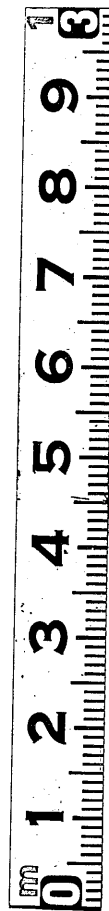


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*New Paper*

THE  
L I F E

Of the Famous  
*John Baptist Colbert,*

LATE  
MINISTER and SECRETARY  
of STATE

TO  
*LEWIS XIV.*

THE  
*Present French King.*

Done into *English* from a *French Copy* printed at  
*Cologne* this present Year 1695.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *R. Bentley*, in *Covent-Garden*; *J. Tonson*,  
at the *Judge's-Head* in *Fleet-street*; *H. Bonwick*, at  
the *Red-Lion* in *St. Paul's Church-yard*; *W. Freeman*,  
at the *Bible*, against the *Middle-Temple-Gate*  
in *Fleet-street*; and *S. Manship*, at the *Ship* in *Corn-  
hill*, 1695.

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THE  
Author's Preface.

**W**Hatever may be said of the Performance, there can be no Objections made against the Seasonableness of my present Undertaking: For, if the Publication of this little Work had been longer delay'd, it wou'd have been a hard Task for the Author to have acquir'd the Reputation of an exact Historian; and every Reader wou'd have pretended a Right to dispute, or at least to suspect the Truth of his Relation. 'Tis an obvi-

The Author's Preface.

ous Remark, That the Memory of even the most Publick Transactions is of a very tender Constitution, and seldom or never retains its Integrity, if care be not taken to preserve it, while 'tis fresh and unfaded; in some measure resembling Summer Fruits that must be either hastily gather'd, or eaten corrupted, if I may be allow'd to borrow the Thought of a \* Modern Historian. Besides the Undistinctness, which is the common Inconveniency of remote Views. They who undertake to write an Account of a Mans Life, after a long Series of Years has in a manner set him out of our reach, are

History of Emeric Count of Tekeli, P. 2.

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are oblig'd to depend on the Credit of an uncertain Tradition, that confounds real with imaginary Events, and not unfrequently suppresses the most remarkable Actions of the Person, whose Memory it pretends to preserve. In the midst of so much Confusion 'tis impossible to avoid Mistakes: For that which bears the nearest resemblance to Truth is frequently observ'd to be only a well-contriv'd Lye; and oftentimes a seeming Fable after a diligent Enquiry, is found to be a certain Truth. The Life of great Persons is full of Contradictions; and those Characters of em, and Judgments concerning

## The Author's Preface.

*their Actions that are founded on the Idea they give of themselves on certain occasions, rarely amount to more than false, or at best uncertain Conjectures.*

*On the other side, if I had publish'd this History sooner, it might have been suspected of Flattery. The Ministers of great Princes are no less terrible than their Masters, and if ever an impartial Historian runs the hazard of an unjust and rigorous Treatment, for a faithful Representation of the Management of Affairs, 'tis when he attempts to unskreen the Designs of those who are the present Dispensers of Rewards and Punishments. If*  
M. Col-

## The Author's Preface.

*M. Colbert's Life had appear'd while his Sons were actually possess'd of the highest Posts in the Government, the Reader might have justly suspected me of a Design to make my Court to the Children, by writing a Panegyrick on the Father. But the present Posture of Affairs leaves no room for any suspicion of that Nature; and therefore I expect to be believ'd when I protest that the only Motive which engag'd me in writing the History of that Great Minister, was my desire to acquaint Posterity with the most memorable Actions of his Life. And as I began the Work without the least curb upon*

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upon my Sincerity, so in the prosecution of it I have confin'd my self to a scrupulous Observance of the Truth: Nor have I been less careful to expose his Faults, than to do Justice to his Perfections.

The Reader will easily perceive that I never take the liberty to wander from my Subject. For he must not expect to find in this Treatise a continu'd History of the Reign of Lewis XIV. but the Life of one of his Chief Ministers of State, who sustain'd not the entire Burthen of the Government, but was confin'd to the Management of certain particular Affairs: And I have endeavour'd

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deavour'd with all possible Exactness, to trace him thro' the whole Course of his Life in the discharge of his peculiar Employments, without taking notice of those general Affairs that were not properly a part of his Province, any further than he had a share in 'em.

I cou'd not forbear adorning my Work with large and exact Descriptions of his Majesty's principal Buildings, that were erected under the Inspection of this Minister: For besides that Relations of this Nature are extremely agreeable to the Curious and Ingenious part of Mankind, these admirable Works are so many convincing Proofs

The Author's Preface.

*Proofs of the Activity, Vigilance, and indefatigable Diligence of him to whose Care they were committed. The Discharge of so important a Trust might have been the entire and glorious Occupation of an ordinary Genius; but it was the least part of M. Colbert's Task. For besides, he had the Management of Naval Affairs, and of the King's Revenue, which he still found means to encrease by some new Expedient. He was also entrusted with the Care of promoting Trade, and of improving ingenious Arts: And 'tis the duty of every Frenchman to acknowledge that the Industry and*

The Author's Preface.

*and Politeness of our Artizans is an effect of the admirable Conduct of that Minister, and that he depriv'd our Neighbours of the Servile Tribute which our wasteful Luxury paid to the Arts that flourish'd among 'em.*

*But our Gratitude to M. Colbert must not betray us into a disingenuous partiality: Neither ought we to be so dazzled with the pleasing view of the shining part of his Life, as to forget or dissemble his Faults. For 'tis certain that he never scrupl'd to commit any Act of Injustice that might serve to enrich his Sovereign; and that notwithstanding his affected Probity, and seeming Neglect of his*

The Author's Preface.

*his own Interest, he omitted no Opportunity to fill his Coffers by indirect Methods. This is the dark and blemish'd Reverse of his Character; and the truth of these Assertions will appear evidently to the attentive Peruser of the following Treatise.*

*To the History of M. Colbert I have added that of his Eldest Son, the Marquess of Seignelay, who succeeded him in the Offices of Secretary of State, and of Commander and Great Treasurer of His Majesty's Orders. At present there are none of his Sons alive but James-Nicholas, Archbishop of Rohan, and Lewis, Colonel of the Regiment of Champaign.*

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THE

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THE  
L I F E

OF

*John Baptist Colbert,*

Minister, and Secretary

of STATE.

**T**Here is something so singular and surprizing, both in the *Quickness* of *Monseur Colbert's* Advancement, and the *Grandeur* of his Fortune, that After-Ages will hardly be induc'd to give Credit to that part of our Modern History, if they be not inform'd by what Steps and Methods he rais'd himself to so high a Degree of Power.

He was of a middle Stature, rather Lean than Fat; his Hair was black, and so thin, that he was oblig'd to begin very soon to  
B make



The LIFE of

make use of a Cap. His Mien was low and dejected; he had a gloomy Air, and stern Aspect. He spoke little, and would never return a present Answer, till he had first receiv'd a particular account in Writing of what was propos'd to him. He manag'd Business with unwear'd Application, and a surprizing Exactness: the Clearness of his Judgment enabl'd him to expedite all sorts of Affairs speedily, and without Confusion. He was of a slow Conception, but spoke judiciously of every thing, after he had fully comprehended it. He was a Lover of Learning, tho' he never apply'd himself to the Study of it. He was a great Pretender to Probity; but tho' he endeavour'd to perswade the World that he neglected his own Interest, and seem'd resolv'd to owe his Riches merely to the King's Bounty, he scrupl'd not to fill his Coffers by indirect Methods. He affected a great deal of Moderation in the beginning of his Ministry; but as soon as he saw his Fortune secur'd by great Offices and powerful Alliances, he gave a full Career to his vast Designs, and spar'd nothing to advance his Glory, tho' he manag'd his private Affairs with a great deal of Frugality. He sacrific'd Honour, Integrity, Gratitude, and every thing else to the Interests of his Ambition. The Hardness and Inflexibility of his Temper was altogether insupportable. He beheld without concern the Misery of an infinite number of Families, whom he had ruin'd to enrich his Master's Treasury. But though he never employ'd his Power for the

John Baptist Colbert.

the good of others, it must be acknowledg'd that he never shed the Blood of his Enemies. He was crafty and subtil: His outward Behaviour was modest, accompanied with a great deal of seeming Plainness and Simplicity. He lov'd, and was acquainted with ingenious Arts: He slept little, and was sober. Though he was naturally fowre and morose, he knew how to act the part of a Lover in the Company of those Ladies who had touch'd his Heart; but he always treated 'em in publick with his accusom'd Gravity, that he might not be thought capable of suffering himself to be govern'd by the fair Sex.

