Sovereign; Unless we will suppose he believed His most *Christian* Majesty, in the State of Dotage; and that the most palpable Falsities, when covered with glowering Flattery, would go down.

We have these Letters very prettily epitomiz'd, in the *Tatler*, in the following Words:

S I R,

“ THIS is to let Your Majesty understand, The same epitomized by the Tatler.
 “ That to your immortal Honour, and the
 “ Destruction of the *Confederates*, your Troops
 “ have lost another Battle. *Artagnan* did Wonders, *Roban* perform'd Miracles; *Guiche* did
 “ Wonders, *Gattion* perform'd Miracles; the
 “ whole Army distinguished themselves, and
 “ every Body did Wonders. And to conclude
 “ the Wonders of the Day, I can assure your
 “ Majesty, That tho' you have lost the Field of
 “ Battle, you have not lost an Inch of Ground.
 “ The Enemy marched behind us with Respect,
 “ and we ran away from 'em as bold as Lions.”

Mons. *de Villars* wrote to the *French King* Extract of the Marshal de Villars's Letters, to the French King.
 much in the same Strain, tho' in different Terms:
 And they agreed perfectly, in saying a great
 many fine Things one of the other: But, in the

1709.

Midst of these *Encomiums* mutually bestow'd upon each other, it visibly appear'd, that there was a Misunderstanding between them, at the Bottom, and that they judg'd very differently of the Merit of the Action. *Monf. de Boufflers* attributed a great Part of it to himself, on Account of his handsome Retreat, by which, he insinuated, that he saved the *French* Army from an entire Defeat. *Monf. de Villars* did not lay so great a Stress on that: But gave broad Hints, that if he had not been wounded, and obliged to quit the Field, Victory, which, according to him, declar'd, for a long Time, in Favour of the *French*, would have remain'd on that Side: To confirm which, he added, "Your Majesty's Troops are more
 " courageous and more daring now, than they
 " were before the Battle. They desire nothing
 " more than to face the Enemy again, and as I
 " hope to be soon in a Condition to get on
 " Horseback, if I am favour'd with Your Ma-
 " jesty's Command, I shall endeavour to con-
 " vince Your Enemies, that the great Quantity
 " of Blood they have shed, does but animate
 " Your Troops to a second Combat." The Duke of *Berwick*, in my Opinion, spoke much more reasonably of the Matter, when having been to view the Field of Battle, and being surpriz'd at the extraordinary Intrenchments he found there, he declar'd, That, if the *French* had been beaten in that Post, it would be a great Rashness to attempt a Battle in open Field.

I SHALL add two remarkable Letters more, one from an Officer of Distinction, in the *French* Army, and another, written by an Officer in the *Confederate* Army; Which taken together seem to give a better Idea of this famous Battle, and to set Matters in a truer Light, than any of the former.

From

1709.

From the Camp between Quesnoy and Valenciennes,
Sept. 17, 1709.

" IT was the eleventh Instant, between seven
" and eight o'Clock in the Morning, when
" the Army of the Allies attack'd ours with so much *A Letter from*
" Fury, that, for a Hundred Years past, there has *an Officer of*
" not been a more bloody Action, than was fought *Distinction in*
" that Day, and will be memorable to all succeeding *the French*
" Ages. *Army.*

" THE English began the Attack, by the
" Wood of Sart, which we had fill'd with Foot,
" and perfectly well intrench'd; But they met not
" with such Resistance as should have been made,
" since the Event of the Day depended much on
" the Success of that Attack. However, few of
" those who sustain'd it, escap'd: For the Enemy
" were so Fierce and Blood-thirsty, that they back'd
" in Pieces, whatever came in their Way; And
" even Dead Bodies, when their Fury found no more
" Living.

" THE Dutch were not so lucky, at our Right,
" because all our Infantry there did Wonders;
" And were not forced till after they had defended
" their Intrenchments for five full Hours, with
" the most violent Fire. It is certain, the Enemy
" suffered extremely on that Side; Being repul-
" sed and broken several Times; And there it
" was, that Heroical Actions were perform'd on
" both Sides.

" NEITHER the Advantage of the Ground,
" nor three Intrenchments one within another,
" were able to dishearten our Dreadful Enemies,
" whom we saw advancing, all discover'd, not like
" Men but Devils: Nor were Discharges of
" twenty Pieces of Cannon, fired directly, at

1709.

“ once, into their Battalions, able to break
 “ them, altho’ they carried off whole Ranks.
 “ VALOUR shined on our Side, as much as
 “ possible; The Generals did not spare them-
 “ selves; But gave a good Example to the
 “ Troops, by a most extraordinary Obstinacy,
 “ in not yielding the *Victory* which we thought
 “ to be entirely ours, when a great Body of the
 “ Enemy’s Cavalry, against the *Center* of our
 “ Army, was broke, and routed by the King’s
 “ Household Troops: But the Enemy’s Generals,
 “ having put themselves at their Head, brought
 “ them up again to the Charge, with so much
 “ Fury, that they soon after broke our *Center*,
 “ at the very same Time that our *Right* began
 “ to yield to the Efforts of the Enemy’s *Left*;
 “ And ours to be driven from their Intrench-
 “ ments in the Woods. *Victory*, hereupon, de-
 “ clared against us, and we were forced to yield to
 “ such terrible Efforts. Never were our Troops
 “ seen more animated to do their Duty, nor
 “ Dispositions better order’d and contriv’d, than
 “ that which the Marshals de Boufflers and de Vil-
 “ lars made. But when God does not fight with
 “ Men, all is to no Purpose.
 “ THE King ought to be satisfied with his
 “ Troops on this Occasion. The Enemy did
 “ undoubtedly lose the best Part of their Infan-
 “ try, and ours suffered extremely. We reckon,
 “ that we lost, at least, 7,000 Dead, on the Field
 “ of Battle, and we have above 10,000 wounded.
 “ We cannot yet dive into the true Reason
 “ why the Enemy did not shew more Ardour in
 “ pursuing us; But it is believed it must be the
 “ Loss of their Infantry. We did certainly
 “ make one of the finest Retreats that ever was
 “ made, in the Memory of Man, before a *Victo-*
 “ rious

1709.

“ *rious Army*. But it is certain also, that the
“ Enemy gave us all the Time for it, and pur-
“ sued us only for Form-sake.

“ THIS was, however, contrary to our Ex-
“ pectation and Apprehension; Since, as I have
“ said before, when the Enemy broke us in the
“ Center, between the two Woods, our Army
“ was divided, the *Right* not being able to
“ join the *Left*; Because the Enemy form’d
“ themselves immediately, as far as the Hedges
“ of *Taisnières*: And it was with Reason we
“ fear’d, that the *Left* would be surrounded,
“ because it was broken. It was not above half
“ an Hour past two when the Fight ended, and
“ the Enemy had still a great Part of the Day
“ left; But we made a pretty good Use of the
“ Time, since before the Sun was down, we had
“ already pass’d *Bavay*, and were consequently
“ out of Danger.

“ WE then perceived that our *Left* was not
“ pursued any more than we on the *Right*, and
“ that the Enemy were entirely *satisfied with the*
“ *Field of Battle*. In the mean Time, we saw
“ all their Horse, on the Heights of *Taisnières*,
“ in the Form of a *Crescent*, and we were still
“ ignorant of their Design towards five o’Clock:
“ But having sent out for Intelligence, we had
“ Advice that they halted there. This News
“ gave us indeed a great deal of Joy, since it
“ gave us, likewise, Time to breath.

“ THE Enemy have taken no other Prisoners,
“ but the Wounded that could not follow, and
“ those who, being spent, retired to *Bavay*.
“ We reckon 1200 Officers wounded, among whom
“ are many of *Distinction*. The Marshal de Vil-
“ lars, who, by his extraordinary Valour, gained
“ much Glory in this Action, will have much

“ ado

“ado to recover, but Guiche, Albergotti, and
“several others are safe.

“THE Troops of the King's Household have lost
“several Standards, and a Pair of Kettle-Drums;
“But it is certain, they have performed what-
“ever could be expected from them. The Eu-
“gene's and Marlborough's ought to be very well
“satisfied with us, during that Day, since 'till
“then they had not met with Resistance worthy of
“them. They may say, with Justice, that nothing
“can stand before them; And, indeed, what shall
“be able to stem the Rapid Course of those two He-
“roes, if an Army of 100,000 Men, of the best
“Troops, posted between two Woods, trebly in-
“trench'd, and performing their Duty, as well as
“any brave Men could do, were not able to stop
“them one Day? Will you not then own with me,
“That they surpass all the Heroes of former
“Ages?

