

had formed the Year before, but had miscarried in putting it in Execution. To prevent the Enemy, there was no other Way, but to continue marching all Night, so that on the Third of *June*, in the Afternoon, the Army of the *Allies* arrived at the Camp of *Terbank*, very much fatigued, both by this long March, and by the continual Rains, which had fallen for twenty-four Hours together.

THE *French* having Intelligence, of the expeditious March of the *Confederates*, did not think fit to venture any farther than *Genap*; but incamped with their *Right* to that Place, and their *Left* to *Braine la Leu*. Upon which the Duke of *Marlborough* took up his Quarters in the Abby of *Terbank*, and Monsieur d'*Auverquerque* his, in the Suburbs of *Louvain*. On the Fourth, several Bridges were laid over the *Deyle*, between *Havre* and *Louvain*. On the Fifth, almost the whole *Confederate* Army forag'd in the Neighbourhood of their Camp. The Sixth, being appointed, by his Grace, as a Day of Thanksgiving, for the past Success of the Arms of the *Allies*, and to implore a Blessing upon the present Campaign, it was religiously observ'd, throughout the whole Army.

Which is prevented by an expeditious March.

The Enemy continuing quiet in their Camp, the Duke of *Marlborough* took that Opportunity to review his Troops, which he began to do on the Seventh, and continued for eight or nine Days following; when he had the Satisfaction to find, that the respective Bodies were all very compleat, and the Men in the most excellent Order; flush'd with their former Victories, and eager to engage an Enemy, that began to look despicable in their Eyes. In this Camp it was, that the *Electoral* Prince of *Hanover*, now our most gracious Sovereign, King *George II.* came to the Army, and was receiv'd with the greatest Marks of Respect and Distinction, by all the General Officers.

Underhand Practices of the *Electors* of *Bavaria*.

It appeared now very plain, that the Enemy had no Inclination to come to a Battle with the *Confederates*. Their Views were indeed to recover the Places they had lost in the Year 1706, but it was by their usual Methods of *Surprise*, and *Treachery*; nor were they altogether disappointed in their Designs. For the *Electors* of *Bavaria*, who had gained some Interest in the Provinces of the *Netherlands*, amongst People of all Ranks, by his Profuseness, and Affability, with the Assistance of the Count *de Bergeyck*, Minister of *Spain*, a Person of great Credit, and no less Activity, together with other Friends of the House of *Bourbon*, easily found Means to practise upon the Levity, of the chief Inhabitants, of some of the principal great Towns; who being uneasy under the *Dutch* Government, promised to open their Gates to the Troops of *France* and *Spain*, as soon as they should be able to find a fair Opportunity.

THE Armies, on both Sides, had now remained a considerable Time in their respective Camps, without any Motion; the *Confederates*, for their Parts, being in Expectation of Prince *Eugene's* taking the Field, with an Army composed of the *Prussian* and *Hessian* Troops, ten Thousand *Palatines*, and some *Imperialists*. The Motion of this Body of Forces was retarded, by several Difficulties, about the March of the *Palatine* Troops. The *French*, getting Intelligence hereof, rightly concluded the *Confederates* would hardly venture to force them, in the Passes and Defiles whereof they were possessed; wherefore they detached two Bodies of their Troops, with Orders to march towards *Ghent* and *Bruges*, in hopes of surprizing those two Places, with the Inhabitants whereof they had an Intelligence; which, accordingly, they effected; as we shall see immediately.

THAT our Readers may have an Idea of the Importance of these two Cities, it may not be improper, to give them here a concise Description of them.

Bruges is a beautiful, strong, and noble City, of the *Low-Countries*, in the Earldom of *Flanders*; the Capital of the Territory of *Bruges*, a Bishoprick, under the Archbishop of *Mechlin*. It is a Place of great Trade, situated on several Canals, which are very convenient, for transporting of Merchandize to the neighbouring Cities and Countries. It is about twenty-four Miles

Miles North-West of Ghent, eleven East of Ostend, thirty-four North-East of Dunkirk, and forty West of Antwerp.

Ghent is a large City and Castle, one of the Chief of the Low-Countries; the Metropolis of the Earldom of Flanders, and Territory of Ghent; and likewise a Bishoprick under the Archbishop of Mechlin: It is famous for the Birth of the Emperor Charles V. on the Twenty-fourth of February, 1500. It stands on the Rivers Scheld, Lys, and Leye, which divide it into twenty-six Islands: It has vast Fields within its Walls, so that it is reckoned of as large Extent as Paris; and Charles V. who was a great Lover of that City, wherein he drew his first Breath, answered, when he was asked, *Whether he was Master of such another City as Paris, in all his vast Dominions?* He! *J'ay un Gand dans laquelle Je puis mettre toute Paris. Pish! I have one Glove, wherein I can put all Paris;* alluding to the Word *Gand*, the French Name of Ghent, which also signifies a Glove. It is twenty-seven Miles almost South-West of Antwerp, thirty North-West of Brussels, ninety-four South of Amsterdam, and one Hundred fifty-four North-East of Paris.

THE first Attempt was made upon Ghent, by the Marquis de Grimaldi, a Lieutenant-General, who had under him the Baron de Capres, now Duke of Bournonville, and the Brigadiers de la Faille and Pafteu. In the mean While, the other Body, under the Command of the Count de Chemerault, likewise a Lieutenant-General, were to make themselves Masters of the Passages of the Dender, and to break down all the Bridges that were laid over it. To conceal this Design the better, the Duke of Burgundy began to march, on the Fourth of July, about Nine at Night, and passed the Sennes in the Morning, between Tubize, Cambeck, and Halle, the Detachment having set forward on their March the Morning before. His Royal Highness afterwards took his Rout towards Lessines, and went to Ninove, having the Dender before him, as if he had had no other View than to retire towards Tournay. The Duke of Marlborough had no Notice of the Duke of Burgundy's March, till it was Midnight; when suspecting, or having Intelligence of his Design, he immediately detached four Regiments of Horse and Dragoons, with Orders to pass the Dender at Dendermond, and observe the Army of France; and, if possible, prevent their putting their Design in Execution, but it was too late: At Four in the Morning, the Duke passed the Canal near Brussels, and posted himself at Anderlecht.

IN the mean While, the Marquis de Grimaldi having marched all that Day, and all Night, arrived on the Fifth, early in the Morning, near Ghent: He then made the necessary Dispositions, for the Execution of the Design, wherewith he was charged. About Five in the Morning, some Troopers, with five or six Soldiers, appeared before the Gate *St. Levin*, pretending to be Deserters. At this Gate, there was only a weak and negligent Guard of Burghers, who were no more in Number than the pretended Deserters, and asked them some few trifling Questions, to which the others, having their Lesson by Heart, made pertinent Answers; after which, they gave them Admittance. When they were going to carry them to the Main-Guard, some of them sat themselves down on the Ground, on Pretence of Weakness, and desired a little Brandy to refresh them, which was granted; and after drinking a little among themselves, they drank also to the Burghers, who did the same, and amused them with a Story of the March of the French Army, and their deserting. Soon after, another small Party came, with the same Story; and the first Party saying they knew them, they were admitted; more Brandy was brought; and they all drank thereof. But they had hardly taken the Glass in their Hands, before Monsieur de la Faille, who, not long before, had been High Bailiff of that City, but who was then a Brigadier, in the Service of Spain, advanced at the Head of a Hundred Foot. By Chance, the Soldier who was then upon Duty without the Gate, as Centinel, happened to be one who had deserted from the Brigadier's Regiment; wherefore he knew him, levelled his Piece at him, and was just going to fire: But the Brigadier, with great Presence of Mind, called the Soldier by his Name, and told him that he had nothing to fear from him, as a Deserter;

for

for that he was come over to their Side himself, with all those brave Fellows, whom he saw with him. At the same Time, he went up to the Centinel, and put some Pistoles into his Hand, which made him as mute as a Fish. The Brigadier then passed on with his Men, and advanced towards the Gate.

THOSE who were upon Guard at the Gate, seeing him so well attended, made an Attempt to prevent his Entrance; but the pretended Deserters rising all at once, presented their Bayonets and stopt them. Resistance would now have been to little Purpose, wherefore Monsieur *de la Faille*, having thus made himself Master of this Gate, without striking a Stroke, left some of his Men there, and with the Rest marched with all Expedition through the Town, to possess himself likewise of the Gate of *Bruges*. As it was very early in the Morning, he met only with some few Labourers, and Tradesmen in the Streets; some of whom taking them for Deserters, used them with great Civility, whilst others, judging otherwise, flock'd together, and made a Shew as if they would have took up Arms: But Monsieur *de la Faille* threw some Pistoles amongst them to appease them, which made some of them cry out, *Long live Philip*. More Money was given them for so doing; this increased their Numbers, and afterwards nobody made any Opposition. In this Manner, he got to the *Bruges-Gate*, of which also he made himself Master, almost without any Resistance. Immediately he caused it to be shut, for fear that Major-General *Murray*, who was encamped on that Side with three or four Battalions, and one Regiment of Dragoons, should have possess'd himself thereof. Accordingly that General appeared before it soon after, but too late, the Post being taken, and the Bridges drawn up. He went afterwards to the Bridge of *Meulestede*, from whence he might have got to the Gate of *Muyde*, or the Gate of *Damme*, and could have thrown himself into the Castle by a very short Way, but he got thither also too late, for Brigadier *de la Faille* had before seized thereon.

WHILST all this passed on the other Side of the Town, the Marquis *de Grimaldi*, who had followed Monsieur *de la Faille* pretty close, entered with the Rest of his Detachment, by the Gate of *St. Levin*, and posted himself in the Market-Place, and other Places of Resort. The People of the Town sounded the Alarm-Bell, and the Burghers ran out of their Houses in great Numbers, but nobody offered to make any Resistance; some durst not attempt any Thing, on seeing such Numbers of Troops under Arms, and others had no Inclination to it. All the Gates having been thus seized, Brigadier *de la Faille* went about Ten a Clock to the Town-House; and having conven'd the Magistrates, presented them a Letter from the *Electtor of Bavaria*, dated the Twelfth of *May*: The Substance of which was, “ That hoping the Superiority of the Duke of *Burgundy's* Arms, would
“ deliver most of the Cities of *Flanders* from the Yoke of the *Allies*, he
“ had thought proper, before his setting out for the *Rhine*, to leave be-
“ hind him his Orders, to testify in that Case, to the Magistracy of *Ghent*,
“ and the Populace, the Satisfaction he had received, in having always
“ seen them well-affected, and zealous for King *Philip*, even since the
“ Changes that had happen'd; and to assure them, that in case they should
“ return to their Obedience to the said King, they should not only have
“ all their Privileges confirmed, but even that others should be conferred
“ on them according as should be judged proper for the Welfare of the
“ Publick; and to conclude, that his *Electoral* Highness, as Governor-
“ General of the *Spanish Netherlands*, would grant both the City and Pro-
“ vince a general Amnesty, for all that had been done since the Battle of
“ *Ramillies*, and would confirm the Magistracy of *Ghent* in their Authority,
“ for two Years.” After the Reading of this Letter, the Magistrates readily submitted, and performed the Acts usual on such Occasions, insomuch, that by Noon, the *French* Government was perfectly re-established.

THIS done, the Marquis *de Grimaldi* bent all his Thoughts on reducing the Castle, wherein there was but a very weak Garrison: Accordingly, he caused

The Castle
summoned
to surrender.

caused the Governor to be summoned immediately to surrender. It was Monsieur *de Labene*, Major of Sir *William Temple's* English Regiment of Foot, who commanded therein, with about three Hundred Men: But as he expected, either to be reinforced by Major-General *Murray*, or relieved by the Approach of the *Confederate* Army, he refused at first to surrender, and answer'd, *That he would defend himself to the last Extremity*: Accordingly he fired some Cannon upon the Enemy, who, thereupon, began to raise some Batteries. In the Afternoon, Count *Bergeyck*, Minister of *Spain*, being arrived with a great Number of *French*, they again summoned the Governor, and sent to him a Deputation from the Magistracy, to represent to him how Things stood, and exhort him to surrender. Upon this, Major *de Labene* held a Consultation with the Officers under him; wherein, having considered that Major-General *Murray* had been disappointed in his Attempt to throw a Reinforcement into the Place; how strong the Enemy were, and how weak the Garrison, consisting, besides, of new Recruits, and sickly Men; with a large old Breach unrepaired; the Moat's being fordable in that Place; the Cannon being, in a Manner, uselefs, for want of Necessaries thereunto belonging, and through the Absence of the Store-Keepers and Gunners; the vast Number of Women and Children therein, amounting to upwards of nine Hundred, and the Scarcity of Provisions; they thought it proper to accept of the honourable Terms which were offered them; which, however, were to be void, in case the Garrison should be relieved by the Eighth; rightly judging, that if they received no Relief by then, they could not reasonably expect any at all. The Terms granted them were, That the Governor should be conducted by Water to *Sas von Ghent*, with all his Garrison, Arms, and Baggage, three Pieces of Cannon, and three Charges for the same. This Capitulation was executed the Tenth in the Morning, Mr. *Lediard* says the Eighth.

It obtains
honourable
Terms.

Bruges sur-
rendered to
the Enemy.

THE same Day that the Marquis *de Grimaldi* appeared before *Ghent*, the Count *de la Motte* marched to *Bruges*, at the Head of a strong Detachment. As soon as he came before it, he summoned it to surrender, but promised the Burghers a Confirmation of their Privileges, and a general Amnesty for what was past; at the same Time, he gave them Notice, that *Ghent* was taken. Hereupon, the Magistrates seeing themselves defenceless, and without a Garrison, asked Leave to send to *Ghent*, to know whether it was true, that the Magistracy of that City had made their Submission; which being granted them, and the Messenger being returned, they capitulated about Noon, after the Count *de la Motte* had fired only three Pieces of Cannon. Mr. *Lediard* says, "There was indeed a Sort of Capitulation agreed upon, in which the *Sieur Briel*, Receiver of the Contributions, and Monsieur *Volmar*, his Comptroller, were included; but it appeared, by every Circumstance, that this was a Form only, and that the Articles had been long before agreed on."

Damme at-
tempted b
them in vain,
but Fort
Plassendahl
taken.

THIS done, the Count *de la Motte* marched immediately to *Damme*, hoping to meet with the same Success there; but as this Place was both fortify'd, and garrison'd, the Governor opened the Sluices, and laid the whole Country under Water, which obliged the Enemy to retire. From thence he went on to *Plassendahl*; a little Fort on the Canal, which leads from *Bruges* to *Ostend*; and which secures the Communication between those two Places. He summoned the Officer who commanded therein; and, on his Refusal to surrender, ordered it to be attack'd, and took it, Sword in Hand.

MAJOR-GENERAL *Murray*, having found it impossible to reinforce the Garrison of the Castle of *Ghent*, as we before observed, retired to *Sas von Ghent*; where he met the Deputies of the *States-General*, for the Affairs of *Flanders*, and concerted, with them, the necessary Measures for putting their Frontiers in a Posture of Defence, and securing those Posts which were not exposed. The Governor of the *Sas* had, before, reinforced the Garrison of the *Red-House* with fifty Men, and the Deputies countermanded the Regiment of *Eberfeldt*, which were marching to *Elkela*. As for Major-

General

General *Murray*, he posted his Troops under the Cannon of Fort *Leopold*; but, the next Morning, he received Orders from the Duke of *Marlborough*, to march, and endeavour to join Major-General *Bothmar*, who, as we before observed, had been detached from the Grand Army, with three Regiments of Dragoons, and one of Horse. Accordingly he passed the Canal, but receiving Advice from Monsieur *Bothmar*, that the Junction was impracticable, he returned, the Seventh, to his former Post. In the mean While, the Deputies of the *States* again reinforced the Garrison of the *Red-House* with a Hundred Men, and furnish'd them with a sufficient Quantity of Ammunition and Provision. Two Hundred Dragoons, of the Regiment *d'Audigni*, were likewise detach'd, to secure the Lines of *Beruliet*; and forty were sent to *Hulst*; besides which, all the Troops which were in *Sluys*, marched to *Damme*, excepting fifty Men.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* was too sensible of what Importance it would be, to recover *Ghent* and *Bruges*, not to be thoughtful of the speediest Methods to effect it; and as none seem'd to him so likely to conduce thereto, as to force the Enemy to a Battle, the gaining of which must, of course, be attended with the Recovery of those Places, he concerted all possible Measures to that End.

WE before observed, that the *French* passed the *Sennes* between *Halle Cambeck*, and *Tubize*; and that the Duke of *Marlborough* followed hard after them, and came to *Anderlech*: We should have added, that his *Right* was at the Mill of *Tomberg*, which was within a League of the Mill of *Goicke*, where the *French* had passed on the Fifth. But as the Enemy came late into their Camp, and had made a very long March, through difficult Ways, it was not thought practicable to attack them that Night. However, the greatest Part of the Horse and Foot having been brought to the *Right*, during the Night, in order to engage the Enemy, the whole Army was formed, next Morning early, being the Sixth, in Order of Battle. But their Design was frustrated by the *French*, who were taken up the whole Night in passing the *Dender*, with all possible Expedition, through the Town of *Ninove*, and over several Bridges, built for that Purpose, near that Place: Insomuch, that the Detachment, sent to attack their *Rear Guard*, came too late to find any Thing but their small Baggage, which was attended by a strong *Escorte*. These were soon defeated, and put to Flight, by Major-General *Schuylemburgh*, and Sir *Richard Temple*, with ten Squadrons, and five Battalions, supported by Major-General *de Veyne*, with ten Squadrons more, and they took a great Deal of Baggage: For the Enemy had passed the River with so much Precipitation, that they had sunk their Boats, which occasioned the leaving a considerable Part of the Baggage on the hither Side; Part whereof belonged to the Duke of *Burgundy*, which was plundered by the Soldiers, who also took above three Hundred Prisoners.

The Enemy retreat in the Night over the *Dender*.

THE *Confederate* Army incamped the same Night at *Asche*, where Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, having made a quick March from the *Moselle*, and left his Cavalry at *Maestricht*, arrived that Evening, with Major-General *Cadogan*, whom the Duke of *Marlborough* had sent to attend him; his Highness resolving to be present, as soon as possible, at whatever Action might happen, even though his Troops should not come up in Time. The Arrival of his Highness, and the Approach of his Troops, not only revived the Spirits of the Soldiers, but was very acceptable to the Generals themselves, after the ungrateful News, they had received that very Day, of the *French* having surprized *Ghent*, and taken *Bruges*.

Prince Eugene arrives at the Confederate Army.

FROM the very Moment Prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Marlborough* met, they acted with such Unanimity, as if but one Soul had informed both their Bodies. The next Day, a Council of War was held, wherein it was resolved to regulate the March of the Army, according to the Motions of the Enemy; whereupon, Pioneers were sent out on every Side, to make Ways. The Resolution the Duke of *Marlborough* had before taken, of bringing the Enemy, if possible, to an Engagement, was now confirmed again; and so

eager were the Generals for it, that it was determined, if a fair Opportunity offered, not to wait for the Arrival of the *Imperial* Troops. In the Afternoon, Prince *Eugene* went to *Brussels*, to pay a Visit to his Mother, the Countess of *Soissons*; and the next Day, the Duke of *Marlborough* being pretty much indisposed, and feverish, the Orders were given out at Monsieur *d'Auverquerque's* Quarters; and according to these Orders, four Battalions marched, to reinforce the Garrison of *Brussels*, and eight Battalions, under the Direction of Major-General *Cadogan*, were commanded to make the Ways.

The Enemy's surprising *Ghent*, proves a Disadvantage to them in the End.

THE Advantage, though great for the Present, the Enemy had in surprising *Ghent*, proved afterwards the Occasion of a much greater Loss to themselves; and the Governor of the Castle, not delivering it till the Tenth of *July*, had this good Effect, that it amused the Enemy two or three Days in their Camp, from above *Alost* to *Schillebille*, on the *Scheldt*. This Delay was of most fatal Consequence to them; for the *French* Generals receiving Intelligence, that Prince *Eugene* was bringing a Reinforcement of about thirty Thousand Men, with all Expedition, from *Germany* to *Brabant*, resolved upon retiring towards their Lines, and strong Towns, before the Junction of the *Confederate* Troops. They fondly imagined, that as they were themselves to be reinforced with a good Body of Troops, which were coming from *Alsace*, under the Command of the Duke of *Berwick*, they should afterwards be a full Match for the *Confederates*; and, at least, should be able to preserve the Conquests they had lately made, with so much Ease: But, unfortunately for them, their Forces, under the Duke of *Berwick*, happened not to march with so much Speed as the *Germans*, who were remarkably expeditious on this Occasion, contrary to their usual Custom. The *French* were also so elate with their late Success, though it was wholly owing to Treachery, it being a Thing which, for some Time, they had been altogether unacquainted with, to fancy they might either surprize, or reduce *Oudenarde*, the only Pass the *Allies* had left on the *Scheldt*, since the Enemy had treacherously got Possession of *Ghent*, before the *Confederates* could possibly be in a Readiness to prevent it. To this End, the Count *de Chemerault*, having broken down all the Bridges upon the *Scheldt*, and struck a Terror into all the lesser Places, they caused that Town to be invested the Ninth of *July*, early in the Morning, and intended to have taken Possession of the advantageous Camp of *Lessines*.

They invest *Oudenarde*.

MONSIEUR *de Sigterman*, who commanded in *Oudenarde*, fearing the Inhabitants might be treacherous, as it was strongly suspected they had been in other Places, immediately called a Council of War, to consider of the proper Means how to keep them within the Limits of their Duty, if they should be otherwise inclined. It was there resolved to defend the Town to the last Extremity; and to declare to the Inhabitants, that it was hoped they would contribute all that lay in their Power to that End; but, that if they offered to make the least Attempt towards surrendering the Place, they would set Fire to the four Corners of it, and reduce it to a Heap of Ashes: Hereupon, the Townsmen made all possible Protestations of their Fidelity, and assisted the Governor in putting the Place in a good Posture of Defence.

An extraordinary March of the *Confederate* Army.

ABOUT the same Time, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, having either Information, or Suspicion of the Enemy's Design, order'd Brigadier *Chanclos* to throw himself into *Oudenarde*, with seven Hundred Men, detach'd from *Aeth*, *Courtray*, and *Menin*, and *Walef's* Dragoons, which was performed accordingly. This proved a great Disappointment to the Enemy; for if they could have secured this Place, they would have cut off the Communication of the *Allies*, both with *Menin* and *Courtray*.

THE same Day, the *Confederate* Army march'd, in four Columns, to the *Left*, all the Horse of the *Right Wing* in one Column, on the *Right*; and all the Cavalry of the *Left Wing*, in another Column on the *Left*; the Foot of both Lines marching in two Columns in the *Centre*: The Earl of *Albemarle* was left, with all the Grenadiers of the Army, and thirty Squadrons,

to make the *Rear-Guard*, in case the Enemy should have offered to advance towards *Brussels*. The Ways being in good Repair, the whole Army marched in exact Order, though with the greatest Expedition, the Head being pass'd *Herfelingen*, above five Leagues from *Asche*, before Eleven in Morning, and the Lines perfectly closed up, without any straggling, or any Thing's being left behind.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* had given Orders for the Army to pitch their Tents, just in their March, about *Herfelingen*, fronting towards the Enemy; who, being far from imagining that the *Confederate* Army could possibly make so swift a March, did not beat the *General* till Three in the Afternoon, thinking themselves secure of the Camp of *Lessines*, in order to cover the Siege of *Oudenarde*, for which they had their Artillery ready at *Tournay*. Prince *Eugene*, having rejoined the Army at *Herfelingen*, the Duke of *Marlborough* detach'd Major-General *Cadogan*, about Four in the Afternoon, with eighty Squadrons, and as many Battalions, to take Possession of the Camp of *Lessines*: Accordingly, eight Hundred Men, of this Detachment, entered that Town about Midnight; and the Rest, having pass'd through, at Four in the Morning, posted themselves on the hither Side the *Dender*. On the other Hand, the *Tat-too*, which was the Signal for striking the Tents, being beat at Seven, the Evening before, in the Camp at *Herfelingen*, the whole Army marched immediately; and moving on all Night, began, on the Tenth, about Eleven at Night, to pass the *Dender*, over the Bridges laid there by Major-General *Cadogan*, and pursued their March to the Camp of *Lessines*, on the other Side; the chief Strength whereof consists in the Rivulet, which falls into the *Dender* below it. Hereupon, the Enemy, perceiving themselves disappointed of this Camp, left their *Rout* towards it, wherein they had marched for several Hours, and directed their Steps towards *Gaveren*, in order to pass the *Scheld* there.

The *Confederates* possess themselves of the Camp at *Lessines*.

ON the Eleventh, in the Morning, upon Intelligence that the Enemy had quitted *Oudenarde*, and were pursued by Brigadier *Chanclos*, with *Wales's* Dragoons, Major-General *Cadogan* was sent before with sixteen Battalions, and eight Squadrons, to make the Ways and Bridges at *Oudenarde*. The Army began to follow about Eight a-Clock, by the *Left*, in four Columns, as they had encamped. And after the News came, that the Enemy were still passing at *Gaveren*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, resolved to endeavour to bring them to an Engagement, if possible. In order to this, the Army continued their March with such extraordinary Speed, and Diligence, that by Two in the Afternoon, the Head was at the Bridges, over which Major-General *Cadogan's* sixteen Battalions were then passing.

The *Confederates* endeavour to bring the Enemy to an Engagement

IN the mean While, Major-General *Rantzau*, with eight Squadrons, and the Quarter-Masters, being posted on an Eminence, behind a narrow, but marshy Rivulet, which runs into the *Scheld*, perceived a great many *French* Squadrons drawn up on the Plain, on the other Side of the Rivulet; and the March of the *French* Army being directed towards the *Right*, they had thrown seven Battalions into the Village of *Heurne*, (Mr. *Lediard* says *Heynem*) through which the Highway lies along the *Scheld*. By these Appearances, they could not judge, with any Certainty, whether the true Design of the Enemy was to oppose the *Confederates* Passage over the *Scheld*, or to gain their own Lines between *Lisle* and *Tournay*, which they might reasonably have thought they should have had Time enough to have done. For they could hardly suppose, that such a vast Army could march five Leagues, in a very close Country, have their Ways made, pass a large River, and come up with, and attack and defeat them, and that all within the Compass of twenty-four Hours.

WE have now followed the *Confederates* in their March to the *Scheld*, in order to force the Enemy to an Engagement, we should likewise give our Readers an Account of the famous Battle of *Oudenarde*, that immediately ensu'd; but that they will find an accurate Description thereof by Monsieur

Dumont,

Dumont, in PART I. Page 89. and we would willingly avoid tiring them with Repetitions : Wherefore we shall only take Notice of such Particulars, as are not mentioned by that Gentleman, or, at least, which are mentioned very cursorily.

A Description of the City of *Oudenarde*.

Oudenarde, from whence this famous Battle and Victory has its Name, is a rich, and very strong Town of the *Low-Countries*, in the Earldom of *Flanders*, the Metropolis of the Territory of *Oudenarde*, and a Bishoprick under the Archbishop of *Cambray* : The Townsmen also carry on a considerable Trade, and are famous for a Manufacture of Tapestry. It stands on the River *Scheld*, thirteen Miles South of *Ghent*, as many North-West of *Acth*, thirty-six West of *Brussels*, and thirty-seven almost North of *Mons*.

Misconduct of the Enemy, before the Battle of *Oudenarde*.

It would have been an easy Matter for the *French*, either to cut have off the Detachment of the *Allies*, which had advanced and laid Bridges over the *Scheld*; or, at least, to have destroyed those Bridges, before the whole *Confederate Army* could have come up; and then, if they had supported their Left at *Heurne*, posted their Horse behind the Castle of *Beveren*, towards the Mill of *Oycke*, and placed their Centre on the Rising Ground between *Wertigem* and *Heynem*, they would undoubtedly have had all the Advantage the most difficult Ground could have given them, and perhaps it might have been in their own Choice, whether they would have engaged in a general Action, or not. But the Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Vendosme*, who had been at Variance for some Days before, what Course they should take, still differed in their Opinions, which put them both strangely to a Nonplus, what Measures they should resolve upon, and what Disposition to make. This Irresolution lasted till Three in the Afternoon, when most of the young Commanders in the *French Army*, having more Fire than Prudence, in order to make their Court to the Duke of *Burgundy*, declared loudly for an Engagement, which, in a great Measure, determined the Duke of *Burgundy*, and the Duke of *Vendosme* was obliged to submit.

The Enemy prepare to begin the Attack, but are discouraged.

MAJOR-GENERAL *Grimaldi*, therefore, was ordered by the Duke of *Burgundy*, to begin the Attack on the Right, with the Horse of the King's Household, and dislodge Major-General *Rantzau*, from the Eminence on which he was posted : But when they came to the Rivulet, and found it marshy, they were discouraged from attempting the Passage, and returned towards their own Right, though they had twelve Thousand Men more than the *Confederates*, besides several other Advantages. This Attack was disapproved of by the Duke of *Vendosme*; who, therefore, sent Monsieur *Jennet*, his Aid de Camp, to the Left, with Orders to them to attack the *Allies* on that Side; but this was countermanded by the Duke of *Burgundy*, upon Information, as it was said, that there was an unpassable Morass in their Way; the Duke of *Vendosme*, however, had passed it but an Hour before, with the Count d'*Evreux*. The Marquis de *Quincy*, to clear the Duke of *Burgundy* from the Imputation of this Miscarriage, pretends, that Monsieur *Jennet* was kill'd, in going from the Right to the Left of their Army; and that, therefore, the Duke de *Vendosme*'s Orders not being delivered, could not be executed, which (continues he) gave the *Allies* a great Advantage; and undoubtedly it did so.

HOWEVER it was, the Enemy were totally defeated; and nothing but Night coming on, put an End to the Slaughter, and saved the shattered Remains of their Army, which were otherwise in Danger of suffering as great a Loss, as at the Battle of *Hochstet*; for the Fire was directed so many several Ways at once, that when it grew darkish, it was impossible to distinguish Friends from Enemies; this made the *Confederate* Generals send positive Orders to give over firing, chusing rather to let the routed Enemy escape, than to venture the putting themselves into Disorder. But had there been but two Hours more Day-light, their whole Body of Foot, and their Right Wing of Horse, must, in all Probability, have been entirely cut off, they being surrounded almost on every Side.

DURING this whole memorable Action, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, issued out their Orders, with such a Serenity of Mind, and so

so excellent a Judgment, as seem'd peculiar to those two *Heroes* of the Age. They expos'd their Persons to the greatest Danger, when Necessity required it, and yet had both the good Fortune to come off unhurt. Nor did the *Electoral* Prince of *Hanover*, now our most Gracious Sovereign, come far short of their Glory, considering his Youth. At the Head of his Father's Cavalry, he charged the celebrated Troops of the *French* King's Household, and bore down all who oppos'd him in his Career of Glory. Next to him, *History* must justly commemorate the Praise of the young Prince of *Nassau-Friesland*, Father to the Prince of *Orange*, now so nearly ally'd to the Crown of *Great Britain*, by his Marriage with our Illustrious Princess *Anne*, who distinguished himself equally by his martial Ardour, and his Conduct. The brave Veldt-Marshal *d'Auverquerque* also, though worn out with the Fatigues of above thirty Campaigns, and in a languishing Condition, exerted his expiring Vigour; and was on Horse-back, at the Head of his Troops, in the hottest of the Fire. Count *Tilly*, likewise, and the Prince of *Wirtemberg*, with the Lieutenant-Generals *Rantzau* and *Natzmar*, as also the Major-Generals *Webb* and *Cadogan*, and Brigadier *Sabine*, signalized themselves highly: In short, all the Generals and Officers animated the Soldiers, every-where, by their own brave Examples.

Just Encomiums of the Confederate Generals.

THE different Troops, of which the *Confederate* Army consisted, fought with such unparallel'd Gallantry, and such a generous Emulation of each other, that it was difficult to determine which deserved the greatest Applause: Yet it was observed, that the *Prussian* *Gens d'Armes* signalized themselves highly, in several vigorous Charges which they made, and sustained, against the *French* Cavalry, wherein they lost near half their Number.

IF we may believe some of the *French* Writers, the Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Berry*, together with the *Pretender*, had a great Share in this Battle; but if the *Dutch* Accounts are to be credited, however the first might behave himself, the two last only beheld the Engagement, from the Steeple of an adjacent Village; and consulted betimes for their Safety, by a speedy Retreat. As for the Generals of the Enemy's Army, indisputably they committed several egregious Faults, as has been shewn in the first Part, both before and during the Action, whether for want of Unanimity, or Judgment, we shall not pretend to determine; but for their Troops, it must be acknowledged, that the Generality of them fought better at this Time, than they had upon any other Occasion, in the late War, except at *Malplaquet*.

The Behaviour of the French.

THE *French* endeavoured to extenuate their Defeat, by their partial Relations of their Loss, and would fain have made this pass for a drawn Battle; for which they had only this poor Pretence, that they had saved their Baggage. This they might well do, since they had left it behind them, as they did, likewise, their Artillery, having only had four or five light Pieces with them, during the whole Action, no more than the *Allies*; inso-much, that the Battle was fought, in a manner, without Cannon, on both Sides. But then, the *Confederates* remaining entire Masters of the Field of Battle, on which they staid two Days, with six or seven Hundred of the Enemy's Officers, and at least six Thousand, some Accounts say seven Thousand, private Soldiers that were made Prisoners, together with ten Kettle-Drums, and above one Hundred Standards and Colours taken, were all indisputable Proofs, that the Victory was on the Side of the *Allies*.

The French endeavour to represent it as a drawn Battle; but the Victory is indisputably on the Side of the Confederates.

THE Enemy retired, by the Favour of the Night, by the Road which leads through the Village of *Huyse*, from *Oudenarde* to *Ghent*, whilst the *Confederates* continued under Arms, in hopes of renewing the Engagement the next Day: In the mean while, they waited for the Light with the utmost Impatience, that they might inform themselves truly how far their Victory extended, which they were hindered from knowing, through the Darkness of the Night. Not so the Enemy, who had fled to *Ghent* with such Fear and Precipitation, General Officers, and others, as well as common Soldiers, that they hardly thought themselves safe, even when within the Walls. In Effect, it was well they did so, for as soon as it was light,

the Duke of *Marlborough* ordered forty Squadrons, from the *Right*, under the Command of the Generals *Bulau* and *Lumley*, together with a considerable Body of Foot, to pursue them, and attack their *Rear-Guard*. This they did with great Vigour, and would have infallibly routed them, and cut them in Pieces, had not the Duke of *Vendosme* (the only *French* General, except the Count *Evreux*, who retained any Courage, or Presence of Mind) posted several Companies of *French* Grenadiers very advantageously, to line the Hedges and Ditches of the only Highway that led to *Ghent*; inso-much, that there was no Place for the *Confederate* Cavalry to form themselves, the Sides of the Roads not being passable, and so many of them were kill'd; particularly *Pents's* Regiment were great Sufferers, being most of them cut off. On this Occasion, several of the Grenadiers, commanded by Major *Irwin*, were killed or wounded, and General *Mercdith* was likewise slightly wounded; but the Enemy, on their Side, were much greater Sufferers, though Monsieur *Dumont* says the Pursuers did them no great Harm: For the Regiment of *Risbourg*, who were the last that stood their Ground, were entirely destroy'd, and two whole Companies of them made Prisoners; Brigadier *Pourienne* also, who commanded the last Brigade, was taken, with divers other Officers, which more than made amends for the Loss suffered by *Pents's* Regiment. In short, the *Allies* drove the Enemy's *Rear-Guard* before them, to within two Leagues of *Ghent*; but as there was but one Road, and no Place for the Horse to draw up in Batallia, (as we observed before) it was not thought adviseable to pursue them any farther, the shatter'd Remains of their Army being retreated under the Cannon of *Ghent*.

We have given an Account, in the Gros, of the Loss on the *Allies* Side, in the first Part: We shall give our Readers below an exact List, drawn up by Order of the *States*; in the mean While, we shall only premise, that the Loss on the Side of the *Confederates* was abundantly made up, by Deserters, and Prisoners, *Germans*, *Switzers*, and *Savoyards*, who enlisted voluntarily into the Service of the *Allies*. The *French* endeavoured to conceal their Loss, with all possible Industry; but that it was infinitely greater than that of the *Allies* is evident, both by all Accounts, and from several Pieces we shall immediately subjoin, and to which we shall refer our Readers for the Particulars.

An exact List of all the Killed and Wounded, on the Side of the Allies, at the Battle of Oudenarde.

An exact
List referred
to in Part I.
page 96.

	Priv. Men wounded	Private Men killed.	Sergeants wounded.	Sergeants killed. —	Sub. Offc. wounded	Sub. Officers killed.	Captains wounded.	Captains killed. —	Majors wounded. —	Majors killed —	Lieut. Col. wounded	Lieut. Col. killed —	Colonels wounded.	Colonels killed. —
<i>Britons</i> —	0104	043	07	01	05	04	06	00	00	00	00	01	02	00
<i>Danes</i> —	0346	201	26	00	18	04	05	01	02	01	01	00	01	01
<i>Prussians</i> —	0106	050	12	00	05	00	02	01	01	00	01	00	00	00
<i>Hanoverians</i>	0310	105	19	09	11	01	04	04	03	00	02	00	01	00
<i>Dutch</i> —	1006	350	38	13	62	24	34	09	03	00	05	01	02	01
Total —	1872	749	102	23	101	33	48	15	09	01	09	02	06	02

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

N. B. Monsieur *Dumont* refers to this List in the First Part, Page 96, but is mistaken in the Sum Total, which he makes but 765 killed, and 2010 wounded.

THE Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Berry*, together with the *Pretender*, reach'd *Ghent* by Five a Clock, next Morning after that memorable Battle, and about Nine, the Duke *de Vendosme*, who brought up the *Rear*, arrived there also. As they were very apprehensive of being pursued by the whole *Confederate Army*, the latter immediately commanded his shattered Troops to march through *Ghent*, to *Lovendeghem*, on the Canal, not above five Miles distant from that City: There, for their greater Security, they cast up Intrenchments, and planted thereupon all their Artillery which they had left at *Gaveren*, with their heavy Baggage. In this strong Camp they recovered, in some Measure, from the Terror and Consternation, into which they had been thrown by the late Defeat; but, as it usually happens in Misfortunes, the former Differences and Animosities revived between their Generals, who laid the Blame of their Miscarriages upon each other; especially between the Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Vendosme*, who, notwithstanding the Interposition of the Court, could never be perfectly reconciled.

SEVERAL Medals were struck on Account of this Victory, at *London*, and in *Holland*, whereof the following are the most remarkable.

Medals struck on this Occasion.

THE first, which was struck in *London*, had on the Face the *Queen's Bust*, with her Title, as usual. On the Reverse, was a monumental Pillar, on the Top of which stands *Victory*, adorned with Trophies of the Standards and Colours of *France*, and at the Foot two Captives kneeling, with this Inscription:

Gallis. ad. Aldenard. Victis. In English, The French vanquish'd at Oudenarde.

In the Exergue, xxx Junij. M.DCC.VIII. That is, On the 30th of June 1708.

IN *Holland*, the two following also appeared, at the same Time. The first represents the City of *Oudenarde*, on a Rising Ground; and at the Foot of it, the *French Cavalry* retreating before Prince *Eugene*, with this Inscription:

Vandomus, in Flandria, sicut in Italia, victus, victorem agnoscit Eugenium.

In English,

The Duke of *Vendosme*, being overcome in *Flanders*, as well as in *Italy*, acknowledges Prince *Eugene* to be his Conqueror.

In the Exergue are the following Words:

Multorum Millium Gallorum Glades ad Oudenardam, Die XI Julij. MDCCIX.

The Defeat of many Thousands of French at Oudenarde.

On the Reverse, Prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Marlborough* are represented on Horse-back, under the Emblem of *Castor* and *Pollux*, each having a Star over his Helmet, with this Inscription:

Salutarium Siderum Apparitio.

That is, The Appearance of the two auspicious Stars.

This Emblem is apply'd in the Exergue, in the following Words:

Eugenij & Marlborough felix Conjunctio.

That is, The happy Junction of Eugene and Marlborough.

THE second Medal represents our two Glorious Generals, each crown'd, by *Victory*, with Laurel, and treading a vanquish'd Enemy under his Feet, and congratulating one another thereupon, in these Words:

Justitiaque Fatum Domitas sic plectere Gentes.

In English,

This is the Fate of Nations overcome by the Force of just Arms.

And in the Exergue:

Strages

Strages Gallorum prope Aldenardam, 11 Julii, 1708.

The Slaughter of the French near Oudenarde, July 11, 1708.

On the *Reverse*, is *Victory* winged, and pointing to a Pile of Trophies raised of the Spoil of the Enemy, with the following Distich round it, and continued in the *Exergue* :

*Horrida quæ fuerant invicti fulmina Martis,
Victoris quis nunc esse Trophæa putet ?*

Who would think that these Spoils, which were the Thunder of invincible *Mars*, should now become the Trophies of his Conquerour?

Next Day after this glorious Victory, the Duke of *Marlborough* wrote the following Letter of Congratulation to their *High Mightinesses* the *States General*, being then incamped upon the Field of Battle.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Letter from
the Duke of
Marlborough
to the *States*
General.

" I do my self the Honour of congratulating your *High Mightinesses*,
" upon the good Success, wherewith it has pleased GOD, to bless the Arms
" of the *High Allies*. The Lords the Deputies, and the Field-Marshal,
" will make known to your *High Mightinesses* all the Particulars, whereof
" we are informed at present. The Pursuit of the Enemy not being yet
" over, we cannot give an exact List of the Prisoners, whose Number is
" very great, nor of the Loss on our Side. I am, with real Affection and
" Respect,

Your HIGH MIGHTINESSES,

From the Camp
at Oudenarde,
July 12, 1708.

Very Humble, and
Very Obedient Servant,
The Prince and Duke of *Marlborough*,

To this, within two Days, the *States General* wrote the following Answer.

S I R,

Hague, July, 14, 1708.

Their An-
swer.

" The compleat Victory obtained near *Oudenarde*, by the *High Allies*,
" under your Highness's brave and prudent Conduct, has filled Us with Joy.
" *Victory*, which is always used to attend upon you, has not failed to accom-
" pany you upon this great Occasion, and has placed new Laurels upon
" your Head, which will be no less bright than the former. We bless GOD
" from the Bottom of our Hearts, for so signal and happy Success, and hopes
" through his Mercy, and Assistance, that the same will be attended with
" advantageous Consequences. We thank your Highness for having commu-
" nicated the same to Us, in your Letter of the 19th Instant, Our Deputies,
" and our Veldt Marshal have acquainted Us with the Circumstances thereof,
" and it is with a most particular Satisfaction, that we congratulate you on
" the fresh Glory you have acquired, on that memorable Day, which adds
" to the Pleasure we receive from the *Victory* itself. We pray God to bless
" more and more, all your Designs, and are, and always will be, with the
" greatest Esteem and Sincerity. &c."

WE shall next insert the Letter of the Field Deputies to the *States-General*, with that of Veldt-Marshal *D'Averquerque* to the Lord Register *Fagel*, both as they contain several curious Particulars, relating to the Battle, not mentioned before, and as the Letter gives a glorious Testimony, of the great Bravery, and prudent Conduct of our *English Hero*.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Oudenarde, July 12, 1708.