He was the Son of *Nicholas Colbert Sieur de Vandieres*, and of *Mary Puffort*; and was born at *Rheims* in *Champaigne*, in *November 1625.* His Grand-father was a Wine-Merchant, and his Father at first follow'd the same Occupation; but afterwards he traded in Cloth, and last of all in Silk. Our future Minister was very young when his Father sent him to *Paris*, to be instructed in the Arts of Merchandizing: From thence he went to *Lyons*, but falling out with his Master, return'd to *Paris*, where he was first Clerk to a Notary, and then to *Biterne*, Attorney of the Chastelet, whom he left to serve *Sabathier*, Treasurer of the Money rais'd by the Sale of Offices, in the Quality of a Commissary or Deputy. In the Year 1648. his Kinsman *John Baptist Colbert*, Lord of *S. Pouange*, preferr'd him to the Service of *Michael le Tellier*, Secretary of State, whose Sister he had marry'd; and the Youth

1625.

1640.

1648.

1648. was quickly taken notice of for his Diligence, and Exactness in executing all the Commissions that were entrusted to his Care.

One day his Master sent him to Cardinal Mazarin with a Letter written by the Queen-Mother, and order'd him to bring back the Letter after that Minister had seen it. Colbert arriving at Sedan, where the Cardinal then was, presented the Queen's Letter to him, with another from le Tellier, to his Eminency; and returning the next day for an Answer, he receiv'd only a seal'd Packet; but not seeing the Queen's Letter, he ask'd the Cardinal for it, who told him that all was in the Packet, and bid him return to his Master. The wary Messenger not satisfi'd with that Answer, broke up the Seal in the Cardinal's Presence, who being surpriz'd at his Boldness, chid him for his Sawciness, and snatch'd the Packet out of his hand; Colbert, not in the least daunted with so rough a Treatment, reply'd, That he believ'd his Eminency had entrusted the Care of closing the Packet to one of his Secretaries, who, probably, had forgotten to put in the Queen's Letter. The Cardinal pretending Business put him off till the next Day, but at last, after several Delays and Denials, seeing him always at the Closet-Door, he restor'd the Letter, which Colbert view'd very attentively, to see whether it was the same he deliver'd; and went away without seeming to take notice of the Cardinal's Anger, who ask'd him whether he thought him capable of so much Baseness as to counterfeit a Paper. Some time after the Cardinal

1648. nal returning to Court, and wanting one to write his Agenda, or Memorandums, desir'd le Tellier to furnish him with a fit Person for that Employment: and Colbert being presented to him, he had still some confus'd Remembrance of him, and was desirous to know where he had seen him. Colbert was afraid to put him in mind of Sedan, least the Remembrance of his Importunacy, in demanding the Queen's Letter, should renew the Cardinal's Anger; but his Eminency was so far from hating him for his Faithfulness to his late Master, that he receiv'd him on condition, That he should serve him with like Zeal and Fidelity.

Colbert apply'd himself wholly to the Advancement of his Master's Interests, and gave him so many Marks of his Diligence and Skill, that after the Death of Joubert his Eminency's Intendant, he was chosen to succeed in that Post. He accommodated himself so dexterously to the Inclinations of that Minister, by retrenching his superfluous Expences, that he was entrusted with the Management of that gainful Trade of selling Benefices and Governments. It was by his Counsel that the Cardinal oblig'd the Governours of Frontier Places to maintain their Garrisons with the Contributions they exacted; and his Eminency was extremely pleas'd with that Advice. He was sent to Rome to negotiate the Reconciliation of Cardinal de Rets, for which the Pope had shew'd some Concern, and to persuade his Holiness to consent to the dis-incarcerating of Castro, according to the Treaty con-

1648. cluded with his Predecessour *Urban VIII.* At his Return, to requite his good Services, he was made Secretary of the Queen's Dispatches, which Office he afterwards sold to *Brisacier*, Master of the Court of Accounts, and bought that of President in the same Company, who happily for him, but unhappily for themselves, would not receive him; for he became their greatest Enemy, and depriv'd 'em of the profit of the *Debets* of Accounts, for which he made a Bargain with *Vilette*, and afterwards with others, to the great Prejudice of the Chamber, tho' the King did not receive much Advantage by the Alteration.

As soon as he saw himself in Favour at Court, he began to think of a convenient Match, and took to Wife *Mary Charon*, Daughter of *James Charon*, *Sieur de Menars*, a Native of *Blois*, (who of a Cooper and Wine-Broker, was become Pay-Master of the Infantry), and of *Mary Begon* his Wife. *Charon* had higher Designs, for he look'd upon his Daughter as one of the Richest Matches in *Paris*, by reason of the great Legacies and Inheritances that would fall to her: but at last he consented to this Proposal, that he might be exempted from a Tax with which he was threatned. The great Respect which *Colbert* shew'd to his Wife did not hinder him from gratifying in some measure his particular Inclinations, and from yielding to the Charms of *Frances de Godet*, Widow of *John Gravé* *Sieur de Launay*, a Norman Lady, of a smooth and insinuating Temper, the usual Character of

of those of her Country. She was of a graceful Stature, and Majestick Gate: Her Face was round, her Complexion white and clear, her Hair light, and her Eyes blue. *Launay Gravé* a rich Partizan marry'd her after the Death of his first Wife, whose Servant she had been, and left her a great Estate. *Colbert* took care to introduce his Mistress to the Queen and Cardinal *Mazarin*, with whom he made her play very frequently; and she made use of those Privileges for the Advantage of him who procur'd 'em to her; for being of a quick and piercing Wit, she gave him notice of every thing she heard, that had any relation to his Interests: nor was he ingrateful to one that had done him so considerable Service; for he contriv'd a way to make her the Wife of *Anthony de Brouille*, Marquis of *Pienc*, Knight of the Orders, and Governour of *Pignerol*.

The Marchioness of *Pienc* was not the only Person that touch'd the Heart of *Colbert*: for besides her, he made Love to *Ann Margaret Vanel*, Wife of *John Coissier*, Master of the Court of Accounts, a young Lady of a low Stature, but extremely pretty, and adorn'd with all the Advantages of a gay Humour and lively Wit. His frequent Visits, and Supping at her House were ascrib'd to his intimate Friendship with her Father-in-law, who had been Receiver of the Consignations with *Betaut*, and to the Lessons of Politicks he usually took from her Husband, who was perfectly well acquainted with all the Negotiations

1648. and Intrigues of the Treaty of *Munster*, as having been Secretary to the Embassy under *Abel de Servien*, whose Deputy he still was in the Super-Intendancy. But our States-Man was soon weary of the Levity and Fickleness of that Lady, and resign'd his Pretensions to his Brother *Edward Francis Colbert*, whom he had made Captain of the Guards, to *Roussseau* Cardinal *Mazarin's* Secretary, and to the Commander of *Gault*, who had more time to bestow on their Amours. Ambition was the predominant Passion of *John Baptist Colbert*, and though he had not yet arriv'd to that eminent height of Grandeur, to which he afterwards attain'd, he had already advanc'd all his Brothers. For he had obtain'd the Intendancy of *Alsatia*, with the Dignity of a President à *Mortier* in the Parliament of *Paris*, for *Charles Colbert*, and the Bishoprick of *Luçon*, with the Office of the King's Library-Keeper for his Brother *Nicholas*.

