

injurious to the Authority of the Parliament, and of dangerous Example in the State, (c) odious in the Person of the Duke, who now opposes and contradicts what he has himself authoriz'd and executed, seeing he not only approv'd (d) the Edict, when before it was made publick, the King spoke to him about it, as well as to the Duke of Orleans, and that the Dutchesse Dowager (the Duke of Bourbon's Mother) in his Presence, and of the Prince of Conti, thank'd his Majesty, and said, that she had an extream Joy of the Favours granted to her Brothers (the legitimated Princes) but also because he gave his Vote for the registering of the Edict. He has several Times since seen the Duke du Maine, the Prince of Dombes, and the Count de Thoulouse, sit by his Side, and take their Places, as Princes of the Blood; and namely, when the King came to the Parliament, and sat on his Seat of Justice, and receive the same Honours as himself. It was in the first Moments in which the King was pleas'd to reveal his Disposition, and seem'd to advise about it, with his Family, and discover'd his unwillingness to do any thing against their Mind, that Repugnance should have been shewn.

Remarks. (c) This Division of the Memorial into several Parts, begins in a very flurring Manner, in Respect to the Duke. A Petition against the Edict of 1714 would be odious in his Person, says the Author of the Memorial; but without examining whether it would not have been better to have avoided Expressions which are so unbecoming, it does not appear how it could be odious in the Duke, in a Time when Laws may take Place, to oppose an Edict, whereby the legitimated Children are declar'd Princes of the Blood, and are rais'd to the Rank and Honours which he owes only to his Birth. Let us suppose all Things to be in the same Situation as they were in under the Reign of the most absolute Prince that ever sway'd the Scepter. Had the Duke any other Party to take, than to submit to the King's Disposition? His Submission could not long continue, because that Prince was already very old. Would his Opposition have been of any Effect or Service? Would the King have alter'd his Resolution thereupon? What other Fruit could he have reap'd from his useless Remonstrances, than to see them despis'd, and have drawn upon him the Indignation of a Prince, whom no body will suspect to have lov'd to be contradicted? Who knows besides, whether such Remonstrances would not have induc'd him to use

other Precautions, for rendering his Dispositions more firm and durable, which it would be now more difficult to overthrow. It was then more prudent to suffer that Disposition to be promulgated, without observing the necessary and essential Formalities, when the regulating of the Succession of the Crown was concern'd, than to awake by ill-tim'd Remonstrances, the Attention of others on its Nullity.

(d) But, say they, the Duke has approv'd that Edict, because his Mother told the King, when he spoke to her about it, that she was extremely glad of the Favours granted to her Brothers. The Author of such an Argument might have still added, that before and after the Publication of the said Edict, the Duke always express'd himself, as it was convenient, to those who have the Honour to see him more intimately; and that he has communicated to them the Sense he had of such an extraordinary Disposition. In fine, that he did his utmost to imitate the Duke of Orleans, and avoid being present at the registering of the Edict; that they waited for him about an Hour, and he never came 'till he was sent for, and told that they waited for him. Do these known Facts plainly prove, that the Duke willingly and freely consented to that Edict? Does what has follow'd prove it better? God had scarce taken the late King to himself, when the Duke prepar'd to make Use of the Liberty, wherein the State found itself through the Death of that Prince, and would have effectually have done it, if his Zeal for the Nation had not prevail'd over him the Day that the Regency was settled, to prefer the most urging Business to those which could admit of some Delay. Who does not know that he had a Petition ready to be presented against the Creation of Princes of the Blood, and that it was impatiently expected by the whole Assembly.

Memo. The Duke of Bourbon might have respectfully represented at that Time his Interests, and would have at the utmost but expos'd himself to be told that it was surprizing he should have other Thoughts thereupon than the first Prince of the Blood; yet did he offer then any Opposition, and even in that Time, which is call'd a Time of Liberty by those who would abuse it, was he not sensible of the Impossibility of opposing the Edict, and (e) having it revok'd? What does he then pretend to now? Does the Growth of his Hatred change the Nature of Things, and can an Edict of this Kind be annull'd

or alter'd by (f) any but by a King of Age, and even upon most important Considerations?

Remarks. (e) It was not upon any Consideration of an Impossibility to oppose this Edict, that the Duke has deferr'd to do it since the Regency, but only because the Good of the State itself requir'd from him that he should not do it sooner. Must the Prudence and Goodness which he has express'd on this Occasion, be imputed to him as a Fault, and do they deserve this Expression of the Author, that the Growth of his Hatred does not change the Nature of Things?

(f) What great Knowledge of the Law does this Author discover, when he says, that an Edict of this Nature cannot be annull'd or modified, but by a King who is of Age, and on very important Considerations. This Importance is not wanting in the present Case, when the Matter in Question is, whether Princes of the Blood can be created, and whether Masters can be impos'd upon the Nation, whom they are not naturally to have, and that without their own Knowledge and Consent. But let us leave this last Question to examine the former, and enquire whether there is an absolute Necessity that a King be of Age to abrogate such an Edict? *The King in what Age soever he be, says Charles VI. in his solemn Edict of the 26th of December, 1407. is to be call'd and reputed King of France, and enjoy all the Rights and Prerogatives belonging to a King of France.* The King now reigning, is therefore as much a King as if he was of Age; and if he cannot for Want of it, make Use by himself of his Authority, the same is fully and entirely deposited in the Hands of the August Prince who governs under him. Therefore his Royal Highness may, and has a Right to make new Laws, and abrogate those which are contrary to the Maxims and Good of the State, and that he may do with the same Extent of Power as the King himself, and in the same Manner as other Regents his Predecessors. The Regencies under *Charles VI.* and *Lewis XIV.* alter'd the Dispositions which the preceding Kings had made at their Deaths for the Government of the State, and substituted others in their Room, quite different from the former. *Catherine of Medici* revok'd what *Francis I.* *Henry II.* and *Francis II.* (all Kings of Age) had done and enacted against the Exercise of the new Religion (the Protestant) and permitted the same; a Matter of as nice a Nature as any, and in which the State is as much concern'd: The same Regency decided the Differences between the first Princes

of the Blood, against what had been practis'd in the preceding Reigns. Lastly, the Regency of *Mary of Medicis* had, in an Affair of the *same* Nature as that which is now in Question, the *same* Right and Power which the Author of the Memorial will not acknowledge in the Duke of Orleans. *Cesar of Vendosme* had obtain'd from *Henry IV.* his Father, a Declaration which gave him the immediate Rank after the Princes of the Blood. That Declaration, which was register'd *May 4, 1610,* was observ'd for the ten following Days, that is, to the Death of *Henry IV.* but at the very Moment of the Death of that Prince, it ceas'd to be valid, and was infring'd in the very first Act of the Regency. Every Body knows the smart Word which the Duke of *Vendosme* was told on that Occasion.

No Body can dispute, but the Regency of his Royal Highness has the *same* Power as the former: And besides, to abrogate an Edict which has no Foundation, 'tis doing an Act of Justice. Now this is what the Parliament thinks of a Minority as to Justice: Sir, *Altho' you were but a Day old, you would be as much of Age as to Justice, as if you were thirty Years, seeing 'tis administer'd by the Power which God has given you, and in your Name.* The Regency of his Royal Highness can therefore, and ought to do an Act of Justice, in abolishing a Disposition which the whole Nation looks upon as monstrous, and that Prince may assure himself, that in this Revocation and Abolition, he will but follow the Majority of Votes, to which he has been pleas'd to declare he would conform himself.

Mem. (g) An Arrest of Parliament cannot abolish an Edict, which they have themselves acknowledg'd, and could a *(h)* Council of Regency without Confusion and Blushing, make a King but six Years old, speak to overthrow in a Matter, which cannot but proceed from his own Knowledge, the Work of a King, his Great Grandfather, and *(i)* dishonour the Person to whom the Care of his Education has been solemnly committed. But besides, if the Thing was feasible, what would the Duke be the better for succeeding in his unjust Pretensions? Would he be a greater Prince of the Blood? No, but he would have the Satisfaction of having degraded the *(k)* Brother of his own Mother, the Husband of his own Aunt, the Brother of the Wife of the Prince Regent, and the Son of the most illustrious of his Grandfathers and of his King, who has

heap'd

heap'd Favours upon him, often at the Desire of him whom he now attacks.

Remarks. (g) The Author of the Memorial will not, 'tis hop'd, deny, that an Arrest of Parliament may revoke the registering, made at a Time when they had no Liberty, of an Edict which is contrary to Law, as he cannot neither deny, that the Parliament registers every Day Revocations of Edicts which they have themselves register'd. The registering of the Letters Patent, which gave an extraordinary Rank, contrary to Custom, to the two Favourites of Henry III. (the Dukes of Joyeuse and Epemon) and the registering of the Revocation of the said Letters made by Henry IV. are Precedents and Instances so conform to the Affair in Question, that every Body must be sensible of it.

(h) What does the Author mean by the Confusion he talks of? Would the Regency cast anyblemish on the Memory of the late King, in destroying a Work so unworthy of the Greatness of Soul, which he express'd on all other Occasions? Far from it: And what Eulogies would not the Regency deserve, if they took off for ever from the Eyes of the Publick that Monument of the only Weakness he ever had in his Life; a Weakness, which he has carry'd to Excess, for Children whose Birth made him weep so bitterly, at the very same Time that he overturn'd all the Laws, to raise them to a Rank altogether unlawful.

