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“ to lay the Bridges necessary for our Passage.
 “ Yesterday Morning, about 9, we received Ad-
 “ vice, That the Enemy had pass’d the *Scheld*,
 “ and were marching towards *Oudenarde*, which
 “ made us hasten our March, as much as possible,
 “ for Fear our Detachment, that was sent over,
 “ should be defeated, and our selves prevented,
 “ in our Design of passing the *Scheld*: But, by
 “ that Time the Enemy were come near *Oude-*
 “ *narde*, they saw we had already taken Post
 “ over the *Scheld*, which made them resolve to
 “ strike off to the *Right*; But to cover their
 “ March against ours, they thought fit to throw
 “ Troops into the Hedges, and into a Village
 “ upon the *Scheld*, below *Oudenarde*. • About
 “ three in the Afternoon, as soon as our Foot
 “ begun to come up, it was judg’d advisable to
 “ attack the Village, and thereby oblige the
 “ Enemy to go no further, but stop their March
 “ This Attack was made with so much Vigour
 “ and Success, that the Enemy were immedi-
 “ ly driven out of the Village, our Men falling
 “ upon them with their Bayonets in the Muzzle
 “ of their Muskets, and not firing a Piece; So
 “ that they presently threw down their Arms,
 “ and a whole Brigade, together with a Briga-
 “ dier, surrender’d Prisoners. The few Horse
 “ that had pass’d with the Detachment, attack’d
 “ likewise the *French* Squadrons posted behind
 “ the Village, with so much Success, that they
 “ were put into Disorder, and push’d, our Men
 “ taking from them 8 or 10 Standards, and
 “ some Horses. Hereupon, the Enemy were
 “ forced to face about to us, and form them-
 “ selves, about four o’ Clock, when most of our
 “ Foot being over, and form’d, the general
 “ Engage-

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“ Engagement began, first on the *Right*, and
 “ afterwards on the *Left* Wing. The Fight was
 “ properly between the Foot, and was obstinate;
 “ But our Men got Ground, and drove the Ene-
 “ my from one Hedge to another, ’till Night
 “ put an End to the Combat. The Horse, who,
 “ by Reason of the broken Ground, could not
 “ act, were detach’d to the *Right* and the *Left*
 “ Wing, and advanc’d so far, that they attack’d
 “ the Enemy in *Flank* and *Rear*, which when
 “ they perceiv’d, they fell, in the Night, into
 “ the utmost Confusion; and Part of them re-
 “ tir’d, with their Baggage and Artillery, towards
 “ *Ghent* and *Deynse*; Another Part towards the
 “ Road of *Courtray*, and, according to Compu-
 “ tation, 6 or 7000 surrendered themselves Pri-
 “ soners, with 3 or 400 Officers at their Head;
 “ among whom are several Dukes and General-
 “ Officers. Had not the Night come to their
 “ Assistance, we believe they would have sav’d
 “ very little of their Army; We therefore con-
 “ gratulate Your *High Mightinesses* upon this
 “ Compleat Victory, which GOD ALMIGHTY
 “ has so graciously vouchsafed, and which gives
 “ us an Opportunity, with this Victorious Army,
 “ and that of Prince *Eugene*, who was present at
 “ this Action, to extend the Frontiers farther,
 “ and bring the Enemy to Reason. Each Ge-
 “ neral made so good a Disposition, and every
 “ Regiment attack’d the Enemy so well, and
 “ with so much Intrepidity, that it was impossi-
 “ ble for any one to distinguish themselves in a
 “ particular Manner. Our Loss, God be thank-
 “ ed, is so small, that there is not, as we know
 “ of, One Regiment out of a Condition to
 “ make the Rest of the Campaign. Among
 “ the Horse, our Loss is nothing at all. Nor
 “ do

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“ do we yet know that we have lost any Head-
“ Officer of the State. With which,

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HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS, &c.

Oudenarde,
July 12, 1708.

Sign'd,

Ferd. van Collen.

G. van Rossum tot Hardenbroock.

S. van Goslinga.

Count of Rechteren.

B. van Welvelde.

*Adr. van Borselle tot Gelder-
malsen.*

P. S. “ WE thought, considering the Impor-
“ tance of this Affair, we should not do
“ amiss, in sending this to Your *High Migh-*
“ *tinesses*, by the Head-Officer *Cock*, who
“ may have the Honour of informing You
“ *High Mightinesses* of more Particulars.

D.

Monf. d'Auverquerque's Letter to the Lord-
Register Fagel.

“ **O**N Monday last, at 7 o' Clock, we broke *Monf. d'Auver-*
“ up (as I have already had the Honour *querque's Let-*
“ to acquaint your Lordship) with the Army, *ter to Monf.*
“ from *Herfelinghen*, near *Enghien*. We march'd *Fagel.*
“ the whole Night, and, the next Day, pass'd
“ the *Dender*, at and above *Lessines*. Yesterday
“ Morning, we march'd again, from *Lessines*
“ towards *Oudenarde*, where we arriv'd about
“ Noon. We had receiv'd Intelligence, that the
“ Enemy.

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“ Enemy broke up on *Tuesday*, from the Neighbourhood of *Alost*, and were encamped at *Gavre*, and that they, also, pass’d the *Scheld*, Yesterday, at that Place; Which, indeed, we found to be true, perceiving, upon our Arrival at *Oudenarde*, the Enemy upon a full March, towards *Tournay*. We laid the Bridges over the *Scheld* in their Sight, and our Troops pass’d the River, with an unspeakable Speed and Courage. About two o’ Clock, the greatest Part of our Army had pass’d, with which the Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene* form’d the *Right Wing* near *Broan Castle*, about half a League from the Town, and began to engage the Enemy in a Battle.

“ IN the mean Time, I march’d, likewise, with the Troops of the *States*, which compos’d the *Left Wing*, in Order to attack the Enemy, which I did, about Five o’ Clock, having been obliged to make a great Round to come at them, and God has been pleas’d so to bless the Arms of the *High Allies*, that we have entirely beaten the Enemy, and forced them to retire, in great Confusion; some towards *Courtray*, and others towards *Ghent*.

“ I GIVE my self the Honour to congratulate Their *High Mightinesses*, upon this important Victory. We shall endeavour, all we can, to make our Advantage of it; The Enemy will have much ado to bring their Army into the Field again, this Year, in a good Condition. The Loss of the Slain on their Side is very considerable, besides a good Number of Officers, (some of whom of Distinction) and Common Soldiers, Prisoners. We have also taken several Standards and Colours, of which I

“ will

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“ will send Their *High Mightinesses* a List by the
“ next Courier.

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“ THE Bravery and wise Conduct of the Duke
“ of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene* cannot be
“ enough commended, nor the Zeal and Cour-
“ age of the other Generals of the *States*, who
“ did all which their Duty and Regard for the
“ Service requir'd of them. All the Officers
“ and Troops, without Distinction, did all that
“ could be expected from brave Men, and good
“ Soldiers. We sent out a Body of Horse and
“ Foot this Morning, to pursue the Run-away
“ Enemy, and scatter them yet more, but they
“ were got too far off by the Favour of the
“ Night. I remain

Your Lordship's Humble

and Obedient Servant,

*From the Camp of
Oudenarde, July
12, 1708.*

Sign'd,

AUVERQUERQUE.



E.

An exact List of all the Slain and the Wounded on the Side of the Allies.

Priv. Men wounded.	Priv. Men killed.	Sergeants wounded.	Sergeants killed.	Sub. Offic. wounded.	Sub. Offic. kill'd.	Captains wounded.	Captains kill'd.	Majors wounded.	Majors kill'd.	Lieut. Col. wounded.	Lieut. Col. kill'd.	Colonels wounded.	Colonels kill'd.
104	43	7	1	5	4	6					1	2	
346	201	26		18	4	5	1	2	1	1		1	1
106	50	12		5		2	1	1	1	1		1	
310	105	19	9	11	1	1		3		2		1	
1006	350	38	13	62	24	34	9	3		5	1	2	1
1872	749	102	23	101	33	48	15	9	1	9	2	6	2
Total,													

Britains,
Danes,
Prussians,
Hannoverians,
Dutch,

Total { Killed 825 } In all 2972.
 { Wounded 2147 }

A LIST of the Kettle-Drums, Standards, and Colours, taken by the Left Wing; and the Regiments Names that took them.

“ THE Hussars, one Pair of Kettle-Drums, 3 Standards; *Atblone*, a Pair of Kettle-Drums, 2 Standards; *Prince d’Auvergne’s*, 1 Colours; *Smith’s Swissers*, 1 Colours; *Guard’s Dragoons*, 1 Kettle-Drum, 2 Standards; *Sgrave-moer*, 2 Standards, 2 Colours; *Horse-Guards*, 5 Standards; *Feniger*, 3 Standards, 6 Colours; *Dopff’s Dragoons*, 4 Colours; *Prince of Wirtemberg*, 2 Standards, 1 Colours; *East Frizeland*, 1 Standard, 1 Colours; *Hesse Homburg*, 1 Pair of Kettle-Drums; *Dompere*, 1 Pair of Kettle-Drums, 2 Standards; *Baldwin*, 1 Standard; *Nassau Woudenbourg*, 1 Colours; *Eck*, 3 Standards, 3 Colours; *Hebrum*, 1 Colours; *Prince Royal*, 1 Standard; *Oyen*, 1 Pair of Kettle-Drums, 1 Standard; *Orange Life-Guards*, 1 Colours; *Fagel*, 2 Standards, 1 Colours; *Vander Beeck*, 1 Standard; *Wittinghof*, 1 Standard; *May*, 1 Standard, 1 Colours; *Tilly*, 1 Standard, 1 Colours. In all 5 Pair and one single Kettle-Drum; 34 Standards, and 25 Colours.

These were taken by the Left Wing only.

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H.

EXTRACT of an intercepted Letter, written by a
French Officer, who was in the Battle.

A Letter written
by a French
Officer.

I CAN only send you an unwelcome Relation
of the Particulars of the Battle, which
happen'd Yesterday, about two in the After-
noon, near Oudenarde. 'Twill prove a great
Blow to France; For without exaggerating the
Matter, we had above 10,000 Men kill'd,
wounded, or taken. The Action was very
ill managed on our Side; For, instead of at-
tacking the Enemy, when they began to pass
the Scheld, near Oudenarde, at 11 in the
Morning, we let them come over the River
quietly, which they would not have adven-
tur'd to do, had we, in any tolerable Man-
ner, offer'd to dispute their Passage; But
seeing us stand still, they were encourag'd to
prosecute their first Design, and begun to pass
over two Bridges, which they had laid. As
fast as their Horse and Foot came over, they
rang'd themselves in Order of Battle against
us; And while our Generals were in Suspense,
what Resolution to take, whether to venture
an Engagement or not, the Enemy's Army
continued coming over the River, and soon
possess'd themselves of some Villages and
Hedges; So that, at last, our Generals were
compell'd to endeavour to dislodge them.
Accordingly, our Infantry advanc'd, and the
Ground was disputed two or three Hours,
with a terrible Fire, and great Obstinacy, on
both Sides; But our Foot being tir'd with
charging the Enemy, five or six times, and
being

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“ being dishearten’d to see themselves not sup-
 “ ported by our Horse (who could not act, be-
 “ cause the Ground was full of Enclosures) and
 “ press’d hard by the Enemy, were, at Length,
 “ forced to retire, and quit the Ground to them.
 “ We Dragoons were oblig’d to endure the
 “ continual Fire of the Enemy’s Foot and Ca-
 “ non, without daring to stir, because we were
 “ on the Right of the King’s Household, who
 “ suffer’d as much as we; Towards the Evening,
 “ we were fallen upon by a great Number of the
 “ Enemy’s Horse, to hinder us from succouring
 “ the Rest, who were put to the Rout, and of
 “ seven Regiments of Dragoons we have lost
 “ above half. At last, we had no other Expe-
 “ dient left, than to force our Way thro’ the
 “ Enemy; But first we sent to see whether we
 “ could be assisted in that Design, by any of our
 “ Forces: In the mean Time, Night came on
 “ apace, and we were informed, that the King’s
 “ Household (whose Retreat was cover’d in some
 “ Measure by us) were at too great a Distance.
 “ Things standing thus, our Resolution of break-
 “ ing thro’ the Enemy sunk, and some of the
 “ Enemy’s Adjutants summoning us to yield
 “ our selves, Prisoners of War, we submitted
 “ to it, seing no other Way to save our Lives.
 “ At least forty of our Regiments are reduced
 “ to a wretched Condition, the greatest Part of
 “ them being kill’d or taken; So that it will be
 “ long before they can be re-establish’d. Of
 “ four Regiments of the King’s Household, at least
 “ half are taken Prisoners, and among them
 “ are several Persons of Note. The Chevalier
 “ *de Longville*, and fifteen other Officers, were
 “ mortally wounded, and two of them are dead
 “ since the Battle. The Regiments of *Pfiffer*
 “ and

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“ and *Villars* are quite ruin'd, and almost all
 “ their Officers are taken, with all their Bag-
 “ gage, &c. Amongst the Prisoners, were above
 “ 700 Officers, viz. a Lieutenant-General, 4
 “ Major-Generals, 5 Brigadiers, 14 Colonels,
 “ 8 Lieutenant-Colonels, 9 Majors, 206 Cap-
 “ tains, 147 Lieutenants, 96 Cornets, 186 *Gens*
 “ *d'Armes*, *Chevaux Legers*, or Life Guards;
 “ and 47 Quarter-Masters: The Marquis *de*
 “ *Ximenes*, Colonel of the Regiment of *Royal*
 “ *Roussillon*, and the *Sieur de La Bretèche*, Co-
 “ lonel of Horse, with a great Number of
 “ other Officers, were kill'd.

