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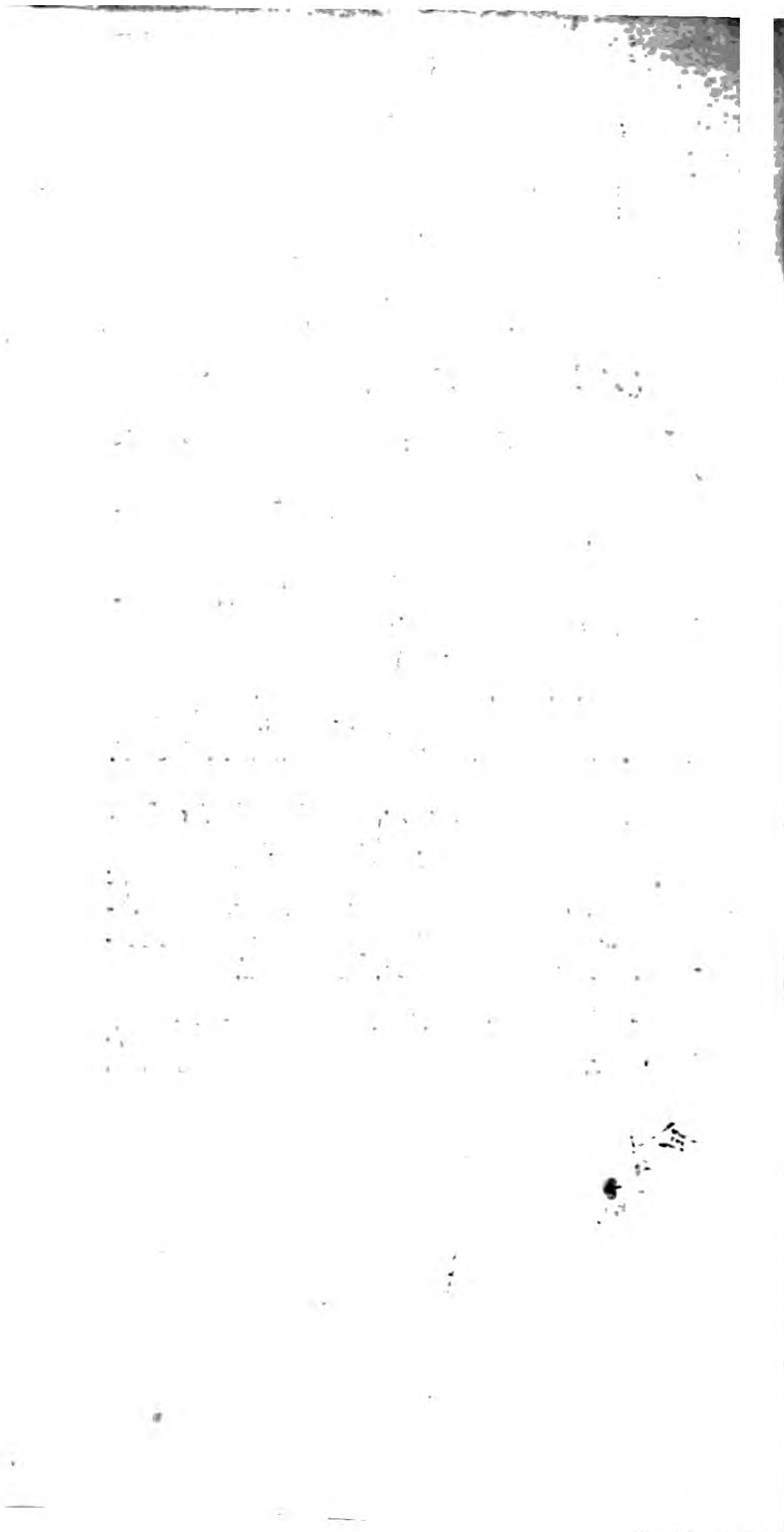
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T H E
C A S E
O F T H E
G E N O E S E

Impartially stated ;

Wherein the Conduct of that PEOPLE, the
AUSTRIANS and *PIEDMONTESE*,
during the late CONVULSIONS, is candidly
Examined.

To which is PREFIXED,

A LETTER from an EYE-WITNESS, giving
an exact Account of the INSURRECTION
at *GENOA*.

In a Letter to a MEMBER of PARLIAMENT.

Magna est veritas, & praevalabit.

L O N D O N :

Printed for L. GILLIVER, in *Oxford-Arms-Passage*,
Warwick-Lane.

(Price One Shilling.)

18 10 18 10





A
L E T T E R
F R O M
G E N O A.

Genoa, December $\frac{16}{5}$, 1746.

S I R,

I PERSUADE myself, that you look upon the Event which happen'd on the tenth of this Instant, in *Genoa*, to be one of the most remarkable this present War has produced. I who was an Eye-Witness of both its Commencement and Completion, should think myself wanting, in the Regard I owe to our long Friendship, should I neglect giving you a genuine Account of it; primarily shewing the Cause, which gave it Birth, and then proceeding to lay before you, the most important Incidents, of which it has been productive.

B

You

You cannot be ignorant of the Articles, of the sixth of *September*, which the Commander in Chief of the *Austrian* Army communicated to this most Serene Republic. Tho' she could not avoid submitting to whatever Laws a superior Power would impose; yet the common People were irritated in a Degree proportionable to the Idea they had of their being highly injurious and burthensome to the Government, to the whole Nation, and not less contrary to the ever sublime and generous Principles of the Empress Queen, with whom the Republic never was at War.

This general Resentment was greatly heightened, when, on the eighth of *September*, the Commissary-General Count *Chotek* demanded the memorable Contribution of *nine Millions* of Imperial Florins*, with the unexemplary Threats of Fire, Sword, and infallible Devastation. This Demand fill'd the People both with Rage and Terror, when they made the melancholly Reflection, that now at length, the Life, the Fortune, and the Liberty, of every individual, depended on Demands impossible in their Execution, and on the arbitrary Will of such, as shew'd themselves no way disposed to use the least Moderation.

The first *three Millions* of Florins, being paid, with a *hundred and fifty thousand* more,
for

* Worth 2s. 3d. Sterling.

for the Supply of the Army, within the Space of five Days, pressing Demands again, accompanied with Menaces, were renew'd on the Government, for *three more Millions* of like Money, which were also forced to be paid. It is impossible for you to imagine how the People inwardly raged, to see such prodigious Sums of ready Money, carried to the general Quarters of *Sainpierdarena*.

The natural Impossibility of raising these Sums elsewhere, and the Constraint of rescuing the City from the Horror of military Executions, compell'd this most serene Commonwealth to have Recourse to the last Remedy; the laying Hands on that sacred Depository, the Bank of *St. George*, where was lodged not only the Cash of the Subjects of this State, but that also of many other Nations. From this Instant all the Citizens, especially the Merchants, and their very Numerous Dependants, were struck with a Consternation beyond all Possibility of Belief, either from Numbers of Families being thus grievously plunder'd, or from the Terror and Astonishment, with which they were seized, to see this first Blemish on that Bank, esteem'd the principal Support, not only of particular Persons, but of the very State itself; or from the irreparable Ruin of Trade, which together with the said Bank, was on the Brink of being lost, and for want of ready
Money,

Money, was no longer in a Condition to be recover'd.

You will undoubtedly be surprized to hear, that over and above, these unprecedented Contributions, the Count *Chotock* required the farther Disbursement of a *Million two hundred and seventy thousand* Florins, in ready Money, on Account of the Winter-Quarters, not reckoning into this Sum, the Supplies which were to be furnished in Kind. But you will be more astonished, that the necessary Passports for the Departure of our Particians, elected by the Republic, to implore of the Court of *Vienna*, a reasonable Redress of so great Hardships, could never be obtained; and that by every Method, the Effect of that generous Clemency of her Majesty, the Empress Queen, of which she would certainly have made this Nation sensible, had she been informed of the least of their Misfortunes, was frustrated at the Court of *Vienna*.

Every Canal, by which we in *Genoa* might have had Intelligence that her Majesty, the Empress Queen, moved, not less by the Impulses of her most upright Inclinations, than by the good Offices of the Maritime Powers, especially by those of his Holiness, communicated to his Nuncio residing at her Court, would release to the Republic, a third Part of the impos'd Contribution; I say, every Canal, by which we might have had this Advice, was carefully stopp'd; and the
Mortification

Mortification of the People, was in an Extreme, when they learned that the Representations, by the General here, had entirely changed the whole Face of our Affairs.

In Fact, instead of the above gracious Relaxation, we on the contrary heard a Demand, on the 30th of *November*, of the positive Payment of the said third Part; moreover, the first Pretensions for the Winter-Quarters were exorbitantly augmented, and a *fourth Million of Genovins**, with other large Sums were prescribed, so that in a Word, after having disburs'd about *six millions* of Imperial Florins, this Capital was charged with the Payment of *six millions five hundred thousand* more, like Money, by Threats of the most rigorous, military Execution.

To these preposterous Demands, were added innumerable Grievances, one on the Neck of another, without the least Consideration for the common People, or even for the State. I shall not undertake to give you a minute Detail of these, but that you may conceive some Idea of them, it will suffice to inform you, that among many others, in the Places on the Sea-Coasts, they not only by Violence, and without paying, seized on all sorts of Vessels for the Transportation of their Troops, and Provisions; that in others, they compell'd the Communities to furnish the Soldiers with Subsistence, at a lower Price, than the Proprietors had bought them; that

* Worth 7s. Sterling.

that they also, where the Lands were barren, exacted of the respective Officers, considerable Sums of Money, under the Name of safeguards; that they compell'd the furnishing their Soldiers, in a very profuse and very expensive Manner, where the Lands were barren, and most scanty in their Production, notwithstanding which, they destroyed Lands, Houses and Goods; nay the Inhabitants were not exempt from their Insults, *Bastinadoes*, and such like Insolences; that Workmen and Labourers were defrauded of their Wages due to them; that the Citizens were despised, treated with opprobrious Language, and Derision; the Shop-keepers compell'd to sell at an unreasonable under Price, and in fine, the People daily irritated, not only by the Insolence of their Words, but by the Violence of their Actions.