(i) Can the restoring of the Person to whom the Honour of the King's Education is committed, be call'd a dishonouring of him; and on the contrary, would it not be a Dishonour to the Princes of the Blood, if they did not endeavour to raze off the Level which is now between them, and the Sons of Madame de Montespan? 'Tis however what the Memorial presumes to call the unjust Pretensions of the Duke. The Author asks whether his Serene Highness will be the more a Prince of the Blood thereby? and we answer, No. He might have ask'd another Question, which would have been more reasonable; Is the Duke a Prince of the Blood, if the Legitimated are such? Ought he to value himself upon that Quality, if it belongs to them as well as to him? The Nation does see in him a possible Master, that is, one who may become such; but they have made lately a new and numerous Recruit out of the Children of the least lawful Love that ever was. The Respect and Veneration of the People are

to be divided and shar'd between him and those Fruits of a shameful Inclination.

(k) After these Natural Reflections, to what Purpose is this long Enumeration of the Degrees, in which the late King would have the Duke to be related to his legitimated Children? The Alternative is indispenfible: Either the Duke must degrade those Princes so many Ways related to him, or must look upon himself as dishonour'd; so that if he be tender of their pretended Honour, he must lose his own; and furthermore abandon the Honour of the Nation, which is concern'd therein, and to whom he owes himself, preferable to all other Considerations. Her Laws are invaded in what is most sacred and inviolable: Whose Province and Business is it to defend them? Who are the Trustees thereof when the Nation is not assembled? Must the Princes of the Blood dispense themselves with their Obligation, because of a Reproach cast upon them that they have obtain'd Favours from the late King, at the Desire of the Person, whom they now attack, and because of the Title that is here given him of the Son of the most illustrious Grandfathers of the House of Bourbon.

Mem. It is an Invasion of the Royal Authority. What then must the (l) Will and Disposition of a Prince (as soon as his Eyes are clos'd) altho' supported by the most August Ceremonies, receiv'd by all the People, executed by all the Parliaments, even in those Times of Liberty so often alledg'd by the Duke, (m) approv'd at the Seat of Justice, *Nemine contradicente*, be liable and expos'd to the Caprice of the first Comer, (n) who will oppose the same, and the Work of a Regency shall be thought to have more (o) Solidity, than that of the greatest King in the World? If a Person less considerable should make such an Attempt, how would he be look'd upon by the Publick? The Quality of Prince of the Blood does not appear to me to (p) import a Privilege to act against Laws and Reason.

Rem. (1) The Will and Disposition of a Great King will be always respected when they are not contrary to Law: Because Charles VI. was a Prince who has deserv'd the Sir Name of *Well-beloved*; because his Will and Disposition, whereby the Crown was transferr'd to a Foreigner, were executed; and that that Foreigner had accordingly taken upon him the Title of Regent and Heir of France: And lastly, because the said Disposition was corroborated by the most August of our Ceremonies, that is, the Coronation: Because of all this, I say, was the Nation oblig'd to conform to that Disposition, and does it follow,

follow, that *Charles VII.* Son and next Heir to *Charles VI.* should have been depriv'd of his Rights? The Tendency of this Principle is easily discover'd, and it was partly to remedy the same, that they establish'd this wise Maxim, that our Kings are always Minors (under Age.) They are thereby reliev'd against the Damages which the Prodigality, Errors, or Weakness of their Predecessors may have brought upon them. The Application of this Maxim to the Matter in Hand, is obvious to every Body.

(m) The Author of the Memorial repeats 2 or 3 Times, that the Will or Disposition of the late King for his legitimated Children, was approv'd in the Assembly of the Seat of Justice, the most solemn that ever was since the last Meeting of the States-General of the Kingdom; whereupon it may be observ'd, 1. That this Assembly was not more solemn than the others of the same Kind. 2. It has been already observ'd, that the Consideration and Regard the Princes of the Blood had for the publick Good of the State, was the only Motive which induc'd them to postpone and delay on that Occasion the Discussion of the Edict of 1714. The Matters that were then regulated, were so urgent and important, that it was not possible to enter into the Discussion of others in that Assembly; but it does not follow, that those which could not then be discuss'd, were not look'd upon as Affairs in which the Nation was concern'd, and which deserv'd to be examin'd at another Time.

(n) Can the Opposition form'd by the Duke against an unwarrantable Edict, be call'd the *Caprice of the First Comer*? One cannot believe that the Author of this Memorial had his Thoughts about him, when he utter'd these Expressions, and some others of the like Nature, but that he dropt them unawares.

(o) 'Tis needless totake Notice of the Malignity of the Comparison he offers between the Solidity of a Work or Act of a Regency, and the Act of the greatest King in the World. The same is too palpable, and it will be sufficient to tell this Author, and advise him to consider of it, that the Laws and Maxims of State are the true Scales whereby to judge of the Solidity he talks of.

(p) The Quality of Prince of the Blood is so far from giving the Privilege to act against Laws and Reason, that it implies, on the contrary, an Obligation to maintain those Laws, and oppose whatever has a Tendency to strike at them, and invalidate their Authority. The Discharg-

ing of this indispensable Duty cannot appear a Crime to any but the Author of the Memorial alone.

Mem. The Petition (r) is injurious to the Authority of the Parliament, because it requires that their Authority be despis'd; that what they have done should be look'd upon as not done at all; that the Bounds and Limits they have so wisely set, be transgress'd; that a Tribunal so famous and respectable, should out of meer Complaisance alter the Purity of their Oracles, an Act contrary to an Edict, only to divert and gratifie the (r) Princes of the Blood, who are no Ways aggriev'd thereby, and the first of whom, who ought to be as a Compass for the others to conduct themselves by, is too wise to make himself a Party in this Affair.

Rem (q) Let the Parliament be consulted on this Article, and then it will be seen whether a Petition on the Part of the Duke against the Edict of 1714, would appear injurious unto them. This would be on the contrary, a favourable Opportunity for that wise Body to let all the World see, that they never consented but by Force, to the registering of a Disposition so contrary to Law and their Principles; that they had not the Liberty to give their Opinion; the Orders of the Prince requiring absolutely that no Difficulty should be offer'd against his said Disposition. This they sufficiently manifested by their Manner of voting in that Affair. Their Dean was the only Member of it who spoke; and when he gave his Opinion, he said only, that he conform'd himself to the Conclusions of the King's Counsel. All the other Members voted only with an Inflection of their Head, and kept as sad and melancholy a Silence as the Edict they were forc'd to register, appear'd unto them shameful and disgraceful.

(r) Only to divert and gratifie the Princes of the Blood, who are not aggriev'd thereby, What Malice, and how many Absurdities are contain'd in these few Words? The Wrong done to the Princes of the Blood by the Edict in Question, is evident, as it has been already demonstrated.

Mem. Lastly, Such a Petition would be of (s) dangerous Example in the State, because the (t) People would learn thereby, that there is nothing firm and settled; that Edicts and Arrests may be slighted and interpreted as every one fancies. Such a Petition would be sufficient, which I cannot say without Horror, to insinuate to disaffected and (u) turbulent People, that the sacred Arrest of Regency, the only Foundation of the publick Tranquility, may be impunibly attack'd: For that

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Very Arrest, which appointed for our Governor that Person, who so worthily discharges that Office; that Arrest pronounc'd by the King on his Seat of his Justice, is the very (x) same which conferr'd on the Duke du Maine, what the Duke pretends to dispute with him at this Time.

Rem (y) It is not the Example of such a Petition that can dangerous to the State, but 'tis that of that Edict; and to convince the Author of the Memorial of it, let us take a View of some Consequences which naturally result from thence. If the most inviolable Laws, and the most constant Maxims cannot restrain the unlawful Will and Dispositions of a Monarch: If he has a Right to call to the Throne whom he shall think fit, there remains nothing fix'd and settled in the Government: The Order of Succession will be chang'd and interrupted: The sacred Birth-Right will become vain and insignificant, whenever a King shall have a Mind to gratify his Passions: He will bring near the Throne his most vile Favourites, whenever he shall think fit, and remove from it the true and necessary Heirs: He will make as many Princes of the Blood, as the late King has made Dukes and Peers, and that with as much Choice and Reason. In fine, he will give every Day new Masters to the State, who will not yield one to another in Rank, because they will have equal Pretensions to the Crown. This is the horrid Confusion that must be expected, when Principles are abandoned, and when the Laws, which have for so many Centuries preserv'd the Monarchy in so flourishing a Condition, are trampil'd under Foot. We may already discover the sad Effects of this Confusion in the Drift of this Memorial, and more still in a Libel lately come out, and which seems to have the same Father, I mean, *A Letter from a Spaniard to a French Man*. According to the System which they endeavour to establish in both these Works, viz. That a Prince without regarding the Laws, may make his legitimated Sons Princes of the Blood, and render them capable to succeed to the Crown, we are oblig'd to commend the Modesty of those who are call'd thereunto in the Year 1714; for having contented themselves with the Rank that was given them next to the true Princes of the Blood. They were the eldest by their Right, and therefore it was out of Moderation and Goodness they yielded the Precedence to the youngest, a Goodness which they will easily throw off one Time or other, to resume the Order and Rank which the Honour of having been acknowledg'd by Lewis XIV. for his Sons, does necessarily give them. I leave any one to judge, which can be of more dangerous
Consequence

Consequence, either an Edict which authorizes such Pretensions, or a Petition which desiring the annulling of that Edict, will restore to the Nation their Laws and Maxims, which have been violated thereby.

