

326

1708.

of JOHN,

In the *Exergue* the following Words

INSULÆ AB HOSTIUM MANIBUS EREPTÆ, 120
MILLIBUS ARMATIS FRUSTRA RELUCTANTI-
BUS. 9 DECEMBRIS. 1708.

The Town and Citadel of Lille taken from the
Hands of the Enemy, notwithstanding the vain
Resistance of 120,000 Men, the 9th of Decem-
ber, 1708.

ON the Reverse is represented a Pile of Arms,
taken at the Battle of *Oudenarde*, (which paved
the Way to this Siege) with a Prospect of that
Town, at a Distance. *Fame* hovers over these
Arms, with a Crown of Laurels, in her Right
Hand, for the Victor, and, in the left, a Stan-
dard of the Arms of the *States-General*. And
over her is the following Inscription.

ADVERSA ET AVERSA GLORIOSA.

It is Glorious to overcome all Obstacles.

In the *Exergue* are the following Words :

FLANDRIA UTRINQUE TROPHÆIFERA, CÆSI EX
ITINERE GALLI AD AUDENARDAM, XII.
JULII, 1708.

Flanders fertile in Trophies, on every Side ; The
French beaten in their Way to Oudenarde,
July. 12. 1708.

IV.

On the Reverse is represented the City and Cita-
del of Lille, with this Inscription over it :

FOE-

Page 396.



399



400



FEDERATIS ADITUS, & APERTUS;

The Allies have now a *language, the* *another* *into France;*

And, in the *the Mi* *ue.*

URBE REDDITA, DIE, 23 OCTOBRIS; CAS-
TELLO, DIE 9 DECEMBERIS, 1708.

The City having *arrende'd*, October, 23, *at* *the M* *se*
Citadel, December 9, 1708.

ON the Reverse, is represented a disconsolate Nymph, in a Robe embroider'd with *Flower de Lucas*, to denote the miserable State of the Kingdom of *France*. Before her, hangs, on a Tree, a Shield with the Arms of *France*, having instead of three, only two *Flower de Lucas*; Being suppos'd to have lost one by the Loss of *Lisle*, the Arms of which is a *Flower de Luce*. Over this Representation is the following Inscription:

GALLIA MOERENS OB LILIUM DEPERDITUM.

France mourning for the Flower de Luce it has lost.

And, in the Exergue.

INSULA FLANDRIÆ CUM CASTELLO RESTI-
TUTA

Lie, in Flanders, together with its Citadel, restor'd.

ON the Face of the Map is marked the Place besieged, and the Batteries of the Besiegers; The Sun standing over the City, and the Moon over the Citadel. With the Words of *Joshua*, Ch. x. v. 12. over them.

PLANISOL IN GIBEON, ET LUNA IN VALLE AJALON.

Sun, stand thou still in Gibeon, and thou, Moon, in the Vally of Ajalon.

THE Meaning is probably to represent the Difficulty of taking this Place, which amounted almost to a Miracle.

In the *Exergue* :

THE Time of the Siege, and Surrender of the Citadel, is noted in the following Words:

CASTELLUM RYSSSEL OBSESSUM, 27 OCTOBRIIS;
RECEPTUM VERO, 9 DECEMBRIS.

The Citadel of Lisle was besieged the 27th of October, and taken the 9th of December.

THE Reverse represents the Tower of *Babel* with the following Words, borrowed from *Gen.* Ch. ix. v. 7.

CONFUSUS LINGUAM EORUM, UT NON AUDIRENT SE INVOCANTE VOCEM PROXIMI SUI.

Let

that they may not
understand one another's speech.

Alluding probably to the Misery and Confusion which was in the Place, and the Difference of Opinion about Surrendering.

In the *Exergue* are the following Words.

RYSSEL, VEL INSULA, PER PRINCIPEM EUGENIUM
OBSESSA, 22 AUGUSTI, ET 23 OCTOBRI RE-
CEPTA, 1708.

Ryffel, or Lisle, besieg'd by Prince Eugene, Aug.
22, and taken, October 23, 1708.

THE Siege of Lisle being, as I have already observed, a Consequence of the Battle of Oudenarde, two Medals were struck, design'd as Monuments of both these Advantages, represented together, in the following Manner.

I.

ON the *Face*, a Bust of Queen Ann, with Her Majesty's Title; And, on the *Reverse*, a Column erected in Honour to Her, adorn'd with Standards, taken from the Enemy; On the Top a Figure representing *Victory*, and at the Bottom two others chain'd, to denote the Prisoners taken from them. With the following Inscription continued in the *Exergue*:

ANNO DOMINI, AD AUDENARDAM VICTIS, 1708.

The

The Life of JOHN,

*The French defeated at Oudenarde, June 30,
(O. S.) 1708.*

II.

ON the Face, Prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Marlborough*, each with a *Flower-de-Luce* in his Hand, to denote their being already in Possession of two thirds of the Arms and Power of *France*. Behind them Mortars, with the Heap of which they had reduced *Lisle*; And before them a Nymph, in a suppliant Posture, crown'd with a Mural Crown, presenting them with the third *Flower-de-Luce* of the *French* Arms; in the Arms of that City. Over them is the following Inscription:

LILIIS DISCERPTIS, LILIUM CAPTUM.

The Lillies (or Flower-de-Luces) being pluck'd, this likewise is taken.

And, in the *Exergue*:

EUGENIO OBSIDENTE, MARLBOROUGH TEGENTE,
GALLO SPECTANTE, INSULA CAPTA, 23 OCTOBRIS, 1708.

Eugene besieging it, and Marlborough covering the Siege, Lisle was taken, in the Sight of the French, October 23, 1708.

ON the Reverse, is a Plan of the City and Citadel, with their Works, and the Neighbouring Allies; Round which is the following

Duke of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

401

following Inscription, or Verse, taken from Vir-

1708.

URBS ANTIQUA REDIT, MULTIS DOMINATA
PER ANNOS.

*This Ancient City returns to its rightful Lord, after
having been, many Years, under the Dominion
of Strangers.*



VOL. II.

D d

CHAP.



C H A P. XIII.

*The Siege and Surrender of Ghent, with
other Transactions, to the Conclusion of the
Year, 1708.*

1708.

*The Enemy goes
into Winter-
Quarters.*

THE French Generals, who were greatly Mortified to see all their Projects and Attempts, for the Relief of *Lisle*, end in their own Confusion, thought now of nothing more than going into Winter-Quarters, and having separated their Army, return'd themselves to *Paris*; Fondly believing, that the Confederates, tired out with the Fatigues and Difficulties of a long and active Campaign, would have been satisfied with their last important Conquest; But they found themselves mistaken: For the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, were resolved to crown their Glorious Successes, with the Recovery of *Ghent* and *Bruges*. On this Occasion, there goes a Report, that the former, upon taking Leave of King *Augustus*, and that Monarch's wishing him a good Voyage to *England*, wittily replied, in *French*; *Que, le Temps étant fort froid, il ne vouloit pas passer la Mer sans Gand.* (That is, *That the Weather being very cold, he would not cross the Seas, without Gloves.*) The French Word *Gant* signifying a *Glove*, and being likewise, the Name of the City of *Ghent*, in that Language.

*A Witticism
father'd on the
Duke of Marl-
borough.*

BE this as it will, the Duke march'd, the 1708.
 eleventh of *December*, N. S. with his Army, from *Bierlegbem*, and encamp'd, with the Right, at *Melle*, and the Left, at *Meerbeck*; And here, his Grace immediately gave Orders for laying Bridges over the *Upper* and *Lower Scheld*, as well as over the *Lys*, for the Communication of the several Bodies of Troops, which were to be employed in the Siege of *Ghent*; Tho' a hard Frost falling in, at this Time, was a great Hindrance to the Undertaking. The sixteenth, Prince *Eugene* pass'd the *Scheld*, with his Army, and encamp'd at *Ename*: And, the same Day, about Noon, coming to *Melle*, he held a Council of War, with the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Generals under him, about the remaining Operations of the Campaign. It was there agreed, That the Duke of *Marlborough* should command the Siege of *Ghent*, and Prince *Eugene* cover it. *Resolution of a Council of War.*

PURSUANT to this Resolution, the Imperial and Palatine Troops, with twenty Squadrons of Horse, detach'd from the Duke's Army, march'd, the seventeenth, towards *Grammont*, in Order to encamp at *Gamerache*, on the other Side of the *Dender*, as well for the Conveniency of Forrage, as to observe the Enemy on that Side. The Prince of *Nassau*, with the Detachment that went from his Grace's Army, to the Siege of *Lisle*, and the *Hessians*, march'd, likewise, the seventeenth, from *Ename* to *Costerzeele*, in Order to block up *Ghent*, between the *Upper* and *Lower Scheld*; And the Disposition being made for investing it on all Sides, the Army made a Movement, the eighteenth, and took the following Posts: Count *Lottum*, with six and thirty Battalions, and thirty Squadrons, between the *Upper Scheld* and the *Lys*. The hereditary Prince of

1708.

Hesse, with forty Squadrons, and twenty Battalions, between the *Dys*, and the Canal of *Bruges*, and from thence to the Canal of *Sas*. The Duke of *Wirtemberg* between *Mulestein*, and the *Lower Scheld*, with five and twenty Squadrons, and sixty Battalions; And Count *Tilly*, with thirty Squadrons, and thirty Battalions, between the *Upper* and *Lower Scheld*. All which Posts might be eased or strengthened, as the Service should require.

Ill Consequences of the Enemy's possessing Ghent and Bruges.

THE *French* when they abandoned the *Scheld*, retreated with Part of their Army this Way, and put a strong Garrison into the Cities of *Ghent* and *Bruges*, and, after having gather'd together their scatter'd Army, retired towards *Douay* and *Valenciennes*. The Neighbourhood of these two numerous Garrisons might have been of ill Consequence to the *United Provinces*, and particularly to that of *Zealand*, by their Excursions, during the Winter; It was, therefore, resolv'd to drive them thence, whatever Difficulties the Design might be attended with.

The City sends a Deputation to the Duke.

THE Day before the Place was invested, the Clergy, Magistracy, and Commons of *Ghent*, sent a Deputation to the Duke of *Marlborough*, to desire, That the Town might not be destroy'd, by the Bombs and Fire-Balls. But the Duke's Answer was, "That their Misfortune having happened by their own Folly, or Negligence, they had no other Way to save their Houses, but by returning to their Duty, and taking up Arms for King *Charles*." To this, they replied, *They were over-awed by a numerous Garrison, of thirty Battalions and nineteen Squadrons, so that, all they could do was not to assist the Garrison, in any Manner.* Upon this, they were told, "They must expect all possible Means would be used

1703.

