

of a Village called *Placquet*, or *Malplacquet*, ranged their Cavalry in the Openings between these Woods. Hereupon, the *Confederate* Generals ordered their Army to march by the *Left*, and face the Enemy; the *Right* extending to *Cart*, and the *Left* to *Bleron*, on the Edge of the Wood *Blagnieres*, where they placed their Cannon: The *Centre* was near *Bleron*, and the Head Quarters not far from thence at *Blaregnies*. By this Means, the *Left* of the *Confederate* Army came so near to the Enemy, about Two in the Afternoon, that they cannonaded each other till the Evening; but the *Right* Wing of the *Allies* being too far off, to come to the Place of Action, in Time, there was too little Day left, to attack the Enemy. Wherefore, the Duke of *Marlborough*, Prince *Eugene*, and the Prince Royal of *Prussia*, passed the Night with Monsieur *Goslinga*, that they might be ready, in Case the Enemy should make any Attempt. But notwithstanding they were much superior in Number, and more especially in Infantry, they were so far from designing to attack the *Allies*, that, on the contrary, they began to fortify their Camp, tho' it was by Nature very advantageous, with all the Industry, and Application imaginable. Besides the thick Hedges, which ran, like a Chain, along their whole Camp, they made deep Lines to cover their Foot; and cast up three Intrenchments on their *Right*, one behind the other, tho' their Camp, on that Side, was otherwise very difficult of Access, by Reason of a marshy Ground which lay before them. Their *Centre*, which was in a little Plain, was, likewise, secured by several Intrenchments, and defended in proper Places with a good Artillery; besides all which, they cut down a great Number of Trees, which they laid across the Ways, to obstruct the Passage of the *Confederate* Horse: They also cut down the Hedges, behind their Lines, for the more easy March of their Cavalry, to support their Infantry, as Occasion might require; so that their Camp might not improperly be called a regular, fortify'd Citadel.

On the other Hand, Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, who had resolved, on the Ninth, in Concert with Monsieur *Goslinga*, to attack the *French*, finding, on the Tenth, that they had made Use of the preceding Night, to improve the Advantage of their Situation, resolved only, without altering their Design, to defer the Execution thereof, till they should be reinforced by twenty-six Battalions, and some Squadrons (Mr. *Lediard* says only eighteen Battalions, and Monsieur *du Mont* twenty) which had been employ'd in the Siege of *Tournay*. Hereupon, Orders were immediately dispatch'd to them, to march with all possible Expedition, to join the Grand Army, which they did that very Night, under the Command of Count *Lottum*, and Baron *Schuylenburgh*. The same Evening, also, a Detachment from the Blockade of *Mons*, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Dedem*, took *St. Ghislain*, Sword in Hand, and made the Garrison, which consisted of two Hundred Men, Prisoners of War. St. Ghislain taken.

THE Troops that came from *Tournay*, having joined the Army, as we observed before, on the Eleventh of *September*, in the Morning; the Morning of that Bloody Day, which was to send above twenty Thousand brave Men to their Graves, Prince *Eugene*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Field-Deputies of the *States-General*, Messieurs *Randwyck*, *Hooft*, and *Goslinga*, rode together along the Line, between the two Armies, animating their Men; several of whom were killed in their Presence, by the Enemy's Cannon-Shot. A little after Eight a-Clock, the Signal for the Attack was given, by a Discharge of fifty Pieces of Cannon, and the Cannonading continued very brisk on both Sides; but as we have already given a very accurate Account of this Bloody and ever-memorable Battle, as drawn up by Monsieur *du Mont*, Part I. Pag. 105. we shall not tire our Readers with a Repetition thereof, but only mention such Particulars, as are not taken Notice of by that Gentleman: We shall therefore only observe in general, that this was the most obstinate and bloody Battle, that was fought during the Course of the whole War; and that as the *Allies* gained an indisputable Victory, tho' it cost them very dear, and had infinitely more Difficulties to encounter, and surmount, they certainly gained more Honour on this Occasion,

Some Remarks on the  
Battle of  
Malplaquet.

sion, than at any other Time; in short, the Battle of *Malplaquet* will shine with distinguish'd Lustre, even in Company with the Victories of *Hochstet*, and *Ramillies*.

THE *Confederate* Generals, upon viewing, after the Battle, the advantageous Posts, from whence they had driven the Enemy, were themselves astonish'd, to see what Difficulties they had surmounted; and indeed all the Troops, both Officers, and Soldiers, shew'd as great Bravery, Intrepidity, and Resolution, in this obstinate Action, as was ever known, either of late Years, or has been transmitted down to us, in Antient History. In Effect, considering what Improvements have been made, in these latter Ages, in the Art of War, and what contemptible Enemies the *Persians* were, with whom *Alexander the Great* was to cope, we don't know whether it may not vye with the most shining of his Actions, *viz.* his passing the *Granicus*.

THE Enemy, whether encouraged by their prodigious Intrenchments, or animated and made desperate, by the Shame of their former Defeats, fought, not only with a Bravery beyond what was expected from them, but beyond what they had shewn on any other Occasion, during this War, from half an Hour past Eight in the Morning, till half an Hour past Two in the Afternoon. But then, however, they were forced to yield to the superior Courage, and Fortune of the *Allies*, whose Generals, the *Gr.* Duke of *Marlborough*, the Intrepid Prince *Eugene*, the Gallant Count *Tilly*, and the Undaunted Prince of *Nassau-Friesland*, were, during the whole Battle, continually at the Head of their Troops, and in the hottest of the Fire: Neither was Monsieur *Goslinga* wanting, to animate the Soldiers, by his own Example.

WE must not, however, omit, giving a more particular Testimony of the Bravery of the Prince of *Nassau*, as it is related by Monsieur *Roussel*, who says he fought by his Highness's Side, during the whole Action, and received two Wounds there by Small Shot. " This young and intrepid  
" Hero (says he) commanded the *Dutch* Infantry, which formed the *Left*  
" Wing of the *Confederate* Army. He led them on, not to fight with  
" Men, but against Intrenchments, for the *French* had three, one behind  
" the other, in this Place, lined with Cannon, loaded with Cartridges.  
" The first Line advanced boldly, with their Muskets on their Shoulders,  
" to within a small Pistol-Shot of the Enemy. The Prince, who had but  
" forty Battalions under his Command, was to drive from these Intrench-  
" ments double that Number, supported by the King's Household, and  
" commanded by the Marshal *de Boufflers* in Person, with the Count *d'Ar-*  
" *tagnan*, who for his gallant Behaviour in this Action, was made a Marshal  
" of *France*. His Highness was exposed all the while to an infernal Fire,  
" which covered the Earth around him with dead Carcases; and at the  
" very Beginning of the Action, he lost the brave Count *Oxenstierna*. Ne-  
" vertheleis, he forced both the first and second Intrenchment; and had  
" entered the third, and had made himself Master of the Enemy's main  
" Battery, had he had a sufficient Number of Men, to have opposed the  
" *French*, whom the Count *d'Artagnan* poured in upon him with great Re-  
" solution; insomuch, that his Troops were obliged to retreat some Paces.  
" His Highness perceiving this, took a Colours of the Regiment of *Mey*,  
" and with as much Unconcernedness as Intrepidity, carried it to the In-  
" trenchment, and planted it there, calling out to his Troops, *Come hither to*  
" *me, my Friends, Come hither to me*. By which Means he rallied his Men, who  
" had been repulsed and disheartened, and brought them on to the Charge  
" again. But being again over-power'd with Numbers, he made them re-  
" tire behind the Hedges, till he had Intelligence, that the *Right Wing*,  
" and the *Centre*, had overthrown the Enemy; upon which, he returned to  
" the Charge, and forced his Way into the Plain, to gather his Share of  
" the Laurels."

The incom-  
parable  
Bravery and  
Intrepidity  
of the Prince  
of *Orange*.

THE wonderful Success of the *Allies* in this Battle, obtained under all the Difficulties, and Disadvantages, that could be opposed in the Way of an Army (insomuch, that the Soldiers of the *Confederates* said, *They did*  
not

not make War against Men, but Moles,) must, however, be acknowledged to be owing, in a great Measure, to the Duke of Marlborough's Genius, Courage, and Conduct! A consummate Hero (says the Author of the *Tatlers*) who has lived not only beyond the Time, in which Cæsar said, he was arrived at a Satiety of Life, and Glory, but also has been so long the Subject of Panegyrick, that it is as hard to say any Thing new in his Praise, as to add to the Merit, which requires such Eulogiums.

Remarks on this Battle, by the Author of the *Tatler*.

"HAD this Engagement (says the same Author) happened in the Time of the Old Romans, and such Things been acted in their Service, there would not have been a Foot of the Wood, which was pierced, but would have been consecrated to some Deity, or made memorable by the Death of him, who expired in it, for the Sake of his Country. It would have been said, on some Monument at the Entrance, Here the Duke of Argyle drew his Sword, and said, *March*. Here *Webb*, after having an accomplish'd Fame for Gallantry, expos'd himself like a common Soldier. Here *Rivett*, who was wounded at the Beginning of the Day, and carried off as Dead, returned to the Field, and received his Death. Medals would have been struck for our General's Behaviour, when he first came into the Plain. Here was the Fury of the Action, and here the Hero stood as fearless, as if invulnerable. Such certainly would have been the Care of that State, for their own Honour, and in Gratitude to their Heroick Subjects. The Wood intrench'd, the Plain made more unpassable than the Wood, and all the Difficulties oppos'd to the most Gallant Army, and most Intrepid Leaders, that ever the Sun shined on, would each have furnish'd Matter, for the ablest Pens to have recorded them in Eulogiums, and Panegyricks."

GREAT Numbers fell in this bloody Action; and the *Allies* frankly owned, that they had above seventeen Thousand Men, either killed or wounded, according to the Lists, hereunto annexed.

## Of Prince Eugene's Army.

Nations, and Bodies.	Colonels killed	Colonels wounded	Lieut. Col. killed	Lieut. Col. wounded	Majors killed	Majors wounded	Captains killed	Captains wounded	Sub. Officers killed	Sub. Officers wounded	Sergeants and Common Soldiers.		
											Killed	Wounded	Total of the Killed and Wounded
<i>Imperialists</i> —	0	3	1	1	0	0	2	6	4	11	183	307	508
<i>Danes</i> —	1	1	1	2	0	2	5	9	8	42	519	694	1284
<i>Saxons</i> —	1	1	1	2	0	2	3	6	10	22	184	477	709
<i>Palatines</i> —	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	9	1	7	83	253	359
<i>Dutch</i> —	2	0	2	1	1	2	7	23	16	44	683	818	1599
<i>Hessians</i> —	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	12	5	20	128	350	526
<i>Wurtembergers</i> —	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	11	15	120	272	422

## Of the Duke of Marlborough's Army.

<i>Britons</i> —	4	2	4	3	0	3	13	26	13	61	541	541	1082
<i>Prussians</i> —	2	4	1	1	1	6	2	17	9	33	294	294	588
<i>Hanoverians</i> —	0	1	1	2	0	4	2	12	10	44	285	285	570
<i>Dutch</i> —	6	6	5	11	5	14	42	116	35	242	2238	2238	4476
Sum Total —	16	20	16	27	9	36	79	238	172	541	5458	6529	12123

AMONGST the Killed, were several Officers of Distinction, particularly, General Count *Lottum*, and General *Tettau*, of the *Prussians*; Count *Oxenstiern*, a Lieutenant-General, and the Marquis of *Tullibardine*, Colonel of a Regiment of Foot, in the Service of the *States*. Amongst the Wounded were,



were, Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, slightly in the Head, as was also Brigadier *May*, in the same Place; the Lieutenant-Generals *Spar*, *Wackerbaert*, and *Hamilton*, the first mortally; Brigadier *Croonstrom*, Count *Oxenstiern's* Adjutant, dangerously; and Monsieur *Duyts*, Adjutant to the Prince of *Orange*. His Highness himself had two Horses killed under him, but escaped unhurt, as did also the Duke of *Argyle*, though he received several Musket-Shots through his Cloaths and Peruke. To be more particular, as to the *British* Troops, Brigadier *Lalo*, a *French* Refugee, in great Favour and Esteem with the Generals; Sir *Thomas Pendergast*, Colonel of a Regiment of Foot, Colonel *Rivett*, of the Guards; Lieutenant-Colonel *Arundel*, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Bethel*, were reckoned amongst the Slain. Lieutenant-General *Webb*, in the Beginning of the Action, received a very dangerous Wound, by a Musket-Ball, that lodg'd itself near the Groin. Lieutenant-Colonel *Ramsay*, Major *Lashley*, and Major *Rew*, dy'd of their Wounds; but Lieutenant-Colonel *Farmer*, Major *Chivers*, and divers others, of inferior Rank, survived theirs.

Loss of the  
Enemy.

THE *French* were very industrious in lessening, and concealing their Loss from the Publick; but some private Accounts from their Army owned, that they had about five Hundred and forty Officers kill'd on the Spot, and one Thousand and sixty-eight wounded, besides three Hundred and one taken Prisoners; and the Number of their private Men, killed, wounded, or made Prisoners, might modestly be computed at fifteen Thousand. Amongst their Slain were, Messieurs de *Courcillon*, de *Chemerault*, Baron *Palavicini*, Messieurs de *Lautrec*, de *Greberges* and de *Moret*, Lieutenant-Generals Count de *Beuil*, Messieurs de *Rouleau*, de *Rochebonne*, and de *Tournefort*, Major-Generals; Messieurs de *Coasquin*, and de *Stekenbourg*, Brigadiers; besides Messieurs de *Schawestein*, de *Salis*, de *Seignelay*, the Chevalier de *Croy*, de *Tellegonde*, de *Molezun*, *Fitzgerald*, de *Barentin*, St. *Laurent*, and the Duke de *Charost*. Amongst their Wounded, was the Marshal de *Villars* himself, who receiving a Shot in the Knee, in the Heat of the Battle, was obliged to leave the Command of the Army to the Marshal de *Boufflers*, to which he, in a great Measure, attributed the Loss of the Battle. As also the Duke de *Guiche*, the Chevalier de *St. Toris*; Messieurs de *Conflau*, de *Beaufremont*, de *Savigne*, de *Crauzat*, de *Monnefiers*, d'*Oppeide*, de *Refugee*, and d'*Albergotti*; the Princes de *Lamheffi*, and de *Montbazou*, Messieurs de *Brillac*, de *Tournemine*, d'*Angenes*, de *Zele*, de *Gondrin*, de *Renly*, de *Berville*, d'*Antel*, and de *St. Hilaire*.

UPON the whole Matter, all who judg'd impartially of this Battle, were of Opinion, that every Thing consider'd, the *Allies* did gain a remarkable and glorious Victory, but paid a great deal too dear for it; and, on the other Hand, that tho' the *French* were beaten from their fortify'd Camp, and lost the Field of Battle, yet they, in some Measure, retrieved their former Reputation: It was evident, however, by their not attempting afterwards to relieve *Mons*, that their Loss was much greater than they were willing to own. It was observed, that this Battle was fought the same Day, on which Prince *Eugene* had gained the famous Victory over the *Turks*, at *Zenta*, on the River *Theisse*, in *Hungary*, in the Year 1697, which produced the Treaty of *Carlowitz*.

THIS memorable Battle being over, the Victorious *Confederate* Army, were ordered to encamp, a little beyond the Field of Battle, which was covered with the Bodies of Men, either dead, dying, or wounded; and on the Twelfth of *September*, N. S. they returned to their old Camp at *Belian*. The Duke of *Marlborough* took up his Quarters in the Abbey of *Belian*; Prince *Eugene* his, in the Village of *Quarignan*; and Count *Tilly* his, in the Village of *Port Quesoy*. The *Allies* were also employ'd the same Day, in burying their Dead, and removing their wounded Men; and there having been a great many *French* Officers and Soldiers left wounded on the Field of Battle, and in the adjacent Houses, the Duke of *Marlborough* let the Marshals de *Villars*, and *Boufflers* know, that he would allow them to send a Number of Waggons to fetch them off. This Offer they gladly accepted; and accordingly



cordingly sent the Chevalier de Luxembourg, a Lieutenant-General, with two Hundred Horse to *Bavay*, to meet the *Confederate* General Officer, who should be appointed, with an equal Number, to settle the Manner, and take the *Paroles* of Honour of the Officers, who were carried off; together with the Number of the private Soldiers, who were to be afterwards accounted for, upon an Exchange: Hereupon, his Grace gave this Commission to Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, who having concerted every Thing with the Chevalier, returned to the Camp, and left an Officer, and a Commissary, to take a List of all that should be found; and according to their Desire, the Enemy were allowed two Days for burying their Dead, and carrying off their Wounded.

THE Fifteenth was celebrated, throughout the whole *Confederate* Army, as a Day of Thanksgiving to ALMIGHTY GOD, for the late wonderful Victory, and the Evening concluded with Salvo's of Artillery and Small Arms, and other Military Rejoicings. It is remarkable, that upon the first News of this Battle, and a fond Report, that the *French* were Victorious, Rejoicings were, likewise, made for it, at *Charleroy*, *Namur*, and other Places; but they were soon undeceived, and their Joys was but short-lived. On the Sixteenth, eighteen Battalions, which had suffered most, being ordered to go and recruit themselves, some of them began their March to the Places assigned them; and their Room was soon after supply'd by twenty-four Battalions, drawn out of the Garrisons, twenty of which were *Dutch*, and the other four *British*, namely, *Hill's*, *Strathnaver's*, *Grant's*, and *Wynne's*.

Both the *Allies* and the *Enemy* make Rejoicings for this Victory.

The following Medals were struck on this Occasion.

1. ON the *Face*, was the *Queen's Bust*, with her Majesty's Title, as usual; on the *Reverse*, was represented a Battle in a Wood, and *Victory* flying over it, with Crowns of Laurels in her Hands, and this Motto:

Medals struck on this Occasion.

*Concordia & Virtute.*

In *English*;

By Concord, and Fortitude.

In the *Exergue*;

*Gallis ad Taisniere devictis*, August 31. M.DCC.IX.

The *French* vanquish'd at *Taisnières*, August 31, 1709.

THE *Dutch* struck another Medal, on this Occasion, in Honour to the two Commanders in Chief.

ON the *Face*, was represented the *Busts* of Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlbrough*, facing each other, with their Titles over them. The *Reverse* had a *Landskip*, with a Tree almost stript of its Leaves and Branches; the City of *Mons* at a Distance; and behind it, the *Sun* setting red, as it generally does after a *Storm*; with this Inscription:

*Cruentus Occidit.*

It sets in Blood.

And in the *Exergue*;

*Galli ad Montes Hannoviæ Victi.* AN. DO. M.DCC.IX. D. XI. Sept.

The *French* defeated, at *Mons* in *Huinault*, Sept. 11. 1709.

WE shall now insert several Letters, and other Pieces, relating to this glorious, and memorable Battle, which will set the whole in a better, and truer Light, than any Relation whatsoever; the first is from the Duke of *Marlbrough*, to Mr. Secretary *Boyle*.

Letter from  
the Duke of  
*Marlborough*  
to Mr. Se-  
cretary *Boyle*

SIR,

*From the Camp at Blaregnies, September 11, 1709.*

“ AS SOON as I had dispatch'd my Letter to you, on *Saturday*, from  
“ *Havre*, we were alarmed with the News of the Enemies marching to at-  
“ tack the Prince of *Hesse*; upon which, the whole Army were immediately  
“ put in Motion, but it was next Day, at Noon, before all the Troops  
“ could come up. In the Morning, they sent out a Detachment of four  
“ Hundred Horse, to observe our March, whom the Head of the Prince of  
“ *Hesse*'s Troops attack'd, and took the Colonel who commanded them,  
“ with the Lieutenant-Colonel, divers other Officers, and about fifty Men,  
“ Prisoners. Upon Notice of our Army's lying on this Side the *Hayne*, the  
“ Enemy stretch'd out their Line, from *Quievrain*, to the *Right*; which  
“ they continued also to do the next Day, and Yesterday they possessed  
“ themselves of the Wood of *Dour*, and *Blaugies*, where they immediately  
“ began to intrench. This Motion of the Enemy's kept our Army two  
“ Nights under their Arms; and in the Evening, as soon as the twenty-one  
“ Battalions, and four Squadrons, we were expecting from *Tournay*, were  
“ come within Reach, it was resolv'd to attack them, and the necessary  
“ Dispositions being made, we accordingly began, at Eight, this Morning.  
“ The Fight was maintained with great Obstinacy till near Twelve a-Clock,  
“ before we could force their Intrenchments, and drive them out of the  
“ Wood, into the Plain, where their Horse were all drawn up; and ours  
“ advancing upon them, the whole Army engaged, and fought with great  
“ Fury, till past Three in the Afternoon; when the Enemy's Cavalry began  
“ to give way, and to retire towards *Maubeuge*, and *Valenciennes*, and part  
“ of them towards *Conde*. We pursued them to the Defile by *Bavay*, with  
“ great Slaughter, all our Troops behaving themselves, with the greatest  
“ Courage. We are now encamped on the Field of Battle. You may  
“ believe the Loss must have been very great on both Sides. We have a  
“ good Number of Officers Prisoners; but as I send this Express by Lieu-  
“ tenant-Colonel *Graham*, who carries a Letter to the *Queen*, I must refer  
“ you to my next for farther Particulars. In the mean While, I heartily  
“ congratulate you upon this great Success, and am truly,

SIR,

*Your most faithful,*

*Humble Servant,*

MARLBOROUGH.

P. S. “ I had almost forgot to tell you, that we took *St. Ghislain*  
“ Yesterday, Sword in Hand, and made the Garrison, consisting of two  
“ Hundred Men, Prisoners of War.”

THE next Day, his Grace wrote a congratulatory Letter on the same Oc-  
casion, to the *States-General*, who returned the following Answer.

SIR,

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

“ WE have received your Highness's Letter, dated the twelfth Instant;  
“ and we return you Thanks for your obliging Congratulation, on the com-  
“ plete Victory, obtained by the Arms of the *Allies*, the Day before, after  
“ the hottest, and most obstinate Fight, that ever was heard of. Our De-  
“ puties have acquainted us with the Particulars of the whole Action, and  
“ have not forgotten to let Us know, how much your Highness has con-  
“ tributed to the gaining of this Victory, and what is due to your Valour.  
“ If Glory attends the Greatness of Difficulties and Dangers surmounted,  
“ that which you have acquired, on this great Occasion, must exceed all  
“ others; and this Day alone is sufficient to render your Name immortal, if it  
“ had not been already so, by your former Victories. We congratulate you  
“ thereupon, with all our Hearts, and praise the *Lord of Hosts*, for this  
“ glorious Success. We hope that the Enemy, being at last sensible, that  
“ neither all their Forces assembled together, nor their Intrenchments, nor  
“ any

“ any Advantages of Ground, are capable of withstanding the Conduct, and  
 “ incomparable Valour of the Generals, and the Intrepidity and unparallel'd  
 “ Bravery, of the Troops of the *Allies*, will think of giving Satisfaction  
 “ to all, in order to establish a General Peace. We pray G<sup>d</sup> bless more  
 “ and more all your Enterprizes, and are with the greatest Esteem, and  
 “ Sincerity.”

SIR,

Hague, Sept.  
 16, 1709.

*Your Highness's*  
*most Affectionate, to do you Service,*  
*The States-General of the United Provinces,*  
*of the Netherlands.*

Sign'd, G. HOEUFF.  
 And, by their Order,  
 F. FAGEL.

THE Particulars mentioned in the foregoing Letter, which the Field-Deputies of the *States* remitted to their *High Mightinesses*, were as follows:

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

“ WE do ourselves the Honour heartily to congratulate your *High*  
 “ *Mightinesses*, on a very Glorious, but Bloody Battle, which began this  
 “ Morning, at half an Hour past Eight, and ended at Two in the After-  
 “ noon, when we had driven the Enemy from their Intrenchments. The  
 “ Bearer will give your *High Mightinesses* a verbal and more circumstantial  
 “ Relation.

“ WE shall do ourselves the Honour, by the next Post, to send your  
 “ *High Mightinesses* the farther Particulars,

We, &amp;c.

From the Field of Battle,  
 Dated Sept. 11, 1709.

J. V. Randwyck.  
 W. Hoof.  
 S. V. Goslinga.

MAJOR General *Grovestein*, the Bearer of this Letter, left the Army, the Eleventh, at Ten a-Clock at Night, and on his Arrival at the *Hague*, gave their *High Mightinesses* the following Account by Word of Mouth.

Major-Ge-  
 neral *Grove-*  
*stein's* Ac-  
 count of the  
 Battle of  
*Malplacque's*  
 as he gave it  
 to the *States*  
 by Word of  
 Mouth.

“ THE Enemy's Army advancing the Ninth of September, to *Longueville*,  
 “ and our Army, upon Advice thereof, marching from *Baugnies*, towards  
 “ *Bleron*, it was judged convenient to defer attacking the Enemy, till the  
 “ Arrival of the twenty-six Battalions from *Tournay*, who join'd us, in the  
 “ Night, between the Tenth and Eleventh, and then it was resolv'd to at-  
 “ tack the Enemy, the next Morning.

“ In the mean Time, the Enemy had posted their *Left Wing* towards  
 “ *Blaugies*, having before them the Woods of *Blaugies* and *Sart*; their  
 “ *Centre* was before *Erquennes* and *Tainieres*, and their *Right Wing* had, in  
 “ Flank, the Wood of *Janfart*. The open Ground, between the two  
 “ Woods, was about three Thousand Paces broad: An Intrenchment was  
 “ thrown up across it; and before that Intrenchment was a Village covered  
 “ strongly by Hedges and Ditches: And the Woods, on both Wings were  
 “ felled and intrenched, and Cannons were posted in the Avenues.

“ THE Enemy having made this Disposition, our whole Army, which  
 “ faced them, at a small Distance, moved towards them the Eleventh, in  
 “ the Morning early. The Signal was given, by firing fifty Cannon, for  
 “ attacking the Enemy at once, on all Sides: That is to say, General *Schuy-*  
 “ *lenburgh*, with the Troops from *Tournay*, was drawn up to the *Right* of  
 “ the Wood of *Sart*; the Infantry of the Prince of *Savoy's* Army, along the  
 “ great Road, which passes through that Wood; and General *Lottum*, with  
 “ part of the Foot of the *Right Wing*, to the *Left* of the same Wood: The  
 “ Rest of the Infantry of that Wing, consisting chiefly of *Handverians*, had,  
 “ in Front, the Lines, in the Opening between the Village, and the said  
 “ Wood. The Infantry of the *States*, commanded by the Prince of *Nassau*,  
 “ some



“ some Battalions excepted, who attack'd the Wood of *Janfart*, had, in Front, the Lines between the Village and that Wood. The Horse of the whole were posted behind the Foot, to support and second them, where the Ground would permit.

“ AT the Signal, all moved together, and began the Attacks with incredible Bravery; and with such Success, at the Wood of *Sart*, that, after an Hour's Resistance, the Enemy, at all the three Attacks, were driven out of the Wood, and out of their Intrenchments. On the *Left*, between the Village and the Wood of *Janfart*, the Fight lasted longer; and our Men there, having three Intrenchments before them, forced the two first, but were repulsed at the Attack of the third, by the great Fire of the Enemy. However, they rally'd again; and the *Right Wing* having, in the mean While, made themselves Masters of the Wood of *Sart*, and coming to flank the Intrenchments between the two Woods, the Enemy quitted those Intrenchments. This gave the Horse Opportunity to break into the said Intrenchments; and though the first Squadrons, which enter'd, were repulsed, yet all the Cavalry broke through at last, and advancing into the Plain, there charged the Enemy's Horse; whereupon, the whole Army fell into Disorder: In the mean Time, our *Left Wing* had made themselves Masters of the Intrenchments in the Wood of *Janfart*, which was facilitated by some of our Squadrons falling upon the Enemy's Flank there.

“ THE Enemy's Troops being thus brought into Disorder, their Infantry were entirely put to the Rout on all Sides; leaving behind them their Cannon, and what else they had there, and made off to the Plain of *Bavay*. During the whole Action, the Prince of *Savoy*, who was slightly wounded in the Head, in the Beginning of the Fight, with the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Count *Tilly*, were continually at the Head of their Troops, and in the hottest of the Fire, leading the Men on, as fast as they came off. The Field-Deputies, also, animated the Troops all the While, by their Presence, and Monsieur *Goslinga* had a Horse shot under him. All the Generals, Officers, and Soldiers, shewed as great Resolution, Daring, and Firmness, in this bloody Battle, as ever was seen, or can be expected from valiant Men. The Fight was very obstinate, from half an Hour past Eight in the Morning, till half an Hour past Two in the Afternoon; and the Enemy were posted to such vast Advantage, that when the Battle was over, it struck us with Amazement, to think how we could surmount such Difficulties. Great Numbers fell on both Sides; but it is impossible as yet, to have any exact Account of the Kill'd and Wounded, &c. In the mean While, it is certain, all the Enemy's Infantry are ruined. How many Prisoners, Cannon, Colours, Standards, Kettle-Drums, &c. are taken, was not known when I came away; but the Number must necessarily be great, and the Particulars will be sent by the succeeding Posts: Thus much, however, is certain, that this Victory is as glorious, as any that has been obtained this War, and sufficient Thanks can never be returned the ALMIGHTY for the same.”

• WE shall now give our Readers a second Letter from the Field-Deputies to the *States-General*, which contains yet other Particulars, that ought not to be pass'd over in Silence.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

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

“ WE have as yet had only the Honour to congratulate your *High Mightinesses*, on the most Glorious Victory obtained over the Enemy, by the Troops of the *States*, and those of the *High Allies*, without being able to give any Particulars of that important Action. The Enemy were forced to retire, with as much Precipitation, as Consternation, behind *Quefnoy*; where, according to our Advices, they are now actually assembling their Army. Our Cavalry pursu'd them as far as *Bavay*, where, and

“ and in the Places adjacent, they made all their wounded Men Prisoners  
 “ of War; besides those who were found in the Field of Battle; of whom  
 “ Lifts shall be made, which we will do ourselves the Honour to transmit  
 “ to your *High Mightinesses*. The greatest Part of the Troops of the *French*  
 “ King’s Household were destroy’d; and we have taken a good Number of  
 “ Colours and Standards; amongst others, the first Standard, called *la Cor-*  
 “ *nette Blanche*, with fifteen Pieces of Cannon, or more. The Marshal *de*  
 “ *Villars* is dangerously wounded in the Knee, or Thigh, by a Musket-  
 “ Shot. The Number of the Enemy that are slain, wounded, or taken Pri-  
 “ soners, cannot be yet known; neither can we yet give an Account of the  
 “ Loss of the Troops of the *State*; your *High Mightinesses* must needs be  
 “ sensible, that the Enemy could not be forced from three Intrenchments,  
 “ one within another, and well provided with Cannon, without considerable  
 “ Loss: However, the Glory and Honour the Troops of your *High Migh-*  
 “ *tinesses* have gained in this Battle, with an incomparable Valour, which  
 “ the Prince of *Savoy*, and the Duke of *Marlborough* own, they cannot  
 “ sufficiently praise, will render the Name of your *High Mightinesses* Forces  
 “ immortal. It has not been possible hitherto, to make out any List of the  
 “ Officers, and Soldiers, killed or wounded, because several of the latter  
 “ die every Day. In the mean While, we beseech your *High Mightinesses*  
 “ to give us Leave to represent to you, with the greatest Respect, how ne-  
 “ cessary it will be, for retrieving the Loss we have sustained, that your  
 “ *High Mightinesses* should earnestly recommend to the *States* of the respec-  
 “ tive Provinces, to have all possible Regard, in the filling up the Vacan-  
 “ cies of the Head Officers, and Subalterns, that have been killed, to the  
 “ provisional Nomination, to be made by the Generals, and the respective  
 “ Colonels. We are persuaded, that we need not represent to your *High*  
 “ *Mightinesses* the Consequences thereof, it being, in our Opinion, the only  
 “ Means for preserving Glory and Emulation amongst such valiant Troops:  
 “ We subjoin here the Disposition we have made, in Concert with the Ge-  
 “ nerals, on its receiving the Approbation of your *High Mightinesses*, for ex-  
 “ changing the greatest Part of the Regiments that were in the Battle, for  
 “ those that are, at present, in their respective Garrisons. To-morrow be-  
 “ ing appointed for a Thanksgiving-Day, on which the usual Salvo’s are  
 “ to be made, we flatter ourselves, that your *High Mightinesses* will not  
 “ take it ill, should we cause the said Solemnity to be observed in *Tournay*,  
 “ that Day Seven-night. We remain, &c.”

From the Camp before Mons,  
 September 14, 1709.

Signed,  
*J. V. Randwyck.*  
*W. Hooft.*  
*S. V. Gostlinga.*  
*P. J. Vegelin Van Klaerbergen.*

GENERAL Count *Tilly*, likewise, wrote two Letters, one of the Eleventh, to their *High Mightinesses*, and the other, of the Sixteenth, to Mr. Secretary *Fagel*, which gave a particular Account of this Glorious Action; but to avoid Repetition, we shall mention only two or three Circumstances, which are omitted in the former Letters.

HE says, 1. “ That not long before the Battle, the Marshal *de Villars* received his last Reinforcements, viz. the Body under Monsieur *d’Artagnan*, which had encamped between *Bethune* and *la Bassée*, joined by all the Infantry that could be drawn out of the Garrisons of *Ypres*, *Aire*, and other Places on that Side; so that he was greatly superior to the *Allies*, both in Battalions and Squadrons: Extracts of two Letters, from Count *Tilly* to the States-General, and Secretary *Fagel*

2. “ THAT the Fire was, indeed, very violent every where; but more especially at the Attack of the Infantry of the *States*, who suffered considerably, by Reason of the treble Intrenchments which were on that Side; so that it was impossible to carry them, notwithstanding the good Conduct and Bravery of the Prince of *Nassau*, and the Resolution of

“ the Officers and Soldiers, who may all be said to have distinguished themselves; the last Battalions, who supported, advancing with the same Courage, as those who had suffered first. The Infantry of the *Right Wing*, continues he, made, also, all imaginable Efforts, and soon possess’d themselves of some Posts; but were stopp’d by other Intrenchments, where the Fire continued very hot, till about Two in the Afternoon, when the Fire of our Infantry began to be superior, &c.

3. “ THE Enemy, says he farther, in his Letter of the Sixteenth, continued their Retreat; one of their Brigades of Foot retired towards *Conde*; and three others arrived, the next Day, before *Valenciennes*, at the Time when the Gates are usually opened. The Day before, the Prince of *Liege* caused *Te Deum* to be sung in *Valenciennes*, believing the Enemy had gained the Victory, but was soon undeceived. Great Part of the Infantry of their *Right Wing* retired towards *Maubeuge*; but the Gros of their Horse and Foot, who were in the main Body of the Army, having pass’d the Defiles of *Amfroidpre*, halted between *Warnies* and *Comines*, and the same Night pass’d the Rivulet of *Renelle*, encamping their *Right* at *Quesnoy*, and extending their *Left* towards *Valenciennes*, along *Quirimin*, and *Simeon*; and they still remain in the same Posts. The Marshal *de Villars* finding himself very ill of the Wound he received in his Knee, the Marshal *de Boufflers*, who was with their Army in the Battle, has taken upon him the Command thereof.

WE should now proceed to give our Readers a Letter or two, written on the other Side of the Question; but shall beg Leave first to mention an Incident relating to this Battle, which will not only give Light to one Circumstance thereof, but afford us an Opportunity of doing Justice to a Gentleman of great Worth, viz. Lieutenant-General *Rantzau*, afterwards Count *Rantzau*.

Aspersions  
cast on the  
Conduct of  
Lieutenant-  
General  
*Rantzau*.

A Report was spread in the Army, and accordingly spread from thence to the *Hague*, “ That this General Officer had refused to march with the Battalions of *Hanover*, to the Assistance of the Troops of the *States*, though his Highness the Prince of *Nassau-Friezland* had sent him his Order so to do; and that this Refusal was the only Cause of the great Loss sustained by the *Dutch* Infantry.” This coming to the Lieutenant-General’s Ears, he wrote the following Letter to the Baron *de Bulau*, General in Chief of the *Elect*or of *Hanover*’s Forces in *Flanders*, to clear himself from that base and dishonourable Aspersion.

From which  
he clears  
himself.

“ I CANNOT, says he, after having premised the Report, forbear to expose to all the World the Falsity of that Calumny; and, in order thereunto, shall give an exact Account of every Thing that happened at my Post, from the Beginning of the Battle to the End thereof, and of my Conduct therein, with the four Battalions of *Hanover*. His Highness, the Prince of *Nassau-Friezland*, may remember, that in the Morning, a little before the Battle begun, when I had the Honour to meet him, he asked me, what were my Orders? And that I answer’d, I had received none, but expected that he should order me, whether I should regulate myself according to my *Right*, or my *Left*. Thereupon, his Highness told me, that, in all Appearance, it was to the *Right*, and that I should do well to regulate myself accordingly. That very Instant, the Major of the Brigade brought me the Disposition of the Attack on the *Right*. Not long after, observing that the Troops of the *States* attack’d, a second Time, the Enemy’s Intrenchments, and that they met with very great Difficulties, I sent the Battalions of *Gauvain*, and *Tecklenburgh*, to their Assistance, without being required so to do, by any Body, with which the Forces of the *States* penetrated into the Intrenchments, and forced them to quit it. There it was that those two Battalions had all their Officers either kill’d or wounded, excepting one Ensign in *Gauvain*’s Battalion, and Captain *Limburg*, with a Captain-Lieutenant, in that of *Tecklenburgh*.

“ NOT-



“ NOTWITHSTANDING those Troops had forced the Intrenchments, the  
 “ Enemy continued to make a great Fire from their Line, which was before  
 “ me; upon which, I caused the other two Battalions, that were with me,  
 “ to make a Motion on the *Right*, to endeavour, if possible, to dislodge  
 “ the Enemy from that Post. At that Instant, Monsieur *Goslinga* came full  
 “ Gallop to me, and asked whether I would not advance? Whereupon, I  
 “ answered, that he might see I was advancing, and desired him to order  
 “ the *Prussians*, on my *Right*, to make the same Motion, and march for-  
 “ wards, as I was doing, because I was not able to maintain my Ground,  
 “ with only two Battalions. Monsieur *Goslinga* stopt a Moment, and went  
 “ away with Precipitation, because the Enemy had forced our *Left* to aban-  
 “ don the Intrenchments. I maintained, however, the Post I had gained in  
 “ advancing, notwithstanding the great Fire the Enemy made upon me,  
 “ from a Hollow Way, by which the Regiment of *du Breuil* had above  
 “ forty Men kill’d in the first Discharge. In the mean Time, Prince *Eugene*  
 “ sent me Orders twice, by his *Aid de Camp*, to return to my former Post,  
 “ which I did accordingly. Soon after, that Prince, and the Duke of *Marl-*  
 “ *borough*, pass’d by my Post, towards the *Left*; and Monsieur *de Vinck*, a  
 “ a Lieutenant-General, brought me Orders from them, not to quit the  
 “ Post where we were, till my Lord Duke himself should order us to  
 “ march. We continued there, accordingly, till all the Horse and Foot of  
 “ the *Right* advanced; and then we did the same, pushing on the Enemy,  
 “ and drove them from the Hollow Way, where they still made a Stand,  
 “ till at last the Battle ended.

“ THE Loss of the four Battalions, I had with me, will appear, by ex-  
 “ amining the Lists; which will shew, that they have suffered very near  
 “ as much as the other Battalions, which were commanded for the Attack.  
 “ And since they have written from the *Hague*, that the Prince of *Friez-*  
 “ *land* sent to me, to desire some Supplies, to support the Troops of the  
 “ *States*, I declare it is a notorious Falshy. That Prince may have given  
 “ such Orders to somebody, but I will maintain it, that no one ever men-  
 “ tioned a Word of it to me. Wherefore, I only desire they would tell  
 “ me the Name of the Person, who was appointed to bring me that Order,  
 “ and see whether he will dare to say he delivered it to me. The Want of  
 “ this Circumstance will shew the Injustice and Wrong they have done me,  
 “ in publishing such Calumnies at the *Hague*. By this Means, I shall dis-  
 “ cover the Author of those Impostures, and look upon him as the vilest,  
 “ and most dishonest of all Men, for having endeavoured, by a false Re-  
 “ port, to blacken both my Reputation, and that of those Battalions.

“ I HAVE Reason to flatter myself with the Hopes, that your Excellency,  
 “ who commands in Chief the Troops of his *Electoral* Highness, will not  
 “ suffer them to be unjustly ran down; but that, on the Contrary, you will  
 “ give a full Account of this Affair to my Lord Duke, and desire him to  
 “ order it to be examined into; that all the Generals may judge, whether  
 “ the least Fault can be laid, either upon those Troops, or myself, on this  
 “ Occasion.”

*I am, &c.*

THIS Letter, which Monsieur *de Rothmar*, his *Electoral* Highness’s Envoy Extraordinary at the *Hague*, communicated to the Ministers of the Congress, together with the Declaration, which the Prince of *Nassau-Friesland*, and other Generals, made thereupon, convinced the World of the Malice of those, who were the Raisers of that false Report.

WE shall now give our Readers some Letters, written by the *French* Officers, on Occasion of this memorable Battle; and shall begin with two from the Marshal *de Boufflers* to his Most Christian Majesty; one written on the Day of the Battle, and the other two Days after that. The prodigious Vanity, and Flattery, which runs through the whole, will make these Pieces pretty singular to an *English* Reader, though it is nothing but what is very natural to a *Frenchman*; however, notwithstanding the Truth is so prodigiously

giouſly diſguiſed in theſe Letters, any one may plainly ſee the Advantage the *Confederate* Army had over that of the Enemy; and the greater the Reſiſtance on that Side was, which the Maſhal extols above the Skies, the greater was the Glory of the *Allies*, in ſurmounting ſuch vaſt Difficulties, and obtaining a compleat Victory, in ſpite of ſo much Conduct and Bravery: As to what he pretends, of the great Superiority which the *Confederate* Troops had in Number, it is notoriously falſe.

## I.

SIR,

*From the Camp at Queſnoy, Septemb. 11, 1709.*

A Letter  
from the  
Maſhal de  
Boufflers to  
the French  
King.

“ THE Maſhal de Villars has received To-day a conſiderable Wound,  
“ but the Chirurgeons ſay there is no Danger. It is a great Affliction to  
“ me, Sir, that I am unfortunately obliged to ſend you the News of the  
“ Loſs of another Battle; but I can aſſure your Maſteſty, never was Miſfor-  
“ tune attended with more Glory. All your Maſteſty's Troops have acquired  
“ the greateſt Reputation, both for their Bravery, Reſolution, and Obſti-  
“ nacy; not yielding at laſt, but to the Enemy's Superiority, (*in Courage,*  
“ *not in Number*) and having all done perfect Wonders. All the Maſhal  
“ de Villars's Diſpoſitions were entirely good, and the beſt that could be  
“ made by the moſt accompliſh'd and experienc'd General. He behaved  
“ himſelf, in the Action, with all imaginable Bravery and Vigour; and  
“ beſides his good Example, gave all poſſible good Orders; but his Cou-  
“ rage, and Neglect of himſelf, occaſioned his Wound, which proved very  
“ prejudicial to the Affair of this *unfortunate* Day.

“ HE did me the Honour to intruſt me with the *Right*, and himſelf took  
“ Care of the *Left*. We repulſed the Enemy above three or four Times,  
“ at both Attacks, with incredible Bravery, on the Part of the Troops; but  
“ the *Centre* being ſomewhat expoſed, we were forced to carry Men to  
“ the *Left*, where they were very much wanted; and the Enemy march'd  
“ ſo many Horſe and Foot againſt the *Centre*, where there were none but  
“ Horſe to oppoſe them, that we were obliged to yield to their infinitely  
“ ſuperior Number, and their *prodigious Efforts*; not till after having charged  
“ them, however, at leaſt, ſix Times, with the braveſt Horſe, and with  
“ the greateſt Vigour, puſh'd, and broke two or three of the Enemy's  
“ Lines; who had been entirely beaten, had it not been for the Infantry;  
“ by the Help whereof they rallied, and ſo returned upon our new-raiſed  
“ Cavalry. I can aſſure your Maſteſty, that the Enemy's Loſs is three  
“ Times greater than ours; and that they can reap no other Advantage by  
“ this *unfortunate Action*, than *gaining the Field of Battle*. And, I think,  
“ I may alſo aſſure your Maſteſty, that this ill Succeſs will not coſt you an  
“ Inch of Ground; but that, on the Contrary, whenever your Maſteſty ſhall  
“ think fit to make Peace, the Enemy will have ſome Reſpect for your  
“ Troops, and perhaps be more tractable, as elate as they are with Advan-  
“ tages, owing to their good Fortune, which may hereafter change Sides.  
“ I cannot now give your Maſteſty any Particulars of the Action, but will  
“ endeavour to ſend them To-morrow, or next Day. I can only aſſure  
“ your Maſteſty, that all the General Officers did their Duty perfectly well,  
“ and with the greateſt Bravery and Ability; but Monſieur d'Artagnan,  
“ who commanded the *Right* of the Foot, diſtinguiſh'd himſelf in a parti-  
“ cular Manner, both by his Valour, and his good Orders. He had three  
“ Horſes killed under him, and received four Cuts upon his Cuirasſ. The  
“ Duke de Guiche, who was alſo on the *Right*, a little forwarder than Mon-  
“ ſieur d'Artagnan, behaved himſelf, likewise, with all poſſible Bravery  
“ and Experience, and received a Muſket-shot in his Leg. The Marquis  
“ d'Hauteſort, and Monſieur de la Frazillicre, who were alſo on the *Right*,  
“ and in Monſieur d'Artagnan's Rear, exerted the ſame Valour and Capacity.  
“ Monſieur de Gaſſion, who commanded the *Right* Wing of the Horſe, did  
“ Wonders at the Head of your Maſteſty's Houſhold; and ſhew'd, on this  
“ Occaſion, both his Courage and Ability; having puſh'd and defeated, more  
“ than

“ than once, two or three of the Enemy's Lines, Sword in Hand. The  
 “ *Gens d'Armes*, Light-Horse, Musketeers, and Horse-Grenadiers, did also  
 “ Wonders. The Prince *de Rohan*, and Monsieur *de Vidame*, did all that  
 “ could be expected from Persons of the greatest Valour. The Marquis *de*  
 “ *la Valiere* was every where, and charged with all possible Bravery, at all  
 “ the different Onsets. The Cavalry behaved themselves very well, and  
 “ all the Troops, as well as the Infantry, stood with an incredible Bravery,  
 “ one of the briskest Cannonades that ever was: All the Foot did Wonders,  
 “ and signalized themselves highly.

