

# Historical Chronicle, August 1745.



HE early and successive accounts of an invasion this month from several parts, being, tho' various, not so inconsistent or improbable in our present circumstances, as has been represented by some who affected to deride and even despise any such attempt, we shall endeavour to give a regular detail of them, that posterity may judge what attention they deserved.

THURSDAY, August 1.

The following article dated from Paris, July 19, O. S. appeared in our news papers

The Pretender's eldest son, put to sea July 14 from Belleisle (others Nantz) in an armed ship of 60 guns called the *Elizabeth*, provided with a large quantity of warlike stores, together with a frigate of 30 guns (others 18,) in order to land in *Scotland*, where he would find 20,000 Men and 40 transport-ships, &c. at his disposal, to make good his pretensions to the crown of *Great Britain*; he was to be joined by 5 ships of the line from *Brest*, and 4500 Spaniards which were embarking at *Ferrol*. [*Gen. Ev. Post, Aug. 1, &c.*]

SATURDAY 3.

From the Hague, July 30.

Several foreign ministers have an account, that a principal officer of the *French* navy had been several months raising, on pretence for the *India* service, 100 men. They were called *Grassins de Mer*, were clothed in blue faced with red, and embarked at port *Lazare* in *Britany*, on July 14, on board a frigate of 18 guns, in which was the pretender's eldest son, who came incog from *Normandy*, and about 50 *Scotch* and *Irish*. The frigate was joined off *Belleisle* by the *Elizabeth* of 66 guns. They intended to go round *Ireland* and land in *Scotland*, but were met on the 20th by some *English* merchant ships convey'd by 3 ships of war, one of which, the *Lion*, bore down on the *Elizabeth*, and attacked her. (See p. 352.) Upon which the pretender sailed away in the frigate. The fight lasted 9 hours, but night coming on the *Elizabeth* quite disabled got away to *Brest*, the capt. and 64 men killed, 136 dangerously wounded, and a greater number slightly. She had on board 400,000 *l.* sterling, and arms for several thousand men. The *French* court pretend to know nothing more of the affair than that this person had sent a letter to complain of being neglected by them, but adding, that, he would hazard his life in trying his father's faithful subjects rather than return to *Rome*, as he left it. [*Daily Adv. Aug. 3.*]—An article from Paris says, that July 14, the chevalier his father acquainted the Pope of the design, who with great pleasure wished him success; and that his landing in *Scotland* was looked on as certain in the *French* army, the king having declared it, but that all the assistance given him was by an *Irish* merchant named *Welch*.

TUESDAY 6—17.

Mr *Trevor* presented a memorial to the States General, declaring ' That notwithstanding all the machinations which the enemies of his *Britannic* majesty form against his kingdoms, he will on every occasion shew the zeal with which he is actuated for the interest of his allies: That to this end he will not scruple to leave his own dominions bare of troops and ships, to employ them for the preservation of so important a place as the town and port of *Ostend*; and  $\frac{1}{2}$  he has a firm confidence,  $\frac{1}{2}$  if the new enterprise of the young chevalier *de St George* should have any consequence, his faithful allies would not fail of speedily furnishing him with the succours stipulated by treaties.' (See p. 433.) The *British* ministers at the courts of *Vienna*, *Dresden* and *Petersbourg* are to make the like declarations.

A proclamation (which see p. 419.) was issu'd, ordering a reward of 30,000 *l.* for apprehending the eldest son of the pretender, and the like in *Ireland*.

Several of his majesty's ships being in immediate want of seamen for present service, an order was issued from the admiralty office for taking every sixth seaman from the crew of all ships having protections, those under 18 and above 55 excepted, with a promise of discharge, if desired, after *Nov. 30th* next, and a ticket to be then made out for the immediate payment of their wages.

THURSDAY 8.

At a court of admiralty, the *Phoenix*, an *English* ship, taken by a *French* privateer, but afterwards separated, and drove by stress of weather on the island of *Scilly*, was condemn'd as perquisites of admiralty; but on a claim by the owners, she was order'd to be restored, on paying 300*l.*

SATURDAY 10.

Twenty four pieces of brass cannon, with *CAPE BRETON* engraved on them, were shipp'd at *Woolwich* for the use of that place, with gunners, &c.

SUNDAY 11.

Was committed to *Edinburgh* jail, by warrant of his majesty's adv. cate, *Alex. Fraser*, sometime servant to *John Drummond*, captain in the *French* service; also one *John Macleod* lately come from *Holland*, as guilty of treason.

TUESDAY 13.

Orders were issued from the war-office for all officers belonging to his majesty's land forces in *England* and *Scotland* to repair immediately to their respective posts.

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*The following article relating to an invasion was printed in the London Gaz.*

“Letters from *Edinburgh* of the 11th Inst. advise that a *French* vessel of 16 or 18 guns had appeared on the west coast of *Scotland*, which, after having cruised for some days off the islands of *Bara* and *Uist*, stood in for the coast of *Lochaber*, and had there landed between the islands of *Mull* and *Skie* several persons, one of whom, from the general report, and from several concurring circumstances, is, with the greatest reason, believed to be the pretender's son.”

Notice was given from the board of ordnance at the *Tower*, that whoever shall discover any arms concealed in any part of *Great Britain*, so as the same may be properly secured till his majesty's pleasure shall be known therein, shall have their names concealed, if required, and receive as a reward for the same after the rate of 25*l.* for every 100 arms.

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