“ used to reduce them to the Obedience of their
 “ lawful Sovereign. His Grace, likewise,
 charged them to declare to the *Spanish* and *Wal-*
loon Regiments, which made Part of the Garri-
 son, “ That if they would quit the *French* In-
 “ terest, and come over to the *Allies*, they should
 “ be immediately entertained, in the King’s Ser-
 “ vice, and regularly paid, according to their re-
 “ spective Qualities; For which, his Grace, and
 “ the Deputies, gave their Assurance.

THE *French* could not, at first, be persuaded, Concern of the French Court for Ghent.
 that the *Confederates* were in earnest, to venture
 upon the Siege of *Ghent*, at this advanced Season
 of the Year: However, upon Intelligence, that
 the Duke of *Marlborough* was march’d to *Melle*,
 the *French* King’s Prime Minister, *Monf. de Cha-*
millard, wrote the following Letter, by His most
Christian Majesty’s Directions, to the Count *de la*
Motte; From whence we may plainly see what
 Concern that Court was under for this Place.

S I R,

“ THE Preservation of *Ghent* is of so great Monf. de Cha-
 “ Importance, that you can never take millard’s Let-
 “ too many Precautions, in Concert with the ter to Count de
 “ Baron *de Capres*, *Monf. de la Faye*, the Briga- la Motte, dated
 “ diers and other chief Officers, for a long and Versailles, the
 “ vigorous Defence, in Case the Enemy resolve 17 Dec. N. S.
 “ to besiege you in Form. Notwithstanding
 “ the Place in it self is not strong, yet it cannot
 “ be attack’d but by narrow and difficult Places.
 “ You have a great Number of Troops, which are
 “ more than sufficient to defend a Covered Way,
 “ and sell dear to the *Allies* the Conquest of that
 “ Place, if they persist in the Design, to make
 “ themselves Masters thereof. I cannot forbear to

D d 3

“ tell.

1708.

“ tell you, that to a great deal of Courage and
 “ good Inclination, it is necessary to add a great
 “ Calmness and Sedateness of Mind, and Pa-
 “ tience, in Order to make Use of all the Diffi-
 “ culties which may disturb the Enemy, and
 “ retard the Siege. Do not take upon your self
 “ alone all the Motions which are to be made,
 “ for there are several Officers that are capable
 “ to advise and assist you. You know how much
 “ I interest my self, in every Thing, wherein
 “ you are personally concerned: Tho’ Reasons
 “ of State oblige me to explain my Thoughts
 “ to you, on such Things, which in my Opi-
 “ nion may most contribute to a long Defence.
 “ I think, however, my self oblig’d to tell you,
 “ as relating to you alone, That after having
 “ had the Misfortune to command in *Ostend*,
 “ which the Enemy reduc’d in a very few Days,
 “ and of having not succeeded in the Fight of
 “ *Wynendale*; It is of the highest Concern to
 “ yourself, as well as to His Majesty, that the
 “ Opportunity you have now, may give Him
 “ so good an Opinion of you, as may obtain
 “ from His Majesty those Marks of Distinction,
 “ for which you have so long labour’d. I do
 “ not know whether you want any Major-
 “ Generals of the King’s Troops; But as all
 “ the Forces which are to be from *Ghent* to
 “ *Tpres*, with those in *Bruges* and *Newport*, and
 “ all the General Officers and others, are to obey
 “ your Orders, you may signify to those who
 “ are to command there this Winter, what you
 “ shall think fit to be done for the Service of His
 “ Majesty. According to the Repartition of
 “ the Winter Quarters, which I send you with
 “ this Letter, you will find, that several Regi-
 “ ments, which were designed for *Ghent* and
 “ *Bruges*,

“ *Bruges*, are march'd towards *Newport* and *Ypres*; 1708.

“ For the first Disposition of the Troops was
 “ made in View of Winter-Quarters, and not
 “ for continuing the Campaign, and maintain-
 “ ing Sieges. However, His Majesty has com-
 “ manded me to let you know, that it is not fit-
 “ ting to change any Thing as to the Garrison of
 “ *Ghent*. He is pleased to send Orders to Mon-
 “ sieur de *Piugnon*, to leave in *Bruges* 12 Batta-
 “ lions and 9 Squadrons, as Monsieur *Grimaldi*
 “ had desired it: But the Rest of the Forces are
 “ forthwith to return towards the Frontiers of
 “ the Kingdom.

“ If you are besieged, you must use all possible
 “ Means to protract the Siege, insomuch that
 “ it may cost the *Allies* very dear, and dispute
 “ the Ground, Inch by Inch, as Monsieur, the
 “ Marshal *Boufflers*, has done at *Lisle*; I know
 “ the Difference betwixt the Fortifications of
 “ *Lisle*, and those of *Ghent*; But there is in
 “ the latter a good Cover'd Way, which is
 “ equally good every where; And after six
 “ Weeks Time, the Enemy were not entirely
 “ Masters of that of *Lisle*; Tho' the Garrison
 “ of that Place was not so strong as yours. I
 “ write to Messieurs the Baron de *Capres* and
 “ de *la Faye*, to desire them to act in Concert
 “ with you, in every Thing that may con-
 “ tribute to the Good of the Service, and con-
 “ tent the Burghers of *Ghent*, which deserve,
 “ and should have had a happier Fate. I tell
 “ you nothing as to the Preservation of the
 “ Troops; You have in my Opinion, a long
 “ Time before you ought to think of their
 “ Preservation, and I have Reason to believe,
 “ that they will serve with much Distinction

1708.

" and Affection under your Command. I am
 " perfectly, ,

Sir,

Your most humble, and

most affectionate Servant,

CHAMILLARD.

Which Letter was intercepted.

*The Red Fort
 block'd up.*

PRINCE *Eugene* went, in the mean Time, while the Preparations were making for the Siege, to *Brussels*, where he continued three or four Days; And, on the twentieth, the Duke of *Marlborough* removed his Quarters, from *Melle*, to *Meerlebeck*, in order to be nearer the Center of the several Attacks. The Besiegers took Post, the same Evening, near the Castle of *Ghent*, having attacked and defeated a Guard, which was placed without the Gate of *Gavre*. The twenty-second, some Troops were detach'd from the Body commanded by the Prince of *Hesse*, and the Duke of *Wirtemberg*, to block up the *Red Fort*, on the Canal between *Ghent* and the *Sas*; And Cannons, Mortars, and other Necessaries, were got ready, for the Attack of the Place.

*The Trenches
 open'd before
 Ghent.*

THE four and twentieth, the Pioneers having repaired and enlarged the Roads, for the easier Communication of the Quarters, the Gabions and Fascines being in a Readiness, and the Artillery and Ammunition at Hand, the Trenches were opened, about eight in the Evening, at the Attack commanded by General *Lottum*, between the *Sebeld* and the *Lys*: Two Thousand Workmen, covered by seven Battalions, and two more in Reserve,

Reserve, with 600 Horse, being ordered for that Service, under the Command of, Lieutenant-General *Fagel*, Major-General *Wecke*, and the Lord *North* and *Gray*, Brigadier. The Night being very light, the Enemy's Centinels soon perceived the Besiegers; But before they could get their Troops together, the Workmen were so well covered, that their Loss was inconsiderable.

THE five and twentieth, the Trenches ~~were~~ *And before the* open'd before the Citadel, at the Duke of *Wir-* *Citadel.* *temberg's* Attack, by 1400 Workmen, covered by four Battalions, and 600 Horse, commanded by Major-General *Murray* and Brigadier *Borch*: And, at Night, the *Allies* broke Ground, at a third Attack, before the *Brussels* Gate, between the *Upper* and *Lower Scheld*, at which, Brigadier *Evans* commanded, with four Battalions, and 600 Workmen, who carried on the Trenches, near 700 Paces, and made a Communication, without any Loss. The next Morning, the Enemy made a Sally, with ten Companies of Grenadiers; and some other Troops, to the Number of 2000 Men; In which, they had some Success, at first; And put two *English* Regiments into some Disorder; But were soon oblig'd to retire, with great Precipitation, before they could attempt any Thing upon the Works. In this Conflict, Brigadier *Evans*, with Colonel *Grove*, of the Lord *North* and *Gray's* Regiment, were taken Prisoners,

THE same Day, the Batteries of the *Allies* *The Red Fort.* fired upon the *Red Fort*, with so good Success, *surrenders.* that the Garrison, consisting of 200 Men, beat a Parly, and surrendered themselves Prisoners of War. The Attacks were carried on so vigorously, on every Side, that, the nine and twentieth, about Noon,

1708.

*The Governour
of Ghent de-
sires to capitulate.*

Noon, Monsieur *de la Motte* sent out a Trumpet, with a Letter to the Duke of *Marlborough*, desiring Leave for some Officers of the Garrisons to attend him. Upon this, his Grace sent him a blank Passport; And, in the Evening, the Prince *d'Isenghien*, Brigadier *Cano*, and the Count *d'Aubigny*, Colonel of the Regiment Royal, came to *Meerlebeck*, with Offers to surrender the Town and Castle, four Days after, if the *Allies* were not obliged to raise the Siege, in that Time, and provided that the Garrison, was then allowed to march out with all Marks of Honour. The Duke agreed they should have 'till the second of *January*, N. S. in the Morning; And sending them back, with Directions to return the next Day, at six o'Clock, Orders were, thereupon, immediately sent to the Batteries to cease farther Firing.

The Capitulation settled.

THE thirtieth, in the Morning, the same Gentlemen came again, having, with them, a Deputation from the Clergy, the Magistracy, and Commons of the Town; And all Things being settled with them, it was agreed, that Hostages should be immediately exchanged, for Putting the Capitulation in Execution; By Virtue of which, the Gate of the Attack of *St. Peter*, and the Post of *Succours* of the Citadel, were put into the Possession of the *Confederates*, the last Day of the Year, N. S. in the Morning. Upon which the Field-Deputies of the *States General* wrote the following Letter to Their High Mightinesses.

A Letter from the Field-Deputies to the States General, about the Surrender of Ghent.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

“ THE Capitulation with the Garrison of *Ghent* was sign’d Yesterday, according to the inclosed Copy, which we have the Honour to send to Your High Mightinesses, by the Commissary *Vleertman*. Those of the City have likewise deliver’d their Articles relating to the Publick, which would have been regulated To-day, had we not considered, that the Lords, Your High Mightinesses Deputies at *Brussels*, whose Commission has a particular Relation to this Affair, ought necessarily to be present, and we expect them hourly. In the mean Time, pursuant to the Capitulation, the Garrison have put into our Hands the *St. Peter’s Gate* of this City, and the *Gate of Succours* of the Castle. My Lord Duke has sent to summon those of *Bruges*; But the Trumpet is not yet return’d; Yet we do not believe they will wait the Approach of the Troops, so that we hope, by the first Post, to congratulate Your High Mightinesses, on the Reduction of that City, as we have the Honour to do most humbly on the Regaining of this Place.