“ THE Chevalier *de St. George* behaved himself, during the whole Ac-  
 “ tion, with all possible Bravery, and Fire. I say nothing of your Majesty's  
 “ *Left*, because I was not there; but I am certain, that all the General  
 “ Officers, and all the Troops, animated by the Marshal *de Villars*'s Presence,  
 “ and Example, behaved themselves with all possible Courage.

“ I HOPE the whole Army will be re-assembled To-morrow, behind the  
 “ Rivulet of *Renelle*, between *Quejuoy* and *Valenciennes*; and I believe I may  
 “ tell your Majesty, that it will be very considerable, and in a Condition  
 “ to dispute the Ground with the Enemy. Never was a Retreat, after  
 “ so long, bloody, and obstinate a Fight, made with more Order, and  
 “ Boldness.

“ I DO not believe the Enemy took twenty Men from us; so that all the  
 “ Prisoners they have, were made so in the Action: Neither do I believe  
 “ we have lost any Standards, or Colours, or at least but very few; and I  
 “ am told, we have some of the Enemy's. They followed us in *Buttalia*,  
 “ and in very good Order, as far as the Defile of *Givri*; but with Respect,  
 “ not daring to attack us. (*Very probable indeed!*) The Disorder I am in,  
 “ thro' Fatigue, Weariness, and Pain, and the Orders I must give out for  
 “ the Army, and the Country, not permitting me to write to your Majesty  
 “ a longer Account of this *unfortunate*, but Glorious Action, I will endea-  
 “ vour to make up the Defect To-morrow.

“ I HAVE forgotten, perhaps, to specify to your Majesty some other  
 “ Men, and Troops, who have distinguished themselves as much as those  
 “ already mentioned; but shall endeavour to make it up To-morrow, or  
 “ next Day; for they deserve your Majesty's Esteem, as much as the  
 “ others.

“ MONSIEUR *de St. Helaire* play'd the Artillery perfectly well, and be-  
 “ haved himself with all possible Courage and Vigour, during the whole  
 “ Action, which began at Seven in the Morning, and did not end till Two  
 “ in the Afternoon. Some Prisoners said, that Prince *Eugene* received a  
 “ considerable Wound, but this is not certain. I send herewith the Names  
 “ of the principal General Officers, who, as I am told, are killed or  
 “ wounded; but I believe there are several others, of whom we are not  
 “ yet informed.

“ I HEARTILY wish your Majesty may be satisfy'd with my Zeal, and  
 “ good Intentions; I did all that possibly I could, to produce *more Happy*  
 “ *Effects*.

I am,

SIR, &c.

The Marshal *de Boufflers*.

P. S. OFFICERS KILLED. Messieurs *de Chemerault*, *Palavicini*, *de Beuil*,  
 “ *de Croy*, and *Staremborg*.

“ WOUNDED. The Marshal *de Villars*, shot in the Knee; the Duke *de*  
 “ *Guiche*, in the Leg; Monsieur *Albergotti*, in the Thigh; Monsieur *de*  
 “ *Courcillon*'s Thigh cut off. Messieurs *d'Angenes*, *de St. Aignan*, *de Zele*,  
 “ and *de Gondrin*.”

THIS List of Officers kill'd and wounded, is but a very small Part of that  
 which was printed at the *Hague*, by *Paul Scheltys*, Printer in Ordinary to



the *States*, which contains several Hundreds, with their Names and Posts, too tedious to be inserted here.

TWO Days after, the Marshal *de Boufflers* wrote this second Letter to his Most Christian Majesty.

## II.

SIR,

A second  
Letter from  
the Marshal  
*de Boufflers*  
to the French  
King.

“YOUR Majesty may have seen, by my Letter of the Eleventh Instant, the *unfortunate Issue* of the *Action*, which happen’d that Day; and with how much *Glory* for your Majesty’s *Troops*, and *Arms*, that *Misfortune* was attended. I may, in Truth, assure you, Sir, that the *Glory* of that Day is beyond whatever I have said, or can say to your Majesty; but you will learn it, even from the Accounts of the Enemy themselves, who can never sufficiently extol, and cry up, the Intrepidity, Valour, Courage, and Obstinacy of your Majesty’s *Troops*, whereof they have severely felt the Effects. Instead of owning they have been well beaten, they only acknowledge they have bought the Field of Battle too dear, which the infinitely superiour Number of their *Troops* forced us to yield to them. In short, the *continued Series of Misfortunes*, which has for some Years attended your Majesty’s *Arms*, had so much humbled the *French Nation*, that a Man was, in a manner, ashamed to own himself a Frenchman: But I dare assure your Majesty, that the *French Name* was never more in Esteem, nor perhaps more dreaded, (this perhaps is *seasonable enough*) than it is at present, through all the *Confederate Army*. Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough* own, that, on both Sides, there are above twenty-five or twenty-six Thousand Men kill’d; at least, eighteen or twenty Thousand were of theirs; as is unanimously confirmed to me, not only by all those Officers who were made Prisoners, and afterwards sent back, with great Courtesy, but by several Expresses I have dispatch’d to their Army; and even by Mr. *Sheldon*, a Brigadier, who was taken Prisoner near *Bossu*, doing his Duty with Courage, at the Head of four Hundred Horse, and who was in their Army during the *Action*. Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, carried him with them all over the Field of Battle. He tells us, it was dreadful to see such a vast Number of dead Bodies, (which, he says, amounted to fifteen or sixteen Thousand) though many of them had already been buried. They speak with Admiration of the Beauty of our Retreat, of its good Disposition, and the Boldness with which it was made. They say, that in this *Action* they discovered the Traces of the antient *French*, and find they only want to be well led on. (*An excellent Compliment upon himself, who was their Leader on that Occasion!*) The Enemy had a Hundred and sixty-two Battalions, and three Hundred Squadrons, with a Hundred and twenty Pieces of Cannon; so that they were superiour to us by forty Cannon, and forty-two Battalions. The Duke of *Marlborough*, and the other General Officers, told Mr. *Sheldon*, they hoped this *Action* would soon produce a Peace; and he says, he has heard several *English* Officers, talking in their own Language, highly commend the Courage that appeared on our Side, on this Occasion; insomuch, that they said, since the *French* have recovered their Bravery, we will now be Friends again. Mr. *Sheldon*, who will forthwith repair to *Versailles*, may have the Honour to acquaint your Majesty with divers other Particulars, both of what he has seen, and of what he has been told by the Duke of *Marlborough*, who is his great Friend.

“THE said Duke offered Mr. *Sheldon* whatever Money he should desire, to assist our wounded Prisoners; but he would accept only of fifty Pistoles, which he distributed as Occasion required. Prince *Eugene* declares, that of all the *Actions* he has seen, never any one was so sharp, so bloody, nor so obstinate as this. Above all Things, they bestow infinite Praises on the Charges made by your Majesty’s *Household Troops*; which, indeed, are beyond human Nature, and above all Expression.

“ THE Enemy’s Army marched Yesterday, in the Afternoon, towards  
 “ *Mons*, which they are going to besiege. They reckon this Enterprize  
 “ will employ them till the latter End of this Month; and that they shall  
 “ not undertake any Thing more, after this Conquest; both by Reason of  
 “ the advanced Season, and because all their Infantry were defeated, and  
 “ cut off in this Battle. (*How came they then to conquer?*)

“ I COULD not get the Account of the Number of the Kill’d and Wounded on  
 “ our Side; I only know that it is *very considerable*; which it is very diffi-  
 “ cult to avoid, in such terrible, long, and obstinate Actions. It cost us a  
 “ great deal; and we cannot help lamenting, with Concern, the Loss of so  
 “ many Men of Merit; but it must be reckoned as a great Victory, that  
 “ we have retrieved, and re-established the Honour of the whole Nation.

“ YOUR Majesty’s whole Army is re-assembled between *Quesnoy* and *Va-  
 “ lenciennes*, intrenched in very good Order, on a Line, and *very well disposed*  
 “ to begin another Action, if your Majesty’s Service should require it. (*Why*  
 “ then did they not relieve *Mons*?) And instead of being disheartened, I  
 “ can assure your Majesty, that they look more *daring* than before. The  
 “ Front of the Camp stretches near three Leagues, and is certainly very  
 “ capable of commanding Respect: As Men, who were thought dead, come  
 “ in daily, for which Reason I could not get an exact Account of the Kill’d,  
 “ Wounded, or Prisoners, nor consequently of the Employments that are  
 “ vacant, I cannot have the Honour of proposing any Thing to your Ma-  
 “ jesty, in Favour of any Body; nor even of giving you an Account of the  
 “ most distinguish’d Actions, till I am better acquainted with the Whole,  
 “ which will be as soon as possible.

“ THE Marshal *de Villars* has pitch’d on the Marquis *de Nangis*, to carry  
 “ to your Majesty the Enemy’s Colours and Standards, which have been  
 “ gathered up, (*not taken by Force*) and which already amount to a pretty  
 “ good Number. The said Marquis seemed something loth (*well he might*)  
 “ to accept this Commission, *by Reason of the Misfortune we had, to lose the*  
 “ *Field of Battle*; but this Battle, and our Retreat, have so much the *Air*  
 “ *of a Victory*, and the Enemy’s *prodigious Loss*, looks so like a Defeat, that  
 “ I have persuaded him to gratify Monsieur *de Villars*’s Desire. Nor is any  
 “ Body capable of giving your Majesty a better Account, than the said  
 “ Monsieur *de Nangis*. Though he fought only at the *Left Wing*, as he  
 “ had an entire Knowledge of the general Disposition before the Action,  
 “ his great Parts, and military Genius, make him form true Notions, both  
 “ of what he has seen, and of what has been related to him by credible  
 “ Persons.

“ I HAVE hereto subjoined an Account of the Quarters, which I am told  
 “ the Enemy are to take before *Mons*; as soon as I shall have certain In-  
 “ telligence of their new Posture, and Disposition, I may, perhaps, *advance*  
 “ *nearer them*, to streighten them in their Subsistence. I have likewise sub-  
 “ joined hereto a Letter, which Monsieur *de Grimaldi*, Governor of *Mons*,  
 “ writes to the Marshal *de Villars*, by which your Majesty will see he ac-  
 “ quaints him, that *the Enemy’s Left Wing, which was engaged with our*  
 “ *Right was entirely defeated.*” (And yet that very *Right Wing* run  
 “ away.)

“ IT is certain, that the Enemy suffered extremely in this *unfortunate*,  
 “ but *glorious* Action.”

It is hard to say, whether these Letters contain most Instances of *Vanity*, Some Re-  
 and *Flattery*, or of *Inconsistencies*; we have just hinted at some few; but marks on  
 they are too palpable to need any Illustration; we shall, therefore, only ask, these Letters.  
 If the French Officers and Soldiers performed such Wonders, as even surpass  
 human Nature, (as Marshal *de Boufflers* is pleased to say) what must the  
 Officers and Soldiers of the Confederate Army have performed, who subdued  
 these supernatural Gentlemen, and drove them from the Field of Battle, their  
 fortify’d Camp, and treble Intrenchments? Sure they must have been something  
 more than supernatural! And as for the pretended Superiority, in Number,  
 of

of the *Confederate* Troops, it is notoriously false in Fact; and supposing it to be Truth, and that they had been twice the Number, the Advantages of the Enemy's Camp, both with Regard to the Situation, and the Fortifications of it, rendered the Attempt infinitely hazardous, and the Glory of the Victory never to be equalled. In the Marshal's Account, therefore, of this Action, we must make some Allowance for the Vivacity of a *French* Genius, and the Necessity he lay under of blinding the old King his Master, and concealing his Loss. And, indeed, he trifles so egregiously with him, that it is difficult to account for his Want of Respect for his Sovereign; unless, we will suppose, he believed his *Most Christian* Majesty in the State of Dotage, and that the most palpable Falsties would go down with him, when covered with glavering Flattery.

THE Absurdity of these Letters was admirably exposed, the egregious Vanity therein finely ridiculed, and the Whole prettily epitomized, by the Author of the *Tatler*, as follows.

SIR,

Monsieur de  
Boufflers  
Letter epitomized by  
the *Tatler*.

"THIS is to let your Majesty understand, that, to your *immortal Honour*, and the *Destruction* of the *Confederates*, your Troops have lost another Battle. ARTAGNAN did *Wonders*, ROHAN perform'd *Miracles*, GUICHE did *Wonders*, GASSION perform'd *Miracles*; the whole Army distinguished themselves, and every Body did *Wonders*. And to conclude the *Wonders* of the Day, I can assure your Majesty, that though you have lost the *Field of Battle*, you have not lost an *Inch of Ground*. The Enemy marched behind us *with Respect*, and we ran away from them, as bold as *Lions*."

MONSIEUR de Villars wrote to the King his Master much in the same Strain, though in different Terms; and they agreed perfectly well, in saying a great many fine Things of one another; but through all these Encomiums mutually bestowed upon each other, it visibly appeared, that there was a Misunderstanding between them at the Bottom, and that they judged very differently of the Merit of the Action. Monsieur de Boufflers attributed great Part of it to himself, on account of his handsome Retreat; whereby, as he insinuated, he saved the *French* Army from an entire Defeat; which seems very probable. Monsieur de Villars did not lay so much Stress on this Circumstance, but gave broad Hints, that if he had not been wounded, and obliged to quit the Field, *Victory*, which, according to him, declared, for a long Time, in Favour of the *French*, would have continued on that Side: To confirm this, he adds, "Your Majesty's Troops are more intrepid, and more ready to go upon any Enterprize now, than they were before the Action. They desire no better, than to face the Enemy again; and as I hope to be very soon able to get on Horse-back, if your Majesty pleases to give me Orders, I shall endeavour to convince your Enemies, that the great Quantity of Blood they have shed, is but as so much Fire, which animates your Troops to a second Engagement." Notwithstanding this *Gasconade* of the Marshal's, which shews his excessive Vanity, and Self-sufficiency, we cannot help thinking, that the Duke of Berwick spoke much more reasonably of the Matter; when being sent, by the Court of France, to Flanders, (upon the Marshal de Villars's offering to relieve Mons, by another Battle, and Monsieur de Boufflers's opposing such a rash Attempt) to see which of the two Generals was in the Right; and having been upon the Spot where the Battle was fought, and being surprized at the extraordinary Intrenchments he found there, he declared, *That since the French had been beaten in that Post, it would be the highest Presumption, and Rashness, to venture an Engagement in the open Field.*

WE shall now add two more Letters upon the same Head, one of which is particularly remarkable; as it was written by an Officer of Distinction in the *French* Army, and yet makes a candid and ingenuous Confession of the superiour Courage and Conduct of the *Confederate* Generals, and their  
Troops;



Troops; a Thing very unusual in a *Frenchman*; the other comes from an Officer in the *Confederate* Army, and takes Notice of one Circumstance not mentioned by any other; which may enable us to account for the Report that was spread, that the *Allies* lost more Men than the Enemy: Insomuch, that both these Letters taken together, seem to give a better Description of this famous Battle, and to set Matters in a truer Light, than any other Relations, that ever were yet published.

*From the Camp between Quefnoy, and Valenciennes, Sept. 17. 1709.*

SIR,

" IT was the Eleventh Instant, between seven and eight a-Clock in the Morning, when the *Confederate* Army attack'd ours, with *so much Fury*, that, for a hundred Years past, there has not been a bloodier Action than was fought that Day; insomuch, that it will be memorable to all succeeding Ages.

A remarkable Letter from an Officer of Distinction in the French Army.

" THE *English* began the Attack by the Wood of Sart, which we had fill'd with Foot, and fortified perfectly well with Barricades of fell'd Trees; but they met not with such a Resistance as ought to have been made, since the Issue of the Day depended, in a great Measure, upon the Success of that Attack. However, few of those who sustained it escaped; for the Enemy were *so fierce*, and *Blood-thirsty*, that they cut in Pieces whatever came in their Way; and even dead Bodies, when they could find no more living, on which to vent their Fury.

" THE *Dutch* were not so fortunate, on our Right, because all our Infantry there did Wonders; and were not forced, till after they had defended their Intrenchments, for full five Hours, with a most violent Fire. It is certain, the Enemy suffered extremely on that Side, being repulsed, and broken several Times; and there it was, that heroick Actions were performed on both Sides.

" NEITHER the Advantage of the Ground, nor three Intrenchments, one within another, were able to dishearten our dreadful Enemies, whom we saw advancing; all exposed to our hottest Fire, not like Men, but Devils; nor were Discharges of twenty Pieces of Cannon, fired directly, at once, into their Battalions, able to break them, altho' they carried off whole Ranks.

" VALOUR shined on our Side, as much as possible; the Generals did not spare themselves, but gave a good Example to the Troops, by a most extraordinary Obstinacy, in not yielding the Victory; which we thought entirely ours, when a great Body of the Enemy's Cavalry, which was posted against the Centre of our Army, was broken and routed by the King's Household Troops: But the Enemy's Generals having put themselves at their Head, led them on again to the Charge, with *so much Fury*, that they soon after broke our Centre, at the very same Time that our Right began to yield to the Efforts of the Enemy's Left, and ours were driven from their Intrenchments in the Woods. Hereupon, Victory declared against us, and we were forced to yield to such terrible Efforts. Never were our Troops seen better animated to do their Duty, nor Dispositions better ordered, and contrived, than those made by the Marshals de Boufflers, and de Villars; but when GOD does not fight for Men, All is to no Purpose.

" THE King ought to be satisfied with his Troops on this Occasion. The Enemy, undoubtedly, lost best Part of their Infantry; and ours suffered extremely. We reckon, that we lost, at least, seven Thousand Dead, on the Field of Battle, and we have above ten Thousand wounded.

" WE cannot yet dive into the true Reason, why the Enemy were not more eager in pursuing us; but it is believed it must be the Loss of their Infantry. We certainly made one of the finest Retreats, that ever was known in the Memory of Man before a Victorious Army; but then it is certain, also, that the Enemy gave us all the Time requisite for it, and pursued us only for Form-sake.

" THIS was, however, contrary both to our Expectation, and Apprehension; since, as I have said before, when the Enemy broke us in the Centre,

“ between the two Woods, our Army was divided; the *Right* not being  
 “ able to join the *Left*, because the Enemy formed themselves imme-  
 “ diately as far as the Hedges of *Taisnières*; and it was with Reason we  
 “ feared, that the *Left* would be surrounded, because it was broken. It  
 “ was not above half an Hour past Two, when the Battle ended, and the  
 “ Enemy had still good Part of the Day left; but we made a pretty good  
 “ Use of our Time, since, before the Sun was down, we had pass’d *Bavay*,  
 “ and were consequently out of Danger.

“ WE then perceived that our *Left* were not pursued, any more than we  
 “ on the *Right*, and that the Enemy were *entirely satisfied with the Field of*  
 “ *Battle*. In the mean While, we saw all their Horse, on the Rising  
 “ Grounds of *Taisnières*, in the Form of a *Crescent*, and we were still ig-  
 “ norant of their Design towards Five a-Clock; but having sent out for  
 “ Intelligence, we had Advice that they halted there. This News, indeed,  
 “ gave us a great Deal of Joy, since it, likewise, afforded us Time to  
 “ breathe.

“ THE Enemy have taken no other Prisoners, but the Wounded that  
 “ could not follow, and those who, being spent, retired to *Bavay*. We  
 “ reckon twelve Hundred Officers wounded, amongst whom, are many of *Dis-*  
 “ *tinction*. The Marshal *de Villars*, who acquired much *Glory* in this Ac-  
 “ tion, by his extraordinary Bravery, will have much ado to recover; but  
 “ *Guiche*, *Albergotti*, and several others, are safe.

“ THE Troops of the King’s Household have lost several Standards, and a  
 “ Pair of Kettle-Drums; it is certain, however, that they have performed  
 “ all that could be expected from them. The EUGENES, and the MARLBOROUGH-  
 “ ROUGHS, ought to be very well satisfied with us, during that Day; for  
 “ till then, they had not met with a Resistance worthy of them. They may  
 “ say, with Justice, that nothing can stand before them. And, indeed, what  
 “ will be able to stem the rapid Course of those two Heroes, if an Army of  
 “ one Hundred Thousand Men of the best Troops, posted between two Woods,  
 “ trebly intrenched, and performing their Duty, as well as any brave Men  
 “ could, were not able to stop them one Day? Will you not own then with  
 “ me, that they surpass all the Heroes of former Ages?”

A NOBLE Testimony from the Mouth of an Enemy !

SIR,

Another re-  
 markable  
 Letter from  
 an Officer  
 in the Confe-  
 derate Army

“ I SEND you, herewith, a Letter, (*meaning the foregoing*) which you  
 “ may communicate to your Friends, who will, undoubtedly, be glad to see  
 “ it, after the other Letters, and Relations, which have already been pub-  
 “ lished. It was written by a Person of Note, and Merit, who holds a con-  
 “ siderable Rank in the French Army, to his Friend, a Man of Distinction,  
 “ so that we may depend upon all he says to our Advantage. As for the Enemy’s  
 “ Loss, it is, at least, as great as he makes it; and those who would have  
 “ persuaded you to believe, that we lost Abundance of Men more than the  
 “ French, are certainly very much mistaken: For they make their Compu-  
 “ tation from the Lists that have been publish’d of the Loss of some Regi-  
 “ ments; and infer from thence, that if the other Bodies have suffered in  
 “ Proportion, our Loss must be greater than was said at first. But you will  
 “ find by the true List, which I send you here inclosed, that the Loss of  
 “ the other Troops is not answerable to that of the Dutch Battalions, which  
 “ were in our *Left*; and even of those, there were more killed and wounded  
 “ in the Lists, than ever were so in Reality; the Officers never failing to  
 “ take Advantage of such an Opportunity, to add to their Number, because  
 “ the States allow them a certain Sum of Money for each Man killed and  
 “ wounded: Wherefore, they set down, in their Lists, all the Men that  
 “ are wanting in each Company, or have deserted, since the last Review.  
 “ This made Prince Eugene say, very ingenuously, *It was odd enough to see*  
 “ *several Regiments, which wanted many Men before the Battle, appear to have*  
 “ *been compleated*. Therefore, Sir, you may deduct a full fourth Part of the  
 “ Killed in several Bodies, without Fear of being mistaken; and you may  
 “ rest

“ rest assured, that most of the Wounded are hurt but slightly. I send  
 “ you, herewith, the general List of both, in the whole Infantry of the  
 “ Army; and as for the Cavalry, they have suffered so little, that it is not  
 “ worth the While to make out a List of them.” I remain,

SIR, &c.

	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Wounded.</i>
Colonels —————	16	20
Lieutenant-Colonels —————	16	27
Majors —————	9	36
Captains —————	79	238
Subalterns —————	172	541
Sergeants, Corporals, and Private Men ———	5258	11944
	<hr/> 5550	<hr/> 12806
		5550
		<hr/>
Total of both Kill'd and Wounded ———		18356

WE shall sum up our Account of this Action, in the Words of Bishop Burnet, who gives the best Abridgment of it that we have seen.

“ AFTER this Siege (*viz.* that of *Tournay*) was over, *Mons* was invested, and the Troops march'd thither, as soon as they had levell'd their Trenches about *Tournay*; but the Court of *France* resolv'd to venture a Battle, rather than to look on, and see so important a Place taken from them. *Boufflers* was sent from Court, to join with *Villars* in the Execution of this Design. They possess'd themselves of a Wood, and intrenched themselves so strongly, that in some Places three Intrenchments were cast up, one within another. The Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, saw plainly, it was not possible to carry on the Siege of *Mons*, whilst the *French* Army lay so near it; so it was necessary to dislodge them. The Attempt was bold, and they saw the Execution would be difficult, and would cost them many Men. This was the sharpest Action during the whole War, and lasted the longest. The *French* were posted so advantageously, that our Men were often repulsed; and indeed, the Enemy maintained their Ground better, and shew'd more Courage, than had appeared in the Course of the War: Yet, in the Conclusion, they were driven from all their Posts, and the Action ended in a *Compleat Victory*. The Number of the Slain was almost equal, on both Sides, about twelve Thousand on a Side. We took five Hundred Officers Prisoners, besides many Cannon, Standards, and Colours. *Villars* was disabled by some Wounds he received, so *Boufflers* made the Retreat in good Order. The Military Men have always talk'd of this, as the sharpest Action in the whole War, not without reflecting on the Generals, for beginning so desperate an Attack. The *French* thought it a Sort of Victory, that they had animated their Men, to fight so well, behind Intrenchments, and to repulse our Men so often, and with so great Loss. They retired to *Valenciennes*, and secured themselves by casting up strong Lines, while they left our Army, to carry on the Siege of *Mons*, without offering to give them the least Disturbance.”

To this we shall add an Observation of Monsieur *Roussset's* wherewith we shall conclude. “ In the Opinion of the whole World, (*says this Officer and Author, who was then upon the Spot*) our Generals were guilty of an irreparable Fault, in not attacking the Ninth, but waiting for twenty-six Battalions, and a few Squadrons; whilst, by giving the Enemy Time to intrench themselves, which was what was infallibly to be expected, from a General so accustomed to it as the Marshal *de Villars*, we weakened ourselves,

Bishop Burnet's Account of this Action.

An Observation of Monsieur Roussset's, on the Battle of Malplacquet.



“ selves, in Proportion as the Enemy fortify’d themselves : Besides giving  
 “ him Time to penetrate into our Disposition, to recal several Detachments  
 “ which did not join him till the Tenth, and to render all those Places im-  
 “ penetrable, through which alone our Troops could break into the Plain.  
 “ In the Council of War, which was held the Ninth, the Deputies of the  
 “ *States-General* were of Opinion, that the Siege of *Mons* ought to be un-  
 “ dertaken immediately, without giving the Enemy Battle ; but that if they  
 “ should advance to attack us, we ought not to retreat ; and most of the  
 “ Generals were of the same Opinion. But Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke  
 “ of *Marlborough*, were for attacking the Enemy, before they began the  
 “ Siege ; and they brought over the Deputies to be of the same Mind ; but  
 “ then, both the latter and the Duke of *Marlborough*, insisted on the At-  
 “ tack’s being made immediately, not to give the Marshal *de Villars* Time  
 “ to fortify his Camp : However, Prince *Eugene*, was not to be dissuaded,  
 “ from the Resolution he had taken, to wait for the Detachment from  
 “ *Tournay*. A fatal Delay, which occasioned the total Destruction of the  
 “ whole Body of the *Dutch* Infantry ; which alone lost near ten Thousand  
 “ Men, amongst whom were above seven Hundred Officers, at the Attack  
 “ of the Intrenchments.”

And of  
 Monsieur du  
 Mont.

MONSIEUR *du Mont*, likewise, says ; It was a Misfortune to the *Allies*, that they did not give Battle the Ninth ; for then probably, the Victory would have been more compleat, and have been obtained with less Blood-shed. The Enemy were then on the other Side the Plain ; there was Room to have come at them thro’ the Openings. They had not had Time to intrench themselves ; and the Advantages of the Ground would have been almost equal on both Sides. But when the *Allies* were got to these Openings, they were forced to make a Halt, to wait the coming up of the *English*, who were gone to forage, and did not return till Night.

And of Fa-  
 ther Daniel.

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

THE Retreat of the *French*, after this memorable Defeat, having now left the *Allies* a free Passage to the important City of *Mons*, the Capital of *Hainault*, and lately the Residence of the *Elektor* of *Bavaria* ; the *Confederate* Generals resolved not to end the Campaign without reducing it. Accordingly, Monsieur *Vegelin*, one of the Deputies of the *States*, together with Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, went on the Eighteenth of September, N. S. to hasten the March of the Artillery, and Ammunition-Waggons, designed for that Enterprize ; and a great Number of Horses were sent from the Army, to assist in bringing the same to the Camp ; and the Nineteenth, the Duke of *Marlborough* removed his Quarters to the Castle of *Havre*.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, having taken the necessary Measures, to secure the March of the Artillery, named the Prince of *Orange* to have the Direction of the Siege, (though Monsieur *Roussel*, who we are pretty sure is mistaken, says it was Prince *Eugene*) and appointed the Generals who were to command under him : His Highness gave an Account of the Dispositions made therein, and the Progress thereof, till the Twenty-seventh, in the two following Letters to the *States-General*, which will shew Monsieur *Roussel*’s egregious Mistake.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

" I RECEIVED, with due Respect, your *High Mightinesses* Letter, of the Sixteenth Instant, wherein you exprels your Approbation of my Conduct, in the Battle of *Taisnieres*, or *Malplacquet*; and as this Declaration is very acceptable to me, so it shall animate me, for the future, not to regard any Pains or Trouble, but ever to sacrifice my Life, in the Service of your *High Mightinesses*, in Hopes to deserve your Favour and Affection more and more.

Letter from  
the Prince  
of Orange to  
the States-  
General.

" THE Siege of *Mons* being resolved upon, I have the Honour to command it; and under me, of the Infantry, the Lieutenant-Generals *Pletendorff*, *Rantzau*, and *Dhona*; the Major-Generals, the Lord *North* and *Gray*, with *Messieurs Sacken*, *Els*, *Ammama*, and *Ivoy*; and the Brigadiers, *Evans*, the Earl of *Orrery*, and *Messieurs Weeks*, *Horst*, *Rechteren*, and *Ockinga*. Of the Cavalry, Lieutenant-General *Schuylenburgh*; the Major-Generals *Stain*, *Chanclos*, and *Cheus*; and the Brigadiers *Fabrice*, and *Handerbein*.

" MOST Part of the thirty Battalions, and as many Squadrons, appointed for the Siege, being arrived in the Camp, I repaired hither, on the twentieth Instant; and the Schemes of the Directors of the Approaches, with Regard to the Attacks, being approved on; it was resolved, with the Advice of the Field-Deputies of your *High Mightinesses*, and the Princes of *Savoy* and *Marlborough*, to open the Trenches, To-morrow Night; if every Thing requisite and necessary for that Purpose be ready in two several Places; viz. at the Gate of *Bertamont*, where the chief Attack will be, and at the Gate of *Havre*. This Evening, one Hundred Soldiers, and one Hundred Workmen, are ordered to possess themselves of a Mill, on the *Trouille*, and thereby to cut off the Enemy's Provisions on that Side. The *Sieur Dru de Castillon*, Captain of the Regiment of *Guethem*, and a Peasant, who offered himself voluntarily, have been ordered to drain the Inundations, between *St. Ghislain* and *Mons*; to execute which, one Hundred and fifty Pioneers, with a sufficient Guard, are commanded to support them; and they are to begin that Work To-morrow.

" THIRTY Squadrons, under the Command of a Lieutenant-General, two Major-Generals, and two Brigadiers, have been ordered to guard the Artillery hither; which is to set out from *Brussels* To-morrow: And all the other Posts are assigned to the commanding Officers, for their better Security.

" IN the mean Time, nothing is omitted for making the necessary Preparations, to continue this important Siege, with good Success, &c.

From the Camp before Mons,  
September 23, 1709.

Sign'd,  
J. W. F. Prince of Orange and Nassau.

The other Letter was as follows.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

" I DID myself the Honour, on the Twenty-third, to give your *High Mightinesses* an Account of my Arrival in this Camp, and what had been done till then, in the Reparations for carrying on this Siege.

A second  
Letter from  
the Prince of  
Orange to  
the States-  
General.

" THE Persons who were ordered to drain the Inundations, between *Conde* and *Mons*, put their Orders in Execution so successfully, that the Water is already fallen above six Foot, on one Side.

" THE Design of cutting off the Mills on the *Trouille*, has, likewise, been attended with good Success; the Garrison therein, consisting of twenty-four Men, under the Command of an Officer, surrendering Prisoners of War, without any Resistance; whereupon, a Beginning was made, to draw off the Water, on that Side likewise.

“ LAST Night, at half an Hour after Nine, the Trenches were opened  
 “ at the Attack of *Bertamont*, with all the Success imaginable. A Parallel  
 “ of five Hundred and fifty Foot was drawn before the Horn-work of that  
 “ Gate, with a Line of Communication, from the Village of *Hyron*, to the  
 “ Parallel aforefaid; and another was begun from the Height of the Road  
 “ of *Bavay*; but the Time falling short, it could not be joined to the other.  
 “ We had, on this Occasion, three Men killed; and one Major, one Cap-  
 “ tain, one Subaltern, one Engineer, and fifty-four common Soldiers wound-  
 “ ed. At the Attack of the Gate of *Havre*, Engineer *de Boeffe* ran a Pa-  
 “ rallel along the Foot of the *Glacis*; but an unforeseen Accident made him  
 “ unable to draw a Communication with his Line on the *Rear*; which was  
 “ the Reason that it could not certainly be known, what Number were  
 “ killed and wounded on that Side. I was only informed, that Lieutenant-  
 “ General *Cadogan*, with his *Aid de Camp*, and another Officer, who ad-  
 “ vanced too near were wounded.

“ THE Engineer *Rietquetseler*, with three Hundred Soldiers, one Hun-  
 “ dred Pioneers, four Pieces of Cannon, and necessary Ammunition and  
 “ Fascines, were ordered to make themselves Masters of the Redoubt of  
 “ *Nimy*; but the Men, and other Requisites, not being ready Time enough,  
 “ last Night, that Design was deferred till To-morrow Morning, &c.”

From the Camp before Mons,  
 September 26, 1709.

Sign'd,  
 J. W. F. Prince of Orange and Nassau.

P. S. “ After the concluding of these, I received Advice, that the Re-  
 “ doubt of *Nimy* had been forced this Day; and that two Pieces of Cannon,  
 “ twenty-five Men, an Officer, and a Subaltern, had been found therein.  
 “ This Afternoon, the Enemy made a Sally upon our Trenches, at the At-  
 “ tack of *Havre*, with three Hundred Men; on which Occasion, about  
 “ sixty Men, of *Hill's* Regiment, were killed and wounded; but being  
 “ sustained by the Regiment of Prince *Albert*, the Enemy were obliged to  
 “ retire, with some Loss.”

The Siege  
 carry'd on  
 with Vigour.

ON the Twenty-seventh, Lieutenant-General *Wilks* joined the Army, with five Battalions, and ten Squadrons, from *Duilemont*. The two Days following, the Besiegers carried on their Approaches, as much as the Badness of the Weather would permit, and finished their Batteries. On the Thirtieth, another Convoy of Ammunition and Artillery, being arrived, thirty-two Pieces of Cannon were brought to the Batteries, at the Attack of the Gate of *Bertamont*, and sixteen to those at the Gate of *Havre*. It is remarkable, that the *Allies* made no Lines of Circumvallation at this Siege; a plain Sign they were no ways apprehensive of the Enemy; neither did they think them so formidable, as the Marshal *de Villars* endeavoured to persuade the King his Master they were.

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

By the Taking of these Works, wherein the Besiegers found forty Sacks of Meal, two Pieces of Cannon, and some Ammunition, they became Masters of a Sluice, which was of great Use for letting out the Water; and, the same Day, they began to fire from twenty-six Pieces of Cannon. The Second, nothing pass'd of any Moment. The Third, the Weather being grown fair, the Besiegers obliged the Enemy to quit a small Redoubt,

on



on the *Right* of the Gate of *Havre*; and continued their Approaches, with very little Loss, at both Attacks, till the Eighth; when they were not above ten Paces from the *Counterescarp* of the Horn-work, at the Gate of *Havre*. They attack'd it, therefore, that very Day, and after half an Hour's Resistance, lodged themselves on the *Cover'd-Way*; with the Loss of only sixty Men killed and wounded, and amongst the latter, Colonel *O Hara*, of the *English* Artillery, and Captain *Petit* of the Guards. They perfected their Approaches, lodg'd themselves on the *Cover'd-Way* of the Horn-work, at the Gate of *Bertamont*, and began to batter the Front of that Work, from two Batteries, of twelve Pieces of Cannon each.

FROM the Eighth to the Sixteenth, nothing happened worthy of Notice, only that the Besiegers continued to bombard the Place. On the Sixteenth, in the Morning, four Hundred Grenadiers, sustained by five Hundred Fusileers, and seven Hundred Workmen, attack'd the second *Counterescarp* of the Horn-work, at the Gate of *Havre*; which the Enemy quitted, after a short Resistance, and the *Allies* made a good Lodgment thereupon; and removed their Batteries to the Palissades, in order to batter the Horn-work in Breach. At Seven in the Morning, they began to attack the Horn-work of *Bertamont*, with a great Discharge of Bombs, and Grenades; whereby the Enemy were so much annoy'd, that when the Besiegers had mounted the Breach, they found, to their great Amazement, that the Besieged had abandoned both the Ravelin, and the Horn-work; and they lodged themselves therein, with very little Loss. They took, at the same Time, a little Out-work, on the *Right* of the Horn-work, without losing one Man; and made a Lieutenant, and fifteen Soldiers, Prisoners therein.

ON the Eighteenth, they began to remove the Batteries, into the Horn-work, at the Attack of *Bertamont*, in order to batter the Bastions; and continued to work on them, with all possible Diligence. The Nineteenth, in the Morning, their Batteries began to fire, upon the Front of the Horn-work, at the Gate of *Havre*, and continued to do so, with very good Success, till the Twentieth, about Noon; when the Breaches being almost practicable, and the Besiegers making Preparations for an Assault, they were prevented by the Garrison's beating a Parley, and hanging out white Flags, at both Attacks, to signify their Desire to capitulate. Hereupon, Hostages were exchanged, and the Enemy having sent out Monsieur *de Sonnegar*, a Major-General, Monsieur *de Grimaldi*, a Brigadier, and Monsieur *Lellier*; the *Allies*, on their Side, sent into the Town, Major-General *Ranck*, Brigadier *Ockinga*, and Colonel *Alberti*.

The Garrison of *Mons* beat a Parley.

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

THE Articles were signed about Ten at Night, at Prince *Eugene's* Quarters, by his Highness the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Field-Deputies of the *States-General*, on one Side, and by Monsieur *de Grimaldi*, Governor of the Town, on the other; immediately after which, five Hundred of the *Confederate* Troops, took Possession of the Gate of *Nimy*. The Reduction of this important Place, after the memorable and bloody Battle of *Malplacquet*, was a plain Demonstration, that the *Allies* obtained something more Substantial, at that Battle, than the bare Name of a *Victory*; since the Enemy, who had ventured an Engagement, purely to prevent the Siege of that Town, did not dare make the least Motion to relieve it: Notwithstanding the Assurances given to his *Most Christian* Majesty, by the Marshals *de Villars*, and *Boufflers*, that he would not lose an Inch of Ground by that Action;

Action; and their Boasts of advancing to fight the *Confederate* Army, if his Majesty's Service required it.

ON the Twenty-third, the Garrison march'd out, with all the Marks of Honour allowed them by the Capitulation; besides which, the *Confederate* Generals granted them two Pieces of Cannon, and one Mortar, by way of Compliment. The whole did not exceed one Thousand five Hundred Men, according to Monsieur *Rouffet*, (Mr. *Lediard* says one Thousand) the Rest being either sick or wounded, and a great Number of *Walloon*s, and others, having staid behind, in the Town, to enlist themselves in the Service of the *Allies*. Count *Dohna*, who was appointed to command in that Place, march'd in, at the same Time, with a Detachment of Troops, which were to be in Garrison there, during the Winter; and the Duke of *Aremberg* was named Governor, and High-Bailiff of the Province of *Hainault*, in the Room of the Duke *de Croy*, who was in the King of *France*'s Interest. Of the *Irish* Troops, employ'd in this Service, Colonel *Hill* received a Hurt in his Side; Colonel *Clayton* was dangerously wounded in the Eye; and Colonel *Foxton*, and Major *Mortimer* were killed.

A Remark  
of Monsieur  
*Rouffet*'s on  
this Siege.

MONSIEUR *Rouffet* says, "the Campaign ended by the Conquest of this Place, which had only been undertaken by the *Confederates*, to shew the Falsity of the Report spread by the Enemy, that the Loss the *Allies* had sustained at *Malplacquet*, had rendered them unable to attempt any Thing; and that they had paid dear for the Gain of the Field of Battle, which had cost them so many fine Troops, and brave Officers, as made it impossible for them to reduce *Mons*: The Success of this Siege shew'd how much they were mistaken." We may add, that the not making any Line of Circumvallation at it, a Thing very unusual, shew how little the *Allies* were apprehensive of them, or rather, how much they despised them.

THE Season being now so far advanced, that it would not admit of any farther Undertaking, the Winter-Quarters were settled; and the Twenty-sixth the Army pass'd the *Haisne*, and came to *Thiuries*, where they staid next Day; which was celebrated as a Thanksgiving to *Almighty God* for the Reduction of *Mons*. The Twenty-eighth, the Troops separated, in order to march into their respective Winter-Quarters; the *British* to *Ghent*, the *Danes* to *Bruges*; the *Prussians* to the *Maese*; and the Rest to *Brussels*, *Louvain*, and other Parts. This done, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, set out for *Brussels*, from whence they proceeded soon after to the *Hague*.

The following Medals were struck on Occasion of the Reduction of *Mons*.

Medals  
struck on  
this Occa-  
sion.

1. ON the Face, was the *Queen*'s Bust, with her Titles, as usual. On the Reverse, the City of *Mons*, and *Victory* flying over, with a Crown of *Laurel* in her Right-Hand, and a *Palm Branch* in her Left, with this Inscription:

*Montibus in Hannovia Captis.*

That is, *Mons* in *Hainault* taken.

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

2. ON the Face, was a Bust of her Majesty's Titles, as usual. On the Reverse, a Monument of Trophies, at the Foot of which are two Figures, representing *Mars*, and *Hercules*, leaning on two Shields, one whereof, represents the Battle of *Malplacquet*; and the other the Reduction of *Mons*. Over them, in the Frame, as it were, of a Picture, is represented the Siege of *Tournay*; with *Fame* hovering over all, with expanded Wings, and publishing these Heroick Deeds, with the Sound of Trumpet. Around it was this Inscription:

*Turris, Castra, Montes Victi.*

Which

Which Mr. Lediard renders,

*Tournay, the Camp of Taisnières, and Mons won.*

Though, we must confess, we cannot see how the Word *Turris* can be apply'd particularly to *Tournay*, any more than any other Town that has a Castle; or, indeed, to any Fort, or Castle whatsoever. In the *Exergue* was;

*Victoria pacifera. M.DCC.IX. Victory productive of Peace. 1709.*

AND on Occasion of the *French* endeavouring so artfully to conceal the Loss they sustained at *Malplacquet*, and representing the *Allies* as having lost three for one, they struck the following Medals.

ON the *Face* is represented a *Monarch*, holding out the Shield of *Pallas*, as fondly believing it capable of rendering him invincible, and endeavouring, in vain, to skreen himself, thereby, from the Thunder hurled at him by a *Nymph*. This *Nymph*, who is designed to represent the Armies of the *Allies*, leans on a Bundle of Arrows, the Emblem of *Union* and *Strength*. Between these two Figures, is a third, of a *Nymph* in Chains, crowned with a Mural Crown, to represent the City of *Mons*; and over all these is this Inscription:

*Nec Castra, nec Munimenta.*

Neither Camps, nor Intrenchments can skreen you.

And in the *Exergue*;

*Postscennium Autumni. The Autumnal Postscene.*

To understand this, the Reader must call to mind, that the *Postscene* is the hind Part of the Stage, whither the Actors retire, after the Play, to divest themselves of their borrow'd Shapes, and appear in their natural Forms. This Motto, therefore, alluding to the Representation above it, is as much as to say, *This is the true State of Affairs*: And as the Reduction of *Mons* was the last Scene of this Year's Tragedy, we may from thence form a right Judgment of what preceded, and be thoroughly convinced of the true Circumstances of Things, stript of the Tinsel, and false Colours, with which the *French* endeavoured to cloath them.

THE *Reverse* represents the *Colossus* of *Rhodes*, that enormous Statue of the *Sun*, the Symbol of *France*, which was reckoned one of the Wonders of the World, with the following Inscription:

*Mole ruit sua. Its own Bulk occasions its Fall.*

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

*Montes Hannoviæ, Gallia Labente, Recuperati. XXIII Octob. M.DCC.IX.*

*Mons in Hainault retaken, France being upon the Decline, Octob. 23, 1709.*

Of which no greater Signs could be, than these successive Losses, which the *French* endeavoured so industriously to conceal.

To prevent any Surprise from the *French*, during the Winter, the following Generals were ordered to stay in *Flanders*, and the adjacent Countries, viz. In the Conquests, in *Flanders*, the Earl of *Albemarle*, General; Lieutenant-General *Murray*, and Major-General *Chanclos*. At *Brussels*, the Lieutenant-Generals *Dompere*, Prince *William of Hesse-Cassel*, the Prince of *Auvergne*, *Villate*, and *Vander-Beck*; the Major-Generals *Keppel*, *Rank*, *Schmettau*, and Quarter-Master-General *Ivoy*. At *Mons*, Lieutenant-General *Dohna*, and the Major-Generals *Els* and *Hamilton*. At *Liege*, General Count *Tilly*, Lieutenant-Generals *Doff*, *la Lecq*, and *Heyden*; and the Major-Generals

The Stations appointed for the Confederate Generals, during the Winter, to prevent any Surprise from the Enemy.



Generals *Du Portail*, and the Prince of *Wirtemberg*. At *Mechlin*, the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, General; and the Earl of *Athlone*, Lieutenant-General. At *Louvain*, Lieutenant-General *Hompesch*, and Major-General *Slippenbach*: And at *Maeseysk*, Lieutenant-General *Wittinghoff*.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* having written to the *States-General*, to congratulate them on the Reduction of *Mons*, and acquaint them that the Season would not allow of besieging *Manbeuge*, as was intended, their *High Mightinesses* returned his Grace the following Answer.