*Mazarin* at his Death recommended *Colbert* to his Majesty, as a fit Person to regulate Affairs relating to the *Finances* which stood much in need of Reformation: for *Nicholas Fouquet*, who was then Superintendant, had borrow'd such vast Sums, that he was above four Years behind-hand. He had rais'd Rents on the *Third Penny* and a *Half*, which nevertheless yielded no more than the *Seventh Penny*, because only two Quarters were paid, and even that was very much. He had also erected Offices without Charge, and had deliver'd blank Patents, which the Purchasers were to enjoy with-

out

out supplying the Places, so that the King was depriv'd of his Right to Surrenders. And besides there was a *Third Part* remitted at each Bargain, which oppress'd the People without the least Advantage to the King. The Edicts were chang'd to Bills or Tickets, which were afterwards cut into so many Pieces, that 'twas impossible to know the Original: and he paid so excessive Rates of Interest for the Loans he receiv'd, that the Crown must have for ever remain'd unable to discharge the Sums, if a quick Stop had not been put to these Disorders. The King resolv'd to entrust the Regulation of his Revenue to *Colbert*, having already receiv'd some Marks of his Frugality: for he remember'd that he had sav'd him a considerable Summ of Money, by changing the fine Silver Edgings that were fitted to the Ribbons with which the Habits of the *Hundred Switzers* were adorn'd, to counterfeit Lace: And therefore his Majesty made him Intendant of the *Finances*, together with *Breteuil*, *Marin*, and *Herward*; and erected a Chamber of Justice, compos'd of Six Counsellours of State, Six Masters of Requests, Four Counsellours of the Parliament of *Paris*, Two Counsellours of the Great Council, Two Masters of the Court of Accounts, Two Counsellours of the Court of Aids, and a Counsellour out of each of the other Parliaments, to call to an account, and arraign such Farmers as were guilty of Misdemeanors. The Chamber, for a Specimen of their Justice, and for an Example and Terrour to the rest of these Officers, caus'd

some

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1648. some of the meanest of 'em to be hang'd: and these Executions made way for the Imprisonment of the Superintendant, the Three Treasurers of the Exchequer, and the richest Partizans or Farmers.

Before they proceeded to secure Fouquet, he was dexterously perswaded to resign the Office of Attorney-General of the Parliament of Paris, lest he should claim the Privilege which that Dignity gave him of being try'd by the Chambers in a full Assembly. He was apprehended at Nantes on the Fifth of September, 1661. whither the Court was remov'd to quiet some Disorders in Bretagne: he was afterwards carry'd from thence, and committed close Prisoner to the Castel of St. Angers, where he was seiz'd with a very dangerous Sickness. At the same time the Papers which he brought along with him were secur'd, and the Seal affix'd to his Houses at Paris, S. Mandé and Vaux, and to his Apartments at the Louvre. His Papers that were seiz'd at Nantes, with those of his Deputy Pellisson, were examin'd for several days by Boucherat, Counsellour of State, Pellot, Master of Requests, and Colbert; and afterwards transmitted to Fontainebleau without taking an Inventory of 'em. The Seal was affix'd on his House at Paris by the Lieutenant-Civil, assisted by the King's Advocate of the Chastelet, for the Interest of the Publick, and in presence of the Prisoner's domestick Servants. The same Ceremonies were not observ'd at Fontainebleau; and because they mistrusted the Exactness of Poncet, who

John Baptist Colbert.

who was one of the Commissioners, they sent him to assist at the taking of the Inventory of S. Mandé. Barin de la Galissoniere was substituted in his Place, but d'Aligre, Director of the Finances, and Colbert, manag'd the Affair alone, and proceeded with so much Eagerness and Diligence, that they spent even Sundays and Holydays in that Occupation. The greatest part of 'em were not subscrib'd, and even they carried the Bundles to his Majesty's Closet without marking their Numbers. As for the Papers at S. Mandé, Poncet had brought 'em to Fontainebleau; but after he had acquainted the King, that, according to the Forms of Justice, they ought to remain in the place where they were found, till the Person who own'd 'em was brought to an Account, his Majesty commanded 'em to be carry'd back to S. Mandé. The King had appointed the Lieutenant-Civil to affix the Seal to that House; but Colbert suppress'd a second Order, which gave that Commission to Bernard and l'Alleman, Masters of the Requests. By Virtue of this last Order, the Seal was affix'd on the 8th of the same Month of September, by those Commissioners, in presence of Charles de la Nouë and Jacob Bezemont, the Prisoner's Servants. But Colbert suspecting 'em of Remissness and Neglect, obtain'd a new Commission for Lauzon and la Fosse, Counsellours of State, who with Poncet were appointed to take the Inventory: after which, the first Commissioners having own'd and recogniz'd their Seal, deliver'd up the Keys of the

1661. the Doors, Trunks and Cupboards, to those who were appointed to succeed 'em, who affix'd a new Seal, though their Power did not reach so far, and put the Signet (which they ought to have kept) into the hands of Foucaut, Clerk to the Commission, and Colbert's Creature, who by this means became Master of all the Papers, since the Keys were entrusted to his Clerk. And therefore as soon as he was inform'd that Foucaut was Master of all, leaving his Business at Fontainebleau, he went immediately to S. Mandé to be present at the taking of the Inventory, tho' he had no Authority to go thither. The Reason that made him so desirous to seize on these Papers, was not only to deprive Fouquet of what might serve for his Defence, but also to secure himself against all Accusations by suppressing those Papers which might have discover'd his Guilt. For, during the Life of Cardinal Mazarin, the Administration of three fourth Parts of the Charge of Superintendent, and the Receipt and Disbursement of the best part of the Money in the Kingdom, was manag'd in that Minister's Palace, and according to his Orders, by Colbert, who, if his Bills had been inserted in the Inventory, would have been oblig'd to give an account of all that was contain'd in 'em.

The Papers found in the House at Vaux were put in two Trunks, before any Inventory was taken of 'em, and deliver'd to Foucaut, with Orders to bring 'em to the Castle of the Louvre: nor were they put in Order till three

1661. three Months after, when *la Fosse* and *Poncet* made a List of 'em with as little Regularity as they had observ'd at *S. Mandé*. In the mean time, while the Commissioners were employ'd in taking the Inventories, the Prisoner was remov'd from *Angers* to *Amboise*, and from thence to *Vincennes*, about the end of *December*, 1661. Hitherto he had been kept in Prison, though he could not be reputed a Criminal, because he had not yet been proceeded against according to the Forms of Justice. They began not to inform against him till in the Year 1662, by Virtue of an Order dated *March 3*: and no Decree pass'd against him till the 17th of *June*. The Order awarded that his Person should be secur'd, and committed during the King's Pleasure to the Inner Tower in the Castle of *Vincennes*.

*Fouquet* was not only accus'd of Misdemeanour in the Management of the *Finances*: they also laid to his Charge, That he had drawn up in Writing the beginning of a Scheme, instructing his Friends and Relations what to do, in case he should be apprehended; that he had fortify'd *Belle Isle*, and furnished it with Cannon; that he had been possess'd of the Government of *Concarneau*; and had made several Persons by written Obligations, engage themselves to advance his Interest. As for his Cheating the Publick, or Embezzling the Treasure of the Kingdom, 'twas pretended that he had taken interest under the pretext of forg'd Loans; that he had advanc'd Money which he ought not to have done,

1661. done, as being the Disposer of it; that he had confounded the King's Money with his own, and embezled it to his private Use; that he had acquir'd an Interest in the Farms, and made Bargains under borrow'd Names; that he had purchas'd Rights and Estates of the King at under Rates; that he had taken Pensions and Gratifications from the Farmers and Purchasers to let 'em have a cheaper Bargain of their Farms and Purchases; that he had reviv'd several expir'd Notes or Tickets bought at the *Thirtieth Penny*; and had made 'em pass at their full Value; that he had renew'd on certain Funds illegal Tickets, arising from Orders granted to Farmers for the Re-imbursment of Treaties or Leases that were made void; and that he had made Treaties or Agreements disadvantageous to the King, and wasted 'em in idle Expences. *Colbert*, who accus'd *Fouquet* for taking Pensions of the Farmers, had himself receiv'd one of fifty thousand Livres a Year from *Claude Girardin*, in Consideration of which, and of a hundred thousand Livres paid to Cardinal *Mazarin*, a Lease of the *Aids* was adjudg'd to *Girardin* for five hundred thousand Livres less than *Forcoal* and his Associates had paid for it, though there was no Pretext to dispossess 'em. To conceal that Bribe, *Colbert* rais'd the Cardinal's Benefices a hundred thousand Livres, which *Girardin* at the same time took to farm. Since *Fouquet* had no hand in that Affair, there was no mention made of it at his Trial, though it was a part of his Charge. 'Tis plain from what

1661. what happen'd on occasion of the Woods of *Normandy*, that *Colbert* was as much concern'd as *Fouquet* in Treaties of that Nature: For *Berrier* and *Bechamel* who farm'd 'em, seeing an Action brought against 'em in the Chamber of Justice, threaten'd, That if he did not put a stop to the Prosecution, they would produce their Agreement of Partnership, in which his Share alone equall'd both theirs; after which the whole Business was hush'd up.