We are, &c.

Goslinga.

Rechteren.

Welvelde.

Geldermalsen.

The

From the Camp before
Ghent, Dec. 31, 1708.

1708.



The Capitulation mentioned in the foregoing Letter
is as follows:

Articles of Ca-
pitulation.

1. " **T**HAT the Roman Catholick Religion
shall be preserved in its full and free
Exercise, without Innovation. *Granted.*

2. " THAT the present Capitulation shall only
affect the two Crowns; And that the Clergy
and Magistracy of *Ghent* shall distinctly treat
for themselves. *Granted.*

3. " THAT a Gate of the said Town shall
be delivered to the Troops of the *Allies*, on
the 31st, of this Instant, *December*, at ten in
the Morning, unless between this and that
Day, the Town shall be relieved. The Gate
to be then delivered, shall be the Gate at the
Attack of *St Peter's*; as also the *Port of Suc-*
cours of the Citadel, at which shall be posted
some Troops of the present Garrison, sepa-
rated from those of the *Allies*, by Barriers,
in the Middle of the Arch, under those Gates,
in Order to prevent the Mixture of the Troops,
and the Disorder which may probably happen
thereupon. *Granted.*

4. " THAT all Persons in the Service of the
two Crowns, of what Character or Condition
soever, without Exception, whether nam'd or
not, in this Capitulation, shall go out of this
Town, on the 2d of *January* 1709, at nine
of the Clock in the Morning, at the Gate of
Courtray, with Arms, Equipage, Drums beat-
ing, Ball in Mouth, Match Lighted at both
Ends, with Ammunition for 20 Charges,
Colours

✓ Colours flying, and 10 Pieces of Cannon,
 “ lately brought from *France*, four *Pattereroes*,
 “ with their Carriages, and Ammunition for
 “ 12 Charges of each Piece, for *Tournay*, by
 “ the nearest Way, in four or five Days, march-
 “ ing or halting at the Choice of the Besieged,
 “ without being obliged, on any Pretence what-
 “ soever, to a quicker March, than the Besieged
 “ shall approve of, with Regard to the Season
 “ and the Roads; And that the Besiegers shall
 “ allow them a sufficient Convoy, for the Safety,
 “ both of the Garrison and their Equipage.
 “ *Granted. Except there shall be allowed but 12*
 “ *Charges for the Garrison, and 6 Pieces of the*
 “ *Cannon lately come from France, with Ammu-*
 “ *nition for 12 Charges.*

5. “ THAT for the Transportation of the said
 “ ten Pieces of Cannon, *Pattereroes*, Ammu-
 “ nition and Equipage, as well as of the Sick
 “ and Wounded, to *Tournay*, the *Allies* shall
 “ provide a sufficient Number of Boats and
 “ Boatmen: To which Boats there shall be a
 “ sufficient Guard allow'd by the *Allies*, for the
 “ Safety of the Sick. In Case the River *Scheld*
 “ shall not be navigable, a sufficient Number
 “ of Land-Carriages shall be ready, on the 31st
 “ Instant, that the Besieged may have Time to
 “ load the said Carriages, so as to march out
 “ with the whole Garrison, and arrive at *Tour-*
 “ *nay* at the said Time. *Granted, for the Artillery*
 “ *mention'd in the foregoing Article, as also for the*
 “ *Equipage, at the Charge of the Besiegers; and*
 “ *as for a sufficient Number of Boats, the Besieged*
 “ *may immediately have enough of them in the*
 “ *Town of Ghent.*

6. “ THAT

The Life of JOHN,

6. " THAT the Sick and Wounded, who are
 " in the Town and Castle of *Ghent*, and shall
 " be in a Condition to bear being removed,
 " shall be furnished, in the same Manner, with
 " Boats, Boatmen, and Carriages, sufficient to
 " convoy them to *Tournay*, by the nearest Way,
 " at the Expence of the *Allies*. *Granted*, at
 " the Expence of the *Besieged*.

- 7. " THAT the Sick and Wounded, who can-
 " not be removed, at the Time of the March
 " of the Troops, shall be allow'd to remain in
 " *Ghent*, and be supplied with proper Food,
 " Lodging and Medicines, at the Charge of the
 " *Allies*, according to the Manner in which they
 " are taken Care of, in the Hospitals of His
 " most *Christian* Majesty. And when they shall
 " be able to bear trave'ling, Boats, with Pass-
 " ports, shall be provided for them, in Order
 " to their being transported to *Tournay*, by the
 " nearest Way. *Granted*, in the same Manner,
 " with the foregoing Article.

8. " That no Effects, Papers, or Equipages,
 " belonging to any Person whatsoever, employ'd
 " in the Service of the two Kings, shall be
 " seiz'd, on any Pretence whatsoever; But,
 " that, on the contrary, sufficient Carriages shall
 " be provided, for the Effects and Families of
 " such Persons, at the Charge of the *Allies*, to
 " transport them to *Tournay*, by the nearest Way.
 " Provided, that the *Sieur de Bonnot*, Commis-
 " sary of War, and the *Sieur de Missly*, Pay-
 " master of the Troops, of His Most *Christian*
 " Majesty, shall remain in *Ghent*, as Hostages,
 " for the Payment of all Debts justly contracted,
 " during the Siege, for the Service of the two
 " Kings,

1708.

"Kings, till these Debts are wholly discharged.
 "Granted. *Provided that the same Hostages shall*
 "be responsible for all Debt contracted, since the
 "French have had the Possession of the Town.

9. "THAT the *Allies* shall supply the Be-
 "sieged with ten cover'd Waggon, which
 "shall march out, at the same Time, with the
 "Garrison, without being examin'd, upon any
 "Pretence whatsoever. *Granted for six cover'd*
 "Waggon.

10. "THAT there shall be no Satisfaction
 "expected from the Besieged, for any Damage
 "occasioned, by the Siege. *Granted. Except in*
 "Cases where there shall appear some previous
 "Agreement to the contrary.

11. "THAT no Persons whatsoever, who
 "belong to the Garrison of the two Kings, shall
 "be arrested, on any Pretence or Reason what-
 "soever. *Granted. Provided they pay or give*
 "satisfactory Security to their Creditors, for their
 "Debts.

12. "THAT the Prisoners taken out of the
 "Garrison, as well as the Garrison of the
 "Red Fort, who were detach'd from this
 "Garrison, shall be restor'd on each Side;
 "That those who are in the Army of the *Allies*
 "shall be sent into the Town, before the Garri-
 "son marches out of it, and those of the *Allies*
 "who are in the Town, shall immediately be
 "sent back to their Army. *Granted.*

13. "THAT the *Allies* shall not take any
 "Soldier out of the Ranks, as they march out,
 "on

1708.

“ on any Pretence whatsoever, *Granted. Except*
 “ *Deserters.*

14. “ THAT the Garrison shall carry out of
 “ Ghent Forrage and necessary Provisions, suf-
 “ ficient for their Subsistence, for five Days.
 “ *Granted.*

15. “ THAT the Hostages on each Side, for
 “ the Execution of this Capitulation, shall be
 “ set at Liberty, as soon as these Articles are
 “ perform'd, and the Garrison is arriv'd at
 “ Tournay. *Granted.*

16. “ THAT all the Women, Children, and
 “ Families of any belonging to the Troops of
 “ the two Crowns, shall be permitted to retire
 “ to Tournay, with their Effects. *Granted, at*
 “ *their own Charge.*

17. “ ALL the Inhabitants of Ghent shall have
 “ Liberty to retire, with their Effects, into the
 “ Dominions of the two Crowns. *Granted. Pro-*
 “ *vided they go within three Months.*

18. “ THAT the Allies shall allow the Wives
 “ of the Soldiers, who are in the Town, six
 “ Months Time to retire out of it; And after
 “ the Expiration of that Term, to go to such
 “ Places, in the Territories of the two Crowns,
 “ as they shall think fit. *Granted, as in the fore-*
 “ *going Article.*

“ THE Besiegers shall send Commissaries To-
 “ morrow, the 31st, into the Town of Ghent to
 “ whom all Keys of Stores of Provisions and Am-
 “ munition, as well as exact Accounts of Forrage,
 “ shall

shall be faithfully delivered, under necessary
 " Guards, that nothing may be lost. Granted. 1708.

Sign'd at the Camp of Meerlebeck, this 30th
 Day of December, at 11 o'Clock, in the Morn-
 ing.

The Prince and Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

Le Comte de la Motte.
 Ferdinand van Collen Houdancourt.
 S. van Goslina.
 Le Comte de Rechteren.
 B. van Welvelde.
 Adr. van Borselle tot Gelderen.

BESIDES this Capitulation, there was another
 agreed on, with the Clergy and Magistracy of
 this City; But as that chiefly regarded their re-
 spective Privileges and Immunities, I shall, for
 Brevity's Sake, omit it.

THE States General were so sensible of the
 Importance of this Service, done by the Duke
 of Marlborough, to the Common Cause, that
 They immediately wrote him the following Let-
 ter, as a Testimony of their Gratitude.

The States-General's Letter to the Duke of Marl-
 borough, about the Surrender of Ghent.

S I R,

" NO News could be more acceptable to A Letter from
 " us, at this Time, than the Advice the States-Ge-
 " Your Highness has given us, in your Letter neral to the
 " of the last of December, of the Reduction of Duke of Marl-
 " Ghent. When we consider the Situation and borough.
 " Largeness

1708.

“ Largeness of that Place, its numerous Garri-
 “ son, the hard Season of the Year, the Fatigues
 “ the Troops had already undergone, in this
 “ extraordinary long and difficult Campaign,
 “ these Things seem’d not to permit us to ex-
 “ pect so soon that happy Success. We praise
 “ the LORD OF Hosts, who, on this Occasion,
 “ has heard our Prayers, and granted more than
 “ we could hope for, and continues his Blessings
 “ on the Arms of the *Allies*, under your Con-
 “ duct. We rejoice, likewise, with all our
 “ Hearts, to see you bringing to an End this
 “ Glorious and Difficult Campaign, by the
 “ Conquest of so important a Place, as that which
 “ you have now reduced by your Valour, and
 “ hope that *Bruges* will have the same Fate. If
 “ so many repeated Blows are not capable to
 “ oblige the Enemies, to make an End of this
 “ War by a Peace, in which all the *Allies* may
 “ find their Security, according to their Alliance,
 “ we hope, that in the Year which we are now
 “ beginning, you will obtain over them new
 “ Advantages, which will still encrease your
 “ Glory, and force the Enemy to lay down their
 “ Arms, to the Satisfaction of the *High Allies*.
 “ We conclude with these Wishes, and are truly,
 “ and with the greatest Esteem, &c.