In the Interim, there was not left at *Genoa*, the least Remnant of Trade, the only support of the City; but on the contrary, the Want of every thing necessary for the support of Life, grew daily more sensible. Our Haven was become desolate, and the Vessels, which used to furnish us with Provisions, were detain'd by the Generals, and Providers of the Army, on either the pretence of furnishing the Forces, or sending them to *Provence*. The Navigation was totally obstructed, without General *Botta's* Passports, which was as impracticable for the Vessels to obtain,

obtain, that came from distant Ports, as it was ruinous to all manner of free Trade. Even within the very Harbour, Vessels bound hither, were allowed to be arrested, an Example without Precedent, and extremely hurtful, both to the Proprietors, and to all Subjects of this State, who by the Procedure were deprived of the Means to earn their daily Bread ; some *German* Officers arrogated to themselves, the Liberty of entering with an armed Force, and on Horse-back, into *Porto-Franco* itself, to take a View of it ; a Procedure which afforded the Worst of Omens to the Traders, who from that Time, justly apprehended, that the Merchandise, whether of the *Genoeses* or Foreigners, were as little secure in this Asylum of *Porto-Franco*, as their Money in that of the Bank of *St. George*. The paternal Foresight of the Government was not sufficient to repair such capital Prejudices ; but notwithstanding the Diminution of the public Treasure was putting a stop to the Imposition of new Burthens, it endeavour'd to heighten those which were usual. In the Interim, the Damages done by the *Austrian* Forces were beyond all Reparation ; his *Sardinian* Majesty advancing in the *Riviera di Ponente*, and the Siege of *Savona* made the Traders, and the Citizens of greatest Note, apprehend the most lamentable Consequences. They never before experienced the Situation of the most serene Republic,

public, restrain'd from committing Hostilities on the *Piedmontese* Forces, while they with Impunity seiz'd into their Hands, its Dominion and Places of the greatest Importance, was the common Topic in the Bitterness of our Souls.

To these unfeign'd Scenes of general Desolation, was added the cruel Expectation of a severe, military Execution, which from the absolute Impossibility of complying with the abovementioned immense Demands; from the repeated Intimation and Threats of Count *Chotek*, and the undoubted Advices received on all Hands, could not but be esteem'd as inevitable. In the Interim it was taken notice of, that the General Commander, the Marquis of *Botta*, very narrowly viewed the principal Posts and Places of *Genoa*; that his Troops had taken Possession of the Bastion of *St. Benigno*, which commands this Capital, and the other Posts of the Wall; and it was afterwards observed that the five Mortars on the said Bastion were levell'd against the City, two of them against the Ducal Palace: and lastly, that it was known to be generally said in the Army, that the City wou'd in a very short Space be made a Picture of Hell; that it ought to be drain'd to the last Penny, and that the *Genoese* ought to have nothing left them, but Eyes to weep their Calamities.

Every dispassionate Person will doubtless admit, that by such Circumstances, all Ranks
of

Labour with a cudgelling. A greater Number of People running into the Fray, with Stones, drove off the Soldiers who escorted the Mortar, which they were at last obliged to abandon.

The People being in a Commotion, occasioned by the recent Injury, and much more by the inward working of a general Despair, began to have recourse to such Counsels as that suggested.

A great Multitude of the People flock'd together about the Ducal Pallace, and with great Clamour, and even till the Night was far advanced, demanded Arms, which the Government resolutely deny'd them; and rather made use of the most efficacious Methods to allay these first beginnings of the Tumult, engaging also the Assistance of the Patricians, who were in the highest Esteem, and endeavoured by every means to appease the Multitude, and to drive them from the Palace, some Fusils were discharged upon them by the Guards.

These and many other pacific Measures might, notwithstanding, have possibly succeeded, if the contrary Devices of the Commander General had not rendered them fruitless: the Government that same Night, of the 5th, gave him Advice by a Patrician, of what had happen'd; endeavouring to engage him in such Sentiments of Moderation, as were but too necessary. On the sixth, they again
made

made the General the same Remonstrances, by two of the Ordinary Deputies of the Republic, to prevail on him to innovate nothing and to suspend the Transportation of the Artillery, that by so doing, the People would have no new Matter for their Emotion, and the City would begin to be pacified, but he did not think proper to condescend to this.

He having therefore dispatched on the said sixth Day, a Detachment of his Grenadiers, to prosecute the aforesaid Transportation; these were again repulsed, and the universal Resentment still encreasing, some of the Common People proposed the making an Attempt on the Principal Gate of the City, called *St. Thomas*; on the other Hand, the *Austrians* proceeded to sieze some very important Posts in the Heart of it, in the Street called *Acqua verde*, in the Quarters of *Pre*.

In the mean time, the Commotions of the People visibly gathered Strength; after they had on the 7th, rais'd some Barricades on the side of the said Street, they often return'd from thence to require Arms with great Clamour, but the Government persisting as resolutely as before, to refuse them, was obliged to augment the Guards of the Palace, with more than ordinary Numbers, and to place a numerous Picquet upon the Armory: in the Interim many of the People brought the tallest Ladders from the Churches and other Places, and planted them, to enter by the Windows; and this Effort proving Fruitless, they fell
C 2
upon

upon such private Houses and Shops, as they imagin'd could furnish them with Arms and Ammunition ; they broke open the Magazine of Powder, and disarm'd some Posts of regular Troops in the City, and having seized on some Batteries, they in an Instant transported some Pieces of Cannon to the said Street, and a fire was begun, and continued on either Side, for several Hours.

While Affairs were in this Situation, the aforesaid Deputies to the General Commander, renewed again, even in Writing their Representations, to induce him to such prudent Condescensions, as became every Moment more and more indispensable, that his Concurrence might render effectual, the Pains taken by the Government, to quiet the Minds of the People ; but he not thinking fit to give any categorical and authentic Answer, the Means which were then so opportune, to obtain the wish'd-for Ends, were entirely lost.

The People who thought themselves, in Danger, not only of the rigorous, military Execution, intimated, but also of the Repentment with which they were threatened, for what had followed, they took upon them to demand, as absolutely necessary for their Security, the Gates of the City be put into their Hands, and that a Stop should be put to the Transportation of the Artillery. On the other Hand, the General not only resolutely refused

refused to give ear to Requests of such a Nature, but to propose any equivalent Security, or to declare in Writing how far he designed to push his Resolutions.

On the 8th however, in the Morning a sort of Armistice was begun, the Government took Advantage of it, to redouble their Instances, that they might settle Matters so, that a Calm might ensue; to this end, Prince *Doria*, and others, who knew how to work on the Minds of the People, and not less proper to treat with the General, gave themselves no small Fatigue; but the latter obstinately refusing to give the People the required Security, and constantly returning inconclusive and ambiguous Answers, without any thing under his Hand, every other Method proved unavailable, and all Propositions fruitless.

Things were in this Situation till the 10th, and the People whose Strength was greatly increased, listening to no other Advice, but that which their own Security suggested, not only renewed the Search for Arms, and Ammunition in private Houses, but they forced the public Depositary, and by main Strength, possessed themselves of the best Batteries, and of such Gates of the City, as were kept by the Troops of the Republic. They afterwards enter'd the Churches, and obliged all the Alarm-Bells to be rung, they enjoin'd every Individual to appear arm'd, at a Day prefixed

prefixed, on Pain of Death, and obliged the Priests, and all who were in the City to take Arms ; in a Word, nothing was seen on any Hand, but an irresistible Rage, and an unchangeable Resolution, to die or conquer.

The before mentioned Armistice continued for some Hours, even on the 10th ; and if Marquis *Botta* could have been, at length, induced to listen to the aforesaid Demands, made by the People, the Torrent might yet have been stopp'd, but he seeking only to draw the Treaty out to length, and continuing his System, to come to no Conclusion, he drove the Minds of the Populace to such a Degree of Despair, as makes their Power but too formidable when united, and deprived of all Resource.

The *Austrians* very inopportunately began to fire from some Pieces of Cannon ; which enflamed the Resolution and Courage of the collected Body of the People to a Degree, which I want Words to describe to you. They attack'd about 10 in the Morning, the said important Posts, in which a Body of *Germans* had fortified themselves, in the Heart of the City ; they subdued them after some Resistance, and took Prisoners the Detachment, which guarded these Posts, in which they left two Field Pieces. They afterwards advanced to the before mentioned Gates of *St. Thomas*, of which they instantly became Masters ; from hence in an incredible Number, they entered the contiguous Square
Del

Del Principe Doria, in which, and in the Neighbouring great Streets, was posted a great and numerous Body of *Austrians*, computed to be about two Thousand five Hundred Men; these however not being able to resist the Detachments of the Populace and Peasants, which came down from the Eminencies that commanded the said Square, nor the numerous Croud which poured forth from the City, were obliged to take to flight, and pursued with yet a greater Resolution. They were also compell'd to abandon the second Gate of the *Lanterna*, which was about Evening; after that, another Picquet of Citizens and Peasants had seized the Fort and Bastions of *St. Benigno*.

The People having thus recovered the Gates, and accomplished their Views of Self-Preservation, never thought of pursuing the *Austrians*, a piece of good Fortune for them, since in the Night of the 10th, they had sufficient time to carry off the Military Chest, and draw off the Remainder of their Body, which abandoning the Magazines, and several Sorts of Baggage, continued their March with great Expedition, and having repassed the *Bochetta*, drew together between the Forts of *Gavi* and the City of *Novi*, where their general Quarter was established.

The same Desire of Liberty, the same Provocation, and the same Apprehensions
having

having also possessed others, who dwelt near the City, and who had received excessive Damage from the Insolence of the Forces, and being moreover exposed to the Dangers of the same Fate, which the Transactions in the City might draw on its Inhabitants, were under a necessity also, to secure the respective Detachments that were found in their Districts.

The loss among the People was inconsiderable, there are not reckoned above 50 killed and wounded, in all the Attacks; the *Austrian* Troops have suffered much more their Prisoners are upwards of 4000, but all possible Regard has been, and is shewn by the People, to both these and the Sick, by the warm Interposition of the Government.

Having predetermin'd not to enter into Particularities, which would make one too diffusive in this Narrarive, I shall suppress Circumstances of less Note, which relate to it, as I shall also the Plunder of the Magazines, to which, ran even Women and Children, and the Reprisals on such as had any Relation to the Army, as also of the Fate of the House of one of the Patricians, who in the Suburb of *Albaro*, had been very active to save a Detachment of *Germans*, given up to be pillaged; or other like Occurrences, which in a general Commotion of so great a Body of People, were absolutely unavoidable.

