

John de Ruyter

January 5, 1976

Professor Gaetano Falzone  
Il Risorgimento in Sicilia  
Via Mario Rapisardo, 16  
90144 Palermo, Sicily  
Italy

Dear Professor Falzone,

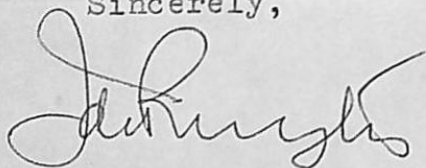
By separate airmail I have sent to your attention a historical perspective on Admiral de Ruyter. I wrote this on occasion of the 300th anniversary of his death which, as you know, occurred in Syracuse in April, 1676.

This, also, is my token gratitude for your valued cooperation in obtaining background material on de Ruyter's Sicilian episode.

I am sure you will find the admiral's personality and exploits of interest. I will be happy to provide additional copies in case a local archive or historical society expresses an interest in this story.

Miss Ippolito recently moved back to New York and she joins me in extending to you best wishes for 1976.

Sincerely,



180 W. 58th St., apt. 12A  
New York, N.Y. 10019

John de Ruyter

October 27, 1975

Professor Gaetano Falzone  
Museo Etnografico Siciliano "G. Pitre"  
Palazzina Cinese del Parco della Favorita  
Palermo, Italy

Dear Professor Falzone:

Thank you very much indeed for sending me the two articles on the death of Admiral de Ruyter and the Revolution of Messina.

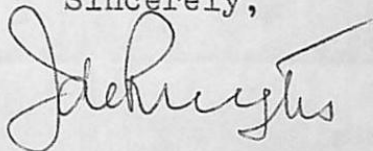
This contains most valuable information and I am having this translated carefully. Foreign sources on de Ruyter are, of course, of great interest to Dutch historians who tend to consult the same well-known documents over and over again.

In the not too distant future I hope to send you a 50-page biography on the admiral which attempts to place his genius and personality in a historic perspective.

Your continued interest in Admiral de Ruyter is most sincerely appreciated.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John de Ruyter', written in a cursive style.

180 W. 58th Street, apt. 12A  
New York, N.Y. 10019

John de Ruyter

October 14, 1975

Professor Gaetano Falzone  
Il Risorgimento in Sicilia  
Via Mario Rapisardi, 16  
90144 Palermo, Italy

Dear Professor Falzone,

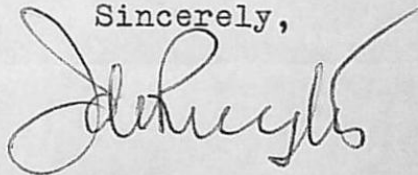
I was so pleased to hear that you have spoken by telephone with Miss Wanda Ippolito. She is a dear friend of ours, and being from Sicily originally, she spent many an hour listening to the subject of Admiral de Ruyter.

Miss Ippolito has very special qualities to grasp the core of complicated matters and thus I have asked her to get in touch with you for the purpose of coordination and communication. We often hear from her by telephone, which facilitates matters greatly.

I was very much interested in hearing about the seminar in Messina on the 1674 war and about your manifold efforts on the de Ruyter project. I am very, very grateful indeed for your interest in this matter.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John de Ruyter', with a stylized, flowing script.

180 W. 58th Street, apt. 12A  
New York, N.Y. 10019



Roma, 24 ottobre 1975

Egregio  
Prof. GAETANO FALZONE  
Istituto per la Storia del  
Risorgimento Italiano  
Via Mario Rapisardi 16  
90144 - P A L E R M O

Gentile Professore,

La ringrazio molto per la Sua del 14 c.m. e per le informazioni da Lei cortesemente fornite, che ho già trasmesse al Sig. de Ruyter, a New York.

Ho parlato al telefono col Prof. Paolo Alatri, in partenza per Messina, che mi darà alcune notizie al suo rientro.

Grazie per le precisazioni circa la Sua famiglia e mi scusi per la libertà.

Io sono in procinto di lasciare nuovamente l'Italia, entro novembre, diretta a New York, da dove continuerò questa corrispondenza, sperando di vedere coronate da successo queste nostre fatiche. Prima di partire, comunque, mi farò ancora viva con Lei.

Per il momento La ringrazio nuovamente e Le porgo cordiali saluti.

Wanda Jofrolito



Roma, 9 ottobre 1975

Egregio  
Prof. GAETANO FALZONE  
Il Risorgimento in Sicilia  
Via Mario Rapisardi 16  
90144 - PALERMO

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10.25  
1h  
JP

Gentile Professore,

faccio seguito alla mia telefonata di questa mattina per inviarLe il mio recapito.

La terrò informata circa ulteriori sviluppi che mi dovessero pervenire sia dal Prof. Agnello che da de Ruyter.

E' stato un piacere fare la Sua conoscenza, anche se per telefono, e mi sto chiedendo se la Sua famiglia sia per caso la stessa Famiglia Falzone, amica dei miei genitori che hanno vissuto a Palermo nel lontano 1930 fino al 1933, in Corso Olivuzza, prima della mia nascita e prima di trasferirsi a Milano. Mio padre si chiamava Giuseppe Ippolito e mia madre Lucia e spesso mi parlavano di questi loro amici. Purtroppo ora non ci sono più e non posso sapere notizie più precise. Probabilmente i Falzone sono in molti, ma spesso il mondo è più piccolo di quanto si pensi e sarebbe simpatico ritrovare un legame grazie al buon Ammiraglio de Ruyter. Ovverosia: la ricerca nella ricerca.

A presto e molti cordiali saluti.

Wanda Ippolito

Wanda Ippolito

Viale dell'Umanesimo 307  
00144 - ROMA EUR, Tel. 595.720

Ufficio Tel. 564.871

John de Ruyter

September 14, 1975

Professor Gaetano Falzone  
Il Risorgimento in Sicilia  
Via Mario Rapisardi, 16  
90144 Palermo, Italy

Dear Professor Falzone,

Thank you very much for your kind letter of August 25. I was very pleased to learn that you may discern a possibility to assist in some historical research on Admiral de Ruyter's last days in Syracuse. This could be a very interesting piece of detective work. I am most positive that, if successful, it would attract much attention from Dutch historians, particularly as it would coincide with the tricentennial commemoration of de Ruyter's death during the month of April, 1976.

As I stated in my previous letter, the principal objective would be to discover the place of interment of the Admiral's organs. I believe there would be three avenues towards this:

1. Interpretation of the map and description which I sent you
2. Reports in local news sheets
3. The archives of the Syracuse city council and the records of the clergy. Both authorities were quite involved in the final arrangements.

Once before, in 1815, a Dutch sea captain by the name of Koops attempted to find the burial place, but he looked for it on an island in the bay, probably erroneously, because Dutch sources seem to have meant a peninsula facing the city.

It goes without saying that photocopies of documents that may show up during this research will be of great value to me and Dutch historical societies and I will be most happy to reimburse you for the cost involved.

I much appreciated your sending me the well-written article by Rene Herval. It threw a most valuable light on the conduct of these three battles from the French point of view. It was more of a victory for the French than the Dutch have been willing to admit.

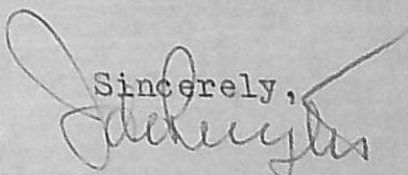
I am not familiar with Francesco Guardione's article and if not too lengthy I would be delighted to have a photocopy. I am enclosing some photocopies of the "London Gazette" which reported on Admiral de Ruyter's death quite extensively.

Dutch research on foreign sources has been almost non-existent and this is what I am trying to remedy. Your kind assistance in this matter will result in something very unique.

With interest I look forward to hearing from you again. With best personal regards.

180 W. 58th Street, apt. 12A  
New York, N.Y. 10019

Sincerely,





Palermo, 25 agosto 1975.

Caro professor de Ruyter,

mi riferisco alla Sua lettera del 14 luglio 1975 per manifestarLe la mia buona volontà, che spero non debba restare platonica, a venire incontro al Suo desiderio di avere informazioni sull'ammiraglio Ruyter. Un intervento forse efficiente - ma non ne sono sicuro neppure - potrò spiegarlo allo inizio dell'anno accademico (Novembre 1975) perché potrò dare incarico a qualcuno dei miei collaboratori di fare qualche ricerca. Per il momento posso dirLe che sulla battaglia navale del 1675 c'è un lavoro di Francesco Guardione apparso sull'"Archivio Storico Siciliano". Se Lei non lo conosce prenderò cura di fargliene dare copia fotostatica e di fargliela avere. Alla presente lettera unisco copi di un articolo in francese del mio amico René Herval, morto l'anno scorso. Herval era normanno e conosceva la materia, ma disgraziatamente non ci può più aiutare. Forse potrà farlo l'Académie des Belle Lettres de Rouen di cui sono Socio.

La prego recare i miei saluti e il mio ricordo al Prof. Cardillo ed accogliere le mie personali cordialità.

Gaetano Falzone





July 14, 1975

Prof. Gaetano Falzone  
16 Via Rapisardi  
Palermo, Italy

Dear Prof. Falzone,

Mr. Giuseppe Cardillo, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute in New York, was kind enough to suggest your name and I am writing to you in the hope that you may be able to provide some advice regarding a research project on a historical subject.

For many years I have been a student of the life of the Dutch Admiral de Ruyter who died in Syracuse in 1676 after battling the French admiral du Quesne. Next year the Dutch will commemorate the tricentennial of his death. In fact, I am contributing to a special issue in the English language to be published in April, 1976 with a press run of 300,000 copies.

It so happened that very little original research has been done on de Ruyter. The same old documents are used over and over again. Hardly any foreign source material has been consulted. In view of the international audience of the special issue, we would like to discover some hitherto unknown sources and facts. We are particularly interested in de Ruyter's last days in and around Sicily.