*The Garrison of
 Ghent marches
 out.*

PURSUANT to the Capitulation, of which the
 Reader has seen a Copy above, the Garrison of
Ghent march’d out, the second of *January*, N. S.
 with the usual Marks of Honour, in Order to be
 conducted to *Tournay*; And, immediately after,
 the Duke of *Argile*, with six *British* Battalions,
 took Possession of the Town and Citadel. In
 the Morning, thirty Battalions, and forty Squa-
 drons, were ranged along the Causey, from the
 outward

1708.

outward Barriers of the *Brussels* Gate, to receive the *French*, who, about ten o' Clock, began to come out, with the Count *de la Motte*, and other General Officers at their Head. They saluted the Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene*, as did, likewise, all the Troops, which being very numerous, it was near seven at Night, before they had all pass'd by. The Duke and Prince *Eugene* were on Horse-back at the Time, as were likewise, with them, *Monf. de la Motte*, and the Baron *de Capres*, who then followed their Troops to *Gavre*, in their Way to *Tournay*, between nine and ten at Night. His Grace, after Supping with Prince *Eugene*, went into the Town *incognito*.

THE third, in the Morning, the Duke, going to view the Attacks and the Outworks, and returning, at Noon, was received, at his Entrance into the Gate of *St. Liven*, by the Magistrates, who after making their Compliment, on this Occasion, presented his Grace with the Keys of the Town, in a gilded Bason, which he returning, was conducted by them, thro' a Line of the Burghers under Arms, to the Town-house, where a splendid Entertainment was prepared for his Grace, and other General and Chief Officers of the Army. There was an Illumination, in the Evening, on the Tower of the Town-house, a Ceremony which had not been observed for many Years before; And the Burghers, by their loud, and repeated Acclamations, shewed the great Satisfaction it was to them, that they were again returned to their Obedience to their lawful Sovereign. Some, however, believed this Joy to be fictitious, and only a Gloss to cover their former Treachery and Perverseness, which, tho' they had suffered severely for, it was thought

The Duke of Marlborough's Reception in that City.

1708.

they would relapse into again, as Occasion should offer.

The French abandon Bruges, Plassendahl and Lessinghen.

THIS Joy was not a little augmented by the News of the Enemy's having evacuated *Bruges*; The Magistrates of which City came, the second, in the Evening, to *Ghent*, to make their Submission to the Duke of *Marlborough*, and acquaint him, That the *French* Garrison march'd out, in the Night, between the first and the second of *January*; And, at the same Time, the Enemy abandoned *Plassendahl* and *Lessinghen*, and retired into their own Territories.

The Duke of Marlborough ends his Glorious Campaign;

PRINCE *Eugene* set out, the third, in the Morning, for *Brussels*, whither he was followed, the next Day, by the Duke of *Marlborough*; And having there settled the Winter-Quarters, for the *Confederate* Troops, the Command of which was given to Count *Tilly*, they set out together, the ninth of *January*, from thence for the *Hague*. Thus these two great Commanders put an End to their Glorious Campaign, which for its Length, and the Variety of Critical Turns, as well as important Successes of it, is hardly to be parallel'd in History; And proved as much to the Advantage, as well as Glory of the *Confederates*, as themselves could have wish'd or desired.

And goes to the Hague.

ON Occasion of these latter Successes of this Glorious Campaign, the following Medal was struck.

A Medal struck on the Retaking of Ghent, &c.

ON the Face is represented Prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Marlborough*, holding each, in one Hand, a Crown of Laurels, and, with the other, gathering Lilies, with the Inscription:

AD EXORNANDAM LAUREAM.

To adorn our Laurels.

In



In the *Exergue*, are the following Words :

EUGENII ET MARLBOROUGH CONJUNCTIO,
GALLORUM DISSIPATIO.

*The Junction of Eugene and Marlborough has
dispers'd the French.*

ON the Reverse is represented a Man sitting
under a Tree, and alluring a *Cock*, with the
Inscription,

VÆ TIBI LUDENTI, NAM MOX POST JUBILA
FLEBIS.

*Woe unto thee who now rejoicest; For thy Joy shall
soon be turned into Weeping.*

Alluding to the short Joy of the *French*, in
their Possession of *Ghent*, &c. And their being
oblig'd to suffer not only the Taking of *Lisle*,
but the Retaking of these Places also.

WHICH is farther explained, by the following
Inscription in the *Exergue*.

GALLI GANDAVO ET BRUGA CAPTA ALDENAR-
DAM OBSESSURI VINCUNTUR, 1708, 11.
JULII.

*The French, designing to besiege Oudenarde, were
defeated, July, 11. 1708. and lose Ghent and
Bruges.*

THE Affairs on the *Upper Rhine* were this *Affairs in other*
Year very inconsiderable, and the Campaign *Parts of Eu-*
there *rope, this Year.*

1708.

there produced nothing very material, or, at least nothing that occasion'd any Alteration in the General Affairs of *Europe*; I shall, therefore, pass them by without any farther Notice. In *Piedmont*, the Duke of *Savoy* obtained several Advantages over the Marshal *de Villars*, who commanded on that Side. In *Italy*, the most remarkable Incident of this Year was the Differences between the Courts of *Rome* and *Vienna*, the *Pope*, having, by his manifest Partiality for the House of *Bourbon*, so far incur'd the Indignation of the *Emperour*, that He was resolved to curb the Haughtiness and Pride of his Spiritual Father. The old Gentleman, in the mean Time, buoy'd up by the vain Promises of the *French*, began to talk of chastizing his Rebellious Son, with Temporal as well as Spiritual Scourges, and began to raise an Army, for that Purpose: But Count *Thaun* having invaded the *Papal* Territories; And the *Holy Father* being apprehensive of a Bombardment, at *Civita Vecchia*, from the *English* Fleet, his Stomach came down, as we shall see in the ensuing Chapter. In *Spain*, among other Advantages obtain'd by the *Confederates*, this Year, *Port Mahon*, with the whole Island of *Minorca*, was taken by Sir *Edward Whitaker* and Major-General *Stanbope*, a Conquest the more worthy of our Notice, as it has ever since continued in the Possession of *Great Britain*, and was confirmed to that Crown for ever, by the Treaty of *Utrecht*.

CHAP. XIV.

Several Transactions, at the Beginning of the Year 1709, especially with Regard to a Negociation for a General Peace, carried on at the Hague.

TOWARDS the Conclusion of the foregoing Chapter, we left the Duke of Marlborough, and Prince Eugene, arrived at the Hague, in the Beginning of January, after having put an End to the Glorious Campaign, of which I have given an Account, in the three preceding Chapters. There being Negotiations set on Foot, privately, this Winter, for a Peace, occasion'd the Duke's staying some Time in the Low Countries; I shall, therefore, leave him there a While, acting in his usual Sphere, ever for the Good of his Country; And give some Account what was doing, in the mean Time, at Home.

THE Parliament having met, the sixteenth of November, the twenty-first, the House of Commons presented two Addresses to Her Majesty, one of Condolence, on the Death of Her Royal Consort, and the other of Congratulation, on Account of the Glorious Successes of Her Arms. By a Part of the latter, which I shall here recite, the Reader will see what Sense that August Assembly had of the Services performed by the Duke of Marlborough.

1709.

*Part of the
Address of the
House of Com-
mons.*

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

“ **WE** Your Majesty’s most Dutiful and
“ Loyal Subjects, the *Commons of Great*
“ *Britain*, in *Parliament* assembled, beg Leave
“ to congratulate the Glorious Successes of this
“ Year, gain’d by the Arms of Your Majesty,
“ and those of your *Allies*.

“ THE Great and Signal Advantages, that have
“ been so Wonderfully obtained, so Vigorously
“ Prosecuted and Improved, and, upon all Oc-
“ casions, so Happily accomplish’d, are repeated
“ Instances, that *no Difficulties are insuperable to*
“ *Your Great Commanders*, and no Force of the
“ Enemy able to obstruct the Progress of Your
“ Victorious Arms ; Which gives us good
“ Grounds to hope for farther Success before
“ the Conclusion of this Long and Active Cam-
“ paign, &c.

THE *House of Lords* had presented their Ad-
dress the Day before, in which were some Ex-
pressions much to the same Purport.

*The Thanks of
the Commons
given to Major-
General Webb.*

THE thirteenth of *December*, Sir *Thomas Han-*
mer made a Motion, in the *House of Commons*,
“ That the Thanks of the House be given to
“ Major-General *Webb*, for the Great and Emi-
“ nent Services performed by him, at the Battle
“ of *Wynendale*,” which was unanimously carried
in the *Affirmative*. Major-General *Webb* being
then in the House, Mr. Speaker gave him, in
his Place, the Thanks of the *House*, accord-
ingly ; Which he acknowledged in a very handsome
and modest Speech ; Saying, among other Things,
He valued that Honour above the greatest Rewards.
This gave Occasion to another Member to say,
“ He did not disapprove the Method of Return-

1709.

ing Thanks to such Generals as performed
 " their Duty, which, however, had been more
 " frequently done of late, than heretofore: But
 " that he could not but take Notice, *That not*
 " *only the Thanks of Both Houses, but also great*
 " *Rewards had been bestowed on another Com-*
 " *mander:*" It is easy to conceive against whom
 this was levell'd.

THE twenty-third, *Both Houses* join'd in a
 Congratulatory Address to Her Majesty on the
 farther Success of the Campaign; Of which the
 following is a Part.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN;

" **WE** Your Majesty's most Dutiful and *An Address of*
 " Loyal Subjects, the *Lords Spiritual and both Houses to*
 " *Temporal, and Commons, in Parliament assem-*
 " *bled,* Do most humbly Congratulate Your
 " Majesty, upon the Reduction of *Ghent*, the last
 " Great Effort of this *Glorious Year*; A Year
 " that will be ever *Famous* in History, as well for
 " the *entire Disappointment of all the Attempts and*
 " *Hopes of Your Enemies*, as for the many won-
 " *derful Successes, with which God has blessed the*
 " *Arms of Your Majesty and Your Allies.* The
 " unusual Length of the Campaign, the Variety
 " of Events, and the Difficulty and Importance
 " of the Actions, have given many Opportuni-
 " ties to Your Majesty's General, the Duke of
 " *Marlbrough, to shew his Consummate Ability, and*
 " *all the Great Qualities necessary for so high a*
 " *Trust, &c.*

THE twenty-second of January, the *House* *The Commons*
 of *Commons*, impatient to shew their Regard, *voted their*
 unanimously resolved, " That the *Commons* of *solemn Thanks*
 " *Great Britain*, being truly sensible, not only *to the Duke of*
 " of *Marlbrough.*

1709.