I shall but observe, that not only the *Austrian* Officers taken Prisoners, but the greater Part of those who were lately here, highly disapproved the Conduct both of the General, and of Count *Cbotek*, whom they openly charge with the principal Motives of the consequential Revolution.

It is not possible for me to express what an Impression was then made on me, and still makes, the having seen, that at the time Despair put Arms into the Hands of the People, they however having closely copied after the unalterable Maxims of the Government, never fail'd, and still continue in the Expressions of the highest Veneration towards her Majesty the Empress Queen ; full of the most respectful Confidence in her magnanimous Uprightness, and never ceasing to hope, that when she shall be truly inform'd of the Motives to which this Event, which extreme Necessity produced, ought to be attributed, she will deign to admit it a great Unhappiness to a Nation, to be reduced to the Necessity of setting every thing at stake, for the Preservation of that which Men esteem the greatest Blessing the World affords.

Lastly, as the Obedience and Fidelity of this People to our Government, has been ever in a supreme Degree, so they, the Government, solemnly protest, that their Zeal and Duty shall never be less for their Preservation ; which is the principal Object of their Wishes, and their common Care : that they are ready in every Opportunity, to give incontestable Proofs of this, and to spill their Blood, both for the Security and Advantage of the Republick, and the Defence of their Country and Freedom.

Such are the Sentiments of my Fellow-Citizens, and such the Facts with which I have undertaken to acquaint you : you will judge of them with that Candour they merit, and if all the World ought,

as it seems, to be interested in Favour of a Country which, in the midst of its Calamities has shewn itself worthy of a better Fortune, your Nation in particular, will be obliged to procure it for them, upon every Account; which their Wisdom will undoubtedly represent to them. But above all, we are to hope it from divine Providence, who has under its immediate Protection the State of the Oppressed.

I have the Honour to be very sincerely, &c.

T H E
C A S E of the *GENOESE*
Impartially Stated, &c.

S I R,

AS a Friend to general Liberty, and a steady Asserter of that of your Country, I chuse to lay before you such Thoughts as occur to me concerning the late, I may say, present Convulsions of *Genoa*. As the Ruin of that ancient Republick seems to be resolv'd by the prevailing Powers, it becomes the Honour, the Dignity and Generosity of *Englishmen* to enquire into the Origin of these Disputes, to see where the Fault lies, and whose Conduct is best supported by Justice. In this View I have been at the pains of collecting all such Intelligence as could give Light into the Affair; and such Aids as I have been able to obtain, I communicate to you, without Reserve.

I declare to be the Partizan of neither Party, tho' I own myself a Friend to Liberty, and the Foe of
Op-

Oppression. I state the Case as it appears to me, and if I should be thought to lean to the Republic, in any Part of my Narrative, let it be remembered, that having taken Truth for my Guide, I am obliged to follow her wherever she leads me. Let her therefore be answerable for any Partiality, that may be observ'd in the following Sheets.

The Letter I prefix to this, which I do my self the honour to address to you, comes from an impartial, unsuspected Hand, an Eye-Witness of what pass'd in *December* last, between the *Austrians* and *Genoese*, in the Capitol of the Republic. It sets the first Convulsion in the clearest Light; and I am sorry to say it, in a Light not very favourable to those who threaten the Destruction of *Genoa*, for a Conduct which its Inhabitants seem to have been forced into.

All *Europe* is sensible, that the *Genoese* had not wantonly or spontaneously entered into the Confederacy of the three Crowns. They became their Auxiliaries out of mere Necessity; and sorry I am, that we occasionally had involved them in that fatal Necessity, by stipulating, by the tenth Article of the Treaty of *Worms*, that the King of *Sardinia* should be put in possession of the Marquisate of *Final*; a Possession they had purchased of the rightful Owner, for no less a Sum than 300,000 *l.* Sterling. And if it be considered, that we had ourselves guarantied their Purchase to them, we have the less Reason to wonder, that they had taken the only Step that could secure them against the Operation of the Treaty of *Worms*.

But of all the Parties to that Treaty, the *Genoese* had least Reason to dread, that the Empress Queen would take offence at their seeking that only Refuge which they had in their Option; because the Court of *Vienna* had all along loudly and justly complained of the Force put upon the Empress

to yield a Right, which she was sensible she had not, nor could have, after the Sale so solemnly past, for a valuable Consideration, by her august Father, the late Emperor, *Charles VI.*

Yet absolutely necessary, as it became for the *Genoese* to shelter themselves under the Wings of the only Powers able to protect them from impending Ruin, they were far from becoming Principals in the War; they became Auxiliaries only; which, as a free and independant Nation, they might; without incurring, on the foot of public Justice, the Displeasure of the Contractors of the Treaty of *Worms*. But so it happens, that Conquest and Power seldom consult either Equity, or Reason.

The *French* and *Spaniards*, after the Battles of *Placentia* and *Tidone*, endeavoured to retire to the State of *Genoa*, where they might easily have withstood the Forces of the Empress Queen and *Sardinia*; but disagreeing among themselves, as they had done the preceeding Winter, they took the unexpected Resolution of abandoning the *Genoese* to the Mercy of those who have since shewn what Species of Mercy is to be expected from *Austrian* and *Piedmontese* Commanders, when vested with discretionary Power. Had the *French* and *Spaniards* acted with that Concord that might be expected, 'tis scarce a Doubt that the King of *Sardinia* would have been brought as low, the last Winter, as any of his Ancestors ever were: Which should be a Lesson to Princes to act in their Prosperity with Moderation.

What had the *Genoese* to do when they were thus abandoned? what Party had they to take, when the Pass of the *Bochetta*, a narrow Passage through a Mountain five Leagues distant from *Genoa*, was in the Hands of the *Austrians*, but to subscribe implicitly to whatever their new Master should think fit to prescribe. The *Genoese* came the more willingly to this Resolution, that they hoped the
Empress

Empress Queen, whose august House they had always revered and respected, would mitigate those hard and severe Conditions her Generals had imposed upon them. And they had the greater Reason to hope for this Justice at her Hands, that they had not committed the least Hostility after the Retreat of the *French* and *Spanish* Troops.

By the Capitulation of the 6th of *September* last, to which the Republic was forced to subscribe, it was stipulated, That the Garrison of *Genoa* should be Prisoners of War; that all the Artillery, Arms, Provision of War and Ammunition should be consigned to the Commander of the *Austrian* Artillery; that the Republic should commit no Hostility against the Empress Queen, nor any of her Allies; that the *English* Ships should have free Access to the Ports of the Republic; that the Town and Castle of *Gavi* should be put into the Hands of the *Austrians*; that the Garrisons of the same should be Prisoners of War; that, on Notice previously given, the *Austrian* Troops should be permitted to pass thro' the Dominions of the Republic; that the *Doge* and six of the principal Senators, within the space of one Month, should repair to *Vienna*, to ask pardon (for endeavouring to secure their Freedom by lawful Means) and to implore the Imperial, Royal Clemency; That the Republic should immediately pay the Sum of 50,000 *Genovines*; and that this Sum should be independant of the Contributions which should hereafter be regulated between the Republic and Count *Chotek*, the *Austrian* Commissary-General of the Military-Chest, on Condition however, that the *Austrian* Troops should observe strict Discipline, and pay ready Money for all Necessaries; and lastly, that this Capitulation should be deem'd provisional only, until it should be ratified by the Court of *Vienna*, or should order otherwise.

Such

Such were the arbitrary and shocking Articles of this Capitulation, which the Hand of Power forced the hapless *Genoese* to subscribe to ; no Mitigation of it could be obtained from the *Austrian* General, only that the Marquiss *Botta* had given a verbal Promise he would place a Guard but at one of the Gates of the City only, call'd *Della Lanterna*.

But it was not long before even this severe Capitulation was infringed, as may be seen by the following Order, or Rescript, sent to the Republic two Days after the Capitulation was signed.

‘ *John Charles* Count *Chotek*, Knight of the Golden Key, &c. &c. &c.

‘ The most serene Republic of *Genoa*, having involved herself in an unjust War against her Imperial Majesty, Queen of *Hungary* and *Bobemia*, and having openly declared War against her Ally, the King of *Sardinia* ; as also having, even from the Beginning of the present War, aided and afforded Means to her Enemies to invade her Territories, and those of her Ally, it would seem but Justice on the Behalf of her Imperial and Royal Majesty, if she should oblige the Republic to charge herself with the whole Expence of the War ; at least since the Time of her first Appearance in Arms. This, I say, might equitably be expected, since it has pleas'd the All-powerful to crown her Majesty's triumphant Arms with Success, and that the Republic herself offers voluntarily to assume any Expences that shall be judged proper to impose upon her.

‘ These Expences, exempted from whatever her Imperial and Royal Majesty may hereafter think proper to inflict, by way of Indemnification, cannot but exceed all Imagination ; however, the under-written, in Virtue of the full Powers delegated to him, by his most *clement* Sovereign, doth hereby

hereby declare, in her Name, and gives this peremptory Intimation, as well to the Republic of *Genoa*, as to the most serene *Doge*, and to each of those that have any Share in the Government, to pay into her Imperial and Royal Majesty's military Chest, *Three Millions of Genovines, in Crowns of Silver of full Weight, and computed at seven Livres, twelve Sols, in three several Payments, viz. one Million within the Space of forty-eight Hours, to be computed from the Date of these Presents; one other Million in eight, and the third Million in fifteen Days; and the whole upon pain of being taxed much more heavily, and of not being intitled hereafter to redeem themselves from Fire and Sword, and from the general Pillaging which will inevitably follow the Non-Payment of the Sums hereby demanded.* September 6, 1746.

J. C. Count CHOTECK.

You must necessarily observe, Sir, that the Assertions in this Order, or Intimation, are either false, or frivolous; and I assure my self you will naturally cry out against the *Mercy and Justice* of taxing so exorbitantly as *Eleven Hundred Thousand Pound Sterling*, a single Town, without much Trade, or Commerce, and a small barren Territory, exhausted by both Friends and Enemies, for some Years before.