“ BY Reason of the shortness of the Time we could only let your *High* Letter of
 “ *Mightinesses* know Yesterday, that we engaged the Enemy about Four in the Field-
 “ the Afternoon ; wherefore we now do ourselves the Honour, of sending Deputies to
 “ you this farther Advice : That, our Army, having march’d on Sunday the States-
 “ Night from *Aspe*, took the Rout of *Leffines*, in order to pass the Den-
 “ der at that Place, without Opposition from the Enemy, of whom we had
 “ got the Start, by a sudden and hasty March. Arriving there on Tuesday
 “ Evening, we had Intelligence that the Enemy were marched from *Alost*
 “ towards *Gavereen*, where they had caused Bridges to be laid, in order to
 “ pass the *Scheld* ; this made us believe they designed to post themselves up-
 “ on the rising Grounds of *Oudenarde*, and prevent our passing that River :
 “ Wherefore, though our Army were very much fatigued, by the forego-
 “ ing March, yet we resolved to proceed on our March Yesterday, and if
 “ possible, to be beforehand with the Enemy ; we detached therefore, Sixteen
 “ Battalions in the Night, to take post on the other Side the *Scheld*, near
 “ *Oudenarde*, and to lay the Bridges necessary for our Passage. Yester-
 “ day Morning, about Nine, we received Advice that the Enemy had
 “ passed the *Scheld*, and were marching towards *Oudenarde* : This made
 “ us hasten our March, as much as possible, for fear our Detachment
 “ which was sent over, should be defeated, and ourselves prevented
 “ in our Design of passing the *Scheld*. By that Time the Enemy were
 “ come near *Oudenarde*, they saw we had already taken post over the
 “ *Scheld*, which made them resolve to strike off to the *Right* ; but
 “ to cover their March against ours, they thought fit to throw Troops into
 “ the Hedges, and into a Village upon the *Scheld*, below *Oudenarde*. About
 “ Three in the Afternoon, as soon as our Foot came up, it was judged ad-
 “ visable to attack the Village, and thereby oblige the Enemy to go no
 “ farther, but stop their March. This Attack was made with so much Vi-
 “ gour and Success, that the Enemy were immediately driven out of the
 “ Village ; our Men falling upon them with their Bayonets in the Muzzle
 “ of their Muskets, without firing a Piece ; insomuch that they presently
 “ threw down their Arms, and a whole Brigade, together with a Brigadier,
 “ surrendered Prisoners. The few Horse that had passed with the Detach-
 “ ment, attacked likewise the *French* Squadrons, posted behind the Village ;
 “ and that with so much Success, that they were put into Disorder, and
 “ forced to retire, our Men taking from them eight or ten Standards, and
 “ some Horses. Hereupon, the Enemy were obliged to face about to
 “ us, and form themselves, about Four a Clock, when most of our Infantry
 “ being got over and drawn up, the general Engagement, began first on the
 “ *Right* Wing, and then on the *Left*. The Struggle was properly between
 “ the Foot, and was pretty obstinate ; but our Men still gained Ground,
 “ and drove the Enemy from one Hedge to another, till Night put an End
 “ to the Combat. The Horse, who could not act, by reason of the inclo-
 “ sed Ground, were detach’d to the *Right* and *Left* Wings, and advanced
 “ so far, that they attacked the Enemy in *Flank* and *Rear*, which when they
 “ perceived, they fell, in the Night, in the utmost Confusion. Part of
 “ them retired, with their Baggage and Artillery, towards *Ghent*, and *Deynse* ;
 “ another Part towards the Road of *Courtray* ; and according to Computation,
 “ Six or seven Thousand surrendered themselves Prisoners, with Three or
 “ four Hundred Officers at their Head ; amongst whom are several Dukes, and
 “ General Officers : Had not the Night come to their Rescue, we believe they
 “ would have saved very little of their Army. We congratulate therefore
 “ your *High Mightinesses*, upon this compleat Victory, which GOD AL-
 “ MIGHTY has so graciously vouchsafed us ; and which gives us an Opportu-
 “ nity, with this victorious Army, and that of Prince EUGENE, who was
 “ present at the Action, to extend our Frontiers farther, and bring the
 “ Enemy to Reason. Each General made so good a Disposition, and every
 “ Regiment attacked the Enemy so well, and with so much Intrepidity,
 “ that it was impossible for any one of them, to distinguish themselves in a

The MILITARY HISTORY of the

“ particular Manner. Our Loss, GOD be thanked, is so small, that there
 “ is not one Regiment, as we know of, which is not in a Condition to serve
 “ out the rest of the Campaign: Amongst the Horse, our Loss is nothing
 “ at all; Nor do we yet know if we have lost one Head Officer of the *State*.
 “ With which,

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS, &c.

Signed,

Ferdinand van Collen.

G. van Rossum, tot Hadcn-Broock.

S. van Goylinga.

Count de Rechteren.

B. van Welveld.

Adrian van Borselen tot Geldermalsen.

“ P. S. We thought, considering the Importance of this Affair, we
 “ should not do amiss in sending this to your *High Mightinesses*, by
 “ one of our Head Officers, *Cock*, who may have the Honour of
 “ informing your *High Mightinesses* of more Particulars.

MY LORD,

Monf. Au-
 verquerque's
 Letter to the
 Lord Regi-
 ster Fagel.

“ ON *Monday* last, at Seven a Clock, we broke up with the Army (as I
 “ have already had the Honour to acquaint your Lordship) from *Herfelin-*
 “ *ghen* near *Enghien*. We marched the whole Night, and the next Day
 “ passed the *Dender*, at and above *Lessines* towards *Oudenarde*, where we
 “ arrived about Noon. We had received Intelligence, that the Enemy had
 “ broken up on *Tuesday* from the Neighbourhood of *Alost*, and were en-
 “ camped at *Gaveren*, and that they passed the *Scheld* Yesterday, at that
 “ Place; which indeed, we found true, perceiving, upon our Arrival at
 “ *Oudenarde*, the Enemy upon a full March towards *Tournay*. Hereupon,
 “ we laid the Bridges over the *Scheld*, in their very Sight, and our Troops
 “ passed the River with an unspeakable Speed and Courage. About Two a
 “ Clock, the greatest Part of our Army had passed, with which the Duke
 “ of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene* formed the *Right Wing* near *Broan*
 “ Castle, about half a League from the Town, and began to engage the
 “ Enemy in a Battle.

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

“ I do my self the Honour to congratulate their *High Mightinesses* upon
 “ this important Victory. We shall endeavour, all we can, to make our
 “ Advantage of it; the Enemy will have much ado to bring their Army
 “ into the Field again this Year, in a good Condition. The Number of
 “ the Slain on their Side is very considerable; besides a vast many of
 “ Officers, some of whom are of Distinction, and common Soldiers, that
 “ are made Prisoners, we have also taken several Standards and Colours,
 “ of which I will send their *High Mightinesses* a List, by the next Courier.

“ THE Bravery and prudent Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*, and
 “ Prince *Eugene*, can never be sufficiently commended, nor the Zeal and Cour-
 “ age of the other Generals of the *States* who did all which their Duty,
 “ and Regard for the Service required of them. All the Officers, and Troops,
 “ without Distinction, did whatever could be expected from brave Men, and
 “ good Soldiers. We sent out a Body of Horse and Foot this Morn-
 “ ing, to pursue the run-a-way Enemy, and disperse them yet more, but
 “ they were got too far off by the Favour of the Night. I remain,

Your Lordship's humble

and obedient Servant,

Signed,

AUVERQUERQUE.

From the Camp of
 Oudenarde, July
 12, 1708.

The List referred to in the Letter was as follows.

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

“ The *Hussars* one Pair of Kettle-Drums, and three Standards. *Athlone's*
 “ a Pair of Kettle-Drums, two Standards. The *Prince d'Auvergne's*, one
 “ Colours. *Smith's Swissers*, one Colours. *Guard's Dragoons*, one Kettle-
 “ Drum, two Standards. *St. Gravenmoer's*, two Standards, two Colours.
 “ *Horse-Guards*, five Standards. *Feniger's*, three Standards, six Colours.
 “ *Dopff's Dragoons*, four Colours. *Prince of Wirtemberg's*, two Standards,
 “ one Colours. *East Friezland*, one Standard, one Colours. *Hesse-Hom-*
 “ *burg's*, one Pair of Kettle-Drums. *Dompere's*, one Pair of Kettle-Drums,
 “ two Standards. *Baldwin's*, one Standard. *Nassau-Woudenburgh's*, one
 “ Colours. *Eck's*, three Standards, three Colours. *Hebrum's*, one Colours.
 “ *Prince Royal's*, one Standard. *Oyer's*, one Pair of Kettle-Drums, one
 “ Standard. *Orange's Life-Guards*, one Colours. *Fagel's*, two Standards,
 “ one Colours. *Vander-Beeck's*, one Standard. *Wittinghoff's*, one Standard.
 “ *May's*, one Standard, one Colours. *Filly's*, one Standard, one Colours.
 “ In all eleven Kettle-Drums; thirty four Standards; and twenty-five Co-
 “ lours.

These were taken by the *Left Wing* only, which was commanded by *Monf. d'Auverquerque*.

We shall now give our Readers the *Extract* of a remarkable Letter, written by a *French Officer*, who was in the Battle, which Letter was intercepted.

“ I can only send you an unwelcome Relation, of the Particulars of
 “ the Battle, which happened Yesterday, about Two in the Afternoon,
 “ near *Oudenarde*. It will prove a great Blow to *France*; for without exag-
 “ gerating the Matter, we had above 10,000 Men either killed or wounded,
 “ or taken Prisoners. The Action was very ill managed on our Side, for,
 “ instead of attacking the Enemy, when they began to pass the *Scheld* near
 “ *Oudenarde*, at Eleven in the Morning, we suffered them to come over
 “ the River very quietly, which they would not have ventured to do,
 “ had we offered to have disputed their Passage, in any tolerable Manner.
 “ But finding we stood still, they were encouraged to persist in their first
 “ Design, and began to march over two Bridges they had laid. As fast as
 “ their Horse and Foot came over, they ranged themselves in order
 “ of Battle, over against us; and whilst our Generals were in Suspence,
 “ whether to venture on an Engagement or not, the Enemy's Army con-
 “ tinued coming over the River, and soon possess'd themselves of some
 “ Villages and Hedges; insomuch that, at last, our Generals were obliged
 “ to dislodge them. Accordingly, our Infantry advanced, and the Ground
 “ was disputed, for two or three Hours, with a terrible Fire, and great
 “ Obstinacy, on both Sides: But, our Foot being tired with charging the
 “ Enemy, five or six Times, and being disheartened to see they were not
 “ supported by our Horse, (who could not act because the Ground was full
 “ of Inclosures) and being besides pressed hard by the Enemy, were at
 “ length, forced to retire, and quit the Ground to them. We Dragoons
 “ were obliged to stand the continual Fire of the Enemy's Foot and Can-
 “ non, without daring to stir, because we were on the *Right* of the King's
 “ *Household*, who suffered as much as we. Towards Evening a great Num-
 “ ber of the Enemy's Horse fell upon us, to prevent our relieving the
 “ Rest, who were put to the Rout, and of seven Regiments of Dragoons,
 “ we have lost above half. At last, we had no other Expedient left, but to
 “ force our Way through the Enemy's Horse; however we sent to see whe-
 “ ther we cou'd be assisted in that Design, by any of our Forces: In the
 “ mean while, Night came on apace, and we were informed, that the
 “ King's Household (whose Retreat was covered, in some measure, by us,
 “ were at two great a Distance. Things standing thus, our Resolution of
 “ breaking through the Enemy sunk, and some of the Enemy's Adjutants
 “ summoning us to yield ourselves Prisoners of War, we submitted to
 “ it,

“ it, seeing no other Way to save our Lives. At least Forty of our Regiments are in a wretched Condition, the greatest Part of them being either killed or taken; so that it will be a long Time before they can be re-established. Of four Regiments of the King's Household, at least half are taken Prisoners. The Chevalier *de Longueville*, and fifteen other Officers were mortally wounded, and two of them are dead since the Battle. The Regiments of *Pfiffer*, and *Villars*, are quite ruined, and almost all their Officers taken, with all their Baggage, &c. Amongst the Prisoners were above seven Hundred Officers, viz. a Lieutenant-General; four Major-Generals; five Brigadiers; fourteen Colonels; eight Lieutenant-Colonels; nine Majors; two Hundred and six Captains; one Hundred and forty seven Lieutenants; ninety six Cornets; eighty six *Gens d'Armes*, and *Chevaux Legers*, and forty-seven Quarter-Masters. The Marquis *de Ximenes*, Colonel of the Regiment of *Royal Roussillon*, and the Sieur *de la Breteche*, Colonel of Horse, with a great Number of other Officers, were killed.

Remarks upon the above Letter.

We may judge by this Letter (which being written by an Enemy cannot be supposed to flatter) of the superiour Courage of the *Confederate Army*; we may find by the Letter of the Field-Deputies, that the struggle was properly between the Foot; and we may see by this, that the Ground was obstinately disputed, with a terrible Fire, for two or three Hours, on both Sides, and yet their Infantry charged five or six Times; what then must their Conquerours do, to drive before them Men who behaved so Gallantly; as it must be confess'd they did? 'Tis certain, and the Event shew'd it, nothing cou'd stand before them. We shall next give our Readers, another Letter yet more remarkable, written by one of the Duke of *Vendosme's* Confidants, supposed to be *Monf. Capistran*, his Grace's Secretary; being the same cited, under the Name of an anonymous Letter, by *Monf. Dumont*, Part I. page 91.

Letter supposed to be from the Duke of *Vendosme's* Secretary.

“ Away with your Consternation, Sir, and do not betray in your self, the Weakness common to our Nation, who never meet with a Misfortune, but presently *all is lost*. Let me tell you, in the first Place, the Reports of which you gave me Hints, are false, and the Duke of *Vendosme* laughs at them. As for the three Marches which he suffered to be stolen from him, and his not guarding the *Dender*, every Body knows, the Duke of *Vendosme*, was for disputing the Passage of that River; and that, after three Day's Contest, he was forced to submit to the Sentiments of those, who, to avoid an Engagement, voted for passing the *Scheld*. However, then it was, that they were obliged to own, what the Duke had foretold them, viz. That, whenever *Prince Eugene* found, they had a Mind to avoid Fighting, he would force them to it, in spite of all their Endeavours to the contrary.

“ As to what is said, that the Duke of *Vendosme* ought to have attack'd the Van of the Enemy's Army, as they were passing the *Scheld*, he knew better Things: For as soon as he received Advice from the Marquis *de Biron*, that Part of the Enemy's Army were got over, he was for attacking them, whilst he saw the Dust made by the Columns of that Army, on the other side of the River, about half a League from *Oudenarde*: But he was the only one of that Opinion, and consequently was not minded; this was at Ten in the Morning. At Four in the Afternoon, Major-General *Grimaldi*, without the Duke of *Vendosme's* Knowledge, was order'd to begin the Attack; which however, when he saw, he was for continuing it. Accordingly, he sent *Monf. Jennet* his *Aid de Camp*, to the Left, with Orders for them to engage; but he was killed in his Return. Neither were those Orders executed, some Officers having insinuated, very *mal a propos*, to the Duke of *Burgundy*, that there was a Quagmire, and an impracticable Morass; whereas, the Duke of *Vendosme*, and the Count *D'Eureux*, had passed that very Way about an Hour before.

“ As to the Retreat, the Duke of *Vendosme* was not for it; but as he was
 “ not seconded in his Opinion, by any one but the Count *d'Evreux*, he was
 “ again obliged to submit. No sooner, therefore, had he given the Word
 “ for the Army to retreat, but all got on Horseback, and fled to *Ghent*,
 “ with astonishing Precipitation: And there were some, who even advised
 “ the Princes to set out Post from thence for *Ypres*.

“ THE Duke of *Vendosme*, who was obliged to make the *Rear-Guard*
 “ for a good Part of the Time, with his *Aids de Camp*, did not reach
 “ *Ghent* till almost Nine in the Morning, when he made a firm Resolu-
 “ tion, to post the Army behind the Canal, which goes from that Place to
 “ *Bruges*: This was absolutely against the Advice of all the General Offi-
 “ cers, who threatened to abandon him for three Days together; and said,
 “ they ought to endeavour to join the Duke of *Berwick*. This Resolution,
 “ however, saved the King's Army, and even France itself; for the panick
 “ Fear, with which the Army was seized, would have caused a worse
 “ Misfortune than that of *Ramillies*. Whereas, the Duke of *Vendosme*, by
 “ posting himself behind the Canal, has covered *Ghent* and *Bruges*, which
 “ is the material Point, and thereby revived, and infused Courage into the
 “ Troops, and given the Officers Time to recover themselves, and know
 “ the Country: In a Word, he has thrown the Enemy out of Action; and
 “ if they attack any of our strong Places, as *Ypres*, *Lisle*, *Mons*, or *Tournay*,
 “ the Duke of *Vendosme* will take *Oudenarde*, and make himself Master of the
 “ *Scheld*, which will put them to a Nonplus. This, Sir, is the very Truth,
 “ and the same as the Duke of *Vendosme* has written to the King, &c.”

It appears plainly by this Letter, which may be depended on as Truth, Remarks up-
 the Substance therefore being the same with what that Duke wrote to the on the above
 King, which he durst not have done, had it been false, since the Duke of Letter.
Burgundy would have contradicted him, that had the Measures of the Duke
 of *Vendosme* been followed, the *Allies* would have been far from obtaining
 so easy a Victory; happily for them, they were not; and as happily for them,
 the Measures concerted were but sorrily put in Execution afterwards. For,
 according to all Appearance, to speak impartially, notwithstanding the pro-
 digious Abilities of the Duke of *Marlbrough*, and Prince *Eugene*, had the
 Duke of *Vendosme* been but well served, they would have found themselves
 in a sad *Dilemma*, at the Siege of *Lisle*. It is certain, as it was, they met
 with such Difficulties, as none but themselves could have overcome; what
 then must have been the Case, to instance but in one Particular, had not
 the gallant Behaviour of Major-General *Webb*, at *Wymendale*, and the scan-
 dalous Cowardice of the Count *de la Motte*, prevented the intercepting of
 the Convoy, whereon the whole Success of that Siege depended? Had they
 been forced to have raised the Siege, as in all Probability they must, they
 would have found it a very difficult Matter to have made a good Retreat,
 with a numerous Army in Sight, and a numerous Garrison at their Heels.
 Upon the Whole, without derogating from the Merits of our two Heroes,
 the Duke of *Marlbrough* and Prince *Eugene*, it must be owned, that the
 Duke of *Vendosme* was a consummate General; and would have made quite
 another Figure, had he not been prevented by the Incapacity, Obstinacy,
 and Self-Conceit of the Duke of *Burgundy*.

To return from whence we have digressed, the Duke of *Marlbrough*,
 after having staid two Days upon the Field of Battle, decamped from thence,
 and removed to *Werwick*, from whence his Grace wrote the following Let-
 ter to the Earl of *Manchester*, then Minister from the Queen of *Great Bri-*
tain to the Republick of *Venice*; which contains other Particulars, whereof
 we have never taken Notice before.

MY LORD,

From the Camp at Werwick, July 15, 1708.

A Letter

from the
 Duke of
Marlbrough
 to the Earl
 of *Manche-*
ster.

“ I return your Lordship many Thanks for the Favour of your Letter,
 “ of the Twenty-second of last Month; and am glad to find your Lord-
 “ ship is like soon to have just Satisfaction from the Republick of *Venice*;

“ you need not doubt then, but the Queen will readily grant your Desire
 “ of returning Home. We are in great Expectation of Sir *John Leake*’s be-
 “ ing sailed for *Catalonia*, where the Succours from *Italy* must have been
 “ very much wanted; since we hear the Duke of *Orleans* persisted in the
 “ Siege of *Tortosa*, notwithstanding the Loss of his Provision-Ships, taken
 “ by our Fleet. Your Lordship must have heard, with Concern, the Ene-
 “ my’s taking the City of *Ghent*, by the Treachery of some of the Inha-
 “ bitants: But the good News, which must soon have followed, of our de-
 “ feating Part of their Army, on *Wednesday* last, near *Oudenarde*, and
 “ obliging them to retire behind the Canal, between *Ghent* and *Bruges*, will
 “ have made some Amends. We took between six and seven Thousand
 “ Prisoners, besides about seven Hundred Officers, of which several are of
 “ Note, and a great Number of Standards and Colours. Our Army lay on
 “ their Arms all that Night, and on *Thursday* encamped on the Field of
 “ Battle. On *Friday* we rested, the Troops having Need of some Ease,
 “ after their great Fatigue; and about Midnight, detached forty Squadrons,
 “ and thirty Battalions, towards the Enemy’s Lines, between *Warneton* and
 “ *Tpres*. The whole Army follow’d by Break of Day, and incamped at
 “ *Helchin*, whence we pursued our March, To-day, to this Camp, close to
 “ the Lines, which we found our Detachment had forced, and taken five
 “ Hundred Prisoners, the only Guard the Enemy had left for their Security.
 “ We do not think that their Army is yet march’d from behind the Canal,
 “ which, with their being in Possession of *Ghent*, will be a great Obstruction
 “ to our bringing up our heavy Cannon, and other Artillery; so that, I
 “ fear, we shall be obliged to retake that Place, before we can make any
 “ farther Progress.”

I am, &c.

MARLBOROUGH.

WHEN the News of the Victory at *Oudenarde* reached *England*, it served for a new Theme to the Muses, who were not silent on this Occasion, and many fine Copies of Verses appeared in Print; amongst others, the following Lines were not a little admired.

On the BATTLE of OUDENARDE.

Verses on
the Battle of
Oudenarde.

PUR Sue, pursue, follow the glorious Blow;
 Leave no Remainder of the haughty Foe:
Lewis, with Pride, and Wealth, and Pow’r made great,
 Must sully all his Glories by Retreat.
Bacchus, with *Tygers*, swift to *India* rode,
 And ’twas Pursuit of Conquest made the God.
 Thus distant Regions echo *ANNA*’s Name,
 Convey’d by the progressive Voice of Fame;
 Whilst *ANNA*’s Sword is lodg’d in *Marlbro*’s Hand,
 ’Tis Vict’ry to obey, and Empire to command.
 See how the scatter’d Troops extend their Flight,
 And bless the Sable Covert of the Night, &c.

MR. *Eusden*, of *Trinity-College, Cambridge*, afterwards *Poet-Laureat*, likewise obliged the learned World with an excellent Copy of Verses, on this Occasion, of which the following Lines may serve as a Specimen.

Verses by
Mr. *Eusden*,
on the Bat-
tle of *Oude-
narde*.

As in a starry Night, the lonely Swain,
 Watching his Flock, on the *Sicilian* Plain,
 Upwards oft casts his Eyes; the heav’nly Fires
 Around he sees, and all he sees admires;
 So I, amazed, Great Man, thy Acts survey,
 And still from Glories, to new Glories stray:
 Lost in the sweet Variety of Light,
 I find none brightest, in a Train so bright;

And

And doubt, which first the grateful Muse shou'd tell,
 For she, on each, cou'd pleas'd for ever dwell.
 But hear! loud *Pæans*, from the *Belgick* Strand
 Resound thy Triumphs, and our Thanks demand!
 Thou art a-fresh the Burthen of each Song,
 The darling Subject of the tuneful Throng.
 In vain, alas! they string the sprightly Lyre;
 In vain great Actions can great Thoughts inspire;
Apollo's Sons, when all their Wit is shewn,
 Reach not thy Merit, but exalt their own.
 Thus num'rous Streams into the Ocean flow,
 New Honours they receive, but none bestow;
 Nor raise the Ocean's Height, whilst they immortal grow.
 Say, wond'rous Man! by what mysterious Charms
 Thou bind'st th' inconstant Goddess to thy Arms!
 Why thus her Love the partially displays?
 Obey'd by others, *Fortune* thee obeys.
 Fly swift, yet *Conquest* swifter flies before,
 So flash the Lightnings, e'er the Thunder roar.
 Uncommon Paths thy wary March proclaim,
 For ev'ry Path, with thee, can lead to *Fame*, &c.

To return to the *Confederate* Army; Prince *Eugene*, who as we observed before, had left his Cavalry at *Maestricht*, having, by his prudent Directions, and exemplary Activity, infused Life into the *Germans*, and shamed them, for once, out of their natural Slowness and Heaviness, the Troops he was bringing up from the *Rhine* and the *Moselle*, made such an expeditious March, as was no small Surprize to the *French*. His Highness having removed the Difficulties, which retarded the March of the *Palatine* Forces, by giving the *Electo*r *Palatine* positive Assurances, from the Court of *Vienna*, that the *Upper Palatinate* should be restored to his *House*, with the Title and Rank, which had been vested in the *Electo*r of *Bavaria's* Family, by the Treaty of *Munster*; these Forces, to the Number of ten Thousand Men, passed the *Moselle*, near *Coblentz*, the Twenty-eighth of June, N. S. and incamped the Thirtieth at *Sinzig*, above *Bonn*, where Prince *Eugene* put himself at the Head of them. The *Saxons*, *Hessians*, and other Troops, which were quartered in the *Honsdrug*, passed the *Moselle* the Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth, at *Akhen*, above *Coblentz*; took their March through the *Meyerfeldt*; and the *Palatines* advancing at the same Time, they joined together the Fourth of July, N. S. near *Dueren*, in the Country of *Juliers*, from whence Prince *Eugene* set out the Fifth, for *Maestricht*, under the Guard of an Hundred Horse. His Cavalry arrived at *Hertogenrade* the same Day; but the Foot continued near *Dueren*, both to wait for some Battalions, which were left behind, and to keep up the Enemy's Jealousy on that Side.

Expeditious
March of the
Germans
from the
Rhine.

PRINCE *Eugene* arrived at *Maestricht*, the Fifth, went next Day through *Brussels*, and joined the Duke of *Marlborough*, in the Evening, at *Asche*, as we have seen above; whilst his Cavalry advancing by speedy Marches, passed the *Maese*, the 6th and 7th, and incamped the 11th at *Vilvoerde*, whither the Infantry came up, within a few Days after. On the other Hand, the *French* Forces, which observed Prince *Eugene's* Motions, under the Command of the Duke of *Berwick*, having passed the *Moselle* at *Remick*, their *Van-guard* arrived, the Fourth of July, at *Luxemburgh*, whither the Duke of *Berwick* came the next Day, and then continued his March towards the *Maese*: But he used no great Expedition, upon a false Apprehension, that Prince *Eugene's* March was but a Stratagem, to cover some other Design, which hindered the *French* from coming Time enough to *Flanders*, to secure their Lines there.

The Duke
of Berwick
mistaken in
Prince Eu-
gene's De-
sign.

As great as the Victory, gained at *Oudenarde*, was in itself, it was yet greater in its Consequences; for whilst the *French* Generals were intrenching

ing

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

The *French*
 Lines forced
 and destroy-
 ed.

PURSUANT to these Resolutions, the Count *de Lottum*, General of the *Prus-
 sians*, with the Lieutenant Generals *Fagel*, and *Dopff*, marched at Night
 with Thirty Battalions, Fifty Squadrons, and some Field-Pieces, towards
Helchin; and the next Day advancing to the *French* Lines, the Enemy aban-
 doned the Fort of *Port Rouge* without any Resistance. On the 15th, in the
 Afternoon *Warneton*, *Comines*, and *Werwick*, with about 500 Men, and several
 Officers, amongst whom was Lieutenant-Colonel *Bourg*, with Twelve other
 Field-Officers, which defended them, surrendered at Discretion; and the same
 Day, the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army, which had encamped between *Bergen*,
 and *Hauterive*, marched in two Columns, towards *Menin*, passed the *Lys*, on
 Two Bridges, near that Place, and incamped between that and *Werwick*.

Contribu-
 tions raised
 in *Artois*.

WHILST one Detachment of the *Confederate* Army was employed in le-
 vellling the Enemy's Lines, between *Ypres*, and the *Lys*, another was sent to
 raise Contributions as far as *Arras*; and the Deputies of that Country not agree-
 ing to pay the Sum demanded, the Generals of the *Allies* had recourse to Mili-
 tary Execution, and sent out Parties, who set two of the Suburbs of *Arras*
 on Fire, another Party were about to do the same at *Lens*; but the Inhabi-
 tants had so much Prudence, as to give Hostages for the Sums required.

As long as the Enemy were posted between *Ghent* and *Bruges*, the *Confe-
 derate* Generals, and the Deputies of the *States*, prudently considered, that
 it was impossible for the *Allies* to receive their heavy Cannon for a Siege.
 Orders were, therefore, sent to the Governor of *Sas van Ghent*, to dispatch
 the Boats, in which were embarked; and had been, for some Time, at that
 Place, to *Antwerp*; from whence that Train was carried to *Brussels*, by the
 Means of the Canals: At the same Time, a new Train of Twenty Battering
 Pieces was ordered, from *Maastricht*, to the same Place. In the mean while,
 the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, had Instructions to continue there,
 with the *Saxon*, and *Hessian* Cavalry, for the Security of the Removal of the
 Artillery; and Prince *Eugene*, with the Rest of his Forces, encamped some
 Days at *Enghien*.

ON the 21st of *July*, the Grand Army made a Motion, and Count *Lot-
 tum's* Detachment being returned to the Camp, the *Left* reached to the *Red*
Bridge, between the *Deyle*, and the *Lys*, and the *Right* between *Werwick*
 and *Menin*; a convenient Place being left on the *Right*, for the *Imperial*
Troops, which were to join the Duke of *Marlborough*. The same Morning,
 upon Information, that the *French* were preparing a Convoy in *Tournay*, for
 their Army near *Ghent*, ten Squadrons, under Brigadier *Chanclos*, were de-
 tached towards *Oudenarde*, to prevent that Supply's getting to the Enemy's
 Camp: And the Prince *d'Auvergne*, with Count *Maurice* of *Nassau*, were
 detach'd with 500 Horse towards *Rouffelaer*, to cut off the Convoys of Pro-
 visions, which the Enemy might expect by the Way of *Ypres*. All other
 possible Precautions were taken, to frighten the Enemy, and oblige them
 to quit that Camp, which they could not well do, without the Hazard of
 another Battle: Amongst others, the Governours of *Ostend*, endeavoured to
 deprive the Enemy, of their Communication between *Bruges*, and *Newport*,
 by laying a good Part of the Country under Water.

ON the Twenty-third of *July*, by Break of Day, the Duke of *Marlborough* detached, two Thousand Horse, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Dompere*, and Major General *Schuylenburgh*, to meet and secure the heavy Baggage, which had been left, the Beginning of that Month at *Brussels*. The next Day, in the Evening, Intelligence being brought, that the Duke of *Berwick* was marched from *Doway* to *Tournay*, with twenty-three Squadrons, and the Cavalry of the Garrison of *Lisle*, with a Design, as it was believed, to attack the Baggage of the *Allies*, in their March from *Aeth*, the Duke of *Marlborough* immediately detached Six Squadrons from the *Right*, under the Command of Major General *Bauditz*, to reinforce Lieutenant-General *Dompere*: Upon which the Baggage arrived, the Twenty-fifth, without any Opposition, at the Camp.

The heavy Baggage arrives at the Camp.

THE same Day, and the next, fifty Squadrons, twelve Battalions, and a Thousand Grenadiers commanded by Count *Tilly*, the Earl of *Orkney*, and Messieurs *Rantzau* and *Hompesch*, Lieutenant-Generals, with Messieurs *Webb*, *Rantzau*, and *d'Erpach*, Major Generals, were detached with Orders to march into *Artois*, the Infantry to take Post at *La Bassée*, and the Cavalry to penetrate into the *French* Territories, as far as *Picardy*, and either to lay that Province under Contribution, or to proceed to Military Execution. On the Twenty-sixth, Count *Tilly* met with eight Hundred and twenty of the Enemy's Horse, being a Detachment from the Duke of *Berwick*'s Army, of which he killed a good Number, and took a Colonel, a Major, three Captains, and about two Hundred Troopers Prisoners. He pursued the Rest to the very Gates of *Lens*, wherein the Enemy had posted one Thousand four Hundred Foot, who abandoned the Place, on the first Approach of the *Confederate* Infantry.

COUNT *Tilly*, having taken Possession of *Lens*, and put five Batalions into it, detached several Parties, who advanced as far as *Picardy*; and the Duke of *Marlborough* having Advice, that forty Squadrons, and twenty Battalions, had marched from the Duke of *Burgundy*'s Army to *Newport*, on the 23d of *July*, *N. S.* and afterwards had advanced between *Bourbours*, and *St. Omers*, in order, to join the Duke of *Berwick*, his Grace sent the Lieutenant-General *Dedem*, and the Prince of *East Friesland*, with twenty Battalions, and fifteen Squadrons, with Orders to post themselves at *Armeniers*, and lye ready to reinforce Count *Tilly*. That General being thus reinforced, advanced nearer the *Scarpe*; whereupon the Deputies of *Artois*, having come to an Agreement with him for Contributions, and at the same Time, the Detachments sent toward *Picardy*, having burnt the Suburbs of *Dourlens*, and brought off several Hostages, he was ordered, the 3d of *August* to return to the *Confederate* Army.

Contributions raised in *Picardy*.

ON the other Hand, the Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Vendosme*, being somewhat recovered out of their late Consternation and Disorder, and having, in some Measure, raised the Spirits of their Soldiers again, by taking the Fort of the *Red House*, provided for the Subsistence of their Army, by carrying off all the Corn they could find in the Country of *Waes*, and as far as *Alost*; and to be revenged, for what Count *Tilly*, was doing in *Artois*, and *Picardy*, they detach'd ten Thousand Men, under the Command of the Chevalier du *Rozel*, to make an Irruption into *Dutch-Flanders*. General *Fagel*, and Major-General *Murray*, having three Battalions, and a Regiment of Dragoons with them, in those Parts, thought it not advisable, to expose that handful of Men, and therefore quitted the Lines, from *Birvliet*, through Fort *Philippine*, and *Isendike*, to *Sluys*, and returned with their Troops into this last Place. Hereupon the Enemy entered the Island of *Cadsandt*, plundered and burnt about a hundred Houses, and, having levelled Part of the Lines, taken a considerable Number of Horses, and Cattle, with other rich Booty, returned with several Hostages, for the Contribution-Money, to their Camp at *Lovendeghem*.

The French make an Incursion into *Dutch Flanders*.

THE *States-General* were very uneasy, at this Invasion of *Dutch-Flanders*; though the Success of the Enemy therein, was infinitely short of that of the *Allies*, in *Artois*, and *Picardy*. But neither this Expedition of the Enemy's, nor their Threats of what they intended to do farther, made any Alteration, in the Measures concerted by the *Allies*, for a considerable Siege. In

order to this, a large Train of Artillery, and a vast Number of Waggon, laden with warlike Stores, had been provided, with all possible Expedition, at *Brussels*. The farther Operations of this Campaign, depending, in a great Measure, upon the safe Arrival of this Convoy, at the Camp, and there being Reason to judge, by several Motions of the Enemy, that they had some Thoughts of attacking it, the *Confederate* Generals made several Detachments to cover that March; and, on the Fourth of *August*, Prince *Eugene* himself set out, with General *Dopff*, to put himself at the Head of his Army, for the same End. On the Eighth, in the Morning; the Duke of *Marlborough*, having received Intelligence, that the Enemy had reinforced the Troops, which they had posted at *Melle*, between *Ghent*, and the Country of *Alost*, to the Number of about thirty Thousand Men, and that the Duke of *Burgundy* was gone thither in Person to head them, his Grace sent Advice thereof to Prince *Eugene*, that he might take the proper Measures for the securing of *Brussels*; but, in the mean while, his Highness having before received the like Information, had already sent a strong Detachment, of Horse and Foot, to observe the Enemy. This done, he advanced himself to *Soignies*, near which Place, he joined the Artillery, which was got thither, by the prudent Conduct of the Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, without having met with any Disturbance from the Enemy; and on the Ninth in the Evening, it was safely conducted on *Aeth*.

The Siege of
Lisle resolved
on.

THE March of this Train of Artillery, with Prince *Eugene's* advancing to *Soignies*, put the Enemy under great Apprehensions for *Mons*; upon which, the Duke of *Berwick*, threw seven Battalions, with two Squadrons of Horse, and one of Dragoons into that Place: But the *Confederates*, being resolved to go upon some Undertaking of the highest Importance, agreed, at last, upon the Siege of *Lisle*; rightly judging, that they could not attack the Enemy in a more sensible Part. As *Monf. Dumont*, has mentioned this famous Siege, but very cursorily, we shall treat of it a little more at large, being fully persuaded it will be acceptable to our Readers.

The Description
and Importance
of that City.

THE City of *Lisle*, which the *Confederates* had determined to besiege, is a large, rich, and well fortified Place, with a very strong Citadel, the Capital of *French Flanders*: It is, besides, the Staple of all the Trade, between the *Netherlands* and *France*, and next to *Paris*, was reckoned the chief Place of his Most *Christian* Majesty's Dominions. It is situated amongst Pools and Marshes, about fifteen Miles *West* of *Tournay*, twenty eight *North* of *Doway*, thirty six *South-West* of *Ghent*, thirty seven *South-East* of *Dunkirk*, and thirty eight almost *West* of *Mons*. The Merchants of that Place were of considerable Service to the *Grand Monarque*, and a great Annoyance to his Enemies, especially the *Maritime* Powers, as they were the principal Owners of the *Dunkirk* Privateers; which could not have been fitted out, in near so great Numbers, without their Assistance. Besides this, as they were very rich, they generally supplied the Wants of the *French* King's Armies, and the Customs they paid him were a considerable Part of his Revenue.

The great
Preparations
of *France* to
defend it.

As *Lisle* was the first and fairest of all *Lewis XIV's* Conquests, and one of the principal Keys of *France*, his Most *Christian* Majesty had always expressed a more than ordinary Value for it; and the famous Engineer *Monf. de Vauban*, had exerted his utmost Skill in fortifying it, and at an immense Charge. The Reduction therefore, of a Place, every way so important, could not, but redound very much, both to the Honour and Advantage of the *Confederates*; on the other Hand, this its great Importance made the *French* use all human Means for its Preservation. Besides the Presence of the Marshal *de Boufflers*, Governour of all *French Flanders*, with the Lieutenant-Generals *de Surville*, *Lee*, and other Officers of Distinction, they threw into the City twenty one Battalions of the best Troops of *France*, besides six Squadrons of Dragoons, one Hundred and forty Horse, and seven or eight Hundred Invalids, who, nevertheless, were not so much disabled,

but

but they were in a Condition to serve ; in short, it was rather a little Army, than a Garrison.

NOTWITHSTANDING the numerous Difficulties, which cou'd not but attend the Siege, of a Place so strong, and so every Way well provided; notwithstanding the *Confederates* had their Communication with their Magazines at *Antwerp*, and *Sas van Ghent*, cut off; nothing was able to deter their Generals from the Resolution they had taken: Though the Duke of *Vendosme*, when he was first informed of this Design of the *Allies*, judg'd it so impracticable, that he was pleased to say openly; *He did not think so prudent and able a Commander as Prince Eugene, would venture upon so rash an Enterprize*; and the *French*, in general, boasted, that *they would oblige the Allies to abandon the Siege, without striking a Blow*.

The Duke of *Marlborough*, and *Prince Eugene*, however, laugh'd at all these Rhodomontades; and accordingly, the Artillery being arrived at *Pottes*, and all other Necessaries provided, the Prince of *Orange-Nassau* was now detach'd, on the twelfth of *August*, with thirty-one Battalions, to take Post at *Marquette*, on the *Lower Deyle*, within half a League of *Lisle*, whilst Lieutenant-General *Wood*, with thirty four Squadrons, marched to *Potteghem*. The same Day, the Army remov'd from *Werwick* to *Helchin*; and the next, *Prince Eugene*, having passed the *Marque*, at *Pont a Trefin*, invested the Town of *Lisle*, between that Place and the *Upper Deyle*; whilst the Prince of *Orange* did the same, with his Detachment, between the *Upper* and *Lower Deyle*: In the mean Time, the Duke of *Marlborough* lay at a convenient Distance, with the main Army, to cover the Siege.

THE Prince of *Orange* had no sooner arrived near the *Marque*, but he passed it with his Troops, attack'd some *French*, who were posted in Houses, along the Cause-way, towards the *Magdalen-Gate*, and obliged them to retire nearer the City. The Enemy had, likewise, a Post at the Bridge of the Abbey of *Marquette*, which they had strengthened well with Palli-fadoes. Hereupon, the Prince of *Orange* made some Grenadiers advance, to drive them from thence; and after a short Resistance, the *French* seeing that several Grenadiers leap'd into the Water, with Design to attack them in the *Rear*, abandoned that Post also, as fast as possible, and retired into the City, before the others could intercept their Passage.

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

THE same Day that the Town was invested, *Prince Eugene* had a long Conference with the Prince of *Orange-Nassau*, wherein the Disposition of the Quarters was settled, and the next Morning, the Lines of Circumvallation were mark'd out, and Pioneers were set to Work on them. In the mean While, the Duke of *Marlborough* continued quiet in his Camp at *Helchin*, from whence he wrote the following Letter to the Earl of *Manchester*.

MY LORD,

From the Camp at Helchin, August 15, 1708.

" I have received the Honour of your Excellency's Letter, of the twenty-seventh of *July*, and return you my Thanks for your obliging Congratulations on our late Victory; which we are endeavouring to improve, in such a Manner, that all *Europe* may reap the Benefit thereof, in an honourable and lasting Peace. I hope it will have an immediate Influence on

" your

Lisle invested.

General Officers who served at the Siege.

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

“ your Parts, where Mens Minds are chiefly governed by Success. Mr. Cardonnel tells me, you have a constant Account of our Motions, for which I must still beg Leave to refer you to him; and am, &c.”

MARLBOROUGH.

The Prince of Orange has a narrow Escape.

To return to the Siege, Prince *Eugene* had his Quarters at the Abbey of *Loos*, and took up with the *Imperialists*, consisting of forty Battalions, and fourscore Squadrons, all the Ground from that Abbey, passing by the Village of *Hellemes* to the *Marque*. The Prince of *Orange* had taken up his Quarters in the Village of *Lambersard*; and his Troops consisting of twenty Battalions, and thirteen Squadrons, extended themselves from the Abbey of *Loos*, to that of *Marquette*: But his Highness was obliged to change his Quarters, within a few Days after, by an Accident, that was very near costing him his Life. It was thus: The Village of *Lambersard* is but within a small Cannon-Shot of *Lisle*. The Besieged, either designedly, or otherwise, fired upon this Village. The Cannon-Balls fell frequently therein, and several had already pierced the Prince's Quarters, and pass'd very near his Chamber. At last, on the Eighteenth of *August*, in the Morning, at the very Time that the Prince was dressing in his Apartment, a Bullet enter'd the Window, which happened fortunately to be open, went over his Shoulder, within five or six Inches of his Face, and took off half his first *Valet de Chambre's* Head, whilst he was putting on his Highness's Cloaths; the poor Man fell down dead, without so much as a Groan, and his Blood and Brains flew all over the Prince's Night-Gown and Face, and even all besmeared the Cieling. Every one saw, after this that his Highness's Life was in too much Danger in that Place, insomuch that, at last, in Condescension to the Advice of several Persons of the first Rank, he removed his Quarters to the Castle of *Holbeck*, behind the Abbey of *Marquette*, where he was in more safety.

Marshal Boufflers prepares for a vigorous Resistance.

In the mean While, the Marshal *de Boufflers*, who commanded in the Town, having had all the Houses set on Fire, and all the Trees fell'd, that could any Ways favour the Approaches of the Besiegers, prepared himself to make a vigorous Resistance. On the other Hand, Prince *Eugene* who besieged it, omitted nothing that could any Ways contribute to the Success of this important Enterprize, and the heavy Artillery being arrived at the Camp, his Highness, to prevent all Mistakes, caused a Memorial to be drawn up, on the Twentieth of *August*, of all such Orders, and Methods, as were to be observed, in relieving the Trenches, and carrying on the Attacks, by the several Generals and Officers, of the Troops of the different Nations, which were under his Command: These Troops consisted of fifty Battalions, viz. six *Imperialists*, nine *Palatines*, five *Hessians*, and thirty from the Grand Army.

King Augustus and the Landgrave of Hesse-Cassel, come to the Confederate Army.