1662. On the 4th of *March*, 1662, *Fouquet* was examin'd the first time by *Poncet*, Master of Requests, and *Renaud* Counsellour in the Parliament of *Paris*, on Articles resulting from the Informations that were brought against him, and others alledg'd by *Denys Talon*, Advocate-General of the same Parliament, and Attorney-General of the Chamber. The Examination lasted above a Month, and they proceeded no farther till *June*. *Fouquet* had all along refus'd to own the Authority of the Chamber; and though the King's Council had by several Orders confirm'd its Jurisdiction, and commanded him to submit and give in his Answer under pain of being proceeded against as Mute, he still persisted in his Plea, declining the Authority of the Court. Yet his Process was appointed by an Order of the Chamber, dated *October 4*. 1662. and referred to *le Fevre d'Ormesson*, Master of Requests, and *Cornier de Sainte Helene*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Rhoan*.

*Fouquet*

1664. *Fouquet* was brought from *Vincennes* on the 14th of *November*, 1664. to the Chamber of Justice in the *Arsenal*, to be examin'd on the Criminals Seat; and the examination continu'd till the 4th of *December*, when *d'Ormesson* began to make his report, adjudging him to perpetual Banishment, and his Estate to be forfeited to the King, paying a Fine of a hundred thousand Livres. *Sainte Helene*, who was also empower'd to make the Report, voted for Death, adding, That though the Evidence was strong enough to convict him of *Peculate* or of Robbing and Embezelling the King's Treasure, which ought by the Law to be punish'd with Hanging; yet he was of Opinion that the Prisoner should only be beheaded. *Sainte Helene* was follow'd, and his Judgment confirm'd by *Pussort*, *Colbert's* Uncle, and Counsellour in the great Council; *Feriol*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Mets*; *Gisancourt*, Counsellour in the great Council; *Noguets*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Pau*; *Heraut*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Bretaigne*; and *de la Toison*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Dijon*. *Roquesante*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Provence*, who voted next, was of *Ormesson's* Opinion; as were also *du Verdier*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Bordeaux*; *de la Baume*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Grenoble*; *Masenu*, Counsellour in the Parliament of *Tboloufe*; *le Ferron*, Counsellour in the Court of Aids; *de Mousy*, Master of the Court of Accounts; *Catinat* and *Renard*, Counsellours in the Parliament of *Paris*; *Benard de Rezé*, Master

1664. Master of Requests; and *Philip de Pontchartrain*, President in the Chamber of Accounts, *Poncet* and *Voisin* gave Judgment of Death, as well as the Chancellour; but it was carry'd for Banishment by four Voices; after which Sentence was given on the 20th of *December*, 1664. according to *d'Ormesson's* Verdict.

The King being inform'd of the Nature of the Sentence, and considering that it might be a thing of dangerous Consequence, to send a Person out of the Kingdom, who was so particularly acquainted with the most important Affairs of the State, chang'd the Punishment to perpetual Imprisonment, and order'd him to be carry'd to *Pignerol* on the Frontiers of *Piedmont*, whither he began his Journey two days after, under a Guard of a hundred Musketeers, and there ended his Life in the Year 1680. Immediately after his Condemnation, his Mother and Wife receiv'd Orders to retire to *Montluçon* in *Bourbonnois*, with his Brother *Fouquet*, the King's first Gentleman of the Horse. His Son-in-law, the Marquess of *Charôt*, with his Wife, were order'd to *Ancein* in *Bretaigne*; and *Bailly*, Advocate-General of the Great Council, was commanded to retire to his Abbey of *St. Thierry*, because he pleaded for him with too much eagerness.

The Difference between the Tempers of *Colbert* and *Fouquet*, appears plainly by their Carriage to the Author of the *Burlesque Gazette*, who besides a Pension of two hundred Livres from *Mademoiselle de Monpensier*, had another  
C of



1664. of two hundred Crowns allow'd him by *Fouquet*. This Gazetteer after his unfortunate Benefactour was apprehended, spoke advantageously of him in his Gazette, protesting that though he would not meddle with Affairs of State, he cou'd not forbear expressing his Gratitude for the Obligations he had receiv'd. *Colbert*, knowing that he had a Pension, took it from him; which *Fouquet*, who was then in the *Bastile*, had no sooner heard, but he resolv'd to make up that Loss with Advantage, tho' he was depriv'd of all his Estate, and in a Condition that requir'd vast Summs of Money to defray his necessary Charges. For *Mademoiselle de Scudery*, at his desire, sent fifteen hundred Livres to *Loret* by a trusty Messenger, who after he had discours'd with him for a considerable time, took occasion to leave that Summ in a Purse without his Knowledge.

*Bruant des Carrieres*, Master of the Court of Accounts, and *Fouquet's* first Deputy, made his escape out of the Kingdom, and retir'd to *Liège* as soon as his Master was secur'd. But the Chamber indited him for Contempt, and condemn'd him to be hang'd; after which his Office in the Court of Accounts was suppress'd. He had bought of *Margaret Ranchin*, Widow of *Claude Vanel*, a House in *New-street* in the *Little Fields*, for 150000 Livres, in the Name of *Joan de Chaumont*, Widow of *Claude Girardin*. This House stood very convenient for *Colbert*, who liv'd in another contiguous to it, which he had purchas'd of *Batru*: and the Temptation was so strong, that he us'd all his Art

Art to make himself Master of the House, without putting his hand in his Purse. At last he took advantage of several Orders or Sentences of the Chamber of Justice, by which the Widow and Heirs of *Vanel* were fin'd in 350000 Livres, and under that pretext procur'd Widow *Girardin* to be assign'd in a Declaration of Mortgage. But since these Proceedings were of no greater Force in Law than the Judgment of the same Chamber, by which a great Tax was already laid on *Claude Girardin*, the Son of *Joan Chaumont*, *Colbert* tax'd or assess'd the Inheritance of *Claude Girardin*, the Father, at a hundred and twenty thousand Livres, though he had never been concern'd in the King's Affairs, nor had ever enjoy'd any other Office than that of Comptroller of the Sallaries of the Officers of the Parliament at *Rhoan*, for which he was not at all liable to account. By Virtue of these Sentences a Decree was obtain'd, no less irregular than the rest of the Proceedings, and the House was adjudg'd to *Colbert*, against the Heirs both of *Vanel* and *Girardin*, for a hundred and twenty thousand Livres, deducting the Summs due to the King: but *Colbert* suspecting the Validity of his Title, procur'd a Grant of it from his Majesty. During the Prosecution of *Fouquet's* Deputies and Farmers, *Bruant* stay'd at *Liege*, where he performed such considerable Services to the State in 1672, that he obtain'd a Pardon, and returned to *Paris* after *Colbert's* Death, thinking to be reinstated in the Possession of his House.

1664. House: but he had only the Advantage of venting his Passion in his Writings, for the Council would not meddle with what had been decreed by the Chamber of Justice.

Paul Pellisson had the good Fortune to escape the Fate of his Fellow-Deputy: For Colbert's Ambition to be thought Learned, and to acquire the Esteem of those who were really so, prompted him not only to procure his Liberty, but to take him into his own Service, after his late Master's Condemnation. Pellisson was the younger Son of a Counsellour in the Court of Judicature establish'd by the Edict of Castres: his Patrimony was inconsiderable, but his Learning and Politeness supply'd the Defects of his Fortune. His Elder Brother bought a Counsellour's Place in the Supreme Court of Bresse, which was afterwards united to the Parliament of Metz: and our Cadet went to Paris with Isarn, Brother to the Clerk of the above-mention'd Court, instituted by the Edict. These two Adventurers were intimate Friends, and there was a great Affinity between their Tempers: they were both remarkable for Sweetness of Conversation, and could write as well in Verse as in Prose. But there was not the same Resemblance between their Faces; for the Small-pox had very much disfigur'd Pellisson's, (whose Features were not very regular before,) by leaving Marks of its Fury on his Fore-head and Cheeks, and so distorting his Eye-lids, that the White was too much uncover'd. On the contrary, Isarn was form'd for Love, his Stature,

1664. ture, Complexion, Features, Hair (which was black, curl'd, and in great abundance), and every thing else were graceful and agreeable. They address'd themselves both together to Mademoiselle de Scudery; and endeavour'd to divert her with the Productions of their Wit: Pellisson made Stanzas on a Linget that was her Favourite; and Isarn wrote the Louis d'Or, a small Miscellany of Prose and Verse. But at last she declar'd for the former, and preferr'd his Linget to the other's Louis d'Or. She describ'd in her Cyrus her Amours with Pellisson, under the Names of Sappho and Phaon; and to shew that her Passion was beyond the Reach of Matter, and would never make her throw her self into the Sea after the Example of that Learned Græcian Lady, she drew in her Clelia a Scheme of her Love, which she call'd Tender Friendship. And even she could not forbear discovering to Pellisson her Inclination toward him, in these Extemporary Verses.