It is absolutely false, that the Republic had declared War against the King of *Sardinia*, any more than against Her Imperial Majesty, or His Majesty the King of *Great-Britain*. But as the Partizans of the Courts of *Vienna* and *Turin* suggest every where the Republic to have declared War against his *Sardinian* Majesty, in order to render her the more obnoxious, and colour the late Conquests of Part of the Republic's Dominions, by that Prince, it becomes necessary to insert the Republic's Declaration to the Court of *Turin*, on her furnishing the

French

French and Spaniards with a Body of Auxiliary Troops, consisting of 10,000, and a Train of Artillery.

‘ Monsieur *Curlo*, acting for the most Serene Republic of *Genoa*, at his *Sardinian* Majesty’s Court, acquaints the Marquis of *Gorzegno*, that the Republic, in order to obtain the Guaranty of her Dominions (so imminently in Danger, at present) from the Crowns of *France*, *Spain*, and *Naples*, has engaged to furnish them with a Train of Artillery, and a Corps of Auxiliary Troops; and although this precautionary Step shall in no ways hinder the Republic from keeping up the same good Correspondence which she has been proud of at all times, and which she is still disposed to continue with his Majesty; she can’t however, in regard to that jealous Attention, which, in the present Circumstances, she owes to her own Security, allow any Entry, or Passage thro’ her Dominions, to the Troops of his Majesty.’

Such were the Sentiments of the Republic, such the Deference paid by her to the Court of *Turin*, after so great Provocations. And what renders the passive Conduct of the Republic at this time the more conspicuous, is, that in all Probability, she had nothing to apprehend from the Resentment of the Court of *Turin*; and that this last had all to fear from the Resentment of the three Crowns. The Moderation of the Republic in this Instance, and indeed ever since, should be a Lesson to all Powers not to lose Sight of adverse Fortune in their Days of Prosperity. Nothing is more fickle and unsteady than the Fortune of War, of which the late Scenes in *Italy* particularly, are but too truly a Proof. I wish I could say, that the *Austrians* and *Piedmontese* had given Proof of their Moderation, during the Course of their late Successes; but I fear they forgot altogether

altogether the Day of Adversity ; and wish, as they are our Allies, that they may not hereafter feel, in their turn, those Hardships and Vexations they brought upon a Republic, faulty only in being watchful of her Freedom and Independency.

It being then evident, that nothing can be more false than Count *Cboteck's* Assertions of the Republic's having *declared War against the King of Sardinia, and to have agreed voluntarily to pay any Contribution that should be laid upon her* ; of which Monsieur *Curlo's* Memorial, and the Capitulation with Count *Botta*, are the strongest Proofs, we will proceed to our intended Narrative.

The *Genoese* having received the aforesaid peremptory Order from Count *Cboteck*, what other Part had they to act, in Order to save their Country from total Destruction, but to comply, as far as they were able, with the Demands of their new Lords the *Austrians*. Accordingly they paid Count *Cboteck*, in five Days, *the first Million of Genovines* ; in Order to which, they were obliged to violate for the first Time, the sacred Bank of *St. George*, which from its first Institution to this Day, that is, for upwards of 400 Years, computing from the first Establishment of Banks at *Genoa*, which were all united in one, in 1407, are denominated the Bank of *St. George*.

This sacred Deposit of the Wealth of most Nations in *Europe*, had been always regarded, and remain'd unviolated, during all the Convulsions of the State ; even when the City of *Genoa* itself was given up by the Marquis of *Pescara*, in 1522, to be plundered by his Army, the Bank of *St. George* was still untouch'd, by the impious Ravagers ; so sacred was it held in those Days.

Upon this Occasion, I cannot overlook what is handed down to us by History, in relation to *Genoa*, when it was sack'd and plunder'd by the Marquis *Pescara*. I will give you the very Words of an

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Author of Credit. ' In the Year 1522, the Marquis *Pescara*, who commanded the *Austrian* Troops, ' besieged *Genoa*, took and plunder'd it. *Antonietto* ' *Adorno* and his Brothers, from whom are descended ' the present House of *Botta*, were those who call'd ' in the *Austrians*, and were the Occasion of the ' Plunder, and all the other Calamities of their ' Country. But the *Genoese* being fully appriz'd of ' the Parricide of their Countrymen the *Adorno's*, ' came to a Resolution, two Years after their Capi- ' tol had been plunder'd, to banish them for ever ' from their City and State.'

The only Comment I shall make on this Piece of History is, that from that time to the present, that one of the *Adorno's*, the present Marquis *Botta* commanded the *Austrians*, the Republic enjoy'd perfect Tranquility. All we shall say on the Occasion, is, that the *Adorno's*, or *Botta's*, who are the same, have prov'd unfortunate to the Republic of *Genoa*. What Power the *Adorno's* had in *Pescara's* Time, I can't say; but am sure the present *Botta Adorno* might have saved the Republic, and saved his Mistress at the same time, if he had had common Prudence, or Humanity.

If we reflect on the expensive Sufferings of the *Genoese*, for some Years before the present Troubles, and the almost total Declension of their Commerce, since the Peace of *Utretch*, we shall rather wonder how they could have paid the first Million of *Genovines*, than that they were unable to comply with Count *Cboteck's* whole Demand. They had an onerous and obstinate Rebellion to suppress in *Corfica* for seventeen Years together, which to this day is not totally extinguish'd, tho' the Expence of the Republic has been immense. The poor Remains of the Trade of that antient Mart depends wholly on the Trade of *Spain* to the *West-Indies*, by the *Galleons* and *Flota*. But this Source has been quite choak'd up since the
breaking

breaking out of the present War between *Great-Britain* and *Spain*. The King of *Sardinia* had seiz'd on the best Estates of the *Genoese* Nobility, which were situated in the *Montferrat*, *Piedmout*, and his other Dominions. The best and most fruitful Part of the *Genoese* Territories are now in the Possession of his *Sardinian* Majesty. And besides, their last Effort for Liberty, to which they were driven by the Treaty of *Worms*, had greatly exhausted the Republic, whose Territories had been ravaged, and Subjects plunder'd and impoverish'd by the different Armies that had made free with *Genoa*, tho' a neutral State, in the Course of the present War.

How then, I say, could it be imagin'd, that the *Genoese*, under such Circumstances, should be able to pay a Contribution amounting to a Million of *Guineas* in ready Specie? No Prince, nor State in *Italy*, in the most flourishing Circumstances of that Country, since the Time of the *Romans*, was ever able to lay down so vast a Sum of ready Money, in so little Time as was required by Count *Chotek*, much less could it be expected, that so poor, so exhausted a State as *Genoa* was, could have complied with so exorbitant, I may say, so cruel and unjust a Demand.

The Inability of that poor, reduced People appear'd visibly in their Payment of the first Million of *Genovines*, to compass which, the *Genoese* Nobility were obliged to mortgage their Plate, and borrow of the Bank of *St. George*. And this, their last Effort, they made with the greatest Expedition and best Grace they were able; in Hopes, by their submissive Compliance, to mollify the Court of *Vienna*, and induce her Imperial and Royal Majesty to give her Generals Orders to treat them with Moderation and Humanity; and not to force Impossibilities upon a People already unhappy enough

and now become rather an Object of Pity than of Rancour and Revenge. But alas! they soon found their Mistake; that very Promptitude which they thought would recommend them to Clemency, was the chief Motive of the Rigour they were used with afterwards, and it was resolved the last Crown should be squeez'd from them.

His Majesty, our august Prince, touch'd with the Miseries of those unhappy People, was graciously pleased to cause an Interposition to be made in their Favour, at the Court of *Vienna*. But tho' it had been twice repeated with Warmth, there was no prevailing over the Influence of the *Austrian* Generals before *Genoa*, who had found Means to impose on the natural Clemency of their Imperial Mistress, and to elude her generous Purposes.

We are now come down to the 30th of *November*, on which Day the Count *Chotek* deliver'd the following Memorial, or Order, to the Deputies of the Republic; and tho' this Piece has appear'd already in our public Prints, I chuse to insert it here, for the clearer Conception of the Case I have attempted to draw.

‘ I do not at all doubt, but Messieurs the Deputies of the most serene Republic of *Genoa* have been informed by the Marquis *Spinola*, their Resident at *Vienna*, that they have been frustrated in the Hopes they flattered themselves with, of being eased in the third Million of *Genovines* of Contributions; as well as in the Points of Exemption from Winter-Quarters, and the Compensation which they have demanded for what has been furnished by the Republic in Hay, Straw, Wood, &c. And having received by a Courier, dispatched expressly for that Purpose, a Rescript from her Imperial and Royal Majesty of the 22d of this present Month *November*, which fully confirms what is before mentioned, I am charged to notify in the Name
‘ of

‘ of her Majesty, the Empress Queen to Messieurs
 ‘ the Deputies, as I do by these Presents, that her
 ‘ final and precise Will and Pleasure is reduced
 ‘ into what is contained in the Articles following.

‘ I. That the said Deputies of the most serene
 ‘ Republic shall without fail pay to-morrow and
 ‘ the Day after 100,000 *Genovines*, which remain
 ‘ in Arrear of the second Million, without bringing
 ‘ one Penny to Account for the Compensation for
 ‘ Hay, Straw, &c. as is said before.

‘ II. That with regard to the third Million of
 ‘ *Genovines*, which in like manner is to be paid,
 ‘ there can no other Modification be accepted, or
 ‘ allowed but what follows, *viz.* That the Repub-
 ‘ lic shall receive the Acquittance of the Fund of the
 ‘ Farm of Salt at *Milan* for the Sum and Capital of
 ‘ 600,000 *Florins*, so that the Chamber and State
 ‘ of *Milan* shall be thereby discharged, and shall have
 ‘ nothing farther to do therewith. That Messieurs
 ‘ the Deputies shall charge themselves with the Pay-
 ‘ ment of the Assignations of the Purveyors and
 ‘ Contractors of the Army to the Amount of
 ‘ 400,000 *Florins*, which Account shall be set-
 ‘ led within a Year. And as it is the Intention
 ‘ of her Imperial and Royal Majesty, that no
 ‘ other Capital of what kind soever shall be accepted;
 ‘ the Remainder of the third Million of *Genovines*
 ‘ must be satisfied in ready Money, or in Bills of
 ‘ Exchange, payable without Delay, or at least in
 ‘ Bills of Cartolario, payable by the Bank of *St.*
 ‘ *George*. The same Imperial and Royal Rescript
 ‘ farther confirms what has been before intimated
 ‘ with respect to the Magazines that have been re-
 ‘ stored; the Purchase of which must be made by
 ‘ the City of *Genoa* by the effective and immediate
 ‘ Payment of 200,000 *Florins*.