De Ruyter was a well-known personality in the Mediterranean region. His patrols kept the Algerines in check who used to raid the coast of Sicily. Then, of course, he played a leading role during the time of the Sicilian revolt. I am enclosing some background material on the subject.

While we would be interested in obtaining photo copies of contemporary documents, such as news sheets, of the greatest interest to the Dutch nation would be finding the location where his heart was buried. In 1815, a Dutch sea captain looked for this place, but he was concentrating on an island in the bay of Syracuse, not an peninsula.

Of course, it must be all built over now, but, still, the approximate location could perhaps be deducted by comparing the situation sketch made at the time with contemporary maps of the region.

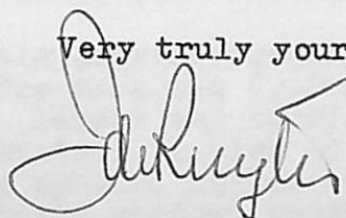
I have given you some background details as an introduction to my questions. Is there a local historical society in Palermo or Syracuse that could assist us in this search? Are there any (amateur) historians or students who would be willing to cooperate on such a project for the mere sake of history?

Mr. Cardillo told me that the old Syracuse archives are likely to be in Palermo, although this may not include the church archives. We are convinced that the burial of de Ruyter's heart at the time was recorded locally.

I would greatly appreciate your suggestions as to how to approach this historical study. As I have many Italian friends, may I suggest that you reply in your mother tongue?

Thank you very much indeed for giving this matter your attention.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. de Ruyter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.

John de Ruyter  
180 W. 58th Street, apt. 12A  
New York, N.Y. 10019  
U.S.A.

### The last battle

The second peace of Westminster did not terminate hostilities with Louis XIV who remained set on northward expansion and the eradication of protestantism. A bold plan was now put into action. While Tromp would make diversionary raids on the French Atlantic coast, de Ruyter would cross the ocean for a surprise attack on the French Antilles. Its aim would be to destroy the source of wealth that fed the enemy's war-making potential. Reminiscent of the Guinea campaign a decade before, de Ruyter put to sea with 17 ships-of-the-line, 18 transports and 3,400 marines. On landing at Martinique the ill-equipped and unseasoned troops, under army command, got pinned down by withering fire from a forewarned enemy and were unable to move out from the beachhead. Withdrawal prevented the fiasco from turning into disaster.

There was a certain coldness upon de Ruyter's return. The political winds had veered away from the admiral who had amassed fame under the former republican, now un-person, head of state John de Witt. The bitter animosity of the French king and the growing dynastic ties between Holland and England implied a reduction of Dutch naval power and a concomittant switch of emphasis towards the Orangist army establishment. Sailor's and fisherman's sons would never rule the seas again. So went, also, some of the democratic spirit fostered by shared experiences at sea.

Perhaps de Ruyter was too wise to be affected by the arrogances of the new political order, too indisposed from colics and stones, or simply just too patriotic to permit dissension in his heart. But, somehow, the play in which he had played a



leading role seemed to be ending anticlimactically. He worried that even the family name might not be perpetuated. Engel, his only remaining son, a Vice Admiral, preferred fast coaches and comfortable country dwellings over the confines of matrimony. It might even have crossed the aging admiral's mind that the powers he had helped unleash had, in turn, spawned even greater counterforces, as history is wont to do. So why honors? He declined repeated invitations from king Charles II to be his guest of honor at court. In his stead went Engel and Tromp. The former had already been awarded a knighthood which had really been reserved for his father. The latter now received a baronetcy. Festivities and parties followed the official ceremonies.

Once more the States would ask de Ruyter to leave the quiet of this home for the roar of battle, though he was almost 69 years of age now. Taking advantage of the Sicilians' revolt against their Spanish overlords, the French had occupied Messina. The vice-royalties of Sicily and Naples were in danger of being isolated and wrested away from Spain on account of French naval domination. If this were to happen, Louis XIV would be holding the Mediterranean hostage to his grand designs. The Spanish king appealed to the States for help, asking for de Ruyter, and a fleet of 18 ships-of-the-line was placed under his command. This puny force was dangerously inadequate to do battle with the up-to-date, unbruised and powerful French navy. Many Dutch ships were in ill repair with rotten timbers, foul ropes and sail. When

de Ruyter expressed his misgivings, their High Mightinesses disdainfully inquired whether courage was leaving him in his old age, to which he replied with dignity: "Wherever the States will risk their flag, I shall risk my life". In any case, he was assured, a Spanish armada would join his forces. He bade adieu to family and friends saying that this time they should not count on his return. The flagship would carry the name "Eendracht" (Unity), a name not at all inappropriate at this time of political change. The "Seven Provinces", being repaired, would not be ready in time for the final curtain.

When in the early hours of January 8, 1676 de Ruyter sighted the enemy off Stromboli, the promised armada had not yet materialized, except for one vessel. The French were bearing down in battle array - 30 ships, among which 24 heavy ships-of-the-line, under the command of du Quesne, an admiral of equal skill and courage. De Ruyter's opponent had also been a sea captain once and although unpopular at court on account of his Huguenot convictions, Louis XIV could not think of a better man to entrust his super navy to. De Ruyter hung back under the lee gage which enticed the French to launch an impetuous attack. As a result their order of battle broke up in confusion. Had this been the intention of de Ruyter all along? Did he figure the character of his adversaries into his battle plans? In spite of the disparity in strength, the all-day battle ended in a draw. Only one ship was sunk, a Dutchman, though both sides sustained substantial damage. In fact, de



Ruyter considered it the heaviest battle of his long career. The French now entered Messina bringing in supplies while the Dutch anchored in the bay of Palermo.

On April 22, a fateful day, the two fleets clashed again in the Straits of Messina in sight of Mount Etna. The Dutch were complemented by 10 Spanish sail and 9 galleys, though all of rather questionable value under conditions of battle. The French had been reinforced as well and still had a two-to-one advantage in fire power. Half an hour into this second engagement, a cannon ball struck de Ruyter in the left foot and right leg hurling him down from campaign deck onto the main deck. While the admiral's <sup>colors were</sup> ~~flag was~~ kept flying, de Ruyter was being administered to in his cabin. The fight was much shorter than the fray off Stromboli; nevertheless, damages were even heavier, but the Dutch had managed to drive off the French. De Ruyter had fought his last battle under the nominal supreme command of Don Francisco de la Cerda in the center squadron. De Ruyter called him a poltroon, said he had seen enough of those in his lifetime and refused to grant the Spanish grande a sickbed call.

The next day the Dutch fleet put into the bay of Syracuse. Initially, de Ruyter's injuries were not felt to be all that serious but then wound fever set in and in the evening of April 29 the admiral passed away, "softly and on the bed of honor". His premonitions had been correct. Shortly before Stromboli he had dictated his last will, only days before his last battle he had written to Engel urging him "to visit some young lady and be done with courting". Sad offices now



had to be carried out. The body was embalmed with herbs and placed in a lead coffin. The city council of Syracuse offered to seek permission from the local clergy to have the heart and organs <sup>interred</sup> ~~placed~~ in one of the local cemeteries. This was refused because of the admiral's Calvinist religion. The city council then suggested that the remains be buried in the town hall under a suitable memorial tablet, but this, in turn, was <sup>declined</sup> ~~refused~~ by the Dutch command.

Instead, it was decided to bury the admiral's heart in a plot adjacent to that of Johan Noirot, a Dutch captain who had died on April 25. On the evening of the first of May, 1676 the officers of the Dutch fleet accompanied the remains ashore where they were buried incognito "on a small hillock, 100 steps out of town, on a small peninsula jutting out into the bay, and surrounded by the sea". The exact location remains unknown until this day.

De Ruyter had died a Spanish duke by order of Charles II of Spain but the letter of investiture had not reached him in time. (It was not the last honor bestowed by a monarch. In 1891 Emperor William II of Germany came to pay his respects at the tomb of de Ruyter and placed a wreath). On June 2, the Dutch-Spanish fleet, <sup>at anchor in Palermo Bay,</sup> was surprised ~~at anchor~~ by du Quesne who finally got the victory he could not have while de Ruyter was alive. It made him, a prideful man, a marquis (Typically, du Quesne's tomb stone at Aubonne, Switzerland states him to be the conqueror of de Ruyter, quite incorrectly so). Complete annihilation of the allied fleet was avoided only because the French had run out of ammunition. During the

battle the Eendracht had fought valiantly, ~~her~~ frame shuddering with the recoil of her guns. It had been touch and go ~~of~~ more than once, foreboding a watery or fiery grave for the admiral's body in her cabin. Seven allied warships were blown out of the water, the combined losses were over 2,000 men and among the dead was admiral de la Cerda. Nor was this the end of the suffering. Shortly thereafter a vicious epidemic of dysentery carried off further victims among the demoralized crews.

The Eendracht carried Holland's great admiral home, its final destination: Hellevoetsluis, ~~the~~ birthplace of the "Seven Provinces". Louis XIV ordered gun salutes to be fired as the Eendracht sailed under the French coast. On December 10 the Meuse estuary was reached but heavy ice drift prevented entering. Once more de Ruyter crossed the icy waters of the North Sea to seek anchorage under the southern coast of England. It was not until the end of January, 1677 that the fatherland was reached. All Holland was mourning. The "Saviour of the fatherland" was buried on March 16, almost one year after his death. It must have been the most impressive ceremony ever held within the walls of Amsterdam. People had come from far and wide and the crowds had flowed over onto rooftops and into <sup>masts</sup> ~~palms~~ and trees. The funeral procession took 4½ hours to pass. Following two companies of soldiers, trumpeteers in mourning garb and preceded by the admiral's flag, the bier was accompanied by four vice admirals serving as pall bearers and sixteen captains. In its train walked 80-year old Constantine Huygens, representative of the Prince

, somehow, the play in which he had played a



of Orange, Engel de Ruyter and family members, the Admiralty, deputies, notables, directors of the East and West India Companies and agents from foreign governments. While the sound of guns drifted over the city, the sailor's son who had come such a long way was laid to rest. His tomb by Rombout Verhulst would feature a ducal crown. It is inside the New Church, the place of coronation for Dutch royalty, just off busy Dam Square.