(t) There the Publick shall not learn by the annulling and Revocation of the Edict, that there remains nothing fix'd and settled, but they will learn thereby, that an Edict contrary and directly opposite to the Laws, ought to be revok'd whenever People are at Liberty to do it. Without this, it would follow, that what has once been promulgated, tho' unjust in it self to the highest Degree, and visibly tending to the Ruin of the State, ought to subsist by this only Reason, that the Publication thereof was made in a Time when the least Opposition was not permitted.

(u) There is still less Reason to apprehend, that the annulling of the Edict of 1714 should be capable to make disaffected and turbulent People believe, that the Arrest of Regency may be impunibly attack'd. It is not that Part of the Arrest, whereby his Royal Highness is declar'd Regent, that can be attack'd; because that Declaration is conform to the Laws of the State, and the Nation had an unspeakable Joy to see the Prince, the most worthy of the Regency, and the very Person whom they wish'd to have it, put in Possession of it. There is indeed another Part of the Arrest which disaffected People might perhaps attack, that is, that Part which relates to the Superintendency of the King's Education. As it is authoriz'd by no Law, it is the meer Effect of good Pleasure, which having no Foundation, may be retracted whenever it is thought fit.

(x) It is not the Arrest of Regency which gave the legitimated Princes the Rank which is now disputed. Who can believe that they ever would have pretended to the same, if the late King had deferr'd 'till the 1st of September, 1715, to give it them?

Rem. To attack this Arrest in one Article, is to attack it in all its Parts; and this is even to begin to sap the Foundation of (y) another, to which France owes the happy Peace it enjoys.

Mem. (y) This ought to be a sufficient Warning, to use in Time suitable Precautions against the Measures, which it seems some have taken, for attacking the Renunciations. The Author of the Memorial has already intimated, that the Arrest of the Regency may be attack'd, and concludes with insinuating the same Thing as to the Arrest of Renunciation.

ation. Such Menaces are serious, and what can be of more dangerous Consequence than the slighting of them?

The Author of the Remarks on the Memorial of the Duke du Maine, had Reason to suspect that the Letter from a Spaniard to a Frenchman, and that Memorial, came from the same Pen, for they are written in the same Style, and with the same Design. Having been already very long on this Subject, I shall content my self to observe, that the Spaniard endeavours to prove, 1. That the Law of Nature admits Bastards to the Succession of their Fathers, and that the Law of Grace has not abolish'd the former. 2. That under the first and second Races of the Kings of France, their natural Children have undistinctly, and without any Difference, inherited their Fathers States, as well as their lawful Children. 3. That Bastards being not guilty of the Crime that attends their Birth, it is not just to deprive them of the Right and Title they have thereby to the Succession of the State of their Fathers. 4. That Kings may call to the Succession of the Crown any one they please, to the Exclusion of the presumptive Heir. 5. That instead of envying the Duke du Maine and the Count de Toulouse the Rank of Princes of the Blood, and the Right conferr'd to them by the late King in the memorable Edict of 1714, to be capable to succeed to the Crown in Case of Failure of the lawful Issue of the House of Bourbon, they ought to be thank'd for their Moderation, seeing they might have claim'd greater Advantages. 6. The Spaniard makes an odious and injurious Parallel between the House of Conde and those of the Duke du Maine and the Count de Toulouse, and maliciously insinuates, that the Parliament of Paris prevaricated, when they declar'd Henry of Bourbon lawful Prince of the Blood Royal.

The Sequel of this Affair, and how the Duke du Maine and the Count de Toulouse were depriv'd of all these Honours, and afterwards in a great Measure restor'd to them, the Reader will find in our subsequent Registers. We proceed now to some other Occurrences that happen'd in France during the Course of this Year 1715. One of the most remarkable was, the Embassy sent by the King of Persia to the most Christian King, of which the following is an Authentick Account.

An Abstract of the Historical Diary of the Journey of the Persian Ambassador to France. Printed at Paris, with the Privilege of the King.

WHEN M. de Feriol was Ambassador from the King at the Ottoman Porte, the Court sent M. Fabre to Persia, in order to conclude there a Treaty of Commerce; but he could not execute his Commission, dying at Erivan in Armenia, the Capital City of the Province of that Name. Whereupon M. Michel, Consul of Aleppo, and who was at that Time at Constantinople, was chosen by the Court to succeed him in his Mission. He repair'd without Delay to Erivan, and next to Ispahan, where he transacted a Treaty of Commerce, whereby the King of Persia did confirm all the Privileges which had been granted to that Time in Favour of the Merchants and Missionaries, out of Regard to the Emperor of France.

Not long after that M. Michel had discharg'd his Commission, and that he was set out from Persia, the Armenians used their utmost Endeavours to break the Measures he had taken for the Security of those Privileges. They presented a Petition to the King, setting forth, That the French Missionaries, not satisfy'd to take away their Wives and Children, did besides pretend to compel them to change their Religion. This Petition was back'd by some great Lords of the Persian Court, who obtain'd of the King, by Surprise, an Order contradictory to the Principal Articles of the Treaty; by Virtue of which, the Merchants and French Missionaries spread in the Provinces of the Kingdom, suffer'd very much, especially at Amadan, Tauris, Chamakee, and Gandia.

In this Condition stood the Affairs of the Merchants and French Missionaries, when M. de Galiffon, Bishop of Agathopolis, and Coadjutor of M. Fidon of St. Olen, Bishop of Babylon, arriv'd in Armenia, with a Letter from the King of France for the Emperor of Persia. He gave Notice of it to the Kan of Erivan, who presently acquainted the Court of it; and after three Months Stay at Erivan, he caused him to be honourably attended to Ispahan, where he was allow'd 60 Crowns per Day, tho' they knew he had no Character.

No sooner was he arriv'd at Ispahan, but he apply'd himself entirely to undeceive the Court, in Respect to the Calumnies which had been spread against the Missionaries and French Merchants: He represented, That the Armenians

Armenians, and chiefly their Patriarch, were open Enemies of the Missionaries, and that they had combin'd with the *English* and *Dutch* against the *French* Merchants. The War was then kindled over all *Europe*, and the Enemies of *France* used all possible Means to spread the Noise of their Victories to the very Ends of the World; their Letters and Discourses produc'd at that Time such Effects, as were sensibly felt by us every where. The Bishop of *Agathopolis* had hardly begun to execute the Designs he had projected for restoring the Credit of the Missionaries and *French* Merchants, when Death took him away; and thereby all Things fell again into the same Confusion that he had found them in at his Arrival.

M. Richard, Missionary of the Foreign Missions, being at that Time at *Erivan*, receiv'd several Letters from the Bishop of *Babylon*, which made him resolve at last to go to *Ispahan*. Few Days after his Arrival, he had the good Fortune to have a Petition presented to the *Sultran Uffain*, who was so sensibly mov'd with the Particulars of the Things contain'd therein, that he order'd him 2500 Crowns; that is, 800 to pay what the Bishop of *Agathopolis* owed at his Death, and the rest for his Subsistence. He gave him afterwards an Allowance of 10 Crowns per Day, besides his Lodging, and admitted him to the Number of his Guests.

About this Time, M. des Alleurs, Ambassador of the King at *Constantinople*, sent to *Ispahan* the printed Advices of the total Defeat of the Enemies at *Marchiennes* and at *Denain*, and those of the Raising of the Siege of *Landrecy*, with all the Particulars of the great Circumstances of that memorable Day. The Express charg'd with those Letters, deliver'd them into the Hands of M. Richard, who had them immediately translated into the *Persian* Language, and presented them the next Day to the Court. The *Sultran* had them read to him in Presence of all his Women and Eunuchs; and to acknowledge the Pleasure he had at the Recital of that great News, he order'd a Present of the Value of above 200 Crowns to be made to M. Richard.

The Affairs of the *French* took then quite another Face in *Persia*, and the King resolv'd to send forthwith an Ambassador to *France*; but it was highly important not to give any Suspicion of it to the *Ottoman* Porte; and the Secret of that Negotiation was of so great Consequence, that the Life of the Ambassador depended thereon, as long as he was in the *Turkish* Dominions. The Motives of that

Fear, determin'd the first Minister of *Persia* to intrust M. *Richard* with the Letters and the Treasure of that *Embassy*, in order to deliver them to the Kan of *Erivan*.

Upon Ascension-Day, 1713, he took his Way towards *Armenia* with a Guard of 40 Men, and after 50 Days March he arriv'd at *Erivan*, where he presently made a Visit to the Kan, and deliver'd him the Presents he had in his Charge. As soon as the Kan had receiv'd the Orders of his Master on that Affair, he left it to M. *Richard* to return into *Europe* which Way he pleas'd; which he did through *Georgia*, *Mingrelia*, and by the Way of the Black Sea.

The Kan, who was authoriz'd to name the Ambassador, cast his Eyes upon *Mehemet Riza Beg*, Intendant of the Province of *Erivan*, and Native of *Persia*; and he intrusted an *Armenian*, the richest Merchant of the Country, with the Presents design'd for the King of *France*.