‘ III. For what concerns Winter-Quarters, as
 ‘ the Demand made for the Subsistence of the Im-
 ‘ perial

‘ perial Regiments, amounts to the Sum irrevocably fixed of another Million of *enGovines*, and this Subſiſtance ought to be conſidered as an ordinary and current Expence, ſo it is not poſſible it ſhould be ſatiſfied by Paper, or any Aſſignation; and therefore this laſt Million muſt be paid ſpeedily, and without fail in ready Money within the Compaſs of a Month.

‘ At the ſame time I am charged to ſignify to Meſſieurs the Deputies theſe preſent Imperial Reſolutions, I cannot allow them any farther Term or Delay than twice twenty-four Hours, within which Space it is neceſſary that they oblige themſelves to execute every Tittle of all that has been before-mentioned, and to give ſuch Security, as that my moſt gracious Sovereign may be perfectly ſatiſfied of the entire and abſolute Accompliſhment of what has been preſcribed upon theſe three Points. For failing ſuch full Satisfaction her Imperial and Royal Maſteſty has expreſsly commanded M. the General Marquis *de Botta*, to whom her Sovereign Intentions are known, to proceed without the leaſt Delay to the Execution of the Means preſcribed to him.

‘ All this is to ſerve by way of Advertiſement and Rule to Meſſieurs the Deputies of the moſt ſerene Republic. It imports them to afford theſe Preſents their moſt ſerious Attention, and to take with regard to them, Meaſures equally quick and effective. They will likewiſe do well to reflect upon the fatal Conſequences of their acting otherwiſe. It depends upon them to avoid ſuch.’

*Given at the Head Quarters of St. Petro d’Arena,
November 30, 1746.*

*By her Imperial and Royal Maſteſty’s Expreſs
Command.*

Signed,

The Count de Choteck.

To

To this unprecedented Memorial, or Order, the Republic made the following Answer, by her Deputies, two Days after, *viz.* the 2d of *December*.

‘ After the most serene Republic of *Genoa* has
 ‘ paid, in less than three Months, to the Imperial
 ‘ Military-Chest, the enormous Sum of a Million
 ‘ nine Hundred and fifty Thousand *Genovines* in ready
 ‘ Money ; and after her Subjects have been reduced
 ‘ to the last Misery and Extremity, by so immense
 ‘ a Disbursement, which has been accomplished by
 ‘ exhausting and discrediting the Bank of *St. George*.
 ‘ Considering also, that the Republic cannot possi-
 ‘ bly, at present, supply even the necessary Expence
 ‘ of the Government ; to so very low an Ebb are
 ‘ both the State and its Capital reduced, by the
 ‘ obvious Desolation brought upon them, by va-
 ‘ rious Methods. And likewise, considering the
 ‘ vast Payments already made, and the utter Impof-
 ‘ sibility of her being able to make more, as so often
 ‘ alledged before, the Republic was in Hopes, and
 ‘ is still, that her respectful Remonstrances might
 ‘ have found, in the generous Heart of her Ma-
 ‘ jesty, the Empress Queen, that Moderation which
 ‘ she had been flatter’d with, from the generous In-
 ‘ terposition of several Powers. After all these Con-
 ‘ siderations, you may easily conceive, Sir, what
 ‘ Consternation and Affliction it must have produced
 ‘ in the Minds of all the Members of the Govern-
 ‘ ment, to find, by your last Intimation of the 30th
 ‘ of *November*, that you still demand a farther Sum
 ‘ of six Millions, five Hundred and fifty Thousand Im-
 ‘ perial * *Florins*.

‘ The Republic hopes to have given Proofs of her
 ‘ ample Compliance to the Will of her Imperial,
 ‘ Royal Majesty, in whatever her Generals and Mi-
 ‘ nisters have thought proper to prescribe to her,
 ‘ ever since the 6th of *September* last, to this Day.

‘ And

* An Imperial Florin is worth about 2 s. 3 d.

‘ And her Affliction is still the greater that she is in
 ‘ no manner of Condition to make this farther Pay-
 ‘ ment, as absolutely impossible.

‘ As long as there was any Possibility for the Go-
 ‘ vernment to pay what has been required, the Ge-
 ‘ nerals know with what Resignation the Republic
 ‘ has complied, notwithstanding the most extraordi-
 ‘ nary and fatal Methods she was obliged to take, in
 ‘ order to such Compliance ; such as ruining the
 ‘ Bank of *St. George*, by laying forcible Hands on,
 ‘ not only the Property of the Subjects of the Re-
 ‘ public, but of many other Nations, intrusted in
 ‘ the Bank. But Matters being now reduced to
 ‘ Terms altogether disproportionate to the Circum-
 ‘ stances of the Republic, the Deputies have the
 ‘ Displeasure of acquainting you, in Answer to your
 ‘ last Intimation, that they cannot oblige themselves
 ‘ to what is demanded of them, in as much as they
 ‘ might injure too much the Faith of the Republic,
 ‘ should they promise, on her behalf, what they
 ‘ know she is utterly unable to perform.

‘ Whatever may be those unhappy Consequences
 ‘ which you insinuate, as the Republic can never
 ‘ charge herself with having merited them, so she can
 ‘ never reproach herself with not having done
 ‘ every thing that lay in her Power to deserve, at
 ‘ all Costs and Hazards, the precious Reward of
 ‘ her Majesty’s Friendship. And the Deputies
 ‘ doubt not but her Generals will be persuaded, that
 ‘ if the Republic does not comply any farther, her
 ‘ Non-compliance proceeds from a physical Impossi-
 ‘ bility, wholly irremediable by the Measures or
 ‘ Councils of Men.

‘ The Republic hopes nevertheless, that her Ma-
 ‘ jesty’s great and generous Soul, when inform’d of
 ‘ the known Unhappiness of the Republic’s Cir-
 ‘ cumstances, will vouchsafe to reflect on the past
 ‘ and present Conduct, and view it with that
 ‘ Clemency

‘ Clemency which the Republic has always endeavoured to have merited.

‘ The Republic is persuaded likewise, that her Majesty’s Orders can never vary from those generous Maxims, which she has so often declared to her, which is, that she would never permit the Destruction of the Republic. Upon the whole, the Republic relies on that divine Providence which disposes of the Hearts of Princes, and which has, and always will inspire her Majesty with Sentiments equally uniform and upright, and conducive to her Glory.’

You will perceive, Sir, by this last Intimation, or Order, from Count *Chotek*, that the Imperial Court, far from moderating the excessive Contributions, at first impos’d upon the *Genoese*, they are augmented, and a new Million of *Genovins*, that is, 350,000 *l.* Sterling is impos’d upon them to defray the Expence of Winter-Quarters, without any Allowance to be made for a vast Quantity of Forage already furnish’d by the *Genoese*, nor for the Freight of a great Number of Ships belonging to *Genoa*, which had been employ’d on the Expedition to *Provence*, amounting to a very considerable Sum.

And what renders this Augmentation the more extraordinary, is, that it comes after our Court had interposed and wrote twice to that of *Vienna*, to moderate and mitigate her Contributions. Might not the *Genoese* expect, after the powerful Interposition in their Favour, of a Nation who had expended an Ocean of Blood and Treasure in Support of the House of *Austria*, that the Court of *Vienna* would have shewn some Clemency, some Mercy, some Humanity? but Sovereigns, too often, are kept in Ignorance by their Ministers, as we will suppose her Imperial Majesty has been in this Instance. One would be apt to suspect, that the generous Interposition of *England*, in Favour of the *Genoese*, has

been the Cause of this sudden Increase of the Contribution; if the Court of *Vienna* had been incensed the more against that unhappy People, for their having become Objects of the Compassion of his *Britannick* Majesty.

'Tis Pity the Court of *Vienna* had so soon forgot her own late and loud Outcries against her Enemies, on Account of Plunder and Contributions.

It being my Intention to give a clear and impartial View of the late Convulsions of the State of *Genoa*, it is proper I should point out the principal Causes which may have any ways contributed to inflame the Minds of the People. The *Genoese* were already enraged and irritated to a Degree not to be express'd by the Excessiveness of the Contributions rais'd upon them, and by the Brutishness and Licentiousness of the *Austrian* Soldiery, when on the 22d of *November*, the Marquis *Botta* wrote to one of the Deputies of the Republic, that he wanted Part of the Artillery of the Town of *Genoa* to carry on the Siege of *Antibes*. To which the Deputy return'd for Answer, That while the Artillery belonging to her Imperial Majesty's Allies was actually employ'd to carry on the Siege of *Savona*, no greater Misfortune could happen to the Republic than being deprived of the necessary Means for defending her Capitol, so much exposed to her Enemies. The Marquis repeated again, the next Day, his former Demand of Part of the *Genoese* Artillery; and the same Deputy returned much the same Answer as before.

On the 25th M. *Botta* demanded 19 Pieces of Cannon; to whom it was answer'd, that notwithstanding what had been stipulated by the Capitulation of the 6th of *September*, which was provisional only, it might only be inferred from thence, that the Republic had agreed to give the Artillery to the *Austrians*, but not to give her Consent, that her own Capital should, in the least, be deprived of its

necessary Defence. On this last Refusal, Marquis *Botta* order'd 30 Grenadiers to take possession of the Battery of *St. Benigno*, and issued Orders, at the same time, to all the Officers of the *Genoese* Garrison to appear at his general Quarters, there to give it under their Hands, that they acknowledg'd themselves to be Prisoners of War, or they must expect to be treated as contumelious Prisoners.

As soon as the *Austrians* were in Possession of the Battery of *St. Benigno*, they begun to draw down to the Water-side, not only the 19 Pieces of Ordnance which had been demanded before, but likewise 5 more, and 3 Mortars. They had also visited all the Posts of the City, and told the Guards and the Centinels they found on Duty, they should be soon discharged from doing any Duty whatever; an Intimation without Doubt, that it was resolved to get immediately into the Possession of the City, by fair Means, or by Force, which would naturally be attended with an intire Subversion of the Government.