### Postscript

To an English author, Dorman Newman, goes the distinction of having written the first biography of de Ruyter. Published in London in 1677, it failed to mention the Medway raid. Newman characterizes de Ruyter as "an ornament of his age, the darling of the seas and the delight and honor of his country". But it was Gerard Brandt, a remonstrant predikant and a friend of de Ruyter, who started the definitive biography shortly after the admiral's death. Published in 1687, it ran 1,050 pages. Some years later Brandt's work saw German and French translations. Brandt was an born biographer, meticulous about detail and he could write with a certain verve that makes his work still eminently readable today. The Brandt biography went through many printings and formed the basis for many other books on de Ruyter, both Dutch and foreign. Regrettably, the admiral seems to have destroyed certain personal papers. Brandt's version of de Ruyter's life, perhaps colored, perhaps incomplete, has had the tendency of stilling original research and giving many de Ruyter books the character of foot notes. Some of the



## THE BURIAL OF ADMIRAL DE RUYTER'S HEART AT SYRACUSE, SICILY IN 1676

On April 22, 1676 Admiral de Ruyter was wounded in the battle against the French Admiral Du Quesne which took place off the coast of Sicily in view of Mount Etna. The next day the Dutch fleet anchored in the bay of Syracuse where, on April 29, the admiral succumbed to his wounds aboard his flagship "De Eendracht" (Unity).

The body was embalmed with herbs and placed in a lead coffin. The city council of Syracuse, concerned about the interment of the admiral's heart and organs, offered to seek permission from the local clergy to have them placed in one of the local cemeteries. This was refused on account of the admiral's Calvinist religion. The city council then suggested that these remains be buried in the town hall under a suitable memorial tablet, but this, in turn, was refused by the Dutch command.

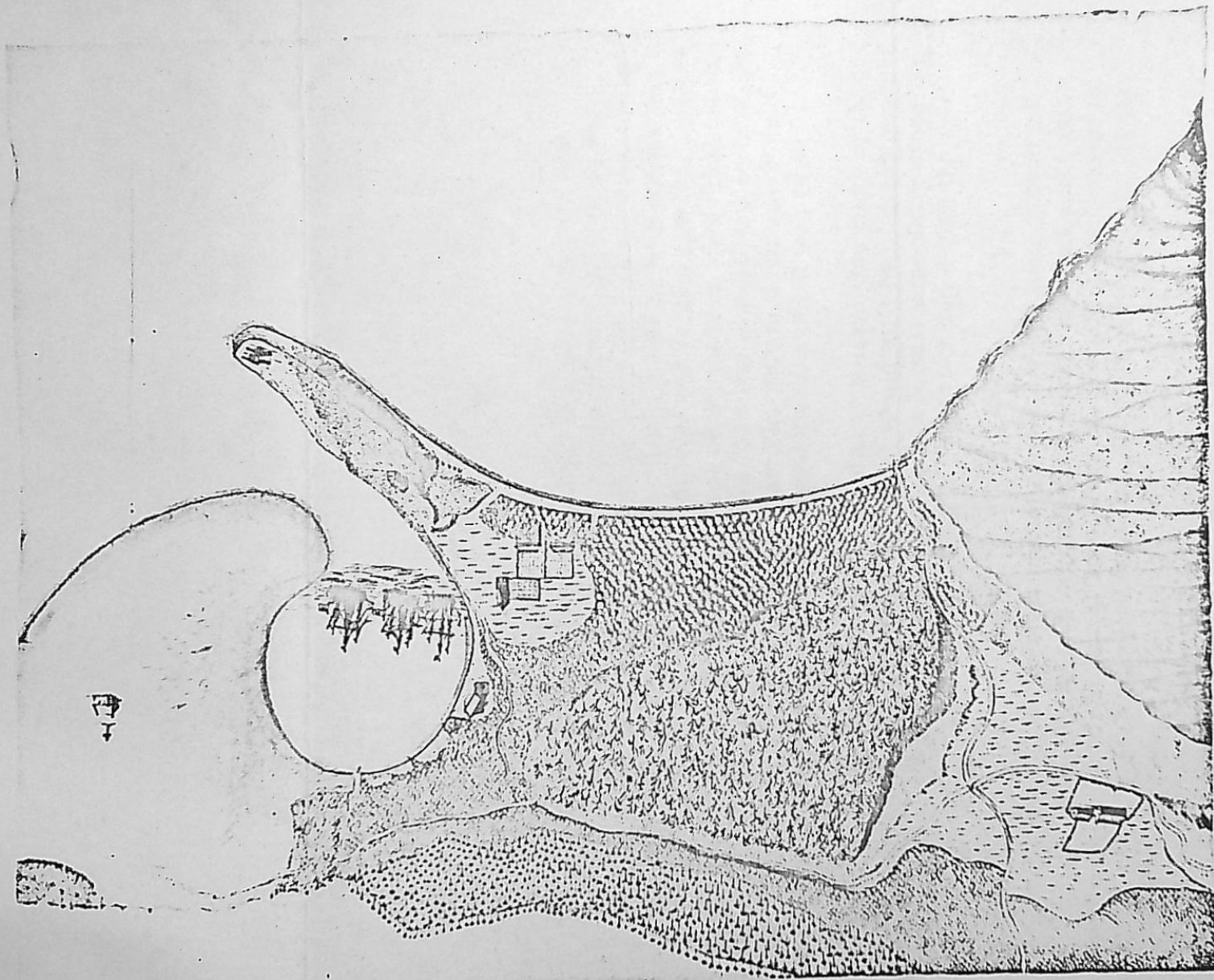
Instead, it was decided to bury the admiral's heart in a plot adjacent to that of Johan Noiroot, a Dutch captain who had died on April 25. On the evening of the first of May, 1676 the officers of the Dutch fleet accompanied the remains ashore where they were buried incognito "on a small hillock, 100 steps out of town, on a small peninsula jutting out into the bay, and surrounded by the sea".

The attached situation sketch shows the general locale where Admiral de Ruyter's heart was buried. Possibly, it is the place indicated by the cross on the right, though this is not certain. However, local news sheets and the records of the Syracuse city council are certain to be more precise as to the exact place of burial. It being outside the local cemetery, it might have involved certain permissions. Admiral de Ruyter was a very famous man in the Mediterranean region, on account of his many expeditions against the Turks and Algerines, and it is likely, therefore, that local notables must have been present during the ceremonies and that the event was recorded.

The locale may be identifiable if compared with present-day maps of the region. Though most likely built over now, it would still be of great interest to the Dutch nation to locate the exact place of burial, especially since the tricentennial of the admiral's death will be commemorated during the month of April, 1976.

Assistance is sought from interested individuals and the local historical society in Syracuse to research city records, church archives and other sources for clues as to the burial spot. Further, there is great interest in photocopies of documents dealing with the last days of Admiral de Ruyter in the bay of Syracuse.

All research and activities are being coordinated by Mr. John de Ruyter, 180 West 58th Street, apt. 12A, New York, N.Y. 10019.



XCV



# The London Gazette.

published by Authority.

From Monday May 29. to Thursday June 1. 1676

Madrid, May 21.

**T**HE Court continues still at *Aranjuez*. Five hundred Horse which came from *Toledo*, after having exercised several times before the King, are marched towards *Catalonia*, from whence we hear, That the French, having defeated 600 Spanish Foot, which were marching from *Figuera*, (of which above 300 were taken Prisoners) likewise possessed themselves of that City, and still keep it. Our Forces in those parts are much inferior to those of the Enemy, but new Levies are making in this Kingdom to reinforce them. Our last Advice from *Naples* was, That the Lieutenant-Admiral *de Ruyter* had joined our Fleet of Men of War and Gallies, in order to the besieging *Messina* by Sea and Land; and that the Marquis *de Velez*, the Viceroy of *Naples*, had paid Monsieur *de Ruyter* 100000 Pieces of Eight, which he had raised upon his own credit. They write, from *Port St Maries*, of a Fire that had hapned there, and among other things, had burnt several Stores, as Cordage, Sails, Pitch, Tarr, &c. which had been laid up for our Armada. That young *de Ruyter* was parted from *Cadix* with about 20 Vessels under his Convoy. And that Sir *Richard Rooth* in the *Adventure* Frigate, was likewise sailed with several English Merchantmen for *England*.

*Copenhagen*, May 26. There being not at present any intercourse of Letters between us and *Sueden*, we cannot know what passes there. It is however believed, that that King is at present in the Isle of *Schonen*, to have an eye upon the motion of our Forces. In a day or two final Sentence will be given against *Griffenfelt*, and in the mean time it is the general opinion, that he will be condemned to a perpetual Imprisonment. Count *Alfeldt* is declared great Chancellor of this Kingdom; and on Sunday last he took possession of that charge. The next Week Admiral *Tromp* purposed to sail with the Men of War that are here, to join those that are already abroad under the command of Admiral *Josten*. Here is a report that the Sieur *Gullentien*, Viceroy of *Norway*, hath lately defeated two Suedish Regiments; but it needs a confirmation.

*Strasbourg*, May 29. The 27 instant, the *Lorrain* Troops, which for some days were lodged near *Wiltet*, marched in great diligence towards *Lauterburgh*, to pass the *Rhine* there, and join the Imperial Army, leaving 1200 Horse, under the command of Major-General *Schulze*, to observe the motions of the French, and particularly to guard the Valley of *Kuntzig*, through which all the provisions must pass that are brought thither for the Imperial Army. All the Watermen of *Belgion* are commanded to remain forthwith thither, with their Boats; which makes us believe, that General *Schulze* has intentions to make another bridge over the *Rhine*, between this place and *Lauterburgh*. The French Army, under the command of the Duke of *Luxemburg*, is advanced into the Plain of *Halsfeld*, with a resolution, as is said, to dispute the passage of the River *Sarr*, with the Imperialists. The French have a Train of Artillery of 40 pieces of Cannon, and 100 Wagons laden with Ammu-

nition. They every day expect the coming up of the detachment from *Flanders*, which we hear was arrived at *Meiz*.