Enfin, Acanthe, il se faut rendre,  
Vôtre Esprit a charmé le mien;  
Je vous fais Citoyen de Tendre,  
Mais de grace n'en dites rien.

At last, Acanthus, I must yield,  
Charm'd by the Beauties of thy Wit;  
But never let it be reveal'd,  
That I to Tender thee admit.

This Union of Minds was so much taken notice of at Paris, and seem'd so pleasant an Adventure,

The LIFE of

1664. Adventure, that it was made the Subject of a Song, which grew very common.

L'Amour met tous sous son Empire,  
Et ce n'est pas une Chançon;  
Sapho même soupire  
Pour le docte Peliffon?

What Man is he that dares defie  
The univerfal Monarch, Love;  
Who makes Platonic Sapho figh,  
The Learn'd Peliffon's Heart to move?

But that Learned Person had too great a Mind to be fatisfy'd with fuch Triffes. The French Academy had fo great an Esteem for him, that they admitted him into their Number, though there was no Place vacant. He wrote the History of that Society, enrich'd with an Account of its Inftitution and Statutes, and the Lives of its Members: The Subject he undertook is defcrib'd with a great deal of Exactnefs, and the Reader is fometimes divert-ed with a pleafant Mixture of Praise and Sa-tyr, as in the Account of Voiture. This Work was very much esteem'd, and rais'd the Re-putation of its Author: Fouquet, who had read it, receiv'd very favourably the Propofal which Mademoifelle de Scudery made him, of making that Historian one of his Deputies; and from that time entrusted him with the Care of Framing the Draughts of all the Let-ters of Importance, which he was oblig'd to write. He plac'd an entire Confidence in him,

John Baptift Colbert.

him, and beftow'd on him a newly-erected Office in the Court of Accounts, Aids, and Finances at Montpellier, where he was receiv'd in November 1659, when the Court pafs'd that way. He gave him a very fignal Mark of his Affection, when, upon his bare Recom-mendation, he protected de Mance, Farmer of the Gabels in Languedoc, with fo much Zeal and Eagernes againft the whole Province, who had conspir'd that Officer's Ruine. Nor was Peliffon an ingrateful Servant; for 'tis well known with what Vigour and Eloquence he vindicated his Master from the Crimes that were laid to his Charge. Colbert, who had feen the Collection of all thofe Pieces, print-ed in Holland in Six Volumes, conceiv'd fo high an Esteem for the Author, that he re-folv'd not only to fet him at Liberty, but to gain him entirely, by beftowing Favours up-on him: and Peliffon transferr'd all the Fidelity with which he had ferv'd Fouquet, to his new Master. 'Twas he who inspir'd that Mini-fter with a Defire to be admitted into the French Academy, into which he was receiv'd in the Place of Silhon, An. 1667. Colbert enter-tain'd alfo in his Service des Chiens, another of Fouquet's Deputies, but for a different Rea-son; for he thought he ow'd no lefs a Recom-pence to one that had done him fuch accep-table Service, by furnifhing him with Inftiru-ctions againft his Master. But 'tis impoffible to love a Traitour long, and Colbert fhortly after turn'd away that unfaithful Servant.

1664.

Notwithstanding my Resolution to observe the Order of Time with as much Exactness as a Work of this Nature will admit, I thought fit to make an uninterrupted Relation of the Fall and Disgrace of *Fouquet* and his Deputies; I shall in the next place, give an Account of the new Regulation of the *Finances*, and the Advancement of *Colbert* on the Ruines of that unfortunate Officer.

Immediately after *Fouquet's* Imprisonment, the Office of Superintendant was suppress'd, and a Council of the *Finances* establish'd, of which the *Mareschal de Villeroy* was declar'd the Chief. *Colbert* claim'd Admittance into that Council, not only as Intendant, but also by Virtue of his Office of Comptroller-General, which he enjoy'd alone, though it was formerly divided between *Breteuil* and *Marin*: and the other three Intendants, with the two Directors of the *Finances*, *d'Aligre* and *Morvanis*, were also admitted into the Council. Though *Colbert* had not the Name of Superintendant, he had all the Power and Authority that ever was enjoy'd by *Fouquet*, only with this difference, that all his Orders were presented to the King for his Approbation.

They left off discharging the old Exchequer-Tickets, which pass'd Current in Trade, at the Rate of the *Tenth Penny*, because the Farmers gave them in part of Payment for their Taxes, after the full Pardon that was granted them on Condition of discharging the Tickets by an Edict publish'd in *December*, 1665, and verify'd by the Parliament on the

21<sup>st</sup>.

1664.

21<sup>st</sup>. of the same Month; after which the Price of these Tickets fell so low, that one of a hundred thousand Livres has been sold for fifty Pistols. *Colbert* took that occasion to buy up a great number of 'em, and by recovering their full Value, made himself Master of those immense Summs, with which he purchas'd the Marquifates of *Seignelay*, and *Blainville*, and the Baronies of *Monetau*, *Chefny*, *Beaumont*, and *Sceaux*, with several other considerable Estates.

The new Rents which yielded excessive Incomes were suppress'd, and the Proprietors ordain'd to deliver up their Contracts to be discuss'd, to *de Seve* Counsellour of State, commission'd by the King for that Effect. The Reimbursement was intended for the Payment of the Taxes of those that were accountable, their Heirs, Deputies, and Partners: and for those who had never been concern'd with the King's Affairs, the Possession was laid upon the actual Payment of the *Finance*, by which means the Proprietors recover'd very little. Nor was this all, for even those were tax'd who in their Treaties had transferr'd Reimbursements of Rents or other Rights and Duties held of the King. And there was a particular Office erected in the House of *Puffort*, *Colbert's* Uncle, for re-purchas'd Rents, in pursuance of an Edict dated *January* 1665, and verify'd or approv'd on the 14<sup>th</sup> of the same Month.

The Suppression of the Rents procur'd a great Number of Enemies to *Colbert*: and even

1664. even one day going to visit Chancellour *Se-guier*, he was besieg'd in the Court by the Tenants who held the Rents, some of whom had the Confidence to threaten him. He seem'd to hear their Reasons, but his Design was to learn the Names of the Mutiniers; and at night he inform'd the King of what had happen'd, who order'd 'em to be apprehended. He thought the Imprisonment of those who were most forward, would have impos'd Silence on the rest; but he was deceiv'd, for some one or other appear'd every day to fright him. His Deputies, who were more fearful than he, endeavour'd to dissuade him from proceeding in that Affair, but could not prevail. It happen'd one Night, that *Picom*, his chief Deputy, who had the Misfortune to love Wine too much, started out of his Sleep, imagining that the Tenants held him by the Throat. The Noise he made alarm'd the whole House, and *Colbert* among the rest, who being inform'd of the Occasion of the Disturbance, turn'd away the poor Drunkard next Morning; tho', at the Desire of some Persons whom he could not deny, and on the Assurance they gave him that the Man was reform'd, he receiv'd him again some Years after, and kept him till his Death.