I.

A Letter written by one of the Duke de Vendôme's
Confidants, supposed to be Monsieur Capistran,
the Duke's Secretary.

*A Letter sup-
 pos'd to be from
 the Duke de
 Vendôme's
 Secretary.*

“ **A** WAY with your Consternation, Sir, and
 “ do not betray, in yourself, the Weak-
 “ nefs common to your Nation, who never light
 “ of a Misfortune, but presently, *All's lost*. I
 “ tell you, in the first Place, that the Reports
 “ you hinted to me are false, and the Duke *de*
 “ *Vendôme* laughs at them. As for the three
 “ Marches, which he suffered to be stoln from
 “ him, and his not guarding the *Dender*, every
 “ Body knows, the Duke *de Vendôme* was for
 “ disputing the Passage of that River; And
 “ that, after three Days Contest, he was forced
 “ to submit to the Sentiments of those, who, to
 “ avoid an Engagement, voted for passing the
 “ *Scheld*. However, it was then, that they were
 “ obliged to own, what that Duke had foretold
 “ them, viz. That whenever Prince Eugene un-
 “ derstood

“ *derstood they had a Mind to avoid Fighting, be* 1708.
 “ *would force them to it, whether they would or*
 “ *no.*

“ As to what they say, that the Duke *de*
 “ *Vendôme* ought to have attack'd the *Van* of
 “ the Enemy's Army, in their passing the *Scheld*;
 “ He knew better Things: For, as soon as he
 “ received Advice from the Marquis *de Biron*,
 “ that Part of the Enemy's Army was over, he
 “ was for attacking it, while he saw the Dust
 “ made by the Columns of that Army, on the
 “ other Side of the River, about half a League
 “ from *Oudenarde*; But he was single in his Opi-
 “ nion, and consequently not hearkened to:
 “ This was at ten in the Morning. At four,
 “ in the Afternoon, Major-General *Grimaldi*
 “ was ordered, without the Duke *de Vendôme's*
 “ Knowledge, to begin the Attack; Which,
 “ however, when he saw, he was for continuing
 “ it. Accordingly he sent Monsieur *Jenet*, his
 “ *Aid de Camp*, to the *Left*, with Orders for
 “ them to engage; But he was kill'd, in his
 “ Return. Those Orders were not executed,
 “ some Officers insinuating *mal a propos*, to the
 “ Duke of *Burgundy*, that there was a *Quag-*
 “ mire, and an impracticable Morass; Whereas
 “ the Duke *de Vendôme*, and the Count *d'Evreux*
 “ had pass'd, an Hour before.

“ As to the Retreat, the Duke *de Vendôme*
 “ was not for it; But, as he was back'd in his
 “ Opinion, by the Count *d'Evreux* only, he
 “ was again obliged to submit. No sooner, there-
 “ fore, had he given the Word, for the Army
 “ to retreat, but all got on Horseback, and,
 “ with astonishing Precipitation, fled to *Ghent*:
 “ And there were not wanting those who ad-

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“vised the Princes to set out Post from thence
“for *Ypres*.

“THE Duke *de Vendôme*, who was obliged,
“for a good Part of the Time, to make the
“Rear-Guard, with his *Aids de Camp*, did not
“reach *Ghent*, till almost nine in the Morning,
“when he made a firm Resolution to post the
“Army behind the Canal, which goes from
“that Place to *Bruges*; Tho’ against the Advice
“of all the General Officers, who threatned,
“for three Days together, to abandon him;
“And said, they ought to endeavour to join
“the Duke of *Berwick*. That Firmness saved
“the King’s Army, and France itself; For the
“Fright the Army was in, would have caused
“a greater Disgrace, than that of *Ramellies*.
“Whereas the Duke *de Vendôme*, by posting
“himself behind the Canal, has covered *Ghent*
“and *Bruges*, which is the essential Point, and
“thereby revived, and put Courage into the
“Troops, and given the Officers Time to re-
“collect themselves, and to know the Country.
“In a Word, he has thrown the Enemy out of
“Action, and if they attack any of our strong
“Places, as *Ypres*, *Lisle*, *Mons*, or *Tournay*,
“the Duke *de Vendôme* will take *Oudenarde*,
“make himself Master of the *Scheld*, and so
“puzzle them. This, Sir, is the very Truth,
“and the same the Duke *de Vendôme* has sent to
“the King, &c.

K.

K.

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THE Duke of *Marlborough* wrote likewise the following Letter,

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Camp at Werwick, July 15, 1708.

MY LORD,

“ I RETURN your Lordship many Thanks, for *A Letter from*
“ the Favour of your Letter of the 22d of *the Duke of*
“ last Month, and am glad to see your Lord- *Marlborough*
“ ship was like soon to have just Satisfaction *to the Earl of*
“ from the Republick of *Venice*; You need not *Manchester.*
“ doubt then, but the Queen will readily grant
“ your Desire of returning home. We are in
“ great Expectation of Sir *John Leake*’s being
“ sailed for *Catalonia*, where the Succours from
“ *Italy* will have been very much wanted, since
“ we hear the Duke of *Orleans* persisted in the
“ Siege of *Tortosa*, notwithstanding the Loss of
“ his Provision-ships taken by our Fleet. Your
“ Lordship will have heard with Concern the
“ Enemies taking the City of *Ghent*, by the
“ Treachery of some of the Inhabitants; But
“ the good News that will soon have followed,
“ of our defeating, on *Wednesday* last, Part of
“ their Army near *Oudenarde*, and obliging them
“ to retire behind the Canal, between *Ghent* and
“ *Bruges*, will have made some Amends. We
“ took between 6 and 7000 Prisoners, besides
“ about 700 Officers, of which several are of
“ Note, and a great Number of Standards and
“ Colours. Our Army lay on their Arms that
“ Night, and, on *Thursday*, encamped on the
“ Field

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“ Field of Battle; On *Friday* we rested, the
 “ Troops having need of some Ease, after their
 “ great Fatigue; And, about Midnight, we
 “ detach’d forty Squadrons, and 30 Battalions,
 “ towards the Enemy’s Lines, between *Warne-*
 “ *ton* and *Ypres*: The whole Army follow’d by
 “ Break of Day, and encamp’d at *Helchin*,
 “ whence we pursued our March, To-day, to this
 “ Camp, close to the Lines, which we found
 “ our Detachment had forc’d, and taken 500
 “ Prisoners, the only Guard the Enemy had
 “ left for their Security. We do not think that
 “ their Army is march’d from behind the Canal,
 “ which, with their possessing of *Ghent*, will be
 “ a great Obstruction to our bringing up our
 “ heavy Cannon and other Artillery; So that I
 “ fear we shall be oblig’d to retake that Place,
 “ before we can make any further Progress.

I am,

MARLBOROUGH.

ON Occasion of this Victory, the following
 Lines appear’d:

On the BATTLE of OUDENARDE.

Verses on the
 Battle of Oudenarde.

— PURSUE, pursue, follow the Glorious Blow,
 Leave no-Remainder of the haughty Foe;
Lewis, with Pride, and Wealth, and Pow’r, made great,
 Must fully all his Glories by Retreat.
Bacchus with *Tygers* swift to *India* rode,
 And ’twas Pursuit of Conquest made the God:

Thus

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

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Thus distant Regions echo *ANNA's* Name,
Convey'd by the Progressive Voice of Fame;
Whilst *ANNA's* Sword is lodg'd in *Marlbro's* Hand,
'Tis Victory to obey, and Empire to command.
See how the scatter'd Troops extend their Flight,
And bless the Sable Covert of the Night.

THE ingenious Mr. *Eusden* of *Trinity-College, Cambridge*, likewise oblig'd the learned World, on this Occasion, with an excellent Copy of Verses, of which the following Lines, may serve as a Specimen :

*As in a starry Night, the lonely Swain,
Watching his Flock, on the Sicilian Plain,
Upwards oft casts his Eyes; the Heav'nly Fires
Around he sees, and all he sees admires :
So I, amaz'd, Great Man, thy Acts survey,
And still from Glories, to new Glories stray :
Lost in the sweet Variety of Light,
I find none brighter in a Train so bright,
And doubt, which first the grateful Muse should tell ;
For she, on each, could pleas'd for ever dwell.
But hear ! loud Pæans, from the Belgick Strand;
Resound thy Triumphs, and our Thanks demand !
Thou art afresh the Burden of each Song,
The darling Subject of the tuneful Throng.
In vain, alas ! they string the sprightly Lyre ;
In vain great Actions can great Thoughts inspire :*

*Verses by Mr.
Eusden, on the
Battle of Oudenarde.*

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*Apollo's Sons, when all their Wit is shewn,
Reach not thy Merit, but exalt their own.
Thus num'rous Streams into the Ocean flow,
New Honours they receive, but none bestow;
Not raise the Ocean's Height, while they immortal grow.*

*SAY, Wondrous Man! by what mysterious Charms,
Thou bind'st the inconstant Goddess to thy Arms!
Why thus her Love she partially displays?
Obey'd by others, Fortune thee obeys.
Fly swift, yet Conquest swifter flies before;
So flash the Light'nings, e'er the Thunder roar.
Uncommon Paths thy wary March proclaim,
For ev'ry Path, with thee, can lead to Fame. &c.*

*Expeditious
March of the
Troops under
Prince Eugene*

PRINCE Eugene (who had left his Cavalry at Maestricht, as I have said above) having, by his Wise Directions, and exemplary Activity, quickened the natural Slowness of the Germans, the Troops he was bringing up from the Rhine, and the Mosel, made such an expeditious March, as was no small Surprize to the French. His Highness having removed the Difficulties which retarded the March of the Palatine Troops, by giving the Elector positive Assurances from Vienna, that the Upper Palatinate would be restored to his House, with the Title and Rank, which had been vested in the House of Bavaria, by the Treaty of Munster; Those Forces, to the Number of 10,000 Men, passed the Mosel, near Coblenz, the eight and twentieth of June, N.S. and, the thirtieth, encamp'd at Sinzig, above Bonn, where Prince Eugene put himself at the Head of them.

them. The Saxons, Hessians, and other Troops, 1708.
which were quartered in the *Honsdrug*, passed
the *Mosel*, the nine and twentieth and thirtieth,
at *Alchen*, above *Coblentz*; took their March
thro' the *Meyerfeldt*, and the *Palatines* advancing,
at the same Time, they joined together, the
fourth of July, N.S. near *Dueren*, in the Country
of *Juliers*, from whence Prince *Eugene* set out,
the fifth, for *Maestricht*, under the Guard of
100 Horse. His Cavalry arrived, the same Day,
at *Hertogenrade*, but the Foot continued near
Dueren, both to expect some Battalions which
were left behind, and to keep up the Enemy's
Jealousy, on that Side. Prince *Eugene* arrived
at *Maestricht*, the fifth, went, the next Day, thro'
Brussels, and, in the Evening, joined the Duke
of *Marlborough* at *Asche*, (as we have seen above)
whilst his Cavalry, advancing by speedy Marches,
pass'd the *Maese*, the sixth and seventh, and en-
camp'd, the eleventh, at *Vilvoerde*, where the In-
fantry came up a few Days after. On the other
Hand, the French Forces, who observed Prince
Eugene's Motions, under the Command of the Duke of
Berwick, having pass'd the *Mosel*, at
Remick, their Van-guard arrived, the fourth of
July, at *Luxemburg*, where the Duke of *Berwick*
came the next Day, and then continued his
March towards the *Maese*, tho' with no great Ex-
pedition, upon a false Apprehension, that Prince
Eugene's March was but a Stratagem, to cover
some other Design, which hinder'd the French
from coming Time enough to *Flanders*, to secure
their Lines there.