A NOBLE Testimony from an Enemy.

A LETTER written by an Officer in the Confede-
rate Camp before Mons.

*A Letter from
an Officer in
the Confede-
rate Army.*

“I SEND you, herewith, a Letter, (meaning
“the foregoing) which you may communi-
“cate to your Friends, who will, undoubtedly
“be glad to see it, after the other Letters and
“Relations, which have already been publish'd.
“It was sent by a Person of Note and Merit, who
“holds a Considerable Rank in the French Army,
“to a Man of Distinction, his Friend; So that
“we may depend upon what he says to our Advan-
“tage. As for the Enemy's Loss, it is at least as
“great as he makes it; And those who would
“have made you believe, that we lost a great
“many more Men than the French, are certainly
“mistaken;

Duke of MARLBOROUGH &c.

539

1709.

“ mistaken: For they make their Computations
“ upon the Lists that have been publish’d of the
“ Loss of some Regiments; And argue, that
“ if the other Bodies have suffer’d in Proportion,
“ our Loss must be greater than was said at first:
“ But you will find by the *True-List*, which I
“ send you here enclos’d, that the Loss of the
“ other Troops is not answerable to that of the
“ *Dutch Battalions*, which were in our *Left*, and
“ even of these, there are more *killed and wounded*
“ *in Writing, than in Reality*, the Officers not fail-
“ ing to take Advantage of such an Opportuni-
“ ty to augment their Number, because the
“ *States* allow them a certain Sum of Money
“ for each Man kill’d and wounded; And there-
“ fore, they set down, in their Lists, all the
“ Men that are wanting in each Company, or
“ have deserted since the last Review. This
“ made Prince *Eugene* say, very ingeniously,
“ when he saw these Lists. *It was pleasant*
“ *enough, that several Regiments, which wanted*
“ *many Men before the Battle, appeared now to*
“ *have been compleat*. Therefore, Sir, you may
“ abate one full fourth Part of the Kill’d in se-
“ veral Bodies, without Fear of being mistaken;
“ And you may rest assured, that most of the
“ Wounded are so but slightly. I send you
“ herewith, the General List of both, in the
“ whole Infantry of the Army; And as for the
“ Horse they have suffer’d so little, that it is not
“ worth the While to make a List of them.
“ I remain,

SIR, &c.

Kill’d

The Life of JOHN,

	Kill'd.	Wounded.
Colonels	16	20
Lieutenant-Colonels	16	27
Majors	9	36
Captains	76	238
Subalterns	169	441
Serjeants, Corporals, and	5258	11944
Private Men	5544	12706
		5544
Total of the Kill'd and Wounded.		18250

*Bishop Burnet's
Account of this
Action.*

I SHALL sum up my Account of this Action, in the Words of *Bishop Burnet*, who gives the best Abridgment of it, I have seen.

“ AFTER this Siege (*viz.* that of *Tournay*)
 “ was over, (*says the Bishop,*) *Mons* was invested,
 “ and the Troops marched thither, as soon as
 “ they had levell'd their Trenches about *Tour-*
 “ *nay*: But the Court of *France* resolv'd to ven-
 “ ture a Battle, rather than to look on, and see
 “ so important a Place taken from them. *Bou-*
 “ *fflers* was sent from Court to join with *Villars*,
 “ in the Execution of this Design: They pos-
 “ sess'd themselves of a Wood, and intrenched
 “ themselves so strongly, that in some Places
 “ there were three Intrenchments cast up, one
 “ within another. The Duke of *Marlborough*
 “ and Prince *Eugene* saw plainly it was not pos-
 “ sible to carry on the Siege of *Mons*, while the
 “ *French Army* lay so near it; So it was neces-
 “ sary to dislodge them. The Attempt was
 “ bold, and they saw the Execution would be
 “ difficult, and cost them many Men. This
 “ was

1709.

“ was the sharpest Action, in the whole War,
 “ and lasted the longest. The *French* were
 “ posted so advantageously, that our Men were
 “ often repulsed: And, indeed, the *French*
 “ maintained their Ground better, and shewed
 “ more Courage, than appeared in the whole
 “ Course of the War: Yet, in Conclusion, they
 “ were driven from all their Posts, and the Ac-
 “ tion ended in a *Compleat Victory*. The Num-
 “ ber of Slain was almost equal, on both Sides,
 “ about 12000 of a Side. *We took 500 Officers*
 “ *Prisoners, besides many Cannon, Standards and*
 “ *Ensigns.* *Villars* was disabled by some Wounds
 “ he received, so *Boufflers* made the Retreat, in
 “ good Order. Military Men have always talked
 “ of this, as the sharpest Action in the whole
 “ War, not without reflecting on the Generals,
 “ for Beginning so desperate an Attack. The
 “ *French* thought it a Sort of Victory, that they
 “ had animated their Men, to fight so well be-
 “ hind Intrenchments, and to repulse our Men
 “ so often, and with so great Loss. They re-
 “ tired to *Valenciennes*, and secured themselves
 “ by casting up strong Lines, while they left
 “ our Army to carry on the Siege of *Mons*,
 “ without giving them the least Disturbance.”

To this I shall add (and therewith conclude
 my Relation of this memorable Battle,) an Ob-
 servation of Monsieur *Roussel*’s: “ In the Opi-
 “ nion (*says this Officer and Author*) of the whole
 “ World, our Generals were guilty of an irre-
 “ parable Fault, in not attacking the ninth, but
 “ delaying it, in Expectation of six and twenty
 “ Battalions, and some Squadrons; While, in
 “ the mean Time, by giving the Enemy Time
 “ to intrench themselves, which was what we
 “ had infallibly to expect from a General so ac-
 “ customed

An Observation
 of Monsieur
Roussel’s.

1709.

“ customed to it as the *Marshal de Villars*, we
 “ weakened ourselves, in Proportion as the Ene-
 “ my grew more formidable. Besides, we there-
 “ by gave him all the Time he could wish, to
 “ penetrate into our Disposition, to re-call several
 “ Detachments, which did not join him ’till the
 “ tenth, and, in short, to render all those Places
 “ impenetrable, thro’ which only our Troops
 “ could break into the Plain. In the Coun-
 “ cil of War, which was held the ninth, the
 “ Deputies of the *States General* were of Opi-
 “ nion, that the Siege of *Mons* should be im-
 “ mediately undertaken, without giving the
 “ Enemy Battle; But that if they should come
 “ to attack us, in that Case, we should retreat
 “ from them; And of this Opinion were most
 “ of the Generals. Prince *Eugene*, and the
 “ Duke of *Marlborough*, were of Opinion to
 “ attack the Enemy, before they began the
 “ Siege, and they brought over the Deputies to
 “ be of the same Mind; But then, as well they,
 “ as the Duke of *Marlborough*, insisted, that
 “ the Attack ought to be made immediately, not
 “ to give the *Marshal de Villars* Time to fortify
 “ his Camp. Prince *Eugene* was not, however,
 “ to be dissuaded from the Resolution he had
 “ taken, to wait for the Detachment from *Tour-*
 “ *nay*. A fatal Delay, which occasion’d the
 “ Ruin of the whole Body of the *Dutch* Infan-
 “ try, which alone lost near 10,000 Men, more
 “ than 700 of whom were Officers, at the At-
 “ tack of the Intrenchments.

Of Monsieur
Du Mont.

MONSIEUR DU MONT says, It was a Misfor-
 tune to the *Allies*, that they did not give Battle
 the ninth; For then, probably, the Victory would
 have been more compleat, and have been ob-
 tain’d with a less Loss of Blood. The Enemy
 was



was then on the other Side of the Wood, in the Plain; There was Room to come at them thro' the Intervals. They had not had Time to intrench themselves, and the Advantage of the Ground would have been pretty near equal.