SIR,

“NOTWITHSTANDING we were already informed, by our Deputies, of the taking of *Mons*, and the Reduction of the Province of *Hainault*, the Letter, wherein your Highness congratulates Us on that happy Success, has not been the less acceptable to Us. We look upon this Conquest, as one of the Fruits of the last Victory, and of your Labours; and we rejoice the more thereat, because, besides its own Importance, it must convince all the World, that the Advantage, as well as the Glory, of the last Battle, remains on the Side of the *Allies*. We congratulate your Highness thereupon, with all our Hearts. If the Season would permit Us to go as far as your good Will, we might certainly promise ourselves, that the Bravery of your Highness would procure us new Advantages, before the End of the Campaign; but since the advanced Season of the Year will not allow of any farther Action, this must be deferred till next Spring; unless the Enemy should prefer Peace to War, upon more equitable Conditions, than they have hitherto proposed.” We are, with much Esteem, and truly,

SIR,

Yours, &c.

The States-General of the United  
Provinces of the Netherlands.

Prince Eugene, and the Duke of Marlborough arrive at the Hague, and confer with the States-Deputies.

HIS Grace having settled the Division of the Winter-Quarters, set out, as we have observed above, for the *Hague*, where he arrived the Third of November; as did Prince *Eugene*, on the Seventh; and on the Twelfth, their Highnesses had a long Conference with several Deputies of the *States*, in which Prince *Eugene*, who spoke first, made the following Remonstrance.

“THAT though there was great Reason to hope, that the glorious Victory, and other great Advantages, obtained the last Campaign, would induce the Enemy to comply, next Winter, with such Terms, as might secure a good and lasting Peace, to prevent thereby the Continuance of the War, and save the great Charges they must be at, to bring their Army into the Field the next Campaign; yet as this was still uncertain, there was an absolute Necessity for taking, in Time, and without any Delay, the proper Measures for being early in the Field the next Spring, in order to act with more Vigour than ever. That above all Things, it was requisite to make sufficient Magazines, of Forage, Corn, Meal, and other Necessaries, in the most convenient Frontier Places; to the End, that the Troops might be assembled, subsisted, and put in a Condition to act, even before there was Grass upon the Ground; and that a sufficient Number of Waggon be provided, for transporting to the Army Bread, and other Necessaries; the Troops having been more than once in great Streights, the last Campaign; and having been some Days without Bread, for want of Waggon; of which the Field-Deputies of their *High Mightinesses* had been Witnesses. That Magazines were indisputably necessary, to prevent the Enemy’s being in the Field before them in the Spring; and that they might take such advantageous Posts, as might enable the *Allies* to penetrate into the *French* Territories, without being put to the Necessity of hazarding a dangerous Battle, and attacking them in their strong Intrenchments. That it was also requisite to have double the

“ Number of Waggon's they had before, for transporting Bread, and other  
 “ Necessaries, from the Frontier Places to the Army ; because, otherwise,  
 “ they could not advance to any Distance from the said Frontiers, and pe-  
 “ netrate into the Dominions of *France*, let how fair an Opportunity soever  
 “ offer for so doing ; and less still, at present, than before, because the Ene-  
 “ my's Territories afforded no Provision for the Subsistence of an Army.  
 “ That, therefore, he earnestly recommended these two Articles, of Maga-  
 “ zines and Waggon's, as two Things, without which they could not hope  
 “ to obtain the Advantages, which might be expected from the next Cam-  
 “ paign, in Case they should be obliged to continue the War. His High-  
 “ nels concluded, with desiring them, that the Contracts for furnishing the  
 “ *Imperial* and *Palatine* Troops with Bread and Forage, might be performed,  
 “ and executed, without any Delay, for the Prevention of any Inconveni-  
 “ encies, and Disorders.”

THE Duke of *Marlborough* spoke next, on the same Heads, and recommend-  
 ed to them, with the utmost Earnestness, to take Care of the Articles relating  
 to the Magazines, and Waggon's ; adding, “ That being obliged to go for  
 “ *England*, he should leave, at the *Hague*, Lieutenant-General *Cadogan* ;  
 “ who was impower'd to settle, with the *Council of State*, the Contracts for  
 “ the Subsistence of the *Imperial* and *Palatine* Troops ; as also all other Af-  
 “ fairs, which were to be regulated, in Concert, between *Great Britain* and  
 “ the *States*. His Grace represented, afterwards, the absolute Necessity of  
 “ recruiting, and re-establishing the Forces, with all possible Speed, and re-  
 “ newing the Capitulation with such Troops, as could not continue in  
 “ their Service, without a new Agreement ; concluding, that it was also  
 “ highly necessary, to regulate, in Time, the Rout of the *Hessian* Troops,  
 “ that were to march into their own Country, to the End they might re-  
 “ turn, without any Delay, as soon as Occasion should require.”

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

THE *Confederate* Ministers had several other Conferences together, where-  
 in it was warmly insisted on, on the Part of *England* and *Holland*, that since  
 the *Empire* made such great Demands upon *France*, as the restoring of the  
 three Bishopricks of *Metz*, *Toul*, and *Verdun*, with all *Alsace*, and *Franché*  
*Comte*, her Members ought to furnish their full *Quota's* towards this necessary  
 War. To this Prince *Eugene* answer'd :

Other Con-  
 ferences be-  
 tween the  
*Confederate*  
 Ministers.

“ THAT the *Emperor* thought this Proposal so reasonable, that he would  
 “ readily take any Measures, in Concert with his *Allies*, to compel the re-  
 “ spective States, and Princes of the *Empire*, to the punctual Performance  
 “ of their Duty, and Engagements ; it being well known to all the World,  
 “ that his *Imperial* Majesty was not wanting, in setting a good Example ;  
 “ since he furnished several Thousands of Men, and considerable Sums of  
 “ Money, more than his *Quota*.” The *Confederate* Ministers also took into  
 Consideration, the proper Means to put an End to the War in the *North* ; or,  
 at least, to prevent its spreading into the *Empire*, and affecting the *Grand*  
*Alliance* in any manner.

THE Campaign in the *Netherlands* was no sooner over, than the *French*  
 Court thought fit to make new Advances towards setting again on Foot a  
 Negotiation for a Peace. With this View, Signior *Foscarini*, the *Venetian*  
 Ambassador, who came to *Holland*, about this Time, took a Turn to *Am-*  
*sterdam*, to feel the Pulses of the *Burgomasters* of that City. On the other  
 Hand, Monsieur *Pettecum*, Resident of the Duke of *Holfstein* at the *Hague*,  
 who had been employ'd the last Winter, under Hand, in the Negotiation of  
 Peace ; and had ever since continued a Correspondence with the Marquis de  
*Torcy*, made some new Overtures, on the Part of *France*, and desired Passes,  
 for their Ministers to come to the *Hague*. The *Imperial*, *British*, and *Dutch*  
 Ministers,

*France*  
 makes new  
 Advances to  
 obtain a  
 Peace.

Ministers, having taken this Matter into Consideration; and a Report of their Conference having been made to the Assembly of the *States-General*; their *High Mightinesses* refused to grant Passes, but consented to Monsieur *Pettecum*'s going to the *French Court*, pursuant to their Desire, to know what farther Offers they had to make. The Resident, accordingly, set out for *Paris*, about the Middle of *November*; as did, not many Days after, Prince *Eugene* for *Vienna*, and the Duke of *Marlborough* for *London*.

MONSIEUR *Pettecum* was received, at the Court of *France*, with more Respect, than was due to a Minister of such an inferiour Rank; and even with an affected Ostentation, to make the murmuring, and half-famish'd People believe, that Peace was near. And not without some vain Insinuations, that he was sent by the *Allies* themselves, to make Advances for that End; though nothing is more certain, than that he had no such Power, or Directions given him by any of them. He conferr'd, for some Days, with the Marquis de *Torcy*, and the other *French* Ministers; and having received a Present for the Trouble and Expences of his Journey, he returned to the *Hague*, with the Answer, and Proposals, of the Court of *France*.

A vigorous  
Resolution  
taken there-  
upon by the  
*States-Gen-  
eral*.

THESE Proposals having been examined by the *Heer Van Wolderen*, and other Deputies of the *States-General*, and a Report thereof made to their Assembly, they were unanimously rejected with Disdain. Whereupon, a vigorous Resolution was taken, on the Fourteenth of *December*; in which, amongst other Things, they concluded, "That, for several Reasons therein  
" inserted, the Answer brought by the *Sieur Pettecum*, was not satisfactory;  
" and that the *Preliminary* Articles ought to be insisted on; especially as  
" there had been no Difficulty raised on the Part of *France*, but only about  
" the thirty-seventh Article; and it was the general Opinion, that an Ex-  
" pedient might be found, to give Satisfaction to all Parties. That the *Sieur*  
" *Pettecum* being returned, not only without any such Expedient, but with  
" an Answer, wherein there is not the least Notice taken of the Proposals  
" made before; wherein *France* recedes entirely from the Foundations,  
" which were agreed by mutual Consent; and with a Proposal to enter into  
" a formal Negotiation of Peace, without settling and adjusting any Thing  
" before-hand, contrary to the Declaration made on the Part of *France*, even  
" by their last Letters, viz. That all the *Preliminary* Articles should re-  
" main firm, as they were settled, only with such Alterations, in the Terms  
" of Execution, which the Course of Time had made necessary, except only  
" the thirty-seventh Article, nothing could be concluded, But that the *En-  
"emy* were not sincerely disposed, to agree to a good and safe Peace; and that  
" little Regard was to be had, to the Assurances of their good Intentions, and  
" Inclinations, in that Respect; since the Effects agreed so little with their  
" Words: But rather, that all was concerted, and designed, to sow, if possible,  
" Mistrusts, and Jealousies, between the States and their Allies, whilst they  
" were resolved to continue the War, as it appeared by all publick Advices, &c.  
" That, therefore, it would be necessary, above all Things, to use their  
" utmost Efforts, without the least Delay, or Loss of Time, to get in a  
" Readiness all that was requisite for beginning the next Campaign early,  
" before the Enemy were in a Condition to take the Field; and for pushing on  
" the same with Vigour. That, for the End and Purpose aforesaid, Letters  
" should be written to the *Emperor*, to the Diet of the *Empire* at *Ratisbon*,  
" the *Confederate* Circles, the *Electors* and Princes of the *Empire*, and to  
" her *Britannick* Majesty, and the Duke of *Savoy*; and that their *Imperial*  
" and *Britannick* Majesties should be desired, to permit Prince *Eugene* of  
" *Savoy*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, to return thither very early in the  
" Spring; at least, before the End of *February*; in order to confer about  
" the Operations of the War, and concert, in Time, the necessary Measures  
" for the Campaign."

ACCORDING to this vigorous Resolution, the *States-General* wrote Letters to all their *Allies*; and particularly one to the Queen of Great Britain, dated the Twenty-seventh of *January*, which ended with the following Words, greatly to the Honour of the Duke of *Marlborough*.

" We



" We have another Request to add, which is, that your Majesty would be pleased to send over hither betimes, the Prince and Duke of Marlborough; and, if possible, before the End of February, that we may have the Benefit of the wise Councils of that Great General, in concerting, in due Time, the Operations for the next Campaign, as well as reap the Advantages of his incomparable Valour, in the Execution thereof." We remain,  
 &c.

They write to the Queen of Great Britain.

THIS was the Language, in which the States, who had had such vast Experience of him, always spoke of this Great Man; and we may see, by the Queen's Answer to this Letter, which, for Connexion-sake, we shall insert here; though, otherwise, it belongs more properly to the next Year; that her Majesty, then, had the same good Opinion of his Grace, however she came to alter it so strangely, not many Years after, without any apparent Reason.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

" OUR Good Friends, Allies, and Confederates; We have seen, by your Letter of the Twenty-seventh of this Month, the Reasons which have moved you, to desire us to send back the Duke of Marlborough, as soon as possible. We agree with you, that there is a Necessity of taking all possible Precautions against the Designs of the Enemy; and as We, ourselves, are entirely satisfied of the Capacity and signal Services of the said Duke of MARLBOROUGH, We are very glad to find, that your Sentiments, with Regard to him, agree so perfectly with ours. We have, therefore, in Conformity to your Desire, immediately ordered him to be ready to return to Holland, as soon as it may be necessary; and he will not fail to be with you, within the Time you have proposed, to concert, with you, the necessary Measures, and to put them in Execution, with his accustomed Prudence and Vigour. To conclude, We pray GOD to have you, High and Mighty Lords, our good Friends, Allies, and Confederates, in his holy Keeping."

Her Majesty's Answer.

Written, at our Court, at St. James's,  
 the 31<sup>st</sup> of Jan. of the Year 1710-11,  
 and of our Reign, the Ninth.

Your very good Friend, &c.

IT being evident, that the Court of France aimed at nothing more than to gain Time, and amuse the Allies with a specious Negotiation, the Queen of Great Britain resolved, likewise, to exhort all her Allies to a vigorous Prosecution of the War; particularly those, who, during the whole Course of it, had been most backward in seconding her Majesty's extraordinary Efforts; and accordingly, on the Twenty-sixth of December, she wrote to that Lethargick Body, the general Diet of the Empire, assembled at Ratisbon.

She writes to the Diet of Ratisbon.

BEING now come to the Conclusion of the memorable Year 1709, we shall give a succinct Account, pursuant to the Method we have observed hitherto, of what was done this Campaign, in other Parts of Europe: And first, then, in Spain, the Summer pass'd over, without any considerable Action; though there was, indeed, an Engagement on the Frontiers of Portugal, wherein the Portuguese behaved themselves very ill, and accordingly were beaten. This occasioned the Loss of three Regiments, chiefly Englishmen, who were taken Prisoners, together with their Officers; amongst whom were Major-General Sankey, the Earl of Barrimore, and Brigadier Pierce. The Spaniards, however, did not pursue the Advantage they gained by this Action; for being apprehensive, that our Fleet had a Design upon some Part of their Southern Coast, they were forced to draw their Troops from the Frontiers of Portugal, to defend their own Coasts; though we gave them no Disturbance on that Side.

The State of Affairs in Spain, and Portugal.

IN the mean While, the King of France, to carry on a Shew of an Inclination for Peace, withdrew his Troops out of Spain; but, at the same Time,

took Care to encourage the *Spanish Grandees*, to support his Grandson: And since it was visible, that either the *Spaniards*, or the *Allies*, were to be deceived by him, it was much more reasonable to believe, that the *Allies*, and not the *Spaniards*, were to feel the Effects of his fraudulent Proceedings. The *French General Besons*, who commanded in *Aragon*, had Orders, indeed, not to venture a Battle; for that would have been to act too gross and open a Part, to be any Way palliated; but he continued all this Summer commanding their Armies.

IN *Catalonia*, *Staremburg*, after he had received Reinforcements from *Italy*, advanced towards the *Segra*; and having amused the Enemy for some Days, he passed that River. The *Spaniards* designed to have given him Battle; but *Besons* refused to engage: This provoked the *Spaniards* so much, that King *Philip*, after having written to Monsieur *Besons*, thought it necessary to leave *Madrid*, and go to the Army; upon which, *Besons* produced his Orders, from the King of *France*, to avoid coming to any Engagement, with which he seemed greatly mortified. *Staremburg* advanced, took *Balaguer*, and made the Garrison Prisoners of War; with which the Campaign ended on that Side.

In *Dauphine*. NOTHING of Importance happened on the Side of *Dauphine*: The Emperor continued still to refuse complying with the Duke of *Savoy's* Demands, about some Territories in the Dutchy of *Milan*, which were to have been delivered to him; wherefore, he would not make the Campaign in Person, and his Troops kept on the Defensive. On the other Hand, tho' the *French* saw they should be attack'd but faintly, they were too weak to do any Thing more, than to cover their own Country.

And in the North. THE *Northern* Affairs not having any immediate Connexion with those of the *Grand Alliance*, in which the Duke of *Marlborough* was principally concerned, we have only mentioned them, on Occasion of his Grace's Journey into *Saxony*, in the Year 1707. But the fatal Turn of those Affairs, to the Disadvantage of the King of *Sweden*, which happened this Year, being, as it were, the Consequence of those Counsels, and Measures, which were thought to have been concerted, when his Grace was there, and wherein he was believed to have had no small Hand, we shall just hint at them. That great, but unfortunate Monarch, having resolved to invade *Muscovy*, and being elate with the Success he had met with in *Poland*, thinking to dethrone the *Czar*, with the same Ease as he had *Augustus*, engaged himself so far in the *Ukraine*, that there was no Possibility of retreating; and this brought his Affairs to such a low Ebb, that he was never able to retrieve them, till Death put a Stop to his Career.

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

The fatal Consequences thereof to the King of *Sweden*.

ON this Occasion, the Czar gave the Duke of Marlborough a very singular Instance of his Esteem for him; by sending a Captain of his own Guards, expressly to acquaint his Grace with this signal Victory.

HAVING thus taken a View of the most material Transactions abroad, during this Year, we shall now mention such domestick Occurrences, as relate to this History, and happened in the same Space of Time.

UPON Advice of the glorious Action, and compleat Victory at *Malplaquet*, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of the City of London, in their Formalities, waited on the Queen at Windsor, on the Tenth of September, with an Address of Congratulation, on that Account, the Beginning whereof was as follows.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

" IN all Humility, we presume, it cannot but be acceptable to your Majesty, to receive the repeated and hearty Congratulations of your most dutiful and loyal Subjects, upon such signal and reiterated Instances of the Divine Goodness, shower'd down on your Sacred Head, in blessing the just Arms of your Majesty, and your Allies, under the auspicious Conduct of those renowned Generals the Duke of Marlborough, and the Prince of Savoy, with such surprizing and uninterrupted Successes.

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

ON the Seventeenth of the same Month, the Lord Mayor, and the Rest of her Majesty's Commissioners of Lieutenancy, for the City of London, presented an humble Address to her Majesty, on the same Occasion, the following Paragraphs whereof may be worth our Readers Notice.

MOST DREAD SOVEREIGN,

" WE think ourselves infinitely happy, that we have Leave, once more, to approach your Royal Person, to express (as well as the Excess thereof will give us Leave) our unfeigned Joy for, and humbly to congratulate your Majesty upon the great and surprizing Progress, made by the victorious Armies of your Majesty, and your Allies, led on by those consummate Generals, the Duke of Marlborough, and the Prince of Savoy, towards the Glorious End proposed by your Majesty, an honourable and lasting Peace.

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

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

ON the Third of October, her Majesty, in Council, order'd a Proclamation to be issued, for a general and publick Thanksgiving to be observed on the Twenty-second of November, for the Signal and Glorious Success of her Majesty's Arms, and those of her Allies, this Campaign.

ON the Eighth of November, the Duke of Marlborough landed at Aldborough in Suffolk, from Holland, and on the Tenth his Grace came to St. James's.

ON the Fifteenth, the Parliament met; and the Queen going to the House of Peers, and sending for the Commons up, her Majesty made a Gracious Speech

The City of London's Address to the Queen, on the Victory at Malplaquet.

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



The Commons vote his Grace Thanks.

Speech to *both Houses*; wherein, amongst other Things, she took Notice of the *late Glorious Campaign, and the Great and Important Successes thereof.*

THE first Thing the *Commons* did, on the first Day of their sitting, after they had voted an Address to her Majesty, was the coming to this unanimous Resolution, *That the late Victory, obtained by his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, and the other great and important Successes of the last Campaign, were so remarkable, that the House thought themselves obliged to testify how sensible they were of the Honour and Advantage, which this Kingdom, and the whole Confederacy, had received by his eminent Services.* And that, Mr. Comptroller, Mr. Secretary Boyle, Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Onslow, Lord Coningsby, Mr. Neville, Lord William Powlet, Mr. Craggs, Mr. Compton, Mr. Walpole, Mr. Dolben, Sir Charles Hedges, Lord Lumley, and Sir Charles Cox, should attend his Grace, and give him the Thanks of the House, and congratulate him on his Return in Safety to Great Britain. Accordingly the Committee appointed by the Commons, having waited on his Grace, on the Twenty-second of November, with this Resolution, he was pleased to make the following Answer.

“ It is a very great Satisfaction to me, that the House of Commons are pleased to take so much Notice of my Endeavours, to serve my Queen and my Country.

“ I cannot be just to all the Officers and Soldiers, who have served with me, unless I take this Occasion to assure you, that their Zeal and Affection for the Service, is equal to the Courage and Bravery they have shewn, during the whole War.”

BOTH the *Lords*, and the *Commons*, took Occasion, in their Addresses to her Majesty, to shew the Sense they had of the great Services performed by Grace. The *Lords* say, in theirs, “ The last Campaign was so very Glorious, whether we consider the Strength of the Towns which were taken, or the Difficulty and Importance of the Victory which was obtained, that we beg Leave to congratulate your Majesty upon the continued Success of your Arms, and those of your *Allies*, under your General the Duke of Marlborough, whose Conduct is worthy of the chief Command, in so just a War, and whose Valour is equal to the Bravery of his Troops.”

AND the *Commons*, in their Address, say, “ We beg Leave to congratulate your Majesty upon the continued Successes of the last Campaign, particularly the Victory obtained near *Mons*, by the Troops of your Majesty, and those of the *Allies*, under the Command of the Duke of Marlborough. A Victory so remarkable in all its Circumstances, as must convince your Enemies, that the Courage and Resolution of your Troops, conducted by so great a General, are superiour to the greatest Difficulties.” They likewise take Notice, how much they were obliged by these glorious Successes, to express their Sense of the Honour and Advantages, which this Kingdom, and the whole Confederacy, had received by his eminent Services.

The Lords also order the Thanks of the House to be given him

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

“ THAT he was commanded by the *Lords*, to give his Grace the Thanks of that House, for his continued and eminent Services to her Majesty, and the Publick, during the last Campaign: Of which nothing greater could be said, than what her Majesty (who always speaks with the utmost Certainty and Exactness) had declared from the Throne, *That it had been, at least, as glorious as any which had preceded it.* But that this Repetition of the Thanks of that August Assembly, had this Advantage of the former, that it must be look'd upon as added to, and standing on “ the

“ the Foundations already laid in the Records of that *House* for the pre-  
 “ serving his Memory fresh to all future Times. So that his Grace had  
 “ also the Satisfaction of seeing this everlasting Monument of his Glory,  
 “ rise every Year much higher. (*To which his Lordship added his Wishes*)  
 “ That GOD might continue, in a wonderful Manner, to preserve so inva-  
 “ luable a Life, that he might not only add to that Structure, but finish  
 “ all, with the Beauties and Ornaments of an honourable and lasting  
 “ Peace.”

To which his Grace reply'd, with his usual Modesty, and Self-Denial.

“ I LOOK upon it as the greatest Mark of Honour I could receive, that  
 “ your Lordships are pleased to take Notice of my Endeavours, to serve the  
 “ *Queen*, and my Country. I beg Leave to do Justice to all the Officers, and  
 “ Soldiers, who have served with me. It is not possible for Men to shew more  
 “ Zeal for her Majesty's Service, or greater Bravery, than they have done.”

His Grace's  
Answer.

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

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

WE shall begin our Relation of the Transactions of this Year, with some farther Account of Occurrences at Home, and especially in *Parliament*, as far as they had any Regard to the Duke of *Marlborough*. 1710.

THE *House of Commons* having been informed, by Sir Gilbert Heathcote, a Member of their *House*, of the Advances made by *France*, towards the renewing a Negotiation of Peace; and that the *States-General* were inclined to grant Passes to the *French Plenipotentiaries*, to come to *Holland* for that Purpose; they resolved to present an Address to her Majesty, that she would be pleased to send the Duke of *Marlborough* forthwith into *Holland*. This Address having been drawn up by a Committee, reported to the *House*, and agreed to, was sent to the *Lords* for their Concurrence; and their *Lordships* having readily joined in it, *both Houses* presented the said Address to her Majesty, which was as follows.

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN,

“ WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the *Lords Spi-* Address of  
 “ tual, and Temporal, and Commons, in *Parliament* assembled, having Reasons *both Houses of*  
 “ to believe, that the Negotiations of Peace will suddenly be renewed in *Parliament*,  
 “ *Holland*; and being justly apprehensive of the crafty and insinuating Designs to desire his  
 “ of our Enemy, either to create Divisions amongst our *Allies*, or by amu- be sent to  
 “ sing them with deceitful Expectations of Peace, to retard their Prepara- *Holland*, to  
 “ tions of War; do think ourselves bound in Duty, most humbly to repre- assist at the  
 “ sent to your Majesty, of how great Importance we conceive it is, to the Negotiations  
 “ Interest of Peace.”

" Interest of the *Common-Cause*, that the Duke of *Marlborough* should be abroad at this Juncture.

" WE cannot but take this Opportunity, to express our *Sense of the great and unparallel'd Services of the Duke of Marlborough*; and with all imaginable Duty, to applaud your Majesty's great Wisdom; in having honoured the same Person with the *great Characters of General, and Plenipotentiary*, who, in our humble Opinion, is *most capable of discharging two such important Trusts*.

" WE therefore make it our humble Request to your Majesty, that you would be pleased to order the Duke of *Marlborough's* immediate Departure for *Holland*, where his Presence will be equally necessary, to assist at the Negotiations of Peace, and to hasten the Preparations for an early Campaign; which will most effectually disappoint the Artifices of our Enemies, and procure a safe and honourable *Peace*, for your Majesty, and your *Allies*."

To this Address, her Majesty was pleased to return the following Answer.

MY LORDS and GENTLEMEN,

The Queen's Answer.

" I AM so sensible of the Necessity of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Presence in *Holland*, at this critical Juncture, that I have already given the necessary Directions for his immediate Departure; and I am very glad to find, by this Address, that you concur with me, in a just Sense of the Duke of *Marlborough's* eminent Services."

ACCORDINGLY, pursuant to her Majesty's Promise, both to the *States*, and to her *Parliament*, his Grace set out, the very next Day, for *Harwich*; and landed in *Holland* the Seventh of *March*, N. S. after a very difficult Passage; having been three Days at Sea, and lain rolling about three Leagues off Shore, from Seven in the Morning, till Two in the Afternoon. But, as this great Man, amongst his other Virtues, was particularly famous for his Serenity of Mind, and Command of Temper, so, on this Occasion, he was observed not to be in the least uneasy. But before we proceed to give an Account of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Proceedings at the *Hague*, we believe it will not be amiss to give some farther Account of our Transactions at Home, as they were introductory of that great Change in the Ministry, which not long afterwards ensued, to the Amazement of all *Europe*; who were all, more or less, affected therewith, though in a very different Manner.

SOME Days before the Address above-mentioned was drawn up, when the Nation probably were in Expectation of some such Thing, and the Change of the Ministry, which soon after followed, was suspected, the Author of the *Tatler*, speaking of the Glory of the Times, with Relation to *England*, has the following remarkable Paragraph.

A remarkable Passage in the *Tatler*.

" IF I see a General commanding the Forces of his Country, whose Victories are not to be paralleled in History, and who is as famous for his Negotiations as his Victories; and at the same Time, see the Management of a Nation's Treasury in the Hands of One, who has always distinguish'd himself by a generous Contempt of his own private Wealth, and an exact Frugality of that which belongs to the Publick; I cannot but think a People, under such an Administration, may promise themselves Conquest abroad, and Plenty at home. If I were to wish for a proper Person to preside over the Publick Councils, it should certainly be one, as much admired for his universal Knowledge of Men and Things, as for his Eloquence, Courage, and Integrity, in the exerting of such extraordinary Talents."

ON the Fifth of *April*, the *Parliament* was prorogued, and soon after, the Queen took a Step which gave Occasion to severe Reflections. The Duke of *Shrewsbury*



*Shrewsbury* had left *England*, towards the End of the foregoing Reign, because, as it was said, a warmer Climate was necessary for his Health. He staid several Years at *Rome*, where he became acquainted with a *Roman Lady*; who upon his Return to *England*, followed him to *Augsburgh*, where she overtook him, and declared herself a *Protestant*: Upon which he married her there, and came back with her to *England* in 1706. A late Author says, it was thought, by the Party he most favoured, that his leaving *England*, and living so long out of it, whilst we were in so much Danger at Home, joined with his Marriage, gave just Cause of Suspicion. The Duke of *Marlborough*, however, and the Lord *Godolphin*, lived still in Friendship with him, and studied to overcome the Jealousies some had of him. He seemed not to be concerned at the Distance, in which he was kept from Business; but a few Days after the *Parliament* was prorogued, the *Queen*, without communicating the Matter to any of her Ministers, took the Chamberlain's White Staff from the Earl of *Kent*, whom in Recompence, she created a Duke, and gave it to his Grace of *Shrewsbury*. This occasioned no small Uneasiness; it being concluded from thence, that a total Change of the Ministry would quickly follow; and it was believed, says the same Author, that there was a secret Understanding between that Duke, Mr. *Harley*, and the new Favourite.

THE *Queen's* Inclination to the latter, and her Alienation from the Dukes of *Marlborough*, began now to appear more and more, and broke out upon many, though trivial Occasions; whereupon, the Dukes retired from Court, and was seen no more at it, in this Reign. The Duke of *Shrewsbury* gave the Ministers very positive Assurances, that his Principles were still the same, as they were the last Reign, and were not altered in any Respect; upon which, he desired to enter into Conferences with them, but there was now too much Ground for Suspicion.

The Dukes of *Marlborough* retires from Court.

It will be Time now to take a View of what was doing in the mean While in *Holland*, with Regard to the Negotiations for a Peace. Though all Thoughts of a Treaty seemed to be at a Stand, towards the latter End of the Year before; yet upon the vigorous Resolutions taken in *Great Britain*, and *Holland*, for the Continuance of the War, the Court of *France* thought fit to make farther Overtures of Peace. In order, hereunto, on the Second of *January*, the Marquis de *Torcy* sent another Scheme to Monsieur *Pettecum*, which consisted of five Articles, the Substance whereof was as follows.

I. " THAT, immediately after the Signing of the Peace, his Most Christian Majesty would acknowledge King *Charles III.* as King of the whole Monarchy of *Spain*; and not only withdraw all the Succours he had given his Grandson, but also not send him any Assistance for the future, and forbid his Subjects listing among his Troops: As also, that he would consent, that no Part of the Monarchy of *Spain* should ever be united to *France*.

Overtures made by *France* for a Peace.

II. " THAT, as for the *Emperor*, and the *Empire*, the King of *France* would restore the Town and Citadel of *Strasburgh*; content himself with the Possession of *Alsace*, according to the literal Sense of the Treaty of *Munster*; leave the *Empire* the Town of *Landau*; raze the Fortifications he had caused to be built on the *Rhine*, from *Basil* to *Philipsburgh*; and acknowledge both the King of *Prussia*, and the *Elect*or of *Hanover*.

III. " THAT, as to *England*, he would acknowledge *Queen Anne*, and the Succession in the *Protestant Line*; restore *Newfoundland*, and agree to a mutual Restitution of all that had been taken in the *West-Indies*, on both Sides; demolish the Fortifications of *Dunkirk*, and ruin the Harbour thereof; and consent to the Pretender's leaving *France*.

IV. " THAT, as to the *States-General*, he would yield to them, for a Barrier, all the Places specify'd in the Twenty-second Article of the *Preliminaries*; and confirm what he had offered to them, with Respect to their Trade: And,

V. " As "

V. "As to the Duke of *Savoy*, that he was willing to grant the Demands made for him by the *Allies*; but that he, likewise, demanded, that the *Electors* of *Cologne*, and *Bavaria*, should be restored to their Estates, and Dignities.

Rejected by the *Allies*, and others proposed.

THESE Proposals being rejected by the *Allies*, the *French* resolved to make farther Overtures; and accordingly dispatch'd a Cabinet Courier to the *Hague*, with a Letter from the Marquis de *Torcy*, to Monsieur *Pettecum*, importing.

"THAT the *French* King consented, that the *Preliminaries*, which were concerted the Year before, should be the Foundation of the future Treaty; and had appointed the Marshal d'*Uxelles*, and the Abbot de *Polignac*, his *Plenipotentiaries*, to treat with the *Allies* about an *Equivalent* for the Thirty-seventh Article, relating to the Evacuation of *Spain*; and that the said Ministers would be ready to meet those of the *Allies*, at *Antwerp*, or any other Place, if the *Allies* would but send them the necessary Passes.

THE Courier arrived at the *Hague*, the Second of *February*, N. S. and his Dispatches were communicated the same Day, by Monsieur *Pettecum*, to the Grand Pensionary; who imparted them, likewise, the next Day, to the *Plenipotentiaries* of the *Empire*, and the Queen of *Great Britain*. Hereupon, several Conferences being held, between these Ministers, and the Deputies of the *States-General*, the *French* Courier was sent back, the Thirteenth of the same Month, with an Answer from Monsieur *Pettecum*, to the Marquis de *Torcy*'s Letter, the Purport whereof was:

"THAT the last Declaration of the Court of *France*, being couch'd in uncertain and ambiguous Terms, the *Allies* required, that his Most *Christian* Majesty should declare, in plain and express Words, that he consented to all the *Preliminaries*, except the thirty-seventh Article; which done, the *Allies* would send Passes to his Ministers, to treat of an *Equivalent*, for the said Article."

Passes granted for the *French Plenipotentiaries*

THE *French* Court were not long in resolving, so earnestly desirous did they seem to be of a Peace, at this Time; for on the Twentieth, another Courier arrived at the *Hague*, with a satisfactory Answer; and on the Twenty-third he was sent back, with Passes for the *French Plenipotentiaries*. There now seemed to be some Hopes, that the *French* were in Earnest; however, as the *States* knew by Experience, the ill Effects of suffering the *French* Ministers to come into their Country; where they were continually stirring up the People against the Government, by their Agents, and representing as if they prolong'd the War without any Necessity, they appointed *Gertruydenburgh* to be the Place, to which the *French* Ministers, should come, to treat with the Deputies, whom they should send to meet them. *Antwerp*, indeed, was the Place first proposed, as has been already observed; but the *French* now seemed averse to treating there, or in any other Town belonging to the *Spanish-Netherlands*; undoubtedly, out of a Compliment to King *Philip*.

They arrive at *Gertruydenburgh* and confer with the Deputies of the *States*.

ON the Ninth of *March*, N. S. the *French Plenipotentiaries* arrived at *Antwerp*, where they desired that Monsieur *Pettecum* might meet them, before they entered into any Conference; but this was refused them: Wherefore, they went on board a Yacht, prepared for them at *Moerdyke*; where Messieurs *Buys*, and *Vanderdussen*, the Deputies of the *States* for this Treaty, met them soon after, and had a Conference with them. The next Day, they had another, for several Hours; after which the Deputies set out for the *Hague*, to make their Report to their High Mightinesses, and the *French Plenipotentiaries* went to *Gertruydenburgh*.

MESSIEURS *Buys*, and *Vanderdussen*, being returned to the *Hague*, on the Eleventh of *March*, where the Duke of *Marlborough* was arrived some Days before, they had a Conference the next Morning with his Grace, in the Presence of the Lord *Townshend*, Count *Zinzendorf*, the Grand Pensionary, and the Deputies of the *States*: There they reported what had passed between them, and the *French Plenipotentiaries*; which, however, gave very little Satisfaction. The same Day, to prevent any Jealousies amongst the other Ministers of the *Allies*, the Deputies of the *States* communicated to the

*Prussian*

*Prussian Plenipotentiaries*, what had been transacted at *Moerdyke*. And, the next Day, the same was made known, in a more solemn Manner, to all the Ministers of the *Allies*. They were all desired, at the same Time, as there was no great Prospect of the Treaty's coming to any Thing, to use their Interest with their respective Masters, that their Troops might be in Readiness, to begin the Campaign, as early as possible; as the most effectual Means to force the common Enemy, to accept such Conditions, as might secure a safe and lasting Peace.

To give a particular Account of the Subject-Matter of Debate, in every Day's Conference, from the Twenty-first of *March*, when they began again, to the latter End of *July*, when they entirely broke off, would be too tedious, and detain us too long, from Matters of more Importance, and more immediately belonging to this History, whereas this only relates to it indirectly. We shall, therefore, only give our Readers a succinct Account of what was proposed, and insisted on, by the Plenipotentiaries on one Side, and the Deputies on the other, without any Regard to Time, or Order.

THE *French* proposed, that the Dominions in *Italy*, with the *Islands*, should be given to one of the Competitors for the *Spanish* Monarchy; but did not name which of them; though it was understood to be meant of King *Philip*: The Deputies did not absolutely reject this, but shewed, that the *Emperor* would never consent to part with *Naples*, nor to give the *French* such Footing in *Italy*, of which the *French* seem'd likewise to be sensible. The first Conference ended upon the Return of the Courier, whom they had sent to *Versailles*. They moved then for another Conference; and upon several Proposals, several Conferences were renewed. The *French* King desisted from his Demand of *Naples*, but insisted on the Places on the Coast of *Tuscany*; at length, however, they went off from that too, and insisted only on *Sicily*, and *Sardinia*. The Partition seeming now to be settled, the Deputies pressed the *French* Plenipotentiaries, to give them solid Assurances of King *Philip's* yielding up *Spain*, and the *West-Indies*; to which, upon Notice first given to the Court of *France*, they answered, that his *Most Christian* Majesty would enter into Measures, with the *Allies*, to force him to it. Hereupon, many Difficulties were started, about what Troops should be employ'd, what their Number should be, and who should command them; and after all, it appeared, that the putting this in Execution, would be impracticable. It was then proposed, that the *French* should pay a Sum of Money annually, during the War with *Spain*; but new Difficulties arose again upon that Head, both with Respect to settling the Sum, and securing the Payment. As to the latter, the *French* offered the Bankers of *Paris*; but they were no manner of Security, because they must all have been obliged to break, whenever their King had a Mind to have them do so. In short, it was evident by all their Proceedings, that they designed only to divide the *Allies*, by this Offer of a Partition, to which the *States* consented; for which the *French* hoped, the House of *Austria* would have been enraged against them.

THE *French* then demanded of the Deputies, an Assurance, that no other Articles should be insisted on, but those in the *Preliminaries*; but the Deputies absolutely refused that; for they had reserved a Power, by one of the *Preliminaries*, for all the *Allies* to make farther Demands, when a general Treaty should be opened: They said, indeed, that they themselves would require no more, but they could not pretend to restrain the Rest of the *Allies*, from their just Demands. This was another Artifice, to provoke the *Emperor*, and the Duke of *Savoy*; as if the *States* intended to force them to accept of such a Peace, as they should prescribe. In another Conference, the *States* rejected the Offer of a Sum of Money, for carrying on the War in *Spain*; and therefore, insisted on it, that the *French* should explain themselves, on the Subject of evacuating *Spain*, and the *West-Indies*, in Favour of King *Charles III.* before they could declare their Intentions, with Relation to the Partition; they added, that all farther Conferences would be to no Purpose till that was done.



THE *French* were now resolved to break off the Negotiation; and therefore, thought proper to call this Demand of the *States*, a formal Rupture of the Treaty. Accordingly, upon the Return of an Express, which they had sent to *Versailles*, after several Letters had passed between them and Monsieur *Pettecum*, for Decency sake, they wrote a long Letter to the *Grand Pensionary*, in the Form of a *Manifesto*, and so returned back to *France*, towards the End of *July*.

THIS is an Abridgment of the Account published of this Affair, both by our Ministers, and by those of the *States*. The *French*, on their Side, publish'd nothing; for they were unwilling to let the *Spaniards* know, that they ever entered upon any Treaty, for a Partition of their Monarchy, much less for evacuating *Spain*. Whether *France* ever designed any Thing else by this whole Negotiation, than to quiet their own People, and to amuse, and divide the *Allies*, is still a secret; "but if they really intended to have  
"made a Peace, the Reason of their going off from it; says a late Author,  
"must have been the Account they had of our Distractions then in *England*;  
"which might make them conclude, that we could not be in a Condition  
"to carry on the War." By these Distractions, we presume, that Author means the Disputes which happened that Winter, upon the Tryal of Dr. *Sacheverel*, whether the *Church* was in Danger, or not; and the Change of the Ministry.

Some Remarks upon this Treaty, and its not succeeding.

WE have thought it necessary to premise thus much upon this Head, because the Rupture of this Treaty, amongst other Things, was afterwards unjustly laid at the Duke of *Marlborough's* Door; he being charged with having broken it off by his Influence, that he might protract the War, for his own private Interest: But how unreasonable it was, even to suggest this, and much more so, to aver it, we shall have Occasion to shew more particularly hereafter. In the mean While, as this Treaty was spun out to so great a Length, and at last came to nothing, we shall add a few Remarks thereupon. This Treaty was managed, as we have shewn above, by the Marshal *d'Uxelles*, and the Abbé *de Polignac*, one of the most consummate Statesmen at the *French* Court, who was soon after made a Cardinal, on the Part of *France*; and the Deputies of the *States*, Messieurs *Buys*, and *Vanderdussen*, on the Part of the *Allies*, without the Intervention of any other Ministers. Count *Zinzendorf*, indeed, the *Imperial* Minister, desired twice to assist, and be present at these Conferences; but it was refused by the *Dutch*, which afforded Matter of Speculation. Hereupon, he sent an Express to Prince *Eugene*, who was then in the Army, to desire his Advice upon this Head; and his Highness counsel'd him, to follow the Example of the *British* Ministers; whose Mistress was satisfy'd with leaving it wholly to the Wisdom and Integrity of the *States-General*. But for what Reason this was done, and whether the *Dutch* dealt unfairly with their *Allies*, as many in *England* suggested, though, we hope, without a Cause, we shall not pretend to determine. The last Conference, which the *French* Plenipotentiaries, and the Deputies of the *States* had on this Head, broke off with Heats, and Unkindness; and Monsieur *Vanderdussen* having used some warm Expostulations about it, the Abbé *de Polignac* replied in very high Terms; and reproach'd the *Dutch* with Ingratitude to the Crown of *France*, which had been their main Support, upon their Defection from *Spain*.

HAVING premised thus much, in Favour of our *Hero*, and the *Dutch*, that we may not be thought partial, we shall now add a short Account, of what has been said, on the other Side of the Question. They who imagine the *Dutch* dealt not fairly by us in this Treaty, but broke it off, when it was upon the Point of being concluded, are apt to ask? "How long would  
"Spain have been able to have resisted the united Force of the *Allies*,  
"without the Assistance of *France*? And could it be supposed, that King  
"Philip would have refused to comply, with what his Grandfather had  
"stipulated for him; and thereby hazarded the losing even *Sicily*, and  
"Sardinia, as well as his other Dominions? Besides, the Barrier-Towns,  
"which were agreed to be delivered up to the *Emperor*, and the *Dutch*,  
"would

“ would have required some Years to conquer ; and had the *French* been  
 “ never so insincere, as was pretended, the *Allies* would have gained such  
 “ an additional Strength thereby, as would have rendered *France* much less  
 “ formidable than it had been. Supposing it had been our own Case, and  
 “ the Fortune of War had reduced us to a Necessity of abandoning King  
 “ *Charles* ; and the *French* had insisted, that the *Allies* should not only  
 “ cease to assist him, but should turn their Arms against the Prince they  
 “ had set up, would it not have been thought a most extravagant Demand ?  
 “ And if it would, was it not much more unreasonable, to desire the *French*  
 “ King, to enter into a War with *Philip*, to whom he was so nearly ally’d,  
 “ by the Ties of Blood, as well as all other Engagements ?

“ WE had talk’d so long, indeed, (*said they*) of the boundless Ambition,  
 “ and exorbitant Power of *France*, that we affected to have a Dread thereof,  
 “ even after that Kingdom was reduced so low, that our own General gave  
 “ out, they could not make Head against us another Year.

“ EVERY Proposal, that was said to come from *France*, was still con-  
 “ demned, as unreasonable, before it was examined ; and if the Reason-  
 “ ableness thereof, was so conspicuous, that it could not be denied, we  
 “ were then taught to exclaim against their *Insincerity*.

“ IN short, (*continued they*) some of the Powers engaged in the *Grand*  
 “ Alliance, were such Gainers by the War, the Charge whereof was born  
 “ by their Neighbours, that any Peace whatever must have been to their  
 “ Disadvantage ; and therefore, it is not to be thought strange, if they  
 “ talk’d loudly of the Enemy’s *Insincerity*, and rejected all their Proposals :  
 “ The daily Acquisition of new Dominions, at the Expence of others, might  
 “ possibly put such a Bias upon their Judgments, that they might, in some  
 “ Measure believe what they affirmed.”

THE *French*, who retort the *Insincerity* they are charged with upon the  
*Dutch*, said, “ It was evident they did not act ingenuously, because they  
 “ would not suffer the Conferences to be held at the *Hague*. They knew  
 “ the Populace there, who were impatient for a Peace, would have disco-  
 “ vered the *Insincerity* of their Rulers ; who still remembered the Dis-  
 “ satisfaction, which appeared in their Faces, upon Monsieur de Torcy’s  
 “ leaving the *Hague*, the Year before ; and that they then assem-  
 “ bled, in a tumultuous Manner, to press him not to depart, till a Peace  
 “ was concluded. For this Reason, *said they*, the *Dutch* insisted, that the  
 “ *French Plenipotentiaries* should not come any farther than *Gertruydenburgh*,  
 “ till the Preliminaries were agreed on, which, they very well knew, the  
 “ *French* could not consent to ; and then they could insinuate to the People,  
 “ that it was *France* refused a Peace, though very reasonable Conditions  
 “ were offered. Till then, the Courts of *Vienna*, and *London*, were accused  
 “ of having raised Difficulties, to obstruct the Conclusion of a Peace ; but  
 “ then the Publick began to be undeceived ; and it plainly appeared, that  
 “ they who were at the Head of the Government in *Holland*, were not so  
 “ weary of the War, as their Subjects. Their Disingenuity was, like-  
 “ wise, visible, when they propos’d to hold Conferences, which they had  
 “ not so much at Heart, as they would have had it believed. The Pre-  
 “ sence of the Interest of the House of *Austria*, served to countenance the  
 “ Ambition they had of increasing their own Power. They were for taking  
 “ Advantage of the Troubles of *Europe*, and the Misfortunes of *France*,  
 “ to appropriate to themselves the Rest of the *Low-Countries*, and the whole  
 “ Trade of the *Spanish West-Indies* ; that they might be thereby enabled to  
 “ give Laws to *Europe*. This was the View of the *Dutch* ; and they shew’d  
 “ it plain enough, in the Conferences at the *Hague*, and at *Gertruydenburgh* :  
 “ They opened the Eyes of all the Powers concerned, and even of their  
 “ own *Allies*.”