The 15th of *March*, 1714, *Mehemet Riza Beg* set out from *Erivan*, and after 40 Days March arriv'd at *Smyrna* the 28th of *April*, with all his Retinue, which was then very numerous. He presently, with great Privacy, gave Notice of his Commission to M. de *Fontenay*, the *French* Consul, recommended to him Diligence and Secrecy for his Imbarkation, and intrusted him with his Letters, and the Presents of the King his Master.

The Consul caus'd them to be imbark'd upon a *French* Vessel bound for *Marseilles*, and four or five Days after, the *Armenian*, in a Seaman's Habit, went on Board another Ship, and follow'd his Presents. The Ambassador divulg'd that he was a Pilgrim going to *Mecca*; but the Head Officer of the Customs of *Smyrna* suspected what he was, and had him closely observ'd by his Spies, that he might not go away either by Sea or Land, which made the Ambassador resolve, after having tarry'd 27 Days at *Smyrna*, to take the Way of *Constantinople*, in Hopes of a more convenient Passage.

The Head Officer of the Customs at *Smyrna* caus'd him to be follow'd, and acquainted the Porte with his Suspicions; so that two Days after his Arrival at *Constantinople*, he was seiz'd by Order of the Grand Seignior. He was examin'd several Times, and they would have constrain'd him to confess that he was Ambassador of the King of *Persia*, going to *France*; but he declar'd still, even upon Oath, that he was a Pilgrim going to *Mecca*. The Thing more grievous for him in the Rigour of those Inquisitions,

was

was to see himself oblig'd to tear and swallow a Bill of Exchange for 10000 Pistoles. M. des Alleurs, who then resided at Constantinople as Minister from the King of France, neglected nothing to bring him out of so dangerous a Pass. He employ'd his Cares, Presents, Gold, Silver, and his Friends, which, together with the Constancy of the Persian Embassador, who was resolv'd to suffer every Thing before he would betray the Secret of the Emperor his Master, procur'd him at last his Liberty, as well as to his Men, whom the most horrible Torments could not shake off.

The Chiaoux Bashaw, by whose Means this Liberty was obtain'd, was oblig'd to be Security for him, 'till he should be put under the Guard of the Conductors of the Pilgrims, who were to be charg'd with the Care of conducting him to Mecca, and at their Return, to send him back by the Way of Damascus into Persia; besides that, the Persian Embassador was oblig'd to give another Security for his Person and for his Men; but he had the Luck to find two rich Persian Merchants, settled of a long Time at Constantinople, who willingly did ingage for him.

When he was out of Prison, he went privately to M. des Alleurs, where they concerted together the necessary Measures for his Passage into France, which were, that the Sieur Padery, Secretary Interpreter of the King of France, an Athenian by Birth, should make Use of the same Vessel, which, at his Arrival at Constantinople, was to take him at Troy, to go and stay for him at Payas or Scanderoon; and that he the Embassador, being arriv'd with the Caravan near the last Place, should go and embark upon the same Vessel.

The Day following, which was the 7th of August, 1714, the Chiaoux of the Port went to take the pretended Pilgrim at his House, and put him into the Hands of the Chief of the Caravan. The Sieur Padery having caus'd privately seven or eight Men of the Retinue of the Embassador, whom he had left at Constantinople, to be embark'd, set sail the 11th of the same Month. The Caravan, after 34 Days March, arriv'd within half a League of Scanderoon, which is the general Rendezvous of the Pilgrims. The 18th of September, the Embassador of Persia made Use of the Stratagem he had meditated in his Journey, for taking the necessary Measures with the Sieur Padery, without running any Risk: He feigned that a Slave (this was concerted with him) had stole from him a

precious Jewel, and he appear'd so terribly angry with him, that they advis'd the Slave to avoid the Presence of his Master. The Slave also plaid extremely well his Part; he run up and down to the Sea Side as a Madman, calling to the Trees and Rocks in his Way to witness his Innocency; and being come to the Place where the *Sieur Padery* was, they concerted together whatever was necessary; after which, he return'd towards the Caravan, without discontinuing his feigned mad Fits.

When he was near the Caravan, he saw some Men coming to him, who brought him Tidings, that his Master had found again his Jewel, that he was sorry to have suspected him, and abus'd him unjustly, and that he himself desir'd him to come back again. The Slave was thus brought back, as he expected, to the Tent of his Master, to whom he gave an Account of the Measures he had taken with the *Sieur Padery*. Whereupon the Embassador prepar'd himself to depart; and betwixt the first and second Watch of the Night, he gave Notice to all such of his Men as were ready, to follow him; he left behind him his Tents, and all his Baggage, and betook himself to the Sea Side, where the *Sieur Padery* receiv'd him in his Boat, and brought him on Board his Vessel, which presently sail'd away, viz. the 15th of September, and the 23d of October arriv'd happily at *Marseilles*.

The same Day that the *Persian* Embassador arriv'd in the Port of *Marseilles*, which was the 23d of October, he landed at the Infirmeries or Hospital, with all his Retinue, to the Number of seventeen Persons. He sent for the *Armenian Agoubchant*, who had been intrusted with the Presents at *Erivan*, and who was come a Month before him to *Marseilles*; he treated him very ill, upon Suspicion either well or ill grounded, and order'd him afterwards to bring him five Bundles belonging to him, and which he had deliver'd to him seal'd up. The *Armenian* caus'd them to be brought immediately; but they were open'd, and many Things were wanting in them. The Embassador ask'd him, Whence came such Disorders, and who had unseal'd them? The *Armenian* answer'd, It was the Magistrates of Health. How, said he, then in a violent Passion, Do they open here the Trunks of Embassadors? And turning towards some French that were there, he told them, When your Envoys, whosoever they be, come in *Persia*, loaden with all Sorts of Goods, doth any Body presume to inspect them? I have lost all my Equipage; I have expos'd my Life a hundred Times to discharge a Commission so dangerous; I have

but ~~some~~ little Bundles more remaining, which yet with much ado they bring here, and they open them: They have also, without doubt, open'd the Presents; I will see them; in a Word, I will have them brought me here. M. Arnout, Intendant of the King's Gallies, who had been acquainted with all these Things, signify'd to him, That he would cause all the Inquiries possible to be made about his Goods; and for his Presents, he did not think fit to deliver them to him before he had made his Entry into *Marseilles*. Lastly, after all the Inquiries made, the *Armenian* confess'd it was he that had unseal'd the five Bundles, lest they should be spoil'd by the Worms.

The 28th of *October* the Embassador made his Entry into *Marseilles*. The Intendant sent the Provost with his Officers and Guards a Horseback, and three Coaches, with which M. de Beauvais, Commissary of the Gallies, went to receive him at the Port. He had then with him but the *Sieur Padery* and two Officers, one of whom carry'd his Sword, and the other his great Pipe. The Cavalcade pass'd under the Balcony where the Queen of Spain was, who had the Pleasure to see a *Persian* Embassador in France. He was brought to his Lodgings at M. de Carsigni's, Inspector-General of the Gallies, where four Archers mounted the Guard every Day during the Stay he made at *Marseilles*.

The 31st the Presents were fetch'd from the House of the *Armenian* who had brought them; they were in an Iron Chest, which was lock'd up in a Cabinet, the Keys of which the *Armenian* had. The Intendant, in order to honour the Presents of the King of *Persia*, sent the same three Coaches, with a magnificent Chaise, accompany'd by the Provost, his Officers and Guards, by the two principal Officers of the Embassador, by the *Armenian*, and the *Sieur Padery*, to bring them in Pomp to the House of M. de Carsigni. The Embassador came to receive the Chest without the Doors; as soon as he saw it, he prostrated himself with Hands a-cross before that Chest with which he had been entrusted by the Emperor his Master: He shed Tears for Joy when he beheld it, and at last cry'd out, That he was contented with his Fate; and that he did forget all the Perils he had been expos'd to, seeing that God had granted him the Favour to see again the Presents of the Emperor his Master, and to deliver them into his Hands, to carry them to the great Emperor of France, who shines upon Earth, as the Sun shines in the World. Moreover, said he to the Company, Know ye Gen-
tlemen,

lemen, that I owe the Obligation of this Happiness only to the Ambassador who is at Constantinople, who has rescued me out of the Hands of the Turks, and given me all Manner of Assistance; he has procur'd me the Vessel that has brought me hither; given me the Interpreter you now see, who has so well executed his Orders, seeing he took me out of the midst of Ten Thousand Men, and has brought me hither. Then he went into his Chamber with his Presents, and caus'd 30 or 40 Pieces of Eight in Money to be thrown from the Window of his Apartment to the People.

Few Days after the Arrival of the Ambassador at *Marseilles*, Monsieur and Madam *Arnout*, accompany'd with all the Persons of Distinction in the Town, went to make him a Visit; and during his Stay there, Feasting, Assemblies, and other Diversions, were not spar'd.

There was then at *Marseilles* a Chiaoux of the Grand Seigneur, who was Witness of the Honours the Persian Ambassador receiv'd Every Day, being lodg'd within four Steps of his House. The Ambassador hearing that this Chiaoux was to return in a few Days to Constantinople, and being desirous to see him before his Departure he sent for him by one of his Domesticks, who brought him along with him. Dost thou know me? said he to him, as soon as he saw him. No, my Lord, reply'd the other, but I have heard of you. Well then, continu'd he, seeing that thou knowest that I am he whom they nam'd at Constantinople Kadgi Mehemet, go and tell from me that Wretch, that Son of a Fisher, that Dog Mehemet Aga, Grand Officer of the Customs, that I was neither a Merchant nor a Pilgrim; that he is the Cause of my having lost a hundred Purser; (550000 Crowns) but if God grants me the Favour to return into Persia, I will cause 500 of your Merchants to have their Eyes nail'd up. Have we War or Peace with you?