THERE is one Thing particularly remarkable in this Battle, which is so uncommon, that we shall hardly find it parallell'd. I mean that the Conquerors should lose as many, if not more Men, than the Conquered, and yet keep the Field of Battle, with all the Marks and Trophies of the most compleat Victory. F. Daniel, And of F. Daniel, who is not the most impartial of Historians, pretends, that the *Confederates* lost 30,000 Men, in this Action, and the *French* but 20,000. And that the latter retreated quietly, and without Interruption to *Quesnoy*, carrying with them two and thirty Colours or Standards: Which does not very well agree with the other Circumstances of this Battle: But, if it had been true, it would have been just the Case of the *Spaniards* after a Battle lost by *Charles, V.* if we may believe *Sandaval*, his Historian, who has put in the Title of one of his Chapters; *The Victorious Spaniards fly.*

ON Occasion of the *French* endeavouring so artfully to conceal the Loss they sustained at *Malplacquet*, the following Medal was struck. A Medal struck on the Endeavours of the French to conceal their Loss at Malplacquet. ON the Face is represented a Stage-Monarch, holding out the Shield of *Pallas*, fondly believing it capable to render him invincible, and in vain endeavouring to skreen himself, thereby, from the Thunder darted at him by a Nymph. This Nymph, who is design'd to represent the Armies of the *Allies*, leans on a Bundle of Arrows, the Emblem of *Union* and *Force*. Between these two Figures, is a third of a Nymph in Chains, crown'd

The Life of JOHN,

crown'd with a Mural Crown, to represent the City of *Mons*; Over all these is the Inscription:

NEC CASTRA, NEC MUNIMENTA.

Neither Camps nor Intrenchments can skreen you.

And, in the *Exergue*;

POSTSCENIUM AUTUMNI.

The Autumnal Postscene.

To understand this, the Reader must call to Mind, that the *Postscene* is the Back-part of the Stage, whither the Actors retire, after a Play, to divest themselves of their assumed, and appear in their natural, Forms. This Device, therefore, alluding to the Representation above it, signifies as much as; *This is the true State of Things*: And as the taking of *Mons* was the last Scene of the Tragedy of this Year; So from thence we may form a just Judgment of what preceded, and reflect on the Circumstances of Things as they really were, divested of the Tinsel and Gloss, with which the *French* endeavoured to cloath them.

THE Reverse, represents the *Colossus of Rhodes*, that enormous Statue of the Sun, (the Symbol of *France*) which was reckon'd one of the Wonders of the World; With the following Inscription:

MOLE RUIT SUA.

His own Weight occasions his Fall.

WHICH

Duke of MARLBOROUGH &c.

545

WHICH is farther explained, in the *Exergue*,
in the following Words :

1709.

MONTES HANNONÆ, GALLIA LABENTE, RECUPERATA. 23 OCTOB. 1709.

Mons, in Hainaut, retaken by the Decay of
France, October 23, 1709.

THAN which no greater Marks could be, than
these successive Losses, which the French endeavour'd,
so industriously to conceal.





C H A P. XVII.

*The Siege of Mons, and other Transactions,
to the Conclusion of the Year, 1709.*

1709.

*Preparations
for the Siege
of Mons.*



THE Confederate Generals having resolved to lay Siege to the Important Town of *Mons*, the Capital City of *Hainault*, and the late Residence of the Elector of *Bavaria*; Which the Retreat of the *French* had now left a free Passage to; Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, with Monsieur *Vegelin*, one of the Deputies of the *States*, went, on the eighteenth of *September*, N. S. to hasten the March of the Artillery and Ammunition-Waggons design'd for that Enterprize: A great Number of Horses were sent from the Army, to assist in bringing up the same to the Camp; And, the nineteenth, the Duke of *Marlborough* removed his Quarters to the Castle of *Havre*.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene*, having taken the necessary Measures to secure the March of the Artillery, and appointed the Generals that were to command in this Siege, under the Prince of *Orange-Nassau*, the latter gave an Account of the Dispositions made there-to, and the Progress thereof, 'till the seven and twentieth, in the two following Letters to the *States General*.

HIGH

AN
Exact Plan of
MONS
is humbly Dedicated
to y^e Right Hon.^{ble}
the EARL of
STAIRS,
by his most Obedt^{serv}
Tho. Lediard

Moras



EXPLICATION

- A Bartamont Gate
- B Gueritte Gate
- C Havre Gate
- D Nimy Gate
- E The Park Gate
- F Ravage Gate

A Scale of Fathoms



HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

“ I RECEIVED, with due Respect, Your High *A Letter from*
 “ *Mightinesses* Letter of the sixteenth Instant, *the Prince of*
 “ in which you express Your Satisfaction in my *Orange to the*
 “ Conduct, shewn in the Battle of *Tafnieres*, (or *States Gene-*
 “ *Malplacquet*;) And as this Declaration is very
 “ acceptable to me, so it shall animate me, for
 “ the future, not to regard any Pains or
 “ Trouble, but ever to sacrifice my Life in the
 “ Service of Your High *Mightinesses*, in Hopes
 “ to deserve Your Favour and Affection more
 “ and more.

“ THE Siege of *Mons* being resolved upon, I
 “ have the Honour to command it, and under
 “ me, of the Infantry, the Lieutenant-Generals
 “ *Pettendorff, Rantzau, and Dobna*; The Ma-
 “ jor-Generals, Lord *North and Gray, Sacken,*
 “ *Els, Ammama, and Ivoy*; The Brigadiers
 “ *Evans, Earl of Orrery, Weeks, Horst, Rech-*
 “ *teren, and Ockinga*. Of the Cavalry, Lieute-
 “ nant-General *Schulemburg*; The Major-Gener-
 “ als *Stain, Chanclos, and Cheus*; And the Bri-
 “ gadiers *Fabricius and Hunderbein*.

“ THE most Part of the thirty Battalions, and
 “ thirty Squadrons, appointed for the Siege,
 “ being arrived in this Camp, I repair’d hither,
 “ on the twentieth Instant, and the Projects of
 “ the Directors of the Approaches, in Respect
 “ to the Attacks, being approved on ~~it was,~~
 “ with the Advice of the Field-Deputies of Your
 “ High *Mightinesses*, and the Princes of *Savoy*
 “ and *Marlborough*, resolved to open the
 “ Trenches, To-morrow Night, if every Thing
 “ requisite and necessary thereto be ready, in two
 “ several Places, viz. at the Gate of *Burhamont*

1709.

“ where the chief Attack will be, and the Gate
 “ of *Havre*. This Evening, 100 Soldiers, and
 “ 100 Workmen are order'd to possess themselves
 “ of a Mill, on the *Trouille*, and thereby to cut
 “ off the Enemy's Provisions on that Side. The
 “ *Sieur Dru de Castillon*, Captain of the Regiment
 “ of *Guethem*, and a Peasant who offered him-
 “ self voluntarily, have been ordered to drain
 “ the Inundations, between *St. Guislain* and
 “ *Mons*, to execute which 150 Pioneers, with a
 “ sufficient Guard, are commanded to support
 “ them, and they are to begin that Work To-
 “ morrow.

“ THIRTY Squadrons, under the Command
 “ of a Lieutenant-General, two Major-Generals,
 “ and two Brigadiers, have been ordered to
 “ guard the Artillery hither, which is to break
 “ up from *Brussels* To-morrow; All the other
 “ Posts are, for their better Security, assigned
 “ to the Commanding Officers.

“ IN the mean Time, nothing is omitted for
 “ making the necessary Preparations, to con-
 “ tinue this important Siege, with a happy Suc-
 “ cess, &c.

Sign'd,

J. W. F. Prince of Orange and Nassau.

From the Camp before Mons,

Sept. 23, 1709.

THE other Letter, dated September 26, was
 as follows.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Another Letter
 from the Prince
 of Orange to
 the States Ge-
 neral.

ON the twenty-third, I had the Honour
 to give Your High Mightinesses an Ac-
 count of my Arrival in this Camp, and what
 had

“ had been done to that Time, in the Prepara-
 “ tion towards the protecting of this Siege.

“ THE Persons, who were ordered to drain
 “ the Inundations between *Condé* and *Mons*, did
 “ so happily execute their Orders, that the
 “ Water, on one Side, is already fallen above
 “ six Foot.

“ THE Design of cutting off the Mills on the
 “ *Trouille* has, likewise, had a good Success, the
 “ Garrison therein, consisting of four and twenty
 “ Men, under the Command of an Officer,
 “ surrender'd Prisoners of War, without any
 “ Resistance: Whereupon a Beginning was
 “ made, to draw off the Water, on that Side,
 “ likewise.