SUCH were then the Reasonings of the Partisans of *France* ; and it  
 was observed, that from this Time, the *French* were no more so desirous  
 of hastening the Conclusion of a Peace, and that they talk’d of it with more  
 Indifference than before. Whether it was, that they flatter’d themselves  
 with

with the Hopes of a Diversion from the *North*; or whether it was, as a late Author observes, that the Divisions, which began to break out at the Court of *Great Britain*, made them expect some happy Revolution in their Favour. However that be, it is certain, as Father *Daniel* remarks, that as Matters went afterwards, the *Allies* had Cause to repent of their not accepting the Offers made them at *Gertruydenburgh*; but there is likewise all the Reason in the World to believe, that they would not have repented, had it not been for some unforeseen Events, which produced a strange Change in the Face of Things; and by raising the forlorn Hopes of the *French*, was the Occasion of the *Allies* losing the principal Advantages, which they had good Grounds to have promised themselves, from their glorious and unparalleled Successes in the War.

THAT the *French* had some Reason to flatter themselves with the Hopes of a Diversion from the *North*, our Readers may see by the following Extract of a Letter, from the Earl of *Stairs* to the Duke of *Marlborough*, dated from *Warsaw*, March 29, 1710.

Extract of a  
Letter from  
the Lord  
*Stairs*, to the  
Duke of  
*Marlborough*

“ IN my Opinion, our chief Attention should be on the Body of *Swedish* Troops, which is in *Pomerania*; and to take effectual Measures, that they remain in a State of Inaction: For if the King of *Sweden* should return, and should happen to reinforce that Body, and setting aside every other Consideration, should take it into his Head, to place himself, with this reinforced Body, in the very Heart of the *Empire*; he would not want Money, and having Money, he would find Means to raise as many Men as he should desire, of which we have already had Experience. It would be unnecessary to say any Thing what would be the Consequence of such a March. In my Opinion, it would require little more than a Resolution; which seems, itself, to agree pretty well with the Humour of the King of *Sweden*.”

BEFORE we enter into a Relation of the Transactions of this Campaign, we shall take a farther View of the great Change in the Face of Affairs at Home, that we may afterwards go on with the Transactions abroad, without Interruption, to the End of the Year.

The Earl of  
*Sunderland*  
dismiss'd  
from being  
Secretary of  
State.

THE *Queen's* Intention to make a Change in her Ministry, began now to break out; on the Fourteenth of *June*, she dismissed the Earl of *Sunderland* from the Office of Secretary of State, without assigning any Misbehaviour on his Part, and gave the Seals to the Earl of *Dartmouth*. This caused some Uneasiness, both at Home and Abroad; but her Majesty, to put a Stop to it, or at least to lessen it, is said to have told some of her Subjects here, and particularly the Governor of the *Bank*, and to have given Orders to her Ministers abroad, to assure the *Allies*, that she would not make any other Changes. Some, however, represent this otherwise, especially with Regard to the *Bank*, and say, that Sir *Gilbert Heathcote*, Governor, *Nathaniel Gould*, Esq; Deputy-Governor, *Francis Eyles*, Esq; and Sir *William Scawen*, two of the Directors, thought fit to make their Application to the Duke of *Newcastle*, Lord Privy Seal, and represented to him the Danger that would probably attend a Change of the Ministry; upon which his Grace introduced them to the *Queen*; and her Majesty, having given them a gracious Hearing, was pleased to tell them, “ That she had resolved, for some Time, to dismiss the Earl of *Sunderland*, for particular Reasons of State; but that she had not yet determined to make any other Changes, and that whenever she did, she would take Care, that the publick Credit should not suffer any Detriment thereby.” This, say they, gave Rise to the Report, that her Majesty assured them, she designed not to make any other Alterations. It is added, that she likewise said the same Thing to the Ministers of the *Emperor*, and the *States*, who resided here; upon which, they expressed their Joy at this Resolution, and even proceeded so far, as to offer their Advice, that her Majesty would not dissolve her *Parliament*, as it was surmised she would. This, says a late Author, was represented by those who had



had never been versed in the Negotiations of Princes in an Alliance, as a bold intruding into the *Queen's* Councils; though nothing, adds he, is more common, than for Princes to offer mutual Advices in such Cases.

Some Reasons alleg'd for his Removal.

BUT to be a little more particular in this Matter, with Regard to the Removal of the Earl of *Sunderland*, an Author who was his Cotemporary, and is generally thought to have had good Intelligence, observes, that some specious Pretences were not wanting for it, the most plausible whereof was as follows.

"SOME Time after the Death of the late Earl of *Essex*, the *Queen* designed to have bestowed a Regiment of Dragoons, lately commanded by his Lordship, on Colonel *Hill*, a Gentleman, who, besides the Interest of Mrs. *Masham*, his Sister, had a farther Recommendation to her Majesty's Favour, as having been Page of Honour to her; and yet more, upon Account of his gallant Behaviour, and good Conduct, at the Battle of *Almanza*, where he contributed very much to the rallying and preserving the broken Remains of the *Confederate* Infantry. On the other Hand, the Duke of *Marlborough* having promised that Regiment to Lieutenant-General *Meredith*; and it being supposed, that this was a Trial of Power, between his Dukes, and the growing Favourite, his Grace and his Lady absented themselves from Court, and retired, for some Days, to the Lodge in *Windsor-Park*. It being given out, that his Grace was so disquieted, that he designed to lay down his Command, the chief Lords then in the Ministry, considering what a vast Prejudice the Loss of so great a General, and Politician, would be to the *Common-Cause*, made their Application to the *Queen*, to incline her to alter her Resolution, about the Disposal of the Regiment before-mentioned; but her Majesty remained fixed in her first Choice, and insisted on her Prerogative. Mrs. *Masham*, continues the same Author, being look'd upon as the secret Opposer of the old Ministry, a Design was laid to procure a Vote from the *House of Commons*, to have her removed from her Majesty's Bed-Chamber, which was to have been made the Twenty-third of *January*; but upon a Hint thereof, it was timely prevented, by Colonel *Hill's* throwing himself at her Majesty's Feet, and begging he might not be the Occasion of any Uneasiness to her Majesty, but that she would be graciously pleased to bestow the Favour she intended him, upon some other Officer. The *Queen* granted his humble Request; and sending for some Lords, and particularly, as it had been said, the Lord *Sunderland*, told them, she would find another Way of rewarding Colonel *Hill*. Her Majesty, however, relenting this, and some other Matters concurring, from which was suggested, that some Persons in the Ministry endeavoured to ingross all the Authority, she resolved to make some Changes, and to begin with the Person, who was supposed to be the chief Promoter of the Design, to deprive the *Queen* of Mrs. *Masham's* Attendance. The Seals were, hereupon, taken from the Earl of *Sunderland*; but because no formal Neglect, or Error, in the Discharge of his Office, could be objected against him, and it might appear ungracious, to discharge a Nobleman of an unblemish'd Character, and so near a Relation to the Duke of *Marlborough*, with seeming Displeasure, it was thought proper to mitigate his Disgrace, by a Pension: But when Word was brought him, that her Majesty, as a Testimony of her Royal Favour, and of her being fully satisfied with his Lordship's Services, designed to present him with three Thousand Pound per Annum, to be settled upon him for Life, to make up, in some measure, the Loss of the Office of Secretary; his Lordship, with the Generosity of an old Roman, hardly to be parallel'd in these corrupt Times, answered, He was glad her Majesty thought he had done his Duty, but if he could not have the Honour to serve his Country, he would not plunder it. Before his Lordship was removed, the *Queen* was some Time in Suspence, about the Choice of a Person to succeed him. But the Earl of *Powlet*, to whom the Seals were first offered, having declined so fatiguing an Employment, the Lord *Dartmouth*, one of the Lords Commissioners

His Lordship refuses a Pension.

“missioners of Trade and Plantations, and Son-in-Law to the Earl of Nottingham, was thought, at this Juncture, a fit Person to be Secretary of State, into which Office he was sworn, on the Fifteenth of June.”

The Emperor, and the States, interpose in Favour of the Ministry.

HEREUPON, the Emperor, and the States-General were apprehensive, that the Duke of Marlborough would either be removed, or so far disgusted, as to lay down his Command; which might prove a great Prejudice to the Common Cause; wherefore Count Gallas, the Imperial Minister, and Monsieur Vryberge, the Dutch Envoy, received Instructions, to represent to the Queen, in the most respectful Manner, what a fatal Influence the Change of the Ministry might have on Affairs abroad. In Answer to this Remonstrance, the first was told, he might assure the Emperor, “That whatever Changes the Queen designed to make, she had resolved to continue the Duke of Marlborough in his Employments; and desired that Prince Eugene, and the other Imperial Generals, and Plenipotentiaries, would act with him, with the same Confidence as before.” The Answer, which was given to Monsieur Vryberge, was kept a Secret, but it was said, that her Majesty, notwithstanding the Dutch were severely reflected on, by some People, on this Occasion, that her Majesty put a favourable Construction upon the Interposition of the States-General, in Favour of the Ministry; looking upon it as the Effect of their Zeal for the Common-Cause, and the great Confidence they reposed in the Duke of Marlborough’s Valour and Conduct. It was likewise alledged, in Excuse for her Majesty’s Allies intermeddling, and giving their Advice on this Head, that there seemed to be a parallel Case, in the Queen’s interposing, at the Court of Vienna, in Favour of the Emperor’s Protestant Subjects, and even in the Parliament’s desiring Application to be made to the Emperor, to send Prince Eugene to command in Spain.

The Earl of Godolphin dismiss’d.

ABOUT two Months after the discarding of the Earl of Sunderland, viz. on the Eighth of August, her Majesty dismiss’d the Earl of Godolphin from his Post of Lord High Treasurer, and the next Day she put the Treasury in Commission. Earl Powlet, for Form-sake, was the first in the Commission; but it was soon known, that Mr. Harley, who was, at the same Time appointed Chancellor, and Under-Treasurer of the Exchequer, was the Person who bore the Sway, and had the Queen’s Ear; in short, it was visible he was the Chief Minister: And now it appeared plainly, that both a total Change of the Ministry, and the Dissolution of the Parliament were resolved on. To enter into an Examination of the Reasons alledged for and against this Step of the Queen’s, would carry us too far; wherefore, we shall only observe, that in September, her Majesty came to Council, and called for a Proclamation to dissolve the Parliament, which Sir Simon Harcourt, who had been made Attorney General, in the Room of Sir James Montague, who quitted that Post, had prepared. When it was read, the Lord Chancellor offered to speak; but her Majesty rose up, and would admit of no Debate, but ordered the Writs for a new Parliament to be prepared. About the same Time, the Lord Sommers was dismissed, and the Earl of Rochester made Lord President of the Council in his Room; the Lord Steward’s Staff was, likewise, taken from the Duke of Devonshire, and given to the Duke of Buckingham: Nor was this all, Mr. Boyle was removed from being Secretary of State, and Mr. St. John, afterwards Viscount Bolingbroke, put in his Stead; as was the Earl of Derby, from being Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, who was succeeded in that Post by the Earl of Berkeley.

Several other Noblemen, and Great Men discarded.

UPON all these Changes, the Lord Chancellor went to Court, on the Twenty-third of September, and delivered up the Great Seal; but the Queen not being prepared for this, was something surprized thereat, and not knowing how to dispose thereof, press’d his Lordship, with unusual Earnestness, to keep it one Day longer: The next Day, having considered thereof with her Favourites, Mrs. Masham, and Mr. Harley, she received it very readily. At first, her Majesty committed it to the Custody of three Lords Commissioners, viz. Sir Thomas Trevor, Lord Chief Justice of the Common-Pleas, and afterwards Lord Trevor; Robert Tracey, Esq; a Judge of the same Court, and Mr. Scroop, Baron of the Exchequer in Scotland; but it was soon given



given to Sir *Simon Harcourt*, who was created a Peer. The Earl of *Wharton*, also, delivered up his Commission of Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, which was given to the late Duke of *Ormond*; and the Earl of *Oxford*, with some of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, withdrew from that Board, and others were substituted in their Room.

Upon which several other Great Officers of State resign their Employments.

Remarks thereupon.

So sudden, and so entire a Change in the *Ministry*, as a late Author observes, is scarce to be parallel'd in our History; especially where Men of distinguished Abilities had served, both with great Zeal, and uncommon Success; insomuch, that the Administration of all Affairs, at Home, and Abroad, was not only without Exception, but had raised the Admiration of all *Europe*. This was entirely owing to the great Credit of the *new Favourites* with the *Queen*, and the personal Disgust she had conceived against the *old Ones*. Accordingly, her Majesty was much delighted with all these Changes, and seemed to think she was freed from the Chains wherein the *old Ministry* had held her, and spoke of it to several Persons, as a Captivity, under which she had long groaned. The Duke of *Somerset* had contributed very much to alienate the *old Ministry* from the *Queen's* Favour, and had no small Share in their Disgrace; but he was so much displeased with the Dissolution of the *Parliament*, and the new modelling of the *Ministry*, that though he continued some Time Master of the Horse, he refused to sit any more in Council, and complained openly of the Artifices, which had been used, to make him instrumental to other People's Designs.

THAT the *new Ministry* profess'd, at least, to act upon true *English* Principles, our Readers may see, by the following Extract of a Letter, from Mr. *Harley* to Sir *Rowland Gwyn*, then at *Hamburg*, dated *November 21, 1710*.

SIR,

"I CAN assure you, that the Changes which the *Queen* has made in her *Ministry*, are grounded upon an upright and truly *English* Principles; and you will find that those, whom her Majesty thinks fit, at present, to employ, will shew, by their Actions, that they have a very great Zeal for the Support of the *Grand Alliance*, in all its Branches, to continue the War, with a View to obtain a firm and honourable Peace, and to secure, in the most effectual Manner, the Succession in the most serene House of *Hanover*. These Principles, I am sure, you approve of, and I will never lose the good Opinion you have of me, by neglecting any Thing that is in my Power, which may contribute to such salutary Ends."

Extract of a Letter from Mr. *Harley* to Sir *Rowland Gwyn*.

UPON communicating this Letter to a Friend at the Court of *Hanover*, Sir *Rowland Gwyn* adds these Remarks.

"THESE are the Principles the *new Ministry* declare they will act upon, and I hope that they will keep up to them; if they do, I think that those who wish well to *England* cannot desire more, but that they may appease the Animosities, and unite us to consider our true Interest."

Sir *Rowland's* Remarks thereupon.

"MR. *Harley* is certainly one of the Chief in the present Ministry, and has had a very great Influence in the late Change; but the Tree is to be known by its Fruit, and we ought to hope for the best."

HAVING now given a succinct Account of our home Transactions, we shall now proceed to those abroad. The former Campaign was so memorable, both on account of the Importance, Multiplicity, and Variety of its Events, that it afforded great Matter of Speculation to all *Europe*. The famous Victory of *Blaregnies*, *Taifnieres*, *Mons*, or *Malplacquet*, by all which Names it was called, though best known by the latter, the Reduction of *Tournay* and *Mons*, with other singular Advantages, obtained over the Common Enemy; and the prodigious Straits to which *France* was reduced, by such a Series of Misfortunes, as had attended their Arms for some Years, gave most People Reason to think, that this Year would have produced such



such a Peace, as the *Allies* had proposed themselves, without any farther Expence of Treasure and Bloodshed; but we have already seen how they were deceived in their Expectations.

THE main Design of the *French*, in the Treaty of *Gertruydenburgh*, which, as we have observed above, was probably to create Uneasiness, and Jealousies, amongst the Subjects of the *Maritime Powers*, who had contributed so largely towards the Charges of the War; being easily seen through by our two discerning Generals and Ministers, Prince *Eugene* and the Duke of *Marlborough*, those Conferences did not delay the Preparations for the Continuance of the War; and therein, at least, the *French* lost their Aim, in insincere Negotiations. Hereupon, Prince *Eugene* having come to the *Hague*, on the Twelfth of *April*, and having concerted with the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Deputies of the *States*, the Operations of the next Campaign; for the early opening whereof, great Magazines of dry Forage, and other Necessaries had been provided, those two Generals set out, on the Fifteenth, for *Tournay*; near which Place, the *Confederate* Troops, which were quartered on the *Maese*, in *Brabant*, and in *Flanders*, were ordered to rendezvous.

Prince Eugene, and the Duke of Marlborough set out for Tournay, to open the Campaign.

THE Day before these two Generals set out from the *Hague*, on their Way to *Tournay*, the Earl of *Albemarle*, Governor of the latter, together with Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, caused an Attack to be made on the Castle of *Mortaigne*, situate at the Confluence of the *Scheld*, and the *Scarpe*, with six Vessels, six Pieces of Cannon, and three Hundred Men. This was done with so much Success, that, after a small Resistance, the Garrison, consisting of a Captain, four Subalterns, five Sergeants, and sixty-five private Men, the *French* say but fifty in all, surrendered Prisoners of War. They found in it but one Ton of Gunpowder, and one Sack of Ammunition Meal. In return, the Enemy, by the Means of the Galliot they had at *Conde*, on which they had planted seven or eight Pieces of Cannon, attacked that Post, the next Morning, by the Help of a large Detachment of Infantry, under the Chevalier de *Luxembourg*, and retook it, with about sixty Men, who were left there. But the Earl of *Albemarle*, and General *Cadogan*, considering the Importance of that Post, resolved to make themselves Masters of it a second Time; and having viewed it, the Sixteenth of *April*, caused it to be attack'd again the Eighteenth, by six Hundred Men, of the Garrison of *Tournay*, with some Vessels, and Cannon. The *French* Garrison, which now consisted of four Captains, six Lieutenants, several Sergeants, and two Hundred Grenadiers, were assisted, in the Defence of the Place, by twelve or fifteen Galliot from *Conde*. However, the *Confederate* Troops, being supported by a Detachment from the Body of Count *Feltz*, and favoured by the Cannon they had planted on the Rising Grounds of *Mande*, the Enemy were obliged to surrender themselves Prisoners of War; and the *Allies* now left two Hundred Men, with four Pieces of Cannon in the Place.

Mortaigne taken by the Allies.

ON the Seventeenth of *April*, N. S. Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, arrived at *Tournay*, after having been complimented, in their Way, at *Antwerp*, by the *States* of *Brabant*. The same Day, they began to confer with the Count de *Tilly*, and Monsieur *Claerbergen*, one of the Deputies of the *States*, on the opening of the Campaign.

THE *French* had been fortifying their Lines all the Winter, in order to cover *Doway*, and their other Frontier Towns; and now they were so vain, as to call them impregnable. Notwithstanding this, it was resolved, in this Conference, that all the Troops, which had their Winter-Quarters in *Flanders*, *Brabant*, and other Places on the hither Side the *Maese*, and were now encamped in the Neighbourhood of *Tournay*, should provide themselves with Bread till the Twenty-third; and several other necessary Dispositions being made, for advancing towards the Enemy's Lines, the Army began their March the Twentieth, at Five in the Afternoon, in two Columns, the *Right* commanded by the Duke of *Marlborough*, to *Pont a Vendin*, and the *Left*, by Prince *Eugene*, to *Pont-Oby*, on the *Deyle*. This March, which

was

was continued all Night, was so sudden, and well regulated, that notwithstanding the great Preparations the *French* had made, to fortify and defend their Lines; and though the Chevalier *de Luxembourg* was encamp'd, for that Purpose, near *St. Amand*, and the Marshal *d'Artagnan*, had drawn together about forty Squadrons, and sixty Battalions, some Accounts say but thirty Squadrons, near *Lens*, and *Bethune*, yet the next Day, the Prince of *Wirtemberg*, and Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, with a Detachment of fifteen Battalions, and fifty Squadrons, from the Duke of *Marlborough's* Column, enter'd these Lines at *Pont a Vendin*, without any Opposition; the few Troops, who guarded that Post, being surprized, and retiring, at the Approach of the *Confederates*, without firing one Shot. The *French*, not apprehensive, that the Army of the *Allies* were so near them, were mostly out that Morning, in Quest of Forage, so that their Generals had hardly any Cavalry with them; and this occasioned, likewise, the Loss of a good Part of their Officers Baggage, their Servants being with the Foragers.

UPON this almost-unexpected Success, the whole *Confederate* Army pass'd the Lines, the *Right*, under the Duke of *Marlborough*, at *Pont a Vendin*, and the *Left* under Prince *Eugene*, at *Couriers*. This spread such an Alarm amongst the Enemy's Troops, which were assembled near *Lens*, that they retreated, with all the Expedition they were able, partly towards *Arras*, and partly towards *Doway*. The *Allies* encamped that Night in the Plain of *Lens*, and march'd again very early, on the Twenty-second, to dislodge the *French*; who having drawn together their Troops near *Vitry*, behind the *Scarpe*, made a Shew of resolving to dispute the Passage of that River. For this Purpose, the Chevalier *de Luxembourg*, with the Horse from *Arras* and *Bethune*, had joined the Marshal *de Montesquiou*. But though they were posted very advantageously, yet being greatly inferior in Number, and the Soldiers not having recovered from their Surprize and Consternation, they retired, with great Confusion, and Precipitation, towards *Cambrai*, as soon as they saw the *Confederate* Troops approach; leaving Part of their Tents and Baggage behind them. Hereupon, the *Allies* having laid their Bridges over the *Scarpe*, the Prince of *Hesse Cassel* was detach'd, with twelve Squadrons, to fall on the Enemy's Rear; but they retired so fast, and broke down so many Bridges, as soon as they had pass'd them, that his Highness could overtake but a small Number of them, and those he made Prisoners of War. These reported, that very hard Words had pass'd between the Marshal *d'Artagnan*, and the Chevalier *de Luxembourg*; the latter laying the Blame of the *Allies* having pass'd the Lines on the Marshal, who would not believe they were in a Condition to attempt them; whilst the Marshal blamed the former, for not having joined him, as he had Orders to do. The Army, under the Duke of *Marlborough*, pass'd the *Scarpe* that Night, his Grace encamping with his *Right* near *Vitry*, on the said River, his *Left* at *Gouy*, and fixing his Quarters at the Extremity of his *Left*, at *Goulessin*. In the mean Time, the Army under Prince *Eugene*, march'd on the other Side the *Scarpe*, between the River and the Canal, in order to invest *Doway*, the Siege of which had been resolv'd on.

The Enemy  
retreat be-  
fore them,  
with Preci-  
pitation.

The Siege of  
*Doway* re-  
solv'd on.

ALL the Troops, which were to form the *Confederate* Army, for this Campaign, being now arrived in the Camp, the whole Army consist'd as follows: The *Right* Wing, under the Command of Prince *Eugene*, of forty-five Battalions of Foot, and one Hundred and one Squadrons of Horse and Dragoons; and the *Left*, under the Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*, of one Hundred and ten Battalions of Foot, and one Hundred and sixty-one Squadrons; amounting in all to one Hundred and fifty-five Battalions, and two Hundred and sixty-two Squadrons. They had one Hundred and two Pieces of Cannon, twenty Mortars and *Hawbitzers*, and forty *Pontoons*. The Enemy's Army was computed, at the same Time, to consist of two Hundred and four Battalions of Foot, and three Hundred and eight Squadrons of Horse and Dragoons, having ninety-six Pieces of Cannon, sixteen Mortars and *Hawbitzers*, and thirty-six *Pontoons*.



The Importance of that Conquest.

Strength of the Garrison.

ACCORDING to this Account, the *French* Army were much superior to the *Allies*; but if we will believe their Accounts, the *Confederate* Army consisted of one Hundred and thirty-eight Thousand Men, and was superior to theirs by forty Thousand. This Computation, however, is too extravagant to gain any Belief. We have already observed, that the Siege of *Doway* had been resolved on; and in the present Juncture of Affairs the *Allies* could not have attempted a Conquest of more Importance: For it is a large City, situated about five Leagues from *Cambray*, on the *Scarpe*; covered the Enemy's Frontiers, and laid the *Spanish-Netherlands* open to their Invasions. For these Reasons, ever since the Reign of *Henry II.* the *French* had left no Means untried to get it into their Hands; wherein having at last succeeded in 1667, and it being confirmed in their Possession, by the Treaty of *Aix la Chapelle*, they added new, though irregular Works to their Fortifications, at a very great Expence; made it a Place of Arms; erected Magazines, and a Foundry therein; and cut a Canal to unite the *Deyle*, and the *Scarpe*, which gave them an easy Entrance into the *Spanish* Provinces. Besides, it was very difficult of Access, on Account of the Morasses and Inundations adjoining to it, and had at some Distance a Fort, called *Fort Scarpe*, which was a regular Pentagon.

THE Garrison was commanded by the Marquis d'*Albergotti*, a Lieutenant-General, and an Officer of approved Valour, consummate Experience, and indefatigable Vigilance: He had under him, the Marquis de *Dreux*, and Monsieur *Brandele*, a *Swiss*, Major-Generals; Monsieur de *Pomercuil*, was Governor; Major-General de *Valori* commanded the Engineers, and the Chevalier de *Jancourt*, the Artillery. The Garrison consisted of seventeen Battalions; a Company of Cannoneers; a Brigade of Miners and Bombardiers; and two Regiments of Dragoons. In *Fort Scarpe* were three Battalions; six Companies of Invalids; and a Detachment of Cannoneers, and Bombardiers. All these Troops together amounted to eight Thousand Men. The *French*, in their Accounts, allow that there was the same Number of Battalions, Companies, &c. as we have mentioned, but add, that the Recruits not having joined them, when the Place was invested, none of them were compleat; so that the Whole amounted to no more than seven Thousand five Hundred Men.

WHAT made the Reduction of *Doway* of yet more Importance, was, that the *Chatellenie* of *Lisle*, whereof Part was still in the Possession of the Enemy, would thereby be wholly in the Power of the *Allies*; that *Lisle* itself, with *Tournay*, and other Places along the *Scheld*, and the *Lys*, as far as *Ghent*, would be more firmly secured; and that a Passage would thereby be opened, for transporting Necessaries from that Province into *Artois*, by Water; which would afford a Conveniency for maintaining numerous Garrisons in those Parts, and an Opportunity for making farther Progress into the Enemy's Country.

Preparations for the Siege

PURSUANT, therefore, to the Resolution taken, General *Cadogan* was detach'd, on the Twenty-third of *April*, in the Morning, to post himself at *Pont a Rache*, or *Pont a Rais*, and other Detachments were made, to open the Communication, over the *Lower Scarpe*, with *Lisle*, and *Tournay*. Herein they met with no great Difficulty; the *Allies* being already Masters of *Mortaigne*; and the Enemy having quitted *St. Amand*, *Marchiennes*, and the Abbey of *Hafnon*, below *Doway*, and being retired towards *Cambray*, upon the News of the *Confederates* having passed the *Scarpe*, at *Vitry*.

THE same Day, both Armies made a Motion to invest *Doway*; that of Prince *Eugene* extending from *Vitry*, on the *Scarpe*, to *Pont-Oby*, or *Oppy*, and that under the Duke of *Marlborough*, from the other Side of the *Scarpe*, over-against *Vitry*, to *Pont a Rache*, on the *Lower Scarpe*. The Twenty-fourth was spent in laying Bridges above and below *Doway*, on the *Scarpe*, and the *Canal*; and on the Twenty-fifth, the Besiegers began to work on the Lines of Circumvallation. Two Days before, an Express was dispatch'd to hasten the March of the *Hessians*, *Palatines*, and other Troops, in order to join



join the *Confederate* Army; and the Deputies of the Province of *Artois* arrived in the Camp, to desire the Duke of *Marlborough's* Protection.

ON the Twenty-sixth, the Lines of Circumvallation were continued, and the *Prussian* Troops, under the Prince of *Anhalt-Dessau*, arrived near the Camp. About the same Time, Monsieur *Vegelin de Klaerbergen*, Deputy of the *Dutch* Council of State, went to *Tournay*, and *Lisle*, to give the necessary Orders, for the speedy transporting to the Army, the Forage, Oats, and other Provisions, both for Man and Horse. On the Twenty-seventh, a Detachment of a Thousand Foot was sent from the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army, to stop the Sluices the Enemy had near *Arleux*, which partly supply'd the Inundation about *Doway*; and at the same Time, another Detachment was sent, to cut the Banks of the *Scarpe*, between *Vitry* and *Bioche*, that the Water of that River might run into the adjacent Marshes.

ON the Twenty-eighth, the Horse and Foot of both Armies made some Motions, and the Duke of *Marlborough* changed his Quarters to the Abbey of *Flines*: The same Day, likewise, forty Battalions, and thirty-two Squadrons, under the Command of the Princes of *Anhalt*, and *Nassau-Friesland*, being designed for the Service of the Siege, were drawn out and form'd, and proper Artillery appointed. Motions of both Armies.

ABOUT the same Time, the Cavalry under Prince *Eugene* extended themselves from *Oignies*, over the Canal of *Oby*, to *Belle-Ferriere*, near *Rache*; whilst the Horse of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Army passed the *Scarpe* at *Lelain*, and encamp'd with their Right, to the Village of *Rache*; being separated but by a short Interval, from the Left of Prince *Eugene*, and extending from thence through the Wood of *Rache*, to *Bouvignies*. The Infantry made a Motion, also, at the same Time; that under Prince *Eugene* took Post from *Pont-Oby* to *Esquerchien*, and from thence to *Brebieres*, or *Bressieres*; and the Foot under the Duke of *Marlborough*, stretched from thence, through the Villages of *Quincy*, and *Corbekem*, to *Fierin*, over the Upper *Scarpe*; and from thence to *Dechy*, and *Wasseres*, near the Lower *Scarpe*. The Horse being thus posted all together on the Left of the *Scarpe*, between *Doway* and *Lisle*, that they might subsist the more conveniently, and for securing their Convoys, the Duke of *Marlborough* thought fit to detach Major-General *Botbmar*, and one Thousand five Hundred Horse, with Orders to take Post without the *Confederate* Lines, near *Dechy*, and patrolle between them, *Bouchain*, and *Cambray*, to watch the Motions of the Enemy on that Side.

ON the Twenty-ninth, all the Horse and Dragoons in the Army, assisted the Besiegers in making Fascines; and they went on in perfecting the Line of Circumvallation, which began at *Dechy*, and ended at *Pont Oby*; Detachments were also made for securing the March of the Artillery, from *Lisle* to *Tournay*.

ON the Thirtieth, the Troops were provided with a good Number of Fascines and Gabions; and the same Day the Sluices, which the Enemy had broke down on the Upper *Deyle*, and which the Duke of *Marlborough* had ordered to be repaired, were put into such a Condition, as rendered the River navigable as far as *Oby*: This proved of great Service, for the Transportation of Forage, Ammunition, and other Necessaries.

ON the First of May, N. S. eight Hundred Men were detach'd from Prince *Eugene's* Army, to attack the Castle of *Pignonville*, near *Fort Scarpe*, which would have annoy'd the Besiegers in their Approaches; and after an Hour's Resistance, the Garrison, consisting of about a hundred Men, surrendered Prisoners of War. The same Morning, the Duke of *Marlborough* ordered Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, to view the Plains between *Lens*, and *Esquerchien*; and to mark out a proper Place, for ranging the Army in a Line of Battle, in Case the Enemy should attempt to raise the Siege. But either through Want of Forage, or other Necessaries, the *French* were not yet in a Condition to take the Field; and the Marshal *d'Artagnan*, having put most of his Troops into Garrisons, was retired to *Cambray* with the Rest; though not without Hopes, that *Doway* would hold out a sufficient Time, The Castle of Pignonville taken.

Time, to give their Forces an Opportunity to assemble, in order to relieve the Town. Neither was this Expectation altogether ill-grounded ; for the Garrison consisted, as we have observed above, of seventeen Battalions ; six Companies of Invalids ; and three Squadrons of Dragoons ; besides three other Battalions in Fort *Scarpe* ; the whole under the Command of the brave and vigilant General *Albergotti* : But the Enemy did not expect to be invested so soon ; wherefore a great Number of Officers were absent from their respective Posts, some of whom were taken, as they endeavoured to get into the Place.

Chateau-  
Louay taken.

ON the Third of *May*, at Break of Day, the Duke of *Marlborough*, detach'd a Major-General, and six Thousand Men from the Camp, with six Pieces of Cannon, and two *Hawbitzers*, to attack *Chateau-Louay*, a little to the North of *Doway*, which they took ; and the Garrison, consisting of two Hundred and forty Men, surrendered Prisoners of War. As they were marching out, some loose Powder, which had been scatter'd on the Ground, happened to take Fire, which reaching some Barrels of the same, that stood near, blew up several Officers and Soldiers, on both Sides.

THE necessary Preparations for the Attack of *Doway* being made, forty Battalions were appointed for that Service, under the Command of the Prince of *Anhalt-Dessau*, and the Prince of *Nassau-Friezland*, both Generals of the Foot ; with four Lieutenant-Generals, viz. the Earl of *Orkney*, General *Withers*, the Prince of *Holstein-Beck*, and Count *Dhona* ; who had under them, eight Major-Generals, and as many Brigadiers. French Historians place the Prince of *Anhalt-Dessau*, with half of the General Officers, under the immediate Command of Prince *Eugene* ; and the Prince of *Nassau-Friezland* with the other half, under the immediate Command of the Duke of *Marlborough*.

The Trenches opened before *Doway*.

ON the Night between the fourth and fifth of *May*, N. S. the Trenches were opened at two Attacks, on the North Side of the *Scarpe*, between the Gates of *Ocre* and *Esquerchien*, the Rest of the Place being covered by Inundations. Four Battalions, and three Thousand Workmen, were commanded for each Attack ; and the Work was begun in such good Order, that the Men were covered, before they were perceived by the Town, which was about Three in the Morning ; and all the Fire the Enemy made then, had no other Effect, than to wound one Sergeant, and two private Men, and kill one. The Day before, the Rector of the *English* College at *Doway*, having obtained Leave of the Duke of *Marlborough* to retire to *Lisle*, during the Siege, was conducted thither with his Students, to the Number of Threelcore.

ABOUT the same Time, the *French* having sent a Party of a hundred Horse, from *Bethune*, to get Intelligence of the Army of the *Allies*, a Party of the *Confederates*, which was patrolling in the Plains of *Lens*, met with them, and killing fifteen of them at the first Discharge, made the Rest Prisoners, with eight Officers, amongst whom were two Captains.

The Besieged make a vigorous Sally.

IN the mean While, the Siege was carried on, after the usual Manner, till the Ninth of *May* ; when about Ten at Night, the Besieged, to the Number of a Thousand Foot, most Grenadiers, and two Hundred Dragoons, made a vigorous Sally, under the Command of the Duke of *Montemar*, a Brigadier, against the Left Attack, commanded by the Prince of *Nassau*, put the Workmen, at first, into great Disorder, and levelled some Places of the Parallel. Colonel *Sutton's* Regiment, which was the first that supported the Pioncers, suffered very much, and if we may believe the *French* Accounts, were quite cut in Pieces ; but Major-General *Mackartney*, with the other Regiments in the Trenches, coming up to their Relief, the Enemy were repulled with a considerable Loss, and pursued to their very Counterscarp. This Action was very hot, insomuch, that the *Allies* had above three Hundred Men either killed or wounded ; and amongst the latter, Lieutenant-Colonel *Gledhill*, of *Sutton's* Regiment ; who being taken Prisoner, and carried into the Town, was very civilly used by the Governor. *French* Accounts say, the *Allies* had above four Hundred killed upon the Spot. The Loss of the Enemy was,

was, however, far greater; the Damage done to the Parallel, was repaired the same Night.

THE Eighth, at Break of Day, a small Battery of eight Pieces of Cannon, and four Mortars being ready, at the Prince of *Anhalt's* Attack, began to play, with great Fury against a little Sconce, in the Morafs, on the South of the Town, and soon dismounted it; this proved a very good Piece of Service; for the Enemy before had from thence greatly flank'd the Right of the Approaches, on that Side. The same Night, the Besieged made a small Sally, on that Side, likewise, but were repulsed with Loss. The large Train of Artillery, for the Use of the Siege, arrived at the Camp on the Ninth; and the same Day, several Hundred of Waggon, belonging to the Army, were sent to *Tournay*, to bring Ammunition from thence. On the Eleventh, a Battery was compleated at each Attack, for twenty-four Pieces of Cannon, and eight Mortars. The Approaches were also carried on, with such great Application and Success, that, on the Twelfth, the Besiegers advanced to the first Ditch, which the Enemy had made since the Reduction of *Tournay*.

A small  
Sconce  
taken.

ALL this While, the Enemy's Troops began to assemble in different Bodies, near *Bethune*, *Bapaume*, *Arras*, *Cambray*, *Landrecy*, and behind the River *Somme*; and the Marshal *de Villars*, whom the French Court had appointed to command their Forces in the *Netherlands*, and who had received, at *Paris*, the News of the Trenches being opened before *Doway*, arrived at *Peronne* on the Fourteenth of May: Upon which a Report was spread, that he designed to pass the *Scheld*, between *Bouchain* and *Denain*, in order to advance towards the *Confederates*, by the Plain of *Ostrevant*, between the *Scheld* and the *Lower Scarpe*. Hereupon, Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough* went, the Fifteenth in the Morning, to view the Post of *Arleux*; as also to survey the Ground between that Place and the *Lower Scarpe*; and give Directions for the marking out a Field of Battle, on the Plain towards *Valenciennes*, in Case the Enemy should attempt to relieve *Doway*, on that Side.

The En-  
emy's Forces  
begin to as-  
semble.

ON the Fourteenth, about Six in the Morning, the Batteries of the Besiegers being compleated at both Attacks, and mounted with thirty-eight Pieces of Cannon, and thirty-two Mortars and *Hawbitzers*, they began to play with great Fury on the Enemy's Out-works: But chiefly on the Prince of *Anhalt's* Side; because the Ground on the other Side was so boggy, that they could not carry on the Siege there, with so much Regularity and Vigour.

ON the Seventeenth of May in the Morning, the Besieged made another Sally, with nine Companies of Grenadiers, towards the Left of the Left Attack; but Colonel *Preston*, who commanded there, gave them so warm a Reception, that upon the first firing of his Men, the Enemy retired in great Confusion, and left above a Hundred Prisoners.

THE Nineteenth, upon Advice that the French Forces were in Motion, the Count *de Feltz*, General of the Imperial Horse, and Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, were detach'd, with four Thousand Men, towards *Arras*; both to view that Post, and the Ground thereabouts, and to get Intelligence of the Enemy. When they returned, on the Nineteenth, they reported, that they had seen about twenty French Squadrons, under the Cannon of *Arras*; and were informed, that all the Infantry in that Place had marched that Morning towards *Dour*, in their Rout to *Peronne*. The Twenty-first at Night, the Besieged made another Sally on the Left, wherein several Men were killed on both Sides. The Twenty-second at Night, the Besiegers on the Prince of *Anhalt's* Side, attack'd and took a little Horn-work, in the Front of their Approaches, with but little Loss.

A Horn-  
Work taken

NOTWITHSTANDING their former Disappointments, the Enemy made a fourth Attempt on the Trenches the Twenty-third at Night; but the Besiegers, who had Notice thereof, having killed twenty of their Men, at the very first Discharge, the Rest retired with Precipitation. The same Day, the Marshal *de Villars* advanced, with a large Body of Horse, towards the



Front of the *Confederate* Camp, to take a View thereof; but the *Picquet* being ordered out, they retired, on their approaching. The Marshal *de Villars* had set out on the Thirteenth of *May*, for *Peronne*, accompany'd by the *Pretender*, and the Duke of *Bourbon*: He arrived, the same Day, at *Cambray*, where, having met the Duke of *Berwick*, Monsieur *Besons*, the Marshal *de Montesquion*, and the *Bavarian* Marshal, Count *d'Arco*, they held a grand Council of War; wherein it was resolv'd, to draw together the *French* Army immediately, in order to attempt the Relief of *Doway*. Accordingly, the Marshal *de Villars* sent Expresses to the Reinforcements, which were commanded to join him from the *Upper Rhine*, to march with the utmost Diligence; and having drawn all his Troops together, passed the *Scheldt* the Twenty-second, and encamped, with his *Right*, near *Bouchain*, and his *Left* at *Ribecour*. According to the Marquis *de Quincy's* Account, the *French* Army then consisted of one Hundred and fifty-three Battalions, and two Hundred and sixty-two Squadrons.

PRINCE *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, having received Intelligence of this Motion of the Enemy's, found it necessary to make a new Disposition of all their Forces, except thirty Battalions, which they left at the Siege, and twelve Squadrons at *Pont a Rache*. Accordingly, the Twenty-fourth, all the Cavalry of his Grace's Army marched over the *Scarpe*, and returned to their former Camp near *Goulessin*, or *Goulexsin*; and the next Day, the Infantry moved the same Way; incamping with the *Right* over-against *Vitry*, and the *Left* near *Arloux*. At the same Time, Prince *Eugene* made a Motion with his Army, and placed his *Right* at *Ise les Esquerchies*. In this Situation, they could repair immediately to either of the Fields of Battle already marked out; and Roads were made for the Armies to march in four Columns, either Way, according to the next Motions the Enemy should make: And as the *Scarpe* separated the two Armies, Bridges were laid over that River, in several Places, for the more easy Communication of the Troops.

The main  
Counter-scarp  
taken by  
Storm.

THIS Disposition being made, a Council of War was held, wherein it was concluded, that, in Case of a Battle, Prince *Eugene* should command the *Right*, consisting of *Imperial* Troops; the Duke of *Marlborough* the *Left*, composed of the *English*; and Count *Tilly* in the *Centre*, with the Forces in the Pay of the *States-General*. The same Morning, likewise, by Break of Day, the Besiegers stormed, and took the main Counter-scarp, on the Prince of *Anhalt's* Side; and began their Bridges over the Ditch, to the main Breach in the Town-Wall: At Night, the Besieged again made a Sally, but were repulsed with Loss.

THE same Day, also, upon Advice that the Enemy were in Motion, the whole Army was ordered to be in a Readiness to march. The Twenty-sixth, upon Intelligence, that the Enemy had extended their Line nearer to *Arras*, their *Left* being within a League of that Place, and their *Right* at *Oisy*, the *Confederate* Generals justly concluded, that they had found it impracticable to attack them on the Side of *Arloux*; and that, therefore, their Design was to march into the Plain of *Lens*, and try what they could do on that Side. Accordingly, the *French* marched, on the Twenty-eighth, by *Blangies*, *Arras*, and Mount *St. Eloy*. Hereupon, Prince *Eugene* extended the *Right* of his Army to *Henin-Lietard*; and the Duke of *Marlborough* re-passed the *Scarpe*, with the *Right* Wing of his Army, incamped very near the *Left* of the Prince of *Savoy*, and took up his Quarters at *Esquerchies*. This Motion brought the two Armies very near the strong Camp, marked out from *Vitry* to *Montigny*, beyond *Henin-Lietard*; having the Village of *Bois Bernard* in *Front*, and that of *Beaumont* in the *Rear*: And for the greater Security thereof, broad and deep Intrenchments were thrown up, flank'd with Redans; several Redoubts also were erected, at four Hundred Paces Distance from each other; and Cannon drawn from the Lines of Circumvallation, were mounted upon Batteries, whose Shot cross'd each other, and commanded the whole Extent of the Camp.

ON

ON the Twenty-eighth, and Twenty-ninth, the *French* Army pass'd the *Scarpe*, over eight Bridges, between *Abies*, and the Abbey of *Avesnes*; and encamped with the *Right* at *Roquelin-court*, near *Arras*, and their *Left* at *St. Eloy*, having the Hills before them. As soon as they had passed the *Scarpe*, the Marshal *de Villars* caused Powder and Ball to be distributed to his Troops, together with Bread for four Days; hereupon, the *Dutch* Infantry, which had been left between *Vitry* and *Arleux*, on the other Side of the *Scarpe*, under the Command of Count *Tilly*, were ordered, on the Thirtieth in the Morning, to join the Duke of *Marlbrough's* Army; which, by this Time, was reinforced by the *Prussians*, *Palatines*, and *Hessians*, and by several Detachments, that had been recalled. At the same Time, the *Confederates* received Intelligence, that the Marshal *de Villars* had positive Orders, from the Court, to fight; that he had harangued the several Brigades of his Army, and represented to them, that Things were come to such a Pass, that they must either conquer or die; and that for their greater Encouragement, he had ordered the Chaplains of his Army, to give the Troops a general Absolution. Upon all these Advices, the *Allies* had great Reason to believe they should be attack'd; and the Expectation of a sudden Engagement increased greatly, when that Morning, about Eight a-Clock, the *French* Army decamping from *Roquelin-court*, and Mount *St. Eloy*, marched in twelve Columns between *Fresne* and *Lens*; and one of their Columns advanced to *Bertricourt*, with all their Generals, to view the Situation of the *Confederate* Army. The Marshals *de Villars*, and *de Montesquiou*, were in the Centre of the *French* Army, the Marshal *de Berwick* on the *Right*, and the Marshal *d'Arco* on the *Left*. In this Manner they encamped, with their *Right* to *Tanpoux*, and their *Left* at *Noyelles*, almost within Cannon-shot of the Intrenchments of the *Confederates*.

The *French* make a Shew of attacking the *Confederates*.

UPON the Approach of the Enemy, the *Confederate* Generals repaired to their respective Posts, and all necessary Dispositions were made to receive them. The Cannon were placed on the Avenues leading to the Camp; and the Prince of *Nassau*, with twenty Battalions from the Siege, and eleven more, from the Intrenchments between *Dechy* and *Ficrin*, joined the Grand Army; but the Marshal *de Villars* did not think his Superiority of ten Thousand Men sufficient to Counterballance the Advantage of the Ground, on the Side of the *Confederates*; wherefore, after having continued for some Time at *Bertricourt*, within Musket-shot of the *Confederate* Camp, he marched back, and joined the Centre of his Army between *Lens* and *Fresne*: He also made a Motion, soon after, towards his *Left*, and encamped between *Noyelles sous Lens*, and the Rising Grounds of *St. Laurens*. Here he held a grand Council of War, with all the General Officers; who were unanimously of Opinion, that it was impossible to force so formidable an Army, and so well intrenched, without running the Risk of losing that of *France*. The Council being over, the Marshal *de Villars* ordered the *General* to be beat, on the Fourth of *June*, in the Middle of the Day; after having been four Days in the Presence of the *Allies*, and marched towards *Arras*, where the Baggage had been left. However, he did not remove above a small League from the *Confederates*; posting his *Right* upon the *Scarpe*, near *Garverelle*, his *Left* towards *Aunay*, and his Centre at *Telache*. The Marshal *de Villars* imagined the *Allies* would have detached some Troops from their Intrenchments, to attack him in the Rear, and had taken all the necessary Precautions to give them a good Reception; but the *Confederate* Generals, who, after the Example of that Great Duke of *Parma*, *Alexander Farnese*, knew as well how to avoid fighting, as when to engage, were not to be drawn to an Action, when the Enemy seemed to seek it: And as their only View then was the Reduction of *Doway*, they resolved not to employ their Forces any otherwise, than on the Defensive. Hereupon, the Duke of *Berwick*, who had only come to *Flanders* to be assistant to the Marshal *de Villars*, in Case of any Action, finding it was impossible to tempt the *Allies* to engage, set out, soon after, for Court; from whence he went afterwards to

But dare not attempt it.