THE Tenth, King *Augustus* of *Poland*, and the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel*, attended by several other Persons of Distinction arrived at the Confederate Army, then incamped at *Helchin*. The Duke of *Marlborough*, having been apprized of their Coming, advanced to meet them at their passing the *Scheld*, at *Pottes*, and conducted them to Dinner to his Quarters, where King *Augustus* took up his Lodging: As for the Landgrave, he had not been drawn thither by the Curiosity alone of seeing this famous Siege; or by the Importance and Greatness of the Undertaking; the Pleasure of beholding three illustrious Princes, his Sons, and the Prince of *Orange*, who was then designed for, and soon after became, his Son-in-Law, as principal Actors therein, had no Doubt, a great Share in this Visit. Accordingly his Serene Highness took up his Lodging, with his Son, Prince *William*, who was then a Major-General, in the Service of the *States*. The next Day, the Duke of *Marlborough* entertained them with the Review of the first Line of the Army; after which they dined with the Earl of *Albermarle*: And the Twentieth in Morning, they both went to the Camp before *Lisle*, where they were received, and entertained by Prince *Eugene*, with all the Respect

Respect due to their Rank; and his Highness spared no Pains to satisfy their Curiosity, which did him so much Honour.

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

A Stratagem of Prince Eugene's, which proves successful.

THE Magistrates of *Lisle*, having obtained the Marshal *de Boufflers's* Leave for that Purpose, took this Opportunity, to send two Deputies to Prince *Eugene*, to Compliment him, and desire his Favour, to the Burghers; offering his Highness, at the same Time, some Presents of Refreshments. But the Prince told them, "That a besieged Town, ought to be kept very close; so that he could not yet admit of their Civilities; but when he should be Master of the Place, the Burghers might be assured of his Protection, provided he should be satisfy'd, that they had endeavoured to deserve it, by their impartial Behaviour, during the Siege."

THE Twenty-first, the Enemy came out, with six Squadrons, and about seven or eight Hundred Foot, on that Side which the Engineers observed the Day before; whereupon, the Prince of *Orange-Nassau* caused seven Squadrons, and six Battalions, to advance and repulse the Enemy; who retired immediately, after having only set Fire to two Houses, and cut down about two Hundred Trees. The *Confederate* Troops took Post, at the same Time, in a Place called *Magdalen-Hole*, on the Banks of the *Deyle*, where, they left five Hundred Men; and posted another Detachment in a Mill, near *St. Magdalen's-Chapel*, which was fortify'd: The same Day, likewise, the Lines of Circumvallation and Countervallation were quite finished.

THE *French* Court were not a little surprized, to find *Lisle* actually invested; positive Orders were, therefore, sent to the Dukes of *Burgundy*, and *Vendosme*, to raise the Siege of so important a Place: To this End the Duke of *Berwick* was ordered, at the same Time, to reinforce his flying Camp, with the Garrisons of *Namur*, *Mons*, *Charleroy*, *Valenciennes*, and other Places, and to join the Duke of *Burgundy* forthwith. The Duke of *Marlborough*, having received repeated Advice of this Design, ordered the *Left* of his Cavalry to march, the Twenty-second of *August*, towards the *Scheld*, and to incamp near the *Right*, between the Villages of *Pottes*, and *St. Vernoux*, to the End they might be near at Hand, to pass the *Scheld*, and form the *Vanguard* of the Army, which was to march by the *Left*.

THE Twenty-third at Break of Day, fifteen Hundred Horse, commanded by the Count *d'Erbach*, a Major-General, and Brigadier *Grovestein*, were detached, with the Quarter-Master-General, to mark out a Camp, on the other Side the *Scheld*. About Seven, the whole Army marched in two Columns, by the *Left*, passed the *Scheld*, near *Pottes*, on four Bridges, and incamp'd with the *Right* to that River near *Escanaffe*, and the *Left* to *Annieres*; the Duke of *Marlborough* taking up his Quarters at *Amongies*, Veldt-Marshal *d'Auverquerque* his at *Vaudipront*.

The Duke of Marlborough removes to the other Side of the *Scheld*.

THIS Motion prevented the Enemy's joining between the *Scheld*, and the *Dender*, and also rendered their Junction more difficult in *Brabant*: Besides, his Grace was now nearer at Hand, to oppose any Attempt, they might offer to make on that Side; where, it was reasonable to believe, they had laid the Scheme for a powerful Diversion, during the Siege. His Grace, likewise,

The Advantages which arose from this Motion.

ordered the Bridges to be continued on the *Scheld*, with a Guard of six Regiments of Foot, lest the Enemy should make any Motion, between that River, and the *Lys*.

The Trenches opened.

To return to Prince *Eugene*, every Thing being now in a Readiness for the Siege, the Trenches were opened the Twenty-second of *August*, N. S. between seven and eight in the Evening, within five Hundred Toises of the Counterscarp, on the *Right*, and *Left* of the *Lower Deyle*; the former against *St. Andrew's-Gate*, under the Direction of *Monf. des Roques*, and the latter against *St. Magdalen's-Gate*, under the Care of *Monf. Du Mey*. Four Thousand Workmen were appointed for this Service; cover'd by ten Battalions of *Imperial*, *Palatine*, and *Hessian* Troops, commanded by Lieutenant-General *Wilkes*, and Major-General *Volckerishoven*; and ten Battalions more, with six Hundred Horse, were ready to sustain them. But the Trenches were carried on with so much Secrecy, and good Success, that the *Confederates* had above two Hours Time to cover themselves, before the Enemy perceived any Thing of the Matter. Immediately, however, upon this Discovery, they made a terrible Fire from the Town; but did so little Execution, that the Besiegers had not above three or four Men killed, and about fifteen wounded.

WE shall not enter into a particular Relation, of all that happened, Day by Day, at this memorable Siege, that would carry us too far, beyond the Limits we have prescribed our selves in this Work: We shall, therefore, only, take Notice of some of the most remarkable Incidents. On the Twenty-third, Lieutenant-General *Pettendorff*, going from one Attack to the other, and missing his Way, was taken Prisoner, and carried into the Town. The same Day the Prince of *Orange* drove the *French* from a Post they had in the Village of *Houw*, and made some Soldiers take Possession thereof, in order to favour his own Approaches. Next Morning, he caused his Men to attack, a fortify'd Chapel, near the *St. Magdalen's-Gate*, wherein were about two Hundred Grenadiers, commanded by a Major, and two Captains: This Post was of great Importance, because it hindered the Relievers from carrying on their Approaches; wherefore his Highness had it attack'd by one Hundred and sixty Grenadiers, supported by the like Number. The first advanced, with their Bayonets fix'd in the Muzzle of their Muskets, to the very Door of the Chapel; and threw so many Hand-Grenades into this little Fortification, that they forced the *French*, in a small Time, to yield themselves Prisoners of War, after having had one of their Captains killed, and the other wounded. Next Night, the *Confederates* mounted some Cannon, and Mortar-Pieces upon the Batteries which had been erected; and they carried on their Trenches, on the *Right*, beyond a House which had Battlements on the Top of it; which obliged the Besieged, who had possessed themselves thereof, to abandon it.

St. Magdalen's Chapel taken.

Prince *Eugene* in imminent Danger of being poisoned.

ON the Twenty-sixth, Prince *Eugene* was in great Danger of being Poisoned, by a base and villainous Contrivance of the Enemy's, the Circumstances whereof we shall relate, because they were pretty extraordinary. The Post-House being about two Leagues off, the Commissary wrote a Letter to General *Dopff's* Secretary, by a Servant that Gentleman had sent him, in the Morning, to fetch his Letters, desiring him to deliver the two inclosed to his Highness Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, because he had never a Post-Boy, at Hand, to send with them. General *Dopff* being then at the Prince's Quarters, the Secretary gave those two Letters to his Adjutant, who delivered them to Prince *Eugene*. One of the Letters came from the *Hague*, and the Commissary imagined the other came from the same Place, but could not be positive of it. His Highness opening one of them, found nothing therein but a dirty greasy Paper, and not knowing what might be the Consequence thereof, threw it carelessly on the Ground, without the least Sign of Surprise. Hereupon, the Prince's Adjutant took it up, and smelt to it; immediately after which he was seized with a great Giddiness, and taken so ill, that he was persuaded to take an Antidote, and happy was it for him, that he did so: For the Poison it contained was so exquisite, that

the

the Paper being only tied about a Dog's Neck, for an Experiment, he died within twenty-four Hours, notwithstanding he had a Counter-Poison given him. Hereupon, General *Dopff*, with some others, who were about his Highness, appear'd highly surpriz'd at this execrable Piece of Villany, and express'd their Concern for the Hazard the Prince had run; upon which, his Highness said to them, without any Emotion, *You need not wonder at it, Gentlemen, I have several Times, before now, received Letters of this Nature.* In the mean While, the *Confederates* push'd on the Siege vigorously, notwithstanding the obstinate Resistance of the Besieged, who very much hindered the Progress of their Works, by the Fire of their Cannon, and their Sallies. On the other Hand, the Duke of *Vendosme* made abundance of Motions, to keep the Besiegers in a continual Alarm, though he had no manner of Design to attack them.

THE Taking of the Chapel near *St. Magdalen's* Gate went very much to the Heart of the Besieged; it was a Post of too much Importance to the *Confederates*, for the Enemy not to try to regain it; wherefore, the same Evening, when the Besiegers had hardly relieved the Trenches, the Marshal *de Boufflers* order'd out all the Grenadiers of the Garrison, with two Squadrons, and three Hundred Pioneers, to attack this Chapel, which the Prince of *Orange* had taken from them but two Days before. The *Confederates* had but a Hundred Men in that Post, commanded by a Lieutenant of the *Dutch* Guards. The *French* advanced secretly, without Noise; and attacking it both behind and before, at the same Time, obliged them soon to yield to their superior Number, and abandon to them a Post, which, however, they did not enjoy long: For the Prince of *Orange*, who was easier to be found in the Trenches, than any where else, being then there, and having Intelligence thereof, ordered immediately two Battalions out of the Trenches, on the *Right* and *Left* of this Chapel, and attack'd the Enemy with so much Fury, that they were quickly obliged to abandon it, and retire, with great Precipitation, into the Cover'd Way of the Town. Thus the Prince had the Honour of taking this Post twice, and afterwards to keep it; very much to the Dissatisfaction, as well as Prejudice of the Enemy, to whom it had been of singular Service.

THE same Day, the Duke of *Marlborough* wrote the following Letter to the Earl of *Manchester*, in Answer to one from his Lordship, wherein he had informed his Grace, how much the *French* Minister at *Venice* had misrepresented the State of the War in the *Netherlands*.

MY LORD,

From the Camp at Amongies, Aug. 26, 1708.

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

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

MARLBOROUGH.

ON the Twenty-seventh, the Besiegers began to play upon the Town, from four Batteries, one of Forty-four Cannon, another of Thirteen, a Third of Eleven, and a Fourth of twelve Mortar-Pieces, and eight *Hawbitzers*. Monsieur *Rouffet* says, sixty-seven Cannon, twenty Mortar-Pieces, and sixteen *Hawbitzers*. All these Batteries playing together, made a terrible Firing; insomuch, that it soon slacken'd that of the Besieged, which till then had been very brisk; for they had one Hundred Pieces of Cannon, and thirteen Mortars mounted in the City. Nevertheless, they left no Stone unturned, to retard the Approaches of the Besiegers; and as the Garrison were very numerous, they disputed every Inch of Ground with great Obstinacy. The Twenty-eighth, the Besieged attack'd, and took a Mill, near

St.

St. Andrew's Gate, in which they made some Prisoners; but they were obliged to abandon it again that very Night, by Reason of the terrible Fire of the Besieged; and because Day coming on, they had not had Time to intrench themselves. The Twenty-ninth, the Besieged set Fire to the Mill, and abandon'd that Post; Monsieur *Rouffet*, however, says, in Contradiction to this, that the Besiegers took it again the Night following, and carry'd on thither a Branch of the Trenches, to prevent the Enemy's returning to it.

THE same Night, the *Confederates* began to play from another Battery of four Guns; and on the Thirtieth, another Battery of eight Guns was raised, and all this while, the Saps and Trenches were advanced with all the Success the Besiegers could expect, or wish. On the Thirty-first Colonel *Rechteren* was killed in the Trenches. Between the First and Seventh of September, N. S. every Thing went very much in Favour of the *Confederates*; and Deserters, about this Time, reported, that the Breach was very wide; that the Ditch was almost filled with the Ruins of the Wall, and that the Marshal *de Boufflers* perceiving, that the Town would soon fall into the Hands of the *Allies*, had ordered a good Part of his best Cannon to be removed into the Citadel. Upon this Advice, Prince *Eugene* caused the necessary Preparations to be made, for attacking the Counterscarp, on the Seventh. But, before we give an Account of this Action, it will not be improper to relate what was doing, in the mean Time, with the Grand Army, under the Command of the Duke of *Marlborough*, and with that of the Enemy, under the Dukes of *Burgundy*, *Berwick*, and *Vendosme*.

Motions of
the Enemy's
Army.

THE latter did all they could to make, at least, a Shew, of attempting to raise the Siege. To this End, the Duke of *Berwick* marched, the Twenty-fifth of August, N. S. with all his Forces, from *Mortagne* to *Bossu*, between *Conde* and *Mons*, where he halted till the Twenty-eight; and that Morning he marched by *Mons*, towards *Soignies*. On the other Hand, the Duke of *Burgundy*, having left five Battalions, and three Squadrons in *Bruges*, and twelve Battalions, with seven Squadrons in *Ghent*, under the Command of the Count *de la Motte*, passed the *Scheld* the Twenty-seventh at Five in the Morning, near *Ghent*, marched in three Columns towards the *Dender*, incamped at *Pottelburg*, and marched, on the Twenty-eighth, to *Ninove*.

Motions of
the Duke
of *Marlborough's*
Army.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, who continued still incamped at *Amongies*, having Intelligence of these Motions of the *French*, gave Orders, the Twenty-eighth, that his Army should be ready to march, upon the firing of three Pieces of Cannon; and, in the mean Time, detach'd the Earl of *Athlone*, with fifteen Hundred Men, to observe the Enemy. Hereupon, that General advancing towards *Leuse*, fell in with a Hundred Horse, detach'd from the Duke of *Berwick's* Army, whom they defeated, and took thirty Prisoners: However, this did not hinder the Duke of *Berwick* from advancing to *Enghien*. The Enemy's Forces being thus ready to join, on either Side the *Dender*, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent a Reinforcement of six Hundred Men to *Aeth*; and as a Convoy of seven Hundred Waggon, laden with Provisions, and Ammunition, were about setting out from thence, for the Army, and the Siege, Lieutenant-General *Ross* was ordered, the Twenty-ninth in the Evening, with two Thousand five Hundred Horse, to cover their March to the Camp, where they arrived in Safety, on the Thirtieth in the Morning.

THE Duke having Advice, at the same Time, that the Enemy's Army would certainly join between the *Dender* and the *Scheld*, by which they shewed, that they had no Intention to act in *Brabant*, ordered the *Confederate* Army to decamp from *Amongies*; which being done accordingly, they repass'd the *Scheld* at *Pottes*, and *Escauffe*, and came to their old Camp at *Helchin*, with the Right near *Pont d'Espierre*, and the Left at *Avclghem*.

The *French*
Armies join.

They were scarce arrived in their Camp, when his Grace received farther Intelligence, that the Duke of *Burgundy* had passed the *Dender* that Morning at *Ninove*; and having joined the Duke of *Berwick*, all their Forces, to the Number, as it was reported, of two Hundred and eight Squadrons,

and

and one Hundred and twenty-six Battalions, marched together to *Lessines*, in the Way to *Tournay*.

BY all the Circumstances of these Marches, it was pretty apparent, that the Design of the Enemy was to attempt the Raising of the Siege. The Duke of *Marlborough*, therefore, considering that his Army was now greatly inferior to that of the Enemy, dispatch'd seasonable Orders to General *Fagel*, to make all possible Expedition to join him, with what Forces could be spared out of *Dutch Flanders*, and *Brabant*: And, upon Advice that the Enemy were advanced between *Antoine* and *Tournay*, the Duke marched, the Thirty-first in the Afternoon, to *Templeuve*, and encamped with the Right to *Willem*, and the Left to *Pont-a-Ghin*. The First of *September*, the Duke continued his March; and having passed the *Marque* at *Pont-a-Tresin*, incamped with the Right at *Antreulle*, the Left at *Anstain*, and the Head Quarters at *Peronne*, in the Plains of *Lisle*.

THE Troops were no sooner come into this Camp, than the Duke of *Marlborough* went to Prince *Eugene's* Quarters, before *Lisle*; and having dined with his Highness, and the other Generals, returned in the Evening to his Camp. The next Morning, Prince *Eugene* came to *Peronne*, and rode out with his Grace, the Duke of *Marlborough*, Monsieur d'*Auverquerque*, and the other Generals, to the Right of the Line, to view the Ground about *Phalempin*, and to mark out a Line for the Army to form themselves in Battalia, and expect the Enemy, in case they should think fit to hazard a Battle, in order to relieve the City of *Lisle*. At Two in the Afternoon, they all returned to his Grace's Quarters, where King *Augustus*, and the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel*, were arrived, some Time before, from the Siege: All these Princes, together with the Deputies of the *States*, the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, and several other General Officers, having been entertained at Dinner by the Duke, they returned, in the Evening, to the Camp before *Lisle*.

THE same Morning, the Enemy's whole Army pass'd the *Scheld*, in five Columns, above and below *Tournay*; and encamped with the Right at *Blain-dain*, and the Left at *Villemau*, from whence the Duke of *Burgundy* sent a Spy, to endeavour to get into *Lisle*, and inform the Marshal de *Boufflers*, that their Army being on this Side *Tournay*, he might depend upon being relieved; but he fell into the Hands of the *Confederates*. The next Day, the Enemy mov'd towards *Orchies*, and the Source of the *Marque*; lay that Night on their Arms, and continu'd their March the Fourth towards *Mont en Peville*, and the Opening into the Plains of *Lisle*, between the *Marque*, and *Phalampin*. Hereupon, the Duke of *Marlborough*, in Hopes, as well as Expectation of an Engagement, ordered the *Confederate* Army to march to the Ground mark'd out for them, and there to form themselves in Battalia, between *Noyelles* and *Peronne*; where they continu'd till Noon, and incamped in the same Ground, the Baggage being removed, in the mean Time, to the Camp before *Lisle*.

TOWARDS Evening, the *French* advanced yet nearer the *Confederate* Camp; and having spread a Report, that they would immediately attempt to raise the Siege, the Duke of *Marlborough* drew up his Army again on the Fifth, at Break of Day, in order to give them Battle; having been joined, the Evening before, by Prince *Eugene*, with seventy-two, some Accounts say, seventy-six Squadrons from the Siege, and twenty-six Battalions; with which King *Augustus*, and the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel*, came as Volunteers. These Troops, which were brought by Prince *Eugene*, were posted on the Right of the Line, with the *Prussians*; the *English* and *Danes* on the Left, and the *Dutch* and *Hanoverians* in the Centre. All the Cavalry were drawn up in two Lines; and the Infantry formed a third Line behind the Horse; which Disposition was judged the most proper, as they were in a Plain. To cover the Flank of the Army, twenty Battalions were posted on each Wing; and behind them, as many Squadrons, as a *Corps de Reserve*. If we may believe the *Memoires du Prince Eugene*, the *Confederate* Army then consisted of two Hundred and thirty-six Squadrons, and one Hundred and twelve Battalions;

Farther Motions of both Armies.

The Enemy approach the Confederate Army.

The Duke of Marlborough prepares to give 'em a warm Reception.

and the Enemy's Army were stronger by fourteen Battalions, and two Squadrons; but other Accounts make the Superiority of the Enemy much larger. Count *Nassau-Woudenberg*, with his Brigade, was posted in the Village of *Entiers*, or *Anties*, which was at the Head of the Army, and by which the Enemy must pass: And the Artillery was placed in the most convenient Places, and those which were most exposed in the Front. The Generals repaired to their respective Posts, in eager Expectation of receiving the Enemy; and Lieutenant-General *Fagel*, having marched with incredible Speed, joined the *Confederate* Army the same Morning, with seven Battalions, and as many Squadrons. The *Allies* had the more Reason to believe it was the Enemy's Design to give them Battle, because they had Intelligence, that the Duke of *Vendosme*, who had advanced, the Night before, with his *Van-Guard* to *Phalampin*, but a League from the *Confederate* Army, had received thirty Pieces of heavy Cannon from *Douay*, besides the Field-Pieces he had before. They were so near, the next Morning, that the *Allies* could hear their Drums; and they made several Motions, which heightened the Expectation of the *Confederates*.

The Enemy decline fighting, though they are dared to it.

IT was a false Alarm, however; for though the Troops of the *Allies* continu'd in Order of Battle, till Ten a Clock, and never did Men shew a greater Eagerness to engage; the Enemy, notwithstanding all their Boasting, and their great Superiority, did not think fit to appear; and yet the *Confederate* Generals had designedly left open all the Passes, through which they were to come, and formed themselves open and unguarded, on purpose, as it were, to dare them to fight. If the Enemy had really designed to have hazarded a Battle, for the Relief of *Lisle*, they could not have wish'd for a better Opportunity; but it appeared now evidently, that they were resolv'd not to run any Risque, and that all their Motions were only intended to give the *Allies* unnecessary Trouble, and delay the Progress of the Siege, by keeping them in a continual Alarm. The Tents were ordered, therefore, to be pitch'd again, and Prince *Eugene's* Detachment returned to the Camp before *Lisle*, some *Imperial* and *Hessian* Horse only excepted: The Prince himself, after having dined with the Duke of *Marlborough*, in Company with King *Augustus*, and the *Landgrave*, returned, in the Evening, to the Siege.

The Duke of Marlborough throws up an Intrenchment before his Army.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, judg'd now rightly, that the Enemy (as we have observed above) never design'd, in Earnest, to hazard an Engagement; but that their whole Intention was only to fatigue the *Confederate* Troops by continual Motions, to streighten them in Forage, and by these Means to lengthen out the Siege; wherefore, his Grace ordered a Hundred Men, out of each Battalion, to be employ'd in throwing up an Intrenchment in the Front of his Army, from the Mill of *Noyelles*, to that of *Fretin*; where the Infantry were ranged in two Lines, and the Cavalry on the Wings, in two Lines, the Village of *Seclin* lying before the Line. This Work was finish'd the Eighth of *September*, N. S. and not only secured the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army from any sudden Surprise, but left the Besiegers at Liberty to carry on their Attacks, without any Interruption.

TWO Days before, the Enemy made a great Forage, and their Workmen were employ'd in preparing, opening, and enlarging the Roads about their Army, which continu'd incamped between *Mont en Peville* and *Megrigny*: From thence they detach'd thirty Squadrons, on the Seventh, which marched by *Tournay*; with Design to intercept a Convoy coming from *Brussels*, guarded by a Body of Troops, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Pascal*. Hereupon, the Duke of *Marlborough*, detach'd thirty Squadrons, the same Evening, under the Conduct of the Earl of *Albemarle*, Major-General *Wittinghoff*, and three Brigadiers; with Orders to advance as far as *Gramont*, to meet the Convoy, which was brought in Safety to *Menin* four Days after.

The Enemy's Foragers driven back to their Camp.

ON the Eighth, the Enemy advanced with their Foragers, sustained by several Regiments, within a Quarter of a League of *Fretin*, where the Duke of *Marlborough* had his Quarters. His Grace was at Dinner, when News was brought

brought of this Insult; upon which, Lieutenant-General *Wood*, who happen'd to be at Table with the Duke, express'd an earnest Desire to drive them to their Camp, demanding only two *English* Battalions for that Purpose. His Grace granted his Request, and ordered the Regiments of *How*, and Sir *Richard Temple*, to attend him on this Occasion. They march'd immediately; and being animated by the Duke of *Argyle*, the Earl of *Stairs*, and Major-General *Webb*, who went with them as Volunteers, fell upon the Enemy with such Fury, that they drove them as far as *Ennevelin*, where they had posted some Infantry, in a *Chateau*, which was incompass'd with two Ditches.

THE *English* attempted to dislodge them from thence, and to that End attack'd the Enemy with Abundance of Bravery. But the Duke of *Vindosme*, giving Orders to all his Grenadiers, and the *Piquet* of Six Brigades, which were incamp'd in the Front of his Army, near *Pont a Marque*, to support the Troops in the *Chateau*, the two *British* Batalions were obliged to retire, before so very superior a Force, with the Loss of about two Hundred Men, and six or seven Officers kill'd or wounded. They gained their Point first, however, in disturbing the Enemy's Foragers, and driving them back to their Camp. We shall now leave the Duke of *Marlborough* in his Intrenchments, and return to the Siege.

ALL the necessary Preparations having been made, as we observed above, for storming the Counterscarp, the Seventh in the Evening, the Trenches were relieved by Lieutenant-General *Wilkes*, with two Major-Generals, and ten *Imperial* and *Palatine* Battalions; upon which, the following Dispositions were made for that Attack. Eight Hundred Grenadiers, supported by the same Number of Fusiliers, with two Thousand Workmen, and thirty Carpenters, designed for cutting down the Palissades, were commanded for the Attack on the *Right*, between the *Lower Deyle* and *St. Andrew's Gate*, under the Direction of Monsieur *des Roques*. Sixteen Hundred Grenadiers, supported by the same Number of Fusiliers, two Thousand Workmen, and thirty Carpenters, were ordered for the *Left*, between the *Deyle* and *St. Magdalen's Gate*, under the Direction of Monsieur *Du Mey*: Besides the Troops in the Trenches, two Thousand Men from the grand Army were employ'd in this Attack, having been detach'd from thence for that Purpose, under the Command of Brigadier *Sabine*.

Preparations
for storming
the Counter-
scarp.

EVERY Thing being ready, a terrible Fire was made from the Batteries; and about Eight a Clock, the Signal being given, a general Discharge was made. Hereupon, the Troops designed for the Attack on the *Left*, march'd out of the Trenches with great Intrepidity, and admirable Order. They went directly up to the Palissades, from whence they drove the Enemy; and several of them leaping into the Cover'd Way, put to the Sword all the *French* they found there, excepting four Officers, and a very few Soldiers, who were taken Prisoners. Whilst they were making their Lodgment near the Palissades, the Besieged fired furiously upon them, and sprung four Mines, which did considerable Execution. However, the *Confederates* lodg'd themselves on the Saliant Angle of the Counterscarp of the Horn-Work, and on the Angle of the *Tenaille*. On the other Hand, the Troops who were commanded on the *Right*, attack'd the Enemy with the same Courage and Success; and lodg'd themselves, likewise, on the Saliant Angle of the Counterscarp of the Horn-Work, and on the Top of the Ditch of the *Tenailles*, on the Banks of the *Lower Deyle*, between the two Attacks: Besides all this, the Communications towards the Breaches were considerably advanced. The Loss of the *Allies*, in this Action, was very great, as our Readers may see by the following Letter, from one of the chief Engineers *des Roques*.

The Attack
made.

Its Success.

" ON *Friday*, the Seventh Instant, we made an Assault on the Counterscarp, about half an Hour past Seven in the Evening. Two Thousand four Hundred Grenadiers, and as many Fusiliers, sustained by twelve Battalions, being commanded to make the Lodgment on the *Glacis* we attack'd

Monsieur *des Roques's* Account thereof.

“ attack'd the whole Front, reaching from the Horn-work before *Magda-*
 “ *len's Gate*, along the *Ravelin* and *Tenailles*, as far as the other Horn-work,
 “ on the *Right* of the *Lower Deyle*. After an obstinate Struggle of about
 “ half an Hour, during which the Enemy sprung four large Mines, which
 “ which destroy'd Abundance of our Men, we obliged them to retire
 “ into their Capital Works, from whence they made a terrible Fire,
 “ for some Hours. But as we had the Misfortune, upon our advancing
 “ towards the Enemy, out of the Trenches, to lose the six Engineers,
 “ who were to direct the Workmen, appointed to make the Lodg-
 “ ment on the *Ravelins*, and before the Breaches, the said Workmen
 “ dispersed themselves under the Covert of the Night; insomuch, that
 “ we could not maintain ourselves, but only on the Angles of the *Glacis* of
 “ the two Horn-Works, and of the *Tenaille*. This unhappy Accident de-
 “ lays the Reduction of the Town, which may yet hold out eight or ten
 “ Days. We had two Thousand Men either kill'd or wounded in the At-
 “ tack; amongst whom are sixteen Engineers, either in Ordinary or Extra-
 “ ordinary. We have rais'd two Batteries on the *Glacis* of the Horn-
 “ Work, on the *Right*, and of the *Tenaille*; and in a Day or two, we shall
 “ erect another; in order to ruin effectually the Foot of the Breach, which
 “ the Enemy repair every Night. Yesterday, in the Afternoon, the Ene-
 “ my made a Sally, with Design to destroy a Sort of a Gallery, which we
 “ are drawing from the Angle of the Horn-Work at *Magdalen's Gate*, di-
 “ rectly to the Breach, that we may not be obliged to make a second As-
 “ sault upon the Out-Works; but our Regiments in the Trenches repuls'd
 “ the Enemy with great Vigour, and killed Abundance of their Men. We
 “ expect, with Impatience, a Convoy of Ammunition, which is coming
 “ from *Brussels* very seasonably, for we are in great Want thereof. Last
 “ Night, we lodged ourselves in the Cover'd Way; and this Night, we
 “ shall work on a Battery of thirty Pieces of Cannon, in order to widen
 “ the Breach. The Battery of eighteen Guns, having fired To-day with
 “ Success, we may make an Attack, this Evening, upon one of the Horn-
 “ Works.” *I am, &c.*

DES ROQUES.

From the Camp before Lisle,
 Septemb. 10, 1708.

The two
 chief Engi-
 neers dis-
 agree.

THE Marshal *de Boufflers*, in the Account he gave the King his Master of this Action, pretends, that the *Allies* had actually two Thousand Men killed in the Attack; and that, according to the common Way of Computation, they must consequently have had double the Number wounded; and we find the same Way of Reckoning in the Marquis *de Quincy's* Relation: But that these Computations are largely made, is beyond all Contradiction; though Monsieur *Roussier*, indeed, allows two Thousand six Hundred and sixty-seven, either kill'd or wounded, besides three Engineers kill'd, and eleven wounded. King *Augustus* of *Poland*, Prince *Eugene*, the Prince of *Orange*, and the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse*, were in the Trenches during the whole Action, and were Eye-Witnesses of the Intrepidity with which the Attack was carried on.

Monsieur *de Chamillard* comes to the Enemy's Camp.

ABOUT this Time, a Misunderstanding arose between the two Directors of the Attacks; which, with the Want of Ammunition, and the vigorous Defence made by the Besieged, did not a little delay the Progress of the Siege: However, it was daily carried on with some Success, though not so much as could have been wished. On the Tenth, the Duke of *Marlborough* went to the Camp before *Lisle*; and having view'd the Approaches, and dined with Prince *Eugene*, return'd to his Quarters at *Fretin*: The same Day, Monsieur *de Chamillard*, his Most Christian Majesty's Prime Minister, came to the Enemy's Army.

VARIOUS were the Reports, which were spread, concerning the Occasion of his Journey; some would have it, that it was to compose certain Differences, which were said to have arisen between the Dukes of *Vendosme* and *Berwick*; others, that it was only to communicate to them the French King's

King's last Instructions, about the Relief of *Lisle*. The latter of these Conjectures seems to have been the most probable; for the next Morning, after they had held a Council of War, their Troops began to be in Motion; and about Two in the Afternoon, advanced to the Village of *Entiers*, in the Centre of the *Confederate* Army, designing to make themselves Masters of that Post; but the Duke of *Marlborough*, having foreseen their Design, had placed two Brigades of Foot there very seasonably, under the Command of the Brigadiers *Evans* and *Wertmuller*, and caused some Works to be thrown up about the Village.

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

The French make a Shew of attacking the Confederates.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, Prince *Eugene*, and Monsieur *d'Auverquerque* staid in the Field all Night, and the Troops which lay upon their Arms, were drawn up again in Order of Battle next Morning. About Seven, the Enemy renewed their cannonading, with between thirty and forty Pieces, most of them twenty-four Pounders; and the *Allies* did the like, with almost equal Execution on both Sides. About Noon, the Earl of *Albemarle* joined the Army with his Detachment; and by all Circumstances, the *Confederate* Generals still thought that the Enemy intended actually to attack them; but finding the contrary, at Length, towards the Evening, the Troops were ordered to incamp, in such a Manner, that they might have been immediately in Readiness to have received the Enemy, if they should have attempted any thing farther: And in the Night, the Works about the Village of *Entiers* were repaired, and new ones added, for the better Security of that Place.

But venture no farther than cannonading.

THE Enemy made a Motion the same Night, extending their *Left* to *Seclin*, and placing their *Right* to the *Marque*; wherefore, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, perceiving now plainly that the Enemy's Designs extended no farther, than to delay the Storming of the Outworks of *Lisle*, and considering that his Grace's Camp was of sufficient Strength, likewise concluded that his Highness should return, on the Thirteenth to the Siege. The two Armies remained in the same Situation on the Fourteenth; when the *French* Generals having held a Council of War, wherein they considered how impracticable it was, to attack the *Confederates*, with any Appearance of Success, resolved to cut off their Communication with *Aeth*, and *Brussels*, by making themselves Masters of all the Passes on the *Scheld*. A Conspiracy was discovered at this Time, which was to have favoured this Project, this was to deliver up *Aeth* to Lieutenant-General *Alveldo*. The chief Contriver and Promoter of the Plot, was, Mons. *Le Grand*, Comptroler of the Fortifications, who fled to *Mons*, upon its being discovered; but his Wife and Servants were apprehended.

Farther Motions of both Armies.

A Conspiracy to deliver up *Aeth* discovered.

THE Enemy hoped, and indeed not without good Reason, to have distress'd the *Confederate* Army so much, by this new Scheme, that Prince *Eugene* should have been obliged to have raised the Siege; and pursuant, thereunto, they began to move the Fifteenth, by break of Day, without Beat of Drum; their *Right* extending to *Orchies*, and their *Left* to *Ribancourt*. Upon Notice hereof, the Duke of *Marlborough*, ordered the Army under his Command, to be ready to march, the Sixteenth, with Intent to observe the Army; who, having put several Battalions, that Day into *Doway*, continued

their March in four Columns, by *Mouchin*, and *Bachy*, directly towards *Tournay*. Hereupon, his Grace, made a small Motion, placing his *Right* at *Peronne*, his *Left* at *Foret*, on the *Marque*, and his Head Quarters at *Sainghin*. Here he received Intelligence, that a Convoy of a Hundred Waggon, laden with Cannon Ball for the Siege, arriv'd the Day before at *Oudenarde*, from *Aeth*; under a Guard of one Thousand two Hundred Foot, commanded by Colonel *Freke*; notwithstanding all the Enemy's Endeavours to intercept it.

Motions of
the Enemy's
Army.

At the same Time, Brigadier *Chanclos*, march'd ten Squadrons of Horse to *Oudenarde*, where he was to be joined by such another Detachment from Prince *Eugene's* Army, there being already six Battalions in that Town: And upon Intelligence, that Count *de la Motte*, with all the Troops he could draw together in *Flanders*, was march'd from *Ghent* to *Ninove*, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent Orders to Major-General *Murray*, to hasten with most of the Forces in *Dutch Flanders*, to *Brussels*, for the Security of that City. The Enemy incamp'd, the Sixteenth, in the Evening, with their *Right* to the Rivulet *Le Chin*, and their *Left* extending towards *Froiment*. The next Morning, they pass'd the *Scheld*, over several Bridges they had laid above and below *Tournay*; and continued the Eighteenth, in their Camp along that River, from the Mount of the *Trinity*, beyond *Pottes*.

And of the
Confederates.

THE same Day, the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army decamp'd from *Sainghin*, having pass'd the *Marque* at *Pont a Tresin*, and *Foret*, incamp'd with the *Right* at *Willem*, the *Left* at *Pas a Vajne*, a Rivulet which runs into the *Scheld*, and the Head-Quarters at *Templeuve*. As his Grace was upon this March, he received Intelligence, that the Enemy had laid Bridges over the *Scheld*, between *Warcois* and *Pecq*, and were fortifying those Villages, in order to keep open a Communication with the other Side of the River, and annoy the *Confederate* Convoys, between *Oudenarde* and *Courtray*; wherefore, he commanded Lieutenant-General *Dedem*, to march the Nineteenth, at Break of Day, with all the Grenadiers of the Army, and thirty-six Field-pieces, and endeavour to dislodge them: Accordingly General *Dedem* did so, and upon the first Appearance of the advanced Guard, the Enemy abandoned these two Villages, retired to the other Side of the *Scheld*, and took up their Bridges.

The Enemy
fortify their
Passes on the
Scheld.

ON the Twentieth, the *Allies*, made a small Motion, incamping with the *Right* at *Hem*, and *Foret*, near the *Marque*, the *Left* at *Leers*, and the Head-Quarters at *Lannoy*: In the mean While, the Enemy having sent some Brigades, to post themselves between *Oudenarde*, and *Ghent*, took all possible Care, to secure the Passes on the *Scheld*, by casting up Intrenchments, and erecting Batteries in several Places; they also threw up a Line from the Hill near *Oudenarde* to *Ename*; whereby that Place was entirely clos'd in on that Side the *Scheld*, and not only all Communication between *Brussels*, and the *Confederate* Army cut off, but they were quite separated from all Intercourse with *Holland*. These Lines were about seventy Miles in Extent, and in some Places, near *Oudenarde*, they had more the Appearance of the Ramparts of a Fortrefs, than of ordinary Lines.

The Enemy
make an un-
successful
Sally.

IN the mean While, the Siege of *Lisle*, though it did not advance so fast as cou'd have been wish'd, was carried on with great Resolution, Courage, and indefatigable Diligence; and the Continuation of the fair Weather, made some Amends, for the many Difficulties, with which the *Allies* were forced to struggle, in other Respects. On the Twelfth, about Nine in the Morning, whilst the Enemy were cannonading the *Confederate* Army, under the Duke of *Marlborough*, as we have observed before, the Besieged being willing to take Advantage, of the Absence of Prince *Eugene*, and the Prince of *Orange-Nassau*, of whose Bravery and Conduct, they were already too sensible by woful Experience, sally'd out of the Town in great Numbers, with four Colours at Noon-Day, and attacked the Trenches, on the *Left*, in six different Places; having, besides, another Body of Troops, in the covered Way, ready to sustain them. But before they could do any Damage, except the destroying a few Gabions, they were engag'd by the nearest Battalions in the Trenches, and oblig'd to retreat, in great Disorder.

IN the mean Time, the Duke of *Burgundy* being uneasy, to know in what Condition the Place and Garrison were in, for a farther Defence, employ'd for that Purpose, one *Dubois*, a Captain, in the Regiment of *Beauvaisis*, who undertook to get into the Town, and bring that Prince the Account, whereof he was so desirous. Accordingly, this Officer, having got undiscovered to the Place, where he proposed to make the Attempt, stript himself stark Naked, and having hid his Cloaths, swam over seven Canals and Ditches, and in that manner, got safe into the Town. Having effected his Business, he returned the same Way, and finding his Cloaths again, brought the Duke of *Burgundy* a Letter from the Marshal *de Boufflers*; which was so contrived, that he carried it in his Mouth, secure from being damaged by the Water.

A bold Attempt of a French Officer.

EVERY Thing being in great Readiness, by the Tenth, Prince *Eugene* gave Orders, to make the necessary Preparations, for Storming the Outworks; that is, from the *Right* Attack, the Horn-work or *St. Andrew's-Gate*; that Part of the *Tenaille* which lay next that Attack; the *Covered-Way* in the Front of the Breach, and the *Place of Arms* before the Ravelin; and the *Horn-Work*: And from the *Left* Attack, that Part of the *Tenaille* on that Side, and the *Counter-scarp*, to the Ravelin, from *St. Magdalen's-Gate* to the *Deyle*; Dispositions were accordingly made for the Storm. Pursuant to these Dispositions, every Thing was got ready for the Assault, the Twentieth in the Evening; but the Enemy having found Means to burn Part of the Galleries, and Bridges, which the Besiegers were to use on that Occasion, it was deferred till the Twenty-first, at about half an Hour past Six in the Evening; when the Trenches were relieved by Lieutenant-General *Wilkes*, Major-General *Sacken*, and Sir *Richard Temple*, with the usual Number of Battalions.

A Storm of the Out-Works resolved on.

THE Signal being given, by a general Discharge from the Batteries, both of all the Mortars and Cannon, the Mines, both on the *Right* and *Left*, were sprung with good Success; and the Grenadiers, thereupon, mounting the Breach of the *Tenaille*, on the *Right*, obliged the Enemy to retire into the Intrenchment of that Work, and made a good Lodgment on the Breach. On the *Left*, the Besiegers possess'd themselves of a *Place of Arms*, on the *Counter-scarp* of the *Counter Guard*, where they kept their Ground without any Disturbance; they, likewise, drove the Enemy out of the *Counter-scarp*, before the main Breach: But a great Number of fresh Troops coming out upon them, and the Officer, who commanded the Men appointed to sustain the *Confederates*, on that Side, being kill'd, they were obliged to abandon two Lodgments they had made there. Hereupon, Prince *Eugene*, thinking his Presence absolutely necessary, to encourage the Soldiers, and prevent the same Misfortune, which had happened at the Attack of the *Counter-scarp*, on the Seventh, since the Grenadiers had been repulsed, (three several Times, if we may believe the *French* Accounts) rallied them himself, and led them on again to the Charge. In this Action, his Highness received a Wound by a Musket-Ball, which grazing on his Forehead, above his left Eye, made no Fracture, but only beat off his Hat; whereupon, the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, who happened to be near his Highness, put his own Hat, which had, likewise, been shot through with a Musket-Ball, on Prince *Eugene's* Head, and prevailed on him to retire to his Quarters, and have his Wound dressed. This Action, having been very obstinate and bloody, cost the *Confederates* little less than one Thousand Men; which the *French*, in their Accounts, and particularly the Marquis *de Quincy*, swell to five Thousand, rendered incapable of farther Service: To make up this Loss, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent, next Day, a Reinforcement of four Hundred *British* and *Prussian* Grenadiers to the Siege.

Prince Eugene wounded.

THE same Morning, his Grace set out from the Army to visit Prince *Eugene*, and finding him ready to mount on Horse-back, join'd his Entreaties to those of King *Augustus*, to persuade his Highness to keep his Chamber a few Days, till his Wound should be healed: During this Interval, the Duke of *Marlborough* sustained the Weight both of the Command of his own Army, and the Direction of the Siege. The *States-General*, were so very

His Highness is advised to raise the Siege, but rejects that Advice.

very sensible how great a Loss, the Death of Prince *Eugene* would be to the *Confederacy*, that they ordered their Deputies to conjure his Highness, not to be so free, in exposing his Person for the future; and not only their *High Mightinesses*, but even some of the Generals; advised the Raising of the Siege; but Prince *Eugene* rejected this Advice, and persisted in the Resolution of carrying on the Siege, even though he should be obliged to do it with only his own Troops, as long as he had a Man left.

THE greatest Difficulty the *Confederates* had to struggle with in this Siege, was occasioned by the Want of Ammunition; and all the Passages to *Brussels* being wholly obstructed, the Duke of *Marlborough*, in order to open himself a new Communication with *Ostend*, had prudently bethought himself of sending for the *British* Battalions, which had been employed in spreading an Alarm over the Coasts of *France*, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Earl*. These Forces arrived at *Ostend*, the Twenty-first of September, N. S. and upon Intelligence thereof, the Count *de la Motte*, who had advanced with a considerable Force towards *Brussels*, with Design to have surprized that Place, returned immediately to *Bruges*; and commanded three Hundred of his Men, to cut the Dykes of *Leffinghen*, in order to lay the Country, between *Ostend* and *Newport*, under Water, and thereby prevent General *Earl's* having any Communication with the Duke of *Marlborough*. But, notwithstanding this, part of these *British* Forces, with some *Dutch*, that were in Garrison at *Ostend*, took Post at the Village of *Leffinghen*, and began to intrench themselves there; expecting Orders from the Duke of *Marlborough*, what farther Service they should go upon.