We have Peace, my Lord, reply'd the Chiaoux trembling. This being so, said he, what Hurt was there that I should be Ambassador here? Do they send me hither to do any Harm? I come hither to renew an ancient Friendship between the Emperor of France and mine; and you stop my Passage; you confine me in your Prisons; you put to the Rack my Domesticks, and you plunder my Goods? I know you, wretched Sons of Fishermen, by these Marks of Unfaithfulness. 'Tis in my Power to cut off thy Head; but it would be unjust. Thou art not in our Dominions, and I am in the State of our Friends, in whose Country I would not violate the Right of Hospitality they grant you.

The Lord, said the poor Chiaoou, in a great Frigate, it is the Grand Officer of the Customs who is the only Cause of your Misfortunes: Do not lay it to my Charge; I am not concern'd in it.

No, no, reply'd he, neither do I lay it upon you; but tell him only what thou hast just now heard. Salute, from me, the Chiaoou Bassaw, he is a very honest Man; and the Emir Cheleby, whom I much respect. I will give you Letters for them; come again to fetch them before thy Departure.

The Chiaoou promis'd not to fail; but he took great Care not to do it; and he was no sooner out of his House, but he swore never to return there again.

M. de St. Olon being come to *Marseilles* from the King to attend the Embassador to *Paris*, he regulated the Order and the Ceremonial of the Journey; and the 23d of December, 1714, he left *Marseilles*, preceded with a Detachment of Horse, follow'd by the Guards of the Count de *Grignan*; the Guards and the *Sieur des Marais*, their Exempt, being about the Litter, carry'd by two Mules, wherein the Presents were: The Officers, and other Men of the Retinue of the Embassador, before and about his Person. The Marshalsey of *Provence* having advanc'd upon the Road from *Aix* to *Marseilles*, were drawn up before the Embassador as he pass'd by, and march'd after him. He took his Way by *Aix*, *Avignon*, *Orange*, *Valence*, *Lions*, *Moulins*, *Montargis*, *Melun*, and arriv'd at *Charenton* the 26th of January, 1715.

In passing by *Aix*, *Orange*, and *Vienne*, he treated those who came to visit him, and desir'd them to dance. At *Lions* he went to see the Church of *St. John*, and had the great Bell rung. He desir'd also to see the Town-House; but he saw, the Day he design'd to go thither, so great a Crowd of People, that he staid at his Lodgings. At *Moulins* he gave a magnificent Treat to above 40 Persons, after the *Persian* and *French* Manner. He gave Presents of rich Stuffs, and also of Money, in all the Places where he was receiv'd according to his Liking.

Being come to *Charenton*, he lighted at the House of M. *Dyonis*, where they had taken great Care to prepare all the Conveniencies imaginable. A World of Persons from *Paris* came to see him at *Charenton*, and to partake of the Entertainments, Musick, and Liquors he gave every Body, during the 13 Days he stay'd in that Place. The 28th of January, the Baron de *Bretueil*, Introducer of Embassadors, went to compliment him from the King; an Honour which his Majesty seldom bestows, but upon singular Occasions.

cations. This Compliment was made in the following Speech, in which the Introducator seems to have affected the lofty Expressions of the Eastern Nations.

THE Emperor of *France*, my Master, the Greatest and most Pious of all the Christian Emperors, the most magnificent of the Kings in *Europe*, the most powerful in War both by Sea and Land, always Invincible, the Delight of his People, and the perfect Model of all Royal Virtues, has sent me, Sir, to make you a Compliment on his Part, and congratulate your safe Arrival near *Paris*, the Capital of his Empire, the richest and the most glorious of the Cities of this Part of the World we inhabit.

He knows that the Emperor, your Master, is the most magnificent and most powerful Emperor of the East, and is perswaded, that having at his Court so great a Number of illustrious Persons, he has chosen you amongst them, as one of a distinguish'd Merit, and capable of being the Bond of the Union of two so powerful Monarchs. He will give you, Sir, on all Occasions, Marks of his Esteem, and of the Consideration he has for an Ambassador who comes from so great an Emperor.

As for me, Sir, I reckon it as a good Fortune to be the first whom he has commanded to compliment you in his Name; I shall, after this Conference, give him an Account of the Execution of his Orders, and receive others for your Entry into *Paris*, and your Audience at the magnificent Court of his Imperial Majesty.

On the 7th of February, *Mehemet Riza Beg*, Ambassador of *Persia*, made his publick Entry into *Paris*. The Marshal de *Martignon* and the Baron de *Breteuil*, went to receive him in the King's Coach, follow'd by those of the Princes and the Princesses of the Royal Family. They brought him in that Coach to the Entry of the Suburb *St. Antony*, where they alighted, and went into the House of the *Sieur Titan*, and then mounted all three on Horseback, and enter'd *Paris* in the following Order. The Company of Inspectors of the Policy on Horseback, habited all alike, march'd first; at the Distance of 30 or 40 Paces came the Coach of the Baron de *Breteuil*, and those of the Marshal de *Martignon*; a Brancard carry'd by two of the King's Mules, upon which were plac'd the Presents which the Ambassador brought to his Majesty from the King of *Persia*. Before and behind the Brancard march'd 8 Trumpets

8 Trumpets of the King's Chamber on Horseback; 12 led Horses of the King's Quarries, magnificently harness'd, and led by his Majesty's Grooms; four of the King's Horses, with Harness in the *Persian* Fashion, and led by *Persians*; 10 *Persians* or *Armenians* on Horseback, carrying Fusils upright, resting upon their Thigh; two *Armenians* on Horseback, who had the Charge of the King of *Persia's* Presents; two Pages of the Ambassador, his Master of Ceremonies, and his Secretary; the Interpreter; the Ambassador upon his Horse, with *Persian* Harness, the Marshal de Matignon on his Right, and the Baron de Breteuil on his Left, march'd all three in a Rank; the *Persian* and *Armenian* Footmen of the Ambassador walk'd by his Horse, the Footmen in their Liveries of the Marshal and Baron, walk'd also by the Side of their Horses; the Ambassador's Esquire on Horseback, carrying the Standard of the King of *Persia*, march'd immediately behind him, with a Page, who carry'd the Ambassador's Sabre resting on his Thigh. The March was clos'd by the King's Coach, and those of the Dutchess of *Berry*, Madame, and Monsieur the Duke of *Orleans*, those of the Princess of *Conde*, the Dutchess Dowager of *Bourbon*, the two Princess Dowager of *Conti*, the Prince of *Conti*, the Princess of *Conti*, the Duke and Dutchess of *Maine*, the Dutchess of *Pendome*, the Count de *Toulouse*, and that of the Marquess de *Torcy*, Minister and Secretary of State for foreign Affairs.

The Publick Audience of that Ambassador was deferr'd much longer than it is usual after Publick Entry, because of the Time of the Moon, observ'd by the Mahometans, and other Reasons; but all Things being ready, and the 19th of the Month being fix'd for that Solemnity, the Marshal de Matignon and the Baron de Breteuil went in the King's Coach to take *Mehemet Riza Beg*, Ambassador Extraordinary of *Persia*, at the Hotel des Ambassadeurs, to conduct him to *Versailles*. All the Retinue of the Ambassador were mounted upon the King's Horses of the great and lesser Stables, as on the Day of his Entry; the Standard of *Persia* march'd by the Coach Side; the Ambassador's 12 Fusileers on Horseback also, with their Fusils erected, going before; the Present of the King of *Persia* was carry'd in another Coach by the Sieur *Agoubehant*, an *Armenian*, with whom the Key of it had been intrusted at *Erivan*; the King's Coach stopp'd at the Entry of *Versailles*, at the House of the Sieur *Bontemps*, first Groom of the King's Bedchamber, and Governor of the Palace of *Thulleries*, who had prepar'd all Sorts of Refreshments for the Ambassador and

and his Train: The Horse which the Embassador was to mount, attended him there, as also fresh Horses for his Retinue, together with the King's Trumpets design'd to accompany him in his March, which was made in this Order to the Castle, viz.

The Coach of the *Baron de Breteuil*, preceded by three of his Domesticks on Horseback; the two Coaches of the *Marshal de Matignon* preceded in the same Manner; 12 of the King's Saddle Horses with magnificent Furniture, led by *Persians*; 12 of the Embassador's *Persian* Fusileers on Foot, with their Pieces advanc'd; several of the Embassador's Servants on Horseback; the Secretary officiating at the Reception of the Embassadors; the Embassador's Moulā, or Doctor of the Mahometan Law; his Treasurer; a Page carrying his Pipe; the eight Trumpeters of the King's Chamber; *Agoubekant*, the *Armenian*, on Horseback, bearing in both Hands the King of *Persia's* Present and Letter to his Majesty, wrapp'd up in a Piece of Silk flower'd with Gold; the Embassador's Master of the Ceremonies, and the Interpreter by his Side; the Embassador on one of the King's Horses with *Persian* Furniture, the *Marshal de Matignon* on his Right, and the *Baron de Breteuil* on his Left, all three in Front; the Embassador's *Persian* and *Armenian* Footmen round his Horse, the *Marshal* and *Baron's* Liveries by the Side of theirs; the Embassador's Master of the Horse on Horseback, bearing the King of *Persia's* Standard, march'd immediately behind him, and a Page who bore the Embassador's Scymiter rested on his Thigh; the King's Coach closed the March.