*Dauphiné*.

*Dauphiné*, to take upon him the Command of the Army, which the King of France was to have there.

Continuation of the Siege of Doway.

THE *Confederate* Generals finding the *French* durst not attack them, rightly judged, that the Marshal *de Villars* had no other Design, than to keep them in a continual Alarm, and thereby spin out the Siege; wherefore, they thought fit to send back the Troops, which they had drawn from the Siege; and those under General *Fagel* returned into the Lines, on the other Side the *Scarpe*. To prevent, however, any Surprise from the Enemy, Orders were given to join the several Redoubts made before the *Front* of the Camp, by an Intrenchment, which reach'd from *Montigny*, at the Extremity of the *Right* of Prince *Eugene's* Army, to *Vitry*, on the *Scarpe*. On the other Hand, Count *Vehlen*, General of the *Palatines*, was sent with a Detachment of eight Battalions, and ten Squadrons, to secure the Post of *Pont a Vendin*, and hinder the Enemy from sending any Parties into the *Châtelainie* of *Lisle*.

The Besieged make two vigorous Sallies.

THE Communication between that City and *Lisle* being thus secured, the Siege of *Doway*, which had been retarded by all these Motions, was carried on with all possible Application and Vigour; notwithstanding all the Obstacles the *Allies* met with in their Approaches, both by Reason of the Difficulties of the Ground, and the resolute Defence of the Garrison. On the Twenty-ninth of *May*, the Besieged made another Sally on the *Right* Attack, and penetrated into the Trenches; but they were repulsed, after a bloody Conflict, with the Loss of about an Hundred Men, and twenty-five Officers. They sent then to desire a Cessation of Arms, for burying the Dead; but upon a Suspicion, that their chief Design was to make use of that Interval to perfect some Works, their Request was denied. On the Thirtieth, a Party of the Garrison of *Fort Scarpe* made a Sally, and advanced towards *Pont a Rache*, with intent to have intercepted the Bread-Waggons of the *Allies*; but Colonel *Caldwell*, who commanded there, with three Hundred Dragoons, vigorously repulsed them, notwithstanding he had the Misfortune to be wounded, in the Pursuit, in one of his Arms. On the last of *May*, the Garrison of the Town made another vigorous Sally; but the Villages of *Dechy*, *Sains*, *Nazieres*, *Fieren*, and *Pont a Rache*; and having taken Part of General *Fagel's* Equipage, which he had left at *Dechy*, returned into the Town with it, and a great Number of Cattle.

THE Besieged still went on in defending their Out-works, with the utmost Obstinacy; making frequent Sallies, and springing a great Number of Mines: Notwithstanding all this, on the Fifth of *June*, the *Confederates* made two Lodgments, on the *Glacis* of the *Counterscarp*, at the *Right* Attack; as also Lodgments on the *Right*, and on the *Left* of the *Left* Attack of the *Counterscarp* of the *Ravelins*, and fired with great Fury from the Batteries of Cannon, and Mortars, to drive the Enemy from their Traverses. Nevertheless, in the Night between the Fourteenth and Fifteenth, the Besiegers perfected a Lodgment on the *Cover'd Way*, at the *Right* Attack; and repaired the Damage their Works had received at the *Left*, by the prodigious Number of Bombs, which the Enemy had thrown into them. On the Sixteenth, at Four in the Morning, the Besiegers began to fire from a Battery of seven Pieces of Cannon, against the *Ravelins*, and made a Line of Communication at the *Left* Attack. The same Night, they likewise, sprung two Mines at the *Right* Attack, with so much Success, that the Enemy abandoned all their Places of Arms, and the Besiegers made a Lodgment at both the Attacks.

A Ravelin taken by Storm.

The Post of Bioche taken by the French, but abandoned again.

ON the Seventeenth, they stormed a high *Ravelin*, which had very much obstructed their Advances towards the main Breach; and carried it with very little Loss. This done, they brought several Pieces of Cannon upon their Batteries, and fired with such good Success, that the Breaches in the *Ravelins* were judged wide enough to be stormed.

AT the same Time, the Duke of *Marlborough* suspecting that the *French* would attempt to seize the Post of *Bioche*, on the *Scarpe*, about half a League from *Vitry*, went thither in Person, with Count *Tilly*, and reinforced the

the



the Troops posted there, with eighty Men; giving positive Orders to the commanding Officer, to defend himself to the last Extremity, and assuring him, he should be supported in Time: Notwithstanding which, either out of Cowardice, or Treachery, he surrendered the Place, that very Night, about Nine, upon the Approach of the Enemy; and two Captains, with as many Lieutenants, and Ensigns, and a Hundred and fifty Men, were taken Prisoners. However, the *French* rightly judging, that they should never be able to maintain that Post, abandoned it the next Morning early, after having done some Damage to the Sluice; which the *Allies* soon repaired, upon their taking Possession thereof again.

THE same Morning, the Generals of the *French* Army went, with about two Hundred Officers, to take a View of the Inundation made by the *Allies*, on the other Side the *Scarpe*, between that River and *Bouchain*: And the hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel* happening to be there, the Marshal *de Villars* sent to know, whether his Highness would give him Leave to pay his Respects to him? The Prince readily gave his Consent, and advancing, with some Officers, to meet the Marshal, told him, he was very glad of the Opportunity of being acquainted with him: Hereupon, they exchanged divers Compliments, and Monsieur *de Villars* presented the Marshals *de Berwick*, *de Montesquiou*, and *d'Arco*, with the Duke of *Bourbon*, and the Pretender, to his Highness. Upon his presenting the latter to him, he said to the Prince, *This is the Chevalier de St. George*, and added, with a Smile, *You know, Sir, well enough who he is.* After this, Monsieur *de Villars* observing six Squadrons of Horse drawn up pretty near, asked his Highness why they were there; and being answered, that it was in Respect, and Civility to him, he reply'd; that he was very well acquainted with those Troops, and also with their Gallantry. The Marshal then invited his Highness to come to his Camp, and honour him with his Company at Dinner; adding, that he would command his Army to their Arms, and entertain his Highness with the Sight of it; but the Prince answered, that he could not accept of his Compliment at present, but that another Opportunity might offer, when he should be glad of it; adding, *That it depended on the King of France alone, shortly to procure the same.* Hereupon, they parted, with mutual Civilities, the Prince returning to his Post, and the *French* Generals to their Camp.

An Interview between the Hereditary Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, and the Marshal *de Villars*.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, thought themselves, by this Time, pretty well assured, that the *French* would not venture to attack them, in their advantageous Post; but they had some Reason to believe, they intended to continue in their Camp, between *Montauban*, and *Noyelles-sous-Lens*; though it were only to keep the *Confederates* in a constant Alarm; especially as they had thrown up Intrenchments to cover their Left. However, having suffered very much there, for want of Water, they made a Motion, on the Fourth of *June*, about a League backwards, and encamped with their Right at *Pamplux*, and their Left at Mount *Vimin*; where they consumed all the Forage in the Neighbourhood of *Arras*.

As the Garrison of *Doway* continued still to defend themselves, with the utmost Obstinacy, Prince *Eugene*, that he might not be an idle Spectator of the Siege, formed a Design to surprize *Ypres*: He considered, that the Enemy, when they assembled their Army, had reinforced it by many Troops drawn out of the Frontier Towns; and that having thereby very much weakened the Garrisons in those Places, the Attempt might be very feasible: He sent, therefore, a Detachment from the Army for that Purpose, on Pretence of reinforcing the Posts of *Warneton*, and *Comines*, and strengthening the Garrisons of *Lisle* and *Menin*. The Troops appointed to put this Design in Execution, marched from those Places the Ninth of *June*, at Night. About Two in the Morning, the advanced Party, who were to have secured the Gate, had it opened to them, as had been before concerted; but they found the Enemy within so ready to receive them, that they thought it best to retire, and the whole Detachment returned to their former Posts. On the Twelfth, the Duke of *Marlborough* reviewed the *British*

*Doway* continues to make an obstinate Defence; upon which, Prince *Eugene* forms a Design to surprize *Ypres*, which miscarries.

Horse, and Dragoons, which he found compleat, and in excellent good Condition.

By the Sixteenth of *June*, the *Confederate* Troops before *Doway* had lodged themselves on the *Cover'd-Way*, at both Attacks; obliged the Enemy to abandon all their *Places of Arms*; and made the necessary Dispositions for storming the *Ravelin*; upon which, the Besieged made several Signals of Distress. The Marshal *de Villars*, having Intelligence thereof, again gave out, that he was resolved to attack the *Confederates*, in order to relieve *Doway*: And to make this Pretence pass muster the better, he again cross'd the *Scarpe*, near *Arras*, on the Seventeenth; and returned to the Camp he was in the Twenty-eighth of *May*; with his *Left* towards *Arras*, and his *Right* towards *Oisy*, near *Arleux*. This Report, however, appeared very improbable; not only because the Duke of *Berwick*, who had come to the *French Army*, on purpose to be assistant to the Marshal, as we observed above, in case of an Action, had left it suddenly, in order to repair to *Dauphine*; but also because the Marshal had detach'd several Battalions, to reinforce the Garrisons of those Places, which were most likely to be exposed to the Attempts of the *Confederates*, after the Reduction of *Doway*. However, the Duke of *Marlborough*, with his usual Vigilance, in order to be ready at all Events, caused his Horse to decamp the same Evening; and having passed the *Scarpe*, at *Vitry*, took Possession of the Camp they had been in before, between *Vitry* and *Arleux*. They were followed, the next Morning, by the Infantry; but Prince *Eugene* staid on the other Side of the *Scarpe*, to guard the Intrenchments; he was ready, nevertheless, to have joined his Grace, upon the first Motion of the Enemy.

Two *Ravelins* stormed, and one taken, after an obstinate Resistance.

ALL Things being prepared, as we have observed above, to storm the two *Ravelins* at the *Left* Attack, the Troops, commanded for that Service, performed it with Abundance of Bravery; but met with so vigorous a Resistance, that great Numbers of Men were killed on both Sides. At last, the Besiegers took Post on the *Ravelin* of Earth, above the Breach on the Rampart; but at the other *Ravelin*, which was of Stone-work, they could not lodge themselves any farther, than on the Top of the Breach; and the Miners found it very difficult to work there, by Reason of several Wool-Packs that were set on Fire, and caused an intolerable Smother and Stench, by the springing of six Mines; viz. three *Fougades*, two large Mines, and one at the *Ravelin* on the *Right*; whereby many of the *Confederates* were blown up.

THE Twenty-second, at Night, a Detachment of the Besiegers, supported by another from the Grand Army, opened the Trenches before *Fort Scarpe*. The same Evening, the Besieged sprung two Mines, at the Stone *Ravelin*, on the *Left*; which was so far from doing any Detriment, that it proved of Advantage to the Besiegers; because it gave them an Opportunity to make a good Lodgment there, which they perfected the next Night. The Besiegers then went on in enlarging their Lodgments, carrying on their Saps, and laying of Bridges, till the Twenty-fourth of *June*, about Three in the Morning; when all the Dispositions being made the Night before, for attacking the two *Ravelins*, at the *Right* Attack, the Prince of *Anhalt* ordered them to be stormed. This Attack proved less bloody, and more successful than the former; for after a small Resistance, the *Allies* lodg'd themselves on both those *Ravelins*; and began, in the Night, to fill up the main Ditch, and to make Galleries over it.

The Garrison of *Doway* beats a Parley.

THINGS being thus brought to the last Extremity, on the Twenty-fifth of *June*, at Two a-Clock in the Afternoon, the Garrison of *Doway* thought fit to beat a Parley; and offered to capitulate for the Town only, without including *Fort Scarpe*, but this was refused. After a little farther Consultation, therefore, they sent out the following Hostages to the two Attacks: Monsieur *de Valory*, a Major-General, with a Colonel, and Lieutenant-Colonel, to the Prince of *Anhalt*; who, in return, sent into the Town Major-General *du Troussel*, Colonel *Beveren*, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Morewitz*; and Monsieur *Brandele*, a Major-General, with a Colonel, and Lieutenant-Colonel,

Colonel, to the Prince of *Nassau*, at the other Attack; in Exchange for which, his Highness sent into the Town Major-General *Wassenaer*, with a Colonel, and Lieutenant-Colonel, of the Troops that were in the Trenches.

THE *French* were immediately conducted to the Quarters of the Duke of *Marlborough*, where they were again told, that no Capitulation should be granted to the Town, without including *Fort Scarpe*. Hereupon, they wrote to Monsieur *Albergotti*; and, in the mean Time, Orders were given to the Troops in the Trenches, to hold themselves in a Readiness, to renew the Hostilities, upon the first Order; but the Twenty-sixth, in the Morning, Monsieur *Albergotti* gave Notice, that he was willing to surrender that Fort, at the same Time with the Town, but that the same not having been attack'd, he demanded, as his Right, to remove all the Provisions and Ammunition that were therein. This Pretension occasioned a Conference, in the Quarters of Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*; and at last, the Capitulation for the Town and Fort was agreed on, by Prince *Eugene*, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Field-Deputies of the *States*, on one Part; and Monsieur *Albergotti* on the other: The Articles were as follows.

The Articles  
of the Capi-  
tulation.

1. " THAT the *Popish* Religion should continue there, without Alteration.
2. " THAT the Gate of *Morel* should be delivered up, the Twenty-seventh of *June*, to the *Allies*, and the Garrison should march out the Twenty-ninth.
3. THAT there should be a Cessation of Arms during that Time.
4. " THAT none of the *Allies* should come into the Town till the Twenty-ninth.
5. " THAT all Officers, both Military, and Civil, should march out the Twenty-ninth, with the usual Marks of Honour, six Cannon, two Mortar-Pieces, and two Days Provision; and should be conducted to *Cambray*.
6. " THAT all the *French* King's Servants should be allowed either to march out, or to stay three Months to settle their Affairs.
7. " THAT the *Allies* should furnish a Hundred Waggon, and six Hundred Horses, for the Use of the Garrison.
8. " THAT the Sick and Wounded should be allowed to stay where they were, till cured, and should be furnished with Carriages when they went out.
9. " THAT the Garrison should have six cover'd Waggon, which should not be visited.
10. " THAT no Soldier should be taken out of his Rank, as he marched out, except he were a Deserter; but that any that pleased might enter into the Service of the *Allies*.
11. " THAT no Man, in the *French* King's Service, should have his Person, or Goods, arrested for Debt, provided he gave good Security for paying it.
12. " THAT the Garrison should carry out what Cattle they had paid for.
13. " THAT the Wives and Children of the *French* Officers, should be allowed to stay three Months in the City, and should have Passports gratis.
14. " THAT those who belonged to the King's Works, should have the same Liberty.
15. " THAT for such Houses as had been burnt, or pull'd down by the Garrison, the Damages should be settled, according to the Capitulation of *Lisle*.
16. " THAT no Horses taken by Parties, and sold to the Townsmen, should be taken from them.
17. " THAT all Arms, Clothes, and other Things belonging to the Garrison, should be sent, in two Months, whither they thought fit, without paying for any Thing but Carriage.
18. " THAT



18. " THAT none of the King's Servants should be detained for his Debts, provided they left Hostages.
19. " THAT upon delivering up the Gate, the Governor should have Passports for such Couriers, as he should have a Mind to send to the Marshal *de Villars*, or the King his Master.
20. " THAT the Hostages, on both Sides, should be exchanged, on fulfilling this Capitulation.
21. " THAT the Magistrates, and Burghers, should give an Account of all Bonds from the Garrison to them.
22. " THAT the Inhabitants should have Liberty to stay three Months, or to go where they pleased with their Effects.
23. " THAT all Officers, and Soldiers, taken on both Sides, should be exchanged with those of their own Rank, and an Equivalent given for Lieutenant *Gledbill*, who was to be exchanged for Colonel *St. Mark*.
24. " THAT what belongs to the University, Colleges, School, Magistrates, Revenues, &c. should be given an Account of by the *Citizens*; as also of what belonged to Monsieur *Hustin's* Manufacture. Besides, it was demanded by the *Allies*, and agreed, that Commissary *Bermont* should remain a Hostage for the King's Debts, and the Magazines and Mines should be delivered up: That those who had any Effects in *France*, should have Liberty to go and look after them, and all Prisoners in general should be given up on both Sides: And that the Garrison of *Fort Scarpe* should march out at the same Time, with two Cannon, as many cover'd Waggons, twenty others, two Days Provision, and leave their Muskets in the Magazine."

The just Enticement of the Governor, and the Garrison.

PURSUANT to this Capitulation, the *Morel-Gate*, and the Out-Works of *Fort Scarpe*, were delivered up to the *Confederates*, on the Twenty-seventh of *June*, N. S. and Commissaries were appointed to take Possession of the Magazines, and to view the Mines, which were to be discovered by the Garrison. Thus was *Doway* taken, after a most obstinate Defence; and it must be observed, to the Honour of the Governor *Albergotti*, and the Garrison, that it was defended as bravely as it was attack'd; and that he did not offer to beat a Parley, till fifty Days after the opening of the Trenches; and that he only surrendered then, that he might not sacrifice the Remainder of those brave Fellows, who had seconded him so gallantly, in thirty-two Sallies he made during the Siege, wherein he had above three Thousand Men killed. The *Allies* had about eight Thousand either killed or wounded.

THE brave Marquis *d'Albergotti* was entertained the same Day, by the Prince of *Nassau-Friezland*, as he was the Twenty-ninth by the Duke of *Marlborough*, who gave an Account of this important Conquest to the *States-General*, in the following Letter.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

" YOUR *High Mightinesses* will, I hope, be pleased to allow me the Honour to congratulate you upon the Surrender of the City of *Doway*, and also of *Fort Scarpe*, according to the Articles which your *High Mightinesses* will receive from your Deputies. It were to be wished, that this new Conquest, with which it has pleased GOD to bless the Arms of the *Allies*, would induce *France* to conclude a just and reasonable Peace, to the Tranquility of *Europe*. I am, with very great Respect,

From the Camp before  
Doway, June 27,  
1710.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,  
Your High Mightinesses  
Most Humble, and most  
Obedient Servant,

The Prince, and Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

ON the Twenty-ninth in the Morning, the Marquis *d'Albergotti* came out of *Doway*, at the Head of his Garrison, which was reduced to four Thousand five Hundred and twenty-seven effective Men; and having passed by Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, marched to some Distance, and then came back, and staid with them till all his Troops were gone off. He then dined with the Duke of *Marlborough*, as we observed before; which done, he followed his Garrison, who were conducted to *Cambrai*, under an *Escorte* of two Hundred and fifty *Dutch* Horse, of *St. Gravenmoer's* Regiment. As soon as the *French* were departed, one *Saxon*, and five *Dutch* Battalions, marched into the Place; of which Lieutenant-General *Hompesch* took Possession as Governor; as did Brigadier *des Roques*, Engineer-General to the *States*, of *Fort Scarpe*, at the same Time, having been appointed Commandant thereof. The Generals going afterwards into the City, to view it, found therein forty Pieces of Brass Cannon, two Hundred Iron ones, eight Mortar-Pieces, and a good Quantity of Ammunition and Small Arms; but a very small Store of Provisions.

THE next Day, Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, with the Deputies of the *States-General*, went into the Town, in order to take a second View thereof, and were met by the University in a Body, and complimented severally. That to the Duke of *Marlborough* was made by *Messire Adrian Delcourt*, Chancellor of the University, and Provost of *St. Peter's* College, and was as follows.

MY LORD,

" WE come to assure your Highness of our most humble Respects, and Compliment  
 " of the inviolable Fidelity we shall observe towards our new Sovereign. of the Uni-  
 " 'Tis with much Pleasure, and Justice, that we pay you our *Devoirs*. We versity of  
 " can never sufficiently revere a Sovereign Prince of the *Empire*, a Duke, Doway to the  
 " a *Generalissimo* of the Armies of *Great Britain*, and a *Hero*, whose Victo- Duke of  
 " ries and Conquests have astonished the Universe. *Germany*, and the *Low-* Marlborough  
 " *Countries*, my Lord, are the Eye-witnesses of your Heroick Actions. You  
 " have beaten your Enemies at *Hochstet*, at *Ramillies*, at *Oudenarde*, and  
 " at *Blaregnies*; you have forced the Lines in *Germany*, which seemed im-  
 " penetrable; and you have entered others in *Brabant*, by an extraordinary  
 " Piece of Conduct, in view of a powerful Army, who gained nothing  
 " thereby but Confusion. You have conquered the Bishoprick of *Liege*,  
 " the *Spanish Guelderland*, *Brabant*, *Flanders*, and Part of *Hainault*. You  
 " go on from Conquest to Conquest; and the least Step you advance far-  
 " ther, you subdue a whole Kingdom. We do not compare you, my Lord,  
 " to the *Heroes* of Antiquity, whose great Actions were fully'd by all sorts  
 " of Vices; you are a *Hero*, Wise, Temperate, Just, Affable, Generous, and  
 " equally averse to Cruelty and Debauchery. It is no Wonder then, that  
 " the *Emperor* has created you a Prince of the *Empire*; that the *Queen* of  
 " *Great Britain* has advanced you to the highest Honours, and crowned you  
 " with repeated Favours; that the *Parliament* have given you all manner  
 " of Proofs of their Esteem and Affection; and that the *French* themselves,  
 " on a thousand Occasions, have sounded forth your Praises. We might be  
 " exposed, in a Revolution, to some Storms, inconsistent with the Peace  
 " and Tranquility, which are so absolutely necessary to make the Sciences  
 " flourish. But we shall have no Reason to have any uneasy Apprehen-  
 " sions; if you will be pleased to grant us the Favour we most humbly re-  
 " quest of you, which is your Protection. We shall be infinitely obliged  
 " to you for it, my Lord, and we will offer up our Prayers to GOD, for the  
 " Queen of *Great Britain*, for your Highness, and for the happy Issue of all  
 " your Enterprizes."

To this handsome Speech, his Grace was pleased to give the following Answer.

## GENTLEMEN,

His Grace's  
Answer.

"YOUR Obedience to your new Sovereign, will render you assured of the Protection of the *Queen* my Mistress, and of her *High Allies*; and you no Reason to question, but that, on all Occasions, I will do you all the good Offices in my Power, to procure you all the Advantages which can be of any Use to you, and which may be answerable to your best Wishes; since the *Allies* have only taken up Arms, to re-establish the publick Tranquility, and the Sciences must flourish of Course, by the Return of Peace, which they ardently court and desire."

THE same Gentleman made a Compliment of the same Nature to Prince *Eugene*, as did the *Sieur Briffault*, Law-Professor, to the Deputies of the *States*.

THE Reduction of this important Place, undoubtedly, cost the *Allies* very dear, but because the *French* Writers, who are generally given to *Romancing*, magnify'd their Loss greatly, the *Confederates* publish'd the ensuing *List*.

AN exact *List* of the Killed and Wounded, on the Side of the *Confederates*, at the Siege of *Doway*.

Loss of the  
*Allies* at the  
Siege of  
*Doway*.

THREE Lieutenant-Colonels; as many Majors; twenty-three Captains; thirty-five Subalterns; one Hundred Sergeants; and one Thousand eight Hundred and ninety-nine private Men killed: Two Lieutenant-Colonels; four Majors; fifty Captains; one Hundred and fifty-two Subalterns; two Hundred and forty-nine Sergeants; five Thousand two Hundred and sixty-seven private Men wounded. Of the Artillery, fifty-four killed, and ninety-six wounded; Engineers thirteen killed, and thirty-three wounded; Miners twelve killed, and as many wounded. Total killed at both Attacks, two Thousand one Hundred and forty-two Officers and Men; and five Thousand eight Hundred and sixty-five wounded; in all eight Hundred Officers and Men; which the *French*, and especially the *Marquis de Quincy*, with his usual Modesty and Veracity, magnify to twelve or thirteen Thousand. The *English*, in particular, lost, of Lieutenant-General *Earle's* Regiment; three Sergeants, and ninety-one private Men killed; one Major, two Captains, eight Subalterns, ten Sergeants, and one Hundred ninety-seven common Soldiers wounded. Of *Mordaunt's* Regiment; one Subaltern, seven Sergeants, and forty-two private Men killed; and two Captains, five Subalterns, nine Sergeants, and one Hundred and seventy-three Soldiers wounded. Of *Sabine's* Regiment; one Captain, one Subaltern, five Sergeants, and forty-nine private Men killed; and two Captains, seven Subalterns, ten Sergeants, one Hundred thirty-seven Soldiers wounded. Of *Primrose's* Regiment; one Captain, six Sergeants, and twenty-nine private Men killed; and two Captains, seven Subalterns, six Sergeants, and one Hundred forty-two Soldiers wounded. Of *Preston's* Regiment; one Captain, three Sergeants, and forty-seven private Men killed; and one Captain, five Subalterns, eleven Sergeants, and one Hundred seventy-five Soldiers wounded. Of *Hamilton's* Regiment; one Subaltern, six Sergeants, and seventy-five Soldiers killed, and two Captains, three Subalterns, five Sergeants, and one Hundred and twenty Soldiers wounded. Of *Sutton's* Regiment; one Major, three Captains, one Subaltern, and one Hundred and ten private Men killed; and one Lieutenant-Colonel, three Captains, four Subalterns, nine Sergeants, and one Hundred and four Soldiers wounded. Of *Honeywood's* Regiment; two Subalterns, eight Sergeants, and seventy private Men killed; and three Captains, as many Subalterns, six Sergeants, and one Hundred and sixty-four Soldiers wounded. Total of the *Englishmen* killed five Hundred and seventy, and one Thousand three Hundred and thirty-nine wounded.

THE following Medal was struck on Occasion of the *Allies* entering the *French* Lines, and on the Reduction of *Doway*.

ON



ON the Face the *Queen's Bust*, with a Crown of Laurel, and this Inscription :

A Medal struck on the Reduction of Doway.

ANNA Augusta.

That is, *Anne* the August.

ON the Reverse, was represented a *Monumental Pillar*, with *Trophies*, on which *Victory* hangs a *Shield*, crown'd with a *Mural Crown*, wherein are inscribed these Words *Salus Provincia* ; that is, *the Safety of the Province* : At a Distance is a *Man unarmed*, and flying before a *Woman armed with a Spear, Shield, and Helmet*, like *Pallas*, and meant to represent the *Queen* ; with this Inscription :

*Vallo Gallorum Diruto.* That is, The Lines of the *French* being levell'd.

In the *Exergue* ;

*Et Duaco Capto.* M.DCC.X. That is, and *Doway* taken 1710.

THE *Confederate Armies* continued few Days in their respective Camps, near *Doway* ; both to give some Refreshment to the Men employ'd in the Siege, and to see the Trenches and other Works levell'd ; this done, on the Tenth of *June*, N. S. in the Morning, all the detach'd Troops being come into the Line, both Armies march'd from before *Doway* ; and that under the Command of the Duke of *Marlborough* encamp'd at *Vitry*, with their Left at *Montauban*, and their Right at *Tclu* ; whilst that under the Conduct of Prince *Eugene*, extended from the Left at *Tclu*, to the Right at the opening of the Plain, between the *Scarpe*, and the *Souchets*. There they were obliged to halt the next Day, till their Baggage and Bread-Waggons came up ; which had been kept behind by the Badness of the Roads, caused by the hard Rains, which had fallen for several Days successively.

ON the Twelfth, the Armies moved from *Vitry*, to the Camp at *Villers-Brulin*, extending from the Right, upon the Source of the *Lave*, to the *Souchets*, and having the *Scarpe* before them. By this Situation, their Parties had a free and open Range, to make Excursions into the Enemies Country, from the *Boulounois* to *Picardy*. The Marshal de *Villars*, having been rejoined, by the Detachments he had sent out, under the Command of the Chevalier de *Luxembourg*, and Monsieur de *Broglio*, and having drawn out the Garrisons of *Conde*, *Quesnoy*, *Valenciennes*, and *Combray*, now would have been the Time for him to have hazarded an Engagement, had he been so fond of Fighting, as he pretended to be six Weeks before : But, instead of expecting the *Confederates* in his Camp, between *Arras*, and *Oisy*, he retired behind his new Lines, from *Arras*, above the *Crinchen*, towards *Miramont*. The Design of the *Confederates* was to have march'd to *Arras*, and to have besieged it ; after which, nothing could have prevented their penetrating to the Heart of *France*, by *Picardy* : But this Situation of the Marshal de *Villars*, who saw their Intent, rendering it impracticable for the *Allies* either to invest that Place, or to attack the Enemy, Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, resolved to employ their victorious Troops, in the Siege of *Bethune*, a strong Town in the Earldom of *Artois* : Accordingly, it was invested the Fifteenth of *July*, N. S. by twenty-five Battalions, and eighteen Squadrons.

THIS Place, which is one of the most considerable in the Earldom of *Bethune* in *Artois*, is six Leagues distant from *Lisle*, and *Doway*, and five from *Arras*. It fell into the Hands of *France* in 1645 ; since which Time, *Lewis XIV.* had been of a considerable Expence on its Fortifications. It had, when the *Allies* besieged it, six Bastions ; an old Castle, several Ravelins, and Half-Moons, and almost every where a double *Counterscarp*. Monsieur de *Puy Vauban*, a Lieutenant-General, and Nephew to the famous Marshal, and Engineer, Monsieur de *Vauban*, commanded the Garrison, which consisted of nine Thousand Men ; for the Marshal de *Villars*, having passed the *Scarpe*, the Eleventh of *June*, with Intent to cover *Picardy*, had thrown Reinforcements

ments into *Aire*, *Bethune*, *St. Venant*, and *Tpres*, which he left to rely upon their own Strength, whilst he went and covered *Cambray* on one Side, and *Arras*, and *St. Omers*, on the other. It is pretended, however, that *Bethune* was not so well provided with other Necessaries for its Defence, as with Men.

The Trenches opened.

ALL the Preparations that were requisite, having been made for this Siege, the Trenches were opened, between the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth, at one Attack, and on the Twenty-seventh at Night, at the other; the latter under the Command of Monsieur *Schuylenburgh*, General of the *Saxon* Troops; and the former, under the Direction of Baron *Fagel*, General of the *Dutch* Infantry. They had under them, the Lieutenant-Generals *Pallandt* and *Fing*; the Major-Generals *Primrose*, *Crone*, *Vertmuller*, and *Vicouffe*; as also four Brigadiers. Lieutenant-General *Wood* commanded the Cavalry. We shall not trouble our Readers with a particular Detail of this Siege, which was not attended with any very remarkable Circumstances; wherefore, we shall only take Notice of the most Material.

The French come out of their Intrenchments, but avoid a Battle.

ON the Twenty-fourth, the Garrison made a vigorous Sally, and a Dispute ensued, wherein about a hundred Men were killed on each Side, and a great many wounded. On the Thirty-first, or, as Monsieur *Roussel* says, on the Thirtieth the Works were suspended for twenty-four Hours, by Reason of a Motion made by the Marshal *de Villars*. After having made a general Review of all his Forces on the Twenty-seventh, he ordered them, on the Thirtieth, to march out of their Intrenchments, behind the *Crinchon*, and to advance in eight Columns, as far as *Habar*; which is within a small League of *Aubigny*. As this March was made without Beat of Drum; and as it was positively given out, that they would fight the *Confederates*, if they attempted another Siege; it was now believed they would have done so, and had a Design to have surprized them; since the *Allies* lying in an open Camp, without any Intrenchments, gave them the fairest Opportunity so to do, that they could have with'd. Wherefore, the Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*, drew up their Army in Order of Battle, and recalled the Prince of *Hesse-Cassel*, who was posted with a strong Detachment, between *Lens*, and *La Bassée*, to secure the Convoys from *Lisle*, and *Tournay*. These Dispositions for a Battle being made, the Duke of *Marlborough* advanced the First of *August*, at the Head of a Detachment, to reconnoitre the *French* Army: But he found the Enemy, instead of being so ready to fight, were throwing up a new Line, and deep Intrenchments, according to Custom. For the Marshal *de Villars* finding the *Confederates* prepared to receive him; and being arrived, with the Right of his Army, at *Montenencourt*, at the Head of the *Scarpe*, and the Left at *Bertancourt*, towards the Head of the *Canche*, immediately set his Men at Work, as usual, upon throwing up deep Intrenchments before his Army, from the Source of the *Canche*, to that of the *Scarpe*; in order to cover, by this Means, all the Country, from the Sea to the *Maeſe*: For the *Canche* served them instead of a Line, from the Sea to *Hesdin*; from thence, they had made Intrenchments to the *Scarpe*, which served as a Line to *Arras*; and from thence to *Cogneul*, where that River changes its Name to that of the *Sensette*, which goes as far as *Bouchain*; from thence, the *Scheld* served for a Line as far as *Valenciennes*; where they had Lines thrown up the Year before, by *Queſnoy*, as far as *Maubeuge*; from whence *Sambre* went on as far as *Namur*.

And throw up new Intrenchments of a vast Extent.

BY this, it was evident, that the Marshal *de Villars* had no Thoughts of raising the Siege of *Bethune*; since all his Proceedings look'd more like the Behaviour of a Man that was afraid of being attack'd himself, than of a General who intended to attack others; wherefore, the *Allies* sent back the Troops they had recalled from the Siege, which the Generals *Fagel*, and *Schuylenburgh*, push'd on with the utmost Vigour.

ON the Twenty-fourth of *August*, the Right Wing of Prince *Eugene's* Army, being out a foraging, towards *St. Pol*, near the Enemy's Camp, under a Guard of five Hundred Horse, and one Thousand *Danish* and *Hessian* Foot, the Marshal *de Villars*, who had Notice thereof, the Night before,

fore, detach'd thirty Squadrons, under the Count *de Broglie*, to attack the Foragers; and followed in Person, to be an Eye-Witness of the Action. The Count *de Broglie*, being arrived on the Mount of *St. Pol*, gave Orders for the Foragers to be attack'd, on that Side, by four Squadrons of Carabineers; whilst some other Squadrons were advancing to attack them another Way: These fell upon three Squadrons of the *Allies*, who gave way; but the Foragers assisting their Guard, beat the *French* back, with great Slaughter. However, as the Enemy grew too numerous, they retired, in very good Order, to the Village of *Ligni St. Flochel*, and sent an Account thereof to the Camp.

IN the mean While, the Marshal *de Villars* advanced in Person, and having, in a Manner, surrounded that Post, summoned the *Confederate* Infantry to surrender; and upon their Refusal, ordered Part of his Horse to dismount, and attack them: But they met with so warm a Reception, from the *Danish*, and *Hessian* Foot, who were planted there, that they retreated in great Confusion. During this, the *Picquet* Guard of the Army advanced; and Prince *Eugene* marching, likewise, with Part of his Cavalry, Monsieur *de Villars* thought fit to retire, with great Precipitation; being apprehensive, that this Skirmish would draw him on to a general Battle. In this fruitless Attempt, the Enemy had a great many Men killed upon the Spot; besides a Colonel, twenty other Officers, and three Hundred private Men, who were taken Prisoners, with a Booty of one Hundred and fifty Horses. Some Accounts make the Loss of the Enemy to have been near twelve Squadrons, either killed, wounded, taken, or deserted. The *Allies*, on their Side, lost only the Major of *Mercy's* Regiment, two Captains of *Hussars*, and a few private Men.

The *French* attack Prince *Eugene's* Foragers, but are repulsed with great Loss.

DURING these Transactions, the Siege of *Bethune* was carried on with all possible Vigour; but the Place being render'd strong both by Art, and Nature, and the Garrison being numerous, Monsieur *de Puy Vauban* made a very gallant Defence, till the Twenty-eighth of *August*, N. S. when the *Counterscarp* being taken Sword in Hand; and General *Schuylenburgh* being ready to attack a Ravelin, and a Counter-Guard, in the same Manner; the Garrison being very much weakened, and Provision and Ammunition falling short, and a total Want of Ball, and Flints being daily to be apprehended; he beat the *Chamade*, and hung out two Flags; one at the great Breach of the Castle, and the other at the Ravelin.

*Bethune* capitulates.

THE Marquis *de Quincy*, relates a very remarkable Dispute, that happened on that Occasion, between the two Officers, who commanded at the Siege: As it was of a pretty singular Nature, we shall give our Readers an Account thereof, not questioning, but it will be acceptable to them. It was as follows:

“ MONSIEUR *de Puy Vauban*, having hung out a white Flag, at General *Schuylenburgh's* Attack, where the Breach was made; General *Fagel*, who had carried his Attack no farther than the Palisades, took it as a Derogation from his Honour, that the *Chamade* was not likewise, beat, on his Side. Wherefore, he gave the Governor to understand, that if all the Honour of the Siege was to be given to General *Schuylenburgh*, he should not have any Regard to what was agreed between Monsieur *de Vauban*, and that General; accordingly he continued the Fire, on his Side, notwithstanding the Suspension of Arms agreed on between the Governor, and Baron *Schuylenburgh*. Hereupon, Monsieur *de Vauban*, and that General, who were in Conference on the *Counterscarp*, thought this *Plustilio* of Baron *Fagel's* very extraordinary; and the latter observed to the former, that perhaps, Monsieur *Fagel* might doubt of the Reality of this Conquest of the *Allies*, unless he had the Opportunity of informing the *States-General*, his Masters, that he had exchanged Hostages; that, for his Part, he readily consented thereto, notwithstanding Baron *Fagel's* Behaviour was neither polite, nor conformable to the Laws of War. However, he desired Monsieur *de Vauban*, to give Baron *Fagel* that Satisfaction; to which the Governor consented, because he was not in a Condition to

A memorable Dispute between two Generals of the *Allies*.



“ take Advantage of this Jealousy, to defend the Place some Time longer,  
“ for Want of necessary Ammunition.”

The Loss  
on both  
Sides.

THE next Day, Monsieur de Vauban surrendered the Town on honourable Terms; and on the Thirty-first, the Garrison march'd out with two Pieces of Cannon, and all the other usual Marks of Honour, in order to be conducted to St. Omers; being in all but about one Thousand seven Hundred Men, for they had lost near two Thousand in the Defence thereof; though some Accounts make their Loss but about one Thousand two Hundred. The Loss of the Besiegers was computed at three Thousand six Hundred sixty-five Officers, and private Men killed, and wounded. The Confederates put three Battalions into the Town, under the Command of Major-General Keppel, Brother to the Earl of Albemarle.

THE French continuing still to decline an Engagement, the Duke of Marlborough, and Prince Eugene, resolved to make the best of the remaining Part of the favourable Season, by laying Siege to St. Venant, and Aire, both at the same Time; thereby to secure the Navigation of the Lys. To this End, the two Armies march'd from their respective Camps, of Villers-Brulin, and Rebreuve, on the Second of September. Prince Eugene extended his Right to Etree-Blanche, and Linghem, on the little River Laquette; and the Left of the Duke of Marlborough's Army to Divion, on the Lave; his Grace taking up his Quarters in the Castle of Liere. They secured their Rear with eighteen Squadrons, ten Battalions, and twelve Pieces of Cannon; insomuch, that the Marshal de Villars did not think fit to disturb them. On the Third, a Detachment was made, to secure divers Posts about Aire; and General Doff, with Lieutenant-General Cadogan, at the Head of six Hundred Horse, and two Thousand Grenadiers, took a View of the Country in that Neighbourhood. In their Way, they made a Captain, a Lieutenant, and about seventy private Men Prisoners, in the Castle of Isbergue; besides a Captain, and thirty Grenadiers, in the Village of Lambre.

St. Venant,  
and Aire in-  
vested.

ON the Fourth, a Detachment of two Thousand Horse, under the Command of the Count de Lagnasco, a Saxon Lieutenant-General, together with six Battalions, march'd from the Camp, to make Bridges over the Lys, at St. Quintin, pass'd the River, and block'd up Aire, on that Side. The Quarter-Masters, who followed him, marked out the Camp; and the two Armies march'd the Afternoon, nearer that Place, and encamped with the Right of Prince Eugene's to the Lys, near Terouanne, and the Left of the Duke's to Lillers; his Grace taking up his Quarters in the Monastery of St. Andre, and the Prince his, in the Castle of Blesfel. On the Fifth, the Troops that were design'd for the Siege of St. Venant, and Aire, according to the Resolution already taken, march'd from the Camp, and invested those two Places, the next Day.

FORTY Battalions were appointed for the Siege of Aire; twenty-six from the Duke of Marlborough's Army, and fourteen from Prince Eugene's, under the Command of the Prince of Anhalt-Dessau, who had under him four Lieutenant-Generals, eight Major-Generals, and as many Brigadiers: And for the Reduction of St. Venant, twenty Battalions, with some few Squadrons were ordered, under the Command of the Prince of Nassau-Friesland, who had with him the Lieutenant-Generals Lauder, and Murray; the Major-Generals Hamilton, Vicouze, Berne, and Villegas; as also the Brigadiers Cronstrom, Rechteran, May, and Douglas. Forty-six Squadrons of Horse, under the Command of the Earl of Albemarle, one of the Generals of the Dutch Cavalry, with two Lieutenant-Generals, four Major-Generals, and as many Brigadiers, were, likewise, ordered for the Service of both these Sieges.

ON the Eighth, the Quarter-Masters mark'd out a Field of Battle for the Confederate Armies, in Case the French should make any Attempt to disturb those Sieges; posting the Right at Etree-Blanche, and the Left to the Rising Grounds of Lillers; and the next Day, they mark'd out another on the Side of St. Omers, for the same Purpose. During this, the Confederates being obliged to fetch their Provisions and Ammunition, from Lisle, Tournay, and Ghent, the French formed the Design of surprizing a large Convoy, consisting of forty Boats, which

which were coming up the *Lys*, from the latter of those Places, under a Guard of thirteen Hundred Men, Horse and Foot, commanded by Colonel *Ginckel*, Earl of *Athlone*, who was to have been joined by another Detachment. Three of these Boats were laden with Powder, Cannon, and Bombs, and three more with Hay; others were laden with Provision; and others again with Merchandize, belonging to private Persons. Monsieur *le Blanc*, who was the Intendant of *Ypres*, but was afterwards Secretary of War, gave Notice of the Departure of this Convoy to the Count *de Villars*, The Enemy defeat a Party of the Confederates, and destroy a large Convoy. who then commanded in the Town; whereupon he detached Monsieur *de Ravignan*, with four Thousand Men, Horse, Foot, and Dragoons, from that Place, to attack them. On the Nineteenth, he met, and fell upon them, with great Vigour, at *Eloy St. Vive*, not far from *Courtray*. With this superior Force, he defeated the Guard; kill'd about two Hundred Men; took six Hundred, with Monsieur *Ginckel* himself, Prisoners; blew up some Boats laden with Ammunition; sunk others laden with Cannon-Ball, and Bomb-shells, to put a Stop to the Navigation of the River; and then retreated, with so much Expedition and Caution, that a Detachment sent after him by the *Confederates* to cut them off, could not possibly come up with him in Time. This Accident did not a little add to the Length of the Sieges, though no Time was lost to repair the Damage done thereby. The Shock, occasioned by the blowing up of the Boats laden with Powder, Cannon, Grenades, &c. was so very terrible, that the whole Village of *St. Eloy Vive* was overthrown, and all the Country round was shaken, as if there had been an Earthquake, as far as *St. Quintin*; where the Windows were broken by it; and the River *Lys* was divided into two Streams, quite cross the Country.

*St. Venant*, a Town in the Earldom of *Artois*, near the Borders of *Flanders*, about four Miles East of *Aire*, twenty-six South of *Dunkirk*, and as many North of *Arras*, proved the easiest of these two Sieges; for, notwithstanding the Approaches were so difficult, that they could not break Ground before it till the Sixteenth of *September*, it was then push'd on, with such great Vigour, that the Garrison beat a Parley the Twenty-ninth, and delivered up one of the Gates next Day. They were allowed to march out with all the Marks of Honour, Cannon excepted, and were conducted to *Arras*. The French Governor, however, upon his Arrival at *Versailles*, was committed to the *Bastille*, as it was said, because he had made so poor a Defence. The *Sieur Bruyn*, one of the Engineers of the *States*, who had the Direction of the Siege, was appointed Governor of the Town for the *Allies*: But we shall give a more particular Account of this short Siege.

*St. Venant*, which is almost a regular *Hexagon*, is situated in the Midst of Morasses, and Inundations, and there is no Access to it but one Way. *Brigadier de Selve* commanded therein, with seven Battalions. The first Thing the Besiegers had to do, was to turn off the Waters of the River *Lys*, of the Brook *le Beck*, and another, which made the Inundations. This was done by the Direction of Monsieur *de Bruyn*, who had six Engineers under him: But as this was a Work of some Time, the *Allies* could not open the Trenches till the Sixteenth in the Evening; however, they then did it, with four Battalions, and two Thousand Workmen, but one Hundred and fifty Perches from the *Counterscarp*, a Thing scarce ever heard of before. This occasioned their being the sooner discovered; and having one Hundred and fifty Men kill'd, or wounded. They drew, however, a Parallel, that Night, of one Hundred and eighty Perches, from the Book of *le Beck*, to the high Road to *a Bune*; with the Communications, which were of a large Extent.

THE Night following, they perfected their Works; and as the first Parallel was so near, they thought a second needless; wherefore, they only drew two Saps, on the *Right* and *Left* of the Parallel, towards the Inundation, and before the Ditch of the *Counterscarp*. In the Night, between the Eighteenth and Nineteenth, the Besiegers drew a Line of one Hundred and forty Perches, from the *Left* of the Parallel, to the Point of the Ditch, which surrounded the Salient Angle of the *Counterscarp*; where they made a Lodgment. They began, at the same Time, to work on a Battery of six Pieces



Pieces of Cannon, which play'd on the Place, the Twenty-third in the Morning: The next Night, and the Twenty-second in the Evening, they advanced to the Point of the *Counter-Guard*, which covered the first *Counter-scarp*.