As great as the Victory gained at *Oudenarde*,
by the Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene*,
was in itself, it was yet greater in its Consequen-
ces: For while the French Generals were en-

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Resolutions of
the Confede-
rate Generals.

trenching themselves, behind the *Canal*, between *Ghent* and *Bruges*, in great Perplexity and Consternation, and in fullen Discontent one with another, the *Confederate* Generals, and the Deputies of the *States*, having debated, in a Council of War, how they might best improve their late Success, it was unanimously resolved, " That the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army, after " having rested two Days, on the Field of Battle, should immediately march towards *Menin*, " pass the *Lys*, level the *French* Lines between " *Warneton* and *Ypres*, and hinder any Detachment from getting into the latter, or the *French* " Army from retiring that Way; And that " *Prince Eugene*, with a Detachment of the " grand Army, should march, at the same Time, " towards *Brussels*, to assemble his Forces, observe the Motions of the Duke of *Berwick*, " and hinder, likewise, the Enemy's Army, " near *Ghent*, from retreating thro' *Brabant*, " the same Way they came.

The French
Lines taken and
destroyed.

PURSUANT to these Resolutions, Count de *Lot-
tum* General of the *Prussians*, with the Lieutenant
Generals *Fagel* and *Dops*, march'd, the thirteenth
at Night, with thirty Battalions, fifty Squadrons,
and some Field-Cannon, towards *Old Helchin*,
and, the next Day, advancing to the *French*
Lines, the Enemy abandon'd the Fort of *Port*
Rouge, without any Resistance. The fifteenth,
in the Afternoon, *Warneton*, *Comines*, and *Wer-*
wick, with about 500 Men, and several Officers,
among whom Lieutenant-Colonel *Bourg*, with
12 other commission'd Officers, which defended
them, surrendered at Discretion; And, the same
Day, the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army, which
had encamp'd between *Bellegen* and *Hauterive*,
march'd in two Columns, towards *Menin*, pass'd
the

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the *Lys*, on two Bridges, near that Place, and encamp'd between that and *Werwick*.

ONE Detachment of the *Confederate Army*, <sup>Contribution raised in Ar-
tois, &c.</sup> being employed in levelling the Enemy's Lines, between *Ypres* and the *Lys*, another was sent to raise Contributions as far as *Arras*; But the Deputies of that Country not agreeing to the Sum demanded, the Generals of the *Allies* had Recourse to Military Execution, and sent out Parties, who set two of the Suburbs of *Arras* on Fire. Another Party was about to do the same at *Lens*; But the Inhabitants had so much Prudence to give Hostages for the Sums required.

As long as the Enemy were posted between *Ghent* and *Bruges*, the *Confederate* Generals, and the Deputies of the *States*, considered, that it was impossible for the *Allies* to receive their heavy Cannon for a Siege; Orders were, therefore, sent, to the Governour of *Sas van Ghent*, to send the Boats, in which they were laden, and had been, for some Time, at that Place, to *Antwerp*, from whence that Train was carried to *Brussels*, by Means of the *Canals*; And, at the same Time, a new Train of twenty Battering Pieces was ordered, from *Maestricht*, to the same Place. The Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel* was ordered, in the mean Time, to continue there, with the *Saxon* and *Hessian* Cavalry, for the Security of the Transport of the Artillery; And Prince *Eugene*, with the Rest of his Forces, encamp'd some Days at *Engbien*. ^{A large Train of Artillery ordered to the Camp.}

THE Grand Army made a Motion, the twenty-first of July, and Count *Lottum's* Detachment being returned to the Camp, the *Left* reach'd to the *Red Bridge*, between the *Deule* and the *Lys*, and the *Right* between *Werwick* and *Menin*; A convenient Place being left on the *Right*, for the ^{Motions of the Grand Army.}

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the Imperial Troops which were to join the Duke of Marlborough. The same Morning, upon Information, that the French were preparing a Convoy in Tournay, for their Army near Ghent, ten Squadrons, under Brigadier Chanclos, were detach'd towards Oudenarde, to prevent that Supply from reaching the Enemy's Camp; And the Prince d'Auvergne, and Count Maurice of Nassau, were detach'd with 500 Horse, towards Rousselaer, to cut off the Convoys of Provisions, which the Enemy might expect by the Way of Ypres. All other possible Precautions were taken to streighten the Enemy, and oblige them to quit the Camp, which they could not well do, without the Hazard of another Battle; Among others, the Governour of Ostend endeavour'd to deprive the Enemy of the Communication between Bruges and Newport, by putting a good Part of the Country under Water.

The heavy Baggage arrives in the Camp.

THE twenty-third of July, the Duke of Marlborough detach'd, by Break of Day, 2,000 Horse, under the Command of Lieutenant-General Dompere, and Major-General Schulemburg, to meet and secure the heavy Baggage, which was left, the Beginning of that Month, at Brussels. The Evening of the Day following, upon Information being brought, that the Duke of Berwick was march'd from Douay to Tournay, with three and twenty Squadrons, and the Cavalry of the Garrison of Lisle, with a Design, as it was believed, to attack the Baggage of the Allies, in their March from Aeth, the Duke of Marlborough immediately detach'd six Squadrons from the Right, under the Command of Major-General Bauditz, to re-inforce Lieutenant-General Dompere; Upon which, the Baggage arrived, the five and twentieth, without any Opposition, in the Camp.

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THE same Day, and the next, fifty Squadrons, twelve Battalions, and 1000 Grenadiers, commanded by Count *Tilly*, the Lieutenant-Generals, Earl of *Orkney*, *Rantzau* and *Hompesch*, and the Major-Generals *Webb*, *Rantzau*, and Count *d'Erpach*, were detach'd, with Orders to march into *Artois*, the Infantry to take Post at *La Bassée*, and the Cavalry to penetrate into the *French Territories*, as far as *Picardy*, to lay that Country either under Contribution or Military Execution. The six and twentieth, Count *Tilly* met with 800 of the Enemy's Horse, being a Detachment of the Duke of *Berwick's* Army, of which he kill'd a good Number, and took a Colonel, a Major, three Captains, and about 200 Troopers Prisoners. He pursued the Rest to the very Gates of *Lens*, in which the Enemy having posted 1400 Foot, they abandoned the Place, on the first Approach of the *Confederate* Infantry.

Contributions
raised in Artois
and Picardy.

*Lens abandon'd
by the French.*

COUNT *Tilly*, having taken Possession of *Lens*, and put five Battalions into it, detach'd several Parties, who advanc'd as far as *Picardy*; And the Duke of *Marlborough* having Advice, that forty Squadrons, and twenty Battalions, march'd, from the Duke of *Burgundy's* Army, to *Newport*, the twenty-third of *July*, N. S. and afterwards advanc'd between *Bourbourg* and *St. Omer*, in Order to join the Duke of *Berwick*, his Grace sent the Lieutenant-Generals *Dedem* and Prince of *East-Friesland*, with twenty Battalions, and fifteen Squadrons, with Orders to post themselves at *Armentiers*, and ly ready to re-inforce Count *Tilly*. That General, being thus re-inforced, advanced nearer the *Scarpe*, wherupon, the Deputies of *Artois* having come to an Agreement with him for Contributions, and, at the same Time,

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Time, the Detachments sent towards *Picardy* having burnt the Suburbs of *Dourlens*, and brought off several Hostages, he was ordered, the third of *August*, to return to the Grand Confederate Army.

The French make an Irruption into Dutch Flanders;

THE Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Vendôme*, on the other Hand, being somewhat recovered out of their late Consternation and Disorder, and having, in some Measure, raised the Spirits of their Soldiers again, by taking of the Fort of the *Red-House*, provided for the Subsistence of their Army, by Carrying off all the Corn they could find in the Country of *Waes*, and as far as *Alost*; And to be reveng'd for what Count *Tilly* was doing in *Artois* and *Picardy*, they detach'd 10,000 Men, commanded by the Chevalier *du Rozel*, to make an Irruption into *Dutch Flanders*. General *Fagel*, and Major-General *Murray*, having but three Battalions, and a Regiment of Dragoons, with them, in those Parts, thought it not adviseable to expose that Handful of Men, and, therefore, quitted the Lines, from *Bersaet*, thro' Fort *Philippine*, and *Iffendike*, to *Sluys*, and retired, with their Troops, into this last Place. The Enemy, hereupon, entered the Island of *Cadfsandt*, plundered and burnt about 100 Houses, and, having level'd Part of the Lines, taken a considerable Number of Horses and Cattle, with other rich Booty, returned, with several Hostages, for Contribution, to their Camp at *Lovendeghem*.

And Cadfsandt.

The Artillery convoy'd in Safety to the Confederate Camp.

THE States General were very uneasy at this Invasion of *Dutch Flanders*; (Tho' the Success of it was infinitely short of that of the Allies, in *Artois* and *Picardy*.) But neither that Expedition of the Enemy, nor their Threats of what they intended to do farther, made any Alterations in the

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the Measures which had been concerted for a considerable Siege. In Order to this, a great Train of Artillery, and a vast Number of Waggons, laden with Warlike Stores, had been provided with all possible Expedition, at *Brussels*. The farther Operations, of the Campaign depending, in a great Measure, on the safe Arrival of this Convoy, at the Camp, and there being Reason to judge, by several Motions of the Enemy, that they had Thoughts of Attacking it, the *Confederate* Generals made several Detachments, to cover that March; And, the fourth of *August*, Prince *Eugene* himself set out, with General *Dopf*, to put himself at the Head of his Army, for the same End. The eighth, in the Morning, the Duke of *Marlborough* having received Intelligence, that the Enemy had re-inforced the Troops, which they had posted at *Melle*, between *Ghent*, and the County of *Alost*, to the Number of about 30,000 Men, and that the Duke of *Burgundy* was gone thither, in Person, to head them, his Grace sent Advice thereof, to Prince *Eugene*, that he might take proper Measures for the securing of *Brussels*; But the Prince had, in the mean Time, upon the like Information, already sent a strong Detachment of Horse and Foot, to observe the Enemy. He himself advanced to *Soignies*, and, near that Place, joined the Artillery, which, by the prudent Conduct of the Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, was got thither, without the least Annoyance from the Enemy; And, on the ninth, in the Evening, was safely conducted to *Aeth*.

THE March of this Train of Artillery, with Prince *Eugene's* Advancing to *Soignies*, put the Enemy under great Apprehensions for *Mons*. Upon which the Duke of *Berwick* threw seven Battalions,

*The Siege of
Lille resolved
upon.*

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Battalions, two Squadrons of Horse, and one of Dragoons, into that Place: But the *Confederates*, being resolved to go upon some Undertaking of the highest Importance, agreed at Length upon the Siege of *Lisle*; Rightly judging, that they could not attack the Enemy in a more sensible Part. The Investing and Besieging of this important Place shall be the Subject of the next Chapter, and I shall, in the mean Time, conclude this with the following Letter from the Duke of *Marlborough*.