*Lauterburgh*, May 29. Yesterday arrived here Prince *Herman* of *Baden*, from *Manheim*, where he hath been to confer with the Elector Palatine, and without making any stay here, took his way to the Imperial Army, the right Wing of which is encamped at *Langenhardt*, and the left Wing towards *Hagenaw*. This afternoon a report hath been brought thither, that the Count *de Caprara* hath defeated four Troops of French Horse, who designed to enter into *Hagenaw*.

*Francfort*, May 30. It is said here, that the Imperial Generals have resolved to lay aside the thoughts they had of besieging *Philipsburg*, and to turn them to that of *Hagenaw*; in order to which, the Imperial Army is marched that way, and was encamped the 28 instant about two Leagues from that place. This day it marches again, though we cannot believe that any siege will be undertaken, seeing the Enemy is come so near; for we understand, that the Duke of *Luxemburg* is passed by *Saverne*; but it is rather thought, that the Duke of *Lorraine* will endeavor to fight the Enemy before the reinforcement that is come from *Flanders* joins them. The Troops that remain in the Neighborhood of *Philipsburg*, are about taking several posts, to hinder the incursions of that Garrison; and when the Troops of the Circles arrive, they will at least block up the place a little more closely; for hitherto the French are frequently abroad in small parties, though they do not venture to go far.

*Hagenaw*, May 30. The 24 instant the Duke of *Luxemburg* decamped from *Schlestadt*, after having given the necessary orders for the security of that place; and the same day lodged with the Army at *Gros-Sant* near *Bensfeldt*. The Train of Artillery, commanded by the Marquis *de Frezelere*, parted not from *Schlestadt* till the 25, not having arrived there from *Brissac* till the evening before. That day the 25, the Army encamped at *Altors*, and the 26, at *Wiltens*, two Leagues from *Saverne*, where it remained the two following days. The 28, the Duke of *Luxemburg*, accompanied with several principal Officers, went to visit the Fortifications of *Saverne*, and found them almost finished, and the place in a very good posture. The same day, two Battalions of *Picardy*, one of *Languedoc*, and some other Troops joined the Army, which decamped yesterday, and marched to *Ingenheim*, where it is at present. Yesterday a party of *Kaiserlautern*, consisting in 200 Foot, and 40 Cavaliers attacked a French Convoy, going from *Philipsburg* to *Saverne*, within three quarters of a mile from this latter place, so vigorously, that our Troops gave ground, and the Enemy fell to plunder; but the Chevalier *de la Frezelere* came so opportunely to the assistance of the French, that the Enemy were forced to quit their Booty, and were totally routed, 80 of them being killed, and 70 taken prisoners, and brought to *Philbourg*. The Chevalier *de la Frezelere* had his Horse killed under him, and lost about 20 of his Men.

*Cologne*, June 2. Monsieur *de Louvigny* who is to command



command the *Osnabrug* Troops, arrived here two days since from *Luxemburg*, and this night is parted hence for *Brussels*, intending to be back here again very suddenly, and by the time the *Osnabrug* Troops arrive in this Neighborhood, which may be about the middle of this Month. The Letters from *Osnabrug* say, that the march of the said Troops was deferred till the return of the Envoy which that Duke had sent to the Prince of *Orange*, and to the Duke de *Vill. Hermosa*. Our Letters from *Alsacia* inform us, That the 28 past, the Imperial Army was encamped at *Weissenburg*, about two Leagues from *Haguenaw*; that the 29 past, the *Lorraine* Troops, which had lay'n at *Wilsset*, in the Neighborhood of *Strasbourg*, had passed the *Rhine* at *Lauterburg*, and had joined the Army, which the next day, viz. the 30, intended to decamp, and to march on towards *Haguenaw*. At the same time we understand the Duke of *Luxemburg* was encamped with the French Army between *Saverne* and *Haguenaw*, in expectation of the detachment that went from *Flanders*, having with him 40 pieces of Cannon. The Elector of *Treves* continues very ill, and this day it is reported here that he is dead.

*Hamburg, June 2.* The news we told you in our last of the taking the Fort of *Stade* by the Confederates proves a mistake; and on the contrary, we do not find that there is any likelihood that they will be Masters of it very suddenly. There is now as little talk as ever of the siege of *Stade*, so that the Swedes there have little to fear but want of Provisions within. From *Leipzick* of the 29 past they write, that all the Imperial Troops which had been quartered in the Territories of the Elector of *Saxony* had received orders to march, being commanded by General *Cobz*, to join the *Brandenburg* Troops.

*Brussels, June 5.* The Armies continue in the same quarters we told you in our last, and as yet there is not any appearance of their sudden removal. The Most Christian King remains in his Army, and is lodged near *Ninoven*. The French parties appear daily in our Neighborhood, and have burnt since our last 10 or 12 houses in the Village of *Andernecke*, for that those Inhabitants did not send to the French Camp the Cattle they were taxed with, and have failed to pay their arrears of Contributions. From *Cambray* of the 3d instant they write. That the French having notice of the late incursion into *Picardy*, a party of 2000 Horse had been immediately sent out, under the command of the Baron de *Quincy*, to cut off their retreat; but our Troops, taking a way contrary to the Enemies expectation, got safe to *Cambray*; whereupon the said Baron had to posted his Men between *Cambray* and *Valenciennes*, that the Cavalry of this last place could not get home, but was forced to remain at *Cambray*. From *Liege* of the 3d instant we hear, that a considerable Body of Horse and Foot, with several Pieces of Cannon, was marched from *Macstricht*, but their design was not known.

*Hague, June 5.* We have little at present to write from hence, unless it be to give you an account of the death of the Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyter*, which as we receive from several hands, so particularly by this following Letter.

From on board the Ship *Gouda*, lying at anchor in the Bay of *Syracusa*, May 1.

My preceding Letters, I gave you an account of the wounds Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyter* had received in the late Fight, what I have now to acquaint you is, That till the 28 past, he continued in a pretty good condition, and gave us hopes of his recovery,

but that day he was taken very ill, insomuch, that he lost his Speech in few hours; thus he continued till the 29, when between 9 and 10 a Clock at night he departed this life, being old 70 years and two months, to the great trouble of all the Officers and Seamen, who lament his death. The Vice-Admiral de *Haen* has taken upon him the command of the Fleet, and at present this ship bears the Admirals Flag; the *Eendracht*, on which the *Heer de Ruyter* formerly commanded, bears that of Vice-Admiral, and the *Steenbeigen* that of Rear-Admiral. We shall in few days part hence for *Palermo*, to take in Powder and Bullets.

*Ditto.* Five or six French Frigates having of late appeared upon our Coasts, the *Sieur Pastiauz* is sailed with the like number, to secure our Navigation. We have Letters from *Bremen* and those parts, which say, that the Confederates intended to make a general Assault upon the Fort of *Stade* the 2d instant at night; and add, That the Swedes had made a Sally, with design to have fallen upon the *Lunenburgs* at *Hornburg*, but that they had been repulsed with loss. From *Copenhagen* by Letters of the 30 past we understand, that what hath been said of the taking of the Isle of *Ensel* by the Danes, was without ground. That on the 2d instant that King intended to hold a general Rendezvous of his Troops. That 3 Men of War more and 2 Fireships were arrived at *Copenhagen* from these parts, and that in 2 or 3 days the *Sieur Tromp* intended to sail with them, and such Danish Men of War as were ready.

*Paris, June 6.* His Majesty continues with his Army in the Country of *Alst*, not far from that of the Enemies, having his head quarters near *Ninoven*. According to our advices of the 29 and 30 past, from *Alstet*, it seems, the diligent march of the Duke of *Luxemburg* hath prevented the design the Duke of *Lorraine* might have had upon *Haguenaw*; who, on the 28, was encamped within two Leagues of that place, while our Army lay between *Saverne* and *Haguenaw*. It is said, that if the Imperialists intend to advance any farther, they must pass through Woods and narrow Lanes of a great length which would give our Army so great an advantage upon them, that it is believed they will not attempt to pass them. However, we cannot believe they will long continue in the posture they are, but both parties will endeavor to come to some speedy action. Our Army is reckoned at present above 20000, and when the detachment arrives that went from *Flanders*, it will be near 30000; about which number we count the Imperialists. The Duke of *Lorraine* Troops, which were at *Wilsset*, not being able to obtain passage over the Bridge of *Strasbourg*, are marched to *Lauterburg*, to pass the *Rhine* there, and so to join their Duke. Our Letters from *Sicily* give us an account, That after the Fight on 23 April, our Fleet sailed to *Augusta*, and continued at anchor in that Road a day or two, the Spaniards raising the Siege of that place, which they had formed by Land, upon which, our Fleet, commanded by the *Sieur de Quincus*, set sail again, passing by *Syracusa*, where the Enemies Fleet was repairing the damages received in the said Fight, and after having for some days kept the Sea, returned the 1st of May to *Messina*; where our Gallies are daily expected; according to our last advice they were at *Civita Vecchia*, having been much hindered in their Voyage by foul weather and contrary winds; they have on board them 1200 Foot, and 300 Dragoons to be mounted at *Messina*. We have now the certainty of the death of Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyter*, and that his Vice-Admiral has taken upon him the command of the Dutch Fleet. On our side the person of chiefest note that was killed in the said Engagement, was the *Sieur d'Almeras*. Our Letters from *Algiers* give us an account of the death of the Elector of *Treves*.

#### Advertisement.

MR Tho. Wilcox in Three Crane Yard in Southwark, between the *George* Inn and *White Hart* Inn, at the late 11re, did deliver to a Stranger a large flat Trunk covered with blew Leather marked T. W. B. containing several Pieces of wrought Silk, as Tassels, Sarcenets, Alamodes, and Lutes. The person to whom it was delivered, is desired to bring it to James Chadwicks Esq at the Shop in New Kings-street or to Mr. Robinson a Dyer in Three Crane Wharf, London, and he shall be very well Rewarded.