A successful
Attack made ON the Twenty-third, an Attack was made on the *Tenaille*, on the *Left*, that on the *Right* having been taken on the Twenty-first: Three Hundred Grenadiers of the Grand Army, supported by one Hundred and twenty others, and two Hundred and seventy Fusiliers were commanded for the Attack on the *Right*; and the other Hundred Grenadiers from the Grand Army, supported by two Hundred and eighty others, and two Hundred and seventy Fusiliers, for the Attack on the *Left*. All Things being in a Readiness, the Duke of *Marlborough*, who was himself in the Trenches, caused a Signal to be made for the Attack, which was carry'd on with all imaginable Vigour and Success: For having beaten the Enemy from their Post, they made a great Lodgment thereon, and enlarged their Lodgments along the *Cover'd Way*, without any considerable Loss; though the *French* pretend it amounted to near a Thousand Men. The same Night, the Duke of *Marlborough* returned to his Camp, but came back again the next Morning to the Siege.

A desperate
Attempt of
the Enemy's. NOTWITHSTANDING this Success, the Besiegers met with so many Difficulties, that the Siege was protracted to an unusual Length; on the other Hand, the Garrison having sustained several Attacks, and made all the While a prodigious Fire, began to be in want of Ammunition. The Marshal *de Boufflers* found Means, at length, to inform the Duke *de Vendosme*, that he had scarce Ammunition left for four Days; this urgent Necessity obliged the Enemy to hazard a bold Attempt, to supply the Place. In order thereunto, the Duke *de Vendosme* detach'd the Chevalier *de Luxemburg*, a Major-General, and Monsieur *de Tournesfort*, with about two Hundred Carabineers, Horse and Dragoons, who, besides their Arms, carry'd each of them a Fusée, and a Bag of sixty Pound Weight of Powder, which they took up at *Doway*. That they might succeed the better, they put green Boughs in their Hats, the usual Token of the *Confederate* Troops, and advanced along the Cause-way, which leads from *Doway* to *Lisle*. They were met by the Out-Guards of a Detachment of one Hundred Horse, which General *Schlick*, who had incamped at *Pont a Tresin*, since the Duke of *Marlborough* had removed to *Lannoy*, had posted there. These Guards challenging them, they pretended to be *Germans*, of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army, carrying some Prisoners to the Camp; but a subaltern Officer having some Distrust of them, and advancing to examine them, they rode full Gallop along the Cause-way, and got into the Line of Circumvallation.

vallation. Hereupon, the Centinels and Guards firing upon them, the *Confederate* Troops took the Alarm, and ran to their Arms; and the *Palatine* Dragoons getting first on Horseback, with incredible Speed, fell on the Enemy, and pursued them to the Barriers of the Town. The Besieged were, at first, backward in opening them, and so left their Men exposed to the Fire of the *Confederates*; which setting Fire to some of the Bags of Powder, about sixty of the Enemy, with their Horses, were blown up. We have the following Account of this Action, in a Letter from the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel* to the *States-General*; which carrying with it an unquestionable Authority, we shall insert at large.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

“ THE Twenty-seventh Instant, I did myself the Honour to acquaint your *High Mightinesses*, how far the Works against this City were advanced; there has been no Alteration since: Our Men continue working, to perfect the Mines in the *Tenailles*, and to carry on the Saps to the *Cover'd Way*. Letter of the Prince of Hesse to the States-General.

“ YESTERDAY, towards the Evening, we heard a great Crack, which we supposed to be the blowing up of a Mine: Half an Hour after, another Blast was heard; and at Midnight, there was such a Thunder-Clap, that the very Earth was shaken by it. This alarmed the whole Army; upon which, I went to the *Right*, from whence the Noise came, having first given Orders to all the Cavalry, under my Command, to saddle and mount. I found, that a large Detachment of the Enemy, as your *High Mightinesses* may see by the subjoined List, coming from *Doway*, had endeavour'd to break through, at the Aperture of the Line of Circumvallation, on the High-Way between *Doway* and *Eisle*, where the *Palatine* Horse are encamped. Part of them having pass'd, and our Men putting themselves in a Posture to oppose them, the Bags of Powder, which most of the *French* Horse and Dragoons carry'd behind them, to the Weight of about fifty Pound each, took Fire, which made a terrible Crack amongst them. Upon this Accident, the foremost of them spurred on full Gallop towards the Town; nevertheless, before they could reach it, the same Disaster befel them, a second Time, just as they came up to the Barrier; which might, in all Probability, be occasion'd by the Horses Shoes striking against the Cause-way, or by the Sparks of the first Fire that fell upon their Men, and their not being aware of it. (Other Accounts explain this by saying, that some of the Bags untying, the Powder was scattered on the Ground, and took Fire, by the Horses of those who followed striking on the Cause-way.) 'Tis said, that, at least, a Hundred Men perish'd, in this manner, near the Gate; and it is likely, this was the last Noise we heard. Between fifty and sixty Troopers were killed upon the Spot, where they pass'd the Line; and it was a dreadful Spectacle, to see the Way strew'd with dead Carcasses, Horses, Heads, Arms, and Legs, half burnt to Pieces. The others, who were behind, retired as fast as they could, and I caused them to be pursued; but it was impossible to overtake them. The Troops employ'd for that Purpose, however, found upon the Road, for two Leagues beyond the Camp, Bags of Powder, Swords, Pistols, and loose Powder, which shews with what Precipitation they made their Retreat. Our *Hessian* Hussars, in particular, set Fire to a great many Bags they found on the Road, as they came back from the Pursuit. We reckon, that about three Hundred (some Accounts say twelve Hundred, and Father DANIEL swells them to eighteen Hundred) got into the Town; but carry'd too little Powder with them to counter-balance their Loss. On the other Hand, it is evident, that Ammunition, which is absolutely necessary for their Defence, begins to fall short in the Place.

“ No doubt but your *High Mightinesses* must have had direct Advice, of the Advantage gained by the Troops lately arrived from *England*, supported by those Monsieur *Cadogan* carry'd with him from the Army,

“near the Canal that goes from *Ostend* to *Newport*, over the Duke of *Berwick*’s Forces, which attack’d them. The great Convoy is arriv’d safe at *Menin*. I congratulate your *High Mightinesses* on both these Accounts, and am, with great Respect, &c.”

Signed,

From the Camp before *Lisle*,
Septemb. 29, 1708.

FREDERICK, Prince of *Hesse*.

P. S. “The Troops which endeavoured to throw themselves into *Lisle*, in the Night between the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth, were commanded by the Chevalier de *Luxembourg*, and under him by Monsieur de *Tournefort*, and consisted of four Hundred Horse for the *Van*, two Hundred and fifty-two Horse-Grenadiers; two Squadrons of Dragoons; two of *Burgundy*; one of *St. Aignan*; two of *Morteville*; one of *Breteche*; two of *Ternau*; and two of *Forcquacue*.”

N. B. We have taken some Officers, with about twenty-five Troopers; and had not one Man either kill’d or wounded on our Side.”

The egregious Falsity of the French Accounts.

THE Marquis de *Quincy*, in his Account of this Action, makes the Number of Troops, which got into the Town, the same as Father *Daniel* affirms them to be, viz. eighteen Hundred; but then, to out-shoot the Father in his own Bow, that is, to exceed him in *Romancing*, he adds, that they carried into the Place with them, eighty Thousand Pound of Powder, and twelve Hundred Muskets. Be this as it will, the Attempt was bold, and well conducted; and the Chevalier de *Luxembourg* was rewarded for it by the French King, with a Lieutenant-General’s Commission. Amongst the Officers taken Prisoners, were the Marquis de *Bethune*, a Lieutenant-Colonel, a Major, a Captain, and two Subalterns; so that they paid very dear for the small Supply of Ammunition they threw into the Town; and it was thought impossible for any of them to have pass’d the Aperture of the Line of Circumvallation, had not some Officer, then upon Duty, been corrupted by them.

THE same Day, the French set out from *Doway*, to attempt the throwing this Ammunition into *Lisle*, the Confederates brought their great Convoy of Warlike Stores, and other Necessaries, safe to *Rouffelaer*; after one of the most Glorious, and most Memorable Actions, that ever was recorded in History; being the same to which the Prince of *Hesse* alludes, in the foregoing Letter, when he mentions an Advantage obtained by the Troops lately arriv’d from *England*, &c. It was thus: The Confederate Generals, having receiv’d Advice, that the British Troops were arriv’d at *Ostend*, conceived some Hopes of opening a Communication with that Town; which had been cut off, by the Count de la *Motte*’s piercing the Dykes at *Leffinghen*, and thereby laying a good Part of the Country, between *Ostend* and *Newport*, under Water, on purpose to prevent this Communication, as we have said above. Hereupon, a Council of War was held, wherein it was resolv’d, to persist in going on with the Siege; Prince *Eugene* having declar’d, That he would be responsible for the Success, provided he were supply’d with Ammunition.

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

HEREUPON, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent seven Hundred Waggon, under a strong Guard, to *Ostend*; where the Dutch Commissary, not having the Quantity of Ammunition that was required, borrowed some Hundreds of Barrels of Powder of General *Earl*. On the other Hand, his Grace, who returned, the Twenty-fifth of September, to the Camp at *Lannoy*, having received Advice, that upon the British Troops, which had been landed at *Ostend*, taking Post at *Leffinghen*, the Count de la *Motte*, whose first Design had been to surprize *Brussels*, had been reinforced with several Brigades of Horse, and Foot, to intercept the Convoy, he rightly foresaw, that the six Battalions, and three Hundred Horse, which had been detach’d under Brigadier *Landsberg*, with ten Squadrons more under Brigadier *Starkenbergh*, and six Battalions under General *Els*, would not be sufficient to oppose the Enemy.

Enemy. Hereupon, Major-General *Webb*, with the Brigadier Count *Nassau Woudenburg*, Son to the Veldt-Marshal d' *Auverquerque*, were ordered to march the Twenty-sixth, by Break of Day, with twelve Battalions more, to join the above-mentioned Detachments, on the Road between *Menin* and *Ostend*; and with Directions to march as far as *Ichtegem*, in the Country called the *Franc* of *Bruges*, about four Leagues from *Leffinghen*; and, at the same Time, Major-General *Cadogan* marched with another Detachment of Horse and Foot, to meet the Convoy, upon their passing the Canal of *Bruges*.

ON the other Hand, Lieutenant-General *Earl*, who had brought the *British* Forces to *Ostend*, which had been designed, at first, for a Descent upon the Coast of *France*, was not idle. For being joined by a Detachment, he drained the Water between *Ostend* and *Newport*, and built a Bridge over the Canal of *Leffinghen*. By this Means, he opened a Communication with the Main Army, towards which the grand Convoy began their March, the Twenty-sixth, in the Evening, and continued passing the Canal next Morning. Hereupon, a considerable Party of the Enemy's Forces advanced, to post themselves at *Oudenburgh*; but found that Place possess'd by a strong Detachment, whom they attack'd, but were repulsed, with considerable Loss. Being disappointed in this Attempt, they retired to a great Body of their Troops, under the Command of the Count *de la Motte*; who had marched from *Bruges*, with Design to intercept this grand Convoy of the *Confederates*. This brought on the famous Battle and Victory of *Wynendale*, of which we shall give our Readers an Account, as it was written by Major-General *Webb* himself.

The French
repulsed at
Oudenburgh.

BEFORE we proceed, however, to give this Account, it may not be improper to observe, that the Prince of *Hesse*, in his Letter to the *States-General*, which we have inserted above, ascribes the whole Honour of this Glorious Action to Major-General *Cadogan*, without so much as mentioning Major-General *Webb*; and the *London Gazette*, of the Twentieth and Twenty-third of *September*, O. S. by a wrong Information, has the same Mistake. This induced Major-General *Webb* to come over to *England*, to set this Matter in a true Light; and the Sixth of *October*, he had the Honour to present to her Majesty, the Relation we are now about to give our Readers, which was afterwards published, by Authority, in the *Gazette*. On this Account, divers Reflections were cast on our *British Hero*, who was esteem'd the Friend and Patron of Major-General *Cadogan*, as if his Grace had purposely designed to advance his Glory and Reputation, at the Expence of that of his Competitor; but whether or no there was any Foundation for this Report, we shall not pretend to determine. *Wynendale*, the Place which gave Name to this remarkable Action, in an inconsiderable Town, in *Spanish Flanders*, adjoining to a Wood, called *Wynendale-Wood*; it is hardly worth Notice, but on account of this memorable Battle. It is eleven Miles *South-West* of *Bruges*, and twenty-eight *North* of *Lisle*.

A Relation of the Battle of Wynendale, written by Major-General Webb.

" AFTER that the Detachments, which were sent to cover the March of
 " the Waggons, from *Ostend* to the Siege of *Lisle*, had joined at *Turout*,
 " the Twenty-seventh of *September*, General *Webb*, who, as eldest Major-
 " General, commanded in Chief, received Advice, that Major *Savary*, of
 " the Regiment of *Gethem*, had possess'd himself of the Post at *Ouden-*
 " *burgh*. Hereupon, he sent six Hundred Grenadiers, under the Command
 " of Colonel *Preston*, a Battalion of *Orkney's*, under the Command of Co-
 " lonel *Hamilton*, with that of *Fune*, commanded by Colonel *Vogt*, the
 " Whole under the Command of Brigadier *Landsberg*, to reinforce that
 " Post. The Twenty-eighth, in the Morning, all the Cavalry, under Major-
 " General *Cadogan*, were order'd to *Hogledede*, to wait the Arrival of the
 " Convoy there; except one Hundred and fifty Horse, which had been
 " sent the Night before, under the Command of Count *Lottum*, to *Ouden-*
 " *burgh*, to carry Orders to the two Battalions, and six Hundred Grena-
 " diers,

Major-Ge-
neral Webb's
Account of
the Battle,
and Victory
of *Wynen-*
dale.

diers, to guard the Convoy to *Cocklaer*, and afterwards to rejoin the Foot at *Turout*. About Noon, Count *Lottum* returned to *Turout*, with Advice, that, in his Way to *Ichtegem*, he met with an advanced Guard of the Enemy's, which he drove into the Plain; where he observed sixteen Squadrons, mounting in great Haste, on the Alarm which their Out-Guard gave them; whereupon, he thought it necessary to return, in all Haste, to give the General an Account thereof.

ON this Advice, all the Foot, consisting of twenty-two Battalions, Count *Lottum*, with his Hundred and fifty Horse, making the advanced Guard, together with the Quarter-Masters, and Grenadiers that were not detached, were ordered to march immediately, to gain the Village of *Ichtegem*, by the Way of *Wynendale*. As soon as the advanced Guard reach'd *Wynendale*, they perceived the Enemy, in the Opening of the Plain; whereupon, the Quarter-Masters, and Grenadiers, were drawn up in Order of Battle. Major-General *Webb*, and Count *Nassau-Woudenburg*, at the Head of one Hundred and fifty Horse, advanced to reconnoitre the Enemy; giving Orders, at the same Time, to the Foot to advance, and form themselves, as fast as possible, in the Plain. The Hundred and fifty Horse were left, at the Opening of the Plain, under the Command of Count *Lottum*, to amuse the Enemy; and to perplex them the more, the Quarter-Masters, and Grenadiers, were posted in a low Coppice, on that Side the Plain, where the Enemy were expected to pass.

As soon as our Troops marched out of the Defile, into the Plain, Major-General *Webb* drew them up in Battalia, posting them in the Opening, between *Wynendale-Wood* and the Coppice, on the other Side, where the Quarter-Masters, and Grenadiers, were posted. We had scarce got six Battalions into the Opening, when the Enemy began to Cannonade us with forty Pieces of Cannon, whereof ten were of three Bores." (*A Relation, printed at the Hague, by the Printer in Ordinary to the States, from which Monsieur Rouffet seems to have copied, says only nineteen Pieces, nine whereof were of a tripple Bore.*) "But, notwithstanding the great Fire of the Enemy, the Hundred and fifty Horse bravely stood their Ground, which produced the desired Effect, in giving the General Time to form his Foot into two Lines. The Left Wing was extended beyond the low Coppice, as well to prevent the Enemy from passing that Way, as to cover our Flank. On our Right Flank, was posted the Regiment of *Heukelum*, in the Wood of *Wynendale*; and, on our Flank, on the Left, were the Regiment of the Hereditary Prince of *Prussia*, commanded by Colonel *Rhader*, with Orders not to discover themselves, nor fire, till they could take the Enemy in the Flank. Some Platoons, of Grenadiers, were advanced forty Paces, upon the Right and Left, with the same Orders; and the Quarter-Masters were also posted in a Road, on the Left, that crossed through the afore-mentioned Coppice.

AFTER three Hours Cannonnading, the Enemy advanced towards us, on the Plain, in twelve Lines; six whereof were Foot, and six Horse." (*The Hague Relation, above-mentioned, was only four Lines of Foot, and as many of Horse.*) "Hereupon, Count *Lottum* was ordered to retire, and post himself three Hundred Paces behind the Foot; which he did, in very good Order. The French continued to march strait up to us, with forty Battalions, and sixty Squadrons." (*The Hague Relation says only forty-eight Squadrons.*) "But the Generals perceiving they extended themselves to the Right, sent Count *Nassau* to observe their Motions; who immediately ordered thither the Regiment of *Grumkau*, commanded by Colonel *Beschefer*; and Brigadier *Eltz*, being come up with the last Regiment, was posted on the Right, in *Wynendale-Wood*.

ABOUT half a Quarter of an Hour before the Engagement began, Brigadier *Landsberg*, with the two Battalions, and six Hundred Grenadiers, that had been detach'd, having Advice, that the Enemy advanced to attack us, rejoined us, just Time enough to form a third Line. Some Mi-

nutes

“ nutes after, the Enemy began the Attack, marching within one Hundred and fifty Paces” (*The Hague Relation says fifteen*) “ of our Flank, on the Right; where the Battalions, who had hid themselves” (*Another Account says they lay flat on the Ground*) “ according to the General’s Order, and who were not to fire, till the Flank of the French, came opposite to them, gave them such a warm Welcome, that their Left Wing fell into their Centre; and the Regiment of the Hereditary Prince of Prussia, which was posted on the Flank, on our Left, much about the same Distance, did not miss the Opportunity of their Disorder, to give them another vigorous Discharge, which put their whole Line in Confusion. Nevertheless, the Enemy push’d on, and put two of our Battalions into Disorder; but the Swiss Regiment of Albemarle, under the Command of Colonel Hirtzell, advancing upon their Horse, that were endeavouring to penetrate, engaged them long enough to give Time to the General, and Count Nassau, to bring up the Regiments of Barnsdoff, Gauvain, and Lindboom,” (*the Hague Relation does not mention Gauvain’s Regiment*) “ to supply the Room of those that were press’d, which was done in a Moment. However, the Enemy, supported by so many Lines, made another Attempt to penetrate; but our Battalions rather advanced than gave way; though the General gave Orders against advancing, fearing lest that might render the Fire of our Flanks useless. This Precaution had all the Success that could be desired; the Regiments, and Grenadiers making such a continual Fire, as forced their two Wings upon their Centre; and obliged the Whole to retire, in the greatest Confusion: Notwithstanding all the Efforts their Officers could make, by Encouragement or Violence, to keep them up. So that they only fired, at a great Distance, upon our Lines; which ours returned, advancing by Platoons, as if only at their Exercise, with all the Order imaginable.

“ MAJOR-GENERAL Cadogan, who came up some Time after the Action began, offered to charge the Enemy in their Disorder, with two Squadrons of Horse; the other four, which he had sent for, not coming up till near Seven at Night. But it was not thought advisable, to expose so small a Number to charge the Enemy, who had brought up all their Cavalry, to favour their Retreat. The Battle lasted two Hours, and was very hot, insomuch, that we had nine Hundred and twelve Officers and Soldiers kill’d or wounded therein.” (*According to a List sent to the States-General, the Allies had three Colonels, and two Lieutenant-Colonels, wounded; two Majors kill’d, and one wounded; four Captains kill’d, and eighteen wounded; four Lieutenants kill’d, and thirty-eight wounded; one Hundred and eleven private Men killed, and six Hundred eighty wounded.*) “ The Enemy, as we were assured, by Letters sent from Ghent and Bruges, and by the Report of Prisoners, and Deserters, lost between six and seven Thousand Men.” (*The Hague Account says only three or four Thousand.*) “ They made their Retreat in such great Confusion, that they left most of their Cannon in a Wood, and did not carry them off till next Day, at Eleven a Clock; after hearing that our Convoy had pass’d by Rouffelaer. We continued on the Field of Battle till Two a Clock the next Morning, having first carry’d off all our Wounded, and several of the Enemy. This Victory is the more surprizing, because that, by reason of several Detachments, we had not above six Thousand Men in the Action, and the Enemy by their own Accounts, had twenty-four Thousand.” (*The Hague Account says between six and seven Thousand, and the Enemy between twenty-three and twenty-four Thousand.*)

THE Spanish Troops were the greatest Sufferers in this Action; they made terrible Complaints of the French, who formed the Left Wing of the Enemy’s Detachment, for not having supported them, as they might, and ought to have done. On the other Hand, the French, on their Side, were as forward in complaining of the Spaniards; and attributed the Miscarriage of this Enterprize to their Want of Courage and Conduct.

The French and Spaniards lay the blame upon each other.

THE Marquis de Quincy, who allows the *French* Detachment to have been greatly superior to that of the *Allies*, and ascribes to General *Webb* the whole Honour of the Victory, pretends this Misfortune was owing to the not duly executing the Orders given by Monsieur de la Motte; and lessens the Number of the Kill'd and Wounded to two Thousand five Hundred Men: But even this Account, partial as it is, does great Honour to our brave *British* Officers, and to the Troops under their Command.

The just
Praise of
Major-Ge-
neral *Webb*.

NOTWITHSTANDING this great Superiority of the Enemy, Major-General *Webb* made this bold and noble Stand, with so much Presence of Mind; posted his Men so advantageously; asked the Advice of the Officers under him with so much Modesty; (*an uncommon, and commendable a Virtue in so young a Commander*;) and sustained the Enemy's repeated Efforts with so much Bravery, Resolution, and Conduct, as will tend to his immortal Honour: And as this critical Victory, on which the Success of the Siege of *Lisle* wholly depended, was chiefly owing to his prudent Management, and other military Abilities; so that eminent Service was afterwards deservedly acknowledged, not only by the unanimous Thanks of the *Commons* of Great Britain, but also by the King of *Prussia*, in a distinguishing Manner; since his Majesty conferred on the General the *Order of Generosity*, in Testimony of his being highly satisfied with the General's gallant Behaviour, and fine Conduct, on this memorable Occasion. In short, to give this brave and prudent Commander the Honour justly due to him, though he did not think proper to venture, as he was so inferior in Number, and his Troops were so advantageously posted, to pursue the Enemy, which, in the Consternation they were in, might possibly have ended in the total Destruction of their whole Detachment; yet so unequal a Combat, and so shameful a Flight of the Enemy, with such a considerable Loss, was look'd upon as one of the most extraordinary Actions which had happened during the whole War.

The Convoy
arrives safe
at the Confe-
derate Ar-
my.

WHILST Major-General *Webb* engaged the Enemy, with so unequal a Force, at *Wynendale*, the Convoy march'd on undisturb'd, and arrived that Night, in Safety, at *Rousselaer*, from whence it went on the next Day to *Menin*; and on the Last of September, N. S. pass'd through the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army, which moved the Day before from *Lannoy* to *Roncq*, with the Right at *Pont a Marque*, and the Left at *Menin*, in its Way to the Camp before *Lisle*; whither it arriv'd soon after, without any Molestation.

The Besiegers
make
themselves
Masters of
the Ravelin,
and Counter-
Guards.

THE same Day that the grand Convoy reach'd the Camp before *Lisle*, Prince *Eugene*, being almost recovered of his Wound, began to go abroad, and appeared again at the Head of his Troops; both which contributed very much to the raising of their Spirits, which began to sink, by Reason of the Length and Difficulties of the Siege. On the Third of *October*, Lieutenant-General *Wilkes*, being in the Trenches, the Duke of *Marlborough* went to the Camp before *Lisle*, where the Disposition was made for attacking the *Ravelin* on the Right; for this Purpose, three Hundred Grenadiers were detach'd from the Army, under his Grace's Command, to join the Troops of the Siege ordered for that Service. The Attack began about Noon, and succeeded so well, that by half an Hour after One, the Besiegers made a very good Lodgment on the *Ravelin*, and oblig'd such of the Enemy's Troops, as were behind the Traverses, to leap into the Water, where the greatest Part of them were either kill'd or drowned; by which the *Confederates* made themselves entire Masters of the two *Counter-Guards*, and the *Ravelin*, in which they took two Pieces of Cannon. The Besieged, who had Notice of the Preparations making for this Attack, did not expect it till the Evening, and were not so well provided for it, as they might, otherwise, have been.

FROM this Time, to the Twentieth, the Besiegers gained some Advantages every Night, made several new Lodgments, and carried on their Saps, Mines, and other necessary Preparations for a general Storm, the Besieged seeming resolv'd to dispute the Passage of the Ditch, to the utmost. They continued, also, to drain and fill the Ditch; to make Openings in the Walls;

to work on their Galleries; perfect their Lodgments and *Places of Arms*; and to finish their Batteries, which now consisted of forty-five Pieces of Cannon, and as many Mortars and *Hawbitzers*: To supply these, a new Convoy of two hundred Thousand Pound Weight of Powder, with a great Number of Bombs, Cannon-Balls, and Hand-Grenades, arriv'd at the Siege from *Ostend*. We shall leave the Besiegers thus employ'd, for the present, and return to the Armies of the *Confederates*, and the Enemy.

THE late Victory of *Wynendale*, not only broke the Heart of the *French* Troops, but caused great Animosities between the *French*, and the *Spaniards*. The latter, as we have observed above, complained that they had not been well seconded; and the former pretended, they ought to have had the Post of Honour, which the Count *de Bergeyk* would by no means allow them. The Duke of *Vendosme*, enraged at the Count *de la Motte's* shameful Retreat, (to call it no worse) march'd in Person towards *Bruges*, with a strong Detachment; pass'd through *Ghent* the Fifth of *October*, N. S. and came the next Day to *Oudenburgh*. As he was very sensible of how great Importance it would be to him, to cut off the Communication between the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army and *Ostend*, he endeavour'd to effect it in the following Manner. He drew together a Body of about thirty Thousand Men, from the Garrisons of *Bruges*, *Ypres*, *Dixmuyde*, and other Places; with these he took Post all along the other Side of the Canal, between *Plassendahl* and *Newport*: Then he caus'd the Dykes to be cut in divers Places, which laid a great Tract of Land under Water; and reinforced the Garrison of *Newport* with a considerable Number of Horse and Foot, which he designed should dislodge the *Allies* from *Leffinghen*, and other Posts on this Side of the Canal.

Great Animosities between the *French* and *Spaniards*.

Motions of the Duke of *Vendosme*.

IN the mean While, General *Earl* was very vigilant, in observing all the Enemy's Motions; and made such a Disposition of his Body of Troops, which were incamped at *Raverschein*, as he thought would be most proper, in order to maintain his several Posts, and to give the Enemy a warm Reception, if they should offer to attack him. The Seventh, in the Night, the Duke of *Vendosme* caus'd a Bridge to be laid over the Canal, between *Plassendahl* and *Ostend*; and the Enemy having burnt their Camp, made a Motion, as if they intended to have pass'd over to the other Side. Accordingly a Detachment went over, and advanced as far as *Bredenen*; which gave the *Confederates* some Apprehensions, that their Design was to burn the Transports, in the Harbour of *Ostend*, and all necessary Precautions were used to prevent it; but the next Morning, that Detachment repass'd the Canal, and their Army encamped between *Snareskirch* and *Ghistel*, having left some Men, in divers Posts, along the Canal.

• THE Duke of *Marlborough* receiving Intelligence of the Duke of *Vendosme's* Motions, and it being reported, that this Army consisted of sixty Battalions, and seventy or eighty Squadrons, his Grace gave Orders, the Sixth of *October*, for greatest Part of the Army to decamp, in the Night, march by the *Left*, and pass the *Lys* at *Menin*. To prevent Confusion, his Grace, likewise, order'd the Troops of different Nations to march, about an Hour after one another, without Beat of Drum, or Sound of Trumpet. This done, the Duke himself march'd early, on the Seventh, with sixty Battalions, and one Hundred and thirty Squadrons, to the Camp at *Rouffelaer*, placing his *Right* to *Rombecq*, and his *Left* at *Hogledede*. At the same Time, his Grace left twenty Squadrons, under the Command of Major-General *la Leck*, and the same Number of Battalions, under Major-General *Hohendorff*, with Directions to obey Prince *Eugene's* Orders; and, in Case of Necessity, to march into the Line of Circumvallation.

Motions of the Duke of *Marlborough* thereupon.

UPON his Arrival at *Rouffelaer*, the Duke of *Marlborough* received Advice, that the Duke of *Vendosme* was still encamped at *Oudenburgh*; upon which, his Grace resolv'd to march, with all possible Speed, in order either to engage the Enemy, or oblige them to abandon that Post. King *Augustus*, and the Landgrave of *Hesse-Cassel*, came, likewise, to his Grace's Army, in Hopes of an Action; whereof they had the greater Expectation,

tion, because they had certain Intelligence, that the Duke of *Vendosme* had sent Word to his *Most Christian Majesty*; That he engaged his Honour, the Allies should have no farther Communication with Ostend. The same Night, the Quarter-Masters of the Army set out from *Rouffelaer*, under a Guard of eight Battalions, to secure such Posts as they should think convenient, to facilitate the March of the Army.

The Enemy retreat with Precipitation, on Notice of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Approach.

ON the Eighth, by Break of Day, the *Confederate* Army moved by the *Left*, and advanced to *Wynendale-Heath*, where they halted for some Time; till his Grace had a Confirmation of the Advice he had received the same Morning, that the Duke of *Vendosme*, being apprized of the March of the *Confederates*, had decamped before Break of Day, with the greatest Precipitation imaginable, from *Oudenburgh*, and had passed the Canal of *Bruges*, near that City, having first given Orders for cutting the Dykes in several Places. Hereupon, his Grace thought it to no Purpose to advance any farther, and therefore gave Orders for the Army to incamp, with the *Right* at *Turout*, and the *Left* at *Ichtegem*; sending, at the same Time, Part of the Cavalry back to *Rouffelaer*, in order to their being nearer the Siege. The Ninth, in the Morning, the Duke returned, with the Rest of the Troops, to *Rouffelaer*, where the Army incamped in the same Manner, as they had done two Days before; but all the Infantry of the second Line, commanded by Count *Lottum*, General of the *Prussians*, marched to *Morselle*, in order to be near the Siege.

Major-General *Cadogan* conveys Ammunition and Provisions over the Inundations.

ON the Tenth, upon Advice that the Enemy were drawing more of their Troops from the *Scheld*, towards *Ghent*, and *Bruges*, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent Instructions to Count *Lottum* to rejoin the Army, with the Troops under his Command; which he did accordingly on the Eleventh. That Morning his Grace went to *Menin*, where he met Prince *Eugene*, with whom, together with the Field-Deputies of the *States*, he had a long Conference, and then returned in the Evening to *Rouffelaer*. On the Twelfth, upon Advice, that a large Convoy of Ammunition, and Provision, was lately arrived at *Ostend*, from *Great-Britain*, and *Holland*, and that it was ready to set out for the Army, the Duke of *Marlborough* detach'd Major-General *Gadogan*, with eight Battalions, and nine Squadrons, to *Cocklaer*, for the Security of its March, and to assist in getting it over the Inundation. At the same Time, Brigadier *Grumkau*, with five Battalions more, was ordered to *Cortemarque*, to join him, if it should be necessary. As the Enemy had overflowed the Country, on the other Side of the Canal of *Newport*, it was with great Hazard and Difficulty, that they carried about five Hundred Barrels of Powder over the Inundations, in Boats provided for that Purpose at *Ostend*, to the Places where Waggons from the Army wanted to convey it to the Camp.

ON the Fourteenth, the Convoy passed by *Rouffelaer*, in its Way to *Menin*, and *Lisle*; and the next Day, Major-General *Cadogan* sent an Officer, to acquaint the Duke of *Marlborough*, that had taken Post with his Detachment at *Cocklaer*, expecting a new Supply of Ammunition over the Country that was laid under Water. Upon this, his Grace immediately ordered Lieutenant General *Fagel*, with twelve Battalions, and twenty Squadrons, to post themselves at *Cortemarque*, in order to sustain Major-General *Cadogan*: And, being informed, at the same Time, that the Duke of *Vendosme* intended to intercept that Convoy, he ordered his Army to be ready to march at an Hour's Warning.

ON the Sixteenth, some Transports arrived at *Ostend*, from *Great-Britain*, having on Board, the Regiments of *Hill*, and *Mackartney*, with about four Hundred Soldiers belonging to other Regiments: And upon Advice, that the Enemy made some Motions, which looked as if they intended to attack either the Troops of the Allies, at *Leffinghen*, or the Camp at *Raverssein*, General *Earl*, sent a Reinforcement to *Leffinghen*, and removing his Forces near *Fort Albert*, posted some of his Men in the Downs, that the Enemy might not send some Cavalry at *Low-Water*, to attack him in the Rear, whilst the Infantry should charge him

him in Front. On the other Hand, the *French*, being fully sensible, that it was of the utmost Importance to them, to cut off entirely all Communication, between *Ostend*, and the Siege, sent six Half Gallies from *Newport*, on the Canal of that Name; by which means, they erected a Battery on an Island, formed by the Breaking down of the *Dyke*, from whence they cannonaded both, a Redoubt, which the *Confederates* had raised at *Leffinghen*, and the Boats employed to carry over the Ammunition and Provisions. However, this did not hinder Major-General *Cadogan*, from getting a farther Supply, of near sixteen Hundred Barrels of Powder, and a large Quantity of Brandy, Salt, and other Provisions, for the Sutlers of the Army, over the Inundations; of which he himself gave an Account, to the Duke of *Marlborough*, on the Nineteenth. He informed his Grace, at the same Time, that the Communication with *Leffinghen*, and *Ostend*, would be more difficult for the future, if not entirely lost; both by Reason of the Waters being risen much higher by the Spring-Tides, and of the Precautions taken by the Enemy.

THE Day before the Duke of *Marlborough* went again to *Menin*, to confer with Prince *Eugene*, and the Field-Deputies of the *States*; and during this Interview, the Veldt-Marshal *d'Auverquerque* expired in his Quarters at *Rousselaer*, in the sixty-seventh Year of his Age, worn out with his former Fatigues. This General had long signalized himself by his Courage, and extraordinary Zeal for the Interest of his Country and the Common Cause, at several Sieges, and Battles; especially at *Ramillies* and *Oudenarde*. Accordingly, he died very much lamented by every one, on Account of his great Abilities, great Generosity, and Disinterestedness; and had all the Honours paid him, which he had so well deserved; and that even by the Enemy, who when his Corpse was transported to *Holland*, offered it a Passage through the Towns, whereof they were in Possession. By his Death, the Command of the *Dutch* Troops fell provisionally on the Count *de Tilly*, as the eldest General, in the Service of their *High Mightinesses*.

The Death, and just Entomium of Mons. d'Auverquerque.

IT was with no small Mortification, the Duke of *Vendosme* observed, that notwithstanding the great Inundation he had caused, Major-General *Cadogan* still found Means, to convey great Quantities of Ammunition and Provisions to the Army, by the Help of the Troops at *Leffinghen*: Wherefore, he resolved to make himself Master of that Village, at any Rate; to which End, he formally invested, and besieged it. To give a particular Account of this petty Siege, would be as ridiculous, as it was inglorious in the *French*, to make an Attack in Form, on so defenceless a Post, at the same Time as the most important of all their Frontiers was carrying on, without daring so much as to attempt the Relief of it. And yet the Marquis *de Quincy*, gives as formal an Account of the Siege of this poultry Place, and extols as much the Valour, and Conduct of his Countrymen, on the several Attacks they made upon it, as if it had been a Place of the greatest Importance.

IT must be confess'd, that it was bravely defended; for though it was allowed, on all Hands, not to be tenable, against a vigorous Assault, Lieutenant-Colonel *Rapin*, and Major *Hemert*, held it out resolutely for eight Days, against all the Skill and Force, the Duke of *Vendosme*, employed against it, killed and wounded a great Number of his Men, and made several Officers Prisoners; amongst others, Major-General *de Croissy-Colbert*, was taken by an *English* Grenadier, who generously refused two Hundred Pistoles, and a Commission in the *French* Service, to favour his Escape. Thus was this poor Dog-Hole bravely defended for eight Days; till the fatigued Garrison being relieved by Colonel *Caulfield*, with several other Officers, and one Thousand two Hundred and fifty fresh Men, this new Commander, by some unaccountable Misconduct, not yet determined by our Historians, suffered himself to be surprized, the very next Day, and surrender'd, with his Garrison, Prisoners at Discretion. The Marquis *de Quincy*, however, accounts for this Surprise, by saying, that the new Governour, and his Officers, with the whole Garrison, having been making themselves merry, on Account of the Surrender of *Lisle*, which happened

The Village of *Leffinghen* bravely defended against the *French*.

two Days before, the *French* found the Soldiers all drunk, and the Officers quiet in their Beds; so that they enter'd the Place, before the former could put themselves into a Posture of Defence, or the latter could huddle their Clothes on.

The Town
capitulates.

THIS trifling Conquest, however, made the Enemy but poor Amends, for the great Loss they sustained two Days before, in the Surrender of the City of *Lisle*; as we have observed above. Every Thing being ready for a general Storm, the Twenty-second, at Four in the Afternoon, the Garrison having been greatly weakened by a Siege so bloody, and so long, and the Marshal *de Boufflers* considering that he had still the Citadel to defend, ordered a Parley to be beat, and offer'd to capitulate for the Town. Thereupon, Hostages were immediately exchanged, and it was agreed, that the Marshal *de Boufflers* should capitulate with Prince *Eugene*, for whatever related to the Garrison; and that the Magistrates and Council of the Town should propose their own Terms, for themselves, and the Castlany of *Lisle*, and agree about the same with the Field-Deputies of the *States-General*; which was done accordingly.

THE Twenty-third in the Morning, the first Capitulation was concluded, and contained in Substance, "That the *French* should surrender the *Magdalen-Gate*, that Afternoon, with all the Magazines of Provision and Ammunition in the Town; That all their Sick and Wounded should either be transported to *Doway*, or continue in *Lisle* for their Recovery, at their own Charge; That the Horse, who had entered the Town, since the Siege, might be sent to *Doway*, with the Wives and Families of the Officers and Soldiers, &c. That all Prisoners taken, during the Siege, should be restored, on both Sides; and that the Troops of the *Allies* should not enter into the Town before the Twenty-fifth of *October*, by which Time the *French* Garrison were to withdraw into the Citadel."

Reasons al-
leg'd for the
the Length
of this Siege.

MANY Causes were assigned for the Length of this Siege, besides the Strength of the Place, and the brave Resistance of the Garrison. Great Blame was laid on the Conduct of some of the chief Engineers, which fell very short of what had been experienced in the celebrated *Coehorn*. It was suspected, likewise, that there was Treachery amongst some of the Officers of the *Allies*. It was openly said, that the City was attack'd in the very strongest Part of it. It was affirmed, also, that the Besieged had always Intelligence of the Time and Place, when and where any Attack was to be made; because they were always found in a perfect good Posture of Defence. It was even averr'd, that the Fire of the Besieged was more ready, and more violent than that of the Besiegers; and that many of the Bombs of the latter had but very little Effect, because they went quite over the Town; and that in Attacks, the Besieged were so prepared for their Defence, that they fired upon the Assailants from so many several Places, that they made them endure a greater Fire, than theirs was from without.

To determine the exact Loss, on either Side, during this Siege of ten Weeks, might not be very easy; however, as the *French*, in general, own, that they had twelve Thousand Men in Garrison, tho' the Marquis *de Quincy*, indeed, reduces them to ten Thousand, not including near three Thousand Burghers, who did constantly Duty with the regular Troops, of which no more than four Thousand Five Hundred retired, with the Marshal *de Boufflers*, into the Citadel, and two Thousand more were reckon'd to be either sick or wounded, their Loss must have amounted, at least, to five or six Thousand Men; and even Monsieur *de Quincy* allows their Loss to have amounted to four Thousand four Hundred Infantry, and six Hundred Horse and Dragoons. As for the *Confederates*, they acknowledged they had three Thousand six Hundred and thirty-two kill'd, and eight Thousand three Hundred and twenty-two wounded; of whom, if we suppose one Half to have died, the Whole will not come up to full eight Thousand, a far less Number than fell before *Namur*. Here the Marquis *de Quincy* gives another flagrant Instance of his Partiality, and Disingenuity; he pretends that some of the General Officers of the *Allies* themselves owned, they had eighteen Thou-
sand

and Men kill'd or wounded, without reckoning nine or ten Thousand Men, who died of Sicknefs, or who were sick in their Hospitals, when the Place furrendered.

THE slow, but more effectual Way of fapping having faved the Lives of many Hundreds of Soldiers, Prince *Eugene*, who was always careful of his Men, refolved to follow the fame Method in the Siege of the Citadel, whither the *French* retired the Twenty-fifth, according to their Capitulation. At the fame Time, the Prince of *Holftein-Beck*, who was appointed Governor of the Town, by the *States-General*, marched into it with Major-General *Zoutland*, the Brigadiers *du Boiffet*, and *du Trouffel*, and fifteen Battalions. Whilst the *Confederates* were taking Poffeffion, not only of the Gates of the Town, but alfo of all the Avenues leading to the Citadel, a fmall Difpute arofe between the Generals of the *Allies*, and the Marshal *de Boufflers*; the latter laying a Claim to fome Works belonging, as he pretended, to the Fortrefs, and the former infifting on the fame, as belonging to the Town; but the Enemy's Cavalry, who, according to Articles, were to be conducted to *Doway*, being detained, the *French* gave up their Pretentions to them; and the fame Night the *Confederates* broke Ground, and carry'd on their Approaches to the Citadel.

As foon as the Enemy had evacuated the Town, the Hereditary Prince of *Hefle-Caffel* marched, with thirty Squadrons, into *Artois*; and incamping between *Lens* and *la Bassée*, employ'd fome Pioneers to fortify the latter; this done, he left the Command of the Troops to Count *Wackerbaert*, and returned himfelf to Prince *Eugene*. In the mean While, the Ceffation of all Acts of Hoftility, between the Town and Citadel of *Lifle*, which was to have expired the Twenty-fifth, was continued three Days longer; during which Time, at the earneft Request of the Inhabitants, all poffible Endeavours were ufed, to induce the Marshal *de Boufflers* to capitulate; but his Demands were fo extravagant, and *romantick*, that the *Allies* could not avoid rejecting them with Difdain. During this Interval, fome Civilities paff'd between Prince *Eugene* and the Marshal; but that did not hinder either Side from making all poffible Preparations, the one for the Attack, and the other for the vigorous Defence of the Place: Nor did either Side neglect the neceffary Works for that End.

The *Allies*
fortify *la*
Bessée.

ON the Twenty-ninth of *October*, N. S. the Negotiations for the Surrender of the Citadel being entirely broken off, the Befieged began the Hoftilities, about Four in the Afternoon, by the Difcharge of four Pieces of Cannon, with which they continued firing briskly. On the other Hand, the *Allies* contracted their Line of Circumvallation, and erected Batteries of Cannon, Mortar-Pieces, and *Hawbitzers*, within their firft Parallel; though they did not defign to batter in Breach, till they were Masters of the Out-Works, for which Purpofe they carried on their Approaches by the Sap. The Favourablenefs of the Seafon, though fo far advanced, induced the *Allies* to have Recourfe to this cautious Method, in order to fave great Numbers of Men, who muft otherwife have perifh'd in the Attacks; the Body of the Citadel being furrounded by three Ditches, and two *Cover'd-Ways*: In the mean While, they repaired the Breaches, and Fortifications of the Town.

The Siege of
the Citadel
began.