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Camp at Helchin, Aug. 15, 1708.

MY LORD,

A Letter from
the Duke of
Marlborough
to the Earl of
Manchester.

“ I HAVE receiv’d the Honour of your Excel-
“ lency’s Letter of the 27th of *July*, and re-
“ turn you my Thanks for your obliging Con-
“ gratulations on our late Victory; which we
“ are endeavouring to improve, in such a Man-
“ ner, that all *Europe* may reap the Benefit of
“ it, in an Honourable and lasting Peace. I
“ hope it will have an immediate Influence in
“ your Parts, where the Spirits are chiefly go-
“ vern’d by Success. Mr. *Cardonnel* tells us you
“ have a constant Account of our Motions, for
“ which I must still pray leave to refer you to
“ him; and am, &c.

MARLBOROUGH.

CHAP.



C H A P. IX.

The Siege of Lisle, before the Battle of Wynecendale.

THE City of *Lisle*, which the *Confederate* Generals had resolved to besiege, is a large, rich and well fortified Place, with a very strong Citadel, the Capital of *French Flanders*, 1708.

Importance of the City of Lisle.

the Staple of all the Trade, between the *Netherlands* and *France*, and next to *Paris*, was reckon'd the Chief Place of His Most *Christian* Majesty's Dominions. It is situate among Pools and Marshes, about 15 Miles *West* of *Tournay*, 28 *North* of *Douay*, 36 *South-West* of *Ghent*, 37 *South-East* of *Dunkirk*, and 38 almost *West* of *Mons*. The Merchants of that Place were of considerable Service to the Grand Monarch, and a great Annoyance to His Enemies, especially the *Maritime* Powers, as they were the principal Owners of the *Dunkirk* Privateers, which, without their Assistance, could not have been fitted out, in near so great Numbers. As they were rich, they generally supplied the Wants of the *French* King's Armies, and the Customs they paid Him were a considerable Part of His Revenue. *Lisle* was the first and fairest of all *Lewis*, XIV. Conquests, and one of the principal Keys of *France*; And as His Majesty always express'd a more than ordi-

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Great Preparations of France to defend it.

Firmness of the Confederates in their Resolutions.

ordinary Value for this Place, the famous Engineer, *Monf. de Vauban*, had exerted his utmost Skill in the Fortifications of it, and, at an immense Charge; rendered it almost impregnable. The Reduction of a Place every Way so important could not but redound very much to the Honour, as well as the Advantage, of the *Confederates*; And, on the other Hand, this great Importance of it made the *French* use all human Means for its Preservation. Besides the Presence of the Marshal *de Boufflers*, Governor of all *French Flanders*, the Lieutenant-Generals *de Surville*, *Lee*, and other Officers of Distinction, they threw into the Place one and twenty Battalions, of the best Troops of *France*, besides six Squadrons of Dragoons, 140 Horse, and 7 or 800 Invalids, who were yet in a Condition to serve; A little Army rather than a Garrison.

NOTWITHSTANDING the Difficulties, which could not but attend the Siege of a Place, so strong, and so well provided, not to mention those occasioned by the *Confederates* being cut off from their Magazines in *Antwerp* and *Sas van Ghent*; All which made the Duke *de Vendôme* (when he was first inform'd of the Design of the *Allies*) say; He did not think so wise a Commander as Prince *Eugene*, would venture upon so Rash an Enterprize; and the *French*, in general, boasted, that without striking a Blow, they would oblige the *Allies* to abandon the Siege; Notwithstanding all this, I say, nothing was able to deter the *Confederate* Generals from their Resolutions. The Artillery being, therefore, arriv'd, at *Pottes*, and all other Necessaries provided, the twelfth of *August*, the Prince of *Orange-Nassau* was detach'd, with one and thirty Battalions, to take Post at *Marquette*, on the *Lower-Deule*, within half a League

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of *Lisle*, and Lieutenant-General *Wood*, with four and thirty Squadrons, march'd to *Pottegben*. The same Day, the Army march'd from *Werwick* to *Helchin*; And, the next, Prince *Eugene*, having pass'd the *Marque*, at *Pont à Tresin*, invested the Town of *Lisle*, between that Place and the *Upper Deule*; While the Prince of *Orange-Nassau* did the like, with his Detachment, between the *Upper* and *Lower Deule*. The Duke of *Marlborough* lay, in the mean Time, with the main Army, at a convenient Distance, to cover the Siege.

Lisle invested.

PRINCE *Eugene* of *Savoy*, who as *Field-Marshal* of the *Empire*, was to command at this memorable Siege, had under him, as *Generals*, the Prince of *Orange-Nassau*, Count *Schlick*, the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, the Prince of *Wirtemberg*, Count *Nassau-Weilburg*, and *Spiegel*; Lieutenant-Generals, Count *de Fels*, *Falckenstein*, *Efferen*, *Wood*, *Arnam*, *Peitendorff*, *Spar*, Prince of *Holstein-Beck*, and *Wilke*: Major-Generals, *Leifins*, Count *Bethlem*, Count *Wittenstein*, *de Vennes*, the Prince d'*Auvergne*, *Weissenfeld*, *Vickenbach*, *Volckershoven*, *Sobel*, *Collier*, *Zoutland* and *Sacken*; Brigadiers and Majors of Brigade, *Keppenbeck*, Junior, *Poseren*, *Kellim*, *Hagedorn*, *Kallenstein*, *Wassenaer*, *Keppel*, *Boisset*, Sir *Richard Temple*, *Du Troussel*, *Mymer*, *Stapel* and *Whitney*; And the Chief Engineers *Des Roques*, and *Du Mey*, each of whom was to have the Direction of a separate Attack.

General-Officers who serv'd this Siege.

THE same Day, that the Town was invested, Prince *Eugene* had a long Conference with the Prince of *Orange-Nassau*, in which the Disposition of the Quarters was settled; And, the next Morning, the Lines of Circumvallation were mark'd out, and Pioneers were set to Work on them.

The Prince of Orange-Nassau in great Danger.

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them. The seventeenth, the greatest Part of the Artillery arrived in the Camp, from *Menin*. The eighteenth, in the Morning, the Prince of *Orange's* Chief *Valet de Chambre* had his Head shot off, by a Cannon-Ball, while he was dressing his Highness, which pass'd over the Prince's Shoulder, and within six Inches of his Face, who had his Cloths and Face all besmear'd with his Blood and Brains. As the Village of *Lamberfard*, in which the Prince's Quarters then were, was within a small Cannon-Shot of the Town, and several Balls had before pierc'd the very House he was in, near his Chamber, His Highness was, hereupon, perswaded, to remove his Quarters farther from the Town, to the Castle of *Holbeck*, behind the Abby of *Marquette*; Prince *Eugene* having fix'd his at the Abby of *Loos*.

Troops appointed
for the Siege.

THE Troops appointed to carry on this famous Siege were fifty Battalions, viz. six *Imperialists*, nine *Palatines*, five *Hessians*, and thirty from the Grand Army; And to prevent all Mistakes, Prince *Eugene* caus'd, the twentieth of *August*, a Memorial to be drawn up, of such Orders and Methods, as were to be observed, in relieving the Trenches, and carrying on the Attacks, by the Generals and Officers, of the Troops of the several Nations, which were under his Command.

King Augustus,
and the Landgrave of Hesse,
visit the Duke of
Marlborough.

THE same Day, King *Augustus* of *Poland*, and the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel*, drawn by the Fame of the Siege of *Lisle*, being on their Way, from *Aeth* to the Confederate Army, then encamp'd at *Helchin*, the Duke of *Marlborough* met them, at their passing the *Scheld*, at *Potes*, and conducted them to Dinner, to his Quarters, where His Majesty was lodg'd, the Landgrave taking his Lodging, with his Son, Prince *William*, Major-

jor-General in the Service of the States; Besides whom, his Highness had two other Sons employ'd at this Siege, and the Prince of Orange, who was then design'd for, and soon after became, his Son-in-Law. The next Day, his Grace entertained them, with the Review of the first Line of the Army, after which they dined with the Earl of *Albemarle*; And the twentieth, in the Morning, they both went to the Camp before *Lisle*, where they were received and entertained by Prince *Eugene*, with all the Respect due to their Rank. *And come to the Camp before Lisle.*

THE same Afternoon, the Directors, Engineers, and Chief Officers of the Artillery, went, by the Road, from *Werwick* to *Lisle*, to view the Ground near the Place, which they found very fit for their Batteries, on the Side of *St. Magdalen's* Gate; But as they advanced very near the Works, the Enemy sallied out, with three Squadrons, and a Detachment of Foot, and appear'd on the other Side of the *Deule*, upon which the Engineers retired to their Camp. Prince *Eugene*, however, found a Stratagem to procure them a nearer View of the Enemy's Works; Which was as follows: A great Number of Ladies having desired Passes to go out of the Town, his Highness made no Difficulty of Granting their Request; But, at the same Time, he caused some Engineers, to be dress'd in the Habit of common Soldiers, and to march with the Detachment, which was appointed to receive the Ladies at the Barriers of the Place, and conduct them thro' the Camp. *A Stratagem of Prince Eugene's.*

THE Magistrates of *Lisle* having, with the Marshal *de Boufflers's* Leave, sent two Deputies to Prince *Eugene*, as well to compliment him, as to desire his Favour to the Burghers, they offered *His Answer to the Deputies of Lisle.*

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him, at the same Time, some Presents of Refreshments: But he told them, " That a besieg'd Town ought to be kept very close; So that he could not yet admit of their Civilities; But when he should be Master of the Place, the Burghers might be assured of his Protection, provided he should be satisfied, that they had endeavoured to deserve it, by their *Impartial* Carriage during the Siege." The twenty-first, the Enemy, with six Squadrons, and 7 or 800 Foot, came out, on the Side which the Chief Engineers observed the Day before, upon which the Prince of *Orange-Nassau*, caused seven Squadrons, and six Battalions, to advance and repulse the Enemy, who retired immediately, having only set Fire to two Houses, and cut down about 200 Trees. The *Confederate* Troops took Post in a Place called *Magdalen-Hole*, on the Banks of the *Deule*, where they left 500 Men; and posted another Detachment in a Mill, near the Chapel of *St. Magdalen*, which was fortified; And the same Day, likewise, the Lines of Circumvallation and Contravallation were finish'd.

The Duke of Marlborough makes a Motion with the Army.

THE *French* Court, which was not a little surprized to find *Lisle* invested, sent positive Orders to the Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Vendôme* to run all Hazards, to raise the Siege of so important a Place; And, to this End, the Duke of *Berwick* was, at the same Time, ordered, to augment his Flying Camp, with the Garrisons of *Namur*, *Mons*, *Charleroy*, *Valenciennes* and other Places, and to join the Dukes.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, having received repeated Advice of this Design, ordered the Cavalry of his *Left* to march, the twenty-second of *August*, towards the *Scheld*, and encamp near the *Right*, between the Villages of *Pottes* and *St.*

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St. Vernoux, to be nearer at Hand to pass the *Scheld*, and form the *Vanguard* of the Army, which was to march by the *Left*. The twenty-third, at Break of Day, 1500 Horse, commanded by the Count *d'Erbach*, Major-General, and Brigadier *Grovestein*, were detach'd, with the Quarter-Masters-General, to mark out a Camp on the other Side of the *Scheld*; And, about seven, the whole Army march'd, in two Columns, by the *Left*, passed the *Scheld*, near *Pottes*, on four Bridges, and encamp'd, with the *Right*, to that River, near *Escanaffe*, and the *Left*, to *Amieras*, the Duke of *Marlborough* taking his Quarters at *Amongies*, and Velt Marshal *d'Auverquerque* his, at *Vaudipront*.

THIS Motion prevented the Enemy's joining ^{Advantages} between the *Scheld* and the *Dender*, and rendered ^{which arose} it more difficult in *Brabant*; And besides, his ^{from this Mo-} Grace was now nearer at Hand to oppose any Attempt they might offer to make, on that Side; Where, it was reasonable to believe, they had laid the Scheme of a powerful Diversion, during the Siege. His Grace likewise ordered the Bridges to be continued on the *Scheld*, with a Guard of six Regiments of Foot, lest the Enemy should make any Motion between that River and the *Lys*.