“ LAST Night, at half an Hour after nine,
 “ the Trenches were open'd at the Attack of
 “ *Bertamont*, with all the Success imaginable.
 “ A Parallel of 550 Foot was drawn before the
 “ Horn-work of that Gate, with a Line of
 “ Communication, from the Village of *Hyron*,
 “ to the Parallel aforesaid, and another was be-
 “ gun, from the Height of the Road of *Bavay*;
 “ But the Time falling too short, it could not
 “ be joined to the other. We had, on this
 “ Occasion, three Men killed, and one Major,
 “ one Captain, one Subaltern, one Engineer,
 “ and four and fifty common Soldiers wounded.
 “ On the Attack of the Gate of *Havre*, Engi-
 “ neer *de Boeffe* run a Parallel along the Foot of
 “ the *Glacis*; But an unforeseen Accident inca-
 “ pacitated him to draw a Communication with
 “ his Line on the *Rear*, which was the Reason
 “ that it could not certainly be known what
 “ Number were killed and wounded on that
 “ Side. I was only inform'd, that Lieutenant-
 “ General *Cadogan*, his Aid at Camp, and another

The Life of JOHN,

“ther Officer, who advanced too near, were
“wounded.

“THE Engineer *Melquetfeler*, with 300 Sol-
“diers, 100 Pioneers, four Pieces of Cannon,
“and the necessary Ammunition and Fascines
“were ordered to make themselves Masters of
“the Redoubts of *Nimy*; But the Men and
“other Requisites not being ready, Time enough,
“last Night, that Design was defer’d ’till To-
“morrow Morning, &c.

Sign’d,

J. W. F. Prince of Orange and Nassau.

P. S. “AFTER the concluding of these, I re-
“ceived Advice, that the Redoubt of *Nimy*
“had been forced this Day, wherein were found
“two Pieces of Cannon, five and twenty Men,
“an Officer, and a Subaltern. This Afternoon
“the Enemy made a Sally upon our Trenches,
“on the Attack of *Havre*, with 300 Men, on
“which Occasion, the *English* Regiment of *Hill*
“had about sixty Men kill’d and wounded;
“But being sustained by the Regiment of Prince
“*Albert*, the Enemy was obliged to retire, with
“some Loss.

Continuance of
the Siege.

THE seven and twentieth, Lieutenant-General
Wilks join’d the Army, with five Battalions and
ten Squadrons from *Duillemont*. The two Days
following, the Besiegers carried on their Ap-
proaches as much as the Badness of the Weather
could allow of, and finish’d their Batteries. The
thirtieth, another Convoy of Ammunition and
Artillery being arrived, two and thirty Pieces of
Cannon were brought to the Batteries, at the
Attack

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

Attack of the Gate of *Bektamont*, and sixteen to those at the Gate of *Havre*. It is remarkable, that the *Allies* made no Lines of Circumvallation, at this Siege: A plain Mark they were no Ways apprehensive of the Enemy. Nor did not think them so formidable as the *Marshal de Villars* endeavour'd to persuade the King his Master, that they were.

THE first of *October*, pursuant to the Disposition made the Night before, Major-General *Ivoy*, with a Detachment, advanced, in the Morning to attack the Horn-work and the Redoubt, without the Park-gate, which covered the Mills, where the *Besieged* used to grind their Corn. In this Service, four Cannon and two Hawbitzers were used, which had not fired above three Rounds, when the Enemy seeing the *Confederates*, who had marched a considerable Way up to the Waist in Water, ready to make an Assault, yielded themselves Prisoners of War, to the Number of four and fifty Men, one Captain, and two Lieutenants; But the Officers were permitted to return into Town.

By the Taking of these Works, in which the *Besiegers* found forty Sacks of Meal, two Pieces of Cannon, and some Ammunition, they became Masters of a Sluice, which was of great Use for letting out the Water; And, the same Day, they began to fire from six and twenty Pieces of Cannon. The second, nothing past of any Moment. The third, the Weather being become fair, the *Besiegers* obliged the Enemy to quit a small Redoubt, on the Right of the Gate of *Havre*, and continued their Approaches, with very little Loss, at both Attacks, 'till the eighth, when they were not above ten Paces from the Counterscarp of the Horn-work, at

1709.

the Gate of *Havre*, which they attack'd that Day, and after Half an Hour's Resistance, lodg'd themselves on the Cover'd Way, with the Loss only of sixty Men, kill'd and wounded, and, among the latter, Colonel *Hara*, of the *English* Artillery and Captain *Petit* of the Guards. They perfected their Approaches, lodg'd themselves on the Cover'd Way of the Horn-work, at the Gate of *Bertamont*, and began to batter the Face of that Work, from two Batteries, of twelve Pieces of Cannon each.

FROM the eighth, to the sixteenth, nothing happen'd worthy of Notice, only that the Besiegers continued to bombard the Place. The sixteenth, in the Morning, 400 Grenadiers, sustained by 500 Fusileers, and 700 Workmen, attack'd the second Counterscarp of the Horn-work, at the Gate of *Havre*, which the Enemy quitted, after a short Resistance; And, thereupon, the *Allies* made a good Lodgment, and removed their Batteries to the *Pallisadoes*, to batter the Horn-work in Breach. At seven, in the Morning, they began, with a great Discharge of Bombs and Grenadoes, to attack the Horn-work of *Bertamont*, by which the Enemy were so much annoy'd, that when the Besiegers had mounted the Breach, they found, to their great Amazement, that the Besieged had quitted both the Ravelin and the Horn-work, and they lodg'd themselves therein, with very little Loss. They took, at the same Time, a little Out-work, on the *Right* of the Horn-work, without losing one Man, and in it, a Lieutenant and fifteen Soldiers, Prisoners.

THEY began, the eighteenth, at the Attack of *Bertamont*, to remove the Batteries into the Horn-work, in Order to Batter the Bastions, and
continued

continued to work on them, with all possible Diligence. The nineteenth in the Morning, their Batteries began to fire, upon the Face of the Horn-work, at the Gate of *Havre*, and continued to do so, with very good Success, 'till the twentieth, about Noon, when the Breaches being almost practicable, and the Besiegers making Preparations for an Attack, they were prevented by the Enemy's beating a Parly, and hanging out white Flags, at both Attacks, to signify their Desire to capitulate. Hostages were, hereupon, exchanged, and the Enemy having sent out Monsieur de *Sonnegar*, Major-General, Monsieur *Grimaldi*, a Brigadier, and Monsieur *Lettier*, the *Allies*, on their Side, sent into the Town, Major-General *Ranck*, Brigadier *Ockinga*, and Colonel *Alberti*.

The Garrison of Mons beats a Parly.

THE *French* Hostages, having dined with the Prince of *Nassau*, near the *Bertamont* Attack, went, in the Afternoon, to the Duke of *Marlborough's* Quarters, where Prince *Eugene* was, at the same Time; And having deliver'd in their Proposals, consisting of two and twenty Articles, return'd into the Town, in the Evening, with their Highness's Answer. They came out again the next Morning; And, after some Debates, accepted such Terms, as the *Confederate* Generals thought fit to grant them: By which they were allowed to march out, with other Marks of Honour, but without Cannon or Mortars.

The Capitulation agreed on.

THE Articles were sign'd, about ten at Night, at Prince *Eugene's* Quarters, by that Prince, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Field-Deputies of the *States General*, on the one Part, and General *Grimaldi*, Governour of the Town, on the other: And, immediately after, 500 Men took Possession of the Gate of *Niniv*. The Reduction

The Town of Mons surrenders.

1709.

Reflections on
this Conquest.

of this important Place, after the Memorable and Bloody Battle of *Malplacquet*, was a plain Demonstration, that the *Allies* obtain'd, in that Action, something more substantial, than the Name of a *Victory*: Since the Enemy, who had hazarded a Battle, to prevent the Siege of this Town, did not make the least Motion to relieve it; Notwithstanding the Assurances given by the Marshals *de Villars* and *Boufflers* to His most *Christian* Majesty, that He would not lose an Inch of Ground by that Action; And their Boasts of Marching towards the *Confederate* Army, if the King's Service required it.