THE Duke of *Marlborough's* Army continued, all this Time, incamped at *Rofelaer*; and on the Second of *November*, nine Battalions were ordered to march, and join the Forces in *Lifle*, to the End they might affift in carrying on the Siege of the Citadel with greater Vigour. On the Third, the Army made a general Forage, near the Walls of *Ypres*, which the Enemy attempted to difturb, by the Cannon from the Town; but they all returned in the Evening, without any Lofs, and fupply'd with Provision for many Days. On the Fifth, nine Squadrons of the Troops, which marched the Firft of *November*, from *Cocklaer* to *Longuemarque*, were ordered to join Count *Wackerbaert*, at *la Bassée*. In this Interval, the Marquis *de Surville*, a *French* Lieutenant-General, in the Citadel of *Lifle*, having received a Shot through the Body, as he was viewing the Approaches of

The Mar-
quis *de Sur-*
ville wound-
ed.

the

the *Allies*, Prince *Eugene* consented to his being brought into the Town of *Lisle*; and afterwards to his being removed to *Doway*, in order to his being cured.

The Earl of
Stairs detach'd to
bring in
Corn.

ON the Seventh, the Duke of *Marlborough*, having received Information, that the *French* had summoned the Villages, and open Towns, about *Dixmuyde* and *Furnes*, to bring their Corn, and other Provision, into *Ypres*, and other fortify'd Places, the Earl of *Stairs* was detach'd from *Rouffelaer*, with six Squadrons; and being joined by four more, together with ten Battalions, from the Detachment incamped at *Cortemarque*, and *Longuemarque*, took Post in *Dixmuyde*. From thence his Lordship sent Orders, to enjoin the Inhabitants of that District, to carry their Corn and Forage immediately to the *Confederate* Army, where they should be paid for the same; but threatening them, in Case of Non-compliance, with military Execution. This had the desired Effect; for not only the Inhabitants of that District, but likewise those of *Furnes*, *St. Omers*, *St. Winoxberg*, and *Bourbourg*, supply'd the *Confederate* Army with Cattle, Corn, and all other Necessaries, in great Plenty. On the Ninth, the Earl of *Stairs* attack'd the Fort of *Haut-Pont*, near *Dixmuyde*, which he took after a short Resistance, and made the Garrison, consisting of two Hundred Grenadiers, commanded by a Lieutenant-Colonel, Prisoners of War. On the Tenth, Brigadier *Evans* marched from *Longuemarque* with five Battalions, and six Squadrons of Horse, to reinforce the Earl of *Stairs*, who advanced, thereupon, to *Loo*, and sent out Detachments to gather in more Corn and Forage.

UPON Notice hereof, the Duke of *Vendosme* sent two Brigades of Foot, one of Horse, and another of Dragoons, which lined the Canal from *Newport* to *Furnes*, and cut it in thirteen Places; by which Means, the whole Country was laid under Water on both Sides, and this hinder'd the *Allies* from penetrating any farther that Way. On the Thirteenth, the Count de *Mouroux*, a Major-General, who commanded that Body, having got Information, that a Detachment of *Prussian* Troops, consisting of a Battalion of *Grumkau*, and one of the *Markgrave* of *Albrecht*, a Squadron of the Regiment of *Catte*, and another of that of *Heyden*, were advanced between *Furnes* and *St. Winoxberg*, march'd in the Evening; and the Fourteenth, in the Morning, surprized them in the Village of *Beauvorde*, and having surrounded them, forced them, after some Resistance, to yield themselves Prisoners of War: For this, their Commander, Colonel *Catte*, was afterwards try'd by a Court Martial at *Berlin*, and honourably acquitted.

UPON this unfortunate Accident, General *Fagel* was ordered to march from *Cortemarque* towards *Dixmuyde*, with a large Body of Troops, to gather in the Remainder of the Provisions, which could be found in that Neighbourhood: And, on the other Hand, Major-General *Cadogan*, and the Prince d'*Auvergne*, were detach'd, the Seventh, towards *Artois*, from whence they brought a great Quantity of Corn to *Lisle*. This done, Major-General *Cadogan*, and Monsieur *Croonstrom*, went the Twelfth to *Turcoin*, to confer with two *French* Commissioners about an Exchange of Prisoners; and in two Days the Treaty was concluded: It was thereby agreed, That the private Men and Officers, from Colonels downwards, should be exchanged for others of the same Rank, as far as they went, and that the Rest should remain Prisoners.

WHILST these Things were transacting on this Side, the Duke of *Vendosme* caused some Bombs to be thrown into *Damme*, on the Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth of *October*; after which, he appeared with a Body of Troops before *Ostend*; and, at the same Time, some Squadrons of Horse march'd, along the Sands, from *Newport*, as if their Design had been to cut off Lieutenant-General *Earl's* Camp: But that General retreated, very seasonably, into the Out-Works of *Ostend*, on the Eighth of *November*.

Misunder-
standing be-
tween the
Dukes of
Burgundy,
and *Ven-*
dosme.

DURING these Transactions, there was a great Misunderstanding between the Dukes of *Burgundy* and *Vendosme*. The latter took so much upon him, that the other Officers murmured at his neglecting them; wherefore, they made their Complaints thereof to the Duke of *Burgundy*, and laid the

Blame

Blame of all his Miscarriages upon the Duke of *Vendosme*. The latter, however, kept close to the Orders he had from *Versailles*, where his Accounts, and the Advice he offered, were held in much greater Regard, than what came from the Duke of *Burgundy*. This gave his Royal Highness great Uneasiness; he was impatient of Contradiction, and pretended to a great Eagerness to be in Action; though it never appeared, that he was very forward in exposing his Person; neither did his Conduct, during this Campaign, promise any great Matters in his Favour.

AT the Citadel of *Lisle*, both the Besieged, and the Besiegers, were very good Husbands of their small Stock of Ammunition, which very much added to the Length of the Siege; but, at the same Time, was the Reason of its being carried on with a very inconsiderable Loss. However, on the Eleventh of *November*, Prince *Eugene*, who still continued to expose himself, was in great Danger of his Life, his Gentleman of the Horse being kill'd by his Side; by a Musket-Ball. On the Thirteenth, the Besiegers made a Lodgment, by the Palisades of the first *Cover'd-Way*, with a very small Loss; and the next Day, they made themselves Masters of the whole *Counterscarp*, excepting two *Places of Arms*, which the Enemy abandoned on the Fifteenth; and on the Seventeenth, the Besiegers lodg'd themselves on the *Glacis* of the second *Cover'd-Way*, without any Loss.

Prince Eugene in great Danger.

FOR Days before the Taking the *Counterscarp* of the Citadel of *Lisle*, the Prince d'*Auvergne* was detach'd, by Count *Wackerbaert*, from *la Bassée*, with a Body of Horse and Foot, to attack the Fort of *St. Venant*, upon the *Lys*, on the Frontiers of *Artois*, in which the Enemy had posted a Hundred Men; who, upon his Approach, made only one Discharge, and then retired towards *Aire*. Hereupon, the Prince d'*Auvergne* took Possession of the Place; and leaving eight Hundred Foot, with three Hundred Horse, in Garrison there, under the Command of Colonel *Lambert*, returned to *la Bassée* the next Day.

THE Siege of the Citadel of *Lisle* being carried on slowly, for the Reasons we have already mentioned, the Enemy were vain enough to imagine, they had taken such infallible Measures to distress the *Allies*, both by their Inundations between *Bruges* and *Newport*, and by their Intrenchments along the *Scheld*, that their publick Ministers, in foreign Courts, gave it out, with great Assurance, That the Confederate Army were so coop'd up, that they would soon be either famished, or obliged to abandon *Lisle*: Nay, it was reported, That the Duke of *Vendosme* talked of having the whole Confederate Army delivered into his Hands, as Prisoners of War, for want of Bread and other Necessaries. But the Event shew'd, that he reckon'd without his Host; and our two great Generals, being indefatigably intent, each upon his proper Business, the Duke of *Marlborough* in providing Corn, and Prince *Eugene* in husbanding what was sent him, both Armies enjoyed a Competency, though not a Plenty.

THE Enemy, finding themselves disappointed in these their Hopes, had Recourse to new Measures: Their Parties made Irruptions into the District of *Brisleduc*; burning and ravaging great Part of the open Country; and the Elector of *Bavaria*, who was returned from an unactive Campaign in *Germany*, approached *Brussels*, at the same Time, with a Body of about ten thousand Men, drawn out of several Garrisons. It was reasonable to imagine, that his Electoral Highness, whose good Intelligence, and Influence, had occasioned the Loss of *Ghent* and *Bruges*, could not want Interest in a Place where he had long resided, and had undoubtedly secured a great Party. Neither were the *Allies* without Apprehensions, that the Elector of *Bavaria's* secret Projects might have as great an Influence in *Antwerp*, as in *Brussels*, which might not only be of infinite Prejudice to the Common-Cause, in the *Spanish Netherlands*, but might prove equally pernicious in its Consequences, both in *Spain*, and *Italy*.

The Elector of Bavaria forms a Design upon Brussels.

HIS Electoral Highness, therefore, no sooner made a Shew of marching an Army towards *Brussels*, than the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, concerted Measures to pass the *Scheld*; and as it was uncertain,

Care taken for the Security of Antwerp, and whether Brussels.

whether *Antwerp*, or *Brussels*, was in most Danger, Orders were sent to the *British* Regiments of *Hill*, *Mackartney*, *Wynne*, *Hamilton*, and *Townshend*, under the Command of Brigadier *Wynne*, and the *Walloon* Regiment of *Davila*, to be forthwith transported from *Ostend* to *Antwerp*; and the *States-General* commanded other Troops to march from *Naerden*, *Heusden*, *Grave*, and other Places; and dispatch'd some of their Members thither, with General *Fresheim*, a brave, and experienced Officer. At the same Time, the Duke of *Marlborough* sent an Express to Lieutenant-General *Pascal*, Governor of *Brussels*, to assure him, that in case he should be attack'd, both Prince *Eugene*, and himself, would certainly hasten to his Relief. Upon this Encouragement, the Deputies of the *States* resolved to stay in *Brussels*; which contributed not a little to the Preservation of that important Place.

ON the other Hand, his Grace recall'd the Troops commanded by General *Fagel*, who joined the Army at *Rousselaer*, the Twenty-second of *November*, and brought with him two Hostages, for the Performance of an Agreement made with the Dependencies of the District of *Furnes*; by which they had obliged themselves to send six Thousand Sacks of Corn into the Magazines at *Menin*. The same Day, Advice came, that the Enemy had detach'd some Troops from the Bodies they had near *Oudenarde*, and *Ghent*; and that the Dam they were making near *Gaveren*, to stop the Course of the *Scheld*, in order to cause that River to overflow its Banks, and render its Passage more difficult, was broken down, and carry'd away by the Rapidity of the Stream, in the Night between the Twentieth and the Twenty-first. This was a great Disappointment to the Enemy; for they depended upon this Dam, to lay the Borders about *Avelghem*, and *Tournay*, under Water. To this End, they had Recourse to Boats filled with Stones, which they sunk; besides several other Machines, that cost immense Sums, as well as infinite Labour. But it was all to no Purpose, for the Current carry'd away all their Dykes, and they found it impossible to render the Passage of the *Scheld* impracticable by that Means. However, they had such Confidence in the several Bodies of Troops, which they had intrenched along the *Scheld*, that they did not believe the *Allies* would dare to attempt the passing of that River; but we shall soon find they were mistaken.

The Elector
of Bavaria
comes before
Brussels, and
summons it.

THE same Evening, likewise, the *Elect*or of *Bavaria* arrived in the Neighbourhood of *Brussels*, with a Body of about ten Thousand Horse and Foot, sixteen Battering Cannon, and twelve Field-Pieces; and the Twenty-third, at Noon, whilst his Men were breaking the Ground, and drawing Lines, his *Electoral* Highness sent a Trumpet to the Governor, with the following Instructions.

“ HE is to summon the *Commandant* of the City of *Brussels* to surrender
“ to his *Electoral* Highness, who is about to attack him with his Army and
“ Artillery, which is coming up. His *Electoral* Highness is well informed,
“ that the *Commandant* is not in a Condition to defend himself, with the
“ few Troops he has; wherefore, if he obliges him to begin the Attack,
“ he must expect no Capitulation, either for himself or his Garrison. Let
“ not the *Commandant* flatter himself, with the Hopes of retiring, with
“ his Garrison, to *Antwerp*, if he delays to surrender; for he is to know,
“ that he will soon find Troops posted to hinder his Retreat.” Hereupon,
the Governor, who had nine Battalions, and a Thousand Horse under his
Command, returned the following Answer, by the same Trumpet.

Monseigneur,

The Govern-
or's An-
swer.

“ THE *Commandant* of *Brussels* is very unfortunate, in not having the
“ Honour to be known to your *Electoral* Highness. He dares assure you,
“ he will do all a Man of Honour ought to do; that he is satisfied with
“ his Garrison, and that he is, with a profound Respect,

Monseigneur,

Your *Electoral* Highness's

Most Humble Servant,

PASCAL.

ACCORD-

ACCORDINGLY General *Pascal* made all the necessary Dispositions for a vigorous Defence, in Concert with Major-General *Murray*, Baron *Wrangel*, the Deputies of the *States*, the Council of State, and the Magistrates of that City: And the better to encourage the Troops to the Performance of their Duty, he ordered a Pound of Flesh, two Quarts of Beer, and four Glasses of Brandy, to be distributed every Day, *gratis*, to each Soldier. On the Twenty-third, the Enemy decamped from the Villages of *Ixelles*, and *Itterbeck*, to *Scarbeck*, within a Quarter of a League of *Brussels*. They employ'd the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth in erecting Batteries; but the Cannon of the Town, being admirably well served, some of theirs were immediately dismounted.

He prepares for a vigorous Defence.

ON the Twenty-sixth, about Nine in the Morning, the Enemy began to play, from their Batteries, upon the City; and several Balls, which went over the Ramparts, damaged the Tops of some Houses. Towards Evening, they began to fire into the Out-Works, from two Mortars; but only two or three of the Bombs fell within the Town, and they did no Mischief. About Seven, the Enemy began to fire with their small Shot, upon the Men who were posted in the Out-Works; and they returned the Compliment, which was redoubled about Nine. The Enemy then began a false Attack, on the *Counterescarp*, near the *Scarbeck-Gate*; and, at the same Time, made another, between the Gates of *Louvain* and *Namur*; whereupon, there ensued one of the most furious, obstinate, and bloody Encounters that ever was known. The Enemy enter'd the *Cover'd-Way* twice, but were driven out again both Times, and made only a small Lodgment on the *Glacis*, from whence they were likewise beaten, by a Hundred Men of Sir *Thomas Pendergast's* Regiment, who distinguished themselves, on this Occasion, after a very extraordinary Manner. The Enemy, however, renew'd their Attacks several Times; and the Action lasted for thirteen Hours, with great Slaughter on both Sides. At Ten, next Morning, the Enemy retreated, on all Sides, in the greatest Confusion; being quite disheartened by the brave and obstinate Resistance of the *Confederate* Troops; who were encouraged by the Presence, and Examples of the Generals *Pascal*, *Murray*, and *Wrangel*; the Colonels *Egelin* and *Lescheraine*, and other Officers of Distinction.

The Enemy make a vigorous Attack upon the City.

But are repulsed, after an Engagement of thirteen Hours.

ON the Twenty-seventh, some Cannon-Shot were exchanged on both Sides; and General *Pascal*, not in the least doubting but the Enemy would renew the Attack in the Evening, with greater Numbers, and more Vigour than before, caused the Troops, which guarded those Posts that were most exposed, to be reinforced, and ordered a *Corps de Reserve* to sustain them. But, in the Afternoon, instead of renewing the Attack, the *Electeur* of *Bavaria* demanded a Suspension of Arms, on Pretence of burying the Dead, and carrying off the Wounded; this, however, proved only a Stratagem, to enable him to raise the Siege with the less Disadvantage. For, upon the Arrival of two Couriers from *Mons*, with Intelligence, that the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, had pass'd the *Scheld*, and were upon a full March to relieve *Brussels*, his *Electoral* Highness sent away his Baggage, and march'd off his Troops, in the Night, without Beat of Drum, or Sound of Trumpet; and this with such Precipitation, that they left behind them, in their Camp, twelve Pieces of Cannon nail'd up, two large Mortars, and about twenty Barrels of Powder. They, likewise, left about eight Hundred wounded Men in the Villages of *Ixelles*, and *Itterbeck*, and in the Abbey of *Cambrin*; and the *Hussars*, and Dragoons, who went in Pursuit of them, the next Morning, brought in a great many other Prisoners, and some Baggage.

The Enemy raise the Siege, with great Precipitation.

THIS fruitless Expedition, what with their Kill'd, Wounded, Prisoners, and Deserters, was reckon'd to have cost the Enemy above three Thousand Men. Amongst their Slain, were the Count *de Saillant*, Governor of the Castle of *Namur*; Monsieur *de Boisfermé*, a Colonel; Monsieur *de Beaumorel*, *Aid de Camp* to the *Electeur*; the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment of *Benavidez*, and several other Officers; and of seven Engineers, whom they

they brought with them, five were kill'd, and two taken Prisoners, in this Action. The *Electeur* of *Bavaria* was highly enraged at this Disappointment; and complained loudly of the Court of *France*, who sacrificed him, as he said, in the Midst of his Enterprize, when they might easily have supported him, by putting a Stop to the Passage of Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, over the *Scheld*. In Effect, it was not without good Reason, that his *Electoral* Highness resented their using him in that Manner, if what the Marquis de *Quincy* says be true, that he was sent upon this Enterprize, by the *French*, against his Will. As for the *Allies*, they had between five and six Hundred Men kill'd and wounded on this Occasion; amongst the former, was Monsieur *Pascal*, Major of the Regiment of Dragoons of *Dodigni*, who fought on Foot, with extraordinary Courage and Resolution. The Enemy expected that the Populace would have risen in their Favour; but by the Vigilance, and prudent Conduct of General *Pascal*, with the Assistance of the Lords of the Regency, and the Magistrates, all remained quiet in the City; and the Officers and Soldiers in the Out-Works, behaved with all the Bravery and Unanimity that could have been wished, or expected.

Mons. *Pascal* made a Marquis for his gallant Defence of *Brussels*.

FOR this brave and vigorous Defence of *Brussels*, Lieutenant-General *Pascal* was justly advanced, by his Sovereign, King *Charles III.* to the Honour and Dignity of a Marquis: But, though by this single Action he gained immortal Glory, yet it is certain, that it would have been next to an Impossibility, for him to have maintained the Place above a Day or two longer; his Garrison being scarce five Thousand strong, and the Place of a vast Extent, and open almost on every Side. The Preservation of *Brussels* was owing, therefore, in a great Measure, under GOD, to the Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene*; who, with a profound Secresy, and almost incredible Diligence, passed the *Scheld*, the Twenty-seventh of *November* in the Morning, with little or no Opposition. This is owned by the *French* themselves, in all their Accounts; and they add, that if the Duke had not surprized and forced the Passage of the *Scheld*, the Inhabitants of *Brussels* would have declared in Favour of the *Electeur*, and have obliged the Garrison to surrender. This Assertion, however, seems groundless; if we may believe the Account given by the Deputies of the *States*, in their Letters; which we shall insert below, for the Illustration of several Circumstances, which we have mentioned but cursorily: Thus the *French*, to their eternal Shame, abandoned those Lines, in a panick Fear, and Consternation, which they had been raising and fortifying for three Months.

WE must not, however, pass over in Silence this extraordinary March and Passage of the *Scheld*; both as it was one of the boldest Actions that was attempted during the whole War, and as it redounds as much to the Honour of the *Allies*, and their invincible Generals, as either the gaining of a Battle, or Reduction of a Town: It was executed in the following Manner.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, having repeated Advices, that the *Electeur* of *Bavaria* was marching towards *Brussels*, was sensible of the Necessity of relieving that Place; and as sensible, that there was no other Way of doing it, but by passing the *Scheld*: He resolved therefore, to attempt that Passage, at all Events. This Design was very hazardous, and attended with many Difficulties. The *French* Army, which was in no Respect inferior to that of the *Allies*, but in Courage, was encamped before *Oudenarde*, and covered with a strong Intrenchment. Nor was this all; they had raised three, one behind the other, below the Town, on the Banks of the *Scheld*, which were fortified with Batteries: And though all the Attempts they had made, to stop the Course of the River, and cause an Inundation there, had proved ineffectual, there were considerable Inundations above the Town. Notwithstanding this advantageous Situation of the Enemy's, the Duke of *Marlborough* was not deterred from his Resolution; but sent the Artillery, and Baggage, the Twenty-third, and Twenty-fourth, from *Roussellart* to *Menin*; and on the Twenty-fourth, at Night, detached Lieutenant-General *Dompere*, with

Motions of the *Allies*, in order to their passing the *Scheld*.

with twenty Squadrons, and ten Battalions under his Command; with Instructions to march to *Harlebeck*, the next Morning. Within a few Hours after, the whole Army were in Motion, from *Rouffelaer*, and passed the *Lys* at *Courtray*, in two Columns. The *Right Wing* arrived at *Harlebeck*, the same Day; but by Reason of the bad Roads, narrow Defiles, and almost continual Rains, the *Left*, which made the *Rear*, could not get thither, till Eight the next Morning; notwithstanding which, the Army were ordered to pursue their March, at Three in the Afternoon.

AN Hour before, twenty Squadrons, and six Battalions, were detach'd from the *Left*, under the Command of Major-General *Bothmar*, and Brigadier *Schmeitau*, to join Lieutenant-General *Dompere's* Detachment; which being now increased to forty Squadrons, and sixteen Battalions, was to be commanded by Count *Lottum*, and the Earl of *Orkney*: They had Orders to pass the *Scheld* at *Gaveren*, whatever Opposition they met with, and to intrench themselves on the Rising Grounds on the other Side, till they could be supported by the Rest of the Army. At the same Time, Prince *Eugene* march'd to *Roubaix*, with twenty Battalions, and forty Squadrons, to attempt passing the same River at *Escauffe*. About Four in the Afternoon, the Duke of *Marlborough* began his March, from *Harlebeck*; having detach'd Major-General *Cadogan*, and Brigadier *Evans*, some Hours before, with eight Battalions, the Pontoons, and all the Artillery, in order to lay Bridges at *Kirkhoven*, and *Elsegheem*, where his Grace design'd to cross with his Army; and where the Enemy had a Body of Troops, commanded by Monsieur *de Sousternon*, a Lieutenant-General.

THESE well laid Measures were put in Execution, with such Expedition and Secrecy, that notwithstanding the *French* had Notice of the Duke of *Marlborough's* having pass'd the *Lys*, they never suspected, that he had any Design of proceeding farther, over the *Scheld*; an Attempt so bold, that they could never have imagined, the *Allies* would have ventured upon it. All these several Detachments, march'd the whole Night, by the Favour of the Moon; and Count *Lottum* arriving at Four in the Morning, on the Banks of the *Scheld*, ordered two Bridges to be laid, and sent some Foot to take Post on the other Side; but the Cavalry did not go over till it was Daylight. The Morning proving Foggy, a Guard of the Count *de la Motte's* Dragoons, who were patrolling, fell in amongst the *Confederates*, and gave Notice of their Approach to their General; who had before some Suspicion thereof, because a Guard of his Foot had fired five or six Times, upon the Noise the Workmen made, in laying of the Bridges. Count *Lottum* immediately drew up his Forces, in the Plain of *Gaveren*, as he was ordered, and Count *de la Motte* did the same, within Sight of him: But the former marching towards the Hills of *Oudenarde*, to join the Duke of *Marlborough*, whom he had informed of his having got safe over the River, the *French* retired towards *Ghent*, having all along kept at half a League's Distance from the *Confederates*.

AT the same Time, Major-General *Cadogan*, laid Bridges over the *Scheld*, at *Kirkhoven*, with equal Success, and Diligence; which done, he began to pass his Troops, without being perceived by the Enemy before Break of Day; till discovering their advanced Guard posted on a Rising Ground, he ordered his Gunners to fire at them, from a Battery, which he had erected, for the Defence of his Bridges. Hereupon, the Enemy, who were almost all asleep, and very secure, as they thought, in their Intrenchments along the *Scheld*, immediately took the Alarm, and began to think of providing for their Safety, by a speedy Retreat: Accordingly, they set Fire to their Huts, and Barracks, and whilst their Infantry were marching off, drew up their Cavalry on a Hill near *Oudenarde*.

IN the mean While, the Remainder of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Forces, continued Marching on, with all possible Expedition; and having passed the River at *Kirkhoven*, and *Elsegheem*, formed themselves in Order of Battle. Hereupon, Prince *Eugene*, who arrived some Time before at *Hauterive*, where his Design was to have crossed, immediately joined his Grace; it

The *Allies* pass the *Scheld* in two Places, without Opposition.

The *Rear* of the Enemy's Army defeated.

having been agreed between them, that which Body soever got over first, the other should March to that Place; and as it had been, likewise, resolved, to attack the Body of the Enemy's Troops, which were intrench'd before *Oudenarde*, under the Command of Monsieur de *Hautefort*, the Duke and Prince hastened their March that Way. However, notwithstanding all their Diligence, the *French* began to retire with so much Precipitation, as soon as they perceived the *Allies* advancing to attack them, that they could only come up with their *Rear*, commanded by Monsieur de *Souffernon*: These the Earl of *Albemarle* attack'd, at the Head of his Carabiniers, with so much Vigour, and Bravery, that he entirely broke and dispersed them, killed a great Number, and took five or six Hundred Prisoners; besides great Part of their Baggage, their Bread Waggon, two Standards, and a Pair of Kettle-Drums; as for their Cannon, they had drawn them off in Time.

Amazing
Cowardice
of the Enemy.

THE *Allies* had not above sixty Men, killed or wounded in this Action; amongst the latter, was Brigadier *Baldwin*, in the Service of the *States*, who was shot through the Body; and the Earl of *Albemarle*, Prince *William* of *Hesse*, and Count *Maurice* of *Nassau*, had their Horses shot under them. The *Confederates* continued pursuing the Enemy till it was dark, and incamped on the Hills near *Oudenarde*, to the great Satisfaction of the whole Army, who did not imagine they should have got over the *Scheld*, at so easy a Rate. And, indeed, our Generals themselves were amazed at the Cowardice of the Enemy, in abandoning, in so shameful a Manner, Posts which were not only advantageous by Nature, but on which they had bestowed so much Application, and labour to fortify them. Upon this Occasion, Bishop *Burnet* mentions a Stratagem of the Duke of *Marlborough's*, which we shall relate, as it perfectly answers the Character of that great Commander, though we do not find it taken Notice of by any other Writer.

"THE Duke of *Marlborough*, (*says he*) being informed of the *Elect*or of *Bavaria's* Design to attack *Brussels*, made a sudden Motion towards the *Scheld*; but to deceive the Enemy, it was given out, that he intended to march directly towards *Ghent*; and that was not only believed by his whole Army, but was probably carry'd to the Enemy; for they seem'd to have no Notice, or Apprehension, of his Design to pass the *Scheld*." The Bishop adds, which is no less remarkable; "The Lines were so strong, that it was expected the Breaking through them, would have been a very hot Action. Some of the General Officers, (*continues he*) told me, that they reckon'd it would have cost them ten Thousand Men: but to their great Surprise, as soon as they had pass'd the River, the *French* ran away, without offering to make the least Resistance. Their Conduct was a Surprise to all the World; their Counsels seem'd to be weak, and the Execution of them was worse; so that they, who were so long the Terror, were now become the Scorn of all Nations."

IN Effect, it is certain, the passing the *Scheld*, was in itself so bold an Action, and attended with such extraordinary Circumstances, that Posterity might very well question the Truth of it, did not the Consequences that ensued, remove all Manner of Doubt thereof. For a numerous Army, to cross a large River, in the Sight of an Enemy, equal, if not superior, in Number, and posted with all the Advantages that Nature or Art could afford them, is what has seldom been attempted, and may almost vie with *Alexander the Great's* passing the *Granicus*.

The Duke
Marlborough
advances to-
wards *Brus-*
sels.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, on his Arrival at *Oudenarde*, immediately took Measures for advancing towards *Brussels*, which he had good Intelligence, was very hard press'd by the *Elect*or of *Bavaria*. On the Twentieth by Break of Day, the Army were in Motion again, but to favour the Troops, as much as possible, his Grace ordered the main Body to halt; in the Night, at *Omberg*, and advanced, with a Detachment of Horse, and two Battalions of Guards, to *Alost*. His Grace had scarce arrived there, when he received the News, that the *Elect*or, as soon as he had received Advice of the *Confederates* having pass'd the *Scheld*, had rais'd the Siege, with

with the greatest Precipitation, as we have already seen above. Hereupon, the Duke came, on the Twenty-ninth, a little before Noon, to *Brussels*, both to concert Measures for sending Ammunition, and Provisions to the Siege of *Lisle*, and to thank the Garrison, for the brave Defence they had made.

HIS Grace was received there with the greatest Testimonies of Joy and Gratitude, as indeed his indefatigable Diligence, and unwearied Vigilance for the Relief of that Place, had justly deserved: He was met, without the Gates, by the Governor, General *Pascal*, at the Head of the chief Officers of the Garrison, whom the Duke saluted with the most distinguishing Marks of Favour and Esteem. His Grace alighted at the Governor's House, whither the Council of State, the *States of Brabant*, the Magistrates of *Brussels*, and the Deputies of the *States-General*, immediately repaired, to compliment and thank him for their seasonable Deliverance, which they very justly attributed, in a great Measure, to the extraordinary Vigilance and Diligence of his Grace, and Prince *Eugene*. This done, King *Augustus*, who was, likewise there, together with the Duke of *Marlborough*, and some other Persons of the greatest Distinction, were entertained at Dinner, by General *Pascal*; after which, his Grace, having given the necessary Orders, returned the same Evening to his Camp, near *Alost*.

PRINCE *Eugene* went back to *Lisle*, the Day before, with the Troops detach'd from the Siege, and eight Battalions, with thirty Squadrons, of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army, which had been re-inforced by the Troops employed in fortifying *La Bassée*. The View of the *Confederates*, in making themselves Masters of that Post, were chiefly to divide and weaken the Enemy's Forces on the *Scheld*; wherefore, having gained their Ends therein, it was now no longer necessary, for which Reason, they abandoned it: That this was their Motive first for possessing themselves thereof, and then for abandoning it, may be seen by the following Letter, from Lieutenant-General *Hompesch*, to another General.

SIR,

From the Camp near Menin, Decemb. 5, 1708.

" I EXPECT, this Day, a hundred Waggon, under a Guard of nine Battalions, with Powder, which were sent for from *Aeth*, by my Lord Duke, and are to join me. The Enemy have assembled their Forces, between *Lens*, and *La Bassée*, and are fortifying the latter, wherein, our Troops had taken Post, and made a Shew of fortifying the same, as if they would have maintained themselves therein. This was intended to oblige the Enemy, to detach some Troops on that Side, and weaken those they had upon the *Scheld*, which succeeded accordingly. That Post would have been very advantageous; but as our Generals had other Things in View, they abandoned the same; since the *French* were come into their Neighbourhood, with most of our Forces, and thereby rendered our Passing the *Scheld* more easy. They are now near enough to attack Prince *Eugene*; before *Lisle*, if they think fit; and in that Case, I shall soon be with him, with the Troops under my Command. It began last Night to freeze so very hard, that our Soldiers long for fighting, were it only to warm themselves. If any Thing material happens, I shall not fail to acquaint you there-
with."

A Letter from General *Hompesch*, to another General.

I am, &c.

Signed,

R. V. Count de *Hompesch*.

P. S. " Forage being very scarce, in these Parts, our Horses will suffer in some Measure; but when Men must be sacrificed, to obtain a safe and honourable Peace, there is no Reason to complain of the Share Horses must have in those Difficulties; however, I will use all possible Means to preserve them."

WE shall now give our Readers the Translation of several Letters, relating to the Siege and Relief of *Brussels*, and the Passage of the *Scheld*, both as they tend very much to the Honour of our *British* Hero, and as they set those Actions in a better Light, than any Account thereof, we have met elsewhere: The first is, a Letter to the *States-General*, from their Deputies in *Brussels*, and is as follows.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

Brussels, Novemb. 27, 1708.

A Letter from the Field-Deputies, to the States-General.

“ WE had the Honour to receive, this Morning, your *High Mightinesses* secret Resolution of the Twenty-fifth, by which we see, with great Satisfaction, that you have approved of what we have done here, for the Good of the *Common-Cause*: We shall not fail to be assistant in using all necessary Means for the Preservation of this Place.

“ It is a singular Pleasure to us, to be able to inform your *High Mightinesses*, by this Letter, that the Enemy, without having gained an Inch of Ground, began to attack the *Counterscarp*, at Nine last Night, with great Fury, between the Gates of *Louvain* and *Namur*. The Fire was terrible on both Sides, and lasted till Five in the Morning; during which Time, the Enemy made nine Attacks, and at last lodged themselves upon the *Glacis* of the *Counterscarp*. But about Six a Clock, our Men made a Sally from the *Cover'd-Way*, Sword in Hand, with such Success, that they beat the Enemy out of their Works on the *Counterscarp*, which they immediately levell'd.

“ WE can never sufficiently commend the Bravery of the Troops of this Garrison; especially those of the *States*; though all in general did their Duty very well: But since this Garrison is already very much fatigued, and will not be able to resist long the vigorous Attacks, which, in all Appearance, the Enemy will renew, we have earnestly solicited the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Deputies who attended the Army, not to defer one Moment to relieve the Town; without which, however brave our Men are, they cannot very long sustain the furious Attacks of the Enemy.”

We are, &c.

J. Van Bergh.

Baron *Van Reede*, Lord of *Renswoude*.

A Second Letter from the Same to the Same.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

Another Letter from the Same to the Same.

“ WE hope your *High Mightinesses* have received the Letter, wherein we had Yesterday the Honour to send you Word of the furious Attacks made by the Enemy, the Night between the Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh, on the *Counterscarp* of this City. After we had again disposed all Things, Yesterday, as well as possible, for resisting the Enemy's Attacks; because our Spies reported unanimously, that the Enemy would not only make a general Assault in the Night, but would also fire with red-hot Bullets, in order to excite the Burghers to Sedition; we observed, about Twelve at Night, that their Army was in Motion; and soon after, that they were retiring towards *Namur*, with such Precipitation, that they left behind them twelve Pieces of Cannon, and two Mortars, which are fallen into our Hands.

“ WE can never sufficiently commend the Courage, and Conduct, of the Generals *Pascal*, *Murray*, and *Wrangel*; nor set too great a Value upon the Proofs of both, given by the Colonels *Egelin*, and *Lescheraigne*, who happening to be here, without their Regiments, offered, nevertheless, their Service, wherever we should please to employ them, in the Defence of the City: We hope, therefore, your *High Mightinesses* will be pleased to consider, whenever Occasion offers, the Services performed by these gallant Officers.

“ THE

“ THE *States* of *Brabant* have shewn, both at this Juncture, and in many others, their Zeal for King *Charles*, and his *Allies*; they having never been backward in supplying us with the Money we wanted for this Service; so that we had no need to make use either of the Credit of the *States*, or of our own. Herein those *States* have merited highly.

“ WE congratulate your *High Mightinesses* on the Preservation of this important Post, whereby *Antwerp*, and the Frontiers of our Republick, are secured, and the Towns of *Louvain*, *Mechlin*, and *Liers* saved.

“ OUR Secretary, whom we send Express with this, will inform your *High Mightinesses* of the Particulars more at large; to which we refer you, because we are streightened in Point of Time. We are extremely joyful, that it has pleased the ALMIGHTY, for the Good of the State, to bless the Resolution we had taken, to assist in the Defence of this Place to the last Extremity.”

We are, &c.

Brussels, Novemb. 28, 1708.

J. Van Bergh.

Baron *Van Reede*, Lord of *Renswoude*.

P. S. “ We forgot to take Notice, that, during the Siege, Monsieur *Decker*, first Burgo-Master of this City, acquitted himself of his Duty, in that Station, with the utmost Zeal, and Diligence.”

A Letter to the States-General, from Monsieur Pascal, Governor of Brussels.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

“ YOUR *High Mightinesses*, I hope, will not be displeased, that I do myself the Honour to inform you, that the *Electer* of *Bavaria* has broken up the Siege of *Brussels*, and has left behind him twelve Pieces of Cannon, two Mortars, and three Waggon-Loads of Powder. From the Twentieth to the Twenty-seventh, his *Electoral* Highness had caused his Batteries to be raised; and about Ten at Night, he began to attack the *Cover'd-Way*, with all imaginable Vigour; but he was repulsed, in all his Attacks, by my Garrison, who maintained their Ground, with inexpressible Firmness and Resolution: The Rest I refer to the Bearer. The Enemy have lost an infinite Number of Men, and have left me all their Wounded; which, I am told, amount to above eight Hundred. I shall do myself the Honour to send your *High Mightinesses* a List, as soon as I have Leisure to take an exact one. I hope your *High Mightinesses* will permit me to have the Honour of congratulating you on this happy Occurrence. I had the good Fortune, to have two good Seconds in this Affair, Major-General *Murray*, and Baron *Wrangel*, who did all that could be expected, from two Persons of such Experience and Bravery. I was also greatly assisted by the Valour of the whole Garrison, and even by the Colonels *Egelin*, and *Lescheraine*, though they were not of this Garrison. I shall do myself the Honour to inform your *High Mightinesses*, at Leisure, of the Bravery of all the Commanders of the Regiments of this Garrison, which is inexpressible; as also of all the Officers, who were in this Service, of all Nations. All this good Success is owing to the Courage and Resolution, which the Lords Deputies of your *High Mightinesses* shew'd on this Occasion; and their Presence inspired the Burghers with such a Steadiness, and Confidence, as cannot be too much praised; no more than the Zeal, Activity, and Readiness of the Burgo-Masters, to execute whatever was required of them for the Service of the *Common-Cause*.

A Letter from Monf. Pascal, to the States-General.

The MILITARY HISTORY of the

" I HOPE the LORD will always bless the Arms of the *High Allies*, and
 " that your *High Mightinesses* will permit me to do myself the Honour to
 " assure you, how much, and with what Respect, I am,

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

Your High Mightinesses,

Brussels, Nov. 28, 1708.

Most Humble most Obedient, and

Most Submissive Servant,

PASCAL.

A Letter to the States-General, from the Lords Deputies attending the Army.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

A Letter
from the
Lords Deputies,
attending the Army,
to the
States-General.

" AFTER we had received certain Advice, that the *Electer* of *Bavaria*
 " was marched towards *Brussels*, at the Head of some of the Enemy's
 " Troops, to besiege that Place, it was resolved to force the Passage of the
 " *Scheld*, and to march that Way. To this End, one Hundred Squadrons,
 " and fifty Battalions, under the Duke of *Marlborough*, and fifty Squadrons,
 " with nineteen Battalions, under Prince *Eugene*, march'd the Twenty-
 " fifth Instant, to attempt the Passage of that River, in three or four several
 " Places, which, by the Blessing of GOD, succeeded so well, that this
 " Morning the Duke of *Marlborough* got over at *Kirkhoven*, between Seven
 " and Eight a Clock, without firing a Shot, or losing one Man; as did also
 " the Body under Count *Lottum*, in the same manner, at *Asperen*; the
 " Enemy having drawn off all their Troops along the *Scheld*, from *Ghent*
 " to *Tournay*, and abandoned all their Posts. The Troops have all joined
 " here, except some which are sent back to the Citadel of *Lisle*. To-
 " morrow, at Day Break, we shall continue our March towards *Brussels*,
 " and we hope the Effect will be, that we shall be soon able, by the
 " Blessing of GOD, to send you an Account of the Deliverance of that
 " Place."

We are, &c.

Oudenarde, Novemb. 27, 1708.

F. Van Collen.

S. Van Gostinga.

Count Van Rechterem.

A Letter from Count Tilly, to their High Mightinesses.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

A Letter
from the
Count de
Tilly to the
States General.

" ON the Twenty-third, and Twenty-fourth, we sent our Artillery and
 " Baggage from the Camp at *Rouffelaer*, to *Menin*; and, the Twenty-fifth,
 " we march'd with the Army towards *Harlebeck*, whither our Cavalry, who,
 " according to the Dispositions made, were to follow us, could not reach
 " till the Twenty-sixth, at Seven in the Morning, because the Roads are
 " almost unpassable at this Season.

" HOWEVER, we renewed our March that Afternoon, at Four a Clock,
 " without causing any Waggon or Carriages to follow us, and kept moving
 " forwards all that Night, that we might arrive this Morning, before Day,
 " at the *Scheld*, and attempt to pass it.

" THE Dispositions were settled in this Manner: That Prince *Eugene*,
 " who began his March Yesterday, with a Body of Troops, should attempt
 " to cross at *Escanaffe*; the Duke of *Marlborough*, and myself, with the
 " Troops of the *States*, at *Kirkhoven*; and the Count de *Lottum*, at
 " *Gaveren*.

" WE all arrived, this Morning, at the Places agreed on, and at the
 " Time appointed; and we laid our Bridges at *Kirkhoven*, and caused a
 " great Body of our Troops to pass over, before the Enemy had any Notice
 " thereof: This done, we marched directly to the Post, which the Enemy
 " had

“ had at *Derchem*. In the mean While, Count *de Lottum* made himself, like-
 “ wise, Master of the Post of *Gaveren*, without Resistance. But Prince
 “ *Eugene*, finding the Passage at *Escanaffe* too difficult, and having received
 “ Intelligence, that we were Masters of the River at *Kirkhoven*, he im-
 “ mediately caused his Troops to march thither, and cross'd over there
 “ also.

“ THIS done, we marched, in Conjunction, towards the Enemy's In-
 “ trenchments, before *Oudenarde*; but we could only come up with their
 “ Rear-Guard, because they had retreated with great Precipitation, and
 “ had taken their Rout towards *Gramont*. They had sent away their Cannon
 “ the Day before; and of sixteen Squadrons, and nineteen Battalions, which
 “ they had left in the Intrenchments, we took about five Hundred Pri-
 “ soners, and kill'd about one Hundred. To-morrow, we shall continue our
 “ March towards *Brussels*.”

I am, &c.

From the Camp before Oude-
 narde, Nov. 27, 1708.

The Count *de Tilly*.

P. S. “ The greatest Part of the Enemy's Baggage, and Equipages, are
 “ become our Booty.”

THE Duke of *Marlborough's* Army having rested, the Thirtieth of *Novem- Motions of*
ber, N. S. in the Neighbourhood of *Alost*, moved from thence the First the Duke
 of *December*, and incamped, with the Right, at *Oudenarde*, and the Left at of *Marlbo-*
Bierlegheim. At the same Time, Lieutenant-General *Dedem* was ordered to rough's Ar-
 advance, with twenty Battalions, and to pass the *Scheld* at *Oudenarde*, where my.
 he incamped on the other Side of the River; to assist at the Works, which
 were ordered to be raised, for the Security of that Place, and to be near at
 Hand to join General *Hompesch*, who, with thirty-eight Squadrons, and
 eight Battalions, was incamped near *Menin*: By these Dispositions, a Com-
 munication was maintained with Prince *Eugene's* Forces in *Lisle*.

WHILST the *Elect*or of *Bavaria* was employ'd about the Siege of *Brus- St. Ghislain*
sels, Major-General *Pallandt*, Governor of *Aeth*, detached Colonel *la Motte*, taken by
 with one Hundred and fifty Men, to surprize the Town of *St. Ghislain*, by Surprise, by
 between *Mons*, and *Conde*; which he effected, the Fifteenth of *November*, the Allies,
 having attack'd it Sword in Hand; forced the Barrier; kill'd several Offi- and retaken
 cers and Soldiers; and made the Rest of the Garrison, consisting of a weak by the French
 Regiment of *Spaniards*, Prisoners of War. But soon afterwards, the Men by Capitula-
 he left there, being attack'd in their Turn, by the Marquis *de Hautefort*, tion.
 and Count *Albergotti*, with most of the Forces which had abandoned the
Scheld, to the Number of twenty Thousand Men, and thirty-two Pieces of
 Cannon, they were obliged to surrender, before Lieutenant-General *Domp-
 pre*, who was detach'd by the Duke of *Marlborough* to support them, could
 come up to their Relief. They articul'd first, however, to be conducted to
Mons, till they could be exchanged, which was to be done as soon as pos-
 sible; they were also to keep their Swords and Equipages; and the Enemy's
 Garrison, which had been taken in that Place, and could not be sent away,
 were likewise to remain Prisoners of War: A very honourable Capitula-
 tion, and more than they had Reason to expect, considering the vast Supe-
 riority of the Enemy. General *Domp*re, therefore, halted with his Detach-
 ment at *Attre*, and was ordered to assist in bringing a great Convoy of Am-
 munition, and Stores, for the Siege of the Citadel of *Lisle*, from *Aeth* to
Oudenarde.