EVERY Thing being now in a Readiness for ^{The Trenches} the Siege, the Trenches were open'd, the twenty- ^{open'd before} second of *August*, N. S. between seven and eight, ^{the Town of} in the Evening, within 500 Toises of the Counter-scarp, on the *Right* and *Left* of the *Lower Dender*, the former against the Gate of *St. Andrews*, under the Direction of *Monf. Des Roques*, and the other against the Gate of *St. Magdalen*, under the Care of *Monf. Du Mey*. Four Thousand Workmen were appointed for this Service, co-

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ver'd by ten Battalions of the *Imperial, Palatine* and *Hessian* Troops, commanded by Lieutenant-General *Wilke*, and Major-General *Volckershoven*; And ten Battalions more, with 600 Horse, were ready to sustain them. But the Trenches were carried on, with so much Secrecy, as well as good Success, that the *Allies* had above two Hours Time to cover themselves, before they were perceived by the Enemy; Who, thereupon, made a terrible Fire from the Town; Tho' with so little Effect, that the *Confederates* had not above three or four Men killed, and about fifteen wounded.

To enter into a particular Relation of all that happen'd, Day by Day, at this famous Siege, would carry me far beyond the Limits I have prescrib'd my self in this Work. I shall, therefore, only take Notice of some of the most remarkable Events, which attended it, intermix'd with such Transactions as pass'd under the immediate Direction of his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*.

The Chapel of St. Magdalen taken.

THE twenty-third, Lieutenant-General *Petten-dorf*, going from one Attack to the other, and missing his Way, was taken Prisoner, and carried into the Town. The four and twentieth, the Besiegers took the fortified Chapel of *St. Magdalen*, on the *Left*, the Besieged, who possess'd that Post, being all either killed or taken Prisoners.

Prince Eugene in Danger of being poison'd.

THE six and twentieth, Prince *Eugene* was in Danger of being poison'd, by a base Contrivance of the Enemy, the Circumstances of which, as it was a remarkable Incident, I shall relate: The Post-House being about two Leagues distant, the Commissary wrote a Letter to General *Dopf's* Secretary, by a Servant that Gentleman had sent him,

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him, in the Morning, to fetch his Letters, desiring him to deliver the two inclos'd to his Highness, Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, because he had no Postilion, at Hand, to send them by. General *Dopf* being then at the Prince's Quarters, the Secretary gave those two Letters to his Adjutant, who gave them to Prince *Eugene*. One of the Letters came from the *Hague*, and the other the Commissary imagin'd to be come from the same Place, tho' he could not be positive of it. The Prince, opening one of them, found nothing but a greazy Paper in it, and not knowing what it might be, threw it carelessly to the Ground, without any Shew of Surprize. The Prince's Adjutant taking it up, and, smelling to it, was immediately seized with a Giddiness, and taken so ill, that he was persuaded to take an Antidote, and happy for him he did; For the Poison it contained was so exquisite, that the Paper only, being, for an Experiment, tied about a Dog's Neck, he died in four and twenty Hours, notwithstanding a Counterpoison was given him. General *Dopf*, with some others, who were about the Prince, appearing surprized, at this execrable Piece of Villany, and expressing their Concern, for the Hazard the Prince had run, his Highness said to them; *You need not, Gentlemen, wonder at it; For this is not the first Letter of this Nature I have receiv'd.*

THE same Evening, the Besieged made a vigorous Sally, and surprizing the Chapel of *St. St. Magdalen*, retaken by the Enemy. *Magdalen*, retook it; But the Prince of *Orange-Nassau*, who was at that Time in the Trenches, no sooner got Intelligence of it, than he order'd two Battalions to come out of the Trenches, on the *Right*, and the *Left* of the Chapel, and attack'd the Enemy with such Fury, that they

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were immediately oblig'd to abandon it, and retire, with great Precipitation, into the Cover'd Way of the Town. Thus the Prince had the Honour to take this Post twice, and afterwards to keep it, very much to the Dissatisfaction, as well as Prejudice of the Enemy, to whom it had been of singular Service.

But soon abandon'd again.

THE same Day, the Duke of Marlborough wrote the following Letter :

To the Earl of MANCHESTER.

Camp at Amongies, August 26, 1708.

MY LORD,

A Letter from the Duke of Marlborough to the Earl of Manchester.

“ I HAVE received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter of the 3d Instant, and do not much wonder, that the *French* Minister should be instructed to use the same Artifice with you they have so long practised in other Parts. I hope the Success of the Siege we have since undertaken, will, in a little Time, farther convince your Senate how much they were at first imposed upon. The Trenches were opened before *Lisle* the 22d, and Mr. *Cardonnel* will inform you of the Progress that has been made since.

I am, &c.

MARLBOROUGH.

Continuation of the Siege.

THE seven and twentieth, the Besiegers began to play from four Batteries on the Town, one of four and forty Cannon, another of thirteen, a third of eleven, and a fourth of twelve Mortars, and eight Hawbitzers. The eight and twentieth, the

the Besiegers took a Mill on the *Right*, in which they made some Prisoners; But were oblig'd, the same Night, to quit that Post again. The nine and twentieth, the Besieged set Fire to the Mill, and abandon'd that Post; And the same Night the Besiegers began to play from another Battery of four Guns. The thirtieth, another Battery of eight Guns was rais'd, and, in all this Time, the Saps and Trenches were advanced, with all the Success, the Besiegers could expect or wish. The thirty-first, Colonel *Rechteren* was killed in the Trenches. Between the first and the seventh of *September*, N. S. every Thing went very much in Favour of the Besiegers; And Deserters, in this Time, reported, that the Breach was very wide, that the Ditch was almost filled with the Ruins of the Wall, and that the Marshal *de Boufflers* perceiving, that the Town would soon fall into the Hands of the *Confederates*, had ordered a good Part of his best Cannon to be removed into the Citadel. Upon this Advice, Prince *Eugene* caused the necessary Preparations to be made, for attacking the Counter-scarp, the seventh; But before I give an Account of that Action, it will not be improper to relate what was doing, in the mean Time, with the Grand Army, under the Command of the Duke of *Marlborough*, and with that of the Enemy, under the Dukes of *Burgundy*, *Berwick*, and *de Vendôme*.

THE latter did all they could to make, at least, a Shew of attempting to raise the Siege. To this End, the Duke of *Berwick* march'd, the five and twentieth of *August*, N. S. with all his Forces, from *Mortagne* to *Bosju*, between *Condé* and *Mons*, where he halted 'till the eight and twentieth, And that Morning march'd by *Mons*, towards

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towards *Soignies*. On the other Hand, the Duke of *Burgundy*, having left five Battalions, and three Squadrons, in *Bruges*, and twelve Battalions, with seven Squadrons, in *Ghent*, under the Command of the Count *de la Motte*, pass'd the *Scheld*, the seven and twentieth, at five in the Morning, near *Ghent*, march'd in three Columns towards the *Dender*, encamp'd to *Pottelburg*, and, the eight and twentieth, march'd to *Ninove*.

And of the Confederates under the Duke of Marlborough.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, who continued encamp'd at *Amongies*, having Intelligence of these Motions of the Enemy, gave Orders, the eight and twentieth, that his Army should be ready to march, upon the firing of three Pieces of Cannon; And, in the mean Time, detach'd the Earl of *Atblone*, with 1500 Horse, to observe the Enemy. That General advancing towards *Leuse*, his *Vanguard* fell in with 100 Horse, detach'd from the Duke of *Berwick's* Army, whom they defeated, and took thirty Prisoners; This did not, however, hinder the Duke of *Berwick* from advancing to *Engbien*. The Enemy's Forces being thus ready to join, on either Side the *Dender*, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent a Re-inforcement of 600 Men to *Aeth*; And, as a Convoy of about 700 Waggons, laden with Provisions and Ammunition, were about setting out from thence, for the Army and the Siege, Lieutenant-General *Ross* was ordered, the nine and twentieth, in the Evening, with 2500 Horse, to cover their March to the Camp, where they arrived, in Safety, the thirtieth, in the Morning.

The Duke of Marlborough returns to Holzhain.

THE Duke having, at the same Time, Advice, that the Enemy's Army would certainly join, between the *Dender* and the *Scheld*, by which, they shew'd their Intentions were not to act in *Bra-*

bant

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bant; His Grace, thereupon, ordered the Confederate Army to decamp from *Amongies*, which being done accordingly, they repass'd the *Scheld*, at *Pottes*, and *Escanaffe*, and came to their old Camp, at *Helchin*, with the Right near *Pont d'Espiere*, and the Left at *Avelgheme*. They were scarce arrived in this Camp, when his Grace receiv'd farther Intelligence, that the Duke of *Berwick* pass'd the *Dender*, that Morning, at *Ninove*, and having joined the Duke of *Burgundy*, all their Forces, to the Number, as it was reported, of 208 Squadrons, and 126 Battalions, marched together, to *Lessines*, in the Way to *Tournay*. *The French Armies join.*

By all Circumstances of these Marches, it was pretty apparent, that the Design of the Enemy was to attempt the raising of the Siege; The Duke of *Marlborough*, therefore, considering that his Army was now much inferiour to that of the Enemy, dispatch'd seasonable Orders to General *Fagel*, to make all possible Expedition to join him, with what Forces could be spared out of *Dutch Flanders* and *Brabant*; And, upon Advice, that the Enemy was advanced, between *Antoin* and *Tournay*, the Duke march'd, the thirty-first, in the Afternoon, to *Templeuve*, and encamp'd, with the Right to *Willem*, and the Left to *Pont à Chin*. The first of *September*, the Duke continued his March, and having pass'd the *Marque*, at *Pont à Tresin*, encamp'd, with the Right, at *Antreulle*, the Left, at *Anstain*, and the Head Quarters, at *Peronne*, in the Plains of *Lisle*. *Farther Motion of both Armies.*

The Troops were no sooner come into this Camp, than the Duke of *Marlborough* went to *Prince Eugene's* Quarters, before *Lisle*, and, having dined with his Highness and the other Generals, returned, in the Evening, to the Camp. The next *The Confederate Army encamps in the Plains of Lisle*

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*The Duke of
Marlborough
confers with
Prince Eugene.*

next Morning, Prince *Eugene* came to *Peronne*, and rode out, with the Lord Duke, *Monf. d' Auverquerque*, and other Generals, to the *Right* of the Line, to view the Ground about *Phalempin*, and to mark out a Line for the Army to form in Battle, and expect the Enemy, in Case they should think fit to hazard an Engagement, in Order to relieve the City of *Lisle*. At two in the Afternoon, they return'd to the Duke's Quarters, where King *Augustus*, and the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel*, were arrived, some Time before, from the Siege. All these Princes, together with the Deputies of the *States*, the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, and several other General Officers, having been entertained by the Duke, at Dinner, they returned, in the Evening, to the Camp before *Lisle*.

The Enemy approach the Confederate Army.

THE same Morning, the Enemy's whole Army pass'd the *Scheld*, in five Columns, above and below *Tournay*, and encamp'd, with the *Right*, at *Blandain*, and the *Left*, at *Villemau*, from whence the Duke of *Burgundy* sent a Spy, to endeavour to get into *Lisle*, and inform the Marshal *de Boufflers*, that their Army being on this Side *Tournay*, he might depend upon being relieved; But he fell into the Hands of the *Confederates*. The next Day, the Enemy moved towards *Orchies*, and the Source of the *Marque*, lay that Night on their Arms, and the fourth, continued their March towards *Mont en Peville*, and the Overture into the Plains of *Lisle*, between the *Marque* and *Phalempin*.