THE twenty-third, the Garrison march'd out with all the Marks of Honour allowed them by the Capitulation; Besides which, the *Confederate* Generals granted them two Pieces of Cannon, and one Mortar, by Way of Compliment. The whole did not exceed 100 Men, the Rest being either Sick or Wounded, and a great Number of *Walloons*, and others, having stayed behind, in the Town, to lift themselves, in the Service of the *Allies*. Count *Dobna*, who was appointed to command in that Place, march'd in, at the same Time, with a Detachment of Troops, which were to be in Garrison during the Winter. Of the *British* Troops, employed in this Service, Colonel *Hill* received a Hurt in his Side, Colonel *Clayton* was dangerously wounded in the Eye, and Colonel *Foxton*, and Major *Mortimer* were kill'd.

THE following Medal was struck on this Occasion.

A Medal struck
on this Occa-
sion.

On the Face, the Queen's Bust, with her Title as usual

ON



Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

555

ON the Reverse, the Town of MONS, and Victory flying over it, with a Laurel Garland in her Right Hand, and a Palm Branch in her Left, with this Inscription,

MONTIBUS IN HANNONIA CAPTIS.

In English,

Mons in Hainault taken.

And in the Exergue, the Date of the Year,
M DCC IX.

THE Advancement of the Season, not admitting of any farther Undertaking, the Winter-Quarters were settled, and, the six and twentieth, the Army pass'd the *Haisne*, and came to *Thiuries*, where they remained the next Day, which was celebrated as a Thanksgiving to ALMIGHTY GOD, for the taking of *Mons*. The eight and twentieth, the Troops separated, to march into their respective Winter-Quarters; The *British* for *Ghent*; The *Danes* for *Bruges*; The *Prussians* for the *Maese*; And the Rest for *Brussels*, *Louvain*, and other Parts. This done, the Duke of Marlborough, and Prince Eugene, set out for *Brussels*, and went from thence to the *Hague*.

The Confederating Army goes into Winter-Quarters.

The Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene go for the Hague.

THE following Medal was struck on the Progressive Success of this Year.

ON the Face a Bust of Her Majesty, with Her Title as usual.

A Medal struck on the Progressive Success of the Year 1709.

ON the Reverse, a Monument of Trophies, at the Foot of which are two Figures, representing Mars,

Mars,

1709.

Mars and Hercules, holding two Shields, representing, one the Battle of Malplacquet, and the other the Taking of Mons. Over them, in another Shield, is represented the Siege of Tournay, and above them all Fame hovers, and trumpets out these Exploits. With the Inscription:

TURRIS, CASTRA, MONTES VICTI.

Tournay, the Camp of Taisnieres, and Mons won.

And in the *Exergue*:

VICTORIA PACIFERA, ANNO 1709.

Victories productive of Peace, Anno 1709.

To prevent any Surprise from the French, during the Winter, the following Generals were ordered to stay in Flanders, and the adjacent Countries; viz. In the Conquests, in Flanders, the General, Earl of Albemarle; Lieutenant-General Murray, and Major-General Chanclos. At Brussels, the Lieutenant-Generals Dompré, Prince William of Hesse, Prince d'Auvergne, Villate, and Vander Beek; The Major-Generals Koppel, Ranck, Schmettau, and Quarter-Master-General Ivoy. At Mons, Lieutenant-General Dobna, and the Major-Generals Els and Hamilton; At Liege, General Count Tilly, the Lieutenant-Generals Dops, La Lecq, and Heyde; And the Major-Generals Du Portail, and the Prince of Wirtemberg; At Malines, the Hereditary Prince of Hesse-Cassel, General, and the Lieutenant-General, Earl of Athlone; At Louvain, Lieutenant-General Hompesch, and Major-General Schlippenbach; At Ma-

THE

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

557

1709.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* having written to the *States General* to congratulate Them on the Taking of *Mons*, and acquaint Them that the Season would not allow of Besieging *Maubeuge*, as was intended, Their *High Mightinesses* return'd the following Answer.

S I R,

“ ALTHO’ we were already informed, by *The States*
“ our Deputies, of the taking of *Mons*, *General’s Letter to the Duke*
“ and the Reduction of the Province of *Hainault*, *of Marlborough.*
“ the Letter, whereby your Highness congratulates us on that happy Success, has not been,
“ for all that, less acceptable to us. We look
“ upon this Conquest as one of the Fruits of the
“ last Victory, and of your Labours; And we
“ rejoice the more at it, because (besides its own
“ Importance) it must convince all the World,
“ that the *Advantage*, as well as the *Glory*, of
“ the last Battle remain on the Side of the *Allies*.
“ We congratulate, with all our Hearts your
“ Highness thereupon. If the Season permitted
“ to go as far as your good Will, we might
“ surely promise ourselves, that the Valour of
“ your Highness would procure us new Advan-
“ tages, before the End of the Campaign; But
“ seeing the Season of the Year does not allow
“ of any farther Action, this must be deferr’d to
“ next Spring; Unless the Enemy prefer Peace
“ to War, upon more equitable Conditions, than
“ they have hitherto expressed. We are, with
“ much Esteem, and truly, &c.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* having settled the *Conferences at*
Repartition of the Winter Quarters, arrived, as *the Hague.*
I have said above, at the *Hague*, the third of *November,*

vember, as did Prince *Eugene*, the seventh. The twelfth their Highnesses had a long Conference with several Deputies of the *States*, in which Prince *Eugene*, who spoke first, made the following Representation

Prince Eugene's Speech.

“ THAT tho’ there was Reason to hope, that
 “ the Glorious Victory, and other great Advan-
 “ tages obtained, the last Campaign, would in-
 “ duce the Enemy to comply next Winter, with
 “ such Terms, as might secure a good and sure
 “ Peace, to prevent thereby the Continuation of
 “ the War, and save the great Charges they must
 “ be at, to bring their Army into the Field, the
 “ next Campaign; Yet, as this was still uncer-
 “ tain, there was an absolute Necessity to take,
 “ in Time, and without any Delay, the necessary
 “ Measures for being early in the Field, the next
 “ Spring, in Order to act with more Vigour than
 “ ever. That, above all Things, it was necessary,
 “ to make sufficient Magazines of Forrage,
 “ Corn, Meal, and other Necessaries, in the
 “ most convenient Frontier-Places, that the
 “ Troops might be assembled, subsisted, and put
 “ in a Condition to act, even before there was
 “ Grass on the Ground, and that a sufficient
 “ Number of Waggons be provided, for trans-
 “ porting to the Army, Bread and other Necess-
 “ saries, the Troops having been more than
 “ once, in great Streights, the last Campaign,
 “ and having for some Days been without Bread,
 “ for Want of Waggons, of which the Field-De-
 “ puties of their *High Mightinesses* had been Wit-
 “ nesses. That Magazines were indispensably
 “ necessary, to prevent the Enemy’s being in
 “ the Field before them, in the Spring, and to
 “ take such advantageous Posts as might enable
 “ the *Allies* to penetrate into the *French* Terri-
 “ tories,

" tories, without being put to the Necessity to
 " hazard a dangerous Battle, and attack them
 " in their strong Intrenchments. That it was
 " also necessary, to have double the Number of
 " Waggon's they had before, for transporting
 " Bread and other Necessaries, from the Frontier-
 " Places to the Army, because otherwise, they
 " could not advance at any Distance from the
 " said Frontiers, and penetrate into the Domi-
 " nions of *France*, how fair an Opportunity so-
 " ever they had for it; and less still at present
 " than before, because the Enemy's Territories
 " afforded no Provisions to subsist an Army.
 " That, therefore, he earnestly recommended
 " these two Articles of Magazines and Waggon's,
 " as two Things, without which they could not
 " promise to themselves to obtain the Advan-
 " tages that might be expected from the next
 " Campaign, in case they were obliged to con-
 " tinue the War. Concluding, with desiring
 " them, that the Contracts for furnishing the
 " *Imperial* and *Palatine* Troops, with Bread and
 " Forrage, might be performed and executed
 " without any Delay, for preventing all Incon-
 " veniencies and Disorders. The Duke of *The Duke of*
 " *Marlborough* spoke next, on the same Heads, *Marlborough's*
 " and recommended with the utmost Earnest- *Speech.*
 " ness, the Articles relating to the Magazines
 " and Waggon's; Adding, that being obliged
 " to go for *England*, he left there General *Cado-*
 " *gan*, who was impowered to settle with the
 " Council of State, the Contracts for the Sub-
 " sistence of the *Imperial* and *Palatine* Troops,
 " and other Affairs, which were to be regulated,
 " in Concert, between *Great Britain* and the
 " *States*. His Grace represented afterwards, the
 " absolute Necessity of recruiting and re-estab-
 " lishing.