'Twas not thought sufficient to take the Reimbursements for the Payment of the Taxations; but the Offices, Lands, Houses, and other immoveable Goods belonging to the Three Treasurers of the Exchequer, the two *Monerots*,

*Monerots*, *Languet* and *Bansse* were seiz'd and adjudg'd to the King's Use. Several Courtiers made advantage of these Spoils: The House of *Sevre de Monerot* the Elder was given to the Duke of *Orleans*, to be united to his Park at *S. Cloud*; his House at *Paris* to the Duke of *Luxemburg*; and *Monerot* the Younger's House was bestow'd on the *Mareschal de Gramont*. They did not content themselves with seizing the Estates of the actual Possessours; but the same Judgment was awarded against Children, even though they had renounc'd their Fathers Inheritance; and against Purchasers, who had paid the Price of the Estates in Ready Money; nor could they prevent their Ruine, by sheltering themselves under the Authority of the Decree, which clears all Mortgages, and takes away all Encumbrances. The Sons-in-law of those who had been concern'd in these Affairs, not only lost all the Immoveable or Real Estates they had receiv'd in Dowry with their Wives, but were forc'd to pay the Taxations that were impos'd on their Fathers-in-law, without the least Regard to their Dignities; for Soldiers were quarter'd in the Houses of \* Presidents <sup>\* So called from a certain Cap they usually wear.</sup> a *Mortier*, merely becaus they had marry'd the Daughters of Farmers. Thus 'tis plain, that these Persons could no longer be call'd the King's Tutors, who attempted to usurp the Sovereign Authority during the King's Minority. The Offices of the Treasurers of the Exchequer were suppress'd; and *Bartillac*, who had been Treasurer to the Queen-Mother

1664. ther, was made Keeper of the Royal Treas-  
 ure. These violent Proceedings interrupted  
 the Trade of the Kingdom, without bring-  
 ing any considerable Summs into the King's  
 Coffers, by reason of the great Charge which  
 the Prosecution of the Design requir'd: and  
 therefore *Colbert* perceiving that he had made  
 himself the Object of the publick Hatred,  
 agreed with Twelve of the richest Farmers,  
 who undertook the Affair on Condition that  
 they should be exempted from the Payment  
 of their own Taxes; like Soldiers, who save  
 themselves from the Gallows by performing  
 the Office of Executioner upon their Compa-  
 nions. But in the midst of all those Trou-  
 bles, the Family of *Launay Gravé* remain'd  
 free from all manner of Prosecutions: and  
*Colbert*, who still retain'd a Kindness for the  
 Marchioness of *Piènes*, procur'd all her Re-  
 imbursements to be given her; a Favour  
 which she ow'd to his delightful Remem-  
 brance of his old Amours.

Hitherto I have shew'd *Colbert* on the most  
 disadvantageous side, but now I must turn  
 the Reverse of the Medal. *France* is oblig'd to  
 this Minister for the Establishment of her  
 Trade with the *East* and *West-Indies*: he con-  
 sider'd that the *Dutch*, who inhabit a barren  
 Country void of all Conveniencies, owe their  
 Power and Riches to their Trade; from  
 whence he concluded, that the King, who  
 possess'd in his own Dominions all that his  
 Neighbours wanted, had a much fairer Pro-  
 spect of Success in such an Undertaking. He  
 form'd

form'd and brought together two Companies, 1664.  
 one for the *East*, and another for the *West-Indies*,  
 and the King declar'd himself Protector  
 of both, granting 'em great Privileges, and  
 obliging himself by Contract, to lend 'em Six  
 Millions, without Interest. And besides, to  
 encrease the Fund, his Majesty engag'd the  
 Judges and Merchants in the same Design,  
 who were tax'd proportionably to their E-  
 states. These Companies have since settl'd  
 Factories in the Principal Cities of the *Indies*,  
 and the King of *Siam*, who is one of the  
 most powerful Princes of *Asia*, sent Ambaf-  
 sadours to his Majesty in the Year 1686.

On the 8th of *January*, 1664. *Colbert*  
 bought of *Ratabon* the Office of Superinten-  
 dant of the Buildings, and from that time  
 forward apply'd himself with so much Indu-  
 stry and Success to the Enlargement and Em-  
 bellishment of the Royal Houses, that they are  
 at present so many Master-Pieces of Archite-  
 cture. He began with the Palace of the *Tu-  
 illeries*, to which he join'd the Garden that  
 was separated from it by the Street. He or-  
 der'd a large *Parterre* or Flower-Garden to be  
 made before the Building, with three Basons,  
 dispos'd after the manner of a Triangle. By  
 his Directions the Bird-house, *Mademoiselle de  
 Guise's* Lodgings, and all the other Houses as  
 far as the Gate of *Conference*, were beaten  
 down, to make room for the *Terrass* that runs  
 along the River, as there is another opposite  
 to this, towards the Manage of the Great  
 Stables. A large Alley was planted there with  
 Indian

1664. *Indian* Chesnut-Trees, with two small ones on each side, reaching to *Renard's* Garden, which was taken in within the Inclosure of the *Tuilleries*, where the *Terrass* is cut through the Middle, to leave the Prospect of the \* *Cours* unobstructed, with a Passage to ascend thither on both sides, and a large Bason or Vase of a Fountain in the midst of the Garden, that takes up the greatest Part of it. On the right hand a Theatre was erected on a Grass-plot, for the Representation of Comedies, separated by a kind of *Parterre*, from an Amphitheatre, which is capable of containing above a thousand Persons, who may from thence conveniently behold the Shows that are presented on the Theatre. 'Twould be an endless Labour to describe all the Curiosities that are to be seen in the *Tuilleries*; such as the Labyrinth, the Orange-house, and the Marble Statue that represents *Time*, treading on *Envy* and *Falshood*.

\*This name is given to publick places of Resort, (such as Hide-Park) where Persons of Quality take the Air.

In the Year 1665. *Colbert* sent to *Rome* for *Cavalier Bernin*, to frame the Design of the *Louvre*, and procur'd him a Pension of two thousand Crowns. That Illustrious *Italian*, whose excellent Skill extended equally to Sculpture and Architecture, made the *Bust* or Half-Statue of the King, that adorns his Majesty's Cabinet. That admirable Piece not only represents all the Features of that great Monarch to the Life, but discovers that stately Mien which makes his Enemies tremble at the Head of his Armies, without losing the least Grace of that mild and sweet Air which

1664. which charms his Subjects: And besides it seems to express that vast and piercing Judgment which was never guilty of an Oversight, and that Piety which excites him to leave nothing unattempted for the Defence of Religion.

The same Minister repair'd the Royal Houses of *S. Germain en Laye*, *Fontainebleau* and *Chambord*. He caus'd four additional Buildings to be join'd to the first, which make that House a great deal more convenient than 'twas formerly: and he made use of *Sir S. Moreland* an *English* Mathematician, to embellish it with Water-Spouts of so extraordinary a height, that the chief of 'em is above 30. foot higher than the Dome that contains the Bell. As for *Versailles* it may be said that he rais'd it from the ground, as it were by Enchantment: 'Twas formerly a Dog-kennel, where *Lewis XIII.* kept his Hunting-furniture; and at present 'tis a Palace worthy of the great Monarch that lives in't. A long Avenue of four Rows of Trees leads to it, on the right hand of which is the Castle of *Clagny*, which his Majesty built for the Marchioness of *Montespan*.

'Tis seated near the ancient Barony of *Clagny*, at the side of a little and very old Building, the Beauty of which engag'd the King in this vast and chargeable Design. The Situation of this Castle is almost the same with that of *Versailles*; the Body of the Building has no separate Parts, but consists of a single Piece, with two double turning Wings, under which

1664. which there are two other single oblique Wings on the Fore-Front. The Court is 30. <sup>\* The Toise commonly contains six Feet.</sup> Toises broad, and 32. deep, without reckoning a Half-Moon which encloses it before, and increases its Largeness. You ascend to the lower Story by five square Steps, which raise the Story between four and five Foot high. Here there is a large Gallery 35. Toises long, and 25. Foot broad, compos'd of three Halls, somewhat broader than the Spaces left between 'em. The History of *Aeneas* is describ'd in several Pictures on the Vault, and above the Cornice that supports the Frames, there are some Complications of Figures in *Basso relievo*, representing several *Deities*, the *Elements*, *Seasons*, and *Parts of the Earth*, with their respective Qualities. The Vault of the great Hall in the middle, which is higher than the rest, is born by four *Tromps*: At the End of the Gallery you descend some Steps to an Orange-House pav'd with Marble, 24. Toises long, and 25. broad. The Chapel is at the other Corner on the right hand; its Ground-plot is round, and 30. Foot in Diameter. The great Stair-Case is in the right wing at the Entry; 'tis of an unusual Structure, and the Stones are very ingeniously dispos'd: it leads to a Porch join'd to the great Hall that separates two Apartments contiguous to two smaller ones; from whence in Tribunes or rail'd Places, Mass may be heard in the Chapel. *Mansard* was the Designer and Architect of this Building. The great Pavilion or Apartment in the Middle, is cover'd with

1664. with a Dome; the Ground-plot is square, and the rest of the Castle is cover'd with parted Roofs or Timber-work, after the Fashion introduc'd by *Mansard*.