# The London Gazette.

published by Authority.

From Monday May 15. to Thursday May 18. 1676

*Florence, May 5.*

**B**Y a Vessel arrived at Leghorne in five days from Naples we have advice, that the Spaniards, with the assistance of the Dutch Fleet had retaken *Augusta*. And likewise there is a report, that Lieutenant Admiral de Ruyter had taken a French Man of War of 44 Guns, and two Tartanes laden with Provisions for *Messina*; but this will need a confirmation. The French Gallies that lately failed from *Marseilles* are still at *Vado*, near *Genova*; but are daily expected at *Civita Vecchia*, where two Feluccas have arrived from *Messina*, to hasten them thither.

*Vicenza, May 10.* The Emperor being perfectly recovered of his late indisposition, has left *St Vyt*, and is at present at *Neutorf*, from whence he is expected here the 17 instant, to assist at the Funerals of the Empress, which will be solemnized the 18th. Here is arrived an Envoy from the Cham of *Tartary*, and yesterday he had Audience of Count *Montecuculi*, President of the Council of War; his business mainly consists in assurances of the friendship and good correspondence which the Cham will maintain inviolable with the Emperor. The Cardinal of *Hesse* is arrived here from *Rome*, and he will suddenly part hence to *Silesia*, of which Countrey he is appointed Governor by the Emperor.

*Strasbourg, May 15.* The Imperial Troops that have had their Winter-quarters in *Swabia* are come down, under the command of Prince *Pio*, and on Monday last joined with those of the Duke of *Lorraine*, making together 10000 Foot and 4000 Horse; on Tuesday the Duke of *Saxen Lawenburg*, General of the Imperial Cavalry came to them at *Wilstet*, as did the following day the Count of *Kilmanseck*. Yesterday they marched from thence towards *Lauterburg*, to pass the *Rhine* there, and so join the other Troops who have already passed it near *Spire*. The Major General *Schulze* remains in our neighborhood, with body of Horse, to observe the motions of the French. The Imperialists have so far advanced in their design upon *Philipsburg*, as to have taken the two Redoubts which secured the Fort on this side the *Rhine*, and in a day or two they hoped to be in possession of the said Fort, by which they of *Philipsburg* will be debarred from all communication with the *Rhine*, while on the other side they are likewise shut up by the Posts which the Imperialists have taken there. The Duke of *Luxemburg* is marching with what Troops he can draw together towards *Haguenaw*.

*Frencfort, May 17.* The actions before *Philipsburg* begin to grow warm; the dispute at present is concerning the Fort on the other side of the *Rhine*, the two Ravelins which covered it have been already gained by the Imperialists, with some loss on both sides; and in a day or two they will make an assault upon the said Fort, advancing in the mean time their Trenches very considerably; the Besieged at the same time are not wanting to make a brisk defence, and to disturb the Imperialists with frequent and vigorous Sallies, in which many men have been killed on both sides, but especially

on the part of the Besieged. The Duke of *Lorraine* has at present his quarters at *Meckersheim*, with great part of the Imperial Army; his Highness, it is said, will continue there till the Fort on the *Rhine* be taken, and then he will march towards *Haguenaw*. The Elector of *Treves* we hear is very ill.

*Hague, May 19.* We have now this following particular Account of the march of our Army from *Mons* to *Valenciennes*.

From the Dutch and Spanish Camp near Valenciennes, May 13. Having, as we lay between *Mons* and *St Guislain*, received advice, that *Bouchain* was besieged, we decamped the 7th in the Evening, and marching all that night, arrived the next day about noon between *Conde* and *Mortagne* on the *Schelde*, from whence we saw the French Army, which was encamped between *Conde* and *Quesnoy*, begin to march towards *Valenciennes*, and found the Marechal d'*Humières* with a Body of 4 or 5000 Men encamped on the other side of the River, where we must pass it, and at the same time observed several Squadrons of Horse coming from the Kings Army, to join the Marechal. That night we encamped at *Pernez*, and the next day being the 9th, his Highness going to observe the situation of the place, and the River, found that the Marechal d'*Humières* had quitted that Post, and was retired in the night; upon which his Highness immediately caused the Army to march, and having thrown his Bridges over the River at *Old Conde*, which is under the Cannon of the Town, we passed the River in the afternoon, and the night following, without any loss, though the French of *Conde* having opened their sluices, the high waters broke our Bridges several times. The 10th, in the morning, as our Avantguard came into the narrow Lane, which is about half a mile from *Valenciennes*, the Governor of the place sent to acquaint his Highness, that the Kings Army was drawing up in Battalia, his Right Wing within Cannon shot of the place, his Left behind the Woods of *St. Amand*, and that his Infantry had possessed the Villages that are at the head of his Army: upon which, his Highness sent to tell the Spaniards, who had the Rear, that they should make haste to come up; and advancing to the Hill, from whence he could discover the Countrey, he caused his Dragoons to Post themselves with all diligence in a Cloyster, called the Cloyster of *Good Hope*, and drew his Army in Battalia, as well as the small compass of ground would permit, in sight of the Enemy, not doubting but that they would have attacked him, having the advantage of coming up fresh, and being Posted before us, our Soldiers being wearied with their having marched since Saturday Noon, and our Avantguard arriving here six hours before the Rear; but they were contented to retrench themselves in their Camp and to fortify the Villages they were possessed of, to hinder our coming to them: so that three days have now passed, without any thing having been attempted by the one or the other side.

*Ditto, May 18.* Since our encampment here, nothing of action hath passed; both Armies have so strongly fortified themselves, that no attempt could be made with-



without a vast advantage to the attacked; on Friday morning a Detachment of 35 Squadrons of Horse, and 6 Battalions of Foot, making together about 8000 men, marched from the French Army; we hear since that they have passed the *Sambre*, and take their way towards *Lorraine* and *Astoria*. On Friday in the afternoon the Prince of *Vaudemont*, and Monsieur *Lillebonne*, his Brother-in-Law, who is in the French Army, had a Conference, at the desire of the latter, the place being between the two Armies; they were accompanied by several Cavaliers on both sides, and passed about an hour together in discourses of indifferent things. Last night our Cavalry had orders to fetch it is day from the Town provision of Oats for their Horses, and that they should be in readiness to march this evening, and in the mean time to take down their Tents, which is done accordingly. Three Batteries are raised upon the Hill near the Town, to secure our retreat; and in the mean time several Bridges have been laid over the River.

*Valenciennes*, May 21. Yesterday morning according to the advice we had the day before received from some Deserters, the French Army decamped, and marched towards *Beuchain*, in such good order, and with such advantage of ground, that it was not thought fit to attempt any thing upon them; last night the Army encamped near *Buclain*, and this morning marches towards *Douy*. Our Generals went afterwards to visit the Enemy's Camp, where they found a very considerable quantity of Forage which they had left behind them. Yesterday morning early the Prince of *Vaudemont* was sent out with 2000 Horse, and 500 Dragoons towards *Conde*, upon advice that the Baron *de Quincy* was abroad with a Party of Horse, with intention to skirt upon us in our march; but he had notice of the Prince of *Vaudemont's* march and retired in time; however a Troop of the Enemy's Horse fell into his hands: the last night the Prince returned to the Camp with 50 Prisoners, among whom were four Deserters, who were immediately hanged. This morning the Prince of *Orange* and Duke *de Villa Hermosa* likewise decamped with their Armies part passed the *Schelde* over the Bridges that had been lay'n over the River, and the rest marched through this Town, taking way their towards *Mons*.

*Brussels*, May 22. The Armies, after having lain 10 days in sight of each, are contrary to all expectation, separated without any action. The Most Christian King decamped the 20 instant, and marched as we are informed towards *Douy*; and the Prince of *Orange* and the Duke *de Villa Hermosa* did the like the day following, which was yesterday, and having repassed the *Schelde*, encamped the last night two Leagues on this side *Valenciennes*. It is said here, that the King is going to send another Detachment towards *Germany*; from whence we expect to hear by the next Post, that the Imperialists have taken the Fort which guards the Bridge of *Philipsburg* over the *Rhine*.

*Amsterdam*, May 22. We have been much surprized with the news we receive from *Italy*, of a second Battle between Lieutenant-Admiral *de Ruyter*, and the French Fleet on the 23 past. The latter consisted in 30 Men of War, 7 Fireships, and other small Vessels; and Monsieur *de Ruyter* had only 17 Ships, besides Spaniards. It is said here, that if the whole Fleet had done as it ought, the Fight would have ended much more to our advantage than it did; but that the whole brunt lay upon Lieutenant-Admiral *de Ruyter*, who had the Van, and Vice-Admiral *de Haen* who was in the Rear; however after five hours Combat, the French were forced to make the best of their way to *Messina*; but that which chiefly afflicts us is, the wounds which the Lieutenant-Admiral *de Ruyter* received, which, it's feared, he will hardly be able to recover.