1709

“ lishing the Forces, with all possible Speed, and
 “ renewing the Capitulations with such Troops,
 “ which without a new Agreement, could not
 “ continue their Service; Concluding, that it
 “ was also highly necessary to regulate, in Time,
 “ the Rout of the *Hessian* Troops, that were
 “ marching into their own Country, that they
 “ might return, without any Delay, as soon as
 “ Occasion should require.

THE Subject of this Conference having been reported to the Assembly of the *States General*, Their *High Mightinesses* resolved to concur in every Thing that was, or should be propos'd, for making the utmost Efforts, the next Campaign, in Order to bring the War to the desired Conclusion.

THE *Confederate* Ministers had several other Conferences together, in which it was warmly insisted, on the Part of *Great-Britain* and *Holland*, that since the *Empire* made such great Demands on *France* (as the Restoration of the three Bishopricks of *Metz*, *Toul*, and *Verdun*, and all *Alsace* and *Franche Comte*) its Members ought to furnish their full *Quota's* towards this necessary War; To which Prince *Eugene* answered: “ The
 “ *Emperour* thought the Thing so reasonable,
 “ that He would readily take any Measures, in
 “ Concert with His *Allies*, to compel the re-
 “ spective States and Princes of the *Empire* to
 “ the punctual Performance of their Duty and
 “ Engagements; It being well known to all the
 “ World, that His *Imperial* Majesty was not
 “ wanting in setting them an Example; Since
 “ He furnish'd several Thousands of Men, and
 “ considerable Sums of Money more than his
 “ *Quota*.” They also consulted together about proper Means to extinguish the War in the
 North;

Another Speech
 of Prince Eu-
 gene's.

North; Or, at least, to prevent its spreading into the *Empire*, and any Ways affecting the *Grand Alliance*. 1709.

THE Campaign in the *Netherlands* was no sooner at an End, than the *French Court* thought fit to make new Advances, towards setting a Negotiation for a Peace on Foot again. To this End *Signior Foscari*, the *Venetian Ambassador*, who came to *Holland*, about this Time, took a Turn to *Amsterdam*, to feel the Pulses of the *Burgomasters* of that City. On the other Hand, *Monsieur Pettecum*, Resident of the Duke of *Holstein*, at the *Hague*, who had been employ'd the last Winter, under-hand, in the Negotiation of Peace; And had since continued to hold a Correspondence with the *Marquis de Torcy*, made some new Overtures, on the Part of *France*, and desired Passes for their Commissioners, to come to the *Hague*. The *Imperial, British, and Dutch Ministers*, having taken this Matter into Consideration; and a Report of their Conference having been made to the Assembly of the *States General*, Their High Mightinesses refused the Passes, but consented, that *Monsieur de Pettecum* should go to the *French Court*, pursuant to their Desire, to know what farther Offers they had to make. That Minister accordingly set out for *Paris*, about the Middle of *November*; As did, not many Days after, the Duke of *Marlbrough* for *London*, and *Prince Eugene*, for *Vienna*.

MONSIEUR *Pettecum* was received at the Court of *France* with more Respect than was due to a Minister of so inferiour Rank; And with an affected Ostentation, to make the murmuring and half famish'd People believe, that Peace was near; Not without some vain Insinuations, that he was sent by the *Allies* themselves, to make

The Life of JOHN,

*Monsieur Pet-
tecum returns
to the Hague.*

*Resolution of
the States Ge-
neral.*

Advances towards it; Tho' nothing is more certain, than that he had no such Power or Direction given him on their Parts. He conferred for some Days, with the Marquis *de Torcy*, and the other *French* Ministers, and having received a Present for the Trouble and Expences of his Journey, he returned to the *Hague* with the Answer, and the Proposals of the Court of *France*.

THESE Proposals having been examined by the *Heer Van Welden*, and other Deputies of the *States General*, and a Report thereof made to Their Assembly, they were unanimously rejected, with Disdain. A vigorous Resolution was thereupon taken, on the fourteenth of *December*, in which, among other Things, They said, "That, for several Reasons therein inserted, the Answer brought by the *Sieur Pettecum* was not satisfactory; And that the *Preliminary* Articles ought to be insisted on, especially as there was no Difficulty rais'd, on the Part of *France*, but only on the seven and thirtieth Article, and it was the general Opinion, that an Expedient might be sought, to give Satisfaction to all Parties. That the *Sieur Pettecum* being returned, not only without any such Expedient, but with an Answer in which there is not the least Mention made of the Proposals made before, and, in which *France* recedes entirely from the Foundations, which were agreed to with a common Consent, and with a Proposal to enter into a formal Negotiation of Peace, without settling and adjusting any Thing before Hand, contrary to the Declaration made on the Part of *France*, even by the last Letters; viz. That all the *Preliminary* Articles should remain firm as they were settled, only with such Alterations in the Terms of Execution,

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

503

1709.

tion, which the Course of Time had made
 necessary, except only the seven and thirtieth
 Article; Nothing could be concluded; *But*
that the Enemy was not sincerely disposed to
agree to a good and safe Peace, and that little
Regard was to be had to the Assurances of their
good Intention and Inclination in that Respect;
Seing the Effects agreed so little with their
Words; But rather, that all was concerted and
designed to sow, if possible, Mistrusts and Jeal-
ousies between the States and Their Allies,
while they were resolved to continue the War, as
it appeared by all publick Advices, &c. That
 therefore it would be necessary, above all
 Things, to make Use of the utmost Efforts,
 without the least Delay or Loss of Time, to
 get in a Readiness all that was requisite, for
 beginning the next Campaign early, before
 the Enemy are in a Condition to take the
 Field, and pushing on the same with Vigour,
 &c. That for the End and Purpose aforesaid,
 Letters should be written to the *Emperour,*
 the *Diet of the Empire at Ratisbon,* the *Con-*
federate Circles, as also to the *Electors* and
 Princes of the *Empire,* and likewise to Her
 Majesty of *Great Britain,* and the Duke of
Savoy; And that Their *Imperial and Great*
Britannick Majesties should be desired, that
 Prince *Eugene of Savoy,* and the Prince and
 Duke of *Marlborough* might come thither
 very early, in the Spring, before the End of
February, to confer about the Operations of
 War, and concert, in Time, the necessary
 Measures for the Campaign.

ACCORDING to this vigorous Resolution, the *They write to*
the Queen of
Great Britain.
 States General wrote Letters to all Their *Allies;*
 And particularly one to the Queen of *Great Bri-*

The Life of JOHN,

tain, dated the seven and twentieth of January, ending with the following Words, in Honour to the Duke of Marlborough.

“ WE have another Request to add, which
 “ is, That Your Majesty would be pleas’d
 “ to send hither the Prince and Duke of
 “ *Marlborough* betimes; And, if possible, be-
 “ fore the End of *February*, that We may have
 “ *the Benefit of the Wise Counsels of that Great*
 “ *General*, in Concerting, in due Time, the
 “ Operations for the next Campaign, as well as
 “ reap *the Advantages of his incomparable Valour*,
 “ in the Execution thereof; We remain, &c.

THIS was the Language in which the *States*, who had such *Experience* of him, always spoke of this *Great Man*; And, that the Queen, Her- self, had, at least then, the same Opinion of him, we may see by Her Answer to their Letter, which, for the Sake of Connexion, I shall insert here; Tho’ otherwise, it more properly belongs to the ensuing Chapter.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

*The Queen’s An-
 swer to the Let-
 ter of the States
 General.*

“ OUR Good Friends, *Allies*, and *Confe-*
 “ *derates*. We have seen, by your Letter
 “ of the 27th of this Month, the Reasons which
 “ have moved you to desire Us to send back the
 “ Duke of *Marlborough*, as soon as possible:
 “ We agree with you, that there is a Necessity
 “ of taking all possible Precautions, against the
 “ Designs of our Enemy; And as *We, Ourselves*,
 “ *are entirely satisfied of the Capacity, and Signal*
 “ *Services of the said Duke of Marlborough*, We
 “ are very glad to find, that your Sentiments,
 with

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

565

1709.