The principal Ornaments of the Garden are a Wood of high Trees, several *Parterres* interwoven with Box into various Figures, Bowling-Greens of several Figures, Groves and Arbors of Lattice-Work embellish'd with Architecture. There are also very fair Hedge-Rows of *Myrtles*, which are full enough to contain Chests full of Orange-Trees, and other Shrubs, which seem to grow out of the Hedge-Rows, for the Chests are not seen. The Pond call'd *de Clagny* serves also for a Canal in sight of the Castle. The Ornaments with which *Colbert* beautify'd this House, are not at all comparable to those with which he embellish'd *Versailles*.

The great Avenue terminates in a spacious Plot of Ground that contains 180. *Toises* in Front, and two other Avenues, which end in the same Place, form a kind of Figure resembling a Goose's Foot. Here are the Great and Little Stables, where all the Officers have their Lodgings, and these Buildings are separated from the Castle by the above-mention'd void Place.

Each of the Stables consists of five Courts, the greatest of which is narrowest at the bottom, being only enclos'd before by a Rail 32. *Toises* in Length, and the Pavilions or additional Buildings of 9. *Toises*, which flank the Wings that are 37. *Toises* long, and return towards the Bottom of the Court, ending in a

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1664

Half-Moon made by two Arches of a Circle, which join a large outer Building in which is the Principal Gate. The two middle Courts are furrounded with Buildings 20 *Toises* long, and 12, broad. On each side without is a little Court for the Dung-hills, containing 20. *Toises* in Length, and 9. in Breadth, enclos'd before by a Partition-wall equal in Heighth to the first Story. These Buildings are contriv'd so low, as not to obstruct the Sight of the Castle; for the Level of the Tops answers within a little to the Marble Pavement of the little Court. From the great Arch at the Bottom of the little Court, and in the Middle of the outward Court, you enter into a large cover'd *Manage* 20 *Toises* long, and 8 broad, at the sides of which are two Stables. Behind the Stable there is a great *Manage* for *Jests* and *Turnaments*, before which is the *Dog-Kennel*.

As for the little Stables, the Coach-Houses are under the Arches of the Half-moon, at the Bottom of the Court: From the Gate of the Front-Building you enter into the largest Stable between two Ranks of Horses, 25. in each; and at the End there is a large Cop or Spherical Vault, containing 12. *Toises* in Diameter, which separates the two other Stables. There is an Entrance into the *Dog-Kennel* on each side, where there is a Garden rail'd in with Balisters, that takes up all the Front of the Building. This Structure is compos'd of a Story next the Ground, and another above that, without any apparent Roof. The great Court is oblique, and the Passage to it lies thro' two other smaller Courts. A Draw-bridge

1664

bridge leads into a large outward Court, more long than broad, furrounded with Iron Rails, with two Apartments one on each side, to which you ascend by two Stair-Cases of Brick very large and uncover'd. Here the Cooks, the Officers of the Buttery, Pantry, Fruiter, and several other of his Majesty's Servants have their Lodgings. At the other End of the outward Court are two great Arch'd Gates, one on each side, which open into the Town overagainst the Church and Market-Place. From this Court you pass into another square Court, pav'd with black and white Marble, with Fillets of another sort of white and red Marble: in the Midst of this Court there is a Vase of white Marble, with a *Groupe* or Complication of Figures of Brass, gilt. The Building consists of two Sides, and two Wings, which look into the Garden: The Chapel is on the right hand towards the King's Apartment, and all the Ministers are lodg'd below, on the two Sides.

The Stair-Case that leads to the King's Apartment is a Master-Piece of Architecture. 'Tis 11. *Toises* long, and 5. broad, comprehending the lower Steps, and those between the Stories or Resting-places. Three Arches in Front open an Entry into a Porch 39 Foot broad and 13 deep, which below is adorn'd with Compartments of Marble. On the upper part of the Stair and the Vault, there are Ornaments and Trophies in *Basso relievo*; from hence you ascend by three Steps, and three opposite Arches, to the first Landing-

1664. place or broad Step, containing 15 Foot in Breadth, which is likewise overcast with Compartments of Marble. Facing these Arches, there is a Stair-Cafe in Pannels of eleven Steps of Marble: The broad, or Resting-place above is of eleven Steps square. In the Thickness of the Wall there is a flat Nich, and in it a Marble Vase supported by two Dolphins of Brass: two *Tritons* which are above bear a double Scallop or Shell of Marble, adorn'd with a Head spouting Water into a Panier or Basket full of Shells, which forms a Nape that falls into the Marble Vase, and runs thro' another Head, and thro' the two Dolphins. The whole is of Brass.

The Spaces between the Stories or Landing-places, are ten Foot broad, and consist each of twenty Marble Steps. The Buttresses are of the same Matter, supported by Balisters of Brass, cut into Flowers and gilt. The two Resting-places are also overlaid with Compartments of Marble, and ten Foot broad; on each of which are four Doors richly adorn'd with Sculpture, that lead into the Apartments. On the same Resting-places there are Marble Columns and Pilasters of the *Ionic* Order, with Bases and Chapitres of Brass, gilt. The Bust of the King is plac'd against the Wall, and accompany'd with several Ornaments of the same Matter.

The four massive or solid Places at the sides of the four Doors of the Apartments, between the Pilasters, are full of Ornaments and Figures on a Ground of Gold, resembling Tapestry.

1664. Tapestry. In the four middle Spaces there are several Pictures representing his Majesty's Conquests. In the Intervals between the Massives and middle Spaces there are Galleries on each side of the same *Ionic* Order, and after the same Model, Pillars on which are represented Persons of several Nations, as if they were going into the Galleries. There are also Galleries above the first Cornish, and two more in the length of the Faces supported by *Terms*. On the Angles and at the End are large Sterns of Ships, bearing four Trophies of Arms like to those of the four Parts of the World. These Sterns are supported with Brackets in the Form of arch'd Buttresses, fortify'd with Horns of Plenty, and Scallops of Brass, at the Sides of which are Captives in Sculpture, and underneath Victory.

The Cieling is adorn'd with octangular *Basso Relievo's* full of Figures suitable to the Subject; and the antique Pieces are cover'd with large Curtains, the strings of which are held by *Terms*. In this Stair-cave they have also found room to place all the Muses, the Arts of Painting and Sculpture, Captives, the four parts of the World with their several Properties, all the Kings Actions, Poesie, History, Fame, and Mercury. All these Ornaments represent a Festival solemniz'd by the Deities of *Parnassus*, who are met together to receive the King at his return from the War. 'Tis suppos'd that the Painting is the Work of Genius's who appear in the Air adorning the

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Vault and all the rest of this magnificent place with Festoons. His Majesty is plac'd in the middle, to denote that the Festival is kept for him: and the People of all Nations who seem to pass into the Galleries, being variously habited according to the fashion of their several Countries, take a view of all these Wonders, according to their respective Characters in their passage to see that great Prince whose Reputation has charm'd 'em. All the Pictures are by the hand of *Le Brun*, and the Design of the Stair-case by *Mansard*.

The Great Hall leads into the Gallery which is 40 Toises long, and 36 Foot broad: here the History of the King is painted from the Peace of the *Pyrenees* to that of *Nimeghen*, where all his Majesties Actions are represented under Allegorical Figures, by the hand of *Le Brun*. Eight Niches in the Gallery contain the Antique Figures of *Apollo*, *Venus of Savona*, *Diana of Ephesus*, *Venus of Arles*, *Bacchus*, *Sleep*, and two Senatours. The three first were repair'd by *Girardin*, who also fitted Draperies of Brass gilt after the manner of Busts, to twelve Heads of Porphyry that represent the *Twelve Cæsars*, and to four others of Touchstone or Jett, which are the Heads of Illustrious Men. *Colbert* took care not only of the Building of this Gallery, but of all its Ornaments and Furniture; as Vessels, Boxes of Orange-Trees, Cisterns, Rows of Stands for Tapers, Silver Stands garnish'd with Branches and Candle-sticks of the same Metal, Vessels of Porphyry plac'd above and under Tables full

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full of precious Stones, which are multiplied by the Glasses that surround the Place. And he caus'd all those Pieces of Silver-Work to be wrought and carv'd with inconceivable Care and Exactness.