But the City of *Genoa* was not singly to bear the weight of the *Austrian* Yoke, every part of the Dominions of the Republic was to bear its Share of the oppressive Burden. Five Companies of *Austrians* were sent to *Sarzana* which had been tax'd exorbitantly, in Money, Forage and Provisions: And to finish the rough Scene, an *English*, arm'd Bilander was order'd to anchor in the Middle of the Port, to stop what Vessels she would, from either going out, or coming in; which was not only an Infringement on the antient and known Asylum of the Port, but a Measure which must have starved a City which draws its whole Subsistence from the Sea; for who would venture into a Port, at the Risque of Liberty, and the Loss of Goods and Effects; or at best, if they should be paid for their Cargoes, it would be but such a Price as the Buyers thought fit to give.

The Letter from *Genoa*, which I here send you lets us truly and clearly into the tragical Scene which followed, in Consequence of the Transport of the Cannon from the Bastions to the Port. The Senate from the Beginning, did all that was possible to assuage and stay the Fury of the exasperated Populace, and to quell a Tumult which threatened and endangered the very Form of the Government. In Order to which, a Representation was sent to the following Purpose, to the Marquis *Botta*; that the Senate was indefatigable in their Endeavours to appease the People, and quell the Insurrection, but that their Success must depend chiefly on a Removal of the Causes that had given birth to their Fury; that therefore they beseech'd the Marquis to refrain from committing any Innovation, hoping he would, at the same time, use all possible Moderation, in order to facilitate the good Intentions of the Government, that hereafter, neither they, nor he, might have any thing to reproach themselves with, should the Consequences prove more fatal than he seem'd to foresee.

The Senate repeated the same Instances, the next Day, intreating the Marquis would give the People, a proper and special Security against the Effects of any Resentment they might apprehend from their late Conduct. But all the Representations, all the Intreaties of that august Body were to no Purpose. The Marquis would hear, but all his Answers were shuffling and evasive; which, instead of appeasing the People, serv'd but to increase their Rage and drive them to that Excess of Fury and Despair, which is often beyond the Address and Power of Man to allay, even when the most fatal Consequences are in full View.

This being a true State of this memorable Transaction, where was the Cause, where the Humanity of that cruel Treatment, and those odious Epithets
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fo liberally beftow'd on the Senate of *Genoa*, as if they had been fecretly Authors of the whole Tragedy? If the Court of *Vienna* would fhew any Refentment, it fhould be to thofe only, who had advis'd fuch violent, unprecedented, imprudent Meafures, and not againft a poor, oppreffed People, that are excufable before God and Man, for endeavouring to throw off the lawlefs Yoke that had been impofed upon them by the Hand of Power.

The Senate has folemnly declared, that they ufed all the Means in their Power, for preventing the Infurrection, and for quelling it after it grew to fome Confistency: Nor need we take their Word for it, fince all their Conduct on the Occafion, fpeaks their Candour, and is an irrefragable Proof of their Innocency. Yet has the Court of *Vienna* rais'd her Clamour to the very Vault of Heaven, in order to afperfe and condemn that venerable Body, who had no lefs, or rather more to fear from that popular Tumult than even the *Auftrians*, who affect to caft all the Blame on the Senate. But who does not fee the Drift of this Recrimination, on the Part of the Court of *Vienna*? Who fo dull as not to perceive, that it is to give a colourable Glofs to their late and intended Conduct?

Nothing is echoed to us from *Vienna* but the excessive Tendernefs and Moderation fhewn to the *Genoefe*. The Emprefs Queen might have made a Conqueft of all their Territories, if ſhe had not been actuated by the moft difinterefted Moderation that ever was known; by the Capitulation of the *Doge* and fix Senators, were to have ask'd pardon at *Vienna* for paft Faults; but herein the Emprefs Queen, unlike a certain Monarch in the laft Century, fhew'd her Moderation in a diftinguifh'd Manner, in difpenfing with that Ceremonial; by the Capitulation, they were to be difarm'd, but the Emprefs, out of her mere Clemency, has not infifted

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on an Article which would have annihilated the very Effence of the State, at least have wounded it very sensibly; the Contributions, far from being excessive, were moderate; That the Payment of a Million and a half Sterling, payable in three Months, was so easy to the *Genoese*, that within the Space of a few Months past, they had remitted 1400,000 *l.* to *London*, to be employed in the Funds. To this is added, that the Treasures of the Bank of *St. George* are immense, and that the Palaces and Streets of *Genoa* shew its Wealth to be prodigious. Besides, the Government had obliged itself by a Bond, forfeited to Count *Chotek*, to the Payment of three Millions of *Genovines*, therefore it was but just they should be punctual in the Performance.

After this long Enumeration of Favours and Obligations which, if real, might be a Handle for the *Austrians* to exclaim as they do; but as they are imaginary only, let the World judge with what Propriety the Court of *Vienna* charges the *Genoese* with Treachery and Perfidiousness, for endeavouring to relieve themselves from the most abject and unjust Slavery and Dependance. But it is necessary to heighten the Motives to the Empress Queen's Resentment; and in order thereunto, 'tis added, that it is impossible the Government should not be of Intelligence with the People, that the *Spanish* Officers taken at the *Bochetta*, have discover'd the whole Mystery, and had affirm'd the Senate was concern'd in the Revolt from the Beginning; That at first indeed the Tumult was intended against the *Piedmontese*, who besieg'd *Savona*, but that Castle being surrender'd sooner than was expected, the Current was treacherously turn'd against the *Austrians* who were quite surpriz'd. Such is the Language of the Partizans of the Court of *Vienna*; such are the Arguments used to justify the Conduct of the *Austrians*, and to asperse and vilify the *Geneose*.

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As I have set myself the Task of drawing up the Case of these hapless People; a Task I undertook out of pure Generosity and Love of Truth and general Freedom, it is but just that I make some Observations on this long String of Objections, thrown out by the Enemies of the *Genoese*. But let me promise, that my Observations are only intended and levell'd against the *Austrian* Generals and Counsellors, who alone are accountable, and not their Imperial Mistresses, for any Mischief that has, or may happen, in Consequence of their Advice and Conduct. The Greatness of her Imperial Majesty's Soul, and her Compassion are confess'd by all *Europe*, but by none more than by the *Genoese*, who gratefully remember all Favours conferr'd upon them. The Ill that has happen'd has arose, not from the Empress, but her Generals, who had falsely represented all Things to her Majesty: and so resolved were they, that she should not be undeceived, the Republic could never procure a Pass for four of her principal Patricians who had been deputed to go to *Vienna*; but such is the hard Fate of most Sovereigns who, tho' they must see and hear by the Eyes and Ears of others, often are made, but unjustly, accountable for what should be placed to the Account of others. It is confess'd that Princes should be extremely circumspect in the Choice of Servants, and that the Avenues to them should be always open and accessible; but when all is done that can be, they are constantly liable to be imposed upon by Sycophants, who swarm about the Palaces of Princes; and if Fame speak Truth, at none in *Europe* so much as that of her Imperial Majesty, in whose august House the Misfortune seems to have been hereditary.

By the Empress's not permitting the *Doge* and six Senators of *Venice* to repair to her Court, as insolently insisted on by Marquis *Botta*, it appears, that she

she was not pleas'd with that Part of the Capitulation, tho' as Matters fell out, it had been well for the *Genoese* that their Prince could have had an Opportunity of acquainting the Empress with Truth and the genuine State of Things; but this was not the Business of her Generals, and therefore we may suppose Passports were not readily granted to the four Patriarchs already mentioned.

If the *Genoese* were not disarm'd, it was not to favour them so much as to prevent the *Piedmontese* from surprizing the City. For however their present Interest may incline these and the *Austrians* to live seemingly well together, the *Austrians* are jealous to the highest Degree of the ambitious Views of the Court of *Turin*; and it must be own'd that the Courtiers there have shewn lately an uncommon Thirst of enlarging the Dominions of their Prince. In the Situation the *Austrians* were in, after the March of Count *Brown*, with the chief of their Forces, to *Provence*, it would have been imprudent to disarm the *Genoese*. And the Jealousy and Suspicion of the ambitious Intentions of the *Piedmontese* was the better founded, that they could not be persuaded to desist from the Conquest of *Savona*, during the Invasion of *Provence*, nor to join but few of their Troops to Count *Brown's* Army.

I should think it needless to reply to what is said by the *Austrians* in regard to the Republic's having declared War against the Empress Queen, because all *Europe* know that the *Genoese* declared War against no Power, and became Auxiliaries only to the three Crowns, and that thro' the most cogent Necessity. Again, the *Austrians* talk loudly of their Moderation, in not having made an intire Conquest of the Territories of the Republic. How weak is this Part of the Justification, which makes rather against than for them. Had the Empress Queen made a Conquest of the Dominions of the
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Republic, she must then look upon the Inhabitants as her Subjects, and as such, they ought not to be obliged to Contributions. But the *Austrian* Generals knew better Things; they had their own Interest too fully in view to drop the Substance for the Shadow. I will suppose the *Austrians* might have reasoned thus, in chusing to oblige the *Genoese* to part with their Money in order to retain a Shew of Liberty. Let us leave the *Genoese*, so tenacious of Freedom, the empty Name of Liberty. We are Masters of their Capitol, command their Port; and have Troops enough to keep them in awe, even in the Absence of our Forces in *Provence*. During the War, we are sure they cannot injure us, and in all Probability we should be obliged, on a Peace, to restore their Dominions; therefore it is our Business to let them remain with the Peel of the Orange, and secure the rich Juice for our own use, rather than appropriate to ourselves the intire Fruit, which in a little time we shall be obliged to return.

It may be therefore very naturally supposed, that the Shadow of Liberty left with the *Genoese*, was not an Act of Grace, so much as it was a Gilding to the bitter Pill of excessive Contributions, which they were obliged to swallow. But what Opinion can we entertain of the Lenity of the *Austrians*, when we consider the Exorbitancy of their Contributions.