“ of the great and eminent Services, perform’d
 “ by his Grace, the Duke of *Marlborough*, the
 “ last Successful Campaign, so much to the Ho-
 “ nour of *Great Britain*, and the Advantage of
 “ all *Europe*, but also the indefatigable Zeal he
 “ persevered in, for the Service of the Common
 “ Cause abroad, while he might, with Reason,
 “ expect to be receiv’d with all the Marks
 “ of Honour and Satisfaction at home, did,
 “ with a just Regard to his Glorious Actions,
 “ return him the Thanks of the House:” And
 Order’d their Speaker to transmit the same to his
 Grace; which being done accordingly, the Duke
 of *Marlborough* was pleased to return the follow-
 ing Answer.

S I R,

*Brussels, February 3, 1709.*His Grace’s
Answer.

“ I AM extremely sensible of the great Ho-
 “ nour, which the *House of Commons* have
 “ done me, in the Vote you have been pleased
 “ to transmit to me, by their Order; Nothing
 “ can give me more Satisfaction, than to find the
 “ Services I endeavour to do the Queen, and
 “ my Country, so acceptable to the *House of*
 “ *Commons*: And I beg the Favour of you to
 “ assure them, I shall never think any Pains or
 “ Perseverance too great, if I may (by God’s
 “ Blessing) be instrumental in procuring a safe
 “ and honourable Peace for Her Majesty, and
 “ my Fellow-Subjects, I am with Truth,

S I R,

Your most faithful

Humble Servant,

MARLBOROUGH.

WITHOUT

1709.

WITHOUT Doubt, the Duke was highly satisfied with so uncommon a Demonstration of the Gratitude of the *House of Commons* for his Services, as to transmit Their Thanks to him whilst in a Foreign Country.

THE five and twentieth of *February*, O. S. the Duke of *Marlborough*, having carried his Negotiations in the *Low Countries*, as far as the Honour of the Nation would allow, embark'd at *Ostend*, and, after a long and dangerous Passage, arrived at *London*, the first of *March*, about two in the Afternoon. The *House of Lords* being then sitting, and it being generally believed, that he brought over with him Proposals made by the Enemy for a Peace; Which the Miseries and Necessity of *France* seem'd to drive them to; The Lord *Sommers*, President of Her Majesty's Council (or, as Bishop *Burnet* says, the Lord *Malifax*) moved for an Address to be made to the Queen, "That Her Majesty
" would be pleas'd to take Care, at the Conclusion of the War, that the *French King*
" might be oblig'd to own Her Majesty's Title,
" and the *Protestant* Succession; That Her Majesty's *Allies* might be Guarantees of the same;
" And that the *Pretender* might be removed out
" of the *French* Dominions: " This Motion was unanimously approved of, and a Committee thereupon appointed to draw up the Address. This done, Their Lordships ordered the Lord Chancellor to return the Thanks of Their House to his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough*, for the eminent Services performed by his Grace, the last Campaign.

The Duke of
Marlborough
arrives at
London.

ACCORDINGLY, his Grace having, the next Day, taken his Seat in the *House of Peers*, the Lord Chancellor return'd him the Thanks of
that borough.

1709.

that *Illustrious and August Assembly*, in the following Words :*My Lord Duke of MARLBOROUGH,*

“ I HAVE the Honour to be again commanded
 “ by this *House*, to give your Grace their
 “ hearty and unanimous Thanks, for the great
 “ and eminent Services you have perform’d,
 “ this last Campaign ; Particularly to Her Ma-
 “ jesty and Her Kingdoms, and, in general, to
 “ all the *Allies*.

“ WHEN I last obey’d the like Commands, I
 “ could not but infer from your Grace’s former
 “ Successes, we had still most reasonable Expec-
 “ tations, you could not fail to improve them.

“ I BEG Leave to congratulate Your Grace,
 “ that the Observation then made has proved,
 “ as it was indeed intended, perfectly true.

“ I HOPE, I shall not be thought to exceed
 “ my present Commission, if, being thus led to
 “ contemplate the mighty Things your Grace
 “ has done for us ; I cannot but conclude, with
 “ acknowledging, with all Gratitude, the Pro-
 “ vidence of God, in raising you up to be
 “ an Instrument of so much Good, in so critical
 “ a Juncture, when it was so much wanted.

To which Compliment his Grace made the fol-
 lowing Answer ;

MY LORDS,

*The Duke of
 Marlborough’s
 Answer.*

“ I HOPE you will do me the Justice to be-
 “ lieve, there are very few Things could
 “ give me more Satisfaction than the favourable
 “ Approbation of my Service, by this House.

“ AND

“ AND I beg Leave to assure your Lordships,
it shall be the constant Endeavour of my Life,
“ to deserve the Continuation of your good
“ Opinion.

1709.

THE same Day, the *Lords* sent down Their *Address of*
Address to the *Commons*, for their Concurrence: *Both Houses to*
Whereupon, Mr. Secretary *Boyle* represented, *the Queen.*
“ That the *British* Nation having been at a vast
“ Expence of Blood and Treasure, for the Pro-
“ secution of this necessary War, it was but
“ just they should reap some Benefit by the
“ Peace: And the Town of *Dunkirk* being a
“ Nest of Pirates, that infested the Ocean, and
“ did infinite Mischief to Trade, he, therefore,
“ moved, That the *Demolishing of its Fortifica-*
“ *tions and Harbour* be insisted upon in the en-
“ suing Treaty of Peace, and inserted in the
“ Address;” Which, with that Amendment,
being unanimously approved of, it was carried
back to their Lordships, by Mr. Secretary *Boyle*,
and presented to Her Majesty, the next Day, ac-
cordingly. Her Majesty received and answered
it very favourably; And this Address was highly
acceptable to the whole Nation, and to all our
Allies.

As I have mention'd above, that his Grace *Negotiations*
the Duke of *Marlborough* remain'd some Time *for a Peace.*
in the *Low Countries*, on Account of Proposals
made by the *French* for a Peace; It may not be
amiss to give a brief Account of that Matter, as
being necessary to give a better Idea of what
will follow. The Reader will remember, that
soon after the Battle of *Ramellies*, the Elector
of *Bavaria* gave out Hopes of a Peace; And
that the King of *France* would come to a Treaty
of Partition, by allowing *Spain* and the *West-*
Indies

1709.

Indies to go to King *Charles*, provided the Dominions of *Italy* were given to King *Philip*. They hoped that *England* and the *States* would agree to this, as less concern'd in *Italy*: But they knew the Court of *Vienna* would never hearken to it; for they valued the Dominions in *Italy*, with the Islands near them, much more than all the *Rest* of the *Spanish* Monarchy. But, at the same Time, that *Lewis XIV.* was tempting us, with the Hopes of *Spain*, and the *West-Indies*, that King, by a Letter to the *Pope*, offered the Dominions in *Italy*, to King *Charles*. The *Parliament* had always declared, the Ground of the War to be the Restoring the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to the House of *Austria*, (which indeed the *States* had never done) so the Duke of *Marlborough* could not hearken to this: He convinced the *States* of the treacherous Designs of the Court of *France*, in this Offer, and it was not entertained.

THE Court of *Vienna* was so alarm'd, at the Inclinations which some had express'd, towards the entertaining this Project, that this was believed to be the secret Motive of the Treaty, the succeeding Winter, for evacuating the *Milanese*, and of their persisting so obstinately, the Summer after, in their Design upon *Naples*; For, by this Means, they became Masters of both. The *French*, being now reduced to great Extremities, by their constant ill Success, and by the Miseries of their People, but more especially by the General Decline of Publick Credit, the most eminent Bankers of *Paris* and *Lions* having been oblig'd to stop Payment, began to entertain serious Thoughts of a Peace, and resolved to try the *States* again. When the Duke of *Marlborough* came over to *England*, *Monf. de Rouillé*

Rouillé was, therefore, sent to *Holland*, with

1709.

General Offers of Peace, desiring them to pro-

pose what it was they insisted on: And he offer'd

them as good a Barrier for themselves as they

could ask. The *States*, contrary to their Expect-

tation, resolved to adhere firmly to their *Confe-*

derates, and to enter into no separate Treaty, but

in Conjunction with their *Allies*. However, upon

the Arrival of *Monf. de Rouillé*, at *Antwerp*, they

appointed *Monf. Buys*, Pensionary of *Amsterdam*,

and *Monf. Vanderdussen*, Pensionary of *Gouda*, to

have a Conference with him at *Moerdyke*. Upon

the Report of what pass'd in this Interview,

Their *High Mightinesses* permitted this *French*

Minister to come to *Woerden*, a Place between

Leyden and *Utrecht*, that he might be nearer at

Hand, for the intended Negotiation; And then

the Deputies of the *States* had another Conference

with him, in which he made some loose Proposals,

towards a General Peace, which, however, he

refused to give in Writing. The *States General*

being, as I have said above, very cautious of

making any Advances in so important an Affair,

without the Participation of Their *Allies*, gave

immediate Notice of what had pass'd, to the

Courts of *Vienna* and *Great Britain*. Prince *Eu-*

gene, who, during this Interval, was gone to

Vienna, return'd, hereupon, from thence to

Brussels, on the seven and twentieth of *March*,

N. S. with full Powers from His Imperial Ma-

jesty; And, on the eighth of *April*, came to the

Hague, where the Duke of *Marlborough*, like-

wise, arrived, the next Day, from *England*.

THESE two Princes had a long Conference

with the great Pensionary, *Heinsius*, *Messieurs*

Buys and *Vanderdussen*, and other Deputies of

the *States*, where they debated the Overtures

made

The President
de Rouillé
comes to Hol-
land.

Conferences
with him.

Prince Eugene
and the Duke of
Marlborough
come to the
Hague.

The Overtures
made by France
debated:

1709.