“ with Regard to him, so perfectly agree with
“ Ours. We, therefore, in Conformity to your
“ Desire, immediately order’d him to be ready
“ to return to *Holland*, as soon as it might be
“ necessary; And he will not fail to be with you,
“ within the Time you have proposed, to con-
“ cert with you *the necessary Measures*, and to put
“ them in Execution, with his accustomed Prudence
“ and Vigour. To conclude, We pray God, to
“ have you, *High and Mighty Lords*, Our Good
“ Friends, *Allies*, and *Confederates*, in his Holy
“ Keeping.

Written, at our Court, at *St. James’s*, the 31st of Ja-
nuary, of the Year 1710-11, and, of Our Reign,
the ninth

Your very good Friend, &c.

It being evident, that the Court of *France*
aimed at nothing more than to gain Time, and
amuse the *Allies*, with a specious Negotiation,
the Queen of *Great Britain* resolved, likewise, *The Queen*
to exhort all Her *Allies*, to a Vigorous Prosecu- *writes to the*
tion of the War; Particularly those, who, *Diet of Ratif-*
during the whole Course of it, had been most *bon.*
backward, in seconding Her Majesty’s extraor-
dinary Efforts, and especially, on the six and
twentieth of *December*, to the *General Diet of the*
Empire, assembled at *Ratisbon*.

PURSUANT to the Method I have taken in for-
mer Years, I shall now give a Brief Account of
what pass’d this Year, in other Parts abroad;
And first, In *Spain*, this Summer pass’d over, *Affairs in Spain*
without any considerable Action: There was, *and Portugal.*
indeed, an Engagement, on the Frontiers of *Por-*
tugal, in which the *Portuguese* behaved themselves
very ill, and were beaten; And which occasion-
ed the Loss of three Regiments, chiefly *English-*
men, which were taken Prisoners, together with

their Officers: Among whom were Major-General *Sankey*, the Earl of *Barrimore*, and Brigadier *Pearce*. The *Spaniards*, however, did not pursue the Advantage they had by this Action; For they, apprehending that our Fleet might have a Design upon some Part of their *Southern Coast*, were forced to draw their Troops from the Frontiers of *Portugal*, to defend their own Coast, Tho' we gave them no Disturbance on that Side.

THE King of *France*, to carry on a Shew of a Design for Peace, withdrew his Troops out of *Spain*; But, at the same Time, took Care, to encourage the *Spanish Grandees*, and to support his Grandson: And since it was visible, that either the *Spaniards*, or the *Allies*, were to be deceived by him, it was much more reasonable to believe, that the *Allies*, and not the *Spaniards*, were to feel the Effects of His fraudulent Proceedings. The *French General*, *Befons*, who commanded in *Aragon*, had, indeed, Orders, not to venture on a Battle, for that would have been to act too gross and open, to be, in anywise, palliated; But he continued all this Summer commanding their Armies. In *Catalonia*, *Staremburg*, after he received Re-inforcements from *Italy*, advanced towards the *Segra*, and having, for some Days, amused the Enemy, he passed the River. The *Spaniards* design'd to give him Battle; But *Befons* refused to engage; This provoked the *Spaniards* so much, that King *Philip*, after having writ to Monsieur *Befons*, thought it necessary to leave *Madrid*, and go to the Army: *Befons* produced his Orders from the King of *France*, to avoid all Engagements, with which he seemed much mortified. *Staremburg* advanced, and took *Balaguer*, and made

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

567

made the Garrison Prisoners of War; And, with that, the Campaign, on that Side, was at an End. 1709.

NOTHING of Importance pass'd on the Side of *In Dauphiny*. *Dauphiny*: The *Emperour* continued still to refuse complying with the Duke of *Savoy's* Demands, about some Territories in the Duchy of *Milan*, which were to have been deliver'd to him: So he would not make the Campaign in Person, and his Troops kept on the Defensive. On the other Hand, the *French*, as they saw they were to be feebly attack'd, were too weak to do any Thing more, than to cover their own Country.

THE *Northern* Affairs having no immediate *In the North*. Connexion with those of the *Grand Alliance*, in which the Duke of *Marlborough* was principally concerned, I have only mention'd them, on Occasion of his Grace's Journey into *Saxony*, in the Year, 1707. The fatal Turn of those Affairs, to the Disadvantage of the King of *Sweden*, which happen'd this Year, being, as it were, the Consequence of the Counsels and Measures which were thought to be concerted when the Duke was there, and in which, it was believ'd, he had no small Hand, I shall just hint at them. This great but unfortunate Monarch, having resolved to invade *Muscovy*, and being flush'd with the Success He had met with in *Poland*, thinking to dethrone the *Czar*, with the same Ease, as He had done *Augustus*, engaged Himself so far into the *Ukraine*, that there was no Possibility of His Retreating; And this brought such a *Catastrophe* on His Affairs, as He was never able to disentangle Himself from, till Death put a Stop to the Career of His Intrepidity.

1709.

The Battle of
Pultowa.

He engaged a great Body of *Cossacks* to join him, who were easily drawn to revolt from the *Czar*: He had met with great Misfortunes, in the End of the foregoing Year, but nothing could divert him from his Designs against *Muscovy*: He pass'd the *Nieper*, and besieged *Pultowa*: The *Czar* march'd to raise the Siege, with an Army much superiour in Number to that of *Sweden*; But the King of *Sweden*, who had not forgotten the Battle of *Narva*, where he triumph'd with a far greater Inequality of Number, resolved to venture on a Battle, in which He received such a total Defeat, that He lost His Camp, His Artillery, and Baggage: A great Part of His Army got off, for the present; But being closely pursued by the *Muscovites*, and having neither Bread nor Ammunition, they were all made Prisoners of War. The King Himself, with a small Number about Him, passed the *Nieper*, and got into the *Turkish* Dominions, where He settled, and was under a Sort of voluntary, tho' unavoidable Confinement, at a Town of *Moldavia*, call'd *Bender*. This fatal Day set *Augustus* again on the Throne of *Poland*, and freed the *Allies* from all Apprehensions of this enterprizing Prince's intermeddling between them, and the common Enemy, to the Support of the latter.

The Consequences
of it.

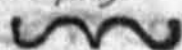
The *Czar* sends
a Captain of
his Guards to
the Duke of
Marlborough
with Advice of
it.

ON this Occasion, the *Czar* shew'd the Duke of *Marlborough* a very singular Instance of the Esteem he had for him, by sending a Captain of His Guards express to acquaint him of this Victory. HAVING thus taken a View of the most material Transactions abroad, during the Year, 1709. I shall now mention such Domestick Occurrences as regard this History, which happened in the same Space of Time.

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

569

1709.



UPON Advice of the Glorious Action and Compleat Victory of *Malplacquet*, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of the Loyal City of *London*, in their Formalities, waited on the Queen at *Windsor*, on the tenth of *September*, with an Address of Congratulation, on that Account, of which the Beginning was as follows:

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

“IN all Humility, we presume it cannot but
“be acceptable to Your Majesty, to receive *Address of the*
“the repeated hearty Congratulations of Your *City of London*
“most dutiful and loyal Subjects, upon such sig- *to the Queen.*
“nal and re-iterated Instances of the *Divine*
“Goodness showered down on Your Sacred Head,
“in Blessing the just Arms of Your Majesty and
“Your Allies, under the auspicious Conduct of those
“Renowned Generals, the Duke of Marlborough,
“and the Prince of Savoy, with such surprizing
“and uninterrupted Successes.

“SCARCE had we enjoyed the Satisfaction we
“received upon the News of the Reduction of
“the strong and important Fortrefs of *Tournay*,
“but we were most agreeably surprized with the
“Account of a Glorious and Compleat Victory over
“the whole French Army, notwithstanding the
“Advantage of Ground, and Obstinacy of the
“Enemy, not to have been overcome, but by the
“Personal Courage of Your Great General, &c.

THE seventeenth of the same Month, the Lord Mayor, and the Rest of Her Majesty's Commissioners of Lieutenancy for the City of *London*, presented an Humble Address to Her Majesty, on the same Occasion, of which, the following Paragraphs may be worthy of the Readers Notice:

MOST

1709.