It is a received Maxim among all civilized Nations, that Contributions ought never to exceed, or very little, the ordinary Revenues of the State, or City, brought under Subjection. When they exceed extraordinarily, they exchange the Name of Contributions for that of Plunder; and do the *Austrians* imagine, that the Revenues of *Genoa* amount to a *Million and a half Sterling*? Had the *Genoese* but one third Part of it, I will take upon

me to say, that his *Sardinian* Majesty would have had no Stomach to attack, much less to insult their Republic, as he has done, in many Instances; but particularly, in the Contempt he had shewn for her by insisting, by the Treaty of *Worms*, that he might have a specious Pretence for falling upon her whenever he would.

How mean and despicable was the Opinion of the Court of *Turin* of the *Genoese*, before their late Junction with the three Crowns! they were treated as Beggars, and it was Matter of great Astonishment that they were able to raise 8, or 10, 000 Men. It was admitted, there were some few rich Families in *Genoa*, but the People in general were miserably poor. This being lately the Picture drawn of these unhappy People, how comes it that those who drew it, and drew it to the Life, should now all of a sudden change their Note? Surely the Condition of the *Genoese* can't be supposed to be mended by an unsuccessful War, a general Stagnation of Trade, and by a Chain of other Calamities; and yet their new Task-masters seem to think it greatly better'd; it being otherwise impossible for them to have loaded that People with a Contribution of *a Million and a half*, payable in so little a Time as three Months.

To this aggravating Insult, the *Austrians* add another, not less aggravating, tho' less onerous; which is, charging the *Genoese* with remitting 1,400,000 *l.* to *England*. I should be glad to know the Person, or Persons, from whom the *Austrians* had this Piece of curious Intelligence. Sure I am, that our Bankers in *London* are intire Strangers to any such Flow of *Genoese* Treasure. But supposing it had been true, it could be no Proof of the Wealth of the Subjects of the Republic; it being well known, that Foreigners were more deeply concern'd in the Bank of *St. George* than the *Genoese*; and if the
Cruelty

Cruelty of the *Austrians* had induced such Foreigners not to look upon their Money so secure in that Bank now as formerly, where would be the Wonder if they should remove their Fortunes into a Country that less feels the Effects of the Rapaciousness of the *Austrian* Generals ?

As for the Bond passed to Count *Chotek*, how could the *Genoese* avoid giving that, or any thing else in their power, to a General that held the Dagger to their Breasts, and threatened them with Fire and Sword ? You saw how that Officer's first Demand was to be paid, three Million of *Genovines*, or a Million of Guineas in a Fortnight ; under such Circumstances, what could the *Genoese* have done but comply ? They paid 350,000 *l.* Sterling, in five Days, and pass'd a Bond, that in case the Empress Queen should not abate of the excessive Sum demanded, they would point out sufficient Funds for the Discharge of the whole.

The Funds intended for this Purpose, were those which the *Genoese* Nobility had in the Bank of *Vienna* and at *Milan* ; Funds, tho' far exceeding the Amount of the unpaid Part of the Contribution, yet the *Austrian* General would by no Means accept of them ; Ready Money they wanted and must have ; and they would have had it, if the poor People were Masters of any. The Funds were now refused, that they might serve for such Contributions as the Court of *Vienna* should think proper to impose upon the exhausted Commonwealth.

How deeply must the Love of Liberty be impressed in the Minds of the *Genoese* Nobility, who had, on this Occasion, first pledg'd their Plate, and next offer'd their Fortunes in the aforesaid Funds, for the Redemption of their Country ! What Pity, that Men with such generous Minds should be forced to stoop to the Yoke of inhuman Invaders ! And surely *Englishmen* can never be prevail'd upon to
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aid towards imposing the dreadful Yoke of Slavery on so brave a People !

To consider these excessive Contributions in any Light, they must be deemed unjust and insupportable by all the World. The Senate represented in vain, the Impossibility of taking three Millions of *Genovines* out of the current Cash of the Country, without the utter Destruction of the State, and particularly of the City, which subsisted wholly by the Circulation of ready Money, as of Necessity, because the Subjects of the Republic could not subsist, any more than the *Dutch*, one Month in the Year, on the Produce of her own Territories.

But all Expostulations it seems, are lost on *Austrian* Generals, who are not more fam'd for military Skill than for superior Address in squeezing those who fall into their Hands. The poor *Genoesse*, instead of being redress'd, or treated with less Inhumanity, on the Representations of the Senate, their Calamities were increased, and the Insults upon them were redoubled ; a fresh Demand of another Million of *Genovines* was made for Winter-Quarters, over and above the vast Quantity of Forage and Provisions that had been already furnished and unpaid for.

There does not appear the least Colour for taxing the Senate with egging on the People, much less sharing in the Tumult which oblig'd the *Austrians* to retire from *Genoa*. What has been urged of a Design to raise the Siege of *Savona* must be equally chimerical. It would have been Folly to attack the *Piedmontese* before *Savona*, while the *Austrians*, who approved of the Siege, were Masters of the Capital, and the whole Country. The only Step taken by the Republic to prevent the Loss of that important Place, was to apply to the Court of *London*, which had already fruitlessly interposed in their Favour at *Vicenna*. But whether any Instances were made at
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the Court of *Turin*, to desist from the Siege of *Savona*, I can't say; yet I cannot but think that Peace would have been easier come at, if that Fortrefs had been untouch'd. The Siege of *Savona*, without Doubt, help'd to inflame the People, and the Possession of it in the Hands of the King of *Sardinia*, must ever obstruct a Peace, while *France* has so much the Superiority in the Netherlands. The Court of *Turin* won't care to part with it, and *France* can't in Honour, and even in Justice, leave the *Genoese* in a Condition worse than she found them. The People indeed attempted to oblige the *Piedmontese* to raise the Siege after they had freed themselves from the *Austrians*, but were prevented by our Men of War.

As to the Conduct of the Senate, since the Retreat of the *Austrians*, and that the People have acted wholly in their own Name, independant of the Government, it has been intirely passive and blameless. That venerable Corps attempted nothing more than the endeavouring to preserve the Peace of the City, and establishing Order, the best they could, in a Time of so great Danger and Confusion. And to accomplish this, so necessary and salutary a Work, they had recourse to Intreaty and Expostulation only. For as they were without the Power to punish, fair Words were the only Weapons they could use with Safety, or with Success.

The *Austrians* affect to cry out most violently at the Breach of Faith of the *Genoese*; and I don't wonder at it, because few People care to examine the Justice of such Clamours, and that without such loud Complaints, the intended Severities might not be so well relish'd, even by the Allies of the Court of *Vienna*. For this Reason, the *Genoese* Envoy at *Vienna* was ordered away, and Father *Vifetti*, who had been deputed to justify the Conduct of the

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the Republic, was not permitted to approach the Imperial Court.

But how partial soever the *Austrians* may be to themselves, we Lookers-on are at liberty to sift and scrutinize their Conduct. To this End, I would beg leave to ask them a few Questions. Was it stipulated by the Capitulation, that the King of *Sardinia* should be at Liberty to possess himself of *Savona*, *Final* and the remaining Part of the *Western Riviera*? and that the *Genoese* should not be at Liberty to repel Force by Force? Read the Capitulation ever so often and attentively, you will find nothing of this Kind; you will see, that except the City of *Genoa* and the Castle of *Gavi*, all the rest of the Dominions of the Republic were understood to continue in her Possession unmolested. But the Justice and Equity, the Meaning and Intention of the whole Capitulation was from the beginning, I fear, intended to be explain'd away by the 4th Article, by which it is stipulated, that the *Genoese* shall not act against the Allies of the Empress Queen. 'Tis under Colour of this Article, that *Savona* was besieged; but does not all the World perceive the Injustice, the Iniquity of tying up the Hands of the *Genoese*, and permitting the Seizure of their Dominions, that were intended and understood to be safe and secure, because they were tied down not to act against the Queen's Allies?

What can you say, Sir, of an Interpretation so inconsistent with Honesty and Fair-Dealing? and yet such seems to be put on every other Article of the Capitulation. Was it agreed by that Compact, extorted at it was, that the Contributions should be of such or such a Nature? Why then were not the Funds in the Bank of *Vienna*, and at *Milan*, accepted of as Part of those excessive Contributions? Was it stipulated, that the poor Common-People of *Genoa* should be abus'd and cudgell'd, instead of
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being paid for their painful Labour in the Service of the *Austrians*? Was it agreed, that the Merchants should give their Ships, and the Sailors navigate them, *gratis*, in the Service of their new munificent Masters? Was it agreed, that the Shopkeepers, and other Tradesmen of *Genoa*, should be obliged to give the *Austrian* Soldiers their Goods at half the Value, and often for Nothing at all? Was it agreed, or intended, that armed Vessels in the Port should starve the City, and appropriate to the sole Use of the *Austrians* all the Provisions that came to Market by Sea? Are not these open and flagrant Breaches of that very Capitulation, which had been forced upon the unhappy *Genoese*? Why then so loud an Outcry against the *Genoese* for Breach of Faith, since it appears incontestably that these clamorous Complainants are themselves the most guilty? As to what is alledged of a Declaration by *Spanish* Officers taken at the *Bochetta*, we ought in Reason and Justice to suspend our Judgment, at least, till we see their Depositions.

Before I conclude, it may not be improper to consider the Conduct of the Court of *Turin* in regard to the Republic on this late Occasion. Much Wrath was pretended to be expressed against the *Austrians*, because no Mention was made of the King of *Sardinia* in the Capitulation, nor no Stipulation concerning the Marquisate of *Final*, upon which that Prince had long cast his Eye. But what had the *Genoese* to do with any Slight that may have been put, if any was in reality, by the *Austrians* on the *Piedmontese*? The Republic capitulated with the first Comers, and had no Concern with those who approached not her Capitol. For, as has been already observed, she was at War with no Power, having acted only as Auxiliary, after the Example of many of the other Powers of *Europe* during the Course of the present War. What else but Ambition and an
Eagerness

Eagerness to aggrandize, at all Hazards, the Dominions of the House of *Savoy*, could induce the Court of *Turin* to swallow up the best of the *Genoese* Territories, and to apply to her Allies, and to us particularly, that the Possession, especially of *Savona*, should be guarantied to his *Sardinian* Majesty by the future general Peace ?