*But not found
satisfactory.*

made on the Part of *France*, which being thought insufficient to be the Ground of a Treaty of Peace, Orders were given for carrying on the Warlike Preparations, with all possible Application and Diligence, in Order to open the Campaign, as soon as the Backwardness of the Season would permit, and pursue the late Advantages, with the utmost Vigour. The Deputies of the *States* having informed *Monf. de Rouillé*, That his Overtures were not satisfactory, that Minister sent an Express to *Paris*, for New Instructions. This put the *French* Court in great Uneasiness; For, as on the one Hand, they were resolved not to comply with the Demand of the *Confederates*, in giving up the whole Monarchy of *Spain*; So, on the other Hand, the great Difficulties they labour'd under, which were much encreas'd by the general Scarcity of Corn, and other Provisions, (occasioned by the great Severity of the foregoing Winter,) laid them under a Necessity of buoying up the sinking Spirits of the People, with Hopes, at least, of putting a speedy End to the War, by a Peace. *Monf. de Rouillé's* Express was, therefore, immediately sent back, with Directions (as it appear'd in the Sequel) to that Minister, to amuse the *Allies*, with a seeming Compliance with all their Demands; But not to sign any Thing that should be drawn up in Writing.

*The Duke of
Marlborough
returns to
England.*

THE *Grand Pensionary* having, by Orders of the *States*, made a Report to the Duke of *Marlborough*, of what pass'd at the Conference, which had been held by *Messieurs Buys and Vanderdussen*, with the *French* Minister, after the Return of his Courier from *France*, his Grace resolved to return to *Great Britain*, to acquaint the Queen with the Progress of this important Negotiation.

gociation. Upon the making of this Report of the Proposals of France, to the Duke of Marlborough, his Grace is said to have answer'd, That if France had no other Offers to make, the Allies must go, the next Summer, to treat of a Peace, in France, with 150,000 Plenipotentiaries: Tho' some Historians relate this very Circumstance of Prince Eugene. The Duke, therefore, embark'd, the thirteenth of April, N. S. and arrived, three Days after, at London. During this second Absence of the Duke of Marlborough, the French Court, to gloss over their Artifices with an Air of Sincerity, sent the Marquis de Torcy, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to Holland, thinking the Presence of so great a Minister might have some Influence on the States. On his Arrival at the Hague, the Passport by which he came, having been sent blank, by Mons. Rouille, he was there two Days before his Quality was known: After this, he paid a Visit to the Grand Pensionary, and offer'd to communicate the Proposals he had to make; But that Minister told him, he could not confer with him, nor see his Proposals, without Leave from the States. However, Their High Mightinesses having consented, that he, together with the Deputies who had been appointed to receive the Proposals of Mons. Rouille, should meet the Marquis, and hear what he had to offer, they had an Interview with him, accordingly, the next Day. The Result of this Conference being communicated to the States General, the Grand Pensionary had Orders to inform the French Minister, that they could not give him any Resolution, 'till they were informed of the Sentiments of Her Majesty of Great Britain, by the Return of the Duke of Marlborough.

The Marquis de Torcy comes to the Hague.

1709.

*The Duke of
Marlborough
arrives again
at the Hague.*

*Lord Town-
shend made
Plenipotentiary.*

*Several Confer-
ences held be-
tween the Mini-
sters on both
Sides.*

His Grace, who made but a short Stay in England, returned to the *Hague*, the eighteenth of May, N. S. The first Thing he did was to confer with Prince *Eugene*, who arrived there, six Days before, from *Brussels*; And had the Satisfaction, in his Conferences with the *Grand Pensionary*, to receive fresh Assurances; That the States would never separate from the General Interest and Scope of the Grand Alliance, upon any private Considerations whatsoever. With the Duke of *Marlborough*, went over the Lord Viscount *Townshend*, as Ambassador Extraordinary, and joint Plenipotentiary of Great Britain, his Grace reckoning the Load too great to bear it wholly himself. “The Choice (says Bishop *Burnet*) was well made; For, as Lord *Townshend* had great Parts, had improved these by Travelling, was by much the most shining Person of all our young Nobility, and had, on many occasions, distinguish’d himself very eminently; So he was a Man of great Integrity, and of good Principles, in all Respects free from all Vice, and of an engaging Conversation.” His Grace, and the Lord *Townshend*, having given immediate Notice of their Arrival to the President of the States, for the Week, and to the *Grand Pensionary*, those two Gentlemen went together to his Grace, to compliment him on the Part of the States, and, at the same Time, to confer with him, which they did for about an Hour and a Half; And then they returned to the Assembly of the States General. The same Evening, the Marquis *de Torcy* went alone to the Duke of *Marlborough*’s Lodgings, and had a Conference of above two Hours with his Grace and the Lord *Townshend*.

THE nineteenth, in the Morning, the Marquis paid another Visit to his Grace, and they both went

1709.

went together to Prince Eugene's Apartment, where they likewise confer'd some Time. In the Evening, those two Princes went to the Grand Pensionary, who acquainted them with the Resolution of the *States General*, not to accept the Offers made by the *French* Ministers, nor to take one Step farther, but in Concert with all the *Higb Allies*. This Determination was very satisfactory to the Duke and Prince Eugene, and begat such an Unanimity, and good Harmony, among all the *Confederate* Ministers, as entirely baffled all the secret Designs of *France*: Notwithstanding the Marquis de Torcy managed his Game very artfully, and did all he could to amuse them with half Promises, and faint Denials.

THE twentieth, in the Morning, the Duke and Prince Eugene, together with the Lord Townshend, returned the Visit they had received from Mons. de Torcy, where the President de Rouillé, who 'till then had been with no other Ministers, but Messieurs Buys and Vanderdussen, was presented to these great Generals and Ministers. This same Day, the *French* Ministers carried the Amusement so far, as to declare, That their Master consented to the Demolition of *Dunkirk*, the Renunciation of all Pretensions to the *Spanish* Monarchy, the yielding up of such Places as the *Dutch* demanded for their Barrier, with some other Articles insisted upon by the *British* Plenipotentiaries; But there being, besides these, other Concessions demanded, which they pretended they had no Power to make, they broke up the Conference, and sent to the Pensionary to desire Passes to return home; Tho', as well now, as again, the twenty-second, when they made the same Demands to be gone, they were easily prevailed upon to remain.

1709.

The Preliminaries agreed on:

To give a particular Account of the Transactions of every Day, during the Course of the Memorable Negotiation, would carry me too far.

I shall, therefore, only observe farther, that on the seven and twentieth, in the Morning, the last Resolutions of the *Allies* being communicated to the *French* Ministers, and the Duke of *Marlborough* having sent them Word, that he and Prince *Eugene* had determined to set out for *Flanders*, within two Days, they promised to return a final Answer, the same Evening, at a Conference to be held for the same Purpose. At this Conference, which was held at the *Grand Pensionary's*, and lasted 'till two the next Morning, the *French*, after many Disputes, seemed to comply with all the *Preliminary Articles* insisted upon by the *Confederates*; Which being ordered to be fairly drawn in Writing, and afterwards examin'd in a Conference, held the eight and twentieth, about ten in the Morning, another Meeting was appointed, in the Afternoon, in Order to sign these Articles. But how great was the Surprise of every one to find, that after the *Imperial, British, and Dutch* Plenipotentiaries had sign'd the *Articles*, the *French* Ministers refused to set their Hands to them, alledging that they had no Directions to do it. However, to put still a Gloss upon the Matter, the *Marquis de Torcy* told the Ministers of the *Allies*, that he would immediately set out for *Paris*, to lay the whole Transaction before the Most Christian King, and endeavour to procure his Ratification: And he promised Prince *Eugene*, that he would acquaint him with his Majesty's Resolution, by the fourth of the next Month. With this Compliment, he took his Leave of the *Confederate* Ministers, and that

But the French Ministers refuse to sign them.

very Afternoon left the *Hague*, where the *President de Rouillé*, who open'd the first Scene of this *Mock-Negotiation*, was to continue yet some Time, in Order to put off the *Unravelling of the Plot*, as long as possible.

As these *Preliminary Articles* shew the Sense of the *Allies*, at that Time, and are a very necessary Illustration to some Things, of which the Reader will find an Account below, I should have been glad to have inserted them; But as they are of too great a Length to find Place here, I must refer the Reader to our general Historians.

THE whole Artifice of *France* was, at Length, discovered, and it appear'd very visibly, that the *French* had no other Design, in all this Negotiation, but to try if they could beget an evil Understanding among the *Allies*, or, by their seeming great Concessions, for the Security of the *States*, to provoke the People of *Holland* against their Magistrates, if they should carry on the War, when they had such safe and honourable Offers made them; And they reckoned, that if a Suspension of Arms could be once obtained, upon any other Terms than the Restoring of *Spain*, they should then get out of the War, and the *Allies* would be left to try, how they could conquer *Spain*. The Marquis de *Torcy* was, however, punctual to his Word given to Prince *Eugene*; For, the fourth of *June*, being at *Brussels*, he received the following Letter, from that Minister.

S I R,

ACCORDING to my Promise, that you should know, the fourth Instant, at the farthest, the King's Resolution about the Project of Peace, concluded at the *Hague*, I give

The Marquis de Torcy's Letter to Prince Eugene.

1709.

“ my self the Honour to tell you, that His Majesty, having examined the same, finds it impossible for him to accept it, and therefore has sent Orders to the President *de Rouillé* to notify the same to the Potentates engaged in this War. It is to be hoped, that more favourable Terms will present, for the establishing a Peace so necessary for all *Europe*, and consequently so much desired by every Body. Mean Time, I have no Occasion to be sorry for my Journey, since it has procured me the Honour of your Acquaintance, and that I know personally, that your Reputation, which fills the World, is so justly due to you, being founded on true Merit.

I am, &c.

Versailles, June 2, 1709.

THE Messenger, who brought this Letter to Prince *Eugene*, arrived the next Morning at the *Hague*, where People were in the Height of Expectation of the French King's Ratification of the Preliminaries: But, to their great Disappointment, the President *de Rouillé* having, the same Day, had a Conference at the Grand Pensionary's, with the Imperial and British Plenipotentiaries, and the Deputies of the States, he acquainted them; “ That the most Christian King could

Exceptions made
by the King of
France to the
Preliminaries.