The Embassador's Fusileers left their Pieces at the Gate of the Fore Court of the Palace, and proceeded on unarm'd: In the Fore-Court, the Embassador pass'd through the *French* and *Swiss* Guards, who, to the Number of 2000 Men, were under Arms in two Lines, the Drums bearing; his Master of the Horse left the Standard of *Persia* without the Gate of the King's Court, where the Guards of the Gate stood rang'd in two Lines under Arms; that Court was fill'd with so great Multitude, that the Guards had much ado to make Way for the March round it in View of the King's Windows.

At Eleven a-Clock the Embassador with the *Marshal* and *Baron* pass'd cross that Court on Foot to go to Audience up the Steps leading to his Majesty's grand Apartment. The Embassador, before he mov'd to his Audience, put his Sabre by his Side; he had likewise in his Sash a large

Poniard

Pomard in a Scabbard of Gold, which none but those Lords, who are Officers of the King of *Persia*, are allow'd to wear.

The Secretary led the March, and *Agoubéant*, carrying in his Hands the Present and the Letter of the King of *Persia* uncover'd, preceded by eight of the King's Trumpets, march'd just before the Ambassador, who was receiv'd at the Foot of the Stair-case by the Great Master, and the Master of the Ceremonies, the hundred *Swiss* standing on the Stairs in their Habits of Ceremony, with Halbard in Hand; within the Door of the Guard Hall he was receiv'd by the Duke de *Noailles*, Captain of the first Troop of Life-Guards, who stood in two Lines under Arms; there the Ambassador took the Letter from *Agoubéant*, and carry'd it from thence to the King's Throne; the Letter was in a Bag of Gold Brocade of about a Foot and half in Length.

His Majesty's Throne rais'd on eight Steps, was at the upper End of the Gallery of his grand Appartment; so that the Ambassador entering at the Door which opens at the other End of the Gallery, saw his Majesty sitting on his Throne, with his Cloaths cover'd over with the Jewels of the Crown, having by him the Dauphin, and all the Princes of the Blood; there the Ambassador made his first Bow, at the same Time his Majesty stood up, and took off his Hat. The Crowd of Courtiers was so great, that notwithstanding that Gallery is so very spacious, the Ambassador was a long Time before he could get to the Throne; at the Foot of it he made his last Bow, and ascended to the Top, as did the Marshal de *Matignon*, the Duke de *Noailles*, and the Baron de *Breteuil*. The Ambassador approaching the King, put the King of *Persia*'s Letter into his Majesty's Hands, who immediately gave it to the Marquess de *Torcy*, Minister and Secretary of State.

The Ambassador's Compliment to the King, interpreted and pronounc'd by the *Sieur Padery*, is as follows:

S I R,
THE Emperor, my Master, who is in the Service of God, and Keeper of the Law of the Great Prophet, has sent me on Purpose, I who am his Slave, in the Service of your Majesty, to beg of God the Continuation of your Health, and at the same Time to encrease and renew the ancient Friendship. He has order'd me to strengthen the Foundation of that Alliance in such a Manner as your Majesty shall think fit: More-

ever

over, I have Orders to give Satisfaction in whatever your Majesty can desire, and to execute it, in respect to some other Affairs which your Majesty has desir'd. Your Slave, *Si*, has Orders from his Emperor, to give you all the Satisfaction a Son ought to give to his Father, seeing he looks upon your Majesty as his own Father. Moreover, Sir, your Majesty may be assur'd, that he will never break off on his Side the Treaty, nor his noble Sign Manual, unless it proceeds from the Part of your Majesty.

I hope also, that God will grant me the Favour to execute the Orders your Majesty will give me here. Now that I have the Happiness to see your Majesty in your Throne of Glory, I am sensible it is no great Matter to have suffer'd so much for the Service of two so great Emperors.

May God preserve for ever your Majesty upon his bright Throne; may he always confound your Enemies, make them feel the Heaviness of your formidable Arm; and may it please him to give to your Majesty and to my Emperor a profound Peace. God grant it.

His Majesty was cover'd while the Ambassador made his Speech; and after the Interpreter had explain'd it, his Majesty took off his Hat, and the Ambassador descended from the Throne. When he was on the lowest Step, he took the Present from *Agoubehant*, put into the Hands of the Marquess de Torcy, and made a Bow to the King. The same Crowd through which he pass'd to the Throne, hinder'd him from making any more Bows; and 'twas very difficult to make Way for him to get back to the End of the Gallery, one Side of which had Rows of Benches fill'd with Ladies of the Court.

He had his Audience of the Dauphin, and made him the following Compliment.

My Lord;

I Pray unto the Divine Majesty that he may be pleas'd to preserve you; that he will encrease your Days and your Years; that you may attain to a great Age; that you may imitate your Grandfather, that great Emperor, to whom God is pleas'd to give a long Life, that he may be able to give you the necessary Education to govern his Empire. God grant it.

If I could presume to take the Liberty, my Lord, to prostrate myself to kiss your Hand, I would do it with much Veneration; but the Respect I have for your sacred Person, is so

So great, that I dare not come so near it : This is the only Motive that hinders me from it. May God increase your Days to an old Age.

He was however admitted to kiss the Hand of that Prince; and after he and all his Retinue had been treated by the King's Officers, he departed, and was re-conducted to the *Hotel des Ambassadeurs* in the King's Coach, without making on Horseback the same March as in going, because it rain'd.

This is the Account the Government of France gave the World of this Embassy : But they thought fit to omit the following remarkable Incident.

When M. de Breteuil, Introducer of Embassadors, and the Marshal de Matignon went to receive him at Charenton, in order to his making his publick Entry into Paris, M. de Breteuil told him, That the Marshal de Matignon, who was to accompany him in his Entry, as representing the King's Person, must be receiv'd by him standing, and not sitting on his Carpet spread upon the Ground. And when the Marshal came, M. de Breteuil said to the Embassador, This is the Marshal de Matignon, who comes hither to conduct you, in his Majesty's Name, and represents his Person; besides, he is a Lord of Distinction, whom the King employs only on such extraordinary Occasions as this; whereby his Majesty wou'd signify how much he is pleas'd to see a Person of your Character come from so remote a Country, to compliment him.

To this the Persian answer'd, I represent the Person of my Prince, as well as he does his, so in that Respect we are equal; besides, the Laws of Mahomet oblige us not to rise to any Lord or Prince, who is not an actual Sovereign.

Upon this M. de Breteuil reply'd, If you will not do the Marshal this Honour, you must not make your publick Entry, for never any Embassador scrupled this Ceremony before; and if you will not listen to Reason, we will find a Way to force you to it, and send you to Prison if you continue obstinate, and refuse to pay that Honour which is due to so great a King.

The Persian immediately call'd for his arm'd Domesticks, order'd them to oppose the first Aggressor, went out of the Room, and sent Word to the Marshal de Matignon and M. de Breteuil, That he would make his Entry in Spite of them. Accordingly he mounted his Horse; upon which M. de Breteuil ran and catch'd hold of his Bridle, saying, That

he should not make his Entry, if he did not pay the Honour due to the Person who represented the King.

The Persian, instead of complying, drew his Dagger, and offer'd to stab M. Breteuil, but was hinder'd by the Attendants. The Monsieur, unwilling to expose himself any more, suffer'd the Ambassador to make his Entry without farther Dispute about the Ceremonial, and the Marshal attended the Ambassador into the Court of the Palace appointed for the Reception of Ambassadors, where he took Leave of him on Horseback.

Next Morning the Marshal gave an Account of what had pass'd to the King, who, instead of approving what M. Breteuil had done, immediately order'd the Marquess de Torcy, Secretary and Minister of State, to go and pacify the Persian Ambassador, and acquaint him, That his Majesty did by no Means approve M. de Breteuil's Conduct and Rudeness towards him, but was very much displeas'd with it, and was ready to continue all those Marks of Esteem for him, and of the Satisfaction he had to see a Person of his Rank at his Court.

This Persian Ambassador, *Mehemet Riza Beg*, was about 50 Years of Age, of a middle Stature, a tawny Face, a broad Forehead, quick Eyes, a hook'd Nose, flat Cheeks, a handsome Mouth, and a black Beard, but usually painted about the Cheeks with a yellow Colour; he made Use of the same Colour to paint his Hands, and of Carmin to make his Nails red.

He was a very witty Man; but brisk and high spirited, passionate and inclin'd to Anger, but soon appear'd; a scrupulous and a superstitious Observer of his Religion: In a Word, he was, if we may believe all those who served him and conversed with him, a very honest Man.