*The Duke of
Marlborough
prepares to re-
cieve them.*

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, hereupon in Hopes, as well as Expectation, of an Engagement, ordered the *Confederate Army* to march to the Ground mark'd out for them, and there to form in Battle, between *Noyelles* and *Peronne*, where

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where they continued till Noon, and then encamp'd, in the same Ground, the Baggage being removed, in the mean Time, to the Camp before *Lisle*. Towards Evening, the *French* advanced nearer to the *Confederate* Camp; And having spread a Report, that they would immediately attempt the Raising of the Siege, the Duke of *Marlbrough* drew up his Army again, the fifth, at Break of Day, in Order to give them Battle, having been joined, the Evening before, by Prince *Eugene*, with seventy-two (some Accounts say seventy-six) Squadrons, and six and twenty Battalions, from the Siege, with which King *Augustus*, and the *Landgrave* of *Hesse*, came, as Volunteers. These Troops, which were brought by Prince *Eugene*, were posted on the Right of the Line, with the *Prussians*; The *English* and *Danes* on the Left, and the *Dutch* and *Hannoverians* in the Centre. All the Cavalry was drawn up in two Lines; And the Infantry formed a third Line, behind the Horse, which Disposition was judg'd the most proper, as they were in a Plain. To cover the Flank of the Army, twenty Battalions were posted on each Wing, and behind them, as many Squadrons, as a Body of Reserve. If we may believe the *Memoirs du Prince Eugene*, the *Confederate* Army then consisted of 236 Squadrons, and 112 Battalions; And the Enemy's Army was stronger by fourteen Battalions and two Squadrons; But other Accounts make the Superiority of the Enemy much larger. Count *Nassau-Woudenburg*, with his Brigade, was posted, in the Village of *Entiers* (or *Anties*) which was at the Head of the Army, by which the Enemy must pass; And the Artillery was placed in the most convenient Places, and those which were most expos'd, in the Front. The

Prince Eugene joins the Duke with some Troops.

Disposition of the Confederate Army.

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Generals repair'd to their respective Posts, in eager Expectation of receiving the Enemy ; And Lieutenant-General *Fagel*, having march'd with incredible Speed, with seven Battalions, and as many Squadrons, joined the *Confederate* Army, the same Morning. They had the more Reason to believe the Design of the Enemy was to give them Battle, because they had got Intelligence, that the Duke *de Vendôme*, who was advanced, the Night before, with his *Vanguard*, to *Phalampin*, but a League from the *Confederate* Army, had received thirty Pieces of heavy Cannon, from *Douay*, besides the Field-Pieces he had before. They were so near, the next Morning, that their Drums were heard, and they made several Motions, which heighten'd the Expectation of the *Allies*.

The Enemy, tho' dared to it, decline Fighting.

THE *Confederate* Army continued, in Order of Battle, 'till ten o'Clock, and never did Troops shew a greater Eagerness to engage ; But the Enemy, notwithstanding all their Boasting, and their great Superiority, did not think fit to appear ; Tho' the *Confederate* Generals had designedly left all the Passes, thro' which they were to come, and form'd themselves open and unguarded, as it were to dare them to the Fight. If it had been the real Design of the Enemy to hazard a Battle, for the Relief of *Lisle*, they could not have wish'd for a better Opportunity ; But it now plainly appear'd, that they were resolv'd to run no Risk, and that all their Motions were only intended to disturb the *Allies*, and retard the Siege, by keeping them in continual Alarm. The Tents were, therefore, order'd to be pitch'd again, and Prince *Eugene's* Detachment returned to the Camp before *Lisle*, some *Imperial* and *Hessian* Horse, only excepted. The Prince himself, after having dined with the Duke of *Marlborough*,

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borough, in Company with King *Augustus*, and the *Landgrave*, return'd, in the Evening, to the Siege. 1708.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* judging now rightly, that the Enemy (as I have observ'd above) never in Earnest design'd to hazard an Engagement; But that their whole Intention was no more, than to fatigue the *Confederate* Troops, by continual Motions, to streighten them in Forrage and, by these Means, to lengthen out the Siege, his Grace ordered 100 Men, out of each Battalion, to be employed in throwing up an Intrenchment in the Front of his Army, from the Mill of *Noyelles*, to that of *Fretin*; Where the Infantry was rang'd in two Lines, and the Cavalry on the Wings, in two Lines, the Village of *Seclin* lying before the Line. This Work was finished, the eighth of *September*, N. S. and not only secured the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army from any sudden Surprise, but left the Besiegers at Liberty to carry on their Attacks without Interruption.

The Duke of
Marlborough
entrenches his
Army.

Two Days before, the Enemy made a great Forrage, and their Workmen were employ'd in making Openings, and enlarging the Roads about their Army, which continued encamp'd between *Mont en Peville* and *Megrignie*, from whence, on the seventh, they detach'd thirty Squadrons, which march'd by *Tournay*, with Design to intercept a Convoy coming from *Brussels*, guarded by a Body of Troops, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Pascal*. The Duke of *Marlborough*, hereupon, detach'd, the same Evening, thirty Squadrons, under the Command of the Earl of *Albemarle*, Major-General *Wittinghof*, and three Brigadiers, with Orders to advance as far as *Gramont*, to meet the Convoy, which was brought, in Safety, to *Menin*, four Days after.

The Enemy at-
tempt, in vain,
to intercept a
Convoy.

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Their Forragers
driven back to
their Camp.

THE eighth, the Enemy advanced, with their Forragers, sustained by several Regiments, within Quarter of a League of *Fretin*, where the Duke of *Marlborough* had his Quarters. The Duke was at Dinner, when the News was brought, upon which, Lieutenant-General *Wood*, who happen'd to be at the Table, express'd an earnest Desire to drive them to their Camp, desiring only, for that Purpose, two *English* Battalions. His Grace granted his Request, and ordered the Regiments of *How* and Sir *William Temple*, to attend him for that Purpose. They march'd immediately, and being animated by the Duke of *Argile*, the Earl of *Stairs*, and Major-General *Webb*, who went with them, as Volunteers, fell upon the Enemy, and drove them as far as *Ennevelin*, where they had posted some Infantry, in a Castle, which was encompassed with two Ditches. The *English* attempted to dislodge them from thence, and, to that End, attack'd the Enemy with a great deal of Bravery; But the Duke of *Vendôme* giving Orders to all his Grenadiers, and the *Piquet* of six Brigades, which were encamp'd in the Front of his Army, near *Pont à Marque*, to support his Troops in the Castle, the two *British* Battalions were oblig'd to retire, before so very superiour a Force, with the Loss of about 200 Men, and six or seven Officers, kill'd and wounded: Having, however, first gained their Point, in disturbing the Enemy's Forragers, and driving them back to their Camp. I shall now leave the Duke of *Marlborough*, in his Intrenchments, and return to the Siege.

Dispositions for Storming the Counterescarp of the Evening, the Trenches were relieved by Lieutenant-

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Lieutenant-General *Wilke*, with two Major-Generals, and ten *Imperial* and *Palatine* Battalions; Upon which, the following Dispositions were made for that Attack. Eight hundred Grenadiers, supported by the same Number of Fusiliers, with 2,000 Workmen, and 30 Carpenters, designed for cutting down the *Pallisadoes*, were commanded for the Attack on the *Right*, between the *Lower Deule*, and the Gate of *St. Andrew*, under the Direction of *Monf. des Roques*; 1600 Grenadiers, supported by the like Number of Fusiliers, 2,000 Workmen, and thirty Carpenters, were ordered, for the *Left*, between the *Deule* and *St. Magdalen's* Gate, under the Direction of *Monf. Du Mey*; And, besides the Troops in the Trenches, 2,000 Men more employed in the Attack, being detach'd for that End, from the Grand Army, under the Command of Brigadier *Sabin*.

EVERY Thing being ready, a most terrible Fire was made from the Batteries; And, *The Attack made.*

about eight o' Clock, the Signal being given, a general Discharge was made; Whereupon, the Troops design'd for the Attack on the *Left* march'd out of the Trenches, with great Intrepidity, and admirable Order; They went directly up to the *Pallisadoes*, from whence they beat the Enemy, and several of them, leaping into the Covered Way, put to the Sword all the *French* they found there, excepting four Officers, and a very few Soldiers, who were taken Prisoners.

Success of it.

While they were making their Lodgment, near the *Pallisadoes*, the Enemy made a terrible Fire upon them, and sprung three Mines, which did considerable Execution. The Besiegers lodg'd themselves, however, on the Salient Angle of the Counterscarp of the Horn-work, and on the

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Angle of the *Tenaille*. The Troops who were commanded on the *Right* attack'd the Enemy, with the same Courage and Success, and lodg'd themselves, likewise, on the Salient Angle of the Counterscarp of the Horn-work, and on the Top of the Ditch of the *Tenailles*, on the Banks of the *Lower Deule*, between the two Attacks; And, besides all this, the Communications towards the Breaches were considerably advanced. The Loss of the *Allies*, in this Action, was considerable, as the Reader will see by the following Letter from the Chief Engineer *des Roques*.

From the Camp before Lisle, Sept. 10. N. S.

*Monsieur de
Roques's Ac-
count.*

“ **O**N Friday, the seventh Instant, we made
“ an Assault on the Counterscarp, about
“ half an Hour past seven, in the Evening.
“ 2400 Grenadiers, and as many Fusiliers, sus-
“ tained by twelve Battalions, being command-
“ ed to make the Lodgment, on the *Glacis*, we
“ attack'd the whole Front, reaching from the
“ Horn-work, before *Magdalen's* Gate, along
“ the Ravelin and *Tenailles*, as far as the other
“ Horn-work, on the Right of the *Lower Deule*.
“ After an obstinate Fight, of about half an
“ Hour, during which, the Enemy sprung four
“ great Mines, which destroyed Abundance of
“ our Men, we obliged them to retire into their
“ Capital Works, from whence they made a
“ terrible Fire, for some Hours. But, as we
“ had the Misfortune, upon the Advancing to-
“ wards the Enemy, out of the Trenches, to
“ lose the six Engineers, who were to direct the
“ Workmen, appointed to make the Lodgment
“ on the Ravelins, and before the Breaches, the
“ said Workmen, by the Favour of the Night,
“ dispersed

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“ dispersed themselves; So that we could not
“ maintain ourselves, but only on the Angles of
“ the *Glacis* of the two Horn-works, and of the
“ *Tenaille*. This unhappy Accident retards the
“ Taking of the Town, which may yet hold
“ out eight or ten Days. We had, in that At-
“ tack, 2000 Men either kill'd or wounded,
“ amongst whom are sixteen Engineers, either
“ in Ordinary or Extraordinary. We have
“ raised two Batteries on the *Glacis* of the Horn-
“ work, on the Right, and of the *Tenaille*;
“ And, in a Day or two, we shall erect another,
“ in Order to ruin the Foot of the Breach,
“ which the Enemy repair every Night. Yester-
“ day in the Afternoon, the Enemy made a
“ Sally, in Order to ruin a Sort of Gallery,
“ which we are drawing from the Angle of the
“ Horn-work, at *Magdalen's Gate*, directly to
“ the Breach, that we may not be obliged to
“ make a second Assault upon the Out-works;
“ But our Regiments in the Trenches repuls'd
“ the Enemy with great Vigour, killing Abun-
“ dance of their Men. We expect, with Im-
“ patience, a Convoy of Ammunition, which
“ is coming from *Brussels*, very *à propos*; For,
“ we are in great Want of it. Last Night we
“ lodg'd ourselves in the Cover'd Way; And
“ this Night we shall work on a Battery of
“ thirty Pieces of Cannon, in Order to widen
“ the Breach. The Battery of eighteen Guns
“ having fired this Day, with Success, we may,
“ this Evening, make an Attack upon one of
“ the Horn-works.

THE Marshal de Boufflers, in the Account he ^{French Ac-}
gave the King, his Master, of this Action, pre- ^{count of the}
tends, that the *Allies* had actually above 2000 ^{Loss of the}
Men ^{Allies.}

Men kill'd in this Attack, and that, according to the common Way of Computation, they must consequently have had double the Number wounded; And we find the same Account in the Marquis de Quincy's Relation: But that these Computations are largely made, is beyond all Contradiction.

KING Augustus of Poland, Prince Eugene, the Prince of Orange, and the Hereditary Prince of Hesse, were in the Trenches, during the whole Action, and were Eye-Witnesses of the Intrepidity, with which the Attack was carried on.