The King of *Sardinia* thirsts after a Maritime Power, but this can never be but at the Expence of the *Genoese*. But as it can never be the Interest of *England* to permit new naval Powers, especially in the *Mediterranean*, where we are sure, in Peacetime, to be the constant Carriers : It is to be hoped our Statesmen will take early Care, that no future ambitious Prince have it in his Power to carry any such refined Scheme into Execution. I remember how difficult and expensive it was, in the late Reign, to abolish the *Ostend East-India* Company. Let then Experience teach us Wisdom and Circumspection. Let us put it into no Prince's Power to erect future Companies that may interfere with our own Commerce. It is high Time we should look into our own Concerns, and be less arduous in aggrandizing Princes, who have before now, and probably will hereafter, go into Alliances we may have no Reason to approve of. If we be not blind, we may have seen a Specimen, on a late Occasion, of the Sincerity and Disinterestedness of some of our Allies.

It was judged necessary immediately after the Successes in *Italy* last Autumn, to form the Design of attacking *France* on the Side of *Provence* in order to weaken her in the *Netherlands*, and oblige her to an equitable Peace. The Design was glorious and well-concerted, and had, in all human Probability, succeeded, if it had been executed and seconded by those most nearly concerned in its Success. But what did the King of *Sardinia* to promote this glorious

rious Design? Why, instead of joining all his Forces, and supplying his Artillery, he employed both in the Siege of *Savona*. And the *Austrians*, instead of winning the *Genoese* by Clemency and Moderation, they went every Length to irritate and exasperate them, till at last they broke out into a Flame, which impeded the Operations in *Provence*, where Count *Brown* might have taken not only *Antibes*, but *Marseilles*, *Aix*, and even *Toulon*, if the King of *Sardinia* could have been prevailed on to spare his Cannon and Troops, and desist from the Siege of *Savona*. This is the Ally for whom we have so high Esteem; this is he to whom we have given Millions in Subsidies, and other Expences; this is he for whom we are to procure a Sea-port at the Expence of the *Genoese*; these are the Allies to whose Resentment we are desired to sacrifice an ancient venerable Republick, that has acted but the prudential Part, after we ourselves had joined in laying her under a Necessity of acting the Part she did.

But if it was our Business to conquer *Provence*, it was no less that of the *Austrians* to squeeze the *Genoese* to Death, and of the *Piedmontese* to get Possession of *Savona*. By their Avarice and Ambition however, we have failed in our Design on *Provence*, and the *Austrians* have been forced to quit *Genoa* after a much greater Loss than they own, as well at the Time of the Convulsion, as since: But as much as Peace is our Business, War is no less that of the *Austrians*; no wonder then that they magnify their Successes, be they never so small, and lessen their Losses be they never so great; hoping by such Arts, to prolong the War at our Expence.

What may be the Fate of the *Genoese* is in the Womb of Fate; but this may be said of them, that they struggle like brave Men for their Liberties, and

that they deserve a better Fate than they are threatened with. If they are to fall, I hope *Englishmen* will have no Share in their Destruction ; because, I think, it would ill become the known Asserters of Liberty to join in its Destruction in a free independant State. Much better, I conceive, would it become us to act the Umpire, and oblige the Parties to compound Matters on equitable and reasonable Terms. Such, I hope, will be the Resolution we shall take on this Occasion. But whatever happens, I doubt not that every Friend to Liberty will wish as I do, and am sure you do, Prosperity to a People that have maintained their Freedom amidst all the Slaves that surround them.

I am, &c.

P O S T S C R I P T.

TH O' I flatter myself to have produced already such Evidence of the Candour and Passiveness of the *Genoese*, and of the Avarice and Unbearableness of the *Austrian* Generals, as must remove any Prejudice that might have been contracted here amongst us, in Disfavour of the former, or in Favour of the latter : Yet the following Piece, addressed to the Republic of *Genoa*, which is just come to hand, being so very extraordinary in its Nature, and such pregnant Proof of *Austrian* Equity and Modesty, that I assure myself you will think it no unnecessary Addition.

We Count Chotek, Colonel Commissary, and Administrator of the Military Chest in Italy, &c. &c.

ALL the World are sensible of the Clemency with which her Majesty, the Empress Queen, our Sovereign, has vouchsafed to accept of the Capitulation

capitulation of the 6th of *September* last, by which the Republic of *Genoa* submitted herself to the absolute Mercy of her Majesty; and that an Act so solemnly passed, including immediate Subjection, did authorize her Majesty to impose such Terms on the *Genoese* as were most agreeable to her Will and Pleasure. Yet notwithstanding, as they forgot their Engagements, tho' stipulated for their own Security, working under-hand, making a fraudulent Use of the public Authority, breaking thro' the promised Allegiance, and committing the most detestable Excesses in regard to her Majesty's Troops, and to no small Number of the Subjects of her most August House; such Conduct, I say; so sudden and so scandalous an Undertaking, which includes in it the enormous Crime of High-Treason, gives, of Course, full Right to her said Majesty to confiscate all the Estates and Effects of the *Genoese*.

And tho' her Majesty, always inclining to Moderation and Mildness, has hitherto suspended her Resolution, she cannot however neglect the intire Payment of the remaining Contributions, agreed to on the 10th of *September*, and 2d of *October* last, by a Bond perfected by two Deputies, invested with full Power from the Republic, and passed to the Imperial Royal Commissary, nor likewise Reparation for the Damages incurred by the Infraction of the said Capitulation, and Non-execution of the Conventions, in Violation of the Law of Nations, not only in Prejudice to the Royal Treasury, but the most faithful Subjects of her Majesty, who suffered by so unexpected a Treason. Hence it is, that her Majesty, reserving to herself the further Exercise of any other Right she may have by their Violation of their Conventions, is resolved for the present to seize those Funds which the Republic had offered in discount of her Bond of the 2d of *October*. And therefore her Majesty has been pleased, out of her

special Clemency, as appears by her Imperial and Royal Dispatch of the 28th of the last Month, to order, that to the Use of her said Military Chest, all the Effects, either moveable or immoveable, belonging to *Genoese* in *Lombardy* shall be sold and disposed of. And her Majesty wills, that this Order be put in Execution forthwith, without paying any Regard to former Privileges, or other Exemptions, &c.

And we give this publick Notice of this sovereign Deliberation, that at no time hereafter, none shall plead Ignorance of it, and that it may be executed by those to whom it belongs.

From the General Quarters
at Novi, Feb. 6, 1747.

Count CHOTECK.

Another Deliberation or Proclamation, in the like Style and to the same Purport, has been published by Count *Schulemburg* about the same Time, by both which it appears, that the *Austrians* looked upon the poor *Genoese*, not only as Subjects but Slaves; and, indeed, considering they were treated as the most abject Sort of Slaves, it is no wonder they endeavoured to throw off the infamous Badges of Slavery.

But in what Light can the *Genoese* be deemed Rebels, and guilty of High-Treason, as treated here by the *Austrian* General? By the Capitulation, there is not the Shadow of a Colour for any such Subjection as is here pretended. All that was stipulated was, the laying down Arms, and paying such Contribution as should be judged reasonable, which necessarily include the Preservation of the Liberties of the Republick. I do not know how the *Austrian* Generals may have intended by the Capitulation; perhaps they might have intended intire Subjection and Conquest by it; which, indeed, would seem by their

their subsequent Conduct, to have been the Construction they put upon it ; but I believe the whole World besides will be of Opinion, that a Contract for Contributions includes a Preservation of Liberty, Rights and Privileges. If we are to judge, by this Specimen, of the Equity and Fair-dealing of the contending Parties, I believe it won't be doubted that the Odds are on the Side of the *Genoese*, of whom, it seems, the *Austrians* would dispose more arbitrarily than of their own Subjects, and that under Colour of a Capitulation, intended for the Security of their Rights and Liberties.

The Seizure of the Effects of the unhappy *Genoese* in *Lombardy* seems not to have much of the Complexion of that Equity and Moderation for which the Empress Queen is famed. It is true the Republic passed a Bond ; but it was expressed in the same Bond, that it was passed in hopes her Imperial, Royal Majesty, out of her known Generosity and Justice, would accept of what they were able to pay, and moderate the excessive Demands of her Generals. Count *Chotek* threatened the whole People with Fire and Sword if they did not pay *three Millions* of *Genovines* in fifteen Days. What could the Republic have done, but to stay the Fury of these rough, new Masters ? With this View she paid a Million of *Genovines* in five Days, and gave Bond for the remaining *two Millions* in case the Court of *Vienna* should make no Abatement, not in the least doubting of the Equity and Moderation of the Empress. But finding that her Majesty's generous Intentions had been perverted by the false Suggestions of her Generals, the *Genoese* intreated they might keep the little ready Money they had remaining in order to support their Commerce and continue a Circulation, without which they could not subsist ; and be permitted to apply their Effects in *Lombardy* in Discharge of the Contributions, but even this was refused

refused them. They were compelled to pay a second Million of *Genovines*, and they were taxed with *two Millions* more, payable in *Specie*, which, if they could comply with, must have proved their utter Destruction, as it must have caused a Stagnation of Trade for want of a circulating Cash.

But where is the Justice of having taken the ready Money, which the Funds in *Lombardy* were to redeem, and of seizing likewise those very Funds? Is not this extorting a double Payment of the same Sum? There seems to be a notorious Breach of national Confidence in the Confiscation of Estates purchased in the Dominions of another Prince, and for a valuable Consideration. And surely, this Instance should hereafter be a Lesson, not only to the *Genoese*, but all others who trust their Fortunes to foreign Securities.

Count *Chotek* says, the Government of *Genoa* acted fraudulently. This Charge seems clearly to have been unsupported by any colourable Pretext; but had it been otherwise, how is that Decency maintain'd here which should be observ'd among Sovereigns? The Convulsion of the 10th of *December* was purely and simply popular, and occasioned by the excessive Severities of the *Austrian* Commanders. The Senate neither had, nor could have any Share in a Fray which naturally took its Rise from a Cause as unforeseen as it was fortuitous. But what other Part could that venerable Corps have acted, after the People were become Masters of the City, but to have join'd in the Defence of their common Liberties? You and every other generous *Englishman* will, I assure myself, applaud the glorious Conduct, and wish Success to an oppressed, brave People, struggling for their Liberties.