Another remarkable Occurrence of this Time was the Marriage of Philip V. King of Spain with the Princess *Elinabeth* of Parma. Upon the first Notice of this intended Marriage, the Court of Rome affect'd to appear very much surpris'd at it, but the Imperialists were too clear sighted to be thus impos'd upon by the Graces of the Pontiff, and the Imperial Ministers express'd every where their Dissatisfaction both against the Duke of Parma and the Court of Rome, which was suspected by them to have manag'd that Match. Those Suspicions grew to a plain Discovery of that Intrigue, by several Steps which

which left no Room to doubt that the Court of *Rome*, being jealous of the Designs of the Emperor, resolv'd to introduce a new Power in *Italy*, to balance the Authority of the House of *Austria*. It was plain, that this Match was likely to bring to the King of *Spain*, *Philip*, or his Posterity, not only the States of the Duke of *Parma*, but also those of the Great Duke of *Tuscany*, to which the Princess *Elizabeth* of *Parma* had the nearest Claim, after the Death of the Great Duke, the Hereditary Prince his Son, and his Daughter the Electress Dowager Palatine, neither of whom had any Children. The Solemnity of the Marriage was perform'd as follows: The Pope made Choice of Cardinal *Gonzadini* to compliment the future Queen of *Spain*, and gave him the Character of his Legate a Latere. On the 15th of *September*, this Cardinal made his Publick Entry into *Parma* with the following Ceremony. First came four Coaches of the Duke of *Parma*, follow'd by an Officer, and a Detachment of Guards: Then the Harbinger of the Legate, his Trumpets, 24 Mules with his Baggage, his Litter, his Gentleman of the Horse, his Chaize, the Master of his Wardrobe, and a Valet de Chambre. Next came the Servants of the Prelates, Chaplains, and Gentlemen of his Eminence, and 60 others, who accompany'd him, and a great many belonging to the Duke of *Parma*, in rich Apparel: The Clergy and Chapter; the Serjeants at Arms, with their Maces; the Master of the Ceremonies; the Cross of the Legation; 12 Pages; 16 Footmen of the Legate, and those of the Prelates and Gentlemen of his Retinue, being 300 in Number: He made his Entry into the Town under a Canopy carry'd by the Elders of the People, attended by Cardinal *Acquaviva*, and the Duke of *Parma* in Person; after him came 120 Servants in his Livery, and his Officers; follow'd by the Queen's Coach, that of the Legate, and those of the Duke of *Parma* and the Princess; besides 25 belonging to the Nobility of *Bologna*, who came with his Eminence, 14 of the Cardinal *Acquaviva*, 48 of the Court of *Parma*, and 30 others.

The 16th the Legate perform'd the Ceremony of the Marriage in the Cathedral Church, the Outside of which was hung with rich Tapestries, and the Inside with Damask and Velvet, with Gold and Silver Lace. At the Offertory, the Duke, as Proxy of the King of *Spain*, was marry'd to the Princess, and plac'd himself by her on a Throne which had been erected in the Middle of the Choir,

Choir, and the Legate gave them nuptial Benediction, and then his Blessing to the People.

Here it will not be foreign to our Purpose, to give some Account of the Power of the Duke of Parma, and of the Dominions he was possess'd of at the Time of this Marriage.

The Duke of *Parma* was then in the actual Possession of four Dutchies in *Lombardy*, viz. *Parma*, *Placentia*, *Busseto*, and the *Val de Taro*, bounded on the North and West by the Dutchy of *Milan*, on the East by the Dutchy of *Modena*, on the South by the *Appennine Mountains*, which separate them from the Territories of *Genoa* and *Tuscany*. He possess'd also the Dutchies of *Castro* and *Ronciglione* in the Territories of the Church, and the Dutchy of *Civita di Penna* in the *Abruzzo* in the Kingdom of *Naples*. 'Tis true, he was not Sovereign thereof; but the Revenues he then had on the Territories of the Church and *Naples*, being very considerable, they render'd him more powerful in *Italy*, where he had besides a considerable Interest by the Situation of his Country.

The Territories of *Parma*, *Placentia*, *Busseto*, and the *Val de Taro*, are very fruitful, and produce Abundance of Corn, Wine, Oil, Rice, and other Necessaries for Life, and being cut off by a World of little Rivers, there is no Country in those Parts which can nourish such a Number of Cattle; and the Cheese, known by the Name of *Parmesan* is valu'd throughout *Europe*. Those Countries have undergone several Revolutions since the Declension of the Western Empire; but at last the Church being in Possession of the Dutchies of *Parma* and *Placentia*, Pope *Paul III.* who before his Election was nam'd *Alexander Farnese*, gave those Dutchies to his Son *Peter Louis* in the Year 1545, who enjoy'd the same till the 10th of December 1547, when he was kill'd in *Placentia* by the Conspiracy of the *Palavicini*, and others; solicited thereunto by the Emperor *Charles the Fifth*, who could not bear patiently that he should enjoy *Placentia*, pretending that it was a Dependency of the Dutchy of *Milan*, and therefore immediately took Possession thereof. *Octavio*, Son to *Peter Louis*, second Duke of *Parma*, maintain'd himself therein in Spight of the Emperor; and the Spaniards, in the Year 1585, restor'd to that Family the Castle of *Placentia*, which was still in their Hands, in Consideration of that famous Captain *Alexander Farnese*, who was General of the Spanish Forces in the Netherlands.

The Reader will not expect here a further Account of this Family, for that is not our Business; but thus far we thought ourselves oblig'd to take Notice of it, to shew how those Dutchies came into the House of *Farnese*, which made little Noise in the World before it was thus illustrated, and what Pretensions the Emperor has upon *Placentia*.

This Duke of *Parma* is a Feudatory of the Holy See, and pays yearly to the Pope a Tribute of 10000 Crowns; and being thus a Vassal of the Pontiff, he thought it necessary to obtain from him a Brief, whereby he was empower'd to leave his States to his Female Line in Case of Failure of the Male. This Step was complain'd of by the Ministers of the Emperor and *Savoy*; but those of his Holiness answer'd, That the Pope had no ill Intention against any Potentates in granting this Brief; and that he knew nothing of the Marriage of the Princess *Elizabeth* of *Parma* with King *Philip*, till it was too late to prevent it; but this was so highly improbable that no Body could believe it, altho' there were no undeniable Proofs to evidence the contrary. Meanwhile, the *Italian* Princes were afraid of new Troubles upon that Account; for the Emperor was so highly displeas'd with the Duke of *Parma*, that he order'd the Fiefs he held of the Empire and the Kingdom of *Naples* to be sequester'd.

This Princess *Elizabeth*, now Queen of *Spain*, was Daughter to Prince *Odonardo Farnese*, Duke of *Parma*, who in the Year 1690, marry'd *Dorothy Sophia* of *Newburgh*, Sister to of the present Elector *Palatine*, of the Empress Mother, and the Queen Dowager of *Spain*. Prince *Odonardo* dy'd in the Year 1693, having had by that Princess a Son nam'd *Alexander*, who dy'd shortly after his Birth, and a Daughter, christen'd by the Name of *Elizabeth*, now Queen of *Spain*. The Princess *Dorothy Sophia*, Mother to this new Queen, marry'd some time after the Prince *Francis Farnese*, Brother to her late Husband, who is the present Duke of *Parma*. The World was astonish'd at the Project of that Marriage, because of their great Proximity, Prince *Odonardo*, his eldest Brother, having had Children by her; but the Pope remov'd all Scruples of Conscience, and gave his Blessing to that Marriage. The present Duke having no Children, the Queen of *Spain*, who is his Niece and Daughter-in-Law, is the next Heir to his Dominions, and it was stipulated in the Contract of Marriage, that the first Prince who shall be born of this Marriage, shall be declar'd Duke of *Parma*, insomuch

that as the Children of the King of *Spain* by this second Marriage, cannot pretend to the Crown of *Spain*, till the three Princes of the first Venter, and their Posterity, are extinct, so the latter shall have no Manner of Claim to the Dutchies of *Parma*, and other Dominions of that House, if the present Duke and his Brother die without Issue.



The War in Pomerania.

IN the Register N^o I, the Reader will find an Account of a War that broke out in the North between *Prussia* and *Sweden*; and we there took Notice, that the King of *Great Britain*, as Elector of *Brunswick Lunenburg*, had declar'd himself a Party in that War, and taken Part with the *Prussian* against the *Swedes*: We here will insert some farther Particulars relating to that Affair, which deserve to be transmitted to Posterity, and will render our former Account the more perfect.

The French King sent the Count *de Croissy*, one of the ablest Ministers of *France*, with the Character of his Embassador to the Court of *Prussia*, with Orders to mediate Matters, and endeavour to prevent farther Hostilities between that Court and the *Swedes*. The Count *de Croissy* arriv'd at *Berlin*, but not till after his *Prussian* Majesty was gone from thence to his Army, which was assembling in the Neighbourhood of *Seetin*: Upon which that Minister, after having continu'd a few Days at *Berlin*, set out for the *Prussian* Camp, and the Day after his Arrival had publick Audience of the King of *Prussia* in his Tent; where, after having deliver'd his Credentials to that Prince, he made him the following Speech.

S I R,

THE King my Master has commanded me to assure your Majesty of his Esteem and Affection, and it is to give an essential Proof thereof, that he employs his Care for procuring a perfect good Correspondence between your Majesty and the King of *Sweden*. He is of Opinion, Sir, that that Union is equally advantageous for the one and the other, believing that it cannot agree with the Prudence and Interest of the King of *Sweden*, to draw so powerful an Enemy as your Majesty upon him; but at the same Time he believes that it agrees with your Majesty's

Majesty's Prudence and Interest, not to alienate from you such a Prince as the King of Sweden, and to stifle and suppress all the Seeds of War, which sooner or later cannot but prove prejudicial.