*Disagreement
between the
Chief Engi-
neers.*

ABOUT this Time, a Misunderstanding arose, between the two Directors of the Attacks, which, with the Want of Ammunition, and the Vigorous Defence made by the Besieged, did not a little retard the Progress of the Siege: However, it was carried on, with some Success daily.

*The Duke of
Marlborough
views the Ap-
proaches.*

THE tenth, the Duke of Marlborough went to the Camp before Lisle, and having viewed the Approaches, and dined with Prince Eugene, returned to his Quarters at Freting; And, the same Day, Monsieur de Chamillard, His most Christian Majesty's Prime Minister, came to the Enemy's Army.

*The French
make a Shew
of Attacking
the Confede-
rates.*

THE Occasion of his Journey was variously reported; Some would have it, that it was to compose certain Differences, said to have arisen between the Dukes de Vendôme and Berwick; Others, that it was only to communicate to them the French King's last Instructions, concerning the Relief of Lisle. The latter Conjecture seems to have been the most probable; For, after they had held a Council of War, the next Morning their Troops began to be in Motion, and, about two in the Afternoon, advanc'd to the Village

of

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of *Entiers*, in the Center of the *Confederate Army*, designing to make themselves Masters of that Post ; But the Duke of *Marlborough*, having foreseen their Design, had, in Time, placed two Brigades of Foot there, under the Command of the Brigadiers *Evans* and *Wertmuller*, and caused some Works to be thrown up about that Village.

UPON the Enemy's advancing, in the most exact Order, towards the Intrenchments of the *Allies*, it was not at all question'd, but they were resolutely bent upon a general Attack ; The Duke of *Marlborough*, therefore, immediately order'd his Troops to their Arms, and the Regiments were commanded to their respective Posts behind the Intrenchments. Prince *Eugene*, having, likewise, Intelligence of the Enemy's Motions, joined the Duke, with about the same Number of Squadrons and Battalions, as he had done before. Orders were sent, at the same Time, to the Earl of *Albemarle*, who was then between *Oudenarde* and *Menin*, with the Convoy, to return to the Camp, with all Expedition. About four in the Afternoon, the Enemy began to cannonade the *Confederate Camp*, with great Fury, from forty Pieces of Cannon, directing their Fire chiefly against the Village of *Entiers*, and were answered by the Artillery planted on the Intrenchments, which continued 'till it was dark. But venture not farther than Cannonading.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, Prince *Eugene*, and *Monf. d'Auverquerque* continued in the Field all Night, and the Troops, which lay upon their Arms, were, the next Morning, formed again in Order of Battle. About seven, the Enemy renewed their Cannonading, with thirty or forty Pieces, most four and twenty-Pounders, and the The Cannonading continued on both Sides.

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Allies did the like, with almost equal Execution, on both Sides. About Noon, the Earl of *Albemarle* joined the Army, with his Detachment; And, by all Circumstances, the *Confederate* Generals yet thought the Enemy intended the Attack, in Earnest; But finding the contrary, at Length, towards Evening, the Troops were ordered to encamp, in such Manner, that they might be immediately in a Readiness to receive the Enemy, should they have attempted any Thing farther: And, in the Night, the Works, about the Village of *Entiers*, were repaired and augmented, for the better Security of that Post.

*Farther Motions
of both Armies.*

THE Enemy made a Motion, the same Night, extending their *Left* to *Seclin*, and placing their *Right* to the *Marque*; And the Duke of *Marlborough*, with Prince *Eugene*, now plainly perceiving, that the Designs of the Enemy extended no farther, than, by frequent Alarms, to delay the Storming of the Outworks of *Lisle*, and considering that the Duke's Camp was of sufficient Force, his Highness return'd, the thirteenth, with his Troops, to the Siege. The two Armies continued, the fourteenth, in the same Situation; But the *French* Generals, having held a Council of War, in which they considered, how impracticable it was, to attack the *Confederates*, with any Appearance of Success, resolved to cut off their Communication with *Aeth* and *Brussels*, by making themselves Masters of all the Passes on the *Scheld*.

*A Conspiracy,
to deliver up
Aeth, disco-
ver'd.*

A CONSPIRACY (which was to have favoured this Project) to deliver *Aeth* to Lieutenant-General *Alvelda*, was, about this Time, discovered. The chief Contriver and Promoter of this Plot was, Monsieur *Le Grand*, Comptroller of the Fortifications,

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Fortifications, who, upon the Discovery, fled to *Mons*; But his Wife and Servants were apprehended. The Enemy hop'd, and, indeed, not without an Appearance of Reason, so to distress the *Confederate Army*, by this new Project, that Prince *Eugene* would be obliged to raise the Siege. And, pursuant thereunto, they began to move, the fifteenth, by Break of Day, without Beat of Drum; Their *Right* extending to *Orchies*, and their *Left* to *Ribancourt*. Upon Notice hereof, the Duke of *Marlborough* ordered the Army under his Command to be ready to march, the sixteenth, in Order to observe the Enemy, who having, that Day, put several Battalions into *Douay*, continued their March, in four Columns, by *Mouchin* and *Bachy*, directly towards *Tournay*. The Duke, hereupon, made a small Motion, placing his *Right* at *Peronne*, his *Left* at *Forêt*, on the *Marque*, and his Head Quarters at *Sainghin*. Here he had Intelligence, that, the Day before, a Convoy of 100 Waggon, laden with Cannon-Ball, for the Siege, arrived at *Oudenarde* from *Aeth*, under the Guard of 1200 Foot, commanded by Colonel *Freke*, notwithstanding the Enemy's Endeavours to intercept it.

At the same Time, Brigadier *Chanclos* march'd with ten Squadrons of Horse to *Oudenarde*, where he was to be joined by the like Detachment from Prince *Eugene's Army*, there being already six Battalions in that Town; And, upon Intelligence, that Count *de la Motte*, with all the Troops he could get together in *Flanders*, was march'd from *Ghent* towards *Ninove*, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent Orders to Major-General *Murray*, to march, with most of the Troops, in *Dutch Flanders*, to *Brussels*, for the Security of that Place. The Enemy encamp'd, the sixteenth, in the Evening,

*Marches of the
Enemy's Army.*

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with their *Right*, to the Rivulet *Le Chin*, and their *Left* extending towards *Froimont*; And, the next Morning, pass'd the *Scheld*, over several Bridges they had above and below *Tournay*, and continued, the eighteenth, in their Camp along that River, from the Mount of the *Trinity*, beyond *Pottes*.

And of the Confederates.

THE same Day, the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army decamp'd from *Sainghin*, and having repass'd the *Marque*, at *Pont à Tresin* and *Forêt*, encamp'd with the *Right* at *Willem*, the *Left* at *Pas à Vafne*, a Rivulet which runs into the *Scheld*, and the Head Quarters at *Templeuve*. Upon the March, his Grace received Intelligence, that the Enemy had laid Bridges over the *Scheld*, between *Warcoin* and *Pecq*, and were fortifying those Villages, in Order to keep a Communication with the other Side of that River, and disturb the *Confederate* Convoys between *Oudenarde* and *Courtray*, he, therefore, ordered Lieutenant-General *Dedem*, to march, the nineteenth, at Break of Day, with all the Grenadiers of the Army, and six and thirty Field-Pieces, to dislodge them; And, upon the first Appearance of their Advanc'd Guard, they abandon'd those two Villages, retired to the other Side of the *Scheld*, and took up their Bridges. The twentieth, the *Allies* made a small Motion, encamping, with the *Right*, at *Hem* and *Forêt*, near the *Marque*, the *Left* at *Leers*, and the Head-Quarters at *Lannoy*:

The Enemy fortify the Passes on the Scheld.

And the Enemy, having sent some Brigades to take Post, between *Oudenarde* and *Ghent*, took all possible Care to secure the Passes on the *Scheld*, casting up Intrenchments, and erecting Batteries, in several Places; And casting up a Line from the Hill near *Oudenarde* to *Ename*; By which that Place was entirely clos'd in on that Side the *Scheld*;

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Scheld; And not only the Communication between *Brussels* and the *Confederate* Armies quite cut off; But the Army separated from all Intercourse with *Holland*. These Lines were about seventy Miles long, and, in some Places, near *Oudenarde*, they had more the Appearance of the Ramparts of a Fortress, than ordinary Lines.

THE Siege of *Lisle* was, in the mean Time, *Continued* carried on, tho' but slowly, yet with Resolution, *of the Siege of Lisle.* Courage, and indefatigable Diligence, and the Continuation of fair Weather made amends for many other Difficulties the *Allies* had to struggle with. The twelfth, about nine in the Morning, while the Enemy was cannonading the *Confederate* Army, under the Duke of *Marlborough*, as we have seen above, the Besieged came out of the Town, in great Numbers, with four Colours, and attack'd the Trenches, on the *Left*, in six different Places, having, besides, another Body of Troops, in the Cover'd Way, ready to sustain them; But before they could do any Damage, *A Sally of the Enemy's unsuccessful.* except the Destroying of a few Gabions, they were engag'd, by the nearest Battalions in the Trenches, and obliged to retreat in Great Disorder.

THE Duke of *Burgundy* being, in the mean *Bold Attempt* Time, uneasy, to know in what Condition the *of a French Officer.* Place and Garrison was in, for a farther Defence, employ'd one *Dubois*, a Captain in the Regiment of *Beauvaisis*, who undertook to get into the Town, and bring the Prince the Account he was so desirous of. This Officer, being got undiscover'd to the Place where he propos'd to make his Attempt, strip'd himself stark naked, and having hid his Cloaths, swam over seven Canals and Ditches, and got, in that Manner, into the Town. He return'd the same Way, and, finding

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ing his Cloaths again, brought the Duke of *Burgundy* a Letter from the Marshal, which was so contriv'd, that he carried it in his Mouth, secure from being damag'd by Moisture.

*A Storm of the
Out-works re-
solv'd on.*

EVERY Thing being in great Readiness, by the nineteenth, Prince *Eugene* gave Orders to make the necessary Preparations for Storming the Outworks, that is, "From the *Right* Attack, "the Horn-work of the Gate of *St. Andrews*, "that Part of the *Tenaille* which lay next that "Attack, the Covered Way in the Front of the "Breach, and the *Place of Arms* before the Ravelin and the Horn-work; And from the *Left* "Attack, that Part of the *Tenaille* on that Side, "and the Counterscarp to the Ravelin, from the "Gate of *St. Magdalen* to the *Deule*." And a Disposition for this Storm was made accordingly.

*And put in
Execution.*

PURSUANT to this Disposition, every Thing was got ready for the Assault, the twentieth, in the Evening; But the Enemy having found Means to burn Part of the Galleries and Bridges, which the Besiegers were to make Use of, it was put off, till the twenty-first, about half an Hour past six in the Evening, when the Trenches were relieved by Lieutenant-General *Wilke*, Major-General *Sacken*, and Sir *Richard Temple*, with the usual Number of Battalions. The Signal being given, by a general Discharge from the Batteries, as well of all the Mortars as the Cannon, the Mines, both on the *Right* and the *Left*, were sprung with good Success, and the Grenadiers thereupon mounting the Breach of the *Tenaille*, or Counter-Guard, on the *Right*, obliged the Enemy to retire into the Retrenchment of that Work, and made a good Lodgment on the Breach. On the *Left*, the Besiegers made themselves

*Success of the
Attack.*

selves Masters of a *Place of Arms*, on the Counterscarp of the Counter-Guard, where they kept their Ground without any Disturbance; And they likewise beat the Enemy out of the Counterscarp, before the Grand Breach; But a great Number of fresh Troops coming out upon them, and the Officer, who commanded the Men appointed to sustain the *Confederates*, on that Side, being kill'd, they were obliged to quit two Lodgments they had made there.