MOST DREAD SOVEREIGN,

*Address of the
Lieutenancy.*

WE think our selves infinitely happy, that we have Leave once more to approach Your Royal Person, to expresse (as well as the Excess of it will give us Leave) our unfeigned Joy for, and Humbly to congratulate Your Majesty upon, *the great and surprizing Progress made by the victorious Armies of Your Majesty, and Your Allies, led on by those Consummate Generals, the Duke of Marlborough and the Prince of Savoy, towards the Glorious End propos'd by Your Majesty, an honourable and a lasting Peace.*

NONE but such daring Troops, covetuous of Glory, animated by the Example of Your undaunted General (after a fatiguing Siege so gloriously finished) could have been induced so speedily and cheerfully to have encountered, and so bravely overcome, the seeming unsurmountable Difficulties standing between them and Victory.

BUT to such Armies, so conducted, in such a Cause, and under the Auspicious Influences of such a Princess, nothing is impossible; &c.

*A General
Thanksgiving
appointed.*

THE third of October, Her Majesty in Council, ordered Proclamations to be issued, for a General and Publick Thanksgiving, to be observed, on the twenty-second of November, for the Signal and Glorious Success of Her Majesty's Arms, and those of Her Allies, this Campaign.

*The Duke of
Marlborough
arrives at St.
James's.*

THE eighth of November, the Duke of Marlborough landed, at Alborough, in Suffolk, from Holland, and, on the Tenth, came to St. James's.

*The Parliament
of Great-Bri-
tain meets.*

THE fifteenth of November, the Parliament of Great-Britain met, and the Queen being come to the

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

571

1709.

the House of Peers, and the Commons sent for up, Her Majesty made a Gracious Speech to Both Houses, in which, among other Things, She took Notice of the late Glorious Campaign, and the Great and Important Successes thereof.

THE first Thing the Commons did, on the first Day of their Sitting, after they had voted an Address to Her Majesty, was the coming to this unanimous Resolution. *That the late Victory obtained by his Grace, the Duke of Marlborough, and the other great and important Successes of the last Campaign, were so remarkable, that this House thought it self obliged to express how sensible they were of the Honour and Advantage which this Kingdom, and the whole Confederacy had received by his eminent Services: And that Mr. Comptroller, Mr. Secretary Boyle, Mr. Chancellour of the Exchequer, Mr. Onslow, Lord Coningsby, Mr. Nevil, Lord William Powlet, Mr. Craggs, Mr. Compton, Mr. Walpole, Mr. Dolben, Sir Charles Hedges, Lord Lumley, and Sir Charles Cox, should give his Grace the Thanks of this House, and congratulate his Grace's Safety and Return to Great-Britain. The Committee appointed by the Commons, having on the 22d of November, waited on his Grace, with this Resolution, his Grace was pleas'd to make the following Answer:*

" *It is a very great Honour and Satisfaction to His Grace's*
 " *me, that the House of Commons is pleased* Answer.
 " *to take so much Notice of my Endeavours to serve*
 " *the Queen and my Country.*
 " *I cannot be just to all the Officers and Soldiers,*
 " *who have served with me, unless I take this Oc-*
 " *casion to assure You, that their Zeal and Affection*
 " *for the Service, is equal to the Courage and Bra-*
 " *very they have shewn during this whole War.*

BOTH

1709.

BOTH the *Lords* and the *Commons* took Occasion, in their *Addresses* to Her Majesty, to shew the Sense they had of the Great Services performed by his Grace. The *Lords*, in *Theirs*, say: *The last Campaign was so very Glorious, whether we consider the Strength of the Towns which were taken, or the Difficulty and Importance of the Victory, which was obtained, that We beg Leave to congratulate Your Majesty upon the Continued Success of Your Arms, and those of Your Allies, under Your General, the Duke of Marlborough, whose Conduct is worthy of the Chief Command, in so just a War, and whose Valour is equal to the Bravery of his Troops.* And the *Commons*, in *Their Address*, say: *We beg leave to congratulate Your Majesty upon the Continued Successes of the last Campaign, particularly the Victory obtained near Mons, by the Troops of Your Majesty, and those of Your Allies, under the Command of the Duke of Marlborough. A Victory so remarkable in all its Circumstances, as must convince Your Enemies, that the Courage and Resolution of Your Troops, conducted by so Great a General, are Superiour to the Greatest Difficulties. They likewise take Notice how much they were obliged, by these Glorious Successes, to express their Sense of the Honour and Advantages, which this Kingdom, and the whole Confederacy, had received by his eminent Services.*

THE *House of Lords* having ordered the Lord High Chancellor to return Thanks to the Duke of Marlborough, for his eminent Services in the last Campaign; His Lordship at his Grace's first Appearance in that *August Assembly*, this Session, discharg'd his Commission, by a Speech, to the following Effect:

“ THAT he was commanded by the *Lords*, to give his Grace the Thanks of that *House*, for
“ his

The Lord Chancellor returns the Duke of Marlborough the Thanks of the House of Lords.

1709.

“ his continued and eminent Services, to Her
 “ Majesty, and the Publick, during the last
 “ Campaign. Of which nothing could be greater
 “ said, than what Her Majesty (who always
 “ speaks with the utmost Certainty and Exact-
 “ ness) had declared from the Throne; *That it*
 “ *had been, at least, as Glorious as any which have*
 “ *preceded it.* But that this Repetition of the
 “ Thanks of that *August Assembly*, had this Ad-
 “ vantage of the former, that it must be look’d
 “ upon as added to, and standing on, the Foun-
 “ dations already laid in the Records of that
 “ House, for the preserving his Memory fresh, to
 “ all future Times. So that his Grace had also
 “ the Satisfaction of seeing this everlasting Monu-
 “ ment of his Glory rise every Year much
 “ higher. *To which his Lordship, added his*
 “ *Wishes,* That God might continue, in a won-
 “ derful Manner, to preserve so invaluable a
 “ Life, that he might not only add to that
 “ Structure, but finish all, with the Beauties and
 “ Ornaments of an honourable and lasting Peace.

*To which his Grace replied, with his wonted Mo-
 desty and Self-Denial.*

“ I LOOK upon it as the greatest Mark of *His Grace's*
 “ Honour I could receive, that Your Lord- *Answer.*
 “ ships are pleased to take Notice of my Endea-
 “ yours to serve the Queen and my Country. I
 “ beg Leave to do Justice to all the Officers
 “ and Soldiers, who have serv’d with me. It is
 “ not possible for Men to shew more Zeal for
 “ Her Majesty’s Service, or greater Bravery,
 “ than they have done.”

1709.



THESE great Acknowledgements from *Both Houses of Parliament*, which the Duke of *Marlborough* had the Satisfaction to meet with almost every Year, for so many Years together, were so Glorious, and so far exceeding the Examples of former Reigns, that it is no Wonder, if it stirr'd up the Rage of many Persons, who having no Hopes of ever attaining to so high a Pitch of Honour and Reputation, could not forbear looking on his Grace's Glory with envious Eyes, the Effects of which we shall now soon see.

Sums granted
for the War in
Flanders. With
Reflections
thereupon.

THE Parliament in the mean Time, had not sat a Month before they had granted all the necessary Sums for the Service of the ensuing Year, amounting, in all, to the Sum of 6,384,266 l. 7 s. A vast Sum, indeed; But as it was afterwards objected against the Duke of *Marlborough*, that he push'd the War in *Flanders*, at a greater Expence, than was necessary, and it has not, perhaps, been so well distinguished by some, what Part of this, and other immense Sums rais'd upon the Publick, were employ'd for this Service, and what for others, it may not be foreign to my Purpose to observe, in this Place, that not quite one fourth Part of the Supply granted this Year went towards Supporting the Charge of the War in *Flanders*; Notwithstanding that was the only Side where it was carried on with any great Success, and where we most distress'd the Enemy.

The Duke of
Marlborough
made Lord
Lieutenant and
Custos Rotulo-
rum of Ox-
fordshire.

BEFORE I conclude this Book, I must take Notice, that the Duke of *Marlborough* was, this Year, appointed Lord Lieutenant and *Custos Rotulorum* of *Oxfordshire*.

END of BOOK V.