“ not ratify some Articles agreed to in the Conferences held with Monsieur *de Torcy*, and concluded the eight and twentieth past; And, in particular, excepted against the tenth, eleventh, eight and twentieth, nine and twentieth, and seven and thirtieth: That as to the Tenth, His most Christian Majesty agreed to the same, as far as it concerned the Possession of *Alsace*, according to the literal Sense of the Treaty

" Treaty of *Münster*; But insisted, that *Landau*
 " should be restored to Him, and, as an Equi-
 " valent-offered *Old Brisac*: Both which Places
 " were yielded up to *France* by the said Treaty
 " of *Münster*. That the most *Christian King*
 " could not consent to the Demolishing *Hannin-*
 " *gen*, *New Brisac*, and *Fort-Louis*; But agreed
 " to all the other Part of the *Eleventh Article*.
 " That the *eight and twentieth*, relating to the
 " Places yielded to the Duke of *Savoy*, was en-
 " tirely excepted against, and refer'd to a farther
 " Discussion. That His Majesty, also, disliked
 " the whole *nine and twentieth Article*, whereby
 " the *Emperour's* Proceedings against the Electors
 " of *Cologne* and *Bavaria*, were approved; But
 " would have the same refer'd to the Negotia-
 " tions of a general Peace; With this *Proviso*,
 " that the *Upper Palatinate*, and the Dignity an-
 " nex'd thereto, should not be confirm'd to the
 " *Electors* *Palatine*; And that the Interests of
 " the *Electors* of *Cologne* and *Bavaria* should be
 " settled in the *Preliminaries*; And, in the last
 " Place, that His most *Christian Majesty* except-
 " ed also against the *seven and thirtieth Article*,
 " whereby two Months only were allowed for
 " the Delivering up of the *Spanish Monarchy*,
 " which Term He would have enlarg'd; But
 " consented to recal His own Troops from *Spain*,
 " within that Time."

THESE Difficulties, started by the King of *France*, having been communicated by Monsieur *de Rouillé*, Count *Sinzendorff*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, the Lord Viscount *Townshend*, and the Pensionary *Heinsius*, immediately held a Conference among themselves, in which it was resolv-
 ed, That no Alteration ought to be admitted in the
Articles Preliminary, especially in those excepted

1709.

against by France, which were the most essential: And it was agreed, at the same Time, to signify to Monsieur de Rouillé to depart, in four and twenty Hours.

*Resolutions of
the Allies.*

THE sixth of June, (N. S.) in the Morning, Monsieur de Rouillé, made a Visit to the Duke of Marlborough, and proposed another Conference, which was held that Night; But nothing material was transacted in it, except that the Allies declared to Monsieur de Rouillé, That they would not recede from any of the Articles agreed to, and that if his Master did not think fit to comply therewith, the Allies would not think themselves bound by the said Articles, or restrain their Pretensions to the Contents thereof, after the fifteenth of that Month, the Time allowed by the said Articles. The French Minister said he had no Orders to make any farther Declaration, whereupon he received a second Intimation, to depart the Hague immediately. The same Evening, Mr. Walpole, Secretary to the British Plenipotentiaries, returned to the Hague, with the Queen of Great Britain's Ratification of the Preliminaries. The eighth, the Grand Pensionary reported Monsieur de Rouillé's Declaration to the Assembly of the States; Upon which Their High Mightinesses consider'd, " That the said Articles were concerted
" with the Marquis de Torcy, and Monsieur
" de Rouillé, put into Writing with their Assent,
" and, by the Marquis de Torcy himself, carried
" to the King of France, in Order to be sign'd
" and ratified; that they were actually sign'd
" on the Part of the Emperour, Great Britain,
" and Holland, and had been ratified by Her
" Britannick Majesty; And that nothing short of
" these Preliminaries could obtain and secure the
" General Peace, and prevent a dangerous, ex-
" penfive,

penfive, and lasting War, in Spain:” Whereupon the necessary Resolutions for the Continuance of the War were taken, with equal Firmness and Wisdom.

1709.

THE same Night, the President *de Rouillé*, being pressed to declare, if he had any secret Orders tending to Peace, made Answer; “That

“if the *Allies* would content themselves with the Fifth Article of the Preliminaries, in Relation to *Spain*, without insisting on the others relating to the Delivering up of the *Spanish* Monarchy, he thought the King, his Master, would be induced to depart from the other Exceptions, about *Alsace*, the Duke of *Savoy*,

“&c.” But the Recovery of the *Spanish* Monarchy from the House of *Bourbon*, being the main Scope of the War, and the only Means to restore and preserve the Balance of *Europe*, the Ministers of the *Allies* did not think fit to depart

from any one of the Articles they had agreed on, to secure the Evacuation of *Spain*; and so, the same Evening, a Passport was sent Monsieur

de Rouillé for his safe Return home. Accordingly, Monsieur *de Rouillé* returns on the ninth, in the Morning, he set out from the *Hague*, to embark at *Rotterdam*, for *Antwerp*, to France, from whence he continued his Journey to *Paris*.

The same Morning, all the Ministers of the *High Allies* being desired to meet, in a Congress, Monsieur *Van Essen*, President of the Secret Affairs, and the *Grand Pensionary*, communicated

to them the Resolution of the *States General* before-mentioned, gave them a full Account of all the Steps that had been made in the Negotiations,

particularly since the *French* King had refused to agree to the Preliminaries; And desired them to acquaint their Principals with these unfair Proceedings of *France*, and exhort them to join

their

1709.

their best Efforts against an Enemy, who could never be brought to Reason but by Force. Count Sinzendorff took this Opportunity to tell the Deputies of the States; "That the Empire, the Emperour, and King Charles, III. would doubtless express Their Satisfaction for the great Firmness and Constancy Their High Mightinesses had manifested, in the Course of these Negotiations." The Duke of Marlborough gave the same Assurances, on the Part of the Queen of Great Britain, as did also the Rest of the Ministers, on the Part of Their respective Masters; And all signified to the Grand Pensionary, how much all the Allies were obliged to him, and satisfied with the Prudence and Wisdom he had express'd in the Negotiations, which, contrary to the Expectation of the Enemy, would prove a new Cement to the Grand Alliance, and an Argument to convince the Allies, that the War was to be prosecuted, 'till France was reduced to the Necessity of submitting to any Terms, that the Allies should prescribe.

Some Reflections
on the Break-
ing off the Ne-
gociations.

THUS these Negotiations came soon to an End, without producing any ill Effect among the Allies; And it now plainly appeared, that the Easiness, with which the French Ministers yielded to the Preliminaries, was but an Artifice, to slacken the Zeal of the Confederates, in Advancing the Campaign, as the least Effect it would have; But even in that their Hopes failed them, for there was no Time lost, in Preparing to take the Field. Thus were all the Artifices of France defeated by the Penetration and Consummate Wisdom of the Ministers of the Allies, especially of Prince Eugene, and the Duke of Marlborough, whose Character shone brightest in this memorable Negotiation; For they treated the Peace,

1709.

as they managed the War, and let the *French* Ministers, as they did their Generals, rack their Brains, and disorder their Spirits, by keeping them in perpetual Hurry and Motion, upon this Stratagem, and t^other Device; Whilst they, with the coolest Temper, and most open Conduct, pursued their Point, and carried it by the Plain Force of Virtue. This was plainly the Case: The *French*, who cunningly propos'd to disunite the *Allies*, by setting on Foot these Negotiations of Peace, were caught themselves in the *Preliminaries*; Which were so contrived, for the particular Satisfaction of each of the *Highb* *Allies*, and the common Security of them all, that they were yet more firmly united, by this very Transaction. There wanted not, however, some, who, on this Occasion, greatly blamed the Stiffness of the *Allies*, (when the King of *France* had given up, or, at least, his Minister insinuated, that he would give up, every other Article) for insisting, that He should bind Himself to oblige King *Philip* (or, as he was then call'd, the Duke d'*Anjou*) to resign the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to King *Charles*, III. which (say they) was probably the main, if not only Reason, which determined that Court, to break off these Negotiations; Rather than submit to so hard a Condition, when they thought they had condescended far enough, in Offering to withdraw all their Forces from His Service, and not to give him any Manner of Assistance, for the future. Some went so far as to censure the Duke of *Marlborough*, as having been the Occasion of breaking off these Negotiations, in Order to protract the War, for his private Ends; But how groundless these Aspersions were, I shall have Occasion to shew more particularly in the Sequel.

1709.

*The King of
France's Letter
or Appeal to his
People.*

THE Negotiations being broken off, and the French Ministers returned to Paris; The Court of France sent a circular Letter, to all the Governours of the Provinces, to recommend to their Consideration His Majesty's late Conduct in the Affair of Peace. It was thought fit, in that Epistle, to condescend to a certain Appeal to the People, Whether it was consistent with the Dignity of the Crown, or the French Name, to submit to the Preliminaries demanded by the Confederates? That Letter dwells upon the Unreasonableness of the Allies, in requiring His Majesty's Assistance in dethroning his Grandson, and treats this Particular in Language more suitable to it, as it is a Topick of Oratory, than a real Circumstance on which the Interests of Nations, and Reasons of State, which affect all Europe, are concerned.

THE Close of this Letter or Memorial seems to prepare the People to expect all Events, attributing the Confidence of the Enemy, to the Goodness of their Troops; (*the Valour and Conduct of their Generals might have been added;*) But acknowledging, that the King's sole Dependence was upon the Intervention of Providence.

SOME Time after, was published the Translation of a Letter, said to have been found in the Closet of Monsieur Chamillard, after his Disgrace. It was said to be sign'd by two Brothers of the famous Cavalier, who led the Cevennois, and many others, among whom was the Chief of the Family of the Marquis de Guiscard. This Translation was as follows:

S I R,

1709.

S. R.

“ WE have read Your Majesty’s Letter to *An Answer said*
 “ the Governours of Your Provinces, *to be from some*
 “ with Instructions what Sentiments to insinuate *of his Prote-*
 “ into the Minds of Your People: But as You *stant Subjects.*
 “ have always acted upon the Maxim, That we
 “ were made for You, and not You for us, we
 “ must take Leave to assure Your Majesty, that
 “ we are exactly of the contrary Opinion, and
 “ must desire You to send for your Grandson
 “ home, and acquaint him, that You now know,
 “ by Experience, Absolute Power is only a
 “ *Vertigo* in the Brain of Princes, which, for a
 “ Time may quicken their Motion, and double
 “ in their diseas’d Sight, the Instances of Power
 “ above ’em, but must end in their Fall and
 “ Destruction. Your Memorial speaks a good
 “ Father of Your Family, but a very ill one of
 “ Your People. Your Majesty is reduced to
 “ hear Truth when You are obliged to speak it:
 “ there is no governing any but Savages by other
 “ Methods than their own Consent, which You
 “ seem to acknowledge, in appealing to us for
 “ our Opinion of Your Conduct, in treating of
 “ Peace. Had Your People been always of Your
 “ Council, the King of *France* had never been
 “ reduced so low, as to acknowledge His Arms
 “ were fallen into Contempt. But since it is
 “ thus, we must ask, How is any Man of *France*,
 “ but they of the House of *Bourbon*, the better,
 “ that *Philip* is King of *Spain*? We have out
 “ grown that Folly of placing our Happiness
 “ in Your Majesty’s being called, *The Great*:
 “ Therefore, as You and we are all alike Bank-
 “ rupts, and undone, let us not deceive ourselves,
 “ but

1709.

but compound with our Affairs, and not
 talk like their Equals. Your Majesty must
 “forgive us that we cannot with Your Success,
 “or lend You Help; For if You lose one Bat-
 “tle more, we may have an Hand in the Peace
 “You make; And doubt not but Your Ma-
 “jesty’s Faith in Treaties will require the Ra-
 “tification of the States of Your Kingdom. So
 “we bid You heartily farewell, ’till we have the
 “Honour to meet You Assembled in Parliament.
 “This happy Expectation makes us willing to
 “wait the Event of another Campaign, from
 “whence we hope to be raised from the Misery
 “of Slaves, to the Privileges of Subjects.