*Hague*, May 22. Among the letters that are arrived from *Italy* giving an account of the Engagement between the Spanish and Dutch Fleet, and that of *France*, the States have received Letters from the Lieutenant-Admiral *de Ruyter*, dated the

26 past, in the Bay of *Straffa*, giving this following account; That on the 21 instant, as he lay in the Bay of *Angula*, he received advice, that the Enemy's Fleet was at Sea, whereupon he sailed that night, and the next morning early got sight of the Enemy, they being then about Cap. *Spaurwau*, and our Fleet three Leagues from *Angula*; That the weather was very calm, but that about two in the afternoon there blew a fresh gale from the S. E. which brought the Fleets nearer together; That the Heer *de Ruyter* had the Van, the Spaniards the main body, and the Vice-Admiral *de Haen* the Rear; in this order our Fleet bore down upon the Enemy, who consisted in 30 Men of War, and 7 Fireships, besides small Crafts; That the Fight began very furiously about four in the afternoon, and continued so till seven, during which time, the Ship the *Looning Quasi*, commanded by Captain *deby*, and the *Damiaten*, were so disabled, that they were forced to be towed out of the Fight, to the Bay of *Straffa*; That the Spanish Men of War did not do any great service, they being at that distance, that though they fired very smartly, yet it was without any execution upon the Enemy, who about seven in the evening began to give ground, and to stand away from our Fleet, which followed them till eight, and then slackened their sail, and left them, suspecting the wind would rise (as it did the next morning, which would have very much incommoded our Fleet, by reason of the damage most of them received in their Masts and Rigging. So that the next day, viz. the 23, our Fleet arrived in the Bay of *Straffa*, from whence it was resolved as soon as possible, to sail to *Palermo*, to repair, which they could not do in the said Bay as they ought. That towards the end of the Fight, the Heer *de Ruyter*, as he was upon the Deck, had by a shot the hind part of his left foot taken off; and at the same time his left Leg broken a little above the Ankel, which throwing him to the ground, had added another small wound in his Head; but that when this Letter came away he was in a pretty good condition considering the time, and was in great hopes to recover. Besides the *Looning Quasi* and the *Damiaten*, the *Lyon*, commanded by the Count *de Sturn*, was very much torn and disabled, having been one of *de Ruyter's* seconds. The 25, Captain *Nonat* dyed of the wounds he had received in the Fight. In this Letter of the Heer *de Ruyter* no mention is made of the loss the French sustained. There be other Letters, which add, that the Spaniards have effected their design in taking of *Angula*.

*Paris*, May 23. The 20 instant, in the morning, our Army decamped from its quarters in the Neighborhood of *Valenciennes*, and encamped that night near *Dorban*. The indisposition of the Duke *de Vinty* not permitting him to pursue his journey to *Nimwegen*, as Head of the Embassy his Majesty sends thither, his Majesty has nominated the Maréchal *d'Esprades*, Governor of *Alsace* to go in his stead. From *Germany* they write, that part of the Imperial Army has passed the *Rhine*, and that the Imperialists attack the Fort of *Philipsburg*, which lies on the other side of the *Rhine*, and secures their Bridge. We have advice of a Battle which was fought the 22 past, between ours, and the Dutch and Spanish Fleets in the Mediterranean, to the advantage of the former.

#### Advertisements.

A Sermon Preached before the King at Whitehall, May 7. by *John Suckley*, D. D. and Dean of *Darham*, Chaplain in Ordinary to His Majesty. Published by His Majesties special Command. Sold by *John Harrington* next to the Fountain Tavern in the Strand.

Whereas on the sixth of this instant May, *Henry Warren*, of *Stanford*, Waggener, was robbed of a great sum of Money, within eight miles north of *Lincoln*, by four men, two of them tall and swarthy, the other two of a lower stature, seeming like Country Men, and riding on two grey and two bay Horses; which is all the description the Hue and Cry mentions, and all that *Warren* himself gives of them. If any person or persons shall apprehend or secure all or any of the said Robbers and give notice to the Wapentack of *Avon*, in the County of *Lincoln*, or to Mr. *Thomas Hawke* north of *Fillingham* in the said County, they shall 50 l. Reward.

*Edmund Preshall* Esq; of *Onar* in *Ceshire*, sent his Man, *Henry Lallwater*, to receive 55 l. in Money, besides other things, with which he is gone away. He is of a middle stature, a curled head of hair, thin-faced, bowe-legged, a new pair of Boots, with a sad stuff Sute with gold Buttons, under an old Coat, about 40 years of age, went away from his Master on the 5th of this instant May, with a little black Nag, short Mane, two white feet behind, with a flax in the forehead, and bob tail'd. If any person can bring tidings of him, or cause him to be apprehended, let them give notice to Mr. *James Hekes* at the Post-Office in *Bishopsgate-Street*, *London*, or else to his Master above-mentioned, they shall be well rewarded, and all their charges born.



# The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

From Thursday February 17. to Monday February 21. 1675

Naples, Jan. 28.

**W**E are here not a little concerned to find the news we had of a Victory obtained by Lieutenant Admiral *de Ruyter*, over the French Fleet, so much changed, for the advices we now receive from *Sicily* not onely inform us that the French were arrived at *Messina*, and had relieved that City, which before was very much straitned through the want of Provisions, but that the Heer *de Ruyter*, declaring that the six Months during which he was according to the Agreement made between the King of *Spain* and the States General his Masters, to assist the Spaniards in order to the reducing of *Messina*, were expired, was returning home with his Squadron, not altogether satisfied with the Conduct of matters. Our Viceroy the Marquis *de los Velez*, having an account hereof immediately, sent for the Dutch Consul that is here, and desired him to go off in a Felucca if possible to meet with *de Ruyter*, and to advise him that orders were come from *Holland*, commanding his continuing some time longer in these parts; as yet the Consul is not returned, and it is much feared he hath not been able to overtake the Lieutenant Admiral, and therefore Messengers have been sent both by Sea and Land to *Leghorne* on the same Errand.

*Ditto*, Febr. 4. Since our last, we are arrived here three Spanish Men of War, from *Melazzo* to Carreen, they confirm what we formerly wrote concerning the Fight, and add, That the reason that the French took their course round the Island of *Sicily*, was, that the Wind would not permit them to enter the Fare on this side. This morning arrived four Gallies from *Melazzo*, who give us an account, that the French Fleet is returned homewards again, having left 10 or twelve Men of War at *Messina*. Several Troops of Horse have been lately raised by our Viceroy, and will be transported to *Melazzo* very suddenly.

*Florence*, Febr. 3. We have seen so many different Relations of the success of the late Engagement between the French and the Dutch Fleets on the 8th past, hear the Fare of *Messina*, that we have hardly known what to credit; This is certain, that for several hours the Fight was pretty sharp, and that both sides sustained much damage in their Masts, Sayles, and Rigging, but we do not hear of any great number of Men slain, they having contented themselves to fight at a pretty distance. The Dutch add, that they sunk two Men of War, and 2 Fireships of the Enemies, and that they themselves lost one Man of War but the first the French do not own. Thus we were taken up with giving the one or the other side the Victory, when our Letters from *Rome* and *Naples* informed us, that the French were entered into *Messina*, having, as is said, the third day after the fight, got clear of the Dutch, and taken their course round the Island of *Sicily*, and so entered *Messina*, on the other side of the Fare, to the great trouble of the Spaniards; That thereupon, Lieutenant Admiral *de Ruyter* (the term appointed for his stay in those parts being expired) had taken his leave of the Prince of *Montefanchio*, who joined him the day after the Fight

with 8 Men of War in order to his return home. And yesterday arrived at *Leghorne* five Dutch Men of War, sent in by Lieutenant Admiral *de Ruyter*, to fetch out what Dutch ships should happen to be in that Port, that so they might return home together, but they found order, there from the States to their Admiral for his continuing some time longer in these parts.

*Pisa*, Febr. 10. The Master of an English Ketch lately arrived at *Leghorne* from *Nialtha* reports, that he had met with Lieutenant Admiral *de Ruyter* near *Monte Christo*, with 25 sail under his command, returning towards *Sicily*, according to the new orders he had received from *Holland*. The Master adds, that Sir John Narborough was departed for *Tripoli*, with the Squadron under his command.

*Warsaw*, Febr. 7. We cannot at present give an account of all the particulars of the solemnity of the Interment of the late Kings *Casimire* and *Michael*, and the Coronation of their present Majesties at *Cracow* the week past, but must onely tell you in general, that it was performed with great Pomp and Magnificence, and with an extraordinary concourse of Nobility.

*Madrid*, Febr. 12. From *Cadix* we are told, that an Advice-boat was arrived there in 61 days from the *Havana*, at his departure from thence, they had not any news of the Galeons, so that they are not now expected till the next Month. We are now certainly informed, that the Spanish ships lost some time since in the Fare of *Messina* by bad weather, were the *Almirante of Flanders*, *la Almodena*, *St. Francisco*, and the *Conception of Naples*, all ships of good Force, and two Fireships, but that in all there were not above 200 Men drowned; The Marquis *d' Astorga*, late Viceroy of *Naples*, is arrived at *Barcelona*, and is suddenly expected at Court.

*Vienna*, Febr. 9. The Count *de la Tour* is parted hence for *Venice*, where he is to reside Ambassador from this Court. The Elector of *Bavaria* has sent hither the Count of *Lewnslein*, to complain of the Imperialists having taken their quarters in some of his Territories, appertaining to the Circle of *Suabia*. The Empress it is said begins to recover, to the great joy of this Court. General *Marescotti* will certainly part hence to the Army towards the latter end of this Month. From *Cracow* we have advice of the second instant, that the Coronation of their Majesties of *Poland* had been performed there the 2d instant, with great solemnity. The Tanks of *Newhaufel*, to the number of 320 were lately as far as *Scheda*, with design to have demolished a certain Fort lately built by the Imperialists, who received them so well, that they were forced to retire without effecting their purpose.

*Cologne*, Febr. 21. We have little to write from hence at present, on all sides Parties are preparing for the Campaign with so much earnestness, that it plainly appears they have as yet no disposition to a Peace. The Duke of *Norburg* continues his Levies, with good success. The Garisons of *Philipsburgh* and *Brillac* set all the neighbouring Countreys under Contribution

and

and we are told that the last Week a French party burnt 14 Villages in *Brissgovia*, for that the Inhabitants failed to pay their Contributions.

*Berlin, Febr. 13.* The 17<sup>th</sup> past, the Count de Sternberg, Vice-Chancellor of *Bohemia*, and Envoy Extraordinary from the Emperor arrived here, from the Court of the Elector of *Saxony*, where he had been to represent several matters relating to the present conjuncture, on the part of the Emperor. The next day he was conducted to his Audience of his Electoral Highness, to whom he opened his Commission. We have advice that the Troops which we told you in our last were abroad under the command of Major General *Dorfling*, are returned into their quarters, not having been able to put their design in execution, because of the great quantity of snow and hail that hath fallen, and besides, the *Suedes* had taken the alarm, and had every where put themselves into a posture of defence, and especially in the Isle of *Rugen*, whither Count *Coninsmark* was gone in person to provide against all attempts of the Enemy.