THE Second of *December* was religiously observed, throughout the whole An ungene-
 Army, by the Order of the Duke of *Marlborough*, as a Day of Thank- rous Practice
 giving, to ALMIGHTY GOD, for the happy Passage of the *Scheld*, and the of the Ene-
 Relief of *Brussels*. Some Time before the *Confederates* pass'd the *Scheld*, my's turned
 the *French*, amongst other Measures to distress them, had taken Occasion to upon them-
 violate their Passports; and, in order to palliate this ungenerous Practice, the selves.
 Most

Most Christian King, by a Proclamation, dated the Twelfth of *November*, N. S. revoked all that had been granted. This *base* Chicane, however, turned to the Enemy's own Disadvantage; for the *Allies*, hereupon, revoked also all the Passports, which had been given on their Side, whereby the *French* deservedly had their Treachery turned upon themselves, and were made the greatest Sufferers. For, upon the successful Passage of the *Scheld*, which put their whole Army under a general Consternation; their Communication with *Ghent* and *Bruges* was entirely cut off, and the greatest Part of their Troops were obliged to march, for Subsistence, towards *Valenciennes*.

The Citadel
of *Lisse* sur-
renders.

IN the mean While, the Citadel of *Lisse* continued to be vigorously pressed by the *Confederates*; and the Besiegers, during Prince *Eugene's* Absence, had made a Lodgment upon the second *Counterescarp*. Wherefore his Highness, upon his Return, sent to the Marshal *de Boufflers*, to acquaint him with the late Success of the *Confederate* Forces, thinking thereby to induce him to surrender; but his Message had not the desired Effect. On the Seventh of *December*, the Batteries on the second *Cover'd-Way* being finished, Prince *Eugene* sent the Marshal another Summons, and offered him an honourable Capitulation; but his Highness declared, at the same Time, that if the Marshal did not surrender before the Batteries began to fire, he was to expect no other Articles, but for himself and his Garrison to be made Prisoners of War: And lest he should imagine, that the Besiegers wanted Ammunition, and Provision, his Highness offered to shew his Stores to some Officers, whom he would give Leave to come out, for that Purpose. This Offer, and the Marshal's wanting Powder himself, induced him to order a Parley to be beat, the Eighth in the Morning; and Hostages being exchanged, the Articles were signed the next Day, about Four in the Afternoon. Pursuant hereunto, a Gate was delivered up the same Day; and the Tenth, the Marshal march'd out, with his whole Garrison, with all the usual Marks of Honour, and was conducted to *Doway*.

Medals
struck on
this Occa-
sion.

ON this Occasion, and on the Relief of *Brussels*, the following Medals were struck in *Holland*.

1. ON the Face is represented, *Victory* winged, and running towards *Brussels*, which appears in view, with a Javelin in one Hand, and a Crown of Laurel in the other; to denote the Expedition with which the *Allies* hastened, to oppose the *Electors* of *Bavaria's* Design. Over *Victory* is the following Inscription:

Obstabat strenua Virtus. Strenuous Courage opposed it.

And in the *Exergue*;

Gallis Fugatis, Obsidio Soluta Bruxellarum, 28 Novembris, 1708.
The *French*, being put to Flight, the Siege of *Brussels* was raised, Nov. 28. 1708.

ON the Reverse, is represented a *Wolf*, with Wings to his Feet, endeavouring to make his Escape with all possible Haste, with this Inscription:

Eugenij Umbra Pedibus addidit Alas.

The Shadow of *Eugene*, added Wings to his Feet.

And in the *Exergue*;

Postquam Diruit, Ruit.

After having ruined all he could, he is ruined himself.

Alluding to the *Ruin* the *Electors* of *Bavaria* had brought upon himself.

2. THE Second has, on the Face, three *Busto's*, representing Prince *Eugene*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and *Veldt-Marshal d'Auverquerque*, each in the Form of a separate Medal, with a Figure, representing *Victory* in the Centre of

DUKE of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

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of the Triangle formed by these Medals: All which serve as Ornaments to a Pile of Trophies, raised of the Spoils taken at *Oudenarde*; the whole crowned with a Mural Crown. Round all these are the following Words, taken from the Second Book of *Samuel*, Chap. xxiii. Ver. 17.

hæC feCerVnt hI Tres, ArMI poetentes DeI.

These Things did these Three mighty Men of GOD.

The Capitals which are larger than the Rest, making out the Number of the Year 1708, in *Roman* Figures. On the *Reverse* is represented, Prince *Eugene* on Horse-back, pointing with his Staff of Command towards the City of *Lisle*, with this Inscription:

Vi facta Via est. 1708. A Way is opened by Force. 1708.

Alluding to the Battle of *Wynendale*, and other fortunate Events, which facilitated the Reduction of that City.

3. THE Third had on the *Face* the *Busto* of her Majesty of *Great Britain*, with her Title, as usual; and on the *Reverse*, was *Fame*, holding a Shield, with the Arms of *Lisle*, and a Plan of that City and Citadel near her; with this Inscription:

Insulæ Captæ, 1708. The City of *Lisle* taken in 1708.

4. ON the *Face* of the Fourth was represented the City of *Lisle*, at a Distance; and in the Front, the Deputies of that Place, surrendering it to Prince *Eugene*, by presenting him their Arms; and over all, this Inscription:

Vicit pervicax Virtus. Obstinate Valour has conquer'd.

In the *Exergue*, are the following Words:

Insulæ ab Hostium Manibus Ereptæ, CXX Millibus Armatis frustra Reluctantibus, IX Decembris, 1708.

Lisle snatched from the Hands of the Enemy, notwithstanding the vain Resistance of 120,000 Men, the 9th of *December*, 1708.

ON the *Reverse*, is represented a Man slain, having the Arms of *France* in his Shield; a Pile of Arms, supposed to be taken at the Battle of *Oudenarde*, which paved the Way for this Siege; with a Prospect of that Town at a Distance. *Fame*, with extended Wings, hovers over these Arms, with a Crown of Laurel in her Right Hand, for the Conqueror; and in the Left, a Standard, with the Arms of the *States-General*; and over her is the following Inscription:

Adversa, & averfa, Gloriosa.

The Meaning of which, according to Mr. *Lediard*, is;

It is glorious to overcome all Obstacles.

But we rather think, as *Fame* seems upon the Wing, and holding out the Crown of *Laurel* to those who are before her, whilst, with the other Hand, she holds out the Standard to those behind her: The Meaning is,

She is glorious, both as she flies towards you, and as she goes from you.

In the *Exergue* are the following Words:

Flandria utrinque Trophæifera: Cast ex Itinere Galli ad Audenardam,
XI Julij, M.DCC.VIII.

Flanders is fruitful in Trophies on every Side: The *French* beaten in their Way to *Oudenarde*, July 11, 1708.

The MILITARY HISTORY of the

5. THE Fifth has on the *Face*, the Town and Citadel of *Lisle*, with this Inscription over it :

Fœderatis Aditus in Galliam apertus.
The *Allics* have now an Entrance into *France*.

And in the *Exergue* ;

Urbe Reddita, Die, 23 Octobris ; Castello, Die 9 Decembris, 1708.
The City having surrendered, *Octob. 23*, and the Citadel, *Decemb. 9, 1708*.

ON the *Reverse*, is represented a Nymph very disconsolate, in a Robe embroider'd with *Flower-de-Luces* ; to denote the miserable State of the Kingdom of *France*. Before her hangs, on an old wither'd Tree, a Shield with the Arms of *France* thereon ; but having only two *Flower-de-Luces* instead of three, as usual, being supposed to have lost one, by the Loss of *Lisle*, whose Arms is a *Flower-de-Luce*. Over this is the following Inscription :

Gallia mœrens of Liliū deperditum.
France mourning for the *Flower-de-Luce* she has lost.

And in the *Exergue* ;

INSULA Flandriæ cum Castello restituta.
Lisle, in *Flanders*, restored, together with its *Citadel*.

6. ON the *Face* of the Sixth, is represented the Place besieged, and the Batteries of the Besiegers ; the Sun standing over the City, and the Moon over the Citadel, with these Words of *Joshua*, Chap. x. Ver. 12.

Siste Sol in Gibeon, & Luna in Valle Ajalon.
Sun, stand thou still upon *Gibeon*, and thou Moon, in the Valley of *Ajalon*.

The Meaning is, probably, to represent the Difficulty of taking that Place, which amounted almost to a Miracle ; especially the constant fair, and mild Weather the *Confederates* had, almost during the whole Siege, without which, it would have been impossible to have reduced it. In the *Exergue*, the Time of the Siege, and Surrender of the Citadel, is specify'd in these Words :

Castellum Ryffel Obsessum 27 Octobris, Receptum vero 9 Decembris.
The Citadel of *Lisle* besieged the 27th of *Octob.* and taken the 9th of *Decemb.*

THE *Reverse* represents the Tower of *Babel*, with the following Words, borrowed from *Gen.* Chap. xi. Ver. 7.

Confundamus Linguam eorum, ut non audiat unusquisque Vocem proximi sui.
Go to, let us go down, and confound their Language, 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 :

Ryffel vel Insula per principem Eugenium obsessa, 22 August. & 23 Octob.
Recepta 1708.

Ryffel or *Lisle*, besieged by Prince *Eugene Aug. 22*, and taken *Octob. 23, 1708*.

7. THE Seventh, and Last, has on the *Face* Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, having each of them a *Flower-de-Luce* in his Hand ; to denote their having each of them contributed greatly to the humbling the
Pride

Pride of *France*; behind them are Mortar-Pieces, with the Help of which they had reduced *Lisle*; and before them, a Nymph in a suppliant Posture, crowned with a Mural Crown, presenting them with a *Flower-de-Luce*; being the Arms of the City of *Lisle*. Over them is the following Inscription:

Liliis discerptis, Lilium Captum.

The *Lillies*, or *Flower-de-Luces*, being pluck'd, *Lisle* is taken.

And in the *Exergue*;

Eugenio obsidente, Marlborough Tegente, Gallo Spectante, Insula Capta,
MDCCIIIX. Octobris 23.

Eugena besieging it, and *Marlborough* covering the Siege, *Lisle* was taken, whilst the *French* stood by and look'd on, *October* 23, 1708.

ON the *Reverse*, is a Plan of the City and Citadel of *Lisle*, with their Works, and the Approaches of the *Allies*; round which is the following Verse, taken from *Virgil*;

Urbs antiqua Redit, multos Dominata per Annos.

This ancient City returns to its right Lord, after having been many Years under the Dominion of Strangers.

To resume the Thread of our Story; the Court of *France*, and the *French* The French go into Winter Quarters. Generals, were extremely mortify'd, to see all their Schemes, and Attempts, for the Relief of *Lisle*, end in their own Confusion; but they were to receive yet farther Mortifications this Year, before the Campaign was ended; of which they were so little apprehensive, that they thought of nothing more than going into Winter-Quarters, and having separated their Army, returned themselves inglorious to *Paris*. They had, indeed, great Reason to believe, that the *Confederates*, tired out with the Fatigues, and Difficulties, of a long and active Campaign, would have been satisfy'd with their last important Conquest; but they found themselves greatly mistaken; for the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, were resolved to crown their Glorious Success, with the Recovery of *Ghent* and *Bruges*. On this Occasion, there goes a Report, that upon the Duke's taking Leave of King *Augustus*, who was going for *Saxony*, and that Monarch's wishing him a good Voyage, believing he intended to set out directly for *England*, his Grace answered, with great Humour, in *French*; "*Quo, le Temps étant fort froid, il ne vouloit pas passer la Mer, sans GAND*"; which is, *That the Weather being very Cold, he would not cross the Sea, without GLOVES.*" The Word *Gand* which signifies a *Glove* in *French*, being also the Name of the City of *Ghent* in that Language.

BE this as it will, the Duke marched, the Eleventh of *December*, N. S. The Duke of Marlborough marches to besiege Ghent. with his Army, from *Bierlegghem*, and encamped with the Right at *Melle*, and the Left at *Meerlebeck*; there his Grace immediately gave Orders for laying Bridges over the Upper and Lower *Scheld*, as also over the *Lys*; for keeping open a Communication between the several Bodies of Troops, which were to be employ'd in the Siege of *Ghent*; but it happening to freeze very hard at this Time, proved a great Hindrance to the Undertaking. On the Sixteenth, Prince *Eugene* crossed the *Scheld*, with his Army, and encamped 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 that Prince Eugene should cover it.*

PURSUANT to this Resolution, the *Imperial*, and *Palatine* Troops, with twenty Squadrons of Horse, detach'd from his Grace's Army, march'd the Seventeenth towards *Gramont*, in Order to encamp at *Gamerache*, on the other

Motions of
the *Confederate*
Army
thereupon.

other Side of the *Dender*, both for the Conveniency of Forage, and to observe the Enemy on that Side. The Prince of *Nassau*, with the Detachment that went from the Duke's Army to the Siege of *Lisle*, and the *Hessians*, marched, likewise, at the same Time, from *Ename* to *Costerzele*, 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 Motion, the Eighteenth, and took the following Posts: Count *Lottum*, with thirty-six Battalions, and thirty Squadrons, between the *Upper Scheld*, and the *Lys*; the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse*, with forty Squadrons, and twenty Battalions, between the *Lys*, and the Canal of *Bruges*, and from thence to the Canal of *Sas*; the Duke of *Wirttemberg*, between *Mulstein* and the *Lower Scheld*, with twenty-five Squadrons, and sixty Battalions; and Count *Tilly*, with thirty Squadrons, and as many Battalions, between the *Upper* and *Lower Scheld*. All these Posts might be either re-inforced, or relieved, according as Occasion should require.

Ill Consequences of
Enemy's
possessing
Ghent and
Bruges.

As the *French*, when they abandoned the *Scheld*, retreated with Part of their Army that Way, and put a strong Garrison into the Cities of *Ghent* and *Bruges*; which done, they drew together their scattered Army, and retired towards *Doway* and *Valenciennes*; the Neighbourhood of these 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 resolved, therefore, to drive them thence, whatever Difficulties that Design might be attended with.

THE Day before *Ghent* was invested, the Clergy, Magistracy, and Burghers of that City sent a Deputation to the Duke of *Marlborough*, to desire; *That the Town might not be destroy'd, by Bombs, and Fire-Balls.* But his Grace's Answer was, "That their Misfortune having happened through 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 reply'd; that, *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.* Hereupon, they were told, "They must expect all possible Means would be used, to reduce them to the Obedience of their lawful Sovereign." His Grace, likewise, charged them to declare to the *Spanish*, and *Walloon* Regiments, which made Part of the Garrison, "That if they would quit the *French* Interest, and come over to the *Allies*, they should be immediately entertained in the King's Service, and regularly paid, according to their respective Ranks; for which his Grace, and the Deputies gave their Assurance."

THE *French* could not be persuaded, at first, that the *Confederates* were in Earnest, in their Design to venture upon the Siege of *Ghent*, at this advanced Season of the Year: However, upon Intelligence, that the Duke of *Marlborough* had march'd to *Melle*, Monsieur de *Chamillard*, the *French* King's Prime Minister, wrote the following Letter to the Count de la *Motte*, by his Most *Christian* Majesty's Directions; from whence we may plainly see what Concern that Court was under for that Place.

SIR,

Letter from
Monsieur
de *Chamillard*, to the
Count de la
Motte.

"THE Preservation of *Ghent* is of so great Importance, that you can never take too many Precautions, in Concert with the Baron de *Capres*, Monsieur de la *Faye*, the Brigadiers and other Head Officers, for a long and vigorous Defence, in Case the Enemy should resolve to besiege you in Form. Notwithstanding the City in itself is not strong, 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 *Cover'd Way*, and sell dear to the *Allies* the Conquest of that Place, if they should persist in their Design, to make themselves Masters thereof. I cannot forbear telling you, that to a great Share of Courage, and being well inclined, it is necessary to add a great Calmness and Sedateness of Mind, and Pa-

" tience, in order to lay in the Enemy's Way all the Difficulties which
 " may annoy them, and retard the Siege. Do not take upon yourself alone
 " all the Motions which are to be made; for there are several Officers,
 " who are capable of advising and assisting you. You know how much
 " I interest myself in every Thing wherein you are personally concerned;
 " tho' Reasons of State oblige me to tell you my Thoughts, on such Points,
 " as, in my Opinion, may most contribute to a long Defence, I think my-
 " self bound to assure you, as relating to yourself alone; that after having
 " had the Misfortune to command in *Ostend*, which the Enemy reduced in
 " a very few Days; and of not having succeeded in the Action at *Wynen-*
 " *dale*; it is of the utmost Importance to yourself, as well as to his
 " Majesty, that the Opportunity you now have, may give him such a
 " good Opinion of you, as may obtain from his Majesty those Marks of
 " Distinction, for which you have so long laboured. I do not know whe-
 " ther you want any Major-Generals of the King's Troops; but as all the
 " Forces, which are to be quartered from *Ghent* to *Ypres*, with those in
 " *Bruges*, and *Newport*, and all the General Officers and others, are to obey
 " your Orders, you may give Notice to those who are to command there
 " this Winter, what you shall think fit to be done for his Majesty's Service.
 " According to the Repartition of Winter-Quarters, which I send you with
 " this Letter, you will find, that several Regiments, which were designed
 " for *Ghent* and *Bruges*, are marched towards *Newport*, and *Ypres*: For the
 " first Disposition of the Troops was made in View of Winter-Quarters, and
 " not for continuing the Campaign, and maintaining Sieges. However, his
 " Majesty has commanded me to let you know, that it is not fit to make
 " any Alterations as to the Garrison of *Ghent*. He is pleased to send Or-
 " ders to Monsieur *Puiguiou*, to leave in *Bruges* fourteen Battalions, and
 " nine Squadrons, as Monsieur *Grimalde* had desired; but the Rest of the
 " Forces are forthwith to return towards the Frontiers of the Kingdom.
 " IF you should be 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 the Marshal *de Boufflers* has done at *Lisle*;
 " I know the Difference between 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 en-
 " tirely Masters of that at *Lisle*; though 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 contribute to the Good of the Service, and content the Burghers of
 " *Ghent*, who deserve, and ought to have had, a happier Fate. I tell you
 " nothing as to the Preservation of the Troops; in my Opinion, you have
 " a long Time before you ought to think of that, and I have Reason to
 " believe, they will serve with great Zeal and Affection under your
 " Command."

I am perfectly, SIR,

Your most Humble, and

[This Letter was intercepted.]

Most Affectionate Servant,

CHAMILLARD.

IN the mean Time, Prince *Eugene* went to *Brussels*, whilst the Prepara-
 tions were making for the Siege, where he staid three or four Days; and
 on the Twentieth, the Duke of *Marlbrough* removed his Quarters, from
Melle, to *Meerlebeck*, in order to be the nearer the Centre of the several
 Attacks. The same Evening, the Besiegers took Post, near the Castle of
Ghent, having first attacked and defeated a Guard, which was placed with-
 out the Gate of *Gaveren*. On the Twenty-second, some Troops were de-
 tached 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

† The *Red*
Fort block'd
Sas; up.

Sas; and Cannon, Mortar-Pieces, and other Necessaries were got ready for the Attack of the City.

ON the Twenty-fourth, 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 *Scheld* and the *Lys*: Two Thousand Horsemen, covered by seven Battalions, and two more in Reserve, with six Hundred Horse, were ordered for that Service, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Fagel*, Major-General *Wicke*, and the Lord *North* and *Gray*, a Brigadier. The Night being very light, the Enemy's Centinels soon perceived the Besiegers; but before they could get their Troops together, their Workmen were so well covered, that their Loss was inconsiderable.

The Trenches opened before the Town. And before the Citadel.

ON the Twenty-fifth, the Trenches were opened before the Citadel, at the Duke of *Wirtemberg's* Attack, by one Thousand four Hundred Workmen, covered by four Battalions, and six Hundred Horse, commanded by Major-General *Murray*, and Brigadier *Borr*: And at Night, the *Allies* broke Ground at a third Attack, before the *Brussel's Gate*, between the *Upper* and *Lower Scheld*, at which Brigadier *Evans* commanded, with four Battalions, and six Hundred Workmen, who carried on the Trenches near seven Hundred Paces, and made a Communication without any Loss. Next Morning, the Enemy made a Sally, with ten Companies of Grenadiers, and some other Troops, to the Number of two Thousand Men, in which they had some Success at first, and put two *English* Regiments into some Disorder; but they were soon obliged to retire, with great Precipitation, before they could make any Attempt upon the Works: In this Action, Brigadier *Evans*, and Colonel *Groves*, of the Lord *North* and *Gray's* Regiment, were taken Prisoners.

The Red Fort surrenders,

THE same Day, the Batteries of the *Allies*, fired upon the *Red Fort*, with such good Success, that the Garrisons consisting of two Hundred Men, beat a Parley, and surrendered themselves Prisoners of War; and the Attacks of the Town and Citadel were carried on so vigorously, on every Side, that the Twenty-ninth, about Noon, Monsieur *de la Motte* sent out a Trumpet, with a Letter to the Duke of *Marlborough*, desiring Leave for some Officers of the Garrison to attend him. Hereupon, his Grace sent him a blank Passport; and in the Evening, the Prince of *Isenghien*, Brigadier *Cano*, and the Count *d'Aubigny*, Colonel of the Royal Regiment, came to *Meerlebeck*, with Offers to surrender the Town and Castle in four Days, if the *Allies* were not obliged to raise the Siege in that Time, and provided the Garrison were then allowed to march out, with all the Marks of Honour. The Duke gave them till the Second of *January* in the Morning; and sending them back, with Directions to return the next Day, at Six a Clock, Orders were immediately sent to the Batteries, to cease farther Firing.

And the City, and Castle,

ON the Thirtieth, in the Morning, the same Gentlemen came out again, bringing 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 *Gate of Relief* of the Citadel, were put into the Possession of the *Confederates*, the Thirty-first of *December*, N. S. in the Morning. Hereupon, the Field-Deputies of the *States-General* wrote the following Account to their *High Mightinesses*.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

A Letter from the Field-Deputies, to the *States-General*.

“ THE Capitulation with the Garrison of *Ghent* was signed Yesterday, according to the inclosed Copy, which we do ourselves the Honour to send to your *High Mightinesses*, by the Commissary *Vleertman*. The City have likewise delivered their Articles, relating to the Publick, which would have been regulated this Day, had we not considered, that the Lords, “ their

DUKE of MARLBOROUGH, &c.

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“ their *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 Relief* of the Castle. The Duke of *Marlborough* has, likewise, sent to summon those of *Bruges*; but the Trumpet is not yet returned: However, 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 do ourselves the Honour to do most humbly on the Recovery of this Place.”

We are, &c.

From the Camp before Ghent,
December 31, 1708.

Goslinga.
Rechteren.
Welvelde.
Geldermalsen.

The Capitulation mentioned in the foregoing Letter, was as follows.

The Articles of Capitulation.

1. “ THAT 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 treat separately for themselves. *Granted.*
3. “ THAT a Gate of the said Town shall be delivered to the Troops of the *Allies*, on the Thirty-first of this Instant *December*, at Ten in the Morning, unless the Town should happen to be relieved between this and that Day. The Gate to be then delivered, shall be the Gate at the Attack of *St. Peter's*, as also the *Gate of Relief* of the Citadel, at which some Troops of the present Garrison shall be posted, separated from those of the *Allies*, by Barriers in the Middle of the Arch under those Gates, in order to prevent the Intermingling of the Troops, and the Disorders which might probably ensue thereupon. *Granted.*
4. “ THAT all Persons in the Service of the two Crowns, of what Character or Condition soever, without Exception, whether named, or not, in this Capitulation, shall go out of the Town, on the Second of *January*, 1709, at Nine in the Morning, at the Gate of *Courtray*; with Arms, Equipage, Drums beating, and Colours flying, Ball in Mouth, Match lighted at both Ends, Ammunition for twenty Charges, and ten Pieces of Cannon, lately brought from *France*; as also four Pattereroes with their Carriages, and Ammunition for twelve Charges for each Piece, for *Tournay*; by the nearest Way; in four or five Days; marching, or halting at the Choice of the Besieged; without being obliged, on any Pretence whatsoever, to a quicker March, than the Besieged shall approve, 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 that there shall be allowed but twelve Charges for the Garrison, and six Pieces of the Cannon lately come from France, with Ammunition for twelve Charges.*
5. “ THAT for the Transportation of the said ten Pieces of Cannon, Pattereroes, Ammunition, and Equipage, as well as of the Sick and Wounded, to *Tournay*, the *Allies* shall provide a sufficient Number of Boats, and Watermen; to which Boats there shall be a sufficient Guard allowed by the *Allies*, for the Safety of the Sick. And, in Case the River shall not be navigable, a sufficient Number of Land-Carriages shall be ready on the Thirty-first Instant, that the Besieged may have Time to load the said Carriages, so as to march out with the whole Garrison, and arrive at *Tournay* at the said Time. *Granted, for the Artillery mentioned 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 be immediately supplied therewith, in the City of Ghent.*

6. “ THAT

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, Watermen, and Carriages sufficient to Convey 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 cannot be removed, at the Time of the Troops marching, shall be allowed to stay in Ghent, and be supply'd 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 travelling, Boats, with Passports, 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 Crowns, shall be seized, 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, Commissary of War, and the Sieur de Missily, Paymaster 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 Crowns, till those Debts are wholly discharged. *Granted, provided that the same Hostages shall be responsible for all the Debts contracted, since the French have been in Possession of the Town.*

9. " THAT the Allies shall supply the Besieged with ten covered Waggon, which shall march out, at the same Time, with the Garrison, without being examined, upon any Pretence whatsoever. *Granted, for six covered 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 whatsoever. *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 detached from this Garrison, shall be restored on each Side; that those who are in the Army of the Allies, shall be sent into the Town, before the Garrison marches out of it, and those of the Allies who are in the Town, shall be immediately sent back to the Army. *Granted.*

13. " THAT the Allies shall not take any Soldier out of his Ranks, as they march out, on any Pretence whatsoever. *Granted, except Deserters.*

14. " THAT the Garrison shall be allowed to carry out of Ghent, Forage, and necessary Provisions, sufficient 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 performed, and the Garrison are arrived 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, provided they do it 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 the foregoing Article.*

19. " THE Besiegers shall send Commissaries To-morrow, being the
 " Thirty-first, into the Town of *Ghent*, to whom all the Keys of Stores of
 " Provision, and Ammunition, as well as exact Accounts of Forage shall be
 " faithfully delivered, under necessary Guards, that nothing may be lost.
 " *Granted.*

" Signed at the Camp of *Meerlebeck*, the thirtieth Day of *Decem-*
 " *ber*, 1708. at Eleven a-Clock in the Morning."

The Prince and Duke of Marlborough,
Le Comte de la Motte.

Ferdinand van Collen Houdancourt.

S. van Gossinga.

Le Comte de Rechteren.

B. van Welvelde.

Adrian van Borselen, tot Gelderen.

BESIDES this Capitulation, there was another agreed on, with the Clergy and Magistracy of the City ; but as that related chiefly to their Privileges and Immunities, we shall omit it. The *States-General* were so sensible of the Importance of the Service, done by the Duke of *Marlborough* to the *Common Cause*, in the Recovery of *Ghent*, that they immediately wrote him the following Letter, as a Testimony of their Gratitude.

SIR,

" NO News could be more acceptable to Us, at this Time, than the Ad- A Letter
 " vice your Highness has given Us, in your Letter of the last of *December*, from the
 " of the Reduction of *Ghent*, when We considered the Largeness and Situa- *States-Gen-*
 " tion of that Place, its numerous Garrison, the hard Season of the Year, *eral to the*
 " the Fatigues the Troops had already undergone, in this extraordinary *Duke of*
 " long and difficult Campaign, these Things seemed not to permit Us to *Marlborough*
 " expect so soon this happy Success. We praise the LORD of HOSTS, who
 " has heard our Prayers on this Occasion, and granted more than We could
 " hope for, and continues his Blessing on the Arms of the *Allies*, under
 " your Conduct. 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 you have now reduced by your Valour,
 " and hope that *Bruges* will have the same Fate. If so many repeated De-
 " feats are not able to oblige the Enemy, to make an End of the War, by
 " a Peace, wherein the *Allies* may find their Security, according to their
 " Alliance, We hope, the Year 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."

PURSUANT to the Capitulation, 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 *Argyle*, with six *British* Battalions, took Possession of the Town and Citadel. In the Morning, thirty Battalions, and forty Squadrons, were ranged along the Causey, from the Outward Barrier of the *Brussels* Gate, to receive the *French*, who began to come out, about Ten a-Clock, 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 all the Time, as were also, with them, the Count *de la Motte*, and the Baron *de Capres*, who then followed their Troops to *Gaveren*, in their Way to *Tournay*, between Nine and Ten at Night. This done, his Grace supped with Prince *Eugene*, and afterwards went into the Town *incognito*.

ON the Third in the Morning, the Duke going to view the Attacks, and the Outworks, was received, as he returned, about Noon, at his Entrance into the Gate of *St. Liven*, by the Magistrates; who after making him a Compliment, on this Occasion, presented him with the Keys of the Town, in a gilt Bason; which his Grace returning, was conducted by them through a Lane of the Burghers under Arms, to the Town-House; where a splendid Entertainment was prepared for him, and the other Generals and Head Officers of the Army. In the Evening, there was an Illumination 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, seemed to testify, that it was a great Satisfaction to them, that they were again returned to their Obedience to their lawful Sovereign. This seeming Joy, however, was believed by most to be fictitious, and only a Cloak to cover their former Treachery, and Perfidy; for which, though they had suffered severely, it was thought they would commit the same again, if Occasion should offer.

The Duke of Marlborough, and Prince Eugene set out for the Hague.

HOWEVER insincere the Joy of the Burghers might be, that of the *Allies* was sincere, and was not a little increased by the News of the Enemy's having evacuated *Bruges*; the Magistrates of which Place came, the Second in the Evening, to *Ghent*, to make their Submission to the Duke of Marlborough; and acquainted him, that the *French* Garrison had march'd out on the First of *January*, at Night: At the same Time, the Enemy abandoned *Plassendahl*, and *Leffinghen*, and retired into their own Territories. On the Third, Prince Eugene set out for *Brussels*, whither he was followed, next Day, by the Duke of Marlborough; where having 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*, 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 therein, as well as its important Successes, is hardly to be paralleled in History; and proved as much to the Advantage, as well as Glory of the *Confederates*, as themselves could have wish'd or desired. To commemorate these extraordinary Successes, the following Medal was struck, much about the same Time.

ON the Face was represented Prince Eugene, and the Duke of Marlborough, holding each of them, in one Hand, a Crown of Laurels, and gathering Lillies with the other, with this Inscription:

Ad exornandam Laurcam. To adorn our Laurels.

In the *Exergue*, are the following Words:

Eugenii & Marlborough Conjunctio Gallorum Dissipatio.

The Junction of Eugene and Marlborough proves the Dispersion of the *French*.

ON the Reverse is represented a Man sitting under a Tree, and inticing a Cock to him, with a Bait fasten'd to a Hook and a Line, upon which the Cock seizes. Over them is this Verse:

Væ tibi ludenti, nam mox post Júbila flebis.

Woe unto thee who now rejoicest, for thy Joy shall soon be turned into Weeping.

Alluding to the short-liv'd Joy of the *French* in their Possession of *Ghent*, and *Bruges*; and their being obliged to suffer not only the Reduction of *Lille* but the Retaking of those Places also. This is farther explained by the following Inscription in the *Exergue*;

Galli Gandavo & Bruga Capta Aldenardam Obsisturi vincuntur. 1x Julii. M.DCC.IIX.

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

THE Affairs on the *Upper Rhine* were very inconsiderable this Year, and the Campaign there produced nothing very material; or, at least, nothing that occasioned any Alteration in the general Affairs of *Europe*, wherefore we shall 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 Difference between the Courts of *Rome* and *Vienna*; the *Pope*, by his manifest Partiality for the House of *Bourbon*, having so far incurred the Indignation of the *Emperor*, that he was resolved to curb the Pride and Insolence of his Spiritual Father. In the mean While, the old Gentleman, being 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 *Dhaun* invading the *Papal* Territories, and the *Holy Father* being apprehensive of a Bombardment, at *Civita Vecchia*, from the *English* Fleet, his Stomach came down. In *Spain*, among other Advantages obtained by the *Confederates* this Year, *Port-Mahon*, with the whole Island of *Minarca*, was reduced by Sir *Edward Whitaker*, and Major-General *Stanhope*; a Conquest the more worthy of our Notice, as it has remained ever since in the Possession of *Great Britain*, and was confirmed to that Crown for ever, by the Treaty of *Utrecht*.

HAVING now given an Account what was doing in other Parts of *Europe*, it will not be amiss if we take a Step to *England*, and see what was transacting, in the mean Time, at Home. The Parliament having met, the Tenth of *November*, the *House of Commons* presented two Addresses to her Majesty; one of Condolance, on the Death of her Royal Consort, Prince *George*; and the other of Congratulation, on Account of the glorious Success of her Arms. By Part of the latter, which we shall recite, as it does great Honour to our *Hero*, our Readers will see what Sense that August Assembly had of the Services performed by the Duke of *Marlborough*.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

" WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the *Commons* of *Great Britain* in Parliament assembled, beg leave to congratulate you, on the Glorious Successes of this Year, gained by the Arms of your Majesty, and those of your *High Allies*.

" THE great and signal Advantages, that have been so wonderfully obtained, so vigorously prosecuted and improved, and, upon all Occasions, so happily accomplished, are repeated Instances, that no Difficulties are insuperable to your great Commander, 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 Campaign, &c."

ON the Thirteenth of *December*, Sir *Thomas Hanmer* made a Motion, in the *House of Commons*, That the Thanks of the House might be given to Major-General *Webb*, for the great and eminent 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* accordingly; which he acknowledged in a very handsome and modest Speech; and said, amongst other Things, He valued that Honour above the greatest Rewards. This gave Occasion to another Member to say; " He did not disapprove of the Method of returning Thanks to such Generals as had performed their Duty; which, however, had been done more frequently 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 Commander." It is easily seen, that this was levell'd against the Duke of *Marlborough*. On the Twenty-third, Both Houses joined in a congratulatory Address to her Majesty,

Majesty, on the farther Success of the Campaign; Part of which was as follows.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

“WE your Majesty’s most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the *Lords Spiritual* and *Temporal*, and *Commons*, in *Parliament* assembled, most humbly congratulate your Majesty upon the Reduction of *Ghent*, the last great Effort of of this *Glorious Year*; a Year that will be ever *famous* in History, as well for the *entire Disappointment* of all the *Attempt* and *Hopes* of your *Enemies*, as for the many wonderful *Successes*, with which it has pleased GOD to bless the *Arms* of your Majesty, and your *High Allies*. The unusual Length of the Campaign, the Variety of Events, and the Difficulty and Importance of the Actions, have given many Opportunities to your Majesty’s Great General, the Duke of *Marlborough*, to shew his *consummate Abilities*, and all the great *Qualities* necessary for so high a Trust, &c.”

The Commons vote their solemn Thanks to Duke of Marlborough

ON the Twenty-second of *January*, the *House of Commons*, impatient to shew their Regard to his Grace, unanimously resolved, “That the *Commons* of *Great Britain*, being sensible, not only of the great and eminent Services, performed by his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough* the last successful Campaign, so much to the Honour of *Great Britain*, and the Advantage of all *Europe*, but also of the indefatigable Zeal he persevered in for the *Common-Cause* abroad, whilst he might, with Reason, expect to be received with all the Marks of Honour and Satisfaction at Home, having a just Regard to his glorious Actions, did return him the Thanks of the *House*.” They likewise ordered their *Speaker* to transmit the same to his Grace; which being done accordingly, the Duke of *Marlborough* was pleased to return the following Answer.

SIR,

His Grace’s Answer.

“I AM extremely sensible of the great Honour 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 greater 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,

SIR,

Brussels, Febr. 13, 1709.

Your most Faithful

Humble Servant,

MARLBOROUGH.

UNDOUBTEDLY the Duke must be highly pleased with so uncommon a Demonstration of the Gratitude of the *House of Commons* for his Services, as to transmit him their Thanks whilst Abroad.

ON the Twenty-fifth of *February*, O. S. his Grace, who had been detained some Time in the *Low-Countries*, on account of some Proposals made by the *French* for a Peace, having carried on his Negotiations on that Head, as far as the Honour of the Nation would allow, embark’d at *Osford*; and, after a long and dangerous Passage, arrived at *London*, on the First of *March*, about Two in the Afternoon. As the *House of Lords* were then sitting, and it was generally believed, that his Grace brought over with him Proposals made by the Enemy for a Peace, which the Misery and Necessities of *France* seemed to drive them to sue for, almost on any Terms, the Lord *Sommers*, President of the Council, (or, as Bishop *Burnet* says, the Lord *Halifax*) moved for the making an Address to the *Queen*; “That her Majesty would be pleased to take Care, at the Conclusion of the War, that the *French* King might be obliged to own her Majesty’s Title, and the *Protestant* Succession;

He arrives at London.

“ 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 approved of unanimously, and accordingly a Committee were appointed to draw up the Address; which 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 him the last Campaign.

ACCORDINGLY, his Grace having taken his Seat in the *House of Peers*, the next Day, the Lord Chancellor returned him the Thanks of 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 performed this last Campaign, particularly to her Majesty, and her Kingdoms, and in general to all the *Allies*. ”

The House of Lords return his Grace Thanks.

“ WHEN I last obey’d the like Command, I could not but infer, from your Grace’s former Successes, we had still most reasonable Expectations, you would not fail to improve them. I beg Leave to congratulate your Grace, that the Observation then made, has proved, as it was intended, perfectly true.

“ I HOPE I shall not be thought to exceed the Bounds of 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 the utmost Gratitude, the Providence 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 this Compliment, his Grace made the following Answer.

MY LORDS,

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

His Grace’s Answer.

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

THE same Day, the *Lords* sent down their Address to the *Commons*, for their Concurrence, whereupon Mr. Secretary *Boyle* represented, that the *British* Nation having been at a vast Expence of Blood and Treasure, for the Prosecution of this necessary War, it was but just they should reap some Benefit by the Peace: And therefore, the Town of *Dunkirk* being a Nest of Pirates, that infested the Ocean, and did infinite Mischief to Trade, he moved, that the *Demolishing of its Fortifications and Harbour*, should be insisted on in the ensuing Treaty of Peace, and inserted in the Address; which being unanimously approved of, with that Amendment, it was carried back to their Lordships by Mr. Secretary *Boyle*, and presented to her Majesty the next Day. Her Majesty received, and answered it very favourably; and this Address was highly acceptable, to the whole Nation, and to all the *Allies*.

As we have mentioned above, that his Grace the Duke of *Marlborough* staid some Time in the *Low-Countries*, by Reason of Proposals made by the *French* for a Peace, it may not be improper to give a brief Account of that Matter, as being necessary for the better Understanding what will follow. Our Readers may remember, that in the *October* after the Battle of *Ramillics*, the *Elect*or of *Bavaria* wrote to the Duke of *Marlborough*, in the Name of the *Most Christian King*, and proposed the holding *Conferences* for treating of a general Peace; the King of *France* had, after that, offered to

The Conduct and Artifices of France, in their Negotiations for a Peace.

come to a Treaty of Partition, by allowing *Spain*, and the *West-Indies*, to King *Charles*, provided the Dominions in *Italy* were given to King *Philip*. The *French* hoped, that *England*, and the *States-General*, would have agreed to this, as not being so much concern'd therein; 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 *France* was tempting us with the Hopes of *Spain*, and the *West-Indies*, for King *Charles*, that Court, in a Letter to the *Pope*, offered the Dominions in *Italy* to that Prince. But as the *Parliament* had always declared the Ground of the War to be, the Restoring of the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to the House of *Austria*, though the *States* indeed had never done so, the Duke of *Marlborough* could not hearken to these Offers; wherefore he convinced the *States* of the treacherous Designs of the Court of *France* in making them, and they were not entertained. However, the Court of *Vienna* were so much alarmed, at the Inclination which some had expressed to comply with this Scheme, that this was believed to be the secret Motive, which induced them, the Winter following, to enter into the Treaty 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 President de Rouille comes to Holland, and confers with the States Deputies.

THOUGH the *French* had hitherto miscarried in all their Attempts, either to obtain Peace upon the Terms they proposed, or to divide the *Allies* by their insidious Offers, yet being now reduced to great Extremities by their constant ill Success, and by the Miseries of their People; and especially by a general Failure of Publick Credit, the most eminent Bankers in *Paris*, and *Lyons*, having been obliged to stop Payment, they began to entertain serious Thoughts of a Peace, and resolved to try the *States* again, after the Duke of *Marlborough* was come over to *England*. The President de Rouille, therefore, was sent to *Holland*, with general Offers of Peace, and desired them to declare what Terms they insisted on, assuring them they should have as good a Barrier for themselves, as they could ask. The Court of *France* had flattered themselves with the Hopes, that their *High Mightinesses* would have been tempted with this Offer; but, contrary to their Expectation, the *States* resolved to adhere firmly to their *Confederates*, and to enter into no Treaty, but in Conjunction with their *Allies*. However, upon the Arrival of Monsieur de Rouille at *Antwerp*, they appointed Monsieur Buys, Pensionary of *Amsterdam*, and Monsieur Vanderdussen, the Pensionary of *Gouda*, to have a Conference with him at *Moerdyk*.

UPON the Report of what passed 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, wherein he made some slight Proposals, which tended towards a general Peace, but refused to give them in Writing. As the *States-General* were very cautious of making any Advances, in so important an Affair, without the Concurrence and Privity of their *Allies*, they gave immediate Notice of what had passed, to the Courts of *Vienna* and *Great Britain*; whereupon Prince *Eugene*, who, during this Interval, was gone to *Vienna*, returned from thence to *Brussels*, on the Twenty-seventh of *March*, N. S. with full Powers from his *Imperial Majesty*, and came on the Eighth of *April* to the *Hague*, where the Duke of *Marlborough* likewise arrived, the next Day, from *England*.

THESE two Princes had a long Conference with the *Grand Pensionary Heinsius*, Messieurs Buys, and Vanderdussen, and other Deputies of the *States*; wherein they considered the Overtures made by *France*, which being judged to be insufficient, to be the Ground whereon to enter into 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 Monsieur *de Rouille*, that his Overtures were not satisfactory, that Minister sent an Express to *Paris*, for new Instructions. This made the *French* Court very uneasy: On one Hand, they were resolved not to comply with the Demands of the *Confederates*, in giving up the whole *Spanish* Monarchy; on the other Hand, the great Difficulties they laboured under, which were greatly increased 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. Monsieur *de Rouille's* Express, therefore, was sent back immediately, with Directions to that Minister, as it appeared in the Sequel, 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 *Grand Pensionary* having made a Report to the Duke of *Marlborough*, by Order of the *States*, of what passed at the Conference, which had been held by Messieurs *Buys*, and *Vanderdussen*, with the *French* Minister, after the Return of his Courier from *Paris*, his Grace resolved to go again to *Great Britain*, to acquaint the *Queen* with the Progress of this important Negotiation. Upon the making of this Report of the *French* Court's Proposals to the Duke of *Marlborough*, his Grace is said to have answered, *That if France had no other Offers to make, the Allies must go, the next Summer, to treat of a Peace in France, with one Hundred and fifty Thousand Plenipotentiaries.* This very Story, however, is related by some Historians of Prince *Eugene*. The Duke embark'd, therefore, the Thirteenth of *April*, N. S. and arrived three Days after at *London*. During this second Absence of his Grace, the *French* Court, to colour 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*, he was there two Days before his Quality was known; after which, he made a Visit to the *Grand Pensionary*, and offered to communicate to him the Proposals he had to make; but that Minister told the Marquis, he could not confer with him, nor see his Proposals, without Leave from the *States*. However, their *High Mightinesses* having consented, that he, and the Deputies who had been appointed to receive the Proposals of Monsieur *de Rouille*, should meet the Marquis, and hear what he had to offer, they had an Interview with him 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 come to any Resolution, till they were informed of the Sentiments of her Majesty of *Great Britain*, by the Return of the Duke of *Marlborough*.