We are,

Your Majesty’s

Truly Faithful, and

Loyal Subjects, &c.

THE great Misery of *France* was, about this
 Time, ludicrously represented, by a Correspon-
 dent of the *Tatler’s* who calls himself, *Bread,*
the Staff of Life, in the following Lines:

To LEWIS, Le Grand.

*The Misery of
 France repre-
 sented ludicrous-
 ly.*

THO’ in Your Country I’m unknown,
 Yet, Sir, I must advise You;
 Of late so poor and mean You’re grown,
 That all the World despise You.

HERE

1709.

HERE Varmints eat Your Majesty,
 Their meagre Subjects stand unfed;
 What surer Signs of Poverty,
 Than many Lice, and little Bread?

THEN Sir, the present Minute choose,
 Our Armies are advanced;
 Those Terms, You at the *Hague* refuse,
 At *Paris* won't be granted.

CONSIDER this, and *Dunkirk* raze,
 And *Anna's* Title own;
 Send one *Pretender* out to graze,
 And call the other home.

AND the Author of the *Tatler* represents it *And seriously.*
 himself seriously, in another Place, in the fol-
 lowing Words: "The Kingdom of *France* is
 " (*says he,*) in the utmost Misery and Distraction.
 " The Merchants of *Lions* have been at Court,
 " to remonstrate their great Sufferings, by the
 " Failure of the Publick Credit; But have re-
 " ceived no other Satisfaction, than Promises
 " of a sudden Peace, and that their Debts will
 " be made good by Funds out of the Revenue,
 " which will not answer, but in Case of the
 " Peace which is promis'd. In the mean Time,
 " the Cries of the Common People are loud for
 " Want of Bread, the Gentry have lost all Spi-
 " rit and Zeal for their Country, and the King
 " himself seems to languish under the Anxiety
 " of the pressing Calamities of the Nation,
 " and

1709.

“ and retires from hearing of Grievances,
 “ which he hath not Power to redress. Instead
 “ of Preparations for War, and the Defence of
 “ their Country, there is nothing to be seen but
 “ evident Marks of a General Despair. Pro-
 “ cessions, Fastings, Publick Mourning, and
 “ Humiliations, are become the sole Employ-
 “ ments of a People, who were formerly the most
 “ vain and gay of any in the Universe.”

Some Reflections
 thereupon.

To this State had the Arms of His Majesty, and Her Allies, reduced the haughty Monarch of France. This *Metamorphosis* had the Conduct of our brave and wise General brought about; Notwithstanding which, Lewis, the XIV. Himself was so far from being humbled into Sincerity, that He never gave greater Proofs of his treacherous Disposition, and unalterable Resolution to deceive, than at this Treaty. Had not then our prudent General, and Plenipotentiary, who knew Him at the Bottom, Reason to treat with so ungenerous an Enemy, with Sword in Hand, and make all the necessary Preparations for the Continuance of a War, which he plainly fore-saw, was not design'd to be ended, on the other Part, by a just and reasonable Peace? Certainly, his Conduct, in this, as well as every great Event of his Life, was highly laudable; And yet the implacable Malice, or Envy of some People, could not suffer this blameless Behaviour of his to pass uncensur'd. He was charged with Spinning on the War, to an unnecessary Length, for private Ends. The Author of the *Tatler* gives a fine Turn to these unreasonable Allegation of his Enemies, and rallies them in the following well adapted Irony. “ The Approach
 “ of a Peace (*says he*) strikes a Pannick thro’
 “ our Armies, tho’ that of a Battle could never
 “ do

do it, and almost repent of their Bravery, 1709.
 that made such Haste to humble themselves,
 and the French King. The Duke of Marl-
 borough, tho' otherwise the greatest General
 of the Age, has plainly shewn himself unac-
 quainted with the Art of Husbanding a War.
 He might have grown as old as the Duke of
 Alva, or Prince Waldeck, in the Low Coun-
 tries, and yet have got Reputation enough
 every Year for any reasonable Man. For the
 Command of General in *Flanders* has been
 ever look'd upon as a Provision for Life.
 For my Part, I cannot see how his Grace can
 answer it to the World, for the great Eager-
 ness he has shewn, to send 100,000 of the
 bravest Fellows in *Europe* a Begging.

I SHALL make an End of this Chapter with a
 beautiful Admonition of the same Author, with
 which he concludes an exhortatory Letter from
Isaac Bickerstaff, Esq; of *Great Britain*, to *Lewis*,
XIV. of *France*, on his refusing to sign the
Preliminaries:

As Your Majesty (*says he*) is a strict Pro-
 fessor of Religion, I beseech You to stop the
 Effusion of Blood, by receiving the Opportu-
 nity which presents itself for the Preservation
 of Your distressed People. Be no longer so
 infatuated, as to hope for Renown from Mur-
 der and Violence: But consider, that the
 great Day will come, in which this World,
 and all its Glory, shall change in a Moment:
 When Nature shall sicken, and the Earth and
 Sea give up the Bodies committed to them, to
 appear before the last Tribunal. Will it then,
 Oh King! be an Answer for the Lives of
 Millions, who have fallen by the Sword? *They*
perished for my Glory. That Day will come

1709.

on, and one like it is immediately approach-
 ing: Injur'd Nations advance towards thy
 " Habitation: Vengeance has began its March,
 " which is to be diverted only by the Penitence
 " of the Oppressor. Awake, O Monarch,
 " from thy Lethargy! Disdain the Abuses thou
 " hast received: Pull down the Statue which
 " calls thee immortal: Be truly great: Tear thy
 " Purple, and put on Sackcloth.



CHAP.



CHAP. XV.

The Siege of the Town and Citadel of
TOURNAY.

HE *High Allies*, being justly provoked by the unfair Proceeding of *France*, (of which I have given an Account, in the foregoing Chapter,) ^{1709.} *The Campaign in Flanders open'd.*

resolved to improve their late Advantages, by a vigorous Prosecution of the War; And tho' the Campaign in *Flanders*, which was the principal Scene of Action, for this Year, was opened pretty late, it did not (as some imagined) proceed from any Amusement arising from the Negotiation of Peace, but from the extraordinary Backwardness of the Season, after an excessive hard Winter, and the great Rains which ensued: For the Duke of *Marlborough*, trusting little to the Shews of Peace, had prepared every Thing for Opening the Campaign, as soon as he saw what might be expected from the Court of *France*, and the Season would admit.

IN Order to this, his Grace set out from the *Hague*, the ninth of *June*, N. S. (the very Day *Monf. de Rouille* departed.) He lay, that Night, at *Rotterdam*, on Board the *Peregrine-Gally*, in Order to go by Water to *Moerdyke*, where he arrived the tenth, about eight in the Morning, and, about five in the Evening, came to *Antwerp*. His Grace design'd to have gone from

The Duke of Marlborough departs from the Hague.

1709.

thence to *Ghent*; But receiving a Message from Prince *Eugene*, desiring he would come to *Brussels*, he immediately continued his Journey thither, and staid there the eleventh.

*Both Armies go
into the Field.*

THE Field-Deputies of the *States General* having, in the mean Time, about the Middle of *May*, review'd the *Dutch Forces*, and given Orders for their March, the Count *de Tilly*, their General, arrived with those from the *Maese*, on the five and twentieth of *May*, at *Diegon*, near *Brussels*, from whence they marched, the next Day, to encamp along the *Dender*. The other Troops of the *States* form'd another Camp along the *Scheld*, and the *Imperialists*, *Prussians* and *Wirtemberghers* march'd to join them. Prince *Eugene* being come to *Brussels*, the first of *June*, and having, as I said above, received an Account, that the King of *France* had refused to approve the *Preliminaries* settled at the *Hague*, his Highness gave immediate Orders for the Troops of the *Allies*, to form the *Grand Army*, with all possible Speed, between *Menin* and *Oudenarde*; Except the Flying Camp of twelve Battalions, and as many Squadrons, which were order'd to continue about *Alost*, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Murray*, and Major General *Chanclos*, to cover *Brussels* and *Brabant*, and to observe a small Body of the Enemy's Troops, which were assembling near *Charleroy*. At the same Time, the Enemy's Forces were on their March from all Quarters, to form their Army, in the *Plains of Lens*, under the Command of the Marshal *de Villars*, who was to relieve the Ancient Glory of the *French Nation*, and, as *Lewis, XIV.* said, had never been conquer'd. Their Troops were very numerous, and, at their going into the Field, made a very good

Appearance ; The Cavalry being very well mounted, and the great Dearth and Want of Provisions having forced the poor labouring People of *Flanders* to list into the Service, to find a Maintenance, by which Means their Infantry was well recruited and complete : But the *French* General not being over confident in the Courage of his Men, he wisely began to cast up deep Intrenchments, to cover his Army. 1709.

THE *Confederate* Camp being formed at *Swynnaerde* near *Ghent*, under the Command of General *Fagel*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, set out, the twelfth of *June*, N. S. from *Brussels*, attended by 200 Horse, and being inform'd, that a Party of the Enemy had placed themselves in Ambush, in the Wood of *Likercke* with a Design to fall upon them, they dispatch'd an Express to *Alost*, for some Detachments to advance from thence along the Causeway ; Upon Notice whereof the Enemy retired, and the two Princes came, in Safety, to *Alost*. Their Highnesses design'd to have gone directly to *Oudenarde* ; But being informed at *Alost*, that the Roads cross the Country were hardly practicable, occasion'd by the continual Rains, they took the Benefit of the Causeway, and about three, in the Afternoon, arrived at *Ghent*, where they were immediately complimented by the *States of Flanders*, and the Magistrates of that City, who, the next Day, invited them to a splendid Entertainment, at the Town-house. The Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene set out from Brussels : And arrive at Ghent.

THE same Morning, the Generals commanding the several Bodies, being ordered to attend their Highnesses, a Council of War was held, in which it was unanimously agreed, that it was impossible for the Troops to make any Motion, 'till the Weather, which had been extremely wet, were