*Liege, Febr. 22.* The Garison that was in the Citadel here hath been lately changed, upon a discovery as is said of some practices that were on foot for the betraying it, on which account a Lieutenant Colonel hath been arrested at *Maesricht*, together with some other Officers of inferior quality. The French seem resolved to demolish the Castles of *Huy* and *Dinant*, and we are told, that they are already at work there to that effect.

*Brussels, Febr. 18.* The 12<sup>th</sup> instant, his Excellency the Duke de *Villa Hermosa* was present at the opening the new sluice, between *Bruges* and *Ostend*, which was done with great Ceremony, and at the same time, a Spanish Man of War of 30 Guns and several other Vessels passed up to *Bruges*, to the great satisfaction of that City, which will draw great advantage from thence. We understand that his Excellency hath by the last Ordinary received Bills of Exchange for 800 000 Crowns from *Spain*, and that he is at present at *Amsterd.* about remitting greatest part thereof to the Allies, to whom the Crown of *Spain* pays Subsidies. It now appears, that by the late Treaty concluded at the *Hague*, between *Spain*, that State, and the Bishop of *Osnabrugh*, the latter is obliged to come with his Troops to the assistance of these Countries, during the next Campaigne.

*Ditto, Febr. 21.* Our Italian Letters have changed all our mirth for the Victory obtained over the French on the Coast of *Sicily* into sadness, for besides, that *Messina* is relieved, and the French Fleet safely arrived there, we look upon the Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyters* return homewards to be much the greater blow, for that disappoints all the measures that have been taken for the reducing that City. The French threaten to be now quickly in the Field, and according to the advices we have from *France*, that King intends to bend his greatest force against these Provinces, and all the hopes we have is, that the Prince of *Orange* will take care of us, for here we have not made any considerable preparations for the Campaigne. From *Liege* they write, that the Governor of *Maesricht* had sent several Miners to *Huy*, to demolish some Outworks of that Castle, which were not counted tenable.

*Ditto, Febr. 25.* Last night his Excellency arrived from *Amsterd.* and with him Don *Emmanuel de Lya*, who is lately come from the *Hague*. The weather continues here extremely fair, so that we doubt not but the French will take the field very speedily, we hear they have filled all their Frontier Garrisons well in *Flanders* as in the Country of *Luge* with Soldiers; and on our side the Garrisons of *Namur* and *Ipres* have been reinforced, being most apprehensive that the French de-

sign u. a them. Yesterday we received advice, that the French having drawn a Body of 10 or 12000 Men together, commanded by the *Mareschal d'Humieres*, and the *Marquis de Camille*, had besieged the strong Castle of *Amey* near *Douay*, in which was a Spanish Company, and this morning we understand it was surrendered upon Intercession, and that the French have demolished it. Great Magazines are providing in several places in *Brabant*, by order of the Prince of *Orange*, for the supplying his Army this next Campaigne. We expect here the Duke of *Osnabrugh* with his Troop, which together will make 8000 Men. It is said that the Duke of *Bourbonville* is to command the Spanish Army in *Catalonia*.

*Hague, Febr. 21.* We are told that yesterday Letters arrived from the Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyter* giving an account of his being on his return home. And at the same time we received Letters from *Legun*, which say, that he having sent into that Port five of his Men of War, they had found orders there from the States for his remaining six Months longer in the Spanish service, so that it is believed, so soon as he has provided his Fleet with Provisions, and what else he wants, he will return towards *Sicily*. The Prince of *Orange* is now in Town again, and the preparations for the Campaigne are hastened with all the diligence possible, they writing from *Flanders*, that the French begin to put themselves into a posture to take the Field. The Deputies of the respective Admiralties are at present in Town to finish the affairs of the Equipage. Here are arrived Deputies from the States of *Zealand*, who have had several Conferences with the States of *Holland*, concerning the method to be used in the choosing a President of the High Court, and to morrow the Election is to be made.

*Paris, Febr. 26.* We are told that the King has declared his resolution to march in person with his Army into *Flanders*, which is to be commanded under him and the Duke of *Orleans*, by the *Mareschals de Crequi*, *d'Humieres*, *de la Feuillade*, *de Selva*, *de Lorge*, the Lieutenant Generals being *du Lude*, *de Magalotti*, and *de Rofnel*. That the Army in *Germany* shall be commanded by the Duke of *Luxemburg*, *le Sient Gilbert*, *Maximilien*, the *Marquis Chouffey*, and the Count de *Ry* being his Lieutenant Generals; besides a flying Army to be commanded between the *Meuse* and the *Moselle* by the *Mareschal de Rochemore*. The Army in *Rouffillon* is to be commanded by the *Mareschal de Noailles*, and under him by the Lieutenant General *le Bui*. Our Letters from *Italy* give us the confirmation of the Lieutenant Admiral de *Ruyters* being on his return home, to the great disappointment of the Spaniards.

#### Advertisements.

☞ *Aureng-Zebe*: A Tragedy. Acted at the Royal Theatre. Written by *John Dryden*, Servant to His Majesty.

☞ *The Libertine*: A Tragedy. Acted by His Royal Highnesses Servants. Written by *Tho. Shadwell*. Both Sold by *H. Herringman*, at the Auc. or in the Lower Walk of the New Exchange.

W Hereas Notice hath been formerly given, That several persons in many Parts of *England*, do Erect and Set up several Lotteries, without the least pretence of Authority, to the very great damage and utter ruin of several truly Loyal Indigent Officers, to whom His Majesty hath granted all Lotteries whatsoever for 13 years to come, with Prohibition to all others; and whereas they are informed (notwithstanding the said Notice) that among others, *Thomas Turner*, *John Smith*, one *Spingis*, *Richard Catwick*, *Thomas Taylor*, *John Elmore*, *Andrew Swinfern*, *John Astton*, *Josias Bringhurst*, *Thomas Robinson*, *Robert Austen*, run up and down, and infect the Countries, therefore it is again desired, That all Mayors, Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, and other His Majesties Officers and Subjects, would be effectual in the Suppression of the persons aforesaid, or such others as shall Erect or Set up any Lottery or Lotteries, not Licensed under the Hands and Seals of the said Indigent Officers, or Seal of their Office.

Taken out of *Ripon Church* on Monday night, Febr. 14.

One Silver Bowle, with the Holy Lamb engraven thereon. One plain double gilt Bowle. One other silver Bowle with a Cover, and engraven thereon (*Domine, &c.*)

*H. H.* One other silver Bowle engraven on the one side, (*Fine Malloy, and a Lyon Rampant*) One other silver Bowle with a Cover, and engraven thereon (*Anna Louisa*) and other words in *Latine*. One silver Plate engraven (*The Widows Mite, which she sent of her Penny given into the Lords Treasury.*) Two Pewter Plates engraven *A. C.* Two great Pewter Flagons with Covers, old fashion. Two other Pewter Flagons like, old fashion. A Communion Table Cloth of fine Linnen, with Letters therein, (*The Lord which gave &c.*) Two Iron Candlesticks. Whoever gives notice of these things to Mr. *Joger Williams* Woollen-draper in *Fleet-street*, shall be well Rewarded.



# The London Gazette.

published by Authority.

From Thursday February 10. to Monday February 14. 1875.

**T**HE Circuits, appointed for the Winter Assizes, are as followeth.

## Western Circuit.

Lord Chief Justice North.  
Mr. Justice Rainsford.

Southampton, Wednesday, Febr. 23. at the Castle of Winton.  
Wilts, Saturday, Febr. 26. at New Sarum.  
Dorset, Thursday, March 2. at Dorchester.  
Cornwall, Tuesday, March 7. at Launceston.  
Devon, Friday, March 10. at the Castle of Exeter, in the County of Devon.  
City of Exeter, Saturday, March 11. at the Guildhall of the said City.  
Somerset, Friday, March 17. at the Castle of Taunton.

## Norfolk Circuit.

Lord Chief Baron Turner.  
Mr. Justice Ellis.

Bucks, Monday, Febr. 28. at Aylesbury.  
Bedford, Thursday, March 2. at the Town of Bedford.  
Huntingdon, Saturday, March 4. at the Town of Hunt.  
Cambridge, Monday, March 6. at the Castle of Camb.  
Norfolk, Wednesday, March 8. at Thetford.  
Suffolk, Monday, March 13. at the Town of St. Edmundsbury.

## Oxford Circuit.

Mr. Justice Widd.  
Mr. Justice Atkins.

Berks, Tuesday, Febr. 22. at Reading.  
Oxon, Friday, Febr. 25. at Oxon.  
Gloucester, Tuesday, Febr. 29. at Gloucester.  
City of Gloucester, the same day at the City of Gloucester.  
Monmouth, Saturday, March 4. at Monmouth.  
Hereford, Tuesday, March 7. at Hereford.  
Salop, Saturday, March 11. at the Town of Shrewsbury.  
Stafford, Thursday, March 15. at Stafford.  
Worcester, Monday, March 20. at Worcester.  
City of Worcester, the same day at the City of Worcester.

## Home Circuit.

Mr. Justice Twiss.  
Mr. Sergeant Pemberton.

Essex, Monday, Febr. 28. at Chelmsford.  
Hertford, Friday, March 3. at the Town of Hertford.  
Surrey, Monday, March 6. at Southwark.  
Sussex, Thursday, March 9. at Epsom.  
Kent, Tuesday, March 14. at Maidstone.

## Northern Circuit.

Mr. Baron Littleton.  
Mr. Baron Brett.

City of York, Monday, March 6. at the Guildhall of the said City.  
County of York, the same day at the Castle of York.  
Leicester, Saturday, March 8. at the Castle of Leicester.

## Midland Circuit.

Mr. Justice Widd.  
Mr. Baron Thurland.

Warwick, Monday, Febr. 28. at Warwick.