The Duke of
Marlborough
returns to
England.

The Mar-
quis *de Torcy*
come to the
Hague.

HIS Grace made but a short Stay in *England*, and returned to the *Hague* the Eighteenth of *May*, N. S. where the first Thing he did was to confer with Prince *Eugene*, who had arrived there six Days before, from *Brussels*, and had some Conferences with the *Grand Pensionary*; therein he had the Satisfaction to receive fresh Assurances, *that the States would never separate from the general Interest and Scope of the Grand Alliance, upon any private Consideration whatsoever.* The Lord Viscount *Townshend* went over with the Duke of *Marlborough*, as Ambassador Extraordinary, and joint Plenipotentiary of *Great Britain*, his Grace thinking the Load too great to bear it wholly himself. "This Choice (says Bishop *Burnet*) was well made; for as the Lord *Townshend* had great Parts, which he had improved by Travelling, was by much the most shining Person of all our young Nobility, and had distinguished himself eminently on many Occasions, so he was a Man of great Integrity, and of good Principles, in all Respects free from all Vice, and of an engaging Conversation."

The Duke
of *Marlbo-*
rough, and
the Lord
Townshend,
come to the
Hague.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, 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 Ministers went together to their

Excellen-

Excellencies, to compliment them in the Name of the *States*, and, at the same Time, to confer with them, as they did, for about an Hour and a half; which done, 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*.

Several Conferences between the Ministers on both Sides,

ON the Ninteenth in the Morning, the Marquis made another Visit to his Grace, and they both went together to Prince *Eugene's* Apartment, where they likewise conferred for some Time. In the Evening, his Grace and Prince *Eugene* went together 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 the *High Allies*. This Determination was very satisfactory to the Duke, and Prince *Eugene*; and produced such a Harmony and Unanimity amongst 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 various Artifices of the *French* Ministers,

ON the Twentieth, in the Morning, the Duke of *Marlborough*, Prince *Eugene*, and the Lord *Townshend*, returned the Visit they had received from the Marquis *de Torcy*; when the President *de Rouille*, who till then had been with no other Ministers but Messieurs *de Buys*, and *Vanderdussen*, was presented to these great Generals and Statesmen. The 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 the 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 other Concessions demanded, besides these, 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; though, both now, and again on the Twenty-second, when they made the same Demand, in order to be gone, they were easily prevailed upon to stay.

The Preliminaries agreed on.

TO give a particular Account of every Day's Transactions, during the Course of this memorable Negotiation, would carry us too far; we shall therefore only observe farther, that on the Twenty-seventh 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 Prince *Eugene*, and himself, 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 that 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 on by the *Confederates*; which being ordered to be fairly drawn up in Writing, and afterwards examined in a Conference, held the Twenty-eighth, about Ten in the Morning, another Meeting was appointed in the Afternoon, in order to the signing these Articles. But how great was the Surprise of every one, to find, after the *Imperial*, *British*, and *Dutch* Plenipotentiaries had signed them, that the *French* Ministers refused to set their Hands to them, alledging they had no Instructions so to do. However, to put a Gloss still 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 left the *Hague* that very Afternoon; the President *de Rouille*, who opened the first scene of this Mock-Negotiation, being to stay behind yet some Time longer, in order to put off the Unravelling of the Plot as long as possible.

But the *French* Ministers refuse to sign them.

HOWEVER, the whole Artifice of *France* was discovered, at last ; and it appeared, very evidently, that that Court had no other Design, in all this Negotiation, but to try if they could either create a Misunderstanding between the *Allies*, or by their seeming great Concessions, for the Security of the *States*, provoke the People of *Holland* against their Magistrates, if they should carry on the War, when they had such safe and honourable Terms offered them. For they reckoned, that if a Suspension of Arms, could be once obtained, upon any other Terms than the Restoring of *Spain*, they should then be able to get out of the War themselves, and the *Allies* would be left to try how they could conquer *Spain*. However, the Marquis de Torcy was punctual to his Word given to Prince *Eugene* ; for on the Fourth of *June*, as his Highness was at *Brussels*, he received the following Letter from that Minister.

SIR,

“ ACCORDING to my Promise, that you should know, by the Fourth Instant, at farthest, the King’s Resolution, about the Plan of Peace, drawn up, and concluded on at the *Hague*, I do myself the Honour to inform 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 Rouille, to notify the same to the Potentates engaged in this War. It is to be hoped, that more honourable Terms will be offered, for the Establishment of a Peace, so necessary for all *Europe* ; and consequently so much desired by every Body. In the mean While, I have no Occasion to be sorry for my Journey, since it has procured me the Honour of your Acquaintance, and given me an Opportunity of knowing personally, that your Great Reputation, of which the World is full, is so justly your Due, as being founded on real Merit.”

The Marquis de Torcy's Letter to Prince Eugene.

I am, &c.

Versailles, June 2, 1709.

TORCY.

THE Messenger, who brought this Letter to Prince *Eugene*, arrived 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 Rouille, having had a Conference, the same Day, at the Grand Pensionary’s, with the *Imperial* and *British* Plenipotentiaries, and the Deputies of the *States*, acquainted them, “ That the Most Christian King, could not ratify some Articles, agreed to in the Conferences held with Monsieur de Torcy, and concluded the Twenty-eighth past ; in particular he excepted against the Tenth, Eleventh, Twenty-eighth, Twenty-ninth, and Thirty-seventh Articles : That, as to the Tenth, his Most Christian Majesty agreed to the same, as far as it concern’d the Possession of *Alsace*, according to the literal Sense of the Treaty of *Munster* ; but insisted on having *Landau* restored to him, and offered *Old Brisac* as an Equivalent ; both which Places had been yielded up to *France*, by the said Treaty of *Munster* : That the Most Christian King could not consent to the Demolition of *Hunningen*, *New Brisac*, and *Fort Louis*, but agreed to all the other Part of the Eleventh Article : That the Twenty-eighth, relating to the Places yielded to the Duke of *Savoy*, was entirely excepted against, and referr’d to a farther Discussion : That his Majesty also disliked the whole Twenty-ninth Article, whereby the *Emperor’s* Proceedings against the *Electors* of *Cologne*, and *Bavaria* were approved of and justified, but would have the same referred to the Negotiations for a General Peace ; with this Proviso, that the *Upper Palatinate* ; and the Dignity annex’d thereto, should not be confirmed to the *Electoral 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 excepted also against the Thirty-seventh Article, whereby two Months only were allowed, for the Delivering up of the *Spanish* Monarchy, which Term he would have enlarged ; but consented to the Recalling his own Troops from *Spain*, within that Time.”

Exceptions made to the Preliminaries by the King of France.

THESE Difficulties, started by the King of France, having been communicated by Monsieur de Rouille, Count Zinzendorff, the Duke of Marlborough, the Lord Viscount Townshend, and the Grand Pensionary Heinsius, immediately held a Conference between themselves, wherein it was resolved; That no Alteration ought to be admitted in the Preliminary Articles, and especially in those excepted against by France, which were the most essential: And it was agreed, at the same Time, to give Notice to Monsieur de Rouille, to be gone in twenty-four Hours.

The Allies
insist upon
them.

ON the Sixth of June, N. S. in the Morning, the President de Rouille, made a Visit to the Duke of Marlborough, and proposed another Conference, which was held that Night; but nothing Material was transacted therein, except that the Allies declared to the President; That they could not recede from any of the Articles agreed to, and that if his Master did not think fit to comply therewith, the Allies should not think themselves bound, by the said Articles, or confine their Pretensions to the Contents thereof, after the Fifteenth of that Month; being 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 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 said Preliminaries. The Eighth, the Grand Pensionary reported Monsieur de Rouille's Declaration to the Assembly of the States; upon which their High Mightinesses having taken it into Consideration; "That the said Articles had been concerted with the Marquis de Torcy, and the President de Rouille, had been put into Writing with their Consent, and carry'd to the King of France, by the Marquis de Torcy himself, in order to be signed and ratify'd; that they had been actually signed on the Part of the Emperor, Great Britain, and Holland, and had been ratify'd by her Britannick Majesty; and that nothing short of these Preliminaries could obtain and secure the General Peace, and prevent a dangerous, expensive, and tedious War, in Spain, the necessary Resolutions for the Continuance of the War were taken, with equal Steadiness and Prudence."

The Negotiations are
broken off.

ON the same Night, the President de Rouille being urged to declare, Whether he had any secret Instructions, with Relation to a Peace, made Answer; "That if the Allies would content themselves with the Fifth Article of the Preliminaries, with Regard to Spain, without insisting upon the others, with Respect to the Delivering up of the Spanish Monarchy, he believed the King his Master, would be induced to recede 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 End of the War, and the only Means to restore and preserve the Ballance 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 effectual Evacuation of Spain; whereupon, a Passport was sent Monsieur de Rouille, the same Evening, for his safe Return Home. Accordingly, on the Ninth, in the Morning, he set out from the Hague, and embark'd at Rotterdam, for Antwerp, in order to proceed from thence 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 before-mentioned of the States-General, and gave them a full Account of all the Steps which had been taken in the Negotiations, particularly since the French King had refused to agree to the Preliminaries; desiring them to acquaint their Principals with these unfair Proceedings of the Court of France, and exhort them to join their best Efforts against an Enemy, who could never be brought to Reason but by Force. Count Zinzendorff then took this Opportunity, to tell the Deputies of the States; "That both the Empire, the Emperor, and King Charles III. would, doubtless, express their Satisfaction, for the Great Firmness and Constancy their High Mightinesses had shown, in the Course of these Negotiations." The Duke of Marlborough gave them

them 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 of them signify'd to the *Grand Pensionary*, how much all the *Allies* were obliged to him, and satisfy'd with the Prudence and Wisdom he had manifested in the Negotiations; which, contrary to the Expectations 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 carried on, till *France* should be reduced to the Necessity, of submitting to any Terms, which the *Allies* should please to prescribe.

THUS these Negotiations came soon to an End; without producing any ill Effect amongst the *Allies*; and it now plainly appeared, that the Easiness of the *French* Ministers in the yielding to the *Preliminaries*, was but an Artifice, either to divide the *Confederates*, or to slacken their Zeal, in making the necessary Preparations, for the early opening the Campaign: But their Hopes failed them even in this Point, 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 Prudence of the Ministers of the *Allies*; and especially of Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, whose Characters shone brightest in this memorable Negotiation: For they treated about Peace, as they managed the War; they let the *French* Ministers, as they had done their Generals, rack their Brains, and disorder their Spirits, by keeping them in a perpetual Hurry and Motion, to devise first one Stratagem, and then another, whilst they pursued their Point, with the coolest Temper, and most open Conduct, and carried it merely by the Dint of Virtue: This was evidently the Case; the *French*, who subtilly proposed to disunite the *Allies*, by setting on Foot these Negotiations, were overreach'd themselves in the *Preliminaries*; which were so artfully contrived for the Satisfaction of each of the *Allies* in particular, and for the common Security of them all, that they were yet more firmly united than before, by this Discovery of the treacherous Designs of the *French* Court.

Some Reflections, upon the Breaking off of these Negotiations

SOME, however, were not wanting, who highly blamed the Stiffness of the *Allies*, on this Occasion, 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 compel King *Philip*, or, as he was then called, the Duke of *Anjou*, to resign the whole *Spanish* Monarchy to King *Charles III.* which, say they, was probably the main, if not the only Reason, which determined that Court to break off these Negotiations, rather than submit to so hard a Condition; thinking they had condescended sufficiently, 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 Cause of the Breaking off these Negotiations, in order to spin out the War, for his own private Ends; but how groundless these Aspersions were, we shall have Occasion to shew more particularly in the Sequel.

The Duke of Marlborough censured by some on that Account.

THE Negotiations being broken off, as we have seen, and the *French* Ministers returned to *Paris*, the Court of *France* sent a Circular Letter, to all the Governors of the Provinces, to recommend to their Consideration his Majesty's late Conduct in the Negotiations for Peace. In this Epistle, it was thought fit, to condescend to an 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*? This Letter dwelt upon the Unreasonableness of the *Allies*, in requiring his Majesty's Assistance in dethroning his own Grandson; and treated this Particular in Language more suitable to it, as it was a Subject for Oratory, than as it was a Circumstance wherein the Interests of Nations, and Reasons of State which affected all *Europe* were concerned.

The King of France makes an Appeal to his People.

THE close of this Letter, or Memorial, seem'd to prepare the People to expect all Events; ascribing the Confidence of the Enemy, to the Goodness of their Troops, to which the Bravery and Conduct of their Generals might justly have been added; and acknowledging, that the King's sole Dependence, was upon the Interposition of Providence. Some Time after this, was published

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lished the Translation of a Letter, said to have been found in the Closet of Monsieur de Chamillard, after his Disgrace. It was pretended to have been signed, by two Brothers of the famous *Cavalier*, who led the *Cevennois*, and many others, amongst whom was the Chief of the Family of the Marquis de Guiscard; this Translation was as follows.

SIR,

An Answer
said to be
from some
of his Pro-
testant Sub-
jects.

“ WE have read your Majesty’s Letter to the Governors of your Pro-
vinces, with Instructions what Sentiments to insinuate into the Minds of
your People; but as you have always acted upon this Maxim, that we
were made for you, and not you for us, we must take Leave to assure
your Majesty, that we are directly of the contrary Opinion, and must
desire you to send for your Grandson home, and acquaint him, that you
now know by Experience, that *Absolute Power* is only a *Ventigo* in the
Brain of Princes, which tho’ it may seem to flourish for a Time, must
inevitably end in their Fall and Destruction. Your Memorial speaks you
a good Father of your Family, but a very ill one of your People. Your
Majesty is obliged to hear the Truth, when you are reduced to speak it.
There is no governing any but Savages by other Methods but 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 in *France*, but they
of the House of *Bourbon*, the better, for *Philip’s* being King of *France*?
We have out-grown the Folly, of placing our Happiness, in your Ma-
jesty’s being called, *The Great*: Therefore, as you and we are alike Bank-
rupts, and undone, let us not deceive ourselves, but compound with our
Adversaries, and not talk like their Equals. Your Majesty must forgive
us, that we cannot with you Success, or lend you any Assistance; for if you
should lose one Battle more, we may chance to have a Hand in the Peace
you make; since we doubt not but your Majesty’s known Faith in the
Observation of Treatises, will require the Ratification of the *States* of
your Kingdom. Wherefore, we bid you heartily farewell, till we have
the Honour to meet you assembled in *Parliament*. This happy Expecta-
tion 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.

ABOUT the same Time, the great Misery of *France*, was very ludicrously described, by a Correspondent of *Isaac Bickerstaff’s*, who calls himself *Bread, the Staff of Life*, in the following Lines, which we shall insert, for the Benefit of such of our Readers as have not seen them in the *Tatler*.

To LEWIS Le Grand.

An Epistle in
Verse, from
Bread the
Staff of Life,
to Lewis Le
Grand.

“ 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 Vermin eat your Majesty,
“ There meagre Subjects stand unfed;
“ What surer Signs of Poverty,
“ Than many Lice, and little Bread?

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“ Then,

“ Then, Sir, the present Minute chuse,
 “ 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.”

• THE Author of the *Tatler* likewise represents it himself very seriously, The prodigious Misery of France. in another Place, as follows. “ The Kingdom of *France* is in the utmost
 “ Misery and Distraction. The Merchants of *Lyons* have been at Court,
 “ to remonstrate their great Sufferings, by the Failure of Publick Credit;
 “ but have received no other Satisfaction, than Promises of a sudden Peace,
 “ and that their Debts shall be made good, by Funds out of the Revenue,
 “ which will not answer, but in Case of the Peace which is promised. In
 “ the mean Time, the Cries of the common People are loud for Want of
 “ Bread; the Gentry have lost all Spirit and Zeal for their Country, and
 “ the King himself seems to languish under the Anxiety of the pressing
 “ Calamities of the Nation, and retires from hearing those Grievances,
 “ which he has not Power to redress. Instead of Preparations for War,
 “ and the Defence of their Country, there is nothing to be seen, but the
 “ evident Marks of a general Despair. Processions, Fastings, publick
 “ Mournings, and Humiliations, are now become the sole Employment
 “ of a People, who were lately the most vain, and gay, of any in the
 “ Universe.”

To this abject State had the Arms of her 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, Some Reflections thereupon. *Lewis 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 foresaw, was not designed 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 uncensured. He was charged with spinning out the War to an unnecessary Length, for private Ends. The Author of the *Tatler* gives a fine Turn to these unreasonable Allegations of his Enemies, and rallies them in the following well-adapted Irony. “ The Approach of a Peace (says he) strikes
 “ a Panick through our Armies, though that of a Battle could never do it;
 “ and they almost repent of their Bravery, in making Haste to humble
 “ themselves, and the *French King*. The Duke of *Marlbrough*, though
 “ otherwise the greatest General of the Age, has plainly shewn himself un-
 “ acquainted with the Art of husbanding a War. He might have grown
 “ as old as the Duke of *Alva*, or Prince *Waldeck*, in the *Low-Countries*,
 “ and yet have got Reputation enough, every Year, for any reasonable
 “ Man. For the Command of General in *Flanders*, has been always 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 Eagerness he has shewn, to send
 “ a Hundred Thousand of the bravest Fellows in *Europe* a begging.”

WE shall conclude our Reflections upon this Head, with a beautiful Admonition of the same Author's, with which he ends an expostulatory Letter from *Isaac Bickerstaff*, Esq; of *Great Britain*, to *Lewis XIV.* of *France*, on his refusing to sign the Preliminaries. “ As your Majesty (says

The Advice of Isaac Bickerstaff, Esq; to Lewis XIV. of France, on his refusing to sign the Preliminaries.

he) is a strict Professor of Religion, I beseech you to stop the dreadful Effusion of *Christian* Blood, by laying hold of the Opportunity which presents itself, for the Preservation of your distressed People. Be no longer so infatuated, as to hope for Renown from Murder and Violence: But consider, that the great Day will come, wherein 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.* This Day will come on, and one like it is immediately approaching. Injured Nations advance towards thy Habitation: Vengeance has begun 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."

THE *High Allies*, being justly provoked by the unfair Proceedings of *France*, of which we have already given an Account, resolved to improve their late Advantages, by a vigorous Prosecution of the War: And though the Campaign in *Flanders*, which was the principal Scene of Action for this Year, was opened pretty late; it did not proceed, as some imagined, from the *Allies* having been vainly amused, by the Negotiations for a 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* trusted so little to the Appearances of Peace, that he had prepared every Thing for the Opening the Campaign, as soon as he saw what might be expected from the Court of *France*, and the Season would permit.

IN order hereunto, his Grace set out from the *Hague* the Ninth of *June*, N. S. the very Day that Monsieur de *Rouille* went away, and lay that Night at *Rotterdam*, on board the *Peregrine* Galley, with intent to go by Water to *Moerdyke*, where he arrived on the Tenth about Eight in the Morning, and about Five in the Evening he reach'd *Antwerp*. The Duke designed to have gone from thence to *Ghent*; but receiving there a Message from Prince *Eugene*, desiring he would come to *Brussels*, he immediately continued his Journey thither, and staid there till the Eleventh.

Both Armies take the Field.

IN the mean While, the Field-Deputies of the *States-General*, having reviewed the *Dutch* Forces, about the Middle of *May*, and given Orders for their March, the Count de *Tilly*, their General, arrived with those from the *Maese*, on the Twenty-fifth, at *Diegem*, near *Brussels*, from whence they marched the next Day, to encamp along the *Dender*. The other Troops of the *States* formed another Camp along the *Scheld*, whither the *Imperialists*, *Prussians*, and *Wirtembergers*, marched to join them. Prince *Eugene* also, being come to *Brussels*, the first of *June*, and having received Notice, as we have observed above, that the King of *France* had refused to approve of the Preliminaries settled at the *Hague*, his Highness gave immediate Orders, for the Troops of the *Confederates* to form the *Grand Army*, with all possible Speed, between *Menin* and *Oudenarde*; a Flying Camp, however, of twelve Battalions, and as many Squadrons, were ordered to stay about *Alost*, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Murray*, and General *Guinea*, to cover *Brussels* and *Brabant*, and to observe a small Body of the Enemy's Troops, which were drawing together near *Charleroy*. At the same Time, the Enemy's Troops 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 appointed to retrieve the pristine Glory of the *French* Nation, that General, as *Lewis XIV.* said, having never been conquer'd. Their Troops were very numerous; and, at their going into the Field, made a tolerable Appearance. The Cavalry were very well mounted; and the great Dearth, and Want of Provision, having forced the poor labouring People to enlist into the Service, in order to keep themselves from starving; their Infantry, likewise, were well recruited, and compleat:

The French intrench themselves strongly in the Plains of *Lens*.

But

But the *French* General not being over confident of the Courage of his Men, he prudently began to cast up deep Intrenchments, to cover and secure his Army.

THE *Confederate* Camp being encamped at *Swynaerde*, 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 two Hundred Horse; and being informed 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 Cause-way; upon Notice whereof, the Enemy retired, and the two Princes arrived in Safety at *Alost*: Their Highnesses designed to have proceeded directly to *Oudenarde*; but being informed, at *Alost*, that the Roads across the Country were scarcely practicable, by Reason of the continual Rains which had fallen, they took the Benefit of the Cause-way, and reach'd *Ghent* about Three in the Afternoon; where they were immediately complimented by the *States of Flanders*, and the Magistrates of that City; who invited them, the next Day, to a splendid Entertainment at the Town-House.

THE same Morning, the Generals commanding the several Bodies being ordered to attend their Highnesses, a Council of War was held, wherein it was unanimously agreed, that it was impossible for the Troops to make any Motion, till the Weather, which had been extremely wet, should be more settled, without exposing them to the greatest Hardships. Hereupon, the March of the Garrison of *Ghent*, consisting of the *British* Forces, which had been appointed on the Fourteenth, was deferred for three or four Days longer. The Fifteenth, their Highnesses went to *Nivelle*, where the *Prussian* Troops, which were in the Service of *Great Britain*, and *Holland*, passed in Review before them; and the Prince Royal of *Prussia* being come into the *Netherlands*, they dined with his Royal Highness, and returned to *Ghent* in the Evening. On the Seventeenth, the *British* Troops marched out of that Place; and the next Day, the two Princes went to *Lisle*, accompany'd by the Prince of *Auvergne*, the Earl of *Albemarle*, Count *Dhona*, and several other Officers.

THE *Confederate* Troops designed for this Campaign, to the Number of above one Hundred and ten Thousand Men, being drawn together about *Courtray* and *Menin*, formed the Army, on the Twenty-first of *June*, N. S. near *Menin*; and marched, the Twenty-second, towards *Lisle*, encamping between *Linselle*, *Turcoin*, and *Rabax*. The Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, then put themselves at the Head of the Forces; the *Right* whereof, under the Command of the latter, pass'd the *Lower Deyle*; at the same Time, the *Left*, under the Command of his Grace, cross'd the *Mark*, and the Army encamped in the Plains of *Lisle*, on both Sides the *Upper Deyle*; the Duke of *Marlborough* taking up his Quarters at the Abbey of *Looz*, Prince *Eugene* in the Castle of *Lempre*, and Count *Tilly* in *Renzain*. Hereupon, Orders were sent to the Field-Artillery, which was left at *Menin*, to come to this Camp; and an Express was dispatch'd, at the same Time, to Lieutenant-General *Dompere*, who had been left with a Flying Camp near *Alost*, to join the Army with all Speed. On the Twenty-fourth, upon Advice from *Arras*, that the Marshal *de Villars* had positive Orders to venture a Battle, the Quarter-Masters General went out, with twelve Hundred Horse, to view the Ground between the two Armies, and the Situation of the Enemy's Camp.

UPON their Return, they reported, that the Enemy were advantageously posted between *Pont a Vendin*, *Cambrain*, and *Beauvrain*; their *Right* and *Left* being covered by Morasses, were render'd unpassable by the continual Rains, and their Front by some Villages, which they had fortify'd: As also, that they were perfecting their Intrenchments, which were strengthened with numberless Out-works, double Ditches, and Batteries at proper Distances, with all possible Application.

The *Confederates*, finding it impracticable to attack the *French* Camp, resolve to besiege *Tournay*

ON the next Day, the Lieutenant-Generals *Dopff*, and *Cadogan*, were sent out, with other Detachments, in order to take a more exact View of the Enemy's Situation; and upon their Report, of the almost unsurmountable Difficulties, which must necessarily attend the attacking them in their advantageous and fortify'd Camp, Prince *Eugene*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Field-Deputies of the *States*, resolved upon besieging the important Fortrefs of *Tournay*; whose Garrison, as well as those of several other neighbouring Towns, had been very much weakened by the Marshal *de Villars*, in order to reinforce his Army, on the Approach of the *Allies*. The *Confederate* Generals kept this Resolution very private; and, the more to increase the Jealousy of the Enemy, the Artillery was sent for, up the *Lys*, to *Menin*; besides which, a Council of War was held the Twenty-sixth, to concert proper Measures, as it was on Purpose given out, to attack the *French*. The Baggage, also, was sent to *Lisle*; which confirmed both Armies in the Belief, that there would be an Action.

Tournay invested.

THE *Confederate* Troops being prepossess'd with this Opinion, decamp'd about Nine in the Evening, from the Banks of the *Deyle*, and marched Part of the Night, without Beat of Drum, or Trumpets sounding, towards the Enemy; but they were greatly surprized, when they received Orders, on a sudden, to turn to the *Left*, and arrived the Twenty-seventh, in the Morning, before *Tournay*; which was invested soon after. The Enemy had been firmly persuaded, that the Intent of the *Allies* was to attack their Lines, in order to lay Siege to *Ypres*, which they cover'd; because, that when once they were Masters of that Place, nothing could prevent them, as they were already possess'd of *Lisle*, from penetrating into *Artois* and *Picardy*, in the *Pais Conquis*, and acting in Concert with their Fleet; which might have approach'd the Coasts, without any Obstacle. Being fully possess'd with this Opinion, the Enemy had no Notice, nor so much as a Suspicion of the *Allies* having any Design upon *Tournay*; accordingly, that Place was but ill provided to hold out a Siege; for which the Marshal *de Villars* was very much blamed, by those who envied him, on Account of his former Success. Thus was this great General, famous for nothing more than his Stratagems, out-done in his own Way, by the superior Address, and Art, of the two *Confederate* Generals; and Monsieur *de Villars* was caught in a Snare, at the same Time as he was hugging himself in full Security, at least, as he imagined.

The Marshal *de Villars* out-witted by the *Confederate* Generals.

THE Marshal had pleas'd himself with the Thought, that he had entirely discovered the secret Designs of the *Allies*; inasmuch, that of three Attacks which they made a Feint of designing, one at *Berklau*, upon the Canal, the Second at *Pont a Saul*, and the Third at the Lines of *la Bassée*, he concluded two false, and only the last real. To oppose this, he detach'd seventy-three Battalions, and ordered a Hundred Pieces of Cannon to be placed upon the Rising Grounds of *Cambrin*; which done, he imagined himself so secure, and his natural Vanity got so much the better of him, that he could not help giving Way to it, and displaying it to the full, as follows. A Trumpeter belonging to the *Confederate* Army, happening to be in the Camp, on some Occasion, the Marshal took that Opportunity of exercising his Talent at Raillery, and sent this Message by him to the *Confederate* Generals; That he ~~was~~ *lamented* at their Delay, and that, if his Intrenchments prevented their advancing, he would order them to be level'd forthwith. The *Confederates* made no Answer to this Rhodomontade, but suffered the Marshal to lull himself asleep in his fond Imagination, whilst they steadily pursued their Design; which, as we have observed above, succeeded as well as they could have wished.

THE Marquis *de Quincy*, not being willing to allow that the Marshal *de Villars* was out-general'd in this Manner, pretends that the Duke of *Marlborough* was obliged to undertake this Siege, to stop the Mouths of his Troops, who murmured at his not attacking the *French* Camp, in order to besiege *Ypres*, which was his Grace's real Design, till he found it impracticable, by Reason of the fine Dispositions made by the Marshal: But this
smells

smells strong of the *Frenchman*. The admirable Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*, in this March, was celebrated in the following Lines, which were greatly admired at that Time.

On the March to Tournay, without Beat of Drum.

The BRUSSELS POSTSCRIPT.

[*To the QUEEN.*]

- “ Could I, with plainest Words, express
 “ That great Man’s wonderful Address,
 “ His Penetration, and his tow’ring Thought;
 “ It would the gazing World surprize,
 “ To see one Man at all Times wise,
 “ To view the Wonders, he, with Ease, has wrought.
- “ Refining Schemes approach his Mind,
 “ Like Breezes of a *Southern* Wind,
 “ To temperate a sultry glorious Day;
 “ Whose Fannings, with an useful Pride,
 “ Its mighty Heat do softly guide,
 “ And having clear’d the Air, glide silently away.
- “ Thus his Immensity of Thought,
 “ Is deeply form’d, and gently wrought,
 “ His Temper always soft’ning Life’s Disease;
 “ That Fortune, when she did intend
 “ To rudely frown, she turns his Friend,
 “ Admires his Judgment, and applauds his Ease.
- “ His great Address, in this Design,
 “ Does now, and will for ever, shine,
 “ And wants a *Waller* but to do him Right:
 “ The whole Amusement was so strong,
 “ Like *Fate*, he doom’d them to be wrong.
 “ And *Tournay*’s ta’en by a peculiar Slight.
- “ Thus, *Madam*, all Mankind behold,
 “ Your vast Ascendant, not by Gold,
 “ But by your Wisdom, and your pious Life;
 “ Your Aim no more than to destroy,
 “ That which does *Europe*’s Peace annoy,
 “ And supersede a Reign of Shame, and Strife.

Verfes made
on Occasion
of the *Con-
federates*,
March to
Tournay.

THIS Poem, says the ingenious Author of the *Tatlers*, is admirably suited to the Occasion; for to write, without discovering your Meaning, bears a just Resemblance to marching without Beat of Drum. And that Circumstance being no ways taken Notice of in any of the *Stanzas* before, the Author, with great Address and Skill, calls this a *Postscript*: It being the Nature of a *Postscript* to contain something very material, which had either been forgotten, or was not clearly enough express’d in the Body of the Letter.

Tournay being invested on the Twenty-seventh, as we observed above, before the Enemy had the least Suspicion of any such Design, they had not reinforced the Garrison; out of which the Marshal *de Villars* had drawn some Troops, to strengthen his Army, on the Approach of the *Confederates*: It consisted then, according to some Accounts, of only twelve weak Battalions, and four Squadrons of Dragoons. But, according to others, the Troops in the Town were as follows: Two Battalions of the Regiment of

Some Account of the Situation, Strength, and Garrison of the Place.

Bourbon; two of that of *Vendosme*; two of *St. Valier's*; two of *Vexin*; one of that of *Vivarez*; one of *Villemaure's*; one of *la Faille's*; and one of *Artagnan's*: Besides these, there were in the Place twelve Troops of *Pourriere's* Dragoons, of thirty Men each Troop; a Hundred Invalids; five Independent Companies; one Company of Miners; and two of Gunners. The Marquis de *Surville*, a Lieutenant-General, who had distinguished himself at the Defence of *Lisle*, was Governor of the Town; and Monsieur de *Megrigny*, likewise a Lieutenant-General, and chief Engineer, Governor of the Citadel, which had been built according to his Plan, himself overseeing and directing the Workmen, till it was finished. It has five Royal Bastions, with a false Bray, which incompasses the whole Citadel; as also good Half-Moons, which cover the Bastions; an excellent Cover'd Way, well countermined, as well as most of the other Works, both of the Town and the Citadel. As to the Town itself, which is the Capital of the *Tournaisis*, it contains Seventeen Parish Churches, besides the stately Cathedral of *Notre-Dame*, which was founded and endowed with a vast Revenue, by *Chilperic*, King of *France*. It is partly situated upon the Side of a Hill, between *Valenciennes*, *Conde*, *Lisle*, *Courtray*, *Oudenarde*, *Aeth*, *Ghent*, and *Cambray*. The *Scheld* divides it in two Parts, which extend themselves along the Side of a large Canal, border'd with a fine Stone Key. It was in Possession of the *English* in 1513, but delivered up by them to *Francis I.* In 1528, it was taken by *Henry*, Count of *Nassau*, and the *Spaniards* kept Possession thereof till 1667, when it was retaken by *Lewis XIV.* who fortified both Town and Citadel to such a prodigious Degree, that it was reckoned, in a manner, impregnable.

The Allies take Possession of *St. Amand*, and *Mortagne*.

UPON the *Confederate* Army's coming before the Town, the Prince of *Nassau*, Hereditary *Stadtholder* of *Friezland*, was immediately detach'd, with thirty Squadrons, and ten Battalions, to take Possession of *St. Amand*, and *Mortagne*, two Posts which were necessary for covering the Siege. This Service his Highness performed with Success; the Garrison of *St. Amand* retiring upon his Approach to *Valenciennes*, and that of *Mortagne* surrendering, the next Day, Prisoners of War, as soon as the *Confederates* had taken a Redoubt, Sword in Hand, which defended the Bridge of that important Post.

The Dutch Account of this Action.

THIS is the Account, given by our Historians, of the Reduction of those two Places; but as we find a very different Account thereof in the *Dutch* Relations, from whom Monsieur *Rouille* has taken his, we shall give that likewise. The Prince of *Orange*, according to them, was detach'd with fifteen Battalions, and fifty Squadrons, to make himself Master of *St. Amand*, and *Mortagne*. At his Highness's Approach, the *French*, who were in the former, offered to surrender the Place, if he would allow them to retire; which the Prince thought fit to grant, both to gain Time, and save his Men. But the Garrison of *Mortagne*, though less numerous, relying upon their advantageous Situation, that Post being on the Confluence of the *Scarpe* and the *Scheld*, which made it easy for them to retire over the *Scheld* at any Time, were less tractable, and refused to surrender on any Account. The Earl of *Orkney*, to whom his Highness had given Orders to dislodge them from thence, not being able to approach them, by Reason of the Inundations, by a very narrow Causeway, and a Bridge, which they had drawn up, fired some Cannon against the Bridge, which did but little Execution. Wherefore, his Lordship having found an old Boat, he made use thereof to carry some Grenadiers over the Inundations, in order to attack the Enemy on the other Side; which the Enemy perceiving, they abandoned the Post; and having prepared every Thing before-hand for a sudden Flight, if there should be Occasion, pass'd the *Scheld* with so much Expedition, that they were soon out of the Reach of the *Confederates*.

BESIDES this Detachment, under the Prince of *Nassau-Orange*, another of an equal Number of Horse and Foot, commanded by Lieutenant-General *Lumley*, was sent to join General *Dompere*; who having march'd, the Twenty-sixth, from *Alost*, had taken Post near *Tournay*, between the Upper and Lower

Lower Scheld, with nine Squadrons, and five Battalions; and the Town was invested by the remaining Part of the Army, on each Side the *Scheld*. The Duke of *Marlborough* fix'd his Quarters at *Villemeaux*, posting his Troops from *Colonne*, as far as the Cause-way of *Doway*; and Prince *Eugene* his, from that Cause-way to *Marquain*; that Part of the Army forming a kind of Half-Moon, on the *Lower Scheld*. The Governor of *Tournay*, not a little surprized to see the *Confederate* Troops in Motion, to invest the Town, which, as we observed above, was unprovided with Necessaries for a long Siege, rifled and plundered the Inhabitants of great Part of their Corn, and sent out a Party to fetch in the large Cattle out of the Neighbourhood; but all the latter were cut off by the *Confederates*, and taken Prisoners, except nine or ten Dragoons, who made off; and passing through *Pewels* about Noon, got safe to *Conde*: The Cattle were generously restored to the Peasants, by the Generals of the *Allies*, which gained them Abundance of Honour, and secured them in their Interest for the future.

The Disposition of the *Confederate* Troops.

ON the Twenty-eighth, the Enemy opened their Sluices at *Valenciennes*, and *Conde*, which brought down such a Flood of Water, that the Communication of the Troops of the *Allies* was cut off; it was laid open again, however, the same Night. On the other Hand, the Marshal *de Villars* began now to grow sensible of his Mistake, in drawing Troops out of a Place of such Importance, which it was reasonable to believe the *Confederates* would attempt; since the open Cities of *Brabant* would be covered thereby, and a Way secured for future Progress. He set his Wits at work, therefore, to contrive some Way to repair that Fault, by throwing Reinforcements into the Place. In order hereunto, he caused between seven and eight Hundred Horse, from *Mons*, and *Conde*, to advance on the Twentieth to *Limogies*, in Hopes that they might get into *Tournay*, by the great Road which leads from *Oudenarde* to that City: But six Squadrons, and as many Battalions, under the Command of Major-General *Keppel*, being sent over to the *Hainault* Side of the *Scheld*, to reinforce those Posts, and secure some Intervals, and Passages, the Enemy were obliged to retire, without attempting any Thing. The Lines of Circumvallation were begun the Thirtieth, on the *Hainault* Side of the *Scheld*; and the same Night, Messieurs *d'Aquaviva*, and *Pignatelli*, with a Detachment of one Thousand Horse and Dragoons, each carrying a Foot Soldier behind him, advanced with Design to have thrown themselves into the Town; but the Lieutenant-Generals *Lumley* and *Dompere*, observing their Approach, sent a Detachment after them, and obliged them to retire towards *Conde*.

The French attempt, in vain, twice to re-inforce the Garrison.

IT had been resolved in a Council of War, that Prince *Eugene*, the Prince of *Orange*, and Count *Tilly*, should command the Army that was to cover the Siege, and that the Duke of *Marlborough* should take upon himself the Direction of the Siege; accordingly his Grace made the following Dispositions for that Purpose.

OF sixty Battalions, which are to form the Siege, ten shall mount the Guard in the Trenches, who shall not be obliged to make any Detachments, no more than the ten Battalions which shall relieve them; and fifty, or even a Hundred Men, shall be ordered out of each Battalion, (besides forty others for Workmen) which will amount to four Thousand Men.

Directions for the Siege.

THERE shall be three Attacks; the Generals shall remain on Duty, but the Battalions shall relieve each other, and shall take their Turns from one Attack to another. There shall be each Night, at each Attack, a Lieutenant-General, Major-General, and a Brigadier, with what Pioneers shall be requisite: Four Battalions shall be employ'd at the Attack of the Citadel, and six at the other two Attacks.

THE Trenches shall be relieved every Day, at Four in the Afternoon; to the End, that the General Officers who relieve the Guard, may have Leisure to view the Works, and to see what is requisite to be done in the Night, and during the Time they are upon Duty.

ON all Attacks, and extraordinary Occasions, the Grenadiers, and Detachments of the sixty Battalions, which are at the Siege, shall be ordered upon

upon Duty; and if it should be necessary to post a *Corps de Reserve* of some Battalions at the End of the Trenches, they shall be taken out of those, who have been twenty-four Hours in the Trenches.

ACCORDING to the Ground, Reserves of Cavalry shall be posted behind the Coverts, at the End of the Trenches, whether it happens to be on the *Left*, on the *Right*, or on both Sides; according as the General of the Trenches shall think proper and convenient, for Security and Service.

THE three Majors of the Trenches, shall have the Charge of every Thing necessary for the Trenches, and shall take Care that the General, who is to mount the Trenches, shall find every Thing there ready for carrying on the Works, according as shall be ordered by the Directors of the Approaches, or by the Engineers.

THE Directors of the Approaches shall draw up, every Morning, a Memorandum of whatever they shall want towards the Evening; and the Majors of the Trenches shall be informed thereof in good Time, and even before the Trenches are relieved; to the End, that every Thing may be ready at Hand betimes.

THE *Fascines*, and *Gabions*, shall be brought to the Entrance of the Trenches by the Commissaries of the *Fascines*; who shall be provided with, at least, a Hundred Waggon for the Carriage thereof, that they may be able to relieve the Horses and Waggon.

THE Workmen in the Trenches shall be employ'd to carry the *Fascines* to the Head of the Trenches. The Colonel, and Officers of the Artillery, shall have the Charge of erecting the Batteries, after having been informed by the Generals, and Directors of the Approaches, what Works they design to attack, whether it be to destroy the Fortifications, or to batter in Breach. The Miners, also, must be well instructed, after what Manner they must regulate themselves in their Work, and sound the Earth, to find whether it is proper for the Purpose, and can support itself, without being under-propp'd by Doors, or Planks; and in Case it must be under-propp'd, a good Number of Doors must be made, and Store of Planks provided an Inch thick.

THE Workmen of each Attack shall be commanded by a Lieutenant-Colonel, a Major, and one Hundred and fifty Men, with one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign, and four Serjeants.

THE Major-Generals, who are to relieve the Trenches, with the Majors of the Regiments, shall go in the Morning into the Trenches, to examine into their Condition, and to instruct those who are to relieve them, how to make an Inspection into every Thing.

THE Directors of the Approaches, and Engineers, who shall be upon Duty in the Trenches, shall take Care to be there when the Generals come, to inform them of their Designs; to the End, that the Generals may make their Dispositions the better, for the Advancement of the Works, and the Safety of the Trenches.

THE Generals appointed for the three Attacks were, at the first, General *Lottum*, under whom were the Lieutenant-Generals *Witbers*, *Fing*, and *Heyden*, and the Major-Generals *Temple*, *Denhoff*, and *Vegelin*, against the Citadel, on the *Side* of the Gate of *Valenciennes*: At the second, General *Fagel*, who led under him, the Lieutenant-Generals *Dedem*, *Oxenstiern*, and *Spar*, with the Major-Generals, *Hamilton*, *Wassenacr*, and *Keppel*, against the Gate of *Marville*: And at the third Attack, which was against the Horn-work of the Gate of the *Seven Fountains*, was General *Schuylenburgh*, with the Duke of *Argyle*, Messieurs *Wackerbaert*, and *Week*, as Lieutenant-Generals, and the Major-Generals, *Hobendorff*, *D'Alberguc*, and *Nassau-Woudenburgh*. Each General chose a Major of the Trenches for his own Attack, besides which, there were four Brigadiers at each of them.

Dispositions
for the Trenches.

THERE shall be the first Night in the Trenches, at General *Lottum's* Attack, one Battalion of *English*, one of *Danes*, one of *Saxons*, one of *Hessians*, one of *Dutch*, and one of *Hanoverians*; and at General *Schuylenburgh's*

burgh's Attack, one Battalion of *Imperialists*, one of *Palatine* Troops, and one of *Dutch*.

THE second Night, there shall be at General Lottum's Attack, one Battalion of *Imperialists*, one of *Palatine* Troops, one of *Wirtemberghers*, and one of *Dutch*: At General Schuylenburgh's Attack, one Battalion of *English*, one of *Danes*, and one of *Hessians*; and at General Fagel's, two *Dutch* Battalions, and one of *Wirtemberg*.

The third Night, at General Lottum's Attack, there shall be one *Prussian* Battalion, one of *Danes*, one of *Saxons*, and one of *Dutch*; at General Schuylenburgh's, one *English* Battalion, one of *Danes*, and of *Hessians*; and at General Fagel's, two Battalions of *Dutch*, and one of *Wirtemberg*.

ON the fourth Night, there shall be at General Lottum's Attack, one *English*, two *Dutch*, and one *Hessian* Battalion; at General Fagel's Attack, one *Prussian*, one *Dutch*, and one *Hanoverian* Battalion; and at General Schuylenburgh's Attack, one *Imperial*, one *Saxon*, and one *Palatine* Battalion.

ON the fifth Night, there shall be at General Lottum's Attack, two *Prussian* Battalions, one of *English*, and one of *Dutch*; at General Schuylenburgh's Attack, two *Dutch* Battalions, and one of *Hanover*; and at General Fagel's Attack, three *Dutch* Battalions.

THE sixth Night, at General Lottum's Attack, there shall be one Battalion of *Danes*, two of *Dutch*, and one of *Hessians*; at General Schuylenburgh's Attack, one *English* Battalion, one of *Prussians*, and one of *Dutch*; and at General Fagel's Attack, one *Dutch*, one *Hessian*, and one *Hanoverian* Battalion.