IN the Night, between the Twenty-second and Twenty-third, the Besieged made a Sally with seven Companies of Grenadiers; who, at first, obliged the Workmen to retreat, and overthrew some Gabions; but the Soldiers, in the Trenches, soon obliged them to retire, in their Turn, with some Loss. This did not discourage them, however, from making another Sally, the very next Night, on the Lodgment of the *Counter-Guard*; but they succeeded therein, worse than in the former; the Count *de Beranger*, who commanded it, being kill'd in the Action, together with his *Aid de Camp*. Besides these Efforts, the Besieged kindled great Fires, which exposed the Works of the Besiegers too much, for them to advance very fast. However, they passed the two Ditches, on the Twenty-fifth at Night, and lodged themselves on the Saliant Angle of the *Counter-scarp*; so that a Breach being made in the *Counter-Guard* the Twenty-sixth, they passed the Ditch the Twenty-eighth, and attack'd the *Counter-Guard*, and the Saliant Angle of the second *Counter-scarp*. The Besieged defended themselves bravely in both, and repulsed the Besiegers twice; but, at the third Attack, they made themselves Masters of them, with some Loss. Hereupon, the Brigadier found he was now at the last Extremity; wherefore he beat the *Chamade*, the next Day, and the Morrow after the Capitulation was signed. The Loss of the *Allies*, in this Siege, was only one Hundred and seventy Men kill'd, and seven Hundred thirty-one wounded; besides seven Officers kill'd, and thirty-one wounded.

Description  
of *Aire*.

THE Siege of *Aire* cost more Time, as well as Labour, and the Loss of a great Number of Men: The Strength of the Place was owing to its Situation, amongst Morasses, and Inundations. It is a large handsome City, lying on the River *Lys*, which passes through the Ditch; and is twenty-five Miles South of *Dunkirk*; twenty-eight North-West of *Arras*, and twenty-six East of *Boulogne*. It is a sort of an Oblong, fortified with eight Bastions, ten Half-Moons, and two Horn-works. At four Hundred Rods distance from the Town, there is a regular Fort, which has five Bastions, and its large *Glacis* is surrounded by an outward Ditch. Besides, it was defended by a very numerous Garrison, under the Command of Lieutenant-General *Goesbriant*; who had under him the Count *d'Estrades*, a Major-General, and seven Brigadiers, with a Garrison of fourteen Battalions, and three Regiments of Dragoons.

The Trenches  
opened.

THE Trenches were opened before the Town on the Twelfth of September, N. S. at two Attacks, one on the Side of *St. Quintin*, and the other on the Side of the Village of *Lambre*: On the Twenty-first, at Night, the Besieged made a Sally, with four Hundred Fusiliers, and two Hundred Workmen; but they were obliged to retreat with the Loss of forty of their Men, and without being able to effect any Thing. The next Day, there happened a sharp Skirmish, near the Village of *Rebeck*, on the other Side of the *Lys*: The Enemy advanced with a Thousand Horse, to beat up the Quarters of the *Confederate* General Officers, on the Right of the said Village; but they met with so warm a Reception from the Guard, that the *Picquet* having thereby Time given them to come up to their Assistance, about four Hundred and fifty of the Enemy were killed on the Spot, and twelve Officers, with two Hundred and twenty Troopers, all mounted, were made Prisoners, and three Hundred Horses taken; and all this was with the Loss only of forty or fifty Men killed or wounded on the Side of the *Allies*.

ON the Twenty-third, the Besieged attack'd a Redoubt on the Right, and made themselves Masters thereof with little Resistance, and a very small Loss. When Monsieur *de Goesbriant* received Notice of this Attack, he was at Table, with a great Number of Officers in his Company; whereupon, he immediately ordered out a Body of Troops, to sustain those in the Redoubt, and most of the Officers went with them as Volunteers: But being obliged to pass under the Fire of the *Confederate* Batteries, and Parallel,

the



the greatest Part of them were either killed or wounded, and a Colonel of Dragoons was taken Prisoner. On the Twentieth, the Chevalier *de Luxemburgh* formed a Design to surprize *Fort Scarpe*; to this End, he marched from *Bouchain*, with a strong Detachment, to *Pont a Rache*; sent a Hundred Men, in the Night, to *Bellefonties*, near that Fort; and concealed some Grenadiers in two Waggon's loaden with Hay. These Waggon's were, likewise, driven by Soldiers, disguised like Peasants, who were to seize the Barrier; and, upon a Signal given, they were to have been supported first by the others, and then by Monsieur *de Luxemburgh* in Person. But, by good Fortune, Lieutenant-General *Hompesch*, having some Suspicion of the Enemy's Design, happened to be gone, at the same Time, into the Fort, to give the necessary Orders for its Security, and had left his Guard without the Barrier; these walking their Horses, and by meer Chance following the Waggon's, the Enemy imagined they were discovered, and betook themselves to their Heels; leaving the Captain, and one of their Men Prisoners.

THE Day before this happened, the Marshal *d'Harcourt* arrived in the Enemy's Camp, to whom the Marshal *de Villars* resigned the Command of the Army, and set out the same Day for *France*. The Occasion of this Change, remains a Secret to this Day; though it was generally believed, that he desired Leave to go to the Waters of *Bourbon*, for the Recovery of his Health. However, another Reason has been assigned for it, to which, nevertheless, our Author himself does not seem to give entire Credit; wherefore, we shall relate it in his own Words: "I have been since informed, says he, that the true Cause of the Removal of Marshal *de Villars* from the Command, was his having dropped some Words, which reflected upon the Dukes of *Burgundy*, the Day he attack'd Prince *Eugene's* Foragers: And some officious Pick-thank having told the same to that Princess, she complained thereof to the King of *France*; upon which that Marshal was suddenly recalled. However, I relate this (continues our Author) only as a private Story, for which I have not yet sufficient Vouchers; wherefore, I would not have my Readers rely entirely on the Truth of it."

TO return from whence we have digressed; the *Allies*, before *Aire*, having carried on their Approaches towards a Redoubt, which covered the Cause-way of *Bethune*, took the same, on the Fifth of *October*, Sword in Hand: The same Night, they carry'd a Cover'd Way, adjoining to the *Glacis*, and the Horn-work; and on the Eighth, they began to batter the Bastion of *Arras*. On the Tenth, in the Dusk of the Evening, they attack'd and took a small *Counterscarp*, in the Front of their Approaches. However, the great Rains, and bad Weather, were no small Hinderance to the carrying on of the Saps, and other Works; and, on the other Hand, by the Fault of the Engineers, the Place was attack'd on the strongest Side.

FROM the Tenth to the Fifteenth, the *Allies* advanced their Works with great Danger, and Difficulty; that same Night, a Detachment was employ'd at the Prince of *Anhalt's* Attack, to lay the necessary Bridges cross the Bog, from the Corner of the Horn-work to the *Glacis*: This done, they pass'd over to the Palissades; and, attacking them with great Fury, beat the Enemy out, and took Possession thereof. On the Twentieth, they made a Lodgment on the Angle of the *Cover'd Way*, with the Loss of three Hundred Men. On the Twenty-first at Night, notwithstanding Abundance of Rain had fallen that Day, they finished five Bridges over the outward Ditch, at the Attack of *St. Quintin*, at the Gate of *Arras*; but in that Action, which was very hot, they had one Hundred and sixty Men killed and wounded; besides eighty-two wounded in the Trenches, and thirty-six killed. A Major of a Brigade, a Captain, and an Engineer, were likewise wounded, and eighteen Men killed, by the blowing up of some Powder. At Twelve, at Night, the Prince of *Anhalt* went into the Trenches, to make the necessary Dispositions for attacking the *Cover'd Way*, and had his Hat struck off by a Cannon Ball. It was thought proper, however, to put off the Attack to another Day, and go on farther with their Approaches by the Sap.

A Lodgment made on the Angle of the *Cover'd Way*.

The Enemy  
make a vi-  
gorous Sally.

ON the Twenty-third, the Enemy sallied out upon the Besiegers, with all the Dragoons of the Garrison; and having levelled some of their Works, retired into the Place, with the Loss of only sixty Men killed, and twenty-five taken Prisoners; but the Loss of the Besiegers was more considerable. The same Night, the Besiegers attack'd the main *Counterscarp*, with unparalleled Vigour, and Fury; and carried it, after about half an Hour's sharp Resistance; as also a Half-Moon, and several other Out-works in their Front: This done, they immediately raised new Batteries, for making the grand Breach in the Wall of the Town. On the Twenty-sixth, at Night, after a prodigious Fire, and another Sally of the Enemy's, which cost the Besiegers many brave Men, amongst whom, were several *Prussian* Officers of Note, all Hostilities ceased, on both Sides, at the Attack of the Gate of *Arras*, as if it had been by Consent: But on the Twenty-seventh, in the Morning, the Fire began again, at Nine a-Clock, with as great Fury as ever. On the Twenty-ninth, at Night, a large Detachment attack'd, and took all the remaining Part of the Out-works, in the Front of their Approaches: This done, they immediately began their Bridges across the main Ditch, to the grand Breach, and raised fresh Batteries to clear it. By this Time, a Trench of Fascines and Earth being run through the Morass, the two Attacks were joined, and the Besiegers had then eighty-five Pieces of Cannon, and thirty-seven Mortars and *Hawbitzers* mounted.

Another  
Lodgment  
made.

ON the Thirtieth, at Night, five Hundred Grenadiers and Fusiliers, were commanded to signalize their Courage, at the Attack of a *Fleche*, on the Side of the *Arras* Gate; but hardly a Hundred came back, to bring the News of their Defeat. However, the *Confederate* Generals were resolved to carry the Post; accordingly, on the First of *November*, they made a good Lodgment for one Hundred and fifty Men, notwithstanding the obstinate Resistance of the Enemy, who disputed every Inch of Ground with great Fury.

ON the Second, at Night, the necessary Dispositions were made, for attacking the two Angles of the *Cover'd Way*, and the Place of Arms; and eight Hundred Grenadiers, with four Hundred Fusiliers, were appointed for that Purpose. They attack'd the Enemy with Abundance of Bravery; and notwithstanding they were twice repulsed, made themselves Masters of those Posts, and lodged themselves therein; but the Besieged springing a Mine over-against the *Ravelin*, which blew up a Hundred Men, and making a Sally, at the same Time, with the greatest Part of their Garrison, the Workmen were put into Disorder, and the Besiegers were obliged to abandon those Posts.

ON the Third, they attack'd the Salient Angle, before the Bastion of *Thienne*, with the same ill Fortune; for the Besieged made so terrible a Fire, that the *Confederates* were forced to give over that Attack. They advanced then by Sap, till the Seventh, when the Enemy quitted the Salient Angle of the *Counterscarp*, before the *Ravelin* of the Gate of *Arras*; and the other Saps being so far advanced, as to oblige the Enemy to quit that Part of the *Counterscarp*, whereof they were still possessed, the Besiegers erected a Battery, to enlarge and finish the Breach in the *Ravelin*.

ON the Eighth, all the Saps being joined, and the Besieged observing that the Bridges were almost finished, in order to storm the Place, they thought fit to prevent it, by a timely Capitulation. Accordingly, between Five and Six in the Evening, the Governor, Monsieur *de Goesbriunt*, gave Orders to beat a Parley, and desired to capitulate. Hereupon, Hostages were exchanged, about Ten, the same Night, the Besieged sending out a Brigadier, a Colonel, a Lieutenant-Colonel, and a Major; and the *Allies* sending into the Town, four Officers of the same Rank. The former going to the Duke of *Marlborough's* Quarters, the next Day, the Capitulation was signed, towards the Evening, by his Grace, Prince *Eugene*, and the Deputies of the *States*. The Substance of the Articles was:

“ THAT

“ THAT the Gate of *Arras* should be immediately delivered: That all The Sub-  
 “ Acts of Hostility should cease; and Care be taken to prevent any Disor- stance of the  
 “ ders, from the Officers or Soldiers: That the Garrison should march out, Capitulation  
 “ the Eleventh, with all the usual Marks of Honour; four Pieces of Can-  
 “ non, and two Mortars, and be conducted to *St. Omers*: That whereas,  
 “ as many as had desired it in other Places, had been allowed three Months  
 “ to stay in the City, and dispose of their Effects, such of the Inhabitants  
 “ of *Aire*, as had lodged any of their Effects at *St. Omers*, or elsewhere,  
 “ for their better Security, should, if they thought fit, have the same Space  
 “ of three Months allowed them, to claim, and recover them: That the  
 “ Sick and Wounded should remain in the Town, till their Recovery: That  
 “ the Garrison should be allowed six cover'd Waggon; that Deserters  
 “ should be delivered up on both Sides; and Prisoners exchanged: That  
 “ Hostages should be left for the Payment of the Debts of the Garrison;  
 “ and that a faithful Discovery should be made of all the Mines, and the  
 “ Keys of the Magazines be delivered up to the *Allies*.”

ON the Eleventh, the Field Deputies wrote the following Letter to the *States-General*, to acquaint them with, and congratulate them upon the Reduction of this important Place; which, as it contains some Circumstances, not before-mentioned, we shall insert, for the Benefit of our Readers.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

*Aire*, Novemb. 11, 1710.

“ AFTER the Garrison of *Aire* had beat a Parley, on *Saturday* last, in Letter from  
 “ the Evening, and we, with the Princes, had given Answers to the above the Field-  
 “ Articles of the Capitulation demanded for the City, and Fort *St. Francis*, Deputies to  
 “ the Governor made a farther Request Yesterday, that two Cannon more, the *States-  
 “ than he had at first demanded, might be granted him; to which the General.*  
 “ Princes have condescended. Whereupon, this Day, at Noon, the Capi-  
 “ tulation was signed by the Governor; and we have the Honour to send it  
 “ herewith to your *High Mightinesses*, by Captain *Smiffart*, Adjutant to the  
 “ Major-General, Count *de Nassau Woudenburg*; whom, pursuant to your  
 “ *High Mightinesses* Resolution, of the Twenty-third of *October*, we have  
 “ made Governor of this new Conquest; so we do ourselves the Honour of  
 “ congratulating your *High Mightinesses* upon this happy Conclusion of the  
 “ Campaign, and remain, with all Respect,

*High and Mighty Lords,*

*Your High Mightinesses*

*Most Humble, and*

*Most Obedient Servants,*

N. Pesters. J. Tollius.

P. F. Vegelin, Van Klaerbergen.

THE Garrison of *Aire*, at the Solicitation of the Governor, having been allow'd a Day more than was agreed to by the Capitulation, to provide Carriages, and other Necessaries, march'd out the Twelfth of *November* in the Morning. The whole Body, which consisted of fifteen Battalions of Foot, and three Squadrons of Dragoons, amounted now to no more than three Thousand six Hundred and twenty-eight Men; their Number being very much diminished by the Losses they sustained during the Siege: And besides those who were killed, there remained above fifteen Hundred wounded in the Town. The Loss of the *Allies*, at this Siege, was computed at near seven Thousand Officers and private Men killed and wounded.

The Loss on both Sides.

As soon as the Enemy had evacuated the Place, the Count *de Nassau Woudenburg*, Son to the late Veldt Marshal *d'Auverquerque*, took Possession thereof, with eight Battalions, which were appointed for a Winter Garrison; and Men were immediately set at work, to level the Trenches, clear the Breaches,



Breaches, and put the Town in a Posture of Defence. This done, the *Confederate* Armies broke up from before *Aire*, on the Fifteenth of *November*, N. S. and marched that Day to *Bethune*, the next to *Pont a Vendin*, and so on to the Plains of *Lisle*. From thence, the Troops designed to quarter in *Tournay*, *Lisle*, and *Doway*, went to their respective Garrisons; and the Rest of the Troops marched towards the several Places assigned for their Winter-Quarters; the Enemy having been gone to theirs some Time before.

A Medal struck on this Occasion.

THE following *Medal* was struck on Occasion of the latter Successes of this Campaign.

ON the *Face* was the *Queen's* Bust, with this Inscription:

ANNA Augusta.

ON the *Reverse*, was a Trophy on a Pedestal, with this Legend:

*Bethuna, Fano Sancti Venantij, & Aria captis.*

That is,

*Bethune, St. Venant, and Aire* being taken.

In the *Exergue*,

*Inspectant. Gall. Cent. Mill. M.DCC.X.*

That is,

*Inspectantibus Gallorum Centum Millibus.*

A Hundred Thousand *French* looking on.

THUS ended the Campaign in the *Netherlands*; which, though not so glorious as some of the former, was of great Advantage to the *Allies*; who, during the Course thereof, had made themselves Masters of two Towns of vast Importance, *Doway* and *Aire*, though the latter cost them a little too dear, and almost as many Men as *Doway*; besides two others of less Consequence, *Bethune* and *St. Venant*. On the other Hand, it must be confessed, that the Enemy, after the surprizing of their Lines, gained their chief Point; which was to cover *Arras*, and thereby prevent the *Allies* from penetrating into *Picardy*, which they otherwise might have done.

The Duke of Marlborough and Prince Eugene set out for London and Vienna.

ON the Sixteenth of *November*, Prince *Eugene*, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, left the *Confederate* Army, and went the same Day to *Tournay*; from whence they proceeded the Tenth to *Ghent*, and the Twentieth to *Brussels*. There they removed several Difficulties, that arose about raising One Million, five Hundred Thousand *Guilders*, to supply the *Imperial* and *Palatine* Troops with Bread and Forage, during the Winter; which done, they set out from thence the Twenty-fifth, and arrived the Twenty-eighth at the *Hague*. The next Day, their Highnesses were severally complimented by the Foreign Ministers, and other Persons of Distinction; and having held divers Conferences with the *Grand Pensionary*, the Deputies of the *States* for Foreign Affairs, and the Foreign Ministers, about the several Parts of the War, particularly that of *Spain*, Prince *Eugene* set out, the Eleventh of *December*, for *Vienna*; as did the Duke of *Marlborough*, the Twenty-third of the same Month, for *England*.

State of Affairs in Spain

WE shall leave his Grace, at present, on his Voyage thither, and give a succinct Account of what happened, this Summer, in other Parts. And first, as to *Spain*, King *Philip* went to his Army in *Arragon*, and gave it out, that he was resolved to put all to the Decision of a Battle with King *Charles*; who was, likewise, come to head his Army. They lay so near one another, that King *Philip* cannonaded his Enemy's Camp; but his Men were beaten off with Loss, and drew away to a greater Distance: However, before the End of *July*, there was an Action of great Importance, near *Almenara*. The main Body of King *Philip's* Horse, designed to have cut off Part of King *Charles's* Foot, which was separated by the Cavalry, commanded by General *Stanhope*. Hereupon, that General drew his whole Body together; and though he was greatly inferior in Number, he sent to King *Charles*,  
and

and desired Orders to engage the Enemy; which he did not obtain, without some Difficulty, and after some reiterated and pressing Sollicitations. As the two Bodies were advancing one against another, General *Stanhope* rode at the Head of his *Corps*; and the *Spanish* General, supposed to have been Lieutenant-General *Amenzega*, did the same. The two Generals began the Action, and *Stanhope* was so fortunate as to kill the *Spaniard*; whereupon his Troops, animated by the Example, and Success of their General, fell on, and broke the *Spanish* Horse so entirely, that King *Philip* lost the best Part of his Cavalry in that Action; upon which, he retired towards *Saragossa*, but was closely followed by King *Charles*. On the Twentieth of *August*, they came to a general Engagement, which ended in a total Defeat on the Side of the *Spaniards*, by which Means *Aragon* came again into King *Charles's* Hands. Hereupon, King *Philip* was obliged to abandon *Madrid*; and King *Charles* hastened thither, but found the *Grandees* had all followed his Antagonist. The Insincerity of the King of *France* appeared now in a clear Light; for, on this Occasion, he might easily have perform'd the Conditions of the Thirty-seventh Article of the *Preliminaries*, and have obliged his Grandson to have evacuated *Spain*; but, instead thereof, he sent him Assistance. King *Charles* continued in *Castille* till the Beginning of *December*; but not being sufficiently supported then, he was forced to return to *Catalonia*, for the Security of that Principality. The Battle of *Brihuega* was fatal to General *Stanhope*, and the *English* under his Command, who were taken Prisoners; but whether this Misfortune was owing to any Misconduct in him, in unadvisedly taking a wrong March, and separating from the *Imperialists*, or to the Neglect of General *Staremburg*, in not supporting the *English*, as some say he might have done, but that he sacrificed General *Stanhope* to Envy, has been Matter of great Debate, and is too nice a Point for us to determinc.

THE Instability of human Prosperity appeared, in a most surprizing Manner, in this Campaign in *Spain*; both Parties being Conquerors, and both conquered in their Turns; but King *Philip* had certainly the Advantage in the End; whereas King *Charles's* Affairs, notwithstanding he had triumph'd once this Summer, in the Capital of the *Spanish* Monarchy, began to have a very dismal Aspect: For, besides his being now confined within the narrow Bounds of the Principality of *Catalonia*, King *Philip* gained a very material Advantage over him, in having an invincible Demonstration of the Affection of the *Castillians* to his Person and Government; insomuch, that neither his two Defeats at *Almenara*, and *Saragossa*, nor his Retreat from *Madrid*, nor the Presence of King *Charles*, with a veteran, victorious Army, were able to shake their Attachment to the House of *Bourbon*.

NOTHING material happened this Year in *Portugal*; except that, about the Beginning of *July*, the Marquis *de Bay*, who then commanded the *Spanish* Forces in *Estremadura*, made himself Master of the Town of *Miranda de Duero*, by Surprise; took four Hundred regular Troops and Militia therein; and then formed the Blockade of *Braganza*. But this was abandoned by the Marquis *de Risbourg*, upon the News of the Defeat at *Saragossa*; and soon after the *Portuguese* took, from the *Spaniards*, *Xeres de los Cavaleros*, *Barcarota*, *Alcanza*, and *Puebla*; all Places with high-sounding Names, but of very little Consequence, being hardly better than Villages.

NEITHER did any Thing worthy of Notice happen on the Side of *Piedmont*; the Duke of *Savoy* complaining still of the *Imperial* Court, and therefore refusing to act vigorously. Besides this, his Royal Highness had a very plausible Pretence for not putting himself at the Head of the Army; being at that very Juncture indisposed, as well as his two Sons, the Prince of *Piedmont*, and the Duke of *Aosta*. Hereupon, the Count *de Thaur* took upon him the Command of the *Confederate* Army, but nothing was done of any Moment.

NEITHER was there any material Alteration in Affairs in the other Parts of *Italy*; for the Disputes about *Comacchio*, and the actual Recognition of King *Charles's* Title, being still in the same Condition as before, the *Imperialists*

*rialists* kept Possession of that Place; and the Ambassador of the *Emperor*, and his *Catholick* Majesty, at *Rome*, did not appear in publick with that Character; neither did Signier *Albani*, the *Pope's* Nephew, assume any publick Character at the *Imperial* Court, though he still continued to stay at *Vienna*.

On the  
Rhine.

ON the *Rhine*, likewise, both Parties being equally unable to enter upon Action, the Campaign passed over without any Thing's happening that was any ways material. The *French*, who, in the Winter, threatened the *Empire* with a new Invasion, were obliged to weaken their Forces on that Side, in order to recover their own Frontiers, and reinforce their Armies in the *Netherlands*; and the *Germans*, through the usual ill Management of their Affairs, were not in a Condition to improve that fair Opportunity of invading *France*; wherefore both Armies remained in a State of Inaction. The *Elect*or of *Hanover* resenting this, prudently laid down the Command of the Army of the *Empire*, not thinking it fit to hazard his Reputation any longer, upon the Promises of such as had so grossly deceived him, in former Campaigns; so that Command was given to Count *Grondsfeldt*.

WE must not conclude this short Summary of Foreign Affairs, without just mentioning the Descent on the Coast of *Languedoc*, with Intent to make a Diversion of the Enemy's Forces on that Side, and thereby prevent their joining King *Philip*; because this Design was concerted with Major-General *de Seissan*, by the Duke of *Marlborough*. And, notwithstanding that Enterprize was not attended with all the Success, which was at first expected from it; yet it had this immediate good Effect, that it hindered the Duke *de Noailles* from joining King *Philip*; and at the same Time gave the *Confederate* Troops in the Neighbourhood of *Gironne* an Opportunity of reinforcing King *Charles*: This made Way for the two Victories, which his *Catholick* Majesty obtained soon after, as we have observed before.

State of Af-  
fairs at  
Home.

HAVING thus given a concise Account of the Transactions of this Year abroad, as far as concerned the *Grand Alliance*, we shall now proceed to domestick Affairs. On the Twenty-fifth of *November*, the *Parliament* met, and it was remarkable, that the *Queen*, in her Speech, recommended the carrying on the War in all Parts, and especially in *Spain*; but not the least Mention was made, as had been usual, in former Years, of the Success in *Flanders*, or of the Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*. Neither were they so much as hinted at in the Addresses either of the *Lords*, or *Commons*, which undoubtedly was owing to the Change of the *Ministry*. "The *Lords*,  
" says a late Author, made an Address of an odd Composition to her Ma-  
" jesty, which shew'd it was not penn'd by those who had penned their  
" former Addresses: Instead of promising to do all that was possible, they  
" only promised to do all that was reasonable; which seemed to import a  
" Limitation, as if they had apprehended, that unreasonable Things might  
" be ask'd of them, and the Conclusion was in a very cold Strain of Rhetor-  
" ick; for they ended with saying, *they had no more to add*. The *Commons*,  
" (continues the same Author) were more hearty in their Address." And another Author says, the Address of the *Commons* was universally approved; yet, adds he, it had little or no Effect, with Relation to the Publick Funds, which had fallen considerably upon the Change of the *Ministry*. There was still an Uneasiness amongst the monied Men; especially as they seemed now to be under Apprehensions, that the Duke of *Marlborough* would either be laid aside, or would resign his Command. This Jealousy was increased, on the twenty-eighth of *November*, when the Earl of *Scarborough* made a Motion in the *House of Peers*, that the *Thanks of that House might be given to the Duke of Marlborough*, and some Objections were made to it, by the Duke of *Argyle*: Upon this, those who were in Interest of the Duke of *Marlborough*, being apprehensive, that if the Question were put, it might be carried in the Negative, they chose rather to drop the Motion, by saying it would be Time enough to speak of that, when his Grace was come Home; whereupon the House adjourned.



ON the Twelfth of *December*, the Queen nominated *Richard Hill*, Esq; to be her Envoy Extraordinary, and Plenipotentiary to the *United Provinces*, and to the Council of State, appointed for the Government of the *Spanish-Netherlands*, in the Room of Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, whom her Majesty had thought fit to recall from that Employment. About the same Time, the Commissions of Lieutenant-General *Meredith*, Major-General *Mackartney*, and Brigadier *Honeywood* were superseeded. An Information was said to have been laid before the Queen, that those three Officers, in their Cups, had drank *Damnation, and Confusion to the New Ministry, and to those who had any Hand, in turning out the Old*; which was understood as an Imprecation on the Queen herself. Some Persons, who came over, about that Time, from *Flanders*, undertook to extenuate their Crime; and averr'd, that they only drank a *Health to the Duke of Marlborough, and Confusion to all his Enemies*; a Thing usual in all Armies, though it happened just then to be equivocal. Be this as it will, Mr. *Granville*, Secretary at War, was directed to signify to them, that the Queen had no farther Occasion for their Service; but that out of her gracious Bounty, she was pleased to allow them to sell their respective Regiments. Brigadier *Honeywood*, being then in London, her Majesty's Pleasure was notify'd to him here; and the Order for suspending the other two, was sent to the Duke of *Marlborough*, who was then at the *Hague*, and transmitted it to them at the *Brill*, where they were ready to embark for *England*.

Three General Officers turned out.

THE general Opinion was, that it was thought necessary to make these Examples, to keep the Officers of the Army within Bounds; it having been reported, that some, out of an Excess of Respect to the Duke, had been so unwary, as to drop doubtful Expressions of *standing by their General*. Besides, it was charged upon the *Old Ministry*, in a Pamphlet entituled, *Faults on both Sides*, said to have been countenanced by some great Men, that they had formed a Design of making a *General for Life*; but what Grounds there were for that Report, we shall not pretend to determine. General *Meredith* had soon after the farther Mortification, of losing his Places of Governor of *Tinmouth Fort*, and Gentleman of the Horse to the Queen.

The Duke of Marlborough arrives at London.

WE return now to the Duke of *Marlborough*, whom we left on his Voyage to *England*; wherein meeting with contrary Winds, he did not reach *Solebay*, till the twenty-six of *December*, at Five in the Afternoon. His Grace lay that Night at *Chelmsford*, and arrived at *London* the Twenty-eighth. At his Entrance into the City, about Five in the Evening, his Coach was attended with great Numbers of People, with Links and Flambeaux, who by their Acclamations, express'd their Joy at his happy Return. Though the Duke was very sensible of the Instability and Emptiness of the Applause of the Vulgar, it could not but be some Satisfaction to him, to see himself so welcom'd Home by those, who some Months before had been so tumultuous, in Favour of a Person, who had been the main Occasion, or rather Pretence, of the late Distractions and Alterations, which seemed principally intended to reach his nearest Relations, if not himself personally. However, his Grace, who was always averse to Popularity, thought it Prudence, at this Juncture, to avoid the least Shew of it; wherefore, he ordered his Coach, instead of going directly to *St. James's*, to drive to *Montague House*; from whence, after having rested an Hour or two, he went out, by a private Door. Upon his Arrival at *St. James's*, he immediately waited on the Queen, who gave him a very gracious Reception, and discoursed with him about half an Hour; after which, his Grace retired to his House.

NEXT Morning, the Duke was summoned to, and assisted at a Committee of the Privy Council; and that Day, and the Days following, received the Visits of the Earl of *Rocheſter*, President of the Council, the Earl of *Powlet*, first Lord Commissioner of the Treasury, the Secretaries of State, and other Persons in the Ministry: However, it was for some Time a Question with the Publick, whether his Grace had any Interview with Mr. *Harley*, who had now the greatest Share both in the Queen's Confidence, and in the Management of Affairs. They who pretended to have a near Insight into the

Secrets

Secrets of the Court, seemed fully persuaded, that her Majesty had resolved to remove all Strangeness, and Coldness that might be between them; and the Event justify'd their Conjecture.

His Grace is not thank'd by either of the Houses of Parliament.

IN the mean While, the Uncertainty whether the Duke of *Marlborough* would be continued in his Command in *Flanders*, or not, cast a fresh Damp upon the *Publick Credit*. It was therefore, the general Wish and Expectation of the most wealthy and substantial Citizens, that in order to remove that fatal Doubt, his Grace might receive the Thanks, at least, of one of the two *Houses of Parliament*, if not of both. But his Grace's Friends, in the *House of Peers*, having already failed in one Motion for it, as has been observed above, were unwilling to attempt it a second Time; especially, as they found the Majority of the House, inclined to pass the same Compliment on the Earl of *Peterborough*: And as for those who were in the Duke's Interest in the *House of Commons*, they found their Number too small to dare to make any fresh Motion. Thus his Grace, instead of having the Thanks of either House, had the Mortification, to see an invidious and scurrilous Letter published, entituled, *Reasons why a certain great General, had not the Thanks, of either of the two Houses of Parliament*.

THIS, together with some dubious Expressions, said to have been let fall by the Duke, in the Debates in the *House of Lords*, concerning the Affairs of *Spain*, increased the Apprehensions of many, that his Grace would gratify his private Disgust, and lay down his Commission: For it was thought natural for his Resentment to suggest, "That he had acquired a sufficient Stock of Honour and Wealth, to despise the Frowns of Fortune; That it would be derogatory to his Character, to stoop to the Authors of the Disgrace of his Relations; who, whatever their Pretences might be, would never heartily embrace his Interest, nor contribute to the Support of the Glory he had already gained; that the Fate of War being uncertain, the least Diminution of the Prosperity that had hitherto attended the Arms of the *Allies*, might be charged on him as a Crime; whereas, if any Misfortune should befall them, under another General, the Court would have Reason to regret the Loss of so prosperous a Commander, and to court him to serve again, which would add a fresh Lustre to his Reputation." But his Grace, who at his Departure from *Holland*, had engaged his Word to the *States-General*, and to Prince *Eugene*, not to abandon the *Common Cause*, resolved to act the Part of a true Hero, and a good Patriot, we may likewise add, of a consummate Politician; he sacrificed his private Disgusts to the *Publick Welfare*, by concerting Measures with the *New Ministry*, with the same hearty Zeal as he had with the *Old*. He prudently considered, that the preserving his Command in *Flanders*, was the most effectual Means to maintain his Credit abroad, and to retrieve his Interest at Home. In Effect, it is pretty evident, from the whole Tenor of the Duke of *Marlborough's* Behaviour, that he never entertained a Thought, of laying down his Command of the Army; and the following Letters, which tho' dated some Weeks before, may properly enough be inserted here, prove it beyond all Contradiction, and shew how much he had the Good of the *Common Cause* at Heart.

SIR,

A Letter from his Grace, to a Gentleman very much in his late Majesty's good Graces at *Hanover*.

"POOR Mr. *Cardennel* being Sick, I must ask your Pardon for writing in *English*, but I would not defer any longer the returning you my Thanks for your obliging Letter of the Fifth, and assuring you, at the same Time, the Satisfaction I take in the good Choice the *Electors* has made of Monsieur *Bothmar*. Our Conjunction in *England* is so very extraordinary, that it will require not only his Diligence, but his utmost Prudence. I pray God every Thing may end for the best; but our dismal Aspect seems rather favourable to *France*, than to ourselves. I am, with Truth,

SIR,

August 18, 1710.

Your faithful Servant,

MARLBOROUGH.

SIR,

hfulServ

SIR,

" I HAVE received from the Hands of Monsieur de St. Laurent, the Let-  
 " ter you was pleased to write to me the Twenty-ninth past; by which I  
 " see the *Electoral* designs that Monsieur de Bothmar shall make a Tour to  
 " the Army, to confer with me, before he goes to *England*; which I look  
 " upon, as in Duty bound, to be a particular Mark of his *Electoral* High-  
 " ness's Goodness, and the Confidence he is pleased to place in me; and I  
 " beg of you to assure his Highness, and his Ministers, that I shall not  
 " make an ill Use of this Trust, and that whatever I shall say to him, shall  
 " be with no other View, but to the Interest of the most Serene *Electoral*  
 " House, and that of *England*, which are inseparable; and as becomes a  
 " faithful and most devoted Servant, as I have had the Honour lately to  
 " testify to his *Electoral* Highness myself. Before the Conclusion of the  
 " Month, I shall take Care to lodge a Passport at the *Hague*, that Mon-  
 " sieur de Bothmar may pursue his Journey, with the greater Safety and  
 " Expedition.

From the Camp before Aire,  
 Septemb. 9, 1710.

I am, &c.  
 The Prince, and Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

SIR,

" MONSIEUR de St. Laurent delivered me, last Night, your Letter of  
 " the Second Instant, concerning my Lord Rivers's Voyage. Those I re-  
 " ceived, this Morning, from *London*, of the Twenty-second past, O. S.  
 " confirm his Departure. I am likewise informed, from very good Hands,  
 " that he is only charged with Compliments in general, without any Or-  
 " ders concerning the Command of the Army. However, I beg you to as-  
 " sure the Person, who ordered you to write to me on this Account, of my  
 " most humble Acknowledgments for the Goodness and Friendship he has  
 " shewn me on this Occasion; and to tell him, that if I durst offer my Ad-  
 " vice, in an Affair of so ticklish a Nature, and which so nearly concerns  
 " me, his *Electoral* Highness, if he should mention it to this Lord, should  
 " give him to understand, that he has the Goodness to honour me with his  
 " Protection and Favour, and he is satisfied with my Services; that all the  
 " *High Allies* having an entire Confidence in me, a Change, at this Junc-  
 " ture, could not but be of great Prejudice to the *Common Cause*. If his  
 " *Electoral* Highness would be pleased to explain himself after this Man-  
 " ner, I flatter myself with the Hopes, it would produce a very good Effect  
 " in *England*, to rectify the unsettled Minds of some, and to re-establish,  
 " in some measure, the unhappy Situation of our Affairs; besides the Ad-  
 " vantage it would be to me in particular: Though I regard the latter as  
 " nothing, in Comparison with the former: However, it would lay me un-  
 " der an Obligation to acknowledge it, by devoting myself entirely to the  
 " Service of his *Electoral* Highness, and his most Serene House, to the very  
 " last Moment of my Life. I have disposed of my Letter according to  
 " your Desire, and assure you of Secrecy, being very sincerely,

From the Camp before Aire,  
 Septemb. 10, 1710.

SIR, &c.  
 The Prince, and Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

SIR,

" I AM indebted to you for two of your Letters; the latter, of the  
 " Twenty-third past, was delivered to me, this Morning, by Monsieur de  
 " St. Laurent, and I was unwilling to lose the first Opportunity of returning  
 " you Thanks, for the Communication of what passes in your Parts. I find  
 " my Information from *England*, concerning my Lord Rivers, was well  
 " grounded; and undoubtedly, the Reports which were spread, with Re-  
 " gard to the Invitation, and the Command, were with a View to influence  
 " the



“ the *Elections* for the ensuing *Parliament*. It will be requisite for me, both  
 “ with Regard to the Interest of his *Electoral* Highness, and to the Publick  
 “ Good, to act with Abundance of Caution in this Affair. In the mean  
 “ While, it would be very necessary, that the World should be undeceived  
 “ in this Point: And his *Electoral* Highness may be assured, that in this, as  
 “ well as in every Thing else, I shall endeavour even to anticipate whatever  
 “ he shall vouchsafe to command me.

“ SINCE Monsieur *de Bothmar* is to stay yet three Weeks in your Parts,  
 “ I hope to have an Opportunity of speaking with him at the *Hague*. The  
 “ Siege of *St. Venant* being now happily accomplished, we shall now pur-  
 “ sue that of *Aire* with the greater Vigour.”

From the Camp before Aire,  
 Octob. 1, 1710.

I am, &c.  
 The Prince, and Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

SIR,

Translation  
 of another,  
 from the  
 same, to the  
 same.

“ I AM extremely obliged to you for the Advices you continue to give  
 “ me, in your Letter of the Thirtieth past. You may depend upon it, I  
 “ will make such Use of them, as you desire; and that whatever you have  
 “ the Goodness to acquaint me with, shall always remain an inviolable Se-  
 “ cret. I make no Difficulty of renewing the Treaty for the Troops, for  
 “ the ensuing Year. Of this you may inform Monsieur *de Bothmar*; and in  
 “ Case I should be gone, he will find a Letter at Monsieur *Klyngraeff*’s,  
 “ which will advise him thereof.”

I am, &c.

From the Camp before Aire,  
 Octob. 8, 1710.

The Prince, and Duke of MARLBOROUGH.

PURSUANT to these prudent Counsels, the Duke made a free Resignation  
 of his Duchess’s Places at Court, by delivering into her Majesty’s Hands the  
 Gold Key her Grace had, as Groom of the Stole. This voluntary Sacrifice  
 of a Person so justly dear to him, but who had the Misfortune of having  
 incurred her Majesty’s Displeasure, was thought, by all unprejudiced People,  
 a great Demonstration of his Grace’s Publick Spirit, and that nothing could  
 come in Competition with his Desire of serving his Country.

The Duchess  
 of Marlbo-  
 rough lives  
 greater, after  
 her Disgrace,  
 than before.

ACCORDINGLY, it was so well taken by the *Queen*, that she was not only  
 pleased to renew his Commission, but likewise to make a Disposition of the  
 other Generals, entirely to his Grace’s Satisfaction: An incontestable Proof  
 of her Majesty’s being as yet unshaken, in the Opinion she had always justly  
 retained of his Capacity, and Fidelity. As for the Duchess, it was observed,  
 that the Loss of all her valuable Places, which amounted to some Thou-  
 sands a Year, was so far from being any Mortification to her, at least, in  
 outward Appearance, that she lived afterwards, both in Town and Country,  
 especially at her Seat at *St. Albans*, with an uncommon Splendor, Libera-  
 lity, and Magnificence; which very much abated the Envy and Malice of  
 those, who take a Pleasure of reviling Persons of Worth, and Dignity, when  
 under Disgrace.

WE shall conclude our Account of the Transactions of this Year, by ob-  
 serving the great Hopes *France* conceived (which we shall find, in the Sequel,  
 were but too well grounded) of a favourable Turn to their Advantage, up-  
 on this great Change of Affairs in *Great Britain*. That our Readers may  
 form an Idea how far these Hopes extended, and what was the immediate  
 Effect thereof, we shall give them an Extract of a Letter, supposed to have  
 been written by Monsieur *Petticum* (of whom we have had Occasion to make  
 frequent mention above) to Monsieur *Buys*, soon after the Removal of the  
 Earl of *Sunderland*.

“ I HAVE been (says that Gentleman) once more at *Gertruydenburgh*, and  
 “ used my best Endeavours, to prevail with the Ministers of *France* to ex-  
 “ plain

“ plain themselves, upon what Security their Master was willing to give, Extract of a  
 “ for evacuating the *Spanish* Monarchy, &c. But I found that gaining Time Letter from  
 “ was their chief Point; and every Pretence of Delay contributed, in their Monsieur  
 “ Opinions, to the Interest of their Master. *Petecum, to*  
 Monsieur

“ THIS surprized me very much, and seemed so contrary to all good Buys.  
 “ Policy, that I could not forbear arguing the Case with them; and endea-  
 “ voured to demonstrate, from their own low Circumstances, and the flou-  
 “ rishing Condition of the *Allies*, that the deferring of Peace, in all Proba-  
 “ bility, must tend to the Disadvantage of *France*. I shewed them, that the  
 “ Affairs of the *Allies* were still in the same Condition, or more prosperous,  
 “ than when the *Preliminaries* were settled; that their *Arms* were victorious  
 “ every where; that they had still the same *Generals*, vested with the same  
 “ Power, Interest, and Authority; that they were now about to penetrate  
 “ into the very Heart of *France*, *Doway* being taken, and nothing in *Flan-*  
 “ *ders* was able to resist the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Prince of *Savoy*;  
 “ which made all the World wonder, why the King of *France* would not con-  
 “ clude a Peace, when he could no longer carry on the War? I urged the  
 “ Unanimity of all the *Allies*; I represented that *England* was not only  
 “ able, but still determined to go on with the War; that the same Parlia-  
 “ ment was still in being, which had so readily granted such great Supplies;  
 “ that the same Ministers were still at the Helm, who had had the Manage-  
 “ ment of their Affairs throughout this long and expensive War, and pre-  
 “ served the Publick Credit beyond Example; and that, notwithstanding  
 “ the Removal of the Earl of *Sunderland*, the Queen had publicly de-  
 “ clared, and promised, She would not make any farther Alterations in her  
 “ Ministry.

“ HERE they interrupted me, and said, Indeed if all I had alledged were  
 “ true, the Measures *France* was taking would seem very unaccountable;  
 “ but they could not believe me so ignorant of what was doing in *England*,  
 “ as not to think that *France* had good Reason to change her Style, and ex-  
 “ pect Peace upon far better Terms, than could have been hoped for, or  
 “ even thought of last Year: And they believed I should be of the same  
 “ Opinion, when I saw the *English* General disgraced; or, at least, so far  
 “ mortified, that he could serve no longer, the Ministry discarded, and the  
 “ Parliament dissolved.

“ THEY observed that I was very much startled at these Notions, and en-  
 “ tertained them as utter Improbabilities. Upon which they told me, in  
 “ short, That these Measures were already concerted, between *France*, and her  
 “ Friends in *England*.

“ I WAS still more surprized, and begg'd a farther Explanation; upon  
 “ which they said, it was true, indeed, Queen *Anne* had declared, she would  
 “ make no farther Changes in her Ministry; but bid me observe the Artifice  
 “ of her new Advisers. This Declaration was confined to the Ministry;  
 “ and, therefore, the Letter of her Promise was not broken, if she did not  
 “ turn out any of her Cabinet Council, or that might properly be called Mi-  
 “ nisters of State. There was a Latitude left to remove all the chief Offi-  
 “ cers that do not come strictly under that Denomination; which would soon  
 “ be done, by picking out of the Offices of the chief Consequence, all that  
 “ were known to be in the true Interest of their Country, and to be the best  
 “ Friends, and most faithful to the chief Ministers, without any Regard to  
 “ their having served ill or well; and when these are all removed, and others  
 “ of a quite different Interest, and Principle, put in their Room, in whom  
 “ the Ministers cannot at all confide, the Ministers might continue still  
 “ in their Posts. If they pleased, the Queen had promised not to turn them  
 “ out.

“ THEY desired me farther to observe, that there was no Engagement  
 “ not to dissolve the Parliament, which was now laboured Day and Night;  
 “ and if the States-General, foreseeing the fatal Consequences the Dissolu-  
 “ tion of the Parliament must bring upon the whole Alliance, should re-  
 “ present their Apprehensions on this Head, though in the most submissive  
 “ Manner,

“ Manner, they will be told, *They meddle with Things, wherewith they have nothing to do.* And there are those, who have now Access to the *Queen*, who will satisfy her, it is a Treatment she ought to resent.

“ BUT what they insisted upon chiefly, and with the greatest Satisfaction, was the Scheme, which, they said, was laid to destroy the Publick Credit in *England*, and would make it utterly impossible for the *Allies* to carry on the War any longer. They instanced a great many other Particulars, and concluded from the whole, that if the *Marshal de Villars* could spin out the Campaign, without hazarding a Battle, and oblige the *Allies* to spend this Summer in three or four Sieges, the Advantage which *France* would reap from the Measures concerted in *England*, would more than counter-balance the Loss of three or four of their most considerable Towns.”

Remarks  
upon this  
Extract.

WE shall not pretend to affirm this Letter to be genuine; but if it is, as the Behaviour of the *French Plenipotentiaries* at *Gertruydenburgh* makes it highly probable, their Court must have had an early Knowledge of, and a considerable Influence over, the most secret Designs and Transactions of the *British* Court, at this Time.

1711.

WE come now to an Account of the Proceedings of the Year 1711, which we shall begin, as we did those of the last Year, with a Relation of all such Domestick Occurrences as had any Regard to our *British* Hero.