City of Coventry, Wednesday, March 1. at the City of Coventry.  
Leicest. Thursday, March 2. at the Castle of Leicester.  
Burrough of Leicest. the same day at the said Burrough.  
Derby, Monday, March 6. at Derby.  
Nottingham, Thursday, March 9. at Nottingham.  
Town of Nottingham, the same day at the Town of Nottingham.  
Lincoln, Monday, March 13. at the Castle of Lincoln.  
City of Lincoln, the same day at the said City.  
Rutland, Friday, March 17. at Okeham.  
Northampton, Monday, March 20. at Northampton.

*Vienna, Febr. 2.* The last week Major General Dunnealds parted hence, to return to the Army in Germany, carrying positive orders with him to the several Officers, to have their Troops complete against the latter end of this Month. It is said that Count Montecuculi, who continues at present indisposed, is to command the Imperial Army again in his next Campaign, and that he has directions from the Emperor to set out from hence on his way to Esslingen on the 20 instant. The Empress is still in the same state of indisposition, and it is said at Court that her Majesty is with Child. Our Letters from Poland give an account, as if the generality of the Nobility of that Kingdom opposed the Coronation of the Queen, and that for that reason, the day appointed for the Coronation of her Majesties, had been put off till the 22 instant.

*Ratisbonne, Febr. 4.* Great endeavors are used in the Dyet to compose the differences between the Elector Palatine and the Elector of Mayence, about the Baillage of Boeckelheim. It is said, that the Emperor has communicated to the said Dyet a Letter he hath received from His Majesty of Great Britain, for the adjusting the preliminaries of the Treaty, and his Imperial Majesties answer to the same. General Montecuculi we hear is expected at Esslingen again towards the latter end of this Month, in order to the hastening the Imperial Army into the Field, which we are told will consist in 40000 Men, besides a flying body of 15 or 16000, composed of the Troops of the Confederates, which will likewise act against the French in Germany, while the Danes, Brandenburgs, and Lunenburgs make head against the Swedes. All this seems but necessary, for the preparations on the side of the French are very extraordinary, and it seems as if both parties were resolved to try their utmost this next Campaign.

*Frankfort, Febr. 8.* The difficulties that have been found since the beginning of this War, to get the Troops of the Circles in a Body, so as to be able to exploit any thing with them, has produced as we are told, a resolution, that in stead of sending the said Troops, the several Circles shall for the future furnish in Money, the expenses they would amount to, with which new Troops shall be raised to serve under the Emperors Colours. The Magistrates of Strasburgh are not a little alarmed at the great preparations they see made on all sides of them for War; they have already re-

inforced



inforced the Garison in the Fort of *Kiel*, which guards their Bridge, with 400 Men. It is said that the Neutrality or Cession of Arms which was agreed between the Elector Palatine and the Garison of *Philipsburg* is going to expire. The French keep a good Garison in the City of *Deux Ponts*, and it's said they have likewise put Garisons into *Amneiler* and *Berg-Zaberne*. The Imperialists on the other side will endeavor to remove them from thence.

**Hamburg, Febr. 11.** The Inhabitants of *Altona* belonging to the Danes, about half a Mile from this City, have been greatly alarmed by the Suedes, who came in several small Vessels from *Stade*, they landed at *Nienmullen* near the said place, and after some hours re-embarked again, and returned to *Stade*, without having done any considerable execution. From *Berlin* of the 7th instant they write, that some *Brandenburgh* Troops had taken by storm the Town and Castle of *Hekermunde*, where were 80 Suedes, who were all cut off, or taken Prisoners. We have Letters from *Stockholm* of the 29th past, which say, That General *Wrangel* was returning into *Sueden*, in order to a retirement; that in his absence the Count *Goringmark* was appointed to command in chief the Suedish Forces in *Pomeran* till Spring, when the Velt-Marschal *Helmfeldt* was to pass with a supply of fresh Troops into *Pomeran*, and command the Army the next Campaign. It is confirmed that the *Brandenburghs* have retaken the Island of *Hesdome*, in which were posted 200 Suedes; and that the Velt-Marschal *Dorfling* is on his march likewise, to attempt something considerable. The Deputies of the Allies are repairing to *Bremen*, where they are to meet, in order to the agreeing into whose hands *Carlsburg* is to be put; the Imperial Minister the Baron *de Landsee* is already arrived there.

**Brussels, Febr. 14.** The last Letters we received from *Naples*, are dated the 21st past, they had not then any certain account what had passed after the Fight, or whether the French succors were got into *Messina* or not, we hear believe the latter, and are in expectation of another Engagement between the two Fleets. As to the Fight on the 8th past, it appears that the loss was almost equal on both sides, the French having lost one Man of War (some say two) and spent two Fireships without any execution; and the Dutch having likewise lost one Man of War, and sustained other considerable damage. Our Governor General the Duke *de Villa Hermosa* is still at *Antwerp*, but expected back here in three or four dayes. Here are several Officers in Town to seek service, though it's thought they will not obtain any, for now there is no more talk of making any Recruits or new Levies. From *Liege* they write, that the Dutch have quitted the Castle of *Heer*, after having demolished it, and conveyed the Corn that was there to *Hasselt*.

**Hague, Febr. 14.** Yesterday the States General received a Letter from Lieutenant Admiral *de Ruyter*, dated the 9th past on the Coast of *Sicily*, in which he gives an account of his having been engaged with the French Fleet the day before; that the Fight had been very sharp; that the French had lost one Man of War, which was sunk, and two Fireships, which were burnt by themselves; that on our side, the ship called the *Esper* had been very much shattered, so far, that she was sent out of the Fleet to get into some Port. And from his other Letters, we understand that the said Man of War sunk in her way thither, the men having been all saved by the Gallies that towed her. But as to the main point, viz. whether the French succors are got into *Messina*, or not, neither the said Letter of the Heer *de Ruyter*, nor our other Letters from *Naples*, and other places, make any mention, so that we here persuade our

selves, they are not got in, which will be a great disappointment to the City of *Messina*, that it will be forced to submit for want of Provisions; but we are informed from good hands, that the Inhabitants there had only wherewithall to subsist till the end of the last month. In the absence of the Prince of *Orange*, who is expected at *Soestdike*, here passes very little of business.

**Paris, Febr. 15.** Our Letters from *Paris*, Febr. 15. do now inform us of the Battle that was fought on the 21st, between our Fleet, consisting in 22 Men of War, under the command of the Sieur *de Quise*, and the Lieutenant-Admiral *de Ruyter*; That the Fight had been many, and with great fury, that several ships had sustained great damage in their Masts, Tackle, &c. on both sides; That the French had had one Man of War sunk, as she was towing another; That on our side no ship had been lost, but only two Fireships; as to the great matter of the capturing of *Messina*, these Letters add, that the Sieur *de Quise* had been seen in it, having the morning of the Fight sent among the vessels that were with him, laden with provisions for that City, who had taken away about, unperceived by the Dutch, and were safely arrived at *Messina*, to the great joy of those people, who were in great want of this supply. That upon advice thereof, Lieutenant-Admiral *de Ruyter* declared, that since the succors were got in, there remained nothing more for him to do, had taken his leave of the Spaniards, and was sailed with the ships under his command, to the Westward. This is the account the last advices from *Paris* gave us, of which we must expect a confirmation. It is now said again, that the Prince of *Cerde* is to command the Kings Army in *Italy*, and that the Marquis *de Lezay* was the other day with his Highness to signify the same to him, in the name of the King; That the Duke of *Orleans* will be Generalissimo of the Army in *Flanders*, and under him the Marschal *de Saxe*, who is now on his way hither, from the frontiers of *Quadrin*, according to our last advices from *Paris*, having put the command of the Kings Forces in those parts into the hands of the Duke *de Navailles*. The Kings Mulquees have orders to supply themselves with *Tunis*, so that it's supposed they will now very suddenly begin to march. It is the general belief that the King will take his journey, which hath been so much spoken of, towards *Germany*, and some are rather of opinion, that his Majesty will have his Court sometime at *Metz* in *Lorraine*.

#### Advertisements.

✧ A Collections of Articles, *Impositions*, *Canons*, &c. with other select Records of the Church of England, with a Preface, by the Right Reverend Father in God Anthony, Lord Bishop of *Exeter*, published to vindicate the Church, and to promote Uniformity and Peace in the same. Sold by Robert Pawlet at the Sign of the *Three Kings*.

✧ The Law of Charitable Uses Revised, and much enlarged, with many Cases in Law, both Ancient and Modern, with the Learned Reading of Sir *John May* Kt. Sergeant at Law, &c. Necessary for all Bishops, Cathedral, Colleges, and all Parishes in England, for Receivers, and selling of all Charitable Donations. By George Dyer of the Inner Temple Esq.

✧ The Office and Duty of Executors: To which is added an Appendix, wherein are the Names of Testaments, Executors, Legacies, &c. &c. Book sold by H. Tinsford in *St. Pauls Church-yard*.

WHERAS on the 31st instant, a Quarto Book in fair Manuscript, and with 153 large seal-blanks, inclosed, Titled, I. &c. bound up in New Turkey Leather, and Gilded; which Book was to be presented by a Petition of Honour to His Majesty, in order to Printing, was lost out of Dr. Whistlers Parlor in *St. Dunstons*; and 'tis presumed that the same is designed to be put to the very great injury of the Author. If any person shall bring or discover the same to the said Doctor, shall have a very good reward.

JOBH COX, aged about 17 years. Run away from his Master Lieut. O. *Robert Taylor* Esq. being Absent yesterday about Two of the clock in the morning is supposed to have taken with him 28 Guineys, 22 s. piece, and two Pocketers, in a Purse: He is fair haired, well complexioned, having a hurt on one of his hands, not quite cured. His clothes were blew Breckles and Doublet, with long sleeves, a yellow Liver, Laced thick, and lined with Red. Whoever gives notice of him to Mr. *Charles* in the *St. Dunstons*, near door to the East, shall be well rewarded.

These are to give notice, That on Wednesday in Easter Week, being the 29 of March next, will be a Horse Race at *Winchester* for a piece of Plate of 22 l. value, now provided for that purpose.