INSOMUCH, that there shall be every Night ten Battalions in the Trenches, at the three Attacks; and those who entered upon Duty the first Night, shall return thither again on the seventh, and so on with the Rest.

THE Lines of Circumvallation were begun the Fourth of *July*, on that Side of the *Scheld* towards *Menin*, and *Lisle*; and, in the mean While, the Troops prepared great Numbers of Fascines and Gabions, to be made Use of in the Approaches. The two Armies made a small Motion, the same Day; that commanded by the Duke of *Marlborough* extending its *Right* to the Brook of *Esplechin*, and the *Left* to *Esplain*; whilst that under Prince *Eugene*, encamped with the *Right* at *Luchin*, and the *Left* at *Esplechin*, where the two Armies might join in Case of Necessity. The same Afternoon, Advice came, that the Marshal de *Villars* had detach'd the Count *D'Artagnan*, a Lieutenant-General, with sixteen Battalions, four Squadrons of Horse, and nine of Dragoons, besides two Thousand Men, commanded out of *Ypres*, to attack *Warneton*, where the *Allies* had left a Garrison of seven Hundred Men, under the Command of a Lieutenant-Colonel, and a Major. Upon this Information, Lieutenant-General *Wilkes* was immediately ordered to march to their Relief, with thirty Squadrons of Horse, and two Thousand five Hundred Grenadiers; but before he could come up with them, the *French* had made themselves Masters of that Fort, which was not fortify'd, and had taken the little Garrison Prisoners of War. They attempted, likewise, to get Possession of *Gomines*, and *Fort Rouge*; in the former of which was a Major, with one Hundred and fifty Men, and in the latter a Captain with fifty. They were attack'd twice with great Vigour; but defended themselves so bravely, that they gave Time to the *Confederate* Troops to come to their Relief; upon which the Enemy not only retired; but also abandoned *Warneton*. The Marquis de *Quincy* pretends, the *Allies* had one Thousand six Hundred Men in *Warneton*, and that the Loss of that Place cost them above one Thousand two Hundred, which was about double the Number that were in it; but he does not take the least Notice, that they were obliged to abandon it again.

The French take *Warneton*.

But they are forced to abandon it again.

ON the sixth, the Lines of Circumvallation were finished; and ten Squadrons, with six Battalions, were sent to *Deullemont*, to relieve the Detachment that had been ordered out, upon the first Notice of the Enemy's Approach towards *Warneton*; and to observe their Motions on that Side. The same Evening, Monsieur de *Saisan*, a Lieutenant-Colonel, was taken under the

The Trenches opened before Tourmay.

the *Glacis* of the Town, as he was endeavouring to get into it, and was carried to the Duke of *Marlborough's* Quarters. On the seventh, between Ten and Eleven at Night, the Trenches were opened, at the three several Attacks; and carried on with such Success, and so little Loss, that the *Allies* had not above thirty Men killed, and about the same Number wounded. On the eighth, Advice was brought to the Camp, that the *Chevalier de Luxembourg* was encamped at *Crespin*, near *St. Ghislain*, with a Detachment from the Army of the Marshal *de Villars*; and expected to be there joined by the *French* Troops, which were coming from *Alsace*; in order, afterwards, to make some Diversion in *Brabant*. To prevent any Surprise, therefore, it was thought proper, to lay the Avenues to the *Anderlecht-Gate* of *Brussels* under Water, by means of the Sluices; and several other Measures were taken, to frustrate any Design, the Enemy might have on that Side.

An unlucky Accident.

On the Ninth, Advice came from Lieutenant-General *Dopf*, that the *Scheld*, about *Oudenarde*, having been cleared of some sunk Boats, and other Stoppages made therein by the *French*, the last Summer, thirty Vessels, with the heavy Artillery had pass'd by the Day before, and the Rest would follow that Night. On the tenth, the Boats laden with the Artillery and Ammunition arrived, and great Numbers of Men were employ'd, to bring the Cannon to the Batteries. The same Day, the Besieged made a Sally with five Hundred Men; and the Twelfth, at Night, they made another, by the Gate of *Valenciennes*, but were unsuccessful in both. On the Thirteenth and Fourteenth, the Batteries began to play, at all the three Attacks; but on the former, an unlucky Accident happened, at the Place where they were filling the Bombs: For one of them taking Fire, blew up about fifty more, killed four Fire-workers, and about twenty other Persons; but the Magazines of Powder, which were very near, fortunately escaped.

On the Fifteenth, the Besiegers took an Intrenchment, or Line, which the Enemy had thrown up, to cover their Sluices, and the Flank between the Citadel and the *Scheld*. Immediately they cast up another Line parallel to it, and made a Lodgment thereon; as they did another, the same Night, on the Salient Angle of the Horn-work, on the Left of General *Schuylenburgh's* Attack. On the Sixteenth, they possessed themselves of another Intrenchment, and in the Night, between that and the Seventeenth, they made a Lodgment upon the Salient Angle of the Ravelin, on the Right of General *Fagel's* Attack; between the Gate of *Marville*, and the Upper *Scheld*: They likewise lodg'd themselves on both Sides of the Salient Angle of that Work.

The Besieged make three vigorous Sallies.

On the Eighteenth, at Night, the *Allies* threw up a Parallel of eighty Paces, at Count *Lottum's* Attack, towards the Gate of *Valenciennes*; and the Miners continued Sapping in nine different Places, to discover the Enemy's Mines. On the Nineteenth, they carried on their Approaches, and intended to have push'd them as far as the Gate before-mentioned; but when they came out of the Parallel, they found themselves on the Wall of the *Old Counterscarp*, which could not be pierced through, till the Twentieth in the Morning. However, they extended their Parallel, on the Left, above seventy Paces; continued the Saps in ten different Places; and made a brisk Fire from the great Battery, to enlarge the Breach in the Town-Wall, between the Citadel, and the *Scheld*. On the Twenty-first, early in the Morning, Lieutenant-General *Withers*, being in the Trenches, received a Contusion, with a small Shot in his Breast, which, however, did him very little Harm. That Night, the Besiegers advancing their Sapping but six and twenty Paces, towards the Gate of *Valenciennes*; the Enemy having made three vigorous Sallies, and killed the *Allies* two Subaltern Officers, and about thirty private Men, besides one Lieutenant-Colonel, one Captain, five Subalterns, and about fifty common Soldiers, which were wounded.

being in

THE Town-Ditch, on that Side where General *Fagel* directed his Attack, being a Branch of the *Scheld*, and therefore not easily to be pass'd; and besides, the Ground being very stony, and very difficult, the Generals resolved to carry on that Attack no farther, than to favour that of Count *Lottum*. However, they perfected the Works on that Side; and on the Nineteenth, in the Night, they extended their Lodgments, from the Angle of the *Counterfcarp* of the *Ravelin*, to the first Place of Arms, on the *Left* of that *Ravelin*. They also threw up a Line, from the *Glacis* of the *Counterfcarp* to the first Parallel; to cover a Battery of twelve Pieces of Cannon, designed to enlarge the Breach at the Attack of Count *Lottum*, and fire into the *Cover'd-Way*, on the same Side, from the *Scheld* to the Citadel. The Night between the Twenty-first and Twenty-second, they made themselves Masters of the whole *Counterfcarp*, at General *Fagel*'s Attack, and then began to fire from the Battery before-mentioned.

GENERAL *Schuylenburgh*'s Attack was likewise in great Forwardness by this Time; for besides the two Batteries erected the Eighteenth, on the *Counterfcarp*, they had raised another, which began to fire on the Twenty-first, with such good Success, that the next Day, the Breaches in the Horn-work, the *Ravelin* and the Wall of the Town, were almost in a Condition to be mounted: At the same Time, the Saps were carried on to the Wall of the Ditch.

ON the Twentieth, Prince *Eugene* went from the Army of Observation, which encamped at *Villemeaux*, to *St. Amand*; to view the Fortifications that were making, to put that Place in a Posture of Defence, against any sudden Attempt. As soon as his Highness was returned to the Camp, a Detachment of two Thousand Men, was sent to take Possession of *Marchiennes*, on the *Scarpe*, between *St. Amand*, and *Doway*; where they were commanded to intrench themselves, to facilitate the farther Designs of the Generals, after the Reduction of *Tournay*: And the Duke of *Marlborough* ordered a Fort to be built at *Pont a Tresin*, for the Security of that Post.

Motions of
the Armies
of Prince
Eugene, and
the Duke of
Marlborough

AT the same Time, the Enemy had above twenty Thousand Pioneers at Work, on their new Lines, from *Doway* to *Homage*, on the other Side of the *Scarpe*, near *Marchiennes*, and from thence to the *Scheld*, near *Conde*; and their Army was disposed in the following Manner: Their Cavalry continued in their several Camps, as we have observed above; and their Infantry were posted. Twenty-six Battalions from *Doway* along the Canal of *Courrieres*; twenty-two Battalions from *Courrieres* to the Morals of *Winge*, on the said Canal; sixty-two Battalions from thence to the Morals of *Cambrin*, along the Intrenchment; besides twelve other Battalions, which made a second Line at *Annequin*, behind the former. They had also, twenty-four Battalions, and twelve Regiments of Horse and Dragoons, along the *Lys*, under the Command of Monsieur *d'Artagnan*; and another Body, under Monsieur *de Coigny*, encamp'd by Platoons from *Doway* to *Valenciennes*; as did the Troops under the Chevalier *de Luxemburgh*, between *Quicorain* and *Crespin*, near *Conde*.

Dispositions
of the En-
emy's Army:

ON the Twenty-third, a strong Detachment of the Enemy's Army attack'd the Post of *Hasnon*, near *St. Amand*, on the *Scarpe*; wherein Monsieur *Damnitz*, a *Prussian* Captain, commanded, with one Hundred and twenty Men. He defended that Post resolutely for a considerable Time; but having lost thirty of his Men, and the Numbers of the Enemy increasing upon him, he was obliged, at last, to abandon it, and retired with the Rest of his Men to *St. Amand*. The *French* paid dear for this Post, having had a great Number of their Men, and amongst them Colonel *Albergotti*, killed in the Attack.

THE Marquis *de Imecourt* having joined the Marshal *de Villars*, with a Detachment of fourteen Battalions, and twenty-two Squadrons, from *Germany*; the *French* Army made a small Motion, on the Twenty-fourth, and encamp'd near *Anchin*, between *Doway*, and *Valenciennes*, where the Marshal took up his Quarters; having the *Scarpe* before him, and the *Scheld* behind: At the same Time, he left a Flying Camp near *Lens*, under the Command of Monsieur *d'Artagnan*, for the Security of his Intrenchments there,

Motions of
the French
Army.

Not regard-
ed by the
Confederates.

there, and at *la Bassée*. For this Purpose, likewise, the Militia of *Picardy*, and the *Boulonnois* were ordered to march that Way; and the Marshal, having sent his heavy Baggage to *Doway*, gave out, that he was resolved to relieve *Tournay*. On the Twenty-fifth, the Marshal took up his Quarters at *Denain*, near *Valenciennes*; but, notwithstanding these Motions, the Confederate Generals did not think it necessary to make any Alterations in their Camp; contenting themselves with reinforcing the Garrison of *St. Amand*, with four Hundred Men, and placing a Brigade between that Post, and the Village of *St. Maur*. About the same Juncture, several French Officers, who had their Regiments, and Companies in the Town, endeavoured to get in disguised, at different Times, but were all taken Prisoners.

To return to the Siege; the Garrison of *Tournay*, having found Means, by the Help of their Sluices, to let a considerable Quantity of Water into the Town-Ditch, it hindered the Besiegers from giving the Assault, so soon as they otherwise intended: In the mean While, the Pioneers were at Work, to bring the Lines of Circumvallation into a narrower Compass, on the Side of the Citadel; in order to cover the Troops, to be employ'd on that Attack, after the Reduction of the Town. On the Twenty-sixth, all the three Batteries were ordered to play their Cannon, Mortars, and *Hawbitzers*; which continued with great Fury, from Three in the Afternoon, till the Rising of the Moon; when thirteen Men detach'd out of each Battalion, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Wither's*, made an Attack on a *Ravelin*, that covered the Gate of *Valenciennes*, and on the *Cover'd-Way* between that Gate and the Citadel. This Attack was carried on with such Bravery and Resolution, that notwithstanding the Enemy made a vigorous Resistance, the Besiegers lodged themselves on the *Cover'd-Way*, that leads from the Gate of *Valenciennes* to the *Scheld*; and extended themselves from that River to the next Bastion, and along the *Ravelin* which covers that Gate: But they lost in this Attack, about one Hundred and fifty Men, and amongst others, three Chief Engineers, and four Captains. During this Action at Count *Lo'tum's* Attack, they, who were employ'd at General *Schuylenburgh's*, filled the Ditch of the Horn-work, three Fascines broad, with the Loss of two Engineers, and several Common Soldiers; and the Magazine of that Battery blew up, by the Enemy's Fire.

A Magazine
of the Be-
siegers blown
up.

NOTWITHSTANDING this Disaster, on the Twenty-seventh, in the Evening, the Besiegers attack'd the Horn-work, on the *Left* of General *Schuylenburgh's* Attack, and the Bastion on the *Right* of that Horn-work; both of which they carried, with very little Opposition. The Enemy, however, sally'd out upon the Men, who were lodging themselves on the Bastion; but the Duke of *Argyle*, who commanded this Attack, and received a slight Wound, bringing fresh Succours to them, repulsed the Enemy with considerable Loss, and the Lodgment was compleated. On the Twenty-eighth, in the Morning, the Besieged made another Sally upon the same Bastion, but with no better Success; being vigorously repulsed, and driven into the Town.

HEREUPON, the Besiegers made the necessary Preparations for a general Storm, but were prevented, by the Besieged; who, about Six in the Evening, hung out White Colours at the three Attacks, beat a Parley, and desired to capitulate for the Town; which was granted, upon Condition the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, would consent to it. Notice hereof being given to their Highnesses, they conferr'd with the Deputies of the *States*, and it was agreed to grant the Garrison a Capitulation; upon which Hostages were exchange'd; and the Enemy having sent out Brigadier *du Metz* to the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Brigadier *Diverny* to Prince *Eugene*, Brigadier *Primrose* was sent from *Lo'tum's* Attack, and Brigadier *Sabine* from General *Schuylenburgh's*, in their Room. After some Debates, an Honourable Capitulation, consisting of twenty-two Articles proposed by the Garrison, and four added by the Besiegers, being much the same as those at *Lille*, was agreed on between Nine and Ten in the Evening, and signed by the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, in the Name of the *Allies*, and by the Governor, the Marquis *de Surville*, in the Name of the Garrison. Thus, after

The Town
surrender'd.

after three Weeks open Trenches, the Victorious Arms of the *Allies* carried a Place, which the *French* thought impregnable; as appears by the following vain-glorious Inscription, which they had caused to be engraved upon one of the *Half-Moons*.

LUDOVICUS Decimus Quartus,
Incertum Bello an Pace Major,
Quibus Copiis, Consiliis, Animo Celeritate,
Et Fortuna,
Anno M.DC.LXVII. Nerviorum Urbem,
Quatriduo Ceperat
Iisdem, Ne unquam postea caperetur,
Inter Cetera Munimenta, Hoc Quoque,
Diebus vix Octo
Ab Area & Fundamentis,
Ipse instans Operi,
Victoricibus Militum Manibus,
Extruxit, Anno Domini M.DC.LXXI.

A vain-glorious Inscription, put by the *French*, on one of the *Half-Moons*.

Which may be thus rendered in *English* :

LEWIS the Fourteenth,
 Who, whether he be greater in Peace or War, is uncertain,
 With the same Forces, Counsels, Courage, Activity,
 And Fortune,
 Wherewith he took the City of *Tournay*, in four
 Days, in the Year of our Lord 1667;
 That it may never be taken for the future,
 Amongst other Works, has erected this
 In hardly eight Days,
 From the Ground, and its Foundations,
 By the victorious Hands of his brave Soldiers,
 Himself overseeing the Work,
 In the Year of our Lord 1671.

THE following Medals were struck, upon the Surrender of this important Place.

1. ON the Face was the *Queen's Bust*, with the following Inscription. Medals struck on this Occasion.
 On the Reverse, BRITANNIA, leaning upon her Right Arm on her Shield, supported by a Trophy of Artillery, and holding in her Left Hand her Spear; on the Top of which is a Mural Crown, and a Town at a Distance, designed for *Tournay*, with this Legend :

Tornaco Expugnato. That is, *Tournay* being taken.

In the Exergue, is only the Date of the Year M.DCC.IX.

2. ON the Face is a Ship in a Storm, with *French* Colours, having lost his Main-mast, and throwing her Goods over-board, to save her from sinking; and amongst others, a Bale, with the Name of *Tournay* upon it, and this Inscription :

Ne percat, perdit. She loses these, that she may not sink herself.

ON the Reverse, is the City of *Tournay* besieged, with the Batteries of the *Allies*, and the following Words :

Soluta Catenis insurgit. Being freed from her Chains, she rises.

Alluding to the State of *Tournay*, as being freed from the Bondage of *France*.

And in the *Exergue*,

Tornacum Captum, M.DCC.IX.

Tournay taken in 1709.

Loss of the
Allies in this
Siege.

DURING this Siege, the *Allies* had only three Thousand two Hundred and ten Men kill'd and wounded; *viz.* eight Hundred and forty-nine at Count *Lottum's* Attack, one Thousand three Hundred at General *Schuylenburgh's* Attack, and one Thousand fifty-five at General *Fagel's*; an inconsiderable Number for so important a Place. On the Thirtieth of July, N. S. the *French* surrendered one Gate, according to the Capitulation; and the next Day, the Marquis *de Surville* was entertained at Dinner by Prince *Eugene*; this done, he retired, in the Afternoon, into the Citadel, which his Garrison had already entered, to the Number of about four Thousand Men. But a great Number of them concealed themselves in the Town; and two Captains, with four Lieutenants, and about one Hundred and fifty Men, went to the Duke of *Marlborough's* Camp. At the same Time, the Enemy's Sick and Wounded, to the Number of eight Hundred, were conducted to *Doway*; and the Earl of *Albemarle*, who was appointed Governor of the Town provisionally, and afterwards confirmed in that Post by the *States-General*, took Possession thereof, with twelve Battalions.

THINGS being thus settled, as soon as the *Allies* had wholly evacuated the Place, the *Allies* began to make the necessary Dispositions for the Reduction of the Citadel, which was counted one of the strongest in *Europe*; being not only fortified with the utmost Exactness, and the Works well fenced with Stone, but all the Ground wrought into Mines; so that the Resistance of the Garrison was not so much apprehended, as the Mischief they might do by blowing up their Mines. Not daunted, however, at all these Difficulties, it was resolved to form two Attacks, the one under the Command of Count *Lottum*, and the other under General *Schuylenburgh*. They had under them the Lieutenant-Generals *Dedem*, *Oxenstiern*, *Spar*, *Finck*, *Withers*, *Wackerbaert*, *Heyden*, and the Duke of *Argyle*. The Major-Generals *Denhoff*, *Hamilton*, *Wassenaer*, *Keppel*, *Vegelin*, *Woudenburgh*, *Temple*, *d'Albergue*, and *Hobendorff*. The Brigadiers *Gauvain*, *Grumker*, *Bork*, *Primrose*, *Sabine*, *Sturler*, *Chambrier*, *Malsburgh*, *Berkhoffer*, and *Welderren*. The Battalions employ'd in that Service were, one of *Imperialists*, four of *British*, *viz.* *Webb's*, *North and Gray's*, *How's* and *Godfrey's*; two of *Danes*; four of *Prussians*; one of *Saxons*; three of *Luncburghers*; one of *Wirtemburghers*; two of *Hessians*; two of the Troops of *Munster*; and ten of *Dutch*, including the Garrison. The *French* were the first who began Hostilities; for on the First of *August*, N. S. they fired both with Cannon and Small-Shot upon Count *Lottum's* Trenches, and Batteries; from the latter of which, they were immediately answered, and the Firing continued very hot, on both Sides, during the whole Night. The next Day, Prince *Eugene*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Field-Deputies of the *States*, were entertained, at Dinner, by the Earl of *Albemarle* in *Tournay*; about which Time, the Batteries, which had discontinued firing for some Time, began to play again, on both Sides.

Siege of the
Citadel of
Tournay.

THE same Day, the Troops appointed for the Siege of the Citadel, took the Post assigned them, within the new Lines of Circumvallation, and carried on the Attack with very good Success. On the Third of *August*, a Bomb, from the Batteries of the *Allies*, blew up one of the Enemy's Magazines; and in the Night, between the Fourth and Fifth, the Trenches were carried on to the Palisadoes of the Saliant Angle of the *Counterscarp* of the *Queen's Bastion*. On the Fifth, in the Afternoon, the Enemy made a Sally upon the Trenches, but were immediately beaten back again.

IN the mean While, the Marquis *de Surville*, either being sensible he was not in a Condition to hold out long, or, as some pretend, that he might have an Opportunity of sending an Officer of Trust to the *French Court*, for

for his *Most Christian* Majesty to decide a Difference between him and Monsieur de *Megnigny*, who challenged the chief Command in the Citadel, desired the *Confederate* Generals to appoint a Person on their Part, to treat with another he should name, about the Surrender of the Citadel. This being agreed to, Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, named Monsieur *Lalo*, a Brigadier in the *British* Troops, who being met by the Marquis de *Ravignan*, a Major-General, appointed by the Marquis de *Surville*, agreed upon the following Articles.

1. THAT the Citadel of *Tournay* should be surrendered to the *Allies*, the Fifth of *September* at Noon; but in Case the Army of his *Most Christian* Majesty should oblige the thirty Battalions, and ten Squadrons, amounting to about eighteen Thousand Men, who carried on the Siege, to raise it, this Capitulation should be void.

Proposals for
surrendering
the Citadel.

oWfor
surrendering

2. THAT the Garrison of the Citadel, both Officers and Soldiers, should march out the Fifth of *September*, with their Arms, Baggage, and other Marks of Honour; and should be conducted, by the shortest Way, to the nearest Town, or to the *French* Army, as the Marquis de *Surville*, or whoever commanded them, should choose.

3. THAT in Case Monsieur de *Ravignan* should bring the Approbation of the Court, on the Eighth of *August*, Hostages should be given on both Sides, and a Gate delivered up, as soon as the Capitulation should be signed, on the Eighth or Ninth of *August*.

4. THAT the Guard, which the *Allies* should place at the Gate of the said Citadel, should not exceed three Hundred Men, and that a Barrier should be set up in the Middle, as usual.

5. THAT Commissaries should be appointed, to examine whether the thirty Battalions, and ten Squadrons, remained always before the Citadel, till the Fifth of *September*, and that those Troops should only be employ'd to invest the Citadel, or guard the City of *Tournay*, till the Evacuation, and Delivery of the Citadel to the *Allies*.

6. THAT the Hostages given on the Part of the *Allies*, shall have Authority from the Marquis de *Surville*, to visit the Magazines, Artillery, Ammunition, Provision, and other Effects, which shall remain in the Citadel, in the same Condition as they shall be found the Eighth of *August*, provided that the Garrison might make use of what should be necessary for their Subsistence, till the Night of the Evacuation; and that Monsieur de *Surville* would promise, that the Remainder of the Ammunition should not be wasted, nor damaged, whilst the Garrison should continue in the Citadel; and that on the Eighth or Ninth of *August*, when the Gate should be delivered up, there should be a Suspension of Arms on both Sides.

THE *Dutch* Historians, and Monsieur *Roussé*, give a different Account of this Transaction: They say the Design was first formed at the Court of *France*, merely to amuse the *Allies*, and delay the Siege; that Monsieur de *Ravignan* was sent from *Paris* for that End; and that, coming to the *Confederate* Camp, he gave the Generals Hopes of the Citadel's being surrendered, upon certain Conditions; wherefore Leave was granted him to go into the Citadel, and confer with Monsieur de *Surville* about it; after which, desiring a proper Person might be appointed, to treat with him, Brigadier *Lalo* was named, as we have observed above. The Marquis de *Quincy* pretends, that the *Allies* made the first Proposals; and, that thereupon, the Marquis de *Ravignan* was allowed to go out of the Citadel to the *French* Army, and from thence to Court.

HOWEVER, be that as it will, the Agreement being signed, the Marquis de *Ravignan* was immediately sent with it to the Court of *France*, for his *Most Christian* Majesty's Ratification; but that no Time might be lost by this Negotiation, the Trenches were carried on, with the usual Diligence. On the other Hand, General *Fagel* having caused the Lines of Circumvallation, before the City of *Tournay* to be levelled, pass'd the *Scheld*, and join'd

Motions of
the *Confederate*
Army.

join'd the two Armies; which, on the Sixth of *August*, marched to the Camp of *Orchies*, both to be nearer the Enemy, to observe their Motions, and for the Conveniency of Forage. The Army, commanded by the Duke of *Marlborough*, extended from the *Right*, near *Watines*, to the *Left* at *Rumegies*, near the Brook *Lannon*; and that under Prince *Eugene*, had its *Right* at *Pont a Marque*, and its *Left* at *Watines*. The Duke took up his Quarters at an *Augustine* Nunnery, called *Theomoulin*; Prince *Eugene* his, at a Monastery, under the Walls of *Orchies*; and the Field-Deputies of the *States* theirs, in that Town; which is situated three Leagues from *Tournay*, as many from *Doway*, six from *Valenciennes*, and five from *Lisle*. The *Marshall de Villars* continued all this while incamped behind the *Scarpe*, with his Forces; who having finished their Lines, and planted their Cannon upon them, no sooner heard of the Motion of the *Confederate* Army, which put them under terrible Apprehensions of being attack'd, than they set about to raise new Lines, within those which they had before thrown up; Monsieur *de Villars* having, at the same Time, given Orders to the Chevalier *de Luxemburgh*, who commanded a separate Body, between *Mons* and *Valenciennes*, to rejoin the Army.

ON the Eighth of *August*, N. S. the Day agreed on for the Return of the Marquis *de Ravignan*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, went in the Morning to *Tournay*, in Expectation of the *French* King's Approbation of the Agreement lately concluded: But, on this Occasion, the *French* gave a fresh Instance of their Insincerity; and afforded just Ground to suspect, that their Proposals for delivering the Citadel of *Tournay*, were but an Artifice to gain Time; and, if possible, to amuse the *Allies*. For Monsieur *de Ravignan* being come back, according to Promise, about Five a Clock that Afternoon, brought Word, That the King his Master, would not ratify the said Agreement, unless the Cessation of Arms, mentioned therein, were also extended to all the Operations of War in the Netherlands till the Fifth of September, N. S. which he very well knew would never be consented to, and what the *Confederate* Generals, and the Deputies of the *States*, accordingly rejected with Disdain. Hereupon, the Marquis *de Ravignan* went into the Citadel, carrying with him, as was believed, some Money, which began to be very much wanted there, and some Instructions to the Marquis *de Surville*.

The King of France refuses to ratify the Agreement for the Surrender of the Citadel of Tournay.

HOWEVER that be, the Hopes of reducing that Fortrefs by Composition being vanished, the *Allies* bent all their Thoughts upon making themselves Masters of it by Force; and the Siege was carried on with all possible Vigour, notwithstanding the great Difficulties they had to struggle with, chiefly from the vast Number of Mines, which the Enemy sprung; and which the Besiegers, who walked, in a manner, upon Precipices, could hear them working upon under their Feet, at almost every Step they advanced.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, being returned from *Tournay* to the Army, the Ninth of *August* in the Morning; Lieutenant-General *Cadogan* was immediately detach'd, with two Thousand Grenadiers, to dislodge the Enemy from the Abbey of *Marchiennes*, on this Side the *Scarpe*, wherein they had posted six Hundred Men; and which he found so well fortified, by a Ditch full of Water, and Palissadoes, that he desired a farther Reinforcement. Hereupon, a Thousand Foot, with eight Pieces of Cannon, were ordered to join him; but the Garrison, which the Enemy had reinforced with three Hundred Men, seeming resolved to defend themselves vigorously, the *Confederate* Generals did not think it proper to run the Hazard of losing a great Number of Men, for the gaining of so inconsiderable a Place; whereupon, Orders were sent to the Troops to withdraw, and to return to their former Posts.

The Parties of the Allies have several successful Rencontres

THE same Day, a Detachment of two Hundred *Hussars*, and one Hundred Dragoons, being sent out to get Intelligence of the Enemy, encounter'd four Hundred Horse, and one Hundred Grenadiers, routed them, and brought in a Major, with thirteen other Officers, and one Hundred and

twenty Men Prisoners, besides taking a Booty of one Hundred Horses. On the Tenth, another Party of one Hundred and twenty *Hussars*, under the Command of the *Imperial* Colonel *Desoffy*, met a Party of one Hundred Horses, whom he charged, killed most of them, and pursued the Rest to the very Gates of *Valenciennes*. The same Day, another small Party of *Hussars* cut in Pieces the greatest Part of sixty of the Enemy's Foot, and made the Rest Prisoners. The Twelfth in the Morning, Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, went to view the Abbey of *Fiennes*, near the *Scarpe*, between *Doway* and *Marchiennes*; and in their Return, their Convoy beat two of the Enemy's Parties, and brought in both the Leaders, with several of the Men Prisoners. On the Fourteenth, their Highnesses went to *Tournay*, dined with the Deputies of the *States-General*, and in the Afternoon went into the Trenches, at General *Schuylsburgh's* Attack. Next Morning, they visited Count *Lottum's*, returned the Nineteenth to the Camp, and the Twentieth began the Review of the Army. On the Twenty-sixth, Monsieur *de Sudendunck*, Major of Prince *Menzikoff's* Regiment, arrived at the *Confederate* Camp from *Muscovy*, with Letters of the Twentieth of *July*, N. S. from that Prince to the Duke of *Marlborough*, notifying to his Grace, the Victory gained by the *Czar*, over the *Swedes*, at *Pultowa*, the Eighth of that Month.

The Parties
of the *Allies*
have several
successful
Rencounters

IN the mean While, the Siege of the Citadel of *Tournay* was carried on, with all the Success which could be expected, from the cautious and slow Method of Sapping; and never were so many Instances of little subterraneous Skirmishes, as at this Siege; which was push'd on with as much Vigour, and as various Success, under Ground, as above. Nothing was more common, than for the Miners to meet under Ground, and to engage with their Shovels and Pick-Axes, and sometimes with Hand-Grenades and Pistols. Not to descend to many tedious Particulars, on the Twentieth of *August*, N. S. the *Allies* discovered a Mine, at General *Schuylsburgh's* Attack, that was directly under a Battery of Mortars; whereupon, they immediately took out the Powder, and eighteen Mortars that were lodged therein, and which would otherwise have been all blown up, or buried under Ground. But, about Three in the Afternoon, the Besieged sprung a Mine, between the Trenches and the *Caponniere* they had in the Ditch, which had such an Effect, that Part of the Wall, from the Town to the Citadel, two Branches of the Trenches, a Parallel, two Saps, and two of the Besiegers Mines were destroyed; and a Captain, two Ensigns, and nineteen common Soldiers, were killed: At the same Time, they sprung another Mine, at Count *Lottum's* Attack, but without doing the least Damage.

The Besieged
sprung a
Mine, which
does great
Execution.

ON the Twenty-second, the Miners of the *Allies* discovered the Branch of another Mine; and as they were employ'd in finding out the Mine itself, they heard the Enemy working at a great Gallery; hereupon a Lieutenant, with sixteen Grenadiers, were ordered to dislodge them; but the Lieutenant being killed at the first Onset, his Men were disheartened, and retired. Another Officer, with a fresh Detachment, was immediately commanded to execute that Order; but the Enemy throwing a great many Grenades, and making a terrible Smoke, the Besiegers were again forced to retire, to prevent being suffocated. On the Twenty-third, in the Afternoon, the Miners, supported by a Lieutenant, and twelve Grenadiers, were at work, to pierce through a Traverse, cross the Gallery they had discover'd; but could not proceed therein, because the Enemy threw in a great Quantity of Straw, Hemp, and Powder, and made such a Smother, that the Lieutenant, and eight Grenadiers, were suffocated thereby. The same Day, the *French* sprung a large Mine, at Count *Lottum's* Attack; but all the Men having been withdrawn in Time from that Place, excepting four Centinels, only one of the latter was blown up: The Opening made by this Mine was sixty Paces long, and twenty Foot deep; inasmuch, that had it not been discovered very seasonably, a whole Regiment of *Hanoverians* would have been either blown up, or buried in that dreadful Chasm.

“ THE Manner of fighting in this Siege, says the Author of the *Tatler*,
 “ discovered a Gallantry in our Men, unknown to former Ages; their
 “ meeting with adverse Parties under Ground, where every Step was taken
 “ with Apprehensions of being blown up with Mines below them, or
 “ crushed by the Fall of the Earth above them; and all this acted in Dark-
 “ ness, has something in it more terrible, than ever is met with, in any
 “ other Part of a Soldier’s Duty: However, this was performed with great
 “ Chearfulness.”

The Enemy
 play off an-
 other Mine,
 which does
 yet more
 Execution.

The Garri-
 son desire to
 capitulate.

NOTHING else worth particular Notice happened till the Twenty-sixth, when the Enemy sprung a Mine, which killed above four Hundred of the Besiegers; who, notwithstanding that Loss, and the prodigious Fire of the Besieged, lodged themselves, that very Night, near the Palissadoes, at the Attack of General *Schuylemburgh*; and their Miners carried on their Saps, though they were greatly annoy’d by the Water, which the *French* found Means to let in to them. On the Twenty-eight, in the Morning, Monsieur *du Mey*, one of the chief Engineers, who had the Direction of General *Schuylemburgh*’s Attack, was mortally wounded in the Head by one of the Stone-Mortars of the Besiegers, and died soon after. The same Day, Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, went to *Tournay* from the Army; and the Twenty-ninth, in the Morning, visited the Trenches at that Attack, where a Lodgment had been made, two Days before, on the Salient Angle of the *Counterescarp*. About Ten in the Morning, the Enemy sprung another Mine, which did but little Execution; but in the Afternoon, they sprung two other Mines at Count *Lottum*’s Attack, whereby the Besiegers had two Officers kill’d, and several Men kill’d and wounded. That Day, and the Thirtieth, the *Allies* made a terrible Fire upon the Citadel, and threw in a considerable Number of Bombs, which did all the Execution that could be desired; whereupon, the necessary Dispositions were order’d to be made for an Assault: But the Enemy prevented it, by beating a Parley, the Thirty-first, in the Morning, and desiring to capitulate. Hereupon, an Exchange of Hostages was immediately agreed upon, and Monsieur *Dolet*, with the Marquis *de Ravignan*, both Major-Generals, and four other Officers, came out of the Citadel; and Major-General *Hohendorff*, with five Officers more, were sent in their Room, on the Side of the *Confederates*. Monsieur *Dolet*, with his Fellow-Hostages, were brought to the Earl of *Albemarle*’s House, where the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, being met to receive their Proposals, they offered to surrender the Place, and delivered a Draught of a Capitulation, consisting of eleven Articles.

THESE Demands being made, Monsieur *Dolet*, and the other *French* Officers, were order’d to withdraw; and after some Debate, being called in again, were told by the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, That no other Conditions would be allowed them, but for the Garrison to surrender themselves Prisoners of War: Upon which, they returned into the Citadel, and about Three in the Afternoon, the Hostilities began again. The two *Confederate* Generals seem to have insisted on the Garrison’s surrendering themselves Prisoners of War, not only for the Honour of the Arms of the *Allies*, but in return for his *Most Christian* Majesty’s having refused to ratify the former Capitulation. Besides, during the Cessation of Arms, they had a certain Account of the great Streights to which the Garrison were reduced for Want of Provision; whereupon, Orders were given to renew the Fire against the Citadel, from all the Batteries, with the utmost Vigour; which soon reduced the Garrison to the Necessity of accepting what Terms the *Confederate* Generals thought fit to grant them. Hereupon, Monsieur *de Surville*, having desired a Conference with the Earl of *Albemarle*, on the Second of *September*, informed him of his Inclination to surrender, and delivered his Lordship other Proposals to that End; which being made known to the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, who had left the Siege but that Morning, they returned thither the Third, from *Orchies*, and signed the Articles: This done, the Garrison delivered up a Gate of the Citadel in the Afternoon, and march’d out the Fifth, to the Number of three Thousand five

five Hundred Men, besides the Sick and Wounded, in order to be conducted to *Conde*. They were allowed, both Officers and Soldiers, to march out with their Swords and Baggage, but were obliged to leave them, together with their Arms and Colours, behind them, and surrender Prisoners at large; with this Restriction, that they were not to serve, till an equal Number of the *Allies*, who had been taken by their Forces, should be released in their Room.

They accept
the Terms
offered.

THE important City, and Citadel of *Tournay*, had no sooner fallen a Sacrifice to the victorious Arms of the *Confederates*, than the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, were intent upon following their Blow, and resolved either upon another Conquest of equal Importance, *viz.* That of *Mons*, the Capital of the Province of *Hainault*, or upon drawing the Enemy on to a Battle: In both of these, we shall find they succeeded; the one happening afterwards to be the immediate Consequence of the other. To this End, their two Armies decamped from *Orchies*, the very Day the Citadel of *Tournay* was surrendered; pass'd the *Scheld*, joined in their March, and encamped the Fourth of *September*, N. S. at *Brisfoul*; at some Distance from which, the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, who had been detach'd the Morning before, with four Thousand Grenadiers, and sixty Squadrons, in order to force the Enemy's Lines, was likewise encamped. On the Fifth, they pursued their March, notwithstanding the Badness of the Weather, by Reason of the continual Rains, and encamped at *Siraat*, within a League of the River *Haisne*, which the Prince of *Hesse* passed the same Afternoon, with his Detachment.

ON the Sixth, in the Morning, the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army being again in Motion, and having passed the *Haisne*, above *Mons*, his Grace received Advice, that as the Prince of *Hesse* was about to attack the Enemy's Lines, from the *Haisne* to the *Sambre*, three Regiments of Dragoons, which were placed there for their Defence, abandoned them. Not long after, when that Prince joined the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, on their March, they congratulated him on the Success of his Expedition; to which his Highness answered, *The French have deprived me of the Glory of deserving this Compliment, for they would not so much as make a Shew of slaying for me.*

The French
abandon
their Lines.

IT appeared, however, that the Enemy had some Design of defending those Lines; for the Chevalier de *Luxemburgh* arrived there soon after, with a large Detachment, in order to have sustained the Regiments of Dragoons afore-mentioned; and was followed by the Marshal de *Villars* in Person: But when they found, that their Troops had quitted their Post, they returned to *Qyievrain*; whither the whole *French* Army marched from their Lines behind the *Scarpe*. On the other Hand, the Prince of *Hesse*, having taken Possession of the Lines above-mentioned, encamped with his Right to *Jemappe*, and his Left to *Framiers*; by which Means, *Mons* was, in a Manner, block'd up; and the Army under the Duke of *Marlborough* encamped at *Havre*, whilst Prince *Eugene* did the same at *St. Dennis*.

ON the Seventh, the Marshal de *Boufflers* arrived at the *French* Camp; which, as his Most Christian Majesty seemed to repose so entire a Confidence in the Marshal de *Villars*, at the Beginning of the Campaign, occasioned no small Surprise: Monsieur de *Boufflers*, however, to soften the Matter, told Monsieur de *Villars*, that *He was come to serve him as his Aid de Camp*; or, as other Accounts say, *That he did not come in any Character, but to receive his Commands for the King's Service, and to communicate to him his Majesty's Orders, upon the present Posture of Affairs.* Monsieur Du Mont says, (as we have observed in the First Part, Page 102.) that Monsieur de *Boufflers* had Orders and Power, from his Most Christian Majesty, to assist at Councils of War, and at the Battle, and to retain his Prerogative of Seniority; but, nevertheless, without incroaching, in the least, upon the Authority of Monsieur de *Villars*, as Commander in Chief. He adds, that the Marshal de *Boufflers* was not sent to the Army without the Advice of *Madam Maintenon*; that it was affirmed, it was she who made the Proposal to the

The Mar-
shal de Bouf-
fiers arrives
at their Ar-
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lations.

the King, as dreading the Success of the Remainder of the Campaign, and not being willing the Marshal *de Villars* should alone be responsible for the Issue of a Battle, which it had been resolved to venture. The Marquis *de Quincy* gives yet another Turn to this Matter, and pretends that Monsieur *de Villars* being informed of the Designs of the *Allies*, had desired his *Most Christian Majesty*, some Time before the Surrender of the Citadel of *Tournay*, to send some other Commander to his Assistance; but this does not seem to agree at all with that Marshal's known Vanity, and Self-Sufficiency.

BE that as it will, the same Day, about Noon, as Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, were going to Dinner, his Grace received Advice, that the *French* were on their March, to attack the Body under the Command of the Prince of *Hesse*; upon which, Orders were immediately given, first to secure the Blockade of *Mons*, and then to the Army under his own Command, to decamp from *Havre*, and leave their Baggage behind, with their Tents standing. Being come to the Hills of *Belian*, where the Prince of *Hesse* had his Quarters, they made a Halt near *Chevrais*, Prince *Eugene's* Army being advanced thither likewise; and there both Generals had farther Intelligence, that the *French* had not pass'd the Defiles of *Wafme*, but were encamped between them and *Quiervrain*; whereupon, the *Confederate* Army continued, the whole Night following, in Order of Battle. In the mean While, the Duke of *Marlborough* having Advice, that the Garrison of *Mons* consisted only of nine weak *Spanish* Battalions, and two of *Bavarians*, besides the Dragoons of *Pasteur*, his Grace concluded, that the chief Design of Monsieur *de Villars*, was to induce the *Confederates* to draw all their Forces into the Plain between *Belian* and *Framiers*, that he might have an Opportunity to throw some Reinforcements into *Mons*; to prevent which, his Grace ordered some Troops towards *St. Ghislain*.

The *Confederate* Generals view the Ground between the two Armies.

ON the Eight of September, N. S. the Duke of *Marlborough*, Prince *Eugene*, and Monsieur *Goslinga*, one of the Field-Deputies of the *States*, being attended by several Squadrons, under the Command of Prince *d'Auvergne*, for their Security, spent the whole Day in viewing the Ground between the two Armies; and when they were over against *Blaugies*, and *Lambrechies*, they discovered the Enemy's whole Army, who were in Motion, and posting themselves in the Plain of *Blaugies*.

IN the mean While, the *Confederate* Army marched, and encamped, with the *Left Wing*, on the Side of the *Haisne*, and *St. Ghislain* before them. The March which the Army made that Day, afforded one of the most glorious Sightings that had been seen for many Years; for the *Confederate* Generals, upon the Advices they had received of the Motions of the Marshal *de Villars's* Army, caused the Heads of their Columns to return towards the Centre, which halting in the mean Time, the whole Army formed a sort of *Crescent*, in the Midst of a vast Plain, which yielded the most beautiful Prospect imaginable. The same Afternoon, their *Hussars* met a Party of the Enemy, at the Wood, or Village of *Sart*, consisting of four Hundred Men; and by the Help of their Guard, they not only defeated this Party, but brought a Lieutenant-Colonel, with some Officers, thirty Soldiers, as many Deserters, and about one Hundred Horses, into the Camp: On the *Left Wing*, Major-General *Grosvestein* met another Party, in the Opening by that Wood, which he defeated, and made fifty of the Men Prisoners. The same Day also, they had an Account, by several Deserters, that the Marshal *de Boufflers* had brought positive Orders, from his *Most Christian Majesty*, to offer the *Allies* Battle.

THE next Morning, the *French* made a Motion, as if their Design was to march towards *Boslu*; but the *Confederate* Generals, advancing to take a narrow View of their Army, they soon perceived, that the Motion of their *Left* was only a Feint, to cover the March of their *Right*, which filed off, at the same Time, and possessed themselves of the Woods of *Laniere*, *La Merte*, *Taisniere*, and *Sart*, with the Hedges that encompass them, where they placed their Infantry; and taking Possession, likewise, of the Hedges

The *French* possess themselves of several advantageous Posts