ON the Sixth of *January*, there was a memorable Debate in the *House of Peers*, about the Conduct of the Earl of *Galway* in *Spain*; on which Occasion, after the said Lord had given ingenuous Account of his Behaviour in that Kingdom, and was withdrawn, the Duke of *Marlborough*, together with several other Peers, spoke very much in his Favour; and, amongst other Things, his Grace said, *It was somewhat strange, that Generals, who had acted to the best of their Understandings, and had lost their Limbs in the Service, should be examined like Offenders, about insignificant Things.* On the Twelfth, the *House of Lords* passed a Censure upon the late Ministry; as having contributed to all our Misfortunes in *Spain*, and to the Disappointment of the Expedition against *Toulon*; by being, in a great Measure, the Occasion of the War's having been carried on offensively in those Parts, contrary to the Opinion of the Earl of *Peterborough*.

A memorable  
Debate in  
Parliament.

“ ON this Occasion, it was moved, that an Address should be made to the *Queen*, to free those who were under an Oath of Secrecy, from that Tie, that a full Account might be laid before the House, of all their Consultations: Her Majesty readily granted this, and came to the *House*, which was understood to be with Design to favour what was aimed at. Hereupon, the Duke of *Marlborough*, the Earls of *Goldolphin* and *Sunderland*, and the Lord *Cowper*, shewed, that considering the Force sent over to *Spain*, under the Lord *Rivers*, they thought an offensive War was advisable; that the Expence of this War was so great, and the Prospect so promising, that they could not but think an offensive War was necessary; and that to have advised a defensive one, would have made them liable to a just Censure, as designing to protract the War. The Design upon *Spain* was no Ways intermixed with the Affairs of *Spain*; the Earl of *Peterborough* fancied he was in the Secret, and had proposed, indeed, the bringing over some Troops from *Spain*, for that Design; and had offered a Scheme to the Duke of *Savoy*, wherein that was mentioned, and had sent it over to *England*; but though his Royal Highness suffered that Lord to amuse himself with his own Project, which he had concerted for the Attempt on *Toulon*, he had declared he would not undertake it, if it was not managed with the utmost Secrecy; which was sacredly kept, and the Design only communicated to those, to whom it was to be intrusted, for the Execution thereof. No Troops from *Spain* were to be employ'd in that Service, nor did it miscarry for want of Men. These Lords farther said, They had given their Opinion in Council, according to the best of their Judgment; their Intentions were sincere, for the Service of the *Queen*, and

The late Ministry censured.



“ and to bring the War to a speedy Conclusion. Yet a Vote passed, That  
 “ they were to blame for advising an offensive War in Spain, upon which the  
 “ Loss of the Battle of Almanza followed; and that this occasioned the Mis-  
 “ carriage of the Design upon Toulon.”

HERE was a new and strange Precedent, of censuring a Resolution taken in Council; and of desiring the Sovereign to order all that had passed in Council to be laid before the House. In all the hot Debates in King Charles the First's Reign, notwithstanding many Resolutions taken in Council were justly censurable, yet the passing any Censure on them was never attempted, by Men who were no ways partial in Favour of the *Prerogative*: But they understood very well what our Constitution was in that Point. A Resolution in Council, is only the Act of the Sovereign; who, upon hearing his Counsellors deliver their Opinions, forms his own Resolution. A Counsellor, indeed, may be liable to Censure, for what he may say at that Board; but the Resolution taken there, had been hitherto treated with a silent Respect but by this Precedent, it may hereafter be subject to a *Parliamentary Enquiry*. The *Queen*, says a late Author, was so desirous of having a Censure fixed on her former *Ministry*, that she did not sufficiently consider the Wound given to the *Prerogative*, by the Way in which it was done.

Remarks thereupon.

ON this Occasion, the Earl of *Peterborough* received the Thanks of that *August Assembly*, for his eminent and remarkable Services in *Spain*: This, as the Duke of *Marlborough* had not been honoured with the same this Year, could not but be a great Mortification to him, as were, undoubtedly, the Censures which ensued, with Regard to the Affairs of *Spain*, on the late *Ministry*, and the Earl of *Galway*, in whose Cause his Grace had spoke.

“ I NEVER (says a late Author, on summing up this Matter) saw any  
 “ Thing carried on in the *House of Peers*, so little to their Honour as this  
 “ was: Some, who voted with the Rest, seem'd ashamed of it. They said some-  
 “ what was to done, to justify the *Queen's* Change of the *Ministry*; and  
 “ every Thing, elsewhere, had been so well conducted, as to be above all  
 “ Censure: So the Misfortune of *Almanza* being a visible Thing, they re-  
 “ solved to lay the Load there. The Management of the Publick Trea-  
 “ sure was exact, and unexceptionable: So that the single Misfortune of the  
 “ War was to be magnify'd. Some were more easily drawn in to concur  
 “ in these Votes; because, by the Act of Grace, all those who had been  
 “ concerned in the Administration, were covered from Prosecution and  
 “ Punishment: So this was represented to some, as a Compliment that  
 “ would be very acceptable to the *Queen*; and by which no Person could be  
 “ hurt.”

Farther Remarks thereupon.

*Richard Hill*, Esq; who, as we observed before, was appointed Envoy Extraordinary, and Plenipotentiary to the *States-General*, &c. in the Room of Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, having excused his going in that Character, either on Account of some Indisposition, or for other Reasons, the *Queen*, on the Eleventh of *January*, appointed the Earl of *Orrery*, a Major-General, in his Room.

WHAT Discourse passed between her Majesty, and the Duke of *Marlborough*, when his Grace resigned the *Duchess's* Places, has been variously reported; but as that Conversation was in private, we shall not presume to say any Thing about it. It is evident, however, by the Sequel, that her Majesty; and her new *Ministers*, thought it adviseable to continue his Grace in the Command of the *British Forces* in *Flanders*; and, in order to make him easy in his Post, some younger Generals were sent to command elsewhere.

A LATE Author sums up these Matters, as far as regards his Grace, as follows: “ As the Duke of *Marlborough* was involved in the general Censure pass'd on the former *Ministry*, he had not the usual Compliment of Thanks, for the Successes of the former Campaign. When that was moved in the *House of Lords*, it was opposed with so much Eagerness by the Duke of *Argyle*, and others, that it was let fall. For this the Duke was prepared by the *Queen*; who, upon his coming over, told him, that

“ he was not to expect the Thanks of the *two Houses*, as had been formerly :  
 “ She added, That she expected he should live well with her *Ministers* : Yet  
 “ he shewed no Resentment for all the ill Usage he met with ; and having  
 “ been much press’d by the *States*, and our other *Allies*, to continue in the  
 “ Command of the Army ; upon that Account, he resolv’d to be patient,  
 “ and to submit to every Thing, in order to carry on the War ; and finding  
 “ the *Queen’s* Prepossession against his *Duchess* was not to be overcome, he  
 “ carried a Surrender of all her Places to the *Queen* : She was Groom of  
 “ the Stole, had the Robes, and the Privy-Purse ; in all which, she had  
 “ served with great Oeconomy, and Fidelity to the *Queen*, and Justice to  
 “ those who dealt with the Crown.”

Some Reflections on the Duke of Marlborough’s Conduct.

THE Duke of *Marlborough* having been thus continued in the Command of the *British* Forces in *Flanders*, and the Duke of *Argyle*, who had given his Grace some Uneasiness, being recalled from thence, and sent into *Spain*, it was the Opinion of many, that a Reconciliation was actually concluded between his Grace and the *new Ministry* : But the Author of four Letters, written in Vindication of the *late Ministry*, as to the *Management of the War*, and the *Negotiation of Peace*, who, it was generally believed, received Hints and Instructions from his Grace, plainly insinuated, “ That little more  
 “ Harmony was to be expected between two Rivals in Power, than between a *rising* and a *falling Favourite*. Some Persons, says that Author, would still pretend to put a good Face upon the Matter ; and do not question, from the Duke of *Marlborough’s* past Successes, but he will yet frighten our Enemies into an *honourable Peace* : But I am afraid he is not likely to do much, at this Time, when the Enemy are encouraged to take Heart afresh, the *Allies* full of Jealousies and Fears, and himself extremely mortified : Things are no more the same, than the Usage he meets with : When he is uneasy in his Thoughts, undermined in the Favour of his Sovereign, and vilely misrepresented to the People : When his Want of Interest at Home, makes it impossible for the *Allies* to depend upon the Hopes he gives them : When he is without Authority in his Army, where it is made criminal to espouse his Interest, and to fly in his Face, is the surest Way to Advancement : When it is meritorious in his Officers to *cabal* against him, and the *most factious* will be thought the *most deserving*. With what Heart can a Man in these Circumstances serve ? Or what Success can be expected from him, when he is to depend upon profess’d Enemies for his Support ? It is little, I think, we can hope for, even from him hereafter, though that little be more than any body else could do.”

His Grace unjustly censured by his Enemies.

THE Duke’s Friends, however, concluded, that his Grace resolv’d to sacrifice his private *Disgusts* to the *publick Good*, by concerting Measures with the *new Ministry*, if not with equal Confidence, at least, with the same hearty Zeal, for the *Common Cause*, as he did with the late Lord Treasurer ; than which, *no Motives* could be more *Heroick* : But his Grace had his Enemies, who gave a very different Construction to this Matter ; and though they could not bring the least Proof to support their Allegations, they were not wanting to suggest, that nothing but a predominant Passion, and an insatiable Avarice, made him keep the Command ; and that he rather chose to make a Surrender of the *Duchess’s* Places, than his own, which were so much more advantageous. Thus may the most well-designed, and disinterested Action be censured, by envious and malicious Men, as proceeding from quite contrary Motives.

The Duchess of Marlborough’s Places disposed of.

HOWEVER that be, about the Beginning of *February*, the *Queen* was pleas’d to write a Letter to the *States-General*, in Answer to one from them, wherein her Majesty declared herself entirely satisfied with the Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough* ; and assured them, that according to their Desire, she would order his Grace to set out forthwith for *Holland*.

HER Majesty took some Days to consider of it, before she dispos’d of the *Duchess of Marlborough’s* Places ; but towards the End of *January*, it was publickly known, that the *Duchess of Somerset* succeeded her Grace, as Groom

Groom of the Stole, first Lady of the Bed-chamber, and Lady of the Wardrobe to her Majesty, as also, that Mrs. *Masham* was advanced in her Room to be Privy-Purse : Whereupon, soon after, the Duchess removed from her Lodgings, in the Royal Palace at St. James's to *Montague-House* ; retaining of all her former Places only the Rangership of *Windsor-Park*, which had been conferr'd upon her Grace for a certain Term of Years.

ON the Sixth of *February*, the Anniversary of the *Queen's* Birth-Day, it was celebrated with great Pomp and Solemnity ; but the Duke of *Marlborough* did not appear at that Festival, having set out, four Days before, with her Majesty's Leave, for *Blenheim-House*, in Company with the Marquis de *Pascal*, Governor of *Brussels*, who was lately come from *Flanders*, and Monsieur de *Seissan*. His Grace did not stay long there, but returned to *London* with the same Company ; and set out from thence on the Eighteenth, together with them, and the Earl of *Orrery*, in order to embark for *Holland*. Before his Departure, his Grace received positive Assurances, that the Payment of the Troops, under his Command, should be taken Care of as effectually, by the *New Ministry*, as it had been heretofore.

The Duke of Marlborough sets out for *Holland*.

WE shall leave his Grace on his Voyage, for the present, and mention some more Particulars relating to our Domestick Affairs, because they are necessary to the Understanding what follows, and were introductory to our *British Hero's* Disgrace. On the Seventh of *March*, the Lord Viscount *Townshend*, her Majesty's Ambassador-Extraordinary, and Plenipotentiary to the *States-General* of the *United-Provinces*, having desired Leave to return Home, her Majesty was pleased to appoint the Lord *Raby*, her Ambassador-Extraordinary to the King of *Prussia*, to succeed him in that Employment at the *Hague*.

ABOUT the same Time, the Marquis de *Guiscard* having been seized for *High-Treason*, and being carried before a Committee of the Privy-Council, attempted to murder Mr. *Harley*, whilst under Examination, by stabbing him in the Breast with a Penknife : But the Blow lighting on the Bone, the Blade broke about half an Inch from it, and the Wound did not prove Mortal, though it was thought desperate for some Weeks. The *House of Commons* being informed that Mr. *Harley's* Wound was almost healed, and that he would venture abroad in a few Days, they came to this unanimous Resolution : " That when the Right Honourable *Robert Harley*, Esq; Chancellor of her Majesty's Exchequer, attends the Service of this House, the Speaker, in the Name of this House, do congratulate the said Mr. *Harley's* Escape, and Recovery, from the barbarous and villainous Attempt made upon him, by the *Sieur de Guiscard* ; " which was done accordingly, the Seventeenth of *April*.

THE same Night, Captain *Powel* arrived at *Whitchhall* from the *Hague*; being sent Express by the Lord *Raby*, with an Account, that the Emperor *Joseph* died of the Small-Pox, at *Vienna*, the Seventeenth of that Month, N. S. upon which, the *Queen* resolved to concert Measures, with her High Allies, to advance King *Charles III.* to the Imperial Throne. Wherefore, on the Twentieth, her Majesty sent a Message to the *House of Commons* ; acquainting them with this her Resolution, wherein, she said, the *States-General* had likewise concurred ; assuring them, at the same Time, she had an entire Confidence in the Affection and Duty of her Parliament, that with their Assistance, under the Protection and Blessing of Almighty God, she should be enabled to make a happy Conclusion of this War, by a safe and honourable Peace." The same Day, both Houses agreed in an Address to the *Queen*, which was presented the same Evening ; and wherein, they not only approved of her Majesty's Measures, but told her ; they should not be discouraged, by this, or any other Misfortunes, from supporting her Majesty, in all the Measures, she, in her great Wisdom, should judge proper, to bring this War to a happy Conclusion, by a safe and honourable Peace." The *Queen* thank'd them for this Address, and told them, It was of great Importance the World should know, that both Houses of Parliament, so unanimously approved the Measures, she had taken on the

The Emperor *Joseph* dies.

Resolutions taken by the *Queen* thereupon.

" Emperor's



“ Emperor’s Death, which would very much encourage her *Allies*, to continue united in the *Common Cause*.”

PEOPLE of Penetration imagined, that the *Queen’s* Message gave a Glimpse of the Scheme the *New Ministry* had formed, upon the Death of the Emperor *Joseph*; viz. to make a Peace, by yielding up *Spain*, and the *West-Indies*, to King *Philip*: Not only because of the Expence it would cost to regain them, and the insurmountable Difficulties which would occur in the Attempt, but also because, in their Opinion, it would destroy the Ballance of *Europe*, which was the main Object of the *Grand Alliance*. As therefore, *both Houses of Parliament*, had shewn a Readiness, in their Address, to approve of any Measures her Majesty should think proper, in order to procure a Peace, the *Ministry* were now left at Liberty, to pursue their Scheme, under the Sanction of that Authority.

A little before the *Emperor’s* Death, two great Points were fully adjusted: We mean the Composing of the Differences between the *Imperial Court*, and the Duke of *Savoy*; which was done to the entire Satisfaction of the latter; and the appeasing of the Troubles with the *Malecontents* in *Hungary*; which proved of vast Service towards facilitating the Advancement of King *Charles III.* to the *Imperial Throne*.

Mr. Harley’s great Scheme for satisfying the Publick Debts.

ON the Second of *May*, Mr. Chancellor of the *Exchequer* proposed a Scheme he had formed, to satisfy all Publick and National Debts and Deficiencies; by allowing the Proprietors thereof, an Interest of Six per Cent. per Annum, redeemable by *Parliament*, and incorporating them to carry on a Trade to the *South-Seas*. There was, at that Time, a great Debt upon the Navy; occasioned partly by the Deficiency of the Funds appointed for the Service at Sea; but chiefly by the Necessity of applying such Supplies as were given without appropriating Clauses, to the Service abroad; which it was impossible to carry on by Credit, or without Ready-money; wherefore it was judged more convenient, and conducive to the Publick Good, to let the Navy Debt run on. This had increased to several Millions, and the Discount on the Navy Bills ran high; this whole Debt, therefore, was thrown into one Stock, and a Fund formed by *Parliament*, for paying the Interest at Six per Cent.

“ THE Flatterers, says a late Author, of the *New Ministry*, made great Use of this to magnify them, and to asperse the *Old Ministry*; but a full Report of that Matter was soon after published, by which it appeared that the Publick Money had been managed with the utmost Fidelity and Frugality; and it was made evident, that when there was not Money enough to answer all the Expences of the War, it was necessary to apply it to that which pressed most, and where the Service could not be carried on by Credit: So this Debt was contracted by an inevitable Necessity, and all reasonable Persons were fully satisfy’d with this Account of the Matter. The Earl of *Godolphin’s* unblemish’d Integrity was such, that no Imputation could be fastened on him; so, to keep up a Clamour, they reflected on the Expence he had run the Nation to, upon the early Successes, in the Year 1706, which were very justly acknowledged, and cleared in the succeeding Session; but it was now revived, and said to be an Invasion of the great Right of the *Commons* in giving Supplies, to enter on Designs, and to engage the Nation in an Expence, not provided for by *Parliament*. This was aggravated with many tragical Circumstances as a Subversion of the *Constitution*; so with this, and the thirty-five Millions, of which the Accounts were not yet paid, and some other Particulars, they made an inflaming Address to the *Queen*, at the End of the Sessions. And this was artfully spread through the Nation; by which weaker Minds were so possessed, that it was not easy to undeceive them, even by the fullest and clearest Evidences: The Nation seemed still infatuated, beyond the Power of Conviction.”

THE Censure this Author here hints at, fell heaviest on the late Lord *Treasurer*; for the *Commons* voted, amongst other Things: “ That the not compelling the several Accomptants to pass their respective Accounts, “ had

“ had been a notorious *Breach of Trust*, in those, who, of late Years, had  
 “ the *Management* of the *Treasury*, and an *High Injustice* to the Nation; and  
 “ that the increasing the Publick Expences, beyond the Supplies granted  
 “ by *Parliament*, had been the chief Occasion of the Debts of the Nation,  
 “ and an *Invasion* of the *Rights* of *Parliament*.”

NOT long after the Scheme abovementioned had been approved in *Parliament*, the *Queen* having resolved to reward the many signal and eminent Services of *Robert Harley*, Esq; Chancellor of her Majesty's Exchequer, and one of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, in a most distinguishing Manner, she first created him Baron *Harley* of *Wigmor*, in the County of *Hereford*, Earl of *Oxford*, and Earl *Mortimer*: The Patent having passed the Seal the Twenty-fourth of *May*, his Lordship was introduced next Day, into the *House of Peers*, and took his Place accordingly. On the Twentyninth, her Majesty appointed the new Earl Lord High Treasurer of Great Britain; and the First of *June*, his Lordship took the usual Oaths, to qualify him for entering upon that High Post.

ON the Twelfth of *June*, the *Queen* went to the *House of Lords*, with the usual Solemnity, and the Commons attending, she gave the Royal Assent to several Acts; after which she made a most Gracious Speech, and prorogued the *Parliament*; wherein, contrary to the Expectation of many, the necessary Supplies for carrying on the War against *France*, were granted with such Alacrity, as seemed at that Time, a Demonstration to all unbiass'd People, that her Majesty's Allies had then nothing to fear, nor her Enemies to hope, from the Change she had lately made in her Ministry, and *Parliament*; notwithstanding the pretended Insinuations of the *French Plenipotentiaries* at *Gertruydenburgh*, and the Endeavours of several, as well at Home and Abroad, to persuade the World to the contrary. Her Majesty thought fit to take Notice thereof in her Speech, as follows.

“ I THANK you, Gentlemen of the *House of Commons*, in a particular Manner, for what you have done; you have comply'd with my Desire, in granting a Supply for building many new Churches; and you have not only enabled me to carry on the War, but have made effectual Provision for paying those heavy Debts which were almost grown an insupportable Burthen, to the Publick: And that, at a Time, when our Enemies every where pleased themselves with the Hopes, that the Supplies for the Service of the current Year could not have been found. You have disappointed them in all Respects; and by the great Sums you have raised, the greatest ever granted to any Prince, in one Session, you have restored the Publick Credit, which I will take Care to preserve by a frugal Management. The World must now be satisfy'd, that nothing can be too difficult for a *Parliament*, filled with so much Zeal, for the true Interest of the Nation, in Church and State.”

A LATE Author gives a very different Account of the Motives which gave Rise to several of the Transactions of those Times, which we shall likewise insert for the Entertainment of our Readers. “ The Earl of *Oxford*, says he, being made Lord Treasurer, soon became the Chief, if not sole Minister, for every Thing was directed by him. It soon appeared, that his Strength lay in managing Parties, and engaging weak People, by Rewards and Promises, to depend upon him; but that he neither thoroughly understood the Business of the Treasury, nor the Conduct of Foreign Affairs: But he trusted to his Interest in the *Queen*, and in the Favourite.

“ HE saw the Load, which the carrying on the War must bring upon him; so he resolved to strike up a Peace as soon as possible. The Earl of *Fersey* had some Correspondence in *Paris*, and some at *St. Germain*; so he trusted the Conduct of the Negotiation to him. The Duke of *Newcastle*, who was Lord Privy-Seal, died of an Apoplexy in *July*. Upon his Death, there appeared a great Competition for this Office; the *Queen*, and her Prime Minister, therefore, took some Time to consider of a proper Person, for this important Post. The Dukes of *Buckingham*, *Shrewsbury*, and *Leeds*, the Earl of *Nottingham*, the Lord *Gunsley* his Brother,

“ and the Earls of *Clarendon*, and *Jersey*, were named on one Side ; and, on the other, the Duke and Duchess of *Somerset* made great Interest for the Lord *Sommers*, and went near to bring the *Duchess*, and the Earl of *Oxford*, into that Counsel ; at which the Duke of *Shrewsbury* was so disgusted, that he retired to his Seat in *Oxfordshire*. It was then said, that the *Privy-Seal* was to be given to the Earl of *Jersey* ; but that he died suddenly, the very Day it was to be given him. Upon that, it was conferr'd upon Dr. *Robinson*, Lord Bishop of *Bristol*, Dean of *Windsor*, and Register of the Order of the Garter, who was designed to be *First Plenipotentiary*, at the Treaty that was projected.

“ THIS was publickly known, the Thirtieth of *August*, and, on the Third of *September*, his Lordship was sworn at *Windsor*, both as *Lord Keeper of the Privy-Seal*, and one of the Lords of her Majesty's Privy-Council ; but though this Choice disgusted some great Men, the Effects of which appeared not long after, yet it was generally applauded at that Juncture ; and the more, as his Lordship had the Happiness to be well in the Esteem of both Parties. This Step of the Court's, however, occasioned more Speculation than usual, and the rather, because this great Office of State, had never been in the Hands of a Clergyman, since the *Reformation*.

Mr. Prior  
sent to  
France.

“ Mr. *Matthew Prior*, a Gentleman, who by his natural Abilities, and pregnant Genius, improved by assiduous Study, had gained a Name amongst the Wits of the Age, and found Means to raise himself to several Employments, who, likewise, had been the Lord *Jersey's* Secretary, was, upon his Death, employ'd to prosecute what his Master did not live to finish. He was sent to the Court of *France*, in *September*, to try upon what Terms we might expect a Peace : And he was thought the fittest Person for such a private Negotiation, by Reason of his former Employment, at the Peace of *Ryswick*, of Secretary to King *William's* first Embassy to *France* ; and of his personal Acquaintance with the Marquis de *Torcy*, who was the first Projector of this Negotiation. His Journey was carried on secretly ; but upon his Return, he was stopt at *Dover* ; and a Packet which he brought, was kept till an Order from Court came to set him free : And by this Accident the Secret broke out. Soon after this, Monsieur *Mesnager*, and the Abbot du Bois, were sent over from *France*, with Preliminaries ; but very different from those, which had been agreed on at the *Hague*, two Years before. The Court was then at *Windsor* ; these Propositions were so well entertained there, that a Copy of them was ordered to be given to Count *Gallas*, the *Emperor's* Minister. He treated those Offers with much Scorn, and printed the Preliminaries in one of our *News-Papers*. Soon after this, he was ordered to come no more to Court, but to make Haste out of *England*.

“ THIS Proceeding (continues our Author) was severe and unusual ; for the common Method, when any Provocation is given by a publick Minister, is to complain of him to his Master, and to desire him to be recalled. It was not then known upon what this was grounded ; the Surmise was, that his Secretary, Monsieur *Gaultier*, who was a Priest, betray'd him, and discovered his secret Correspondence, and the Advertisements he sent the *Emperor*, to give him ill Impressions of our Court ; for which Treachery, he was rewarded with an Abbey in *France* ; but of this (adds our Author) I have no certain Information.

“ WHEN our Court was resolved on this Project, they knew the Lord *Townshend* so well, that they could not depend on his serving their Ends ; so he was both recalled, and disgraced : And the Lord *Raby* was brought from the Court of *Prussia*, and advanced to be Earl of *Strafford*, and sent Ambassador to *Holland*.”

THE seven Preliminary Articles, as they were communicated to the Ministers of the Foreign Powers, who were Parties in the *Grand Alliance*, were as follows :



## PRELIMINARY ARTICLES, on the Part of France, for procuring a General Peace.

1. "THE King, being willing to contribute all that is in his Power, to the Re-establishment of the General Peace, his Majesty declares, That he will acknowledge the *Queen of Great Britain* in that Quality, as also the Succession of that Crown, according to the present Settlement.
2. "THAT he will freely, and *bona fide*, consent to the taking all just and reasonable Measures, for preventing the Crowns of *France* and *Spain* being ever united on the Head of the same Prince. His Majesty being convinced, that this Excess of Power, would be contrary to the Good and Quiet of *Europe*.
3. "THE King's Intention is, That all the Parties engaged in the present War, without excepting any of them, may find their reasonable Satisfaction, in the Treaty of Peace which shall be made: That Commerce may be re-established, and maintained, for the future, to the Advantage of *Great Britain* and *Holland*, and of the other Nations, who have been accustomed to exercise mutual Commerce.
4. "As the King will, likewise, maintain exactly the Observation of Peace, when it shall be concluded: And the End his Majesty proposes to himself is, to secure the Frontiers of his Kingdom, without disturbing, in any Manner whatsoever, the neighbouring States, he Promises to agree, by the Treaty which shall be made, that the *Dutch* shall be put in Possession of the fortified Places, which shall be mentioned, in the *Netherlands*; to serve hereafter for a Barrier, which may secure the Quiet of the Republick of *Holland*, against any Enterprize on the Part of *France*.
5. "THE King consents, likewise, that a secure and convenient Barrier should be formed for the *Empire*, and for the House of *Austria*.
6. "THAT notwithstanding *Dunkirk* had cost the King very great Sums, both to purchase it, and to fortify it, and it is farther necessary to be at a very considerable Expence, for razing the Works, his Majesty is willing to engage to cause them to be demolished, immediately after the Conclusion of the Peace; on Condition, that for the Fortifications of that Place, a proper Equivalent, which may be satisfactory, be given him: And as *England* cannot furnish that Equivalent, the Discussion of it shall be referred to the Conferences, to be held for the Negotiation of the Peace.
7. "WHEN the Conferences for the Negotiation of the Peace shall be formed, all the Pretensions of the Princes and States engaged in the present War, shall be therein discussed *bona fide*, and amicably; and nothing shall be omitted to regulate and terminate them, to the Satisfaction of all the Parties."

The seven;  
Preliminary  
Articles com-  
municated  
to foreign  
Ministers.

By Virtue of a full Power from the King, we the underwritten Knights of his Order of St. Michael, Deputy to the Council of Commerce, have concluded, in his Majesty's Name, the present Preliminary Articles. In witness whereof, we have signed,

MESNAGER.

Done at London, September 27, O. S.  
and October 8. N. S. 1711.

THESE Preliminary Articles, as they were then called, though they were only Offers signed by the French Agent, being so very different from what had been proposed, when the Marquis de Torcy was sent to *Holland*, but two Years before, surprized every one, and occasioned great Murmurs, amongst the Generality of People of both Parties. They were look'd upon as captious, insidious, and insufficient to ground any Treaty upon; nay, many would hardly believe them to be genuine. It was natural for People to ask, what Advantage *France* had gained during the two last Campaigns? What

Great Mur-  
murs  
occasioned  
thereby.

What Victories the *French* had obtained over the *Allies*? That they could have the Assurance to make Offers now, so vastly distant from those the *Allies* had Reason to expect, and *France* herself had been upon the very Point of accepting.

To appease, in some Measure, the Minds of the People, and to put a Stop to these Murmurings, an Addition of six other *Preliminary Articles*, were made publick, the same Day, in the News-Paper, called the *Post-Boy*; which were said to be agreed to by *France*, though they were not yet signed, nor communicated to the Ministers of the *Allies*. These were in Substance:

Six others made publick to appease the People.

1. THAT the Kingdoms of *Naples*, *Sicily*, and *Sardinia*, and the Duchy of *Milan*, with the Fortresses of *Tuscany*, which belonged to the Crown of *Spain*, and all *Flanders*, should remain for ever to the House of *Austria*.

2. THAT King *Philip* should have all *Spain*, with the Islands of *Majorca* and *Minorca*, and the *West-Indies*.

3. THAT the *English* should have a Garrison in *Cadiz*, and the *South-Sea Company* a Settlement on the Continent of *America*, according to the Act of *Parliament*.

4. THAT *Dunkirk* should be demolished, and the Harbour destroyed.

5. THAT the *Dutch* might appoint Commissaries, to treat with other Commissaries, to be appointed by *France*, concerning a necessary Barrier.

6. THAT Satisfaction and Security should be given to the other *Allies*, at the general Congress.

But in vain. NOTWITHSTANDING the Addition of the six last Articles, to conciliate the Favour of the Publick, the seven *Preliminaries* no sooner appeared in Print, than Swarms of Pamphlets came out, which arraign'd the *Queen's* Conduct; and, on the other Hand, as *Ministers of State*, though never so bad, will never want prostitute and venal Pens to defend their Measures, as many were published to bespeak a favourable Reception of these Articles. Some of the Foreign Ministers were likewise alarmed, at the Apprehensions of an approaching Peace. In particular, Count *Gallas*, the *Emperor's* Minister could not contain himself, on this Occasion, as it has been said, within the Bounds of Decency; on the contrary, he let fall such Expressions, with Regard to her Majesty's Administration, as were not thought very becoming, from the Minister of a Prince, who had such singular Obligations to the *Queen*, and the Nation. Her Majesty, therefore, thought she could do no less, than forbid him the Court; but she had still so much Affection for his *Imperial Majesty*, as to let him know, that any other Minister from him would be agreeable to her.

The Duke of Marlborough arrives at the Hague.

HAVING thus premised what we thought material, for the right understanding the Sequel, we shall now return to the Duke of *Marlborough*, whom we left on his Voyage to *Holland*. He arrived at the *Hague* on the Fourth of *March*, N. S. very much to the Satisfaction of the *States-General*, and of all the Ministers of the *Allies* residing there. He continued there some Time, and was daily in Conference with the Deputies of the *States*, to concert the Operations of the ensuing Campaign. The Advantages obtained by the *Confederates*, the foregoing Summer, in the *Netherlands*, by the Reduction of *Doway*, *Bethune*, *Aire*, and *St. Venant*, were so considerable, that they were resolved, if possible, to pursue their Conquests, and to push on the War with the utmost Vigour. In order thereto, it was thought a Matter of great Importance, to be in the Field before the Enemy; it was, therefore, determined to post Detachments from all the Garrisons along the *Scarpe*, and between that River, and the Canal of *Doway*, whereby a great Body might be formed in a few Hours, and in a Readiness to march. This was put in Execution with great Expedition, under the Direction of Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*; and such Care was taken to conceal the Number of these Detachments, that the Enemy could not get any Account thereof. At the same Time, vast Magazines were providing at *Tournay*, from whence Provisions,

Provisions, and other Necessaries, were to be sent to *Doway*, up the *Scheldt*, and the *Scarpe*, for subsisting the Troops.

ON the other Hand, the *French* Forces began to assemble near *Cambray*, and *Arras*, about the Middle of *April*; and the Duke of *Marlborough* having Intelligence, that the *Marshal de Villars* was expected at one of those Places on the Twenty-fifth of *April*, his Grace set out from the *Hague* on the Twenty-third of that Month, and arrived at *Tournay* the Twenty-sixth, near which the Troops were encamped, in several Bodies. There his Grace held a Council of War, with the Deputies of the *States*, and the Generals, wherein it was agreed, That those Troops should join, and form the Army; which was accordingly done, the Thirtieth, at *Orchies*, between *Lisle* and *Doway*. The next Day, the Duke pass'd the *Scarpe*, and encamping between *Doway* and *Bouchain*, found that the Enemy had drawn together their Forces behind the *Senfet*; and that they were as numerous this Year, as ever they had been; besides their being encamped in a most advantageous Post, which was looked upon as inaccessible.

HEREUPON, his Grace decamped, the First of *May*; and his Army, having passed the *Scarpe*, took Post all along the Road, from *Doway* to *Valenciennes*. Here he waited for the Rest of the Troops, which were to form his Army; and the Arrival of Prince *Eugene*, who had been detained at *Vienna*, and in the *Empire*, by the unexpected Death of the *Emperor JOSEPH*; his Highness spent some Days about *Frankfort*, to concert, with the *Electors* of *Mentz*, the necessary Measures for the Security of the *Empire*; as also to view the Lines, and other Posts. This done, having given such Directions as he thought requisite in those Parts, he proceeded to the Court of the *Electors* of *Palatine*, to regulate several Matters with that Prince; who, as one of the *Vicars* of the *Empire*, was to have the chief Administration of Affairs, during the *Inter-regnum*.

HAVING made these necessary Dispositions for the Security of the *Empire*, his Highness arrived at the *Hague*, the Fifth of *May*; but being obliged to continue there for some Time, he did not join the grand Army till the Twenty-third of that Month; which being the Anniversary of the Battle of *Ramillies*, his Highness dined with the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the *Confederate* Generals, who were met together, to commemorate that glorious Victory: This done, he went, in the Evening, to his Quarters, at the Abbey of *Anchin*.

Prince Eugene arrives at the Confederate Army

THE *Confederate* Army, being now fully assembled, consisted as follows: The *Right* Wing, under the Command of Prince *Eugene*, of sixty-five Battalions of Foot, and one Hundred and twenty Squadrons of Horse and Dragoons; and the *Left*, under the Conduct of the Duke of *Marlborough*, of one Hundred and nineteen Battalions, and two Hundred twenty-six Squadrons; making in all, one Hundred eighty-four Battalions, and three Hundred forty-six Squadrons, all in good Condition; with one Hundred and Eleven Cannon, eight *Hawbitzers*, and forty pontoons. Hereupon, after some Deliberation, his Grace, and the Prince, resolved to continue in their Posts, as long as possible, in hopes that the Want of Forage would oblige the Enemy to decamp from their inaccessible Post.

THE *French* General, however, was willing to make the most of his advantageous Situation; and was so far from being under any Apprehensions of being attack'd by the *Confederate* Army, though they were at no great Distance, that upon the News of the *Emperor's* Decease, he made a Detachment of fifteen Battalions, and as many Squadrons, for the *Upper Rhine*. This was done, pursuant to a Resolution taken by the *French* Court, to invade the *Empire*, and obstruct, as much as possible, the Election of *Charles III.* to the *Imperial* Dignity. It was even confidently reported, that the *Electors* of *Bavaria* was to set out very speedily for *Strasburgh*, in order to have the Direction of that Expedition; or, at least, to head a strong Detachment, with which he was to attempt the Passage of the *Black Forest*, and to penetrate into *Bavaria*; whilst the *Marshal de Harcourt*, with the Rest of the *French* Army, which was to be reinforced with a considerable Body of

Monsieur de Villars sends a Detachment to the Upper Rhine, to obstruct the Election of King Charles to the Empire.



Troops from *Dauphine*, were to attack the *Germans*, in the Lines of *Ettlingen*. These Reports were rendered still the more probable, by a Journey the Marquis de *Torcy* took, at this Time, to *Compiègne*, to confer, as it was believed, with the *Electeur* of *Bavaria*, about this Design; and it was farther said, that his *Electoral* Highness was to go in Person to *Marli*, in order to have an Interview there with his *Most Christian* Majesty.

NOTWITHSTANDING these Reports were grounded chiefly on Suppositions, Prince *Eugene* thought himself obliged, as General of the *Empire*, to consult the Security thereof. Wherefore he detach'd Count *Feltz*, with the *Imperial* and *Palatine* Troops, consisting of fifty Battalions, and twelve Squadrons, with Orders to observe the Motions of the Enemy's Detachment, and march accordingly; his Highness designing to join them himself, on their passing the *Rhine* at *Coblentz*, after having taken a Tour to the *Hague*, to concert Measures with the *States-General*.

HEREUPON, the Marhal de *Villars*, believing himself to be sufficiently strong, to oppose any Attempt the Duke of *Marlborough* might make; (his Army, before he sent away the first Detachment, having been computed to consist of one Hundred and ninety-two Battalions of Foot, and three Hundred forty-eight Squadrons of Horse and Dragoons, with ninety Pieces of Cannon, and twelve *Hawbitzers*) resolved to send a second Detachment, consisting of ten Battalions, and twenty-six Squadrons, with Orders to follow the first: And to convince the *French* Court yet more of the Truth of his Assertion, that his Army were so disposed, as to have nothing to fear from the *Confederates*, he made a third Detachment of two Brigades of Foot, and one of Horse, who were to pursue the same *Route* as the two former. These Notions of Security, which the *French* had so fondly imbibed, proceeded, probably, from the State of Inaction, wherein the *Confederate* Army had hitherto remained; and their General was so vain as to believe, they would not dare to attempt the passing of his Lines; which he, according to his usual Self-sufficiency, had stiled the Duke of *Marlborough's* *Non plus ultra*.

The French have the Advantage in some small Skirmishes.

IN Effect, nothing remarkable had happened as yet, except a few small Skirmishes, wherein the Enemy had gained some little Advantages: Especially at *Mortaigne*, where a Detachment of one Thousand nine Hundred Men, of the Garrison of *Cende*, and one Thousand one Hundred of the Garrison of *Valenciennes*, commanded by Monsieur *Permanle*, surprized a Convoy of forty-five Boats, laden with Corn and Hay, going up the *Scarpe* from *Tournay* to the Army; and escorted by two Battalions, under the Command of Brigadier *Chambrier*, a *Swiss*. The Engagement was very hot, and the Battalions behaved bravely, for above an Hour; but the Enemy being so much superior in Number, and throwing some combustible Matter into the Boats, set them on Fire; burnt and sunk thirty of them; took the Brigadier, with several other Officers, Prisoners; and dispersed the Rest, after having killed and wounded about five Hundred of them. This is the most general Account given of this Action; but there are others which say, that the Garrison of *St. Amand* advancing to the Assistance of the Guard, the Enemy retired; having first set on fire twelve of the Boats, with the Loss of about a Hundred Men killed and wounded; and that the *Allies* lost about the same Number.

ANOTHER Party of the Enemy, under the Command of the Count de *Villars*, marched out of the *Tpres*, and attack'd a small Fort at *Harlebeck*, wherein were only forty Men, commanded by Lieutenant *Dunbar*, of Lieutenant-General *Murray's* Regiment, who were made Prisoners, after a brave Resistance. On the other Hand, a Detachment of the Enemy's Grenadiers, supported by four Hundred *Hussars*, endeavoured to surprize a Post, the *Allies* had taken at the Convent of *Virmy*; but were repulsed with Loss, by three Hundred *English*, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Cholmley*, of the Guards.

ON the 14th of *June*, the Duke of *Marlborough* marched, with the Army under his Command, in six Columns, over the *Scarpe*, in sight of the Enemy; and

and encamped in the Plains of *Lens*, without meeting with the least Interruption from them. His Design in this Motion, was to have drawn the *French* on to some Action; and indeed they did alter the Situation of their Camp, and began to lay Bridges over the *Scheld*, as if they intended to pass it. This obliged his Grace to mark out a Field of Battle; which, upon that Supposition, he look'd upon as unavoidable; but the Enemy made no farther Motion; only a Hundred of the *Confederates* Dragoons, with the same Number of *Hussars*, advancing to the Banks of the *Scarpe*, over-against the Left of the Enemy's Camp, where some Bridges were laid, and a small Number of them shewing themselves to the Enemy, whilst the Rest remained unseen at a Distance, three Hundred of the Enemy's Horse pursued them to their *Corps de Reserve*; but they were charged with so much Vigour, that forty of them were killed on the Spot; and two Captains, a Cornet, and fifteen private Men taken Prisoners.

The Duke of Marlborough marches to the Plains of *Lens*.

THE Eighteenth in the Night, the whole *Piquet* of the *French* Grand Army advanced from *Arras* to *Vimi Chateau*; designing to have surprized a small advanced Guard, of four Hundred Men, posted there, from the *Confederate* Grand Army at *Lens*; but being discover'd in Time, the Guard were in a Posture to receive them; and firing upon them, on their Approach, they thought fit to make a Halt: By this Time, the *Confederate* Army were alarmed; and the *Piquet* being ordered out, to assist the advanced Guard, the Enemy immediately retreated to their Camp at *Arras*.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, having received Information, that after he had left his former Camp, the Enemy had repaired to the Dyke of *Arleux*, in order to stop the Waters of the *Senet* from running into the Canal of *Doway*, and thence into the *Scarpe*, whereby they had rendered the last River unnavigable; as also, that they had fortified the *Chateau* of *Chanterin*, and cast up a Redoubt before the Mills of *Arleux*; his Grace ordered those Posts to be attack'd by seven Hundred Men of the Garrison of *Doway*, supported by the *Piquets* of the whole Army: These marching all Night, posted themselves between the Villages of *Sailly*, and *Ecluse*, to prevent any Succours coming from the Enemy. The Conduct of the *French*, on this Occasion, was thought very unaccountable; for they lay quiet all the while, though the *Right* Wing of their Army was not above a League off, whereas that of the *Allies* was distant above five. The Post was carry'd with a great deal of Courage; and ninety Soldiers, a Captain, and three Subalterns, who were in Garrison in the *Chateau*, together with twenty-five private Men, and one Subaltern, in the Redoubt before the Mills, were taken Prisoners. Hereupon the Duke, considering the great Importance of this Post, ordered Monsieur *des Roques*, the Engineer, with six Hundred Men to fortify it; and lest the Workmen should be interrupted by the Neighbourhood of the Enemy, Count *Hompesch* marched with ten Battalions, and twelve Squadrons, and encamped at *Fieren*, in order to cover them.

His Grace takes the Post of *Arleux*, and has it fortified.

THE Marshal *de Villars*, happening to get Intelligence of this March, and being exasperated at seeing the *Allies* fortifying a Place of that Importance under his very Nose, resolved to oppose them. To that End, as he took Care always to act upon sure Grounds, and never to hazard an Attack, but with a considerable Advantage, he detach'd the Count *de Gassion*, and the Count *de Coigny*, both Lieutenant-Generals, with thirty-two Squadrons, Part of the King's Household, and Part of other Cavalry, Dragoons, and *Hussars*, about one in the Morning: These, by the Advantage of a very dark Night, passed the Out-Guards unseen, and eight Hundred Dragoons, and two Hundred *Hussars*, who surprized four of the Squadrons, commanded by Count *Hompesch*, cut the Halters of the Horses, who were tied at the Posts, which put all into a great Disorder. But immediately the others rushing out of their Tents, Sword in Hand, some in their Shirts, and some half-dressed, put to the Sword all those whom they found among the Horses. During this first Skirmish, others run to their Bundles, took their Arms, and carry'd off their Standards and their Kettle-Drums. If the Enemy had seized first upon the Bundles, the Disorder had been much greater, as soon

The Enemy surprize Count *Hompesch's* Camp

as the Men had found themselves deprived of their Arms. During this Confusion, and Uproar, the Infantry, and the Rest of the Cavalry, who were encamped at a small Distance from thence, had Time to run to their Arms, and put themselves in a Posture of Defence; and the *Right* retreating towards the *Cover'd Way* of *Doway*, the Rest made some Discharges with good Success, and obliged the Enemy to retire with Precipitation, without having been able to make any Advantage of this Surprize. They only destroyed Part of the Horses of our Squadrons, who had about two Hundred Men killed and wounded; as for the Horses which had been dispersed on all Sides, they returned afterwards, and were almost all caught again, except about fifty, that were carry'd off by the Enemy. The Marquis de *Quincy*, however, with his usual Veracity, makes Count *Hompesch* himself allow his Loss, on this Occasion, to have been nine Hundred and fifty Men killed, and thirteen Hundred wounded, besides twelve or thirteen Hundred Horses that were carry'd off.

The Duke of  
*Marlborough*  
changes the  
Situation of  
his Camp.

THE Duke of *Marlborough*, upon hearing of this Accident, went thither himself the next Day; and to prevent the like again, not only ordered the Situation of his Camp to be changed, but likewise to have the Works, begun at *Arloux*, compleated with the utmost Expedition; and as soon as they were finished, Colonel *Savary* was commanded to garrison that Place, with six Hundred Men. Hereupon, the Marshal de *Villars*, who had advanced himself, with Part of his Army, to support his thirty-two Squadrons, in Case any Detachments had been made from the *Confederate* Army, to oppose them, summoned Colonel *Savary* to surrender *Arloux*; telling him, at the same Time, that the Troops under Count *Hompesch* were entirely cut off: But the Colonel resolutely answered, *That he had both Men and Ammunition to defend his Post to the last Extremity*; and the Marshal thought fit to take his Word, for he did not venture to attempt any Thing farther. Things remained in the same Posture till the Twentieth of *July*, when the Duke of *Marlborough*, seeing no Likelihood of bringing the Enemy to an Engagement, decamped from the Plains of *Lens*, and removed to *Gonay*, in the Neighbourhood of *Bethune*, and marched from thence, the next Day, to *Cote*, near *Aire*.

The French  
recover *Ar-*  
*loux*.

UPON the *Confederate* Army's making this Motion, the Marshal de *Villars* alter'd likewise the Situation of his Forces; and encamped with his *Right* at *Etrun*, near *Arras*, and his *Left* at *Hesdin*. From thence he sent twenty-eight Battalions, and thirty Squadrons, to recover the Post of *Arloux*; a Body sufficient to have invested a large Fortrefs: But nevertheless, lest he should have failed of his Design, he thought fit, for his greater Security, to have Recourse to a Stratagem, and pretended this Detachment was designed for the *Sambre*. The Marshal de *Montesquiou* had the Conduct of this Expedition in Person, and attack'd this small Post in Form; first cannonading it, for nine Hours, with four twenty-four Pounders, and then storming it, Sword in Hand. As soon as the Duke of *Marlborough* received Information thereof, he immediately detach'd General *Fagel*, with forty Squadrons, (some Accounts say General *Cadogan*, with thirty Squadrons) and all the Grenadiers of the Army, to oppose their Design, but they came too late. The Garrison made a gallant Defence, and repulsed the Enemy, with a great Slaughter, in three several Attacks; but what could six Hundred Men do against a whole Army? They were obliged, at last, to surrender the Place; and the Garrison, with their Commander, were made Prisoners of War; but not till after they had killed the Enemy a Captain, and about an Hundred Soldiers, and wounded several; amongst others, the Count de *l'Isle*, a Brigadier.