All the World knows the enterprizing Temper of the King of Sweden; Attempts which would appear rash to others, do not astonish him. Such Enterprizes may succeed one Time or other; and if the Success is answerable to his Courage, your Majesty's Subjects will be the first expos'd to his Vengeance. Sound Politicks, Sir, require from a wise Prince, such as your Majesty, not to expose your ancient Hereditary Dominions, to the Danger of being entirely ruin'd, only for keeping Possession of a Place of which you cannot obtain the Property; therefore the King, my Master, is of Opinion, that your Majesty will do a prudent and generous Thing in restoring *Stetin* on the Conditions propos'd by the Landgrave of *Hesse Cassel*, and that nothing will be more conducive for procuring the Re-establishment of the Peace in the North. The King hopes also, that his good Offices will contribute to an Accommodation between the King of Sweden and *Poland*, and the King my Master persists in his former Declaration to be Guarantee of the Peace that shall be made.

I have Orders to declare these Sentiments to your Majesty in the most strong and effectual Manner, to shew your Majesty the Interest and Concern the King my Master takes in the Tranquillity of *Europe* and *Germany*. I am also order'd to treat about whatever may concern the personal Honour and Advantage of your Majesty, and 'tis this last Order that I shall execute with the greatest Joy and Application. Monsieur de *Kniphausen* (the *Prussian* Envoy at *Paris*) is Witness how hearty I have been therein; but in the mean Time I desire your Majesty seriously to consider the Weight and Importance which the Treaties of *Westphalia* have in *Europe*, and if it is convenient for your Majesty to break them, seeing these very Treaties concern and secure the Frontiers of your Dominions. I conclude, with assuring your Majesty with my sincere and respectful Affection, &c.

In the Answer return'd by his *Prussian* Majesty to the Proposals made by the Count de *Croissy*, he declar'd, That he was ready to enter into a solid Agreement with the King of Sweden upon reasonable Conditions; namely, if he would engage himself to observe on his Part the Treaty

of *Schwedt* in all its Parts, as the Allies of the North have done on their Part: And for an Assurance of his Intention not to trouble the North Part of the Empire, that he would transport his Troops from *Pomerania* to *Sweden*, and leave on this Side the necessary Garrisons, contenting himself with re-entring at the Peace into the Possession of *Stetin*, and the other Places depending on it, which he by Treaty was oblig'd to keep till that Time.

This is the Substance of the Declaration made to *M. de Croissy*. What he obtain'd of the King of *Sweden* in Answer, is contain'd in the following Letter; to which is added the Reply of the King of *Prussia* to this Count, whereby a Judgment may be made of the Disposition of the King of *Sweden* for an Accommodation, and of this Mediator to bring it about.

The Letter of the Count de Croissy to his Majesty the King of Prussia.

AFTER the Objection made at *Stetin*, that I explain'd the Sentiments of the King of *Sweden* before I had seen him, I think it my Duty, and suitable to the respectful Inclinations I have to your Majesty, to give your Majesty an Account of the Disposition I found Things in at my Arrival.

The King of *Sweden*, full of Justice and Moderation, desires nothing so much as to live in Peace with his Neighbours, and has all the Deference he ought to have for a Mediator, such as the King my Master. But on the other Side, his Firmness is not at all shaken by the Storm which roars about him; He has foreseen the Blows that may fall upon him; and his wise Precautions has settled in all Minds here, a Security, which is not only founded upon the Love and Confidence of his Troops, but upon certain Reality.

The Isle of *Rugen*, whose Importance your Majesty knows better than I, is in so good a State, as to be out of Fear of any Forces that can attack it; and without being Master of that Island, all the World knows there is no thinking of getting Possession of *Stralsund*; which Place is moreover secur'd, not only by a good Garrison, but also by an intrench'd Camp, the Situation whereof is wonderful; for it is on one Side secur'd by the Sea, and on the other by an impracticable Morass, which extends itself along the Intrenchments, and fills with
Water

Water the Ditches, which a fine Parapet has render'd wide and deep.

Besides these Dispositions, Sir, there is yet another in the Hearts of the Officers and Soldiers, which is beyond what can be imagin'd, and which I cannot but very imperfectly give you an Idea of; but is more worth than all the Fortifications in the World. I can then protest to your Majesty, with all the Sincerity of a Man who would not disgrace himself, and who has an Experience of 25 Years in War, that if there be an Enterprize of insuperable Difficulty, 'tis that of *Stralsund*. Do not delay, Sir, (as your Majesty has done me the Honour to tell me) 'till the Moment comes that Monsieur *Glasenap* writes to me to do Justice to my Reasons: Prevent it, if you please, while it is yet Time. I conjure you to it by the true Interest I take in all that concerns your Majesty, from which I shall never swerve, and by the Desire I have to merit your Majesty's Esteem. I am, &c.

Stralsund, May 22, 1715.

The King of Prussia's Answer.

I Have receiv'd, Sir, your Letter of the 22d Instant, and am much oblig'd to you, that you have been willing to give so ample an Information of the Dispositions the King of Sweden has made for the Defence of *Rugen* and *Stralsund*. As that is the only Subject of your Letter, and that you talk to me of nothing else, it fully confirms me in the Opinion I have long ago had of the Intentions of that Prince, which you also, without doubt, found, when you arriv'd at his Court; namely, That he is averse to Peace, and that all his Thoughts are wholly turn'd to War. You will acknowledge, that this indispensably obliges me to follow the same Course. And although you have taken Pleasure to make in your Letter so formidable a Picture of the State the King of Sweden finds himself in; I hope nevertheless, that you will not pretend that I should in the least distrust the Justice of my Cause, nor what I may promise myself from my Arms, which having known how to overcome other Difficulties in former Wars, may also, as I hope, conquer, by the Assistance of God, those that are at present in Question.

From the Camp of Stetin, May 24.

By this Answer of his *Prussian Majesty*, the Count *de Croissy* easily perceiv'd by the Style of it, that some free Expressions he had us'd therein, was not acceptable to that Prince. As it is not likely that his Design was to give any Affront to his *Prussian Majesty*, he wrote a Letter to the Baron *d'Ilgén*, a Minister of that Court for Foreign Affairs, who return'd him an Answer. Those Letters are as follows :

A Letter from the Count de Croissy to the Baron d'Ilgén,

S I R,

THIS Letter I have had the Honour to write to his *Prussian Majesty*, has had an Effect quite different from what I propos'd to myself. I was willing to give him a Testimony of my Zeal for his Service, of my respectful Adherence to his Majesty, and my Desire of contributing to a perfect good Understanding between him and the King of Sweden. But all that I have said has receiv'd a disadvantageous Interpretation, and the King of *Prussia* looks upon me as a vain Boaster, that has no other Design in the Account I gave of the Situation of Affairs, than to brave him: So that a Character is imputed to me, which far from being excusable in a Mediator, would be despicable in an Enemy. I beseech you, Sir, to be pleas'd to efface those ill Impressions, which I never intended to give Room for. The Intention of his *Swedish Majesty* was and is to live in perfect good Intelligence with the King of *Prussia*: He has explain'd to me his Sentiments thereupon in the clearest and plainest Manner in the World, and the most conformable to the publick Good, whereof I shall be very glad to give you Proofs whenever your Excellency desires it. I shall conclude with telling you, that I shall esteem nothing so honourable and agreeable to me, as to contribute to a Peace between so great Princes. I shall never think much of my Care and Pains to that Purpose, and his *Prussian Majesty* will see that it is not a Compliment, when I say that no Body is more in his Interest than I am. Do me the Favour to assure him of it, to make my Court to him, and to look upon me as the Man who is the most truly

Yours, &c.

Stralsund, May 29, 1715.

The Count de CROISSY.

Baron

Baron d' Ilgen's Answer to the Count de Croissy's Letter.

S I R,

THE King having seen the Letter which your Excellency did me the Honour to write to me on the 29th of May, has order'd me to testify to you, that he is entirely perswaded, that what he lately receiv'd from your Excellency, was not written in any other Sense, nor with any other Intention, than that your Excellency has pleas'd to remark. His Majesty does you entire Justice upon it, and cannot comprehend how there can be found People so ill-advis'd as to interpret it otherwise. With regard to the rest, Sir, it must be acknowledg'd, that it is unhappy that the King of Sweden did not sooner declare his Mind, if his Majesty has Sentiments so conformable to the publick Good, and to a perfect Intelligence with the King my Master, as your Excellency assures me, and not have let Things to be carry'd to the Extremity they are now in. He protests to your Excellency, that That, however, does not at all diminish the Merit you have gain'd with him, by the Good-Will and the Care you have taken to accommodate Things upon reasonable Conditions, altho' it have had no Effect. The King has expressly commanded me to assure your Excellency of this, as also of the Esteem and particular Affection he shall always preserve for you. And I make use of this Opportunity to tell you with Respect that I am,

Yours, &c.

Stettin, June 1, 1715.

d' ILGEN.

The Minister of France continu'd to act as Mediator, but seeing the Court of Prussia insisted still on a Declaration of the King of Sweden on the Proposals that had been made to him, he thought fit to write another Letter to M. d' Ilgen, which is as follows:

A Letter of the Count de Croissy, Minister of France, to the Baron d' Ilgen, Minister of State to his Prussian Majesty, from Straelsund, June 9, 1715.

S I R,

I Am extremely concern'd to send to your Excellency for my Secretary back again; and I should much rather have come myself to Stettin, and employ'd him there in writing a Treaty of Alliance and Friendship, than to have