PRINCE *Eugene*, who thought his Presence absolutely necessary, to encourage the Soldiers, and to prevent the same Misfortune which had happened in the Attack of the Counterscarp, the seventh, seeing the Grenadiers repulsed, (if we may give Credit to the *French* Accounts, three several Times) rallied them himself, and led them on again to the Charge. In this Action, his Highness received a Wound by a Musquet-Ball, which grazing on his Forehead, above his *Left Eye*; made no Fracture, and only beat off his Hat. The Hereditary-Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, who happened to be near him, put his own Hat, (which had, likewise, been shot thro' by a Musket-Ball) on the Prince's Head, who was prevailed upon to retire to his Quarters, and have his Wound dress'd. This Action, having been very obstinate and bloody, cost the *Confederates* little less than 1000 Men, either killed or wounded, which the *French*, in their Accounts, and particularly the Marquis de Quincy, exaggerate to 5000 Men, render'd incapable of farther Service. To supply this Loss, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent, the next Day, a Re-inforcement of 400 *British* and *Prussian* Grenadiers to the Siege.

THE same Morning, the Duke went to visit Prince *Eugene*, and finding him ready to mount

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*Is advised
raise the Siege;*

*But refuses to
comply.*

*British Forces,
under the Com-
mand of Lieute-
nant-General
Erle land at
Ostend.*

on Horse-back, his Grace, and King *Augustus*, persuaded his Highness to keep his Chamber a few Days, 'till his Wound was heal'd up. During which Time, the Duke of *Marlbrough* sustained the Weight of the Command, both of the Siege, and of his own Army. The *States General* were so sensible of the Loss the *Confederacy* would sustain by the Death of Prince *Eugene*, that they order'd their Deputies to conjure him, not to be free in Exposing his Person for the future; And not only they, but even some of the Generals, advis'd the Raising of the Siege; But his Highness rejected these Overtures, and persisted in carrying on the Siege, tho' he should be obliged to do it with his own Troops, as long as he had a Man left.

The greatest Difficulty the *Confederates* met with, in this Siege, was occasioned by the Want of Ammunition, and all the Passages to *Brussels* being wholly obstructed, the Duke of *Marlbrough* had prudently bethought himself (in Order to open a new Communication with *Ostend*) to send for the *British* Battalions, which had been employed in Alarming the Coast of *France*, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Erle*. These Forces arrived at *Ostend*, the twenty-first of *September*, N.S. And upon Intelligence thereof, the Count *de la Motte*, who was advanced with a considerable Force, towards *Brussels*, with Design to surprize that Place, returned immediately to *Bruges*, and commanded 300 of his Men to cut the Dykes of *Leffingben*, in Order to lay the Country, between *Ostend* and *Newport*, under Water, and thereby prevent General *Erle's* Communication with the Duke of *Marlbrough*; But, notwithstanding this, Part of these *British* Forces, with some *Dutch* that were in Garrison, in *Ostend*, took

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took Post at the Village of *Leffinghen*, and began to entrench themselves there, expecting Orders from the Duke of *Marlbrough*, what farther Service they should go upon.

THE twenty-third, an Attack was made on the *Tenaille*, on the *Left*; (that on the *Right* made, with having been taken the twenty-first;) For this Attack, 300 Grenadiers of the Grand Army, supported by 120 others, and 270 Fusiliers, were commanded for the Attack on the *Right*; And the other 100 Grenadiers from the Grand Army, supported by 280 others, and 270 Fusiliers, for the Attack on the *Left*. All Things being in a Readiness, the Duke of *Marlbrough*, who was himself in the Trenches, caused a Signal to be made for the Attack, which was carried on with all imaginable Vigour and Success: For having beaten the Enemy from their Post, they made a great Lodgment therein, and enlarg'd their Lodgments along the Cover'd Way, without any considerable Loss; Tho' the *French* pretend it amounted to near 1000 Men. The same Night, the Duke of *Marlbrough* return'd to his Camp, but came back again, the next Morning, to the Siege.

NOTWITHSTANDING these Successes, the Besiegers met with so many Difficulties, that the Siege was protracted to an unusual Length; The Garrison, on the other Hand, having sustained several Attacks, and made all the while a prodigious Fire, began to be in Want of Ammunition. The Marshal de *Boufflers* found Means, at Length, to inform the Duke de *Vendôme*, that he had scarce Ammunition left for four Days; Which pressing Necessity oblig'd the Enemy to hazard a bold Attempt to supply the Place. In Order thereunto, the Duke de *Vendôme* detach'd the Chevalier de

A desperate Attempt of the Enemies.

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de Luxembourg, Major-General, and *Monf. de Tournesfort*, with about 2000 Carabineers, Horse and Dragoons, who, besides their Arms, carried each a *Fusée*, and a Bag of sixty Pound Weight of Powder, which they took up at *Douay*. They put Green Boughs in their Hats (the usual Token of the *Confederate Troops*) and advanced along the Causey, which leads from *Douay* to *Lisle*; They were met by the Out-Guards of a Detachment of 100 Horse, which General *Schlick*, who was encamp'd at *Pont à Tresin*, with thirty Squadrons, since the Duke of *Marlborough* came to *Lannoy*, had posted there. These Guards challenging them, they pretended to be *Germans*, of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army, carrying some Prisoners to the Camp: But a Subaltern Officer having some Distrust, and advancing to examine them, they rode full Gallop along the Causey, and got into the Line of Circumvallation. The Centinels and Guards having fired at them, the *Confederate Troops* took the Alarm, and run to their Arms; The *Palatine Dragoons* of *Witgenstein*, getting first on Horseback, with incredible Speed, fell on the Enemy, and pursued them to the Barrier of the Town, which the Besieged were, at first, backward of Opening, and so left their Men exposed to the Fire of the *Confederate* Infantry, which setting Fire to some of the Bags of Powder, about sixty of the Enemy, with their Horses, were blown up. We have the following Account of this Action, in a Letter from the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel* to the *States General*, which carrying an incontestable Authority with it, I shall insert at large.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

“ THE seven and twentieth Instant, I did 1708.

“ my self the Honour to acquaint Your

“ *High Mightinesses*, how far the Works against *The Prince of*

“ this City were advanced; There has been no *Hesse's Letter*

“ Alteration since: Our Men continue working *to the States*

“ to perfect the Mines, in the *Tenailles*, and to *about it.*

“ carry on the Saps to the Cover'd Way.

“ Yesterday, towards the Evening, we heard

“ a great Blow, which we suppos'd to be a Mine;

“ Half an Hour after, another Crack was heard;

“ And at Midnight, such a Blast, that the

“ Ground shook with it. This alarmed the

“ whole Army; I went to the *Right*, from

“ whence the Noise came (having first given

“ Order to all the Cavalry, under my Com-

“ mand, to saddle and mount) and found, that

“ a great Detachment of the Enemy, (as Your

“ *High Mightinesses* may see by the subjoin'd

“ List,) coming from *Douay*, had endeavour'd

“ to break thro', at the Aperture of the Line

“ of Circumvallation, on the Highway be-

“ tween *Douay* and *Lisle*, where the *Palatine*

“ Horse are encamp'd. Part of them having

“ pass'd, and our Men putting themselves in a

“ Posture to oppose them, the Bags of Powder,

“ which most of the *French* Horse and Dra-

“ goons had behind them, of about fifty Pound-

“ Weight each, took Fire, which made a

“ terrible Noise among them. The foremost

“ of them, upon this Accident, rode full Gal-

“ lop towards the Town; Nevertheless, before

“ they could reach it, the same Disaster befell

“ them a second Time, just as they came up to

“ the Barrier, which might, in all Probability

“ be

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be occasion'd by the Horses Shoes striking
 upon the Pavement, or by the Sparks of the
 first Fire that fell upon their Men, who were
 not aware of it. (*Other Accounts explain this, by
 saying, that some of the Bags untying, the Powder
 was scattered on the Ground, and took Fire by the
 Horses of those who pursued striking on the Pavement.*) 'Tis said, that, at least, 100 Men perish'd,
 in this manner, near the Gate; And, it is
 likely; this was the last Noise we heard. Be-
 tween fifty and sixty Troopers were kill'd
 upon the Place where they pass'd the Line;
 And it was a dreadful Spectacle to see the Way
 strew'd with dead Carcasses, Horses, Heads,
 Arms and Legs, half burnt. The others,
 who were behind, retired as fast as they could.
 I caus'd them to be pursued; But it was im-
 possible to overtake them. The Troops found,
 however, upon the Road, for two Leagues be-
 yond the Camp, Sacks of Powder, Swords,
 Pistols, and loose Powder, which shews the
 Precipitation, with which they made their Re-
 treat. Our *Hessian* Hussars set Fire to a great
 many Sacks which they found in the Road,
 as they came back from the Pursuit. We
 reckon that about 300 (some Accounts make
 them 1200 and Father *Daniel* pretends
 they were 1800) Men got into the Town, but
 carried too little Powder with them, to ba-
 lance their Loss. On the other Hand, 'tis
 plain, that Ammunition, which is so necessary
 for their Defense, begins to fall short in the
 Place.

Your High Mightinesses will, no Doubt,
 have had direct Advice, of the Advantage,
 which the Troops, lately arrived from Eng-
 land, sustain'd by those *Monf. Cadogan* carried
 with

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" with him from the Army, have obtained near
" the Canal that goes from *Ostend* to *Newport*,
" over the Duke of *Berwick's* Troops which at-
" tack'd them. The great Convoy is arriv'd
" at *Menin*. I congratulate Your Highness's vi-
" nesses, on both these Accounts, and acquaint
" much Respect, &c.

Signed,

From the Camp before
Lisle, Sept. 29. 1708.

Frederick, Prince of Hesse.

P. S. " The Troops, which endeavour'd to
" throw themselves into *Lisle*, in the Night be-
" tween the eight and twentieth, and nine and
" twentieth, were the Chevalier de *Luxembourg*,
" and, under him, Mons. de *Tournesort*; 400
" Horse, for the *Van*; 252 Horse-Grenadiers;
" two Squadrons of Dragoons, two of *Burgun-*
" *dy*, one of *St. Aignan*, two of *Morteville*, two
" of *la Fontaine*, one of *Bretèche*, two of *Ternau*,
" two of *Forceaque*.

N. B. " We have taken some Officers, with
" about five and twenty Troopers; And had not
" one Man, either killed or wounded, on our Side.

THE Marquis de *Quincy*, in his Account of
this Action, makes the Number of Troops,
which enter'd the Town, to have been, as *Father*
Daniel says, 1800, but adds, that they carried into
the Place with them, 80,000 lb. of Powder, and
1,200 Muskets. Be this as it will, the Attempt
was bold, and well conducted; And the Cheva-
lier de *Luxembourg* was rewarded for it, by the
French King, with the Employ of Lieutenant-
General. Among the Officers taken Prisoners
were the Marquis de *Betbune*, a Lieutenant-Colo-
nel, a Major, a Captain and two Subalterns; So

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that they paid very dear for the small Supply of Ammunition they threw into the Town; Which was very far from countervailing their Loss: And it was thought, that it would have been difficult, if ^{it} ~~any~~ possible, for any of them to have pass'd the ~~was~~ ^{structure} of the Line of Circumvallation, had not some Officer on Duty been corrupted.

THE Advantage mention'd by the Prince, to be gained by some of the *British* Troops is what I shall now give the Reader an Account of.

The Duke of Marlborough sends several Detachments to cover the great Convoy from Ostend.

THE same Day the *French* set out from Douay, to attempt the throwing Ammunition into Lisle, the *Confederates* brought their great Convoy of Warlike Stores, and other Necessaries, safe to Rousselaer, after one of the most glorious, and most memorable Actions recorded in History. The *Confederate* Generals, having received Advice, that the *British* Troops were arrived at Ostend, conceived some Hopes of opening a Communication with that Town; Which had been cut off by Mons. de la Motte's piercing the Dykes at Lessinghen, and thereby laying a good Part of the Country, between Ostend and Newport, under Water, on Purpose to prevent this Communication; As I have said above: A Council of War was thereupon held, in which it was resolv'd to prosecute the Siege; Prince Eugene having declared, *That he would be responsible for the Success, provided he were supported with Ammunition.* The Duke of Marlborough, hereupon, sent 700 Waggons, under a strong Guard, to Ostend; Where the *Dutch* Commissary, not having the Quantity of Ammunition which was required, borrowed some Hundred of Barrels of Powder, of General Erle. On the other Hand, his Grace (who returned, the five and twentieth of September, to the Camp at Lancy) having received