FOR Want of greater Cause of Triumph, the French made a great Noise about this petty Conquest; and to magnify the Honour thereof, pretended that the Forces employ'd in this important Action, were not near so numerous as they were in Reality; but they were, in some Measure, to be excused; Fortune had not been used to favour them of late Years. The following



following pompous Account of that Transaction, was published, at that Time, at *Paris*.

“ THE Enemy having taken the Redoubts of *Arleux*, defended by seventy Men, (our Accounts say ninety) and the Mill, wherein were only fifteen, (our Accounts say twenty-five) separated from the *French* Army by unpracticable Morasses, they work'd for three Weeks together, to put them into such a Posture, that they could not be attack'd but by a formal Siege. They erected a very good Fort, surrounded with three Ditches; which covered three several Works, lined with Palissades; and put therein a Garrison of five Hundred Men, under Colonel *Savary*, with ten Pieces of Cannon, and a large Quantity of Ammunition, besides one Hundred and thirty Men in the Mill. (Our Account mentions but six Hundred Men in all.) Nevertheless, the Marshal *de Villars* only waited till the Enemy's Army should remove one Day's March Distance from thence, to have it attack'd again. This they did the Twentieth, upon a Supposition, that the Post was now secure; upon which, the Marshal detach'd the Count *d'Estain*, with twelve Battalions, and eight Squadrons; (our Accounts say thirty-two Squadrons) to go, as it was given out, to *Quiévrain*, near *Mons*, but sent him Orders to halt at *Cambray*. The Marshal *de Montesquiou* desired to take upon himself the Charge, and Care of this Expedition; and Monsieur *de Villars* consented to it. The Artillery was conducted; the Bridges laid over the *Senfet*; and the Troops under the Command of the Count *d'Estain*, the Marquis *de Coigny*, and the Prince *d'Isenghen*, marched with so much Expedition, and Secrecy, that the Post was invested the Twenty-third, at Break of Day, before the Enemy had any Notice of our Design. The Besieged defended themselves very bravely, and yet the Mill and the Fort were taken by Storm, at One in the Afternoon, and the Garrison made Prisoners of War, as a Reprizal for the like Treatment to the *French*, when the *Allies* took that Post. The Officers and Soldiers shewed an extraordinary Courage, waded through the Ditches up to their very Middle. The *Sieur de Thil*, a Brigadier, had one of his Legs broke; and the *Sieur La Fonde* was dangerously wounded, but we lost only fifteen or twenty Men; whereas the Besieged had above one Hundred and fifty Men killed, and a greater Number wounded.” A very probable Account truly! that Troops uncovered, and exposed to the Fire both of the Cannon, and Small Arms of the Enemy, assaulting a strong Fort by Storm, should lose but a tenth Part of the Number lost by those they attack'd, under the Shelter of a good regular Fortification; though, according to their own Account, they defended themselves very bravely.

It was after this Expedition the Duke of *Marlborough* executed the Design he had formed, of being too hard for the Vigilance of the Marshal *de Villars*, by passing those formidable Lines which he had prescribed to the *Allies*, as their *Non plus ultra*; and of which we have already given a Description, in our Account of the Transactions of the last Year. They began at *Bouchain*, on the *Scheld*; and were continued along the *Senfet*, and the *Scarpe*, to *Arras*; from thence they proceeded along the *Upper Scarpe*, and the *Selle*, to the *Canche*; the Opening to those Rivers being intrenched, and fortified with all possible Care, by a large Ditch, defended with Redoubts, and other strong Works. His Grace, therefore, upon a careful Survey of these Lines, and mature Consideration, found it would be too dangerous to endeavour to force them, for which Reason he resolved to attempt them by Stratagem. In order the better to compass his Design, and make the Enemy believe, that he was actually determined to attack them, he commanded out twelve Hundred Men, to make the Roads and Bridges in the Front; and decamping from *Côte*, the First of *August*, advanced with the whole Army to *Rebrucque*, and from thence to *Villars Brulin*, within two Leagues of the Enemy's Lines. Here he set all his Troops to work at making Fascines; but ordered them not to exceed the Length of four Foot, that they might not fatigue the Infantry too much in carrying them; and gave out,

The Duke of  
*Marlborough*  
resolves to  
attempt the  
Enemy's  
Lines by  
Stratagem.

that he intended to attack the Lines next Morning. The *French* General was so fully persuaded thereof, that he sent Orders to a strong Detachment, commanded by Lieutenant-General *d'Estain*, which had been sent upon a secret Expedition, to halt at *Peronne*; as he did also to the Garrisons of *Ypres*, and *St. Omers*, to come and join his Army, which he drew altogether behind his Lines.

THE Day before the Duke of *Marlborough* began to put this Enterprize in Execution, Mr. *Cardonnel*, his Grace's Secretary, sent the following Letter to Monsieur \*\*\*\*\* at *Hanover*; which, as it contains some Particulars not mentioned elsewhere, we shall insert, for the Entertainment of our Readers.

SIR,

From the Camp at Villars Brulin; Aug. 3, 1711.

Letter from  
Mr. Cardon-  
nel, to Mon-  
sieur \*\*\*\*\*  
at Hanover.

" I HAVE received the Honour of your Letter, of the Thirtieth past, and am glad that you found my Lord Duke's Letter to your Mind. I hope, likewise, that it will be of some Advantage to you; for I can assure you, it was written with that View.

" WE are, at present, in a pretty critical Situation; we have marched two Days, in order to advance near the Enemy, and are now within two small Leagues Distance of them. Monsieur *de Villars* has drawn together all the Troops he can; and our Advices say, that the Garrisons of *Ypres*, and *St. Omers*, are upon the March to join him: Nevertheless, we may probably attempt to force his Lines, before two Days are over, all possible Preparations being making to that End, though the Weather is not the most favourable for that Purpose: It having rained, without ceasing, to-day, from Noon to this Hour, which is about Eight in the Evening. Pray give my humble Respects to Monsieur *Bothmar*, and believe me to be, &c.

A. CARDONNEL.

P. S. " MY Lord Duke has received your Letter, with the inclosed, but hopes you will be so good to excuse his not answering in his present Hurry."

TO amuse the Enemy more effectually, the Duke of *Marlborough* went, the Fourth of *August*, N. S. by Break of Day, with several of the General Officers, and two Thousand Horse, to take a nearer View of the Lines, and of the Situation of the Enemy's Camp: But his real Design, when he moved from *Cote*, was, to endeavour to get within the Enemy's Lines, by attempting the Passage of the *Senfet*, by *Arleux*, which he now believed was left unguarded, as, in Effect, it happened to be. To this End, he ordered Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*, and Count *Hompesch*, to repair, with the utmost Expedition, to *Doway*, and draw together some Troops, which had been left thereabouts on purpose; and which, with a Detachment of that, and the neighbouring Garrisons of *Lisle*, and *St. Amand*, made a Body of twenty-three Battalions, and seventeen Squadrons. Their farther Orders were, to march directly with those Troops to *Arleux*, and endeavour to pass the *Senfet*, whilst the Duke himself would advance, with the whole Army, to sustain them. And that nothing might delay this extraordinary March, Brigadier *Sutton* was sent before-hand, with the Artillery, and the *Pontoons*, under a good Guard, to lay Bridges over the *Scarpe*, near *Vitry*, and over the Canal of *Arleux*, near *Goulezin*; Bread was also ordered to be baked at *Lisle*, for six Days.

The Mar-  
shal *de Villars*  
kept in a  
continual  
Alarm by  
the Duke  
of *Marlbo-*  
*rough's* Mo-  
tions.

ALL these Things were managed so privately, and the Grimace was carry'd on so well, that the *Confederate* Generals themselves, had not the least Thought, that any Thing else was designed, but the attacking of the Lines the next Morning. These Motions had so much the desired Effect, in deceiving the *Marshal de Villars*, that he kept his Troops under Arms, Night and Day, and reinforced them with all the Men he could possibly draw together

together on that Side; insomuch, that he left not any Number of Forces in the Posts he had on the *Senset*.

IN the mean While, the *Confederate Army* were expecting Orders to March, which were not given out, till Six in the Evening. The March was to begin between Eight and Nine, as soon as it was dark enough to strike their Tents, without being discovered by the Enemy, who were near enough, otherwise, to have seen them; but whether it was to be to the *Right*, or to the *Left* was not known. They were only told, that the several Columns, in which the Army were to march, should find an Officer at the Head of each of them at such an Hour, who should lead them the Way they were to take, when the appointed Time came.

ABOUT Nine, the whole Army, to their great Surprise, were ordered to march by the *Left*, in four Columns, without Beat of Drum, the Duke himself leading the *Van*, with the Horse of the *Left Wing*; who advanced, with such extraordinary Expedition, that by Five the next Morning, his Grace passed the *Scarpe*, & *Vitry*. There he received Advice, that Count *Hompesch* had passed the *Senset*, without any Opposition; had taken Possession of the Passes on that River, and on the *Scheld* at *Oisy*; the *French* having withdrawn the Detachments they had on that Side, some Time before. Hereupon, his Grace hastened his March, lest the Enemy should get thither before him; and, at the same Time, dispatch'd Orders to the Grand Army, to pursue their March with the utmost Expedition. The Duke, with his *Van-Guard* of fifty Squadrons, having passed the *Scarpe*, hastened on towards *Arleux*, and *Bac a Bacheul*, where he arrived before Eight a-Clock; and the Head of the Columns joined him there about Ten; having marched above ten Hours, at a great Rate, without halting; a Thing hardly to be paralleld in History, but by another March, which proceeded from the same inimitable Foresight; we mean that which brought on the Battle of *Oudenarde*.

The *Confederate Army* march towards *Arleux*

The *Marshal de Villars* marches to oppose him, but comes too late.

THE *Marshal de Villars* had no sooner Notice how he had been deceived, and of this unexpected March of the *Confederate Army*, but he was immediately apprehensive of their Design. Wherefore, having waited from Eleven at Night, till Two the next Morning, for certain Intelligence, he decamped, with his whole Army; and putting himself at the Head of the *King's Household*, marched with such Expedition, that he came in Sight with the Head of his Line, about Eleven a-Clock, soon after the Duke of *Marlborough* had joined Count *Hompesch*, and passed through the Defile of *Marquion*, with twenty Squadrons. However, when the *Marshal* saw that his Grace was advancing, with his Horse drawn up, to attack him, he retreated behind a Morass, where the Rest of his Troops joined him soon after: But a Hundred Dragoons, with some few Officers, whom he threw into the Castle of *Oisy*, were made Prisoners of War. Nevertheless, two Regiments, which the *Marshal* detach'd from *Valenciennes*, under the Command of the *Chevalier de Luxemburg*, a Brigade of Foot, whom he sent to *Cambray*, had better Fortune, and threw themselves into those Places.

UNDOUBTEDLY it stung the *Marshal de Villars* to the Heart, to be thus visibly out-general'd; after he had given the Court of *France* repeated Assurance, that he had taken such Measures, as made him not in the least apprehensive of meeting with any Insult from the *Allies*; and after he had written to the *French King* himself, that his Lines were the Duke of *Marlborough's Non plus ultra*. Wherefore, he gave out, in order to keep up the Spirits of his Troops, that he would attack his Grace the next Morning.

After which he is extremely chagrined.

*French Writers* pretend, that the Duke of *Marlborough's* Design, in this Enterprize, was to have passed both the *Senset*, and the *Scheld*, before the *Marshal de Villars* could have been able to get to the latter, to oppose his Passage; but that being disappointed by the *Marshal's* extraordinary Diligence, and seeing the *French Troops* before him ready to dispute that Passage, he began to be very much chagrined, and repented of his Rashness: That he found he could not keep in that Station; and that he should be obliged to pass, either the *Senset*, or the *Scheld*, with his whole Army; both of which

Frivolous Pretences of the *French*, to palliate the Matter.



which would be attended with great Danger : Because the Enemy being so near, it was to be feared, when Part of his Army had passed either of those Rivers, the Marshal would fall upon the Remainder, which would not then be in a Condition to resist his whole Force. It will be natural now to ask, Why Monsieur *de Villars*, when he had such Advantages, did not pursue them ? Why truly (say they) he had his Reasons for not doing it ; which, though they could not be dived into, were very evident afterwards. A mighty pretty Come-off ! It is certain the Duke of *Marlborough* was under no such Apprehensions, as our Readers will soon see. However, his Grace having had Intelligence of the Marshal's Threats to attack him, tho' he had little Cause to be apprehensive of any ill Consequences from them, lost no Time, but drew his Troops, as fast as they arrived, in order of Battle, and they lay on their Arms all Night ; though they must necessarily be extremely fatigued, after a March of ten Leagues, without halting.

And pass the  
French Lines  
without the  
Loss of one  
Man.

THUS the whole *Confederate* Army entered the *French* Lines, which they had so vainly boasted to be impregnable ; by the most noble and boldest Attempt that had been made during the whole War ; and that in the Presence of an Army, superior to themselves, which had kept continually by the Side of them, either behind the Lines, or upon Rising Grounds : and they were now in a Condition to undertake the Siege of *Bouchain*, or even that of *Valenciennes*, had they not been weakened, not only by the Departure of Prince *Eugene*, with a large Detachment for the *Rhine*, but by the calling of five Thousand of the best Troops in the Army to *England*, for an Expedition designed by Sea.

“ THIS (says a late Author, speaking of the Duke of *Marlborough*) raised his Character, beyond any Thing that he had done formerly ; the Design was so well laid, and was so happily executed, that, in all Men's Opinions, it pass'd for a Master-Piece of Military Skill ; the Honour of it falling entirely on the Duke of *Marlborough*, no other Person having any Share therein, except in the Execution.”

Remarks  
thereupon.

THE wise and prudent Management of this whole Design, was as great a Mortification to the Marshal *de Villars*, as it was a Glory to our *incomparable Hero*. A Glory which was his, and only his, and whereof Envy itself could never deprive him. It was a kind of Duel, or Tryal of Skill, between the *British* General and the Marshal of *France*, wherein the former obtained a compleat Victory over the latter, and without striking a Stroke ; a Victory, wherein the Armies, on both Sides, only made their Appearance to grace it, and set it off, with the greater Lustre and Magnificence. In Battles, and in Sieges, Fortune, the Bravery of the Soldiers, the Ability of the Engineers, and a Thousand other Circumstances, concur to share the good or ill Success of them, with the Generals ; but here the great Duke of *Marlborough* shines out with distinguish'd Glory, without a Rival or Competitor, and triumphs over every Difficulty. The *Allies* would willingly have compounded for being Masters of those Lines, at the Expence of some Thousands of Men ; Thanks to the Conduct of their incomparable General, they possessed themselves thereof, with no other Cost, but that of a little Fatigue, in the extraordinary and assiduous March of their Troops. The Reduction of *Arleux*, about which the *French* made so much Noise, perhaps, gave Rise to this Enterprize ; of so much Importance is it, in War, to seize on the Critical Minute ! It was not convenient to raze that Post ; Time would not admit of making it as strong as a Citadel ; the Army could no longer subsist thereabouts to cover it, they were therefore in the Right to remove from thence : It is taken ; the Conquest of this trifling Place blinds the *French* General ; he weakens his Army by a large Detachment ; and, elate with this Shadow of good Fortune, threatens all *Brabant*, and is under no manner of Apprehensions for his own Lines : Our *British Hero* observes the fatal Moment, lays hold of it, and by a March, like that which preceded the Victory at *Oudenarde*, surprizes the Lines without the Loss of one Man ; the Scheme, the Direction thereof, and the Secresy with which it was put in Execution,

Execution, were all equally admirable and surprizing. This Glorious Action happened on the Fifth of *August*.

THE next Day, whilst the *Allies* lay upon their Arms, expecting the Enemy, Advice was brought the Duke of *Marlborough*, that they were in Motion towards the *Scheld*; in order to pass it at *Crevecœur*, and encamp between *Bouchain* and *Cambray*, with Intent to prevent the Siege of the latter. Hereupon, his Grace detach'd forty Squadrons, with Instructions to fall upon their *Rear*; but they found it impracticable, by Reason of a Morass which was between them: Wherefore, a Council of War being called, it was resolved, that the *Confederate* Army also passed the *Scheld*, without farther Delay, lest the Enemy should get between them, and render it impossible.

WE should have observed, that next Day after the Army of the *Allies* had passed the *Sensette* at *Bac a Bacheul*, and *Palue*, they had for the first Time a View of the Marshal *de Villars*, encamped in an open Plain, without being covered with Intrenchments; insomuch, that in the Situation wherein the two Armies were, it seemed almost impossible, that they should avoid coming to an Action, which the Marshal seemed to offer the *Confederates*; but, at the Bottom, he only wanted to amuse them; to the End that, by drawing them off from the *Scheld*, he might prevent their gaining the advantageous Camp of *Avesne le Sec*: However, the Duke was not to be deceived; Great Generals don't Fight to please their Enemies, if they offer them Battle, that is one Reason for their not accepting it. The *French* might have attack'd the *Confederates*, had they had any Inclination to it; that Way of Fighting, suits them better than standing on the Defensive; their Valour is active, and whenever they are attack'd, they are almost always beaten; but this was but a Feint, and the Marshal *de Villars*, mortify'd to the last Degree, at having been out-witted, would willingly have over-reach'd our General in his Turn; but he was not to be so imposed on; he saw through all his Designs.

The Duke of  
*Marlborough*  
is against at-  
tacking the  
*French*.

THE Field-Deputies, indeed, of the *States-General*, when the *Confederate* Army first got within the Enemies Lines, proposed to pursue them, and venture a Battle, since this Surprise had put them in no small Disorder. The Duke of *Marlborough*, however, was of another Opinion; he prudently considered, that such an Attempt might be attended with too much Danger, after the Army had been fatigued with such a long March: The Cavalry having been forty-eight Hours on Horseback; and having dismounted but twice, about an Hour each Time, to feed their Horses. On the contrary, the *French* were fresh; having had a much nearer March within their Lines, than the *Confederates* had round them; and the latter were, by no Means, in a good Condition for Action, till they had been allow'd some Time to refresh themselves. Besides, the Inconstancy of the Fortune of War; the Impossibility of retreating in Case of a Defeat; and the Design he had formed of besieging *Bouchain*; were Reasons sufficiently worthy of his Grace's Prudence and Steadiness, for him not to alter his Mind, and put in the Power of Fortune, the Advantage he had obtained, and made sure of, by his Foresight and Perseverance: For had the *Allies* had the worst of it, the being within the Enemy's Lines, might have been of fatal Consequence to them.

As His Grace had disapproved of the Proposal made by the Deputies, it was expected he should pitch upon some other Enterprize; and he was not long in determining his Choice. He proposed the besieging *Bouchain*; he thought that would either oblige the Enemy to endeavour to raise the Siege, which would afford the *Allies* an Opportunity of engaging them on more equal Terms; or it would be both a great Disreputation, and Discouragement to their Army, should they suffer a Place of that Importance to be taken in their Sight, without attempting to relieve it. Both the *Dutch* Deputies, and the General Officers thought this Enterprize too daring; however, they submitted to his Grace's Judgment; and the Event justify'd him therein. It seemed to the other Generals a Thing impracticable to take a Place situated amongst Morasses; well fortify'd, with a good Garrison

He proposes  
the Siege of  
*Bouchain*.

therein; provided with every Thing necessary for an obstinate Defence; and all this in the View of a superior Army: For the *French* lay within a Mile of the *Allies*.

THAT our Readers may have a right Idea of all the Difficulties our *Hero* had to encounter, and surmount, in the besieging this Place, it will be requisite to give them a Description thereof, and likewise of the Situation of the *French* Army.

A Description  
of that  
Place.

*BOUCHAIN* is but a little Town, or rather Fortrefs, situate at the Confluence of the *Sensette*, and the *Selle*, or *Rafelle*, into the *Scheld*. It is about nine Miles North of *Cambray*; ten South-West of *Valenciennes*; and twenty-eight almost West of *Mons*. The *Sensette* separates the *Upper Town* from the *Lower*; forms an Inundation between that and the *Selle*; and fills the Ditches, which surround the Works between the *Upper* and *Lower Town*. The *Selle* again divides the *Lower Town* into two Parts; and between the *Lower Town*, and the *Scheld*, there is a Hornwork, which covers two separate Bastions, and which is cut in two by a Ditch, supply'd with Water by the *Scheld*.

BESIDES these Difficulties, arising from the Situation of the Place, there were two other very material Obstacles. The first was a formidable Intrenchment; fenced with Redoubts; and lined with fifty Pieces of Cannon; which thirty Battalions, commanded by the brave and vigilant General *Albergotti*, had raised between *Wavrechin*, and *Pont a Wane*, on the *Sensette*. This Intrenchment advanced outwards in a salient Angle towards *Marquette*; and being but a Quarter of a League from the Town, ran parallel to the Circumvallation of the *Confederates*; insomuch, that the Batteries of that Intrenchment might play upon the Circumvallation without ceasing, and with Ease; there being nothing but a Morass between them. The second was, the Communication, which the Enemy kept open with the Town; by the Means of a Passage through a Morass, which it was deemed impracticable to cut off. To all this, we may add, that there were eight Battalions, and six Hundred *Swiss* in the Town; that the Place was furnish'd with all Necessaries for a vigorous Defence; and that Monsieur de *Ravignan*, who had given Proofs of his good Conduct and Courage, at the Action of *St. Eloy-vive*, where he defeated the Earl of *Athlone*, had thrown himself into it, together with five Hundred Grenadiers, to take upon himself the Command of the Troops. Besides this, Monsieur de *Selve*, who defended *St. Venant*, was in the Town before; insomuch, that the Garrison was commanded by two Major-Generals; and animated by the Neighbourhood of the whole *French* Army: Who were encamped like ours, in two Lines parallel to ours, having their Left at *Tressi*, upon the *Sensette*; the Right near *Neufville*, at the Gates of *Cambray*; and the Centre along the *Scheld*. There was, besides, great Reason to be apprehensive of the Excursions, which the Garrisons of *Conde*, and *Valenciennes* might make; to cut off the Provisions, which the *Allies* were to draw from *Tournay*.

All about  
the Duke of  
*Marlborough*  
endeavour  
to dissuade  
him from  
his Design.

THESE Difficulties would have daunted a vulgar Soul; but Heroes have Views superior to other People, and Obstacles do but whet their Courage, and animate them the more to persist in their Resolutions. Accordingly, though all about the Duke endeavoured to divert him from so dangerous an Undertaking; since any Misfortune would have given his Enemies the Advantage, for which they lay in Wait; and they would not have failed to have ascribed it either to his Grace's ill Conduct, or to a Resolution they pretended he had taken, that no Affairs should succeed under the present Administration, if he could help it. The Duke was very sensible of all this; but he had laid his Scheme, and concerted his Measures so admirably, that he was in a Manner, assured of Success: Wherefore, he was determined to venture upon that Enterprize, notwithstanding all the Impediments, which both Nature, and the Enemy, had laid in his Way. But before that Resolution was put in Force, his Grace dispatched Brigadier *Sutton* to *England*; with the agreeable News, that, without striking a Stroke, he was got within those Lines, which it had cost the Enemy such an Expence of Time and Labour,



Labour, to make and to fortify; and which their General had been so vain as to name the *Non plus Ultra* of the *Allies*.

THE following Letter, which was written by the Field-Deputies to the *States-General*, illustrates the Matter more; and contains some material Particulars, not before mentioned.

HIGH and MIGHTY LORDS,

“ THE Baron *van Hompesch*, Lieutenant-General, took Post Yesterday Morning, at Four a-Clock, at *Palue*, and *Bac a Bacheul*, with about eight Thousand Foot, and two Thousand Horse; partly drawn out of the Garrisons of *Doway*, *Liste*, and *St. Amand*, and partly consisting of a Detachment, which covered the Baggage near *Bethune*: The Enemy had withdrawn the Troops they had in those Posts, a little before, to reinforce their Army; so that ours met with no Resistance. By Way of Precaution, to secure the Success of this Enterprize, Orders were given, about Six in the Evening, for the Army to be in a Readiness to march; which, accordingly, they began to do, about ten in four Columns, by the Way of *Villars au Bois*: And filing off by *Neufville*, and *Telu*, directly to *Vitry*, they passed the *Scarpe*; so that next Morning, by Ten a-Clock, the Vanguard were advanced as far as *Arleux*, and *Bac a Bacheul*. This March was made with such Expedition, that the like has hardly been known; the Foot, in that short Time, having marched ten Leagues, without halting; to which, the Moon-Light, and Fair-Weather, with which God Almighty favoured us, that Night, did not a little contribute. The Marshal *de Villars* was informed of our March about Eleven; but so fully, was he persuaded, by the Feint we made for some Days, that our Design was to attack his Lines, near *Avesnes le Comte*, that he waited till Two the next Morning, to be assured of our March. Then he gave Orders to the Army to move immediately; but finding that our Army were already got too far for him to be able to come up with them, he advanced himself, with all the Troops of the Household; in Hopes to arrive Time enough to dispute with us the Passage of the *Senset*. Upon Notice, however, that fifty or sixty of our Squadrons had already got over at Eleven; and particularly those of General *Hompesch*, he retired to the main Body of his Army, which was advanced, by that Time, to the High-Road between *Arras*, and *Cambray*. In the mean While, our Troops advanced with all possible Expedition; but as the Passage could not be made, but at *Bac a Bacheul*, and *Palue*, our Rear could not get over till Midnight. Our Army is encamped upon the *Scheld*, between *Oisy*, and *Estrun*. This Morning, at Eight a-Clock, we saw the Enemy file off, in four Columns, towards the *Scheld*; with Design, either to pass that River, or to intrench themselves between it, and a Morass that lies near *Marquion*. Our Generals, however, did not think proper to attack them in their March; but have resolved to pass the *Scheld*, this Evening, and to invest *Bouchain*. We are, with profound Respect,

From the Camp at Estrun,  
August 6, 1711.

High and Mighty Lords,  
Yours, &c.

A. van Capelle.

G. Hooft.

S. van Goslinga.

P. T. Vegelin van Klacrborgch.

THIS News was received in *Holland* with an universal Joy; and no Encomiums were thought too great for the sagacious Projector, and indefatigable Director of this noble and well-executed Design; but the Joy was not so general in *England*. When Brigadier *Sutton* arrived at *Whitehall*, with the Account of the Duke of *Marlborough's* having passed the *French Lines*, it gave his Friends the greater Joy, because his Enemies had given out, and undoubtedly

The Duke of *Marlborough's* Enemies endeavour to lessen his Glory.

undoubtedly they wish'd it, that *nothing would be done, this Year, in Flanders*. They went yet farther, and pretended to assign a Reason why nothing would be done; because, said they, the Duke is resolved no Affairs shall prosper under the present Administration, if he can help it. They had even the Assurance to represent his Grace, and his Lady, under the Characters of *Antony* and *Fulvia*; and to insinuate, that the Duke, like *Antony*, would resolve to let his Laurels fade, and sacrifice the Interest of the Publick to his own. But they soon found how they were deceived; and this unexpected Success did not suit well with the Scheme of certain Persons; who having made Advances towards a Peace, under-hand, studied nothing more, than how to avow, and justify the same publickly. His Grace's Enemies being thus frustrated in their Hopes, endeavoured to lessen the Glory and Reputation of the Action, by pretending; *That he had only removed his Army from a plentiful Camp, to one where they were in danger of starving*. But this malicious Insinuation soon died away, both on Account of what followed that Success, and the Applause all *Europe* bestowed on the Conduct of the *British* General; whilst the Marshal *de Villars* was openly reflected on, and lampooned, both in his own Army at *Paris*; insomuch, that he had enough to do, to stand his Ground at Court. An evident Instance, how some Men are led away by the Spirit of Party; even so far, as to suffer it to byass them to such a Degree, as to render them blind to the most conspicuous Merit.

The Confederate Army pass the Scheld.

PURSUANT to the Resolution taken in the Council of War, the Army began to pass the *Scheld* at *Esstrun*, about Six in the Evening, over some Bridges, which the *French* had built there; and which were secured by the *Confederates*, when first they entered the Lines; insomuch, that, by the next Morning, all the Troops were got over, without any Opposition from the Enemy, and encamped about half way between *Cambray* and *Bouchain*; the Duke of *Marlborough* taking up his Quarters at *Avesnes le Sec*, and Count *Tilly* his at *Haspres*, upon the River *Selle*. In the mean While, the Marshal *de Villars* ordered a Battery to be erected, on an Eminence near *St. Martin*; in order to annoy the *Confederate* Generals of the *Right Wing*, in the Village where they were quartered; but without any Effect. The same Day, Instructions were given for laying Bridges below *Bouchain*, both to open a Communication with *Doway*, and other Places on the *Scarpe*, and for the Passage of such Troops as were to be employ'd in the Siege of *Bouchain*; which was now fully resolved upon. Accordingly, the Place was invested the Tenth, by thirty Battalions, *viz.* seventeen from the *Right*, and thirteen from the *Left*, together with twelve Squadrons, commanded by General *Fagel*: He had under him two Lieutenant-Generals, *Collier*, and the Lord *North and Gray*; four Major-Generals, *Goven*, *Syburg*, *Yvoy*, and *Hufsel*; and as many Brigadiers; *La Roche*, *Lebec*, *Schmeling*, and *Scharvonne*.

Bouchain invested.

A Detachment of the Enemy pass the *Senfette*, and intrench themselves.

ON the Eighth of *August*, N. S. the *French* General sent a Detachment over the *Senfette*; upon which the Duke of *Marlborough*, imagining that their Intent was to intercept the Bread Waggon, and Artillery, which were expected from *Doway*, passed the *Scheld*, with the *Left Wing* of the Horse, and took Post on the Hill of *Vignonette*: There he staid till the Convoy arrived safe in the Camp; as did, likewise, the next Day, the heavy Baggage from *Marchiennes*, which was escorted by Lieutenant-General *Woolf*, with two Thousand Horse. The Marshal *de Villars*, however, had quite another Design, and ordered those Troops to intrench themselves behind *Manquette*, and *Wavrechin*; to the End they might preserve a Communication with *Bouchain*, and prevent its being invested.

The Duke Attempts in vain to dislodge them.

ON perceiving this, the Duke of *Marlborough* saw plainly, it would be impossible for him to draw the Lines of Circumvallation quite round the Town, if the Enemy were suffered to go on with that Work. Wherefore, he ordered General *Dopff* to cross the *Lower Scheld*, at *Neufville*, with twenty Battalions, and forty Squadrons, on the Ninth in the Night, to dislodge the Enemy; and followed himself, early the next Morning: But he found them so strongly intrenched, that they were not to be attacked, without

out a very great Hazard. Whilst his Grace was thus viewing the Situation of the Enemy, and the Ground between their Intrenchments and the Town, the Marshal *de Villars* marched, with his whole Army, over the *Upper Scheld*, and made a Feint, as if his Intent was to attack the *Right* of the *Confederate* Camp. This obliged the Duke of *Marlborough* to return, with his Detachment, to the Grand Army, to be ready to receive the Enemy: But the Marshal's View was only to draw off his Grace, from disturbing the Troops, who were employed in carrying on the Intrenchments at *Marquette*; for he had no sooner gained this Point, than he repassed the *Scheld*, and returned to his Camp.

His Grace, therefore, finding it impossible to bring the Marshal to any Action, though the two Armies lay very near each other, by Reason of the difficult Hollow Way, and Defiles, which parted them; to prevent any future Alarms in his Camp, during the Siege, ordered the whole Front thereof to be fortified with *Lunettes*, and *Redoubts*, mounted with Cannon, and joined by a strong Line from *Tvooy* to *Haspre*. This being done, in two Days, his Grace passed the *Scheld* again, with fifty Battalions, and fifty-two Squadrons, to view the Approaches of the Town, and examine by what Means he could best cut off the Enemy's Communication therewith: And he found, that they had improved their Time in such a Manner, and carry'd their Intrenchments so much nearer the Town, that it would not only be very difficult to invest it on that Side, but even absolutely impossible, if the Communication, which they had begun, from *Wavrechin* to that Place, should be suffered to be finished, before the Circumvallation was drawn; and the Enemy's Intrenchments were too strong, and too well guarded, to pretend to attack them, with any Probability of Success.

HAD the Lines of Circumvallation been begun at the *Lower Scheld*, and carried on to the *Senset*, as was at first designed, and would have been the most regular Way, the Enemy would have established their Communication with the Town, in spite of whatever the *Confederates* could have done to have prevented it; but his Grace, with his usual Penetration, foreseeing this, and finding there was no Time to be lost, gave Orders to have the Circumvallation begun immediately, in the middle Space, between the Intrenchments and the Town; and thereby cut off the Enemy's Communication.

DURING the whole Course of the last long War, which produced so many surprizing Events, there was not one Instance so critical as this, wherein the Reputation of two great Generals was so nearly concerned, and their Skill in the Art of War, so plainly put to the Test. It was the Business of the Marshal *de Villars*, to prevent the Siege, if possible, and thereby to retrieve, in some Measure, the Credit he had lost, by suffering the *Allies* to obtain so easy a Passage into his Lines. On the other Hand, the Duke of *Marlborough* was fully resolved, to maintain the Honour and Advantage he had gained, at so easy a Rate, by that Passage. Besides, his Grace rightly foresaw, that it would be very difficult to make a good Retreat, in the Sight of an Army superior to his, and in a Situation, where he was surrounded by several Rivers, without having one good Post on any one of them. This was the real Posture of Affairs, at the Time when the Lines of Circumvallation were begun, which was on the Twelfth of *August*, N. S.

His Grace himself gave the Directions for the Beginning of these Lines; and then left the Execution thereof to Lieutenant-General *Cadogan*; and under him, to Colonel *Armstrong*, his Deputy Quarter-Master; an Officer, who had every good Quality that could recommend a Soldier. He had distinguished himself before, upon many Occasions, but never more than at this Juncture: The marking out of the Lines, with the whole Direction thereof, having lain chiefly upon him, under General *Cadogan*; and they were carried on successfully, without meeting with any Disturbance from the Enemy.

THE next Morning, the Marshal *de Villars* narrowly escaped being taken Prisoner; for, as he was coming out of his Lines, attended by a Troop of *Hussars*, The Marshal *de Villars* narrowly escaped.



capes being  
taken Pri-  
soners.

*Hussars*, and four Squadrons of Carabiniers, to observe the Duke of *Marlborough's* Motions; he was met, and attack'd, by an equal Number of the *Confederates*, under General *Cadogan*; who charged him so briskly, that they soon broke his Squadrons, and made a Brigadier, a Major, and two Captains, with some Persons of Distinction, Prisoners. *French* Writers pretend, the *Confederate* Party was much superior to theirs; and that the Marshal, seeing his Troops surrounded by them, without any Possibility of standing against so great a Superiority, bravely fought his Way through, and was followed by most of his Troops.

THE Marshal, having now discover'd, what Measures the Duke had taken, to draw his Line of Circumvallation, enter'd on a new Design; and on the Thirteenth, in the Night, order'd Three Redoubts to be made, between *Wavrechin*, and the Town. Hereby he not only propos'd, to open a Communication therewith, but also to prevent the Circumvallation's being carried on to the *Senset*. Upon Intelligence thereof, the Duke of *Marlborough* march'd the Fourteenth, before Break of Day, with a Detachment of Troops, and Twenty Cannons, to dislodge the Enemy, who retired from their Intrenchments as soon as his Grace appeared: However, to prevent any farther Interruption on that Side, his Grace reinforced his Troops to the Number of One Hundred Battalions, and Seventy Squadrons; upon which, the Circumvallation was carried on to the *Senset*, without any farther Opposition, and those Redoubts were taken within it.

The Mar-  
shal de Villars  
opens a new  
Communi-  
cation with  
the Town.

NOTWITHSTANDING all the Disappointments, the Marshal de Villars was not discouraged from making a farther Attempt. He set his Men at Work, to open a Communication with the Town through a Morass, between the two Rivers, where the Water was generally pretty deep; but through the Middle of it, there ran a little narrow Way, called *le Sentier des Vaches*, or the *Cow-Path*. This was his last Refuge; and he was so successful therein, that a *Parapet* was carried on with Fascines, all the Way to the Town, from Tree to Tree, between the Willows and Rushes, which cover'd the Inundation. In order to cut off this Communication, the *Confederates*, on the 10th at Night, having first provided a good number of Fascines, and Sacks of Earth, laid Bridges over the *Senset*, below their Lines; and over the *Scheld*, below *Hordain*; and began a Fascinage from each, into the Morass.

A brave  
Action.

ON the Seventeenth the Duke of *Marlborough* went to *Mastin* in Person, to view the Enemy's Works, and to forward those on his Side; and having view'd a Post the Enemy had in the *Cow-Path*, covered by a *Parapet*, six Hundred Paces in Front, he order'd it to be attack'd by four Hundred Grenadiers; who being sustained by Eight Battalions, neither valued the Cannon of the City, nor of the Enemy's Intrenchments; but leaping resolutely into the Water, to the Depth whereof they were utterly Strangers, march'd through the Inundation, some up to the Middle, and others up to the Neck, for several Hundred Paces. Having thus advanced to the *Parapet*, they receiv'd the Fire of Four Companies of Grenadiers, sustained by the *Brigade du Roy*, who guarded the Post, and soon oblig'd them to retire.

Incompara-  
ble Bravery  
and Resolu-  
tion of an  
Ensign.

ON this Occasion, we must not pass over in Silence the incomparable Bravery of an Ensign, of *Ingoldsby's* Regiment, whose Name, according to Monsieur *Rouffet*, is *Bada de Somercourt*. This Hero, who was at the Head of Fifteen Grenadiers of the same Regiment, being all Soul, (for he had a very little Body,) and finding when they were advanced some Part of the Way in the Inundation, that he must either drown, or lose his share of the Enterprize, he chose rather to get upon the Shoulders of one of his Grenadiers, till they came to the *Parapet*, where he was one of the first to leap into the Enemy's Works. The *Confederates*, had no more than Six Men kill'd and wounded in this bold and resolute Action; wherein they took Possession of this important Post, and thereby entirely cut off all Communication, between *Wavrechin* and the Town; for the *French*, not expecting to be attack'd in the Midst of the Waters, were so amazed at the Intrepidity of the *Allies*, that after having made one Discharge, which did

no

no great Execution, they retired in some Disorder. Had this Action hap-  
pen'd in the Time of the *Romans*, the Name of this brave Ensign, would  
have been transmitted down to Posterity, in all their Histories; and yet such  
is the Ingratitude or Negligence of our Historians, that tho' they mention  
the Action, they pass over in Silence the Name of this *Little Hero*; and had  
it not been for Monsieur *Rouffet*, it would have been utterly buried in Ob-  
livion; tho' for his Bravery, he deserved very well to have been im-  
mortalized.

THE *French* having abandon'd so advantageous a Post, in such a scanda-  
lous Manner, the *Allies* had nothing to do, but to continue their Fascinade,  
and cover the Post they had taken, from the Canon of *Wavrechin*, and the  
Town; which the Fascines, the Enemy left behind them, enabled them to  
do effectually, by next Morning. From that Time, they carried on their  
Fascinades with great Tranquillity; and in two Days more, they brought  
them within Seven Hundred Paces of one another, and cover'd them with  
good Redoubts, there being nothing between them but a large standing  
Water.

ON the Nineteenth, about Noon, the Enemy made a Sally, with a con-  
siderable Number of Troops; and attempted to surprize a Captain's Guard  
of a Hundred Men, who were posted towards the *North Side* of the Town;  
but they were repulsed with Loss. The same Night, another large Body  
sallied three several Times; but were as often driven back again with great  
Loss. On the Twentieth, the whole Town was invested, excepting about  
Two-hundred Paces, where the Inundation was very deep: And to prevent  
the Enemy's endeavouring, at any Time, to convey either Ammunition or  
Provision that Way, a Bridge of Hurdles and Planks was order'd to be laid  
a-cross it; whereby the Fascinades were joined, and all manner of Passage  
into the Town was entirely cut off.

The Besieg-  
ed make se-  
veral success-  
less Sallies.

ON the Twenty-first, the heavy Train from *Tournay*, arrived in the Camp.  
In their Passage by *St. Amand*, their Convoy was attack'd by a large Party  
of the Enemy, from *Valenciennes*; however, after a sharp Encounter, they  
obliged them to retire, with a considerable Loss.

As this Enterprize was the most Hazardous of any that had been Under-  
taken during the whole Course of the War; and one, wherein the Duke of  
*Marlbrough* underwent more Fatigue, than ever he had done in any other;  
wherein also he had a favourable Opportunity of displaying his utmost Abi-  
lity in the Art of War, we have thought fit to relate all the Circumstances  
previous to it. In effect, they were all remarkable, and all worthy of be-  
ing mentioned; for the Marhal *de Villars*, to give him his Due, shewed  
himself both an active Commander, and an accomplish'd General, in the  
several Attempts he made to prevent the investing the Town; which set  
the Duke of *Marlbrough's* Ability in the more advantageous light, as he  
defeated all those Attempts. It is certain, indeed, considering how near the  
*French* Army was, it was a very bold Enterprize; and some People took  
Occasion from thence, to arraign his Grace's Conduct, and censure him of  
Rashness; but they who maturely weigh his great Foresight, so visible in  
all his Actions, and the great Dependance he had Reason to have, on the  
Courage and Conduct, of the Officers, and Troops under his Command, will  
undoubtedly be of another Opinion.

BOUCHAIN being thus invested; and the Contravallation drawn paral-  
lel with the Circumvallation, from the *Senset*, to the *Lower Scheld*, the  
Trenches were opened, the Twenty-first at Night, at two Attacks, against  
the *Upper-Town*; the *Left* towards the *Scheld*, and the *Right* towards the  
*Senset*: After this the Duke of *Marlbrough* order'd a third Attack, a-  
gainst the Horn-Work, which cover'd the *Lower-Town*; both to Favour  
the two other Attacks, and to give the Garrison a greater Diversion, and  
fatigue them the more. The Trenches were open'd at this third Attack,  
on the Twenty-third at Night, by some Troops from the Grand Army.  
The two against the *Upper-Town*, were to be carried on by Thirty Battali-  
ons and Twelve Squadrons, commanded by General *Fagel*; and under him,

The Tren-  
ches open'd  
before Bou-  
chain.

at the Attack on the *Right*, by the Lord *North and Gray*, who, had under him two Major Generals, and as many Brigadiers: The Attack on the *Left*, was commanded by Lieutenant General *Collier*, with the same Number of Major Generals and Brigadiers. Besides these Troops, Forty Squadrons under General *Dopf*, and Twenty Battalions, commanded by Lieutenant General *Withers*, were posted on the same Side, to observe the Enemy. The third Attack was against the *Lower-Town*, under the Direction of Lieutenant General *Schwartzcn*, with two Major-Generals, and four Brigadiers.

WE shall not detain our Readers, by giving them an exact Journal of this Siege; that it was carried on successfully, and that Monsieur *de Villars* attempted no great Matters to relieve it, tho' he was continually doing something to harrafs the Troops, they will see by the following Letter, from Mr. *Cardonnel*, to Monsieur \*\*\*\*\* at *Hanover*.

From the Camp before Bouchain, August 27, 1711.

SIR,

Letter from  
Mr. Cardon-  
nel, to Mon-  
sieur \*\*\*\*\*  
at Hanover.

" I have been honoured with your Letters of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Instant: The latter came to my Hands last Night, with that enclosed for my Lord Duke, of the Twenty-first. We do not yet know what to think, of the *Muscovite*, or rather, the *Saxon News*; some of our Letters seem to confirm it, on the contrary, others will give no Credit to it. There may, however, probably be something in it; into which, as well as into the Conduct of our *Northern Allies*, a few Days will give us a better Insight. Our Approaches before this Place advance pretty well; and we have Reason to hope, that when our Batteries begin to play, it will not be able to hold out long. We are very much obliged to the Marshal *de Villars*; for having suffered us to take the necessary Measures, for carrying on the Siege, without Interruption, by any Division, either here, or elsewhere. Undoubtedly, he is forming some Designs or other, but we hope they will all come to nothing. Both his Court, and Army, are very much exasperated against him. I please myself before-hand, with having the Honour of embracing you at the *Hague*, and am &c.

A. CARDONNEL.

THE Approaches were carried on in the usual Manner, till the Thirtieth in the Morning; when the Cannon and Mortar Pieces began to play, from the Batteries, at all the Three Attacks; and they continued so to do with such Success, that the Cannon of the Place were soon dismounted, and the Out-Works ruin'd. The *French* made several Attempts to intercept the Convoys of the Besiegers, but in vain; so great a Progress was made in the Siege, by the Eleventh of *September*, that notwithstanding all Endeavours used towards its Relief, by the Marshal *de Villars*; who, by the Reason of the Neighbourhood of the two Armies, had continual Skirmishes with the *Confederates*; the Bastion on the *Right* of the *Lower-Town*, was stormed, and taken, with little, or no Loss; and the Besieged quitted, at the same Time, the Bastion on the *Left*, where the *Allies* also lodged themselves.

The Garri-  
son beat a  
Parley.

ON the Twelfth of *September*, N. S. about Noon, the Besieged, seeing that the Breaches at the two Attacks against the *Upper Town* were wide enough, and that all Things were preparing for a general Assault, beat the *Chamade*; and Hostages being exchanged, the *French*, who were conducted to General *Fagel's* Quarters, whither the Duke of *Marlborough*, and the Deputies repaired, began to propose Articles of Capitulation. But they were immediately answered, by the Duke of *Marlborough*, That he would not have them read; for since they had waited to the last Extremity, they must expect no other Terms than to be made Prisoners of War: He bid them acquaint the Commandant therewith, and send back the Hostages, if he would not accept of these Conditions. The Hostages returning into the Town, and informing the Governor hereof, he refused to comply; wherefore Hostilities