From this Gallery, the Way to the King's Apartment, lies through the Hall of *Mars*, which is full of Pictures, representing Battles and Sieges of Towns under Allegorical Figures. The Apartment contains a long Row of Pieces, and in the first Place the Throne, which is Silver, and eight Foot high. The Seat and Back, are supported by Children carrying Baskets of Flowers: and on the highest Part of the Seat which forms the Back, stands *Apollo* holding his Lyre, and crown'd with Laurel. On each side are *Justice* and *Strength* sitting, and below two Silver Stools with Cushions: at the two Angles are Stands for Tapers eight Foot high; and four branch'd Candle-sticks supported by Silver Stands six Foot high adorn the four Corners of the Room. The next Chamber is that of *Mercury*, then those of *Mars* and *Diana*, and the Halls of *Venus* and *Abundance*. The last leads into the Cabinet of Knacks or little Curiosities, so call'd because 'tis full of 'em: 'tis of an octangular Figure, with Niches in the Angles; the Vault is fram'd Dome-wise, and the Light is in the Middle. All the Work in this Cabinet is of Sculpture, of which a great part is of Brass gilt: 'tis surrounded with Glasses, and there are Degrees in the Niches before the Glasses. The rest of

1664. the Cabinet is full of Brackets, which as well as the degrees in the Niches are full of Curiosities; as Agats of all sorts, and fram'd into a thousand different Figures; Crystals of great value for the Fashion in which they are cut; little antique Figures of Brass, Figures of Gold cover'd with Jewels, and a great number of curious works and precious Stones of several Figures. There is a very fine Ship of Gold (for a device to cover the King's Meat) on the Chimney, and a large and rich Chest of Drawers in the Middle, full of an infinite number of ancient and modern Medals. There is also a Table eight Foot and a half long, and two and a half broad; the Ground is of White Marble, on which there is a Map of *France*, compos'd of inlaid Pieces of Marble, according to the exactest and latest Astronomical Observations. Each Province is distinguish'd by a Piece of Marble of a peculiar Colour, and cut exactly according to the irregular Figure, which the Frontiers of the Provinces make by entering into one another. The Names of the Provinces are mark'd in Capital Letters of Gold, and those of the Principal Towns in *Italick* Characters. The most contrary Colours are plac'd next each other, to heighten their Lustre: thus the Isle of *France* is of a clear blue, *Champagne* of red Porphyry, *Orleanois* of Opal, and *Beauce* of a *Fueille-mort* Colour. But the Curiousness of the Workman appears particularly in the Intersections which the Earth makes with the Sea, where all the Capes and Bays are observ'd with an uncon-

ceivable

1664. ceivable Exactness; and in the Lakes and Rivers that are preserv'd out of the Ground of the Table, notwithstanding the Smallness of the Lines which frequently exceed not the breadth of a Thread near the beginning of the Rivers, and their winding Course. In the Space of white Marble that denotes the *Mediterranean*, there is a Mariner's Compass of different Pieces of Marble curiously wrought; and in the other Space that stands for the *Ocean*, there are two Cartridges, in one of which is written *Carte de la France*, with those words borrow'd from *Virgil*, which make a kind of Devise of which *France* is the Body: *Has tibi exerit Artes*: The other Cartridge contains the Name of the Person who gave this Map to the King. The Ocean is bounded on the North with the nearest Parts of the Coast of *England*. The Border is compos'd of two Fillets of blue Marble (one of which is accompany'd with a Moulding or Edging) and one of black mark'd with the Degrees of Longitude and Latitude by little oblong Squares of white Marble, preserv'd out of the Ground of the Table.

Above the King's Apartment is that call'd the *Marble Apartment*, which is furnish'd with Ornaments, and embellish'd with several Columns all of precious Marble. At the End of this is the *Cabinet of Baths*, where nothing appears but Gold, Marble, and very fine Pictures, with all the Ornaments and Conveniences fuitable to such a Place. The *Dauphin's* Apartment is on the left hand, opposite to the

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the King's, and compos'd of a like number of Chambers, which are all lin'd and overcast with the same sorts of Marble, but variously join'd and inlaid. The Cabinet of Knacks, or little Curiosities, that belongs to this Apartment, contains three Rooms and a Half-Room, and the Floor is inlaid. The Painting of the Cieling is by *Mignard*; and there is such a prodigious number of Rarities in this Place, that the astonish'd Spectator can hardly forbear concluding, that all the Kingdoms of the *East* were drain'd to adorn it. The Porch that fronts the Middle of the little Court, leads into the Park; and passing under vaulted Galleries you come to the great *Terrass* at the Entry of the Garden. And here it was that *Colbert* display'd and even exhausted all the most pleasant and magnificent Productions both of Nature and Art.

The vast Extent of this stately Edifice comprehending the Front and returning Wing on that side alone which faces the Garden, contains above three hundred *Toises*, and more than four hundred and twenty large cross-barr'd Windows, twenty outer Buildings, with Columns surmounted with Figures, and over these, Trophies intermixt with Vessels plac'd along the Balisters that surround the whole Structure. The Figures that adorn the side which faces the Garden, are *Apollo* and *Diana*, the four Seasons, and twelve Months of the Year; along the Gallery there are twelve Figures of Rivers, and Nymphs of Fountains; the Nymph *Echo*, *Narcissus*, *Thetis*,  
and

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and *Galatæa*, with *Hebe* and *Ganymede* in two Niches: on the Front of the King's great Apartment, on that side where the *Grotto* was formerly, which faces the Northern *Parterre*, are *Pomona*, *Vertumnus*, one of the Nymphs *Hesperides*, the Nymph *Amalthea*, *Thalia*, *Momus*, *Terpsichore*, *Pan*, *Flora*, *Zephyrus*, *Hycinthus*, *Clitia*, and (in two Niches) *Musick* and *Dancing*. These Figures are on the Wing that belongs to the *Dauphin*: and that call'd the Prince's Wing is adorn'd with *Deities* and the *Virtues*, which are very numerous by reason of the Length of that Wing, over-against which there is another built since the Death of *Colbert*.

The first Piece that salutes those who descend from the *Terrass*, is the Vase of *Latona*, in the midst of which that Goddess is represented with her Children *Apollo* and *Diana*: the Peasants metamorphos'd into Frogs are to be seen in several Parts of the Vase, and the Borders of it are adorn'd with several Figures of those Animals. In the Northern *Parterre* before the *Terrass* are two Vases with *Tritons* and *Syrens* supporting rich Crowns, and spouting Water; and at the End of it there is a long Alley that leads to the Canal, fenc'd on both sides with Hedge-Rows, along which there are several Figures representing the four Seasons, four Parts of the World, four Ages, four kinds of Poesie, four Parts of Day and Night, and the four Elements. All these Figures were design'd by *le Brun*, and made after his Models.

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There is another Alley, call'd the *Water*, or *Cascade-Alley*; in the middle of which there is another form'd by two Ranks of complicated Figures, representing *Cupids*, young Boys and Girls, little *Tritons*, and *Terms*, which are half-body'd Figures, without Arms: Some of these carry on their Heads great Shells, in form of *Basons*, fill'd with Coral. and various kinds of Shells; and others bear Baskets full of Flowers, and several sorts of Fruit. The Water that flows out of these Baskets and *Basons* in form of a *Nape* or *Table-Cloath*, gave this Walk the Name by which 'tis usually known. At the end of this Alley, you enter into that of the *Pyramide*; the Fountain (so call'd) is compos'd of four *Basons* of white Marble, one above another, and decreasing gradually, according to their height. The first contains twelve Feet in Diameter, and a Top or Cover of one Piece of Marble, being supported by four *Tritons* greater than the Life; and the rest differ only in the bigness of the Figures and Vessels. The whole Work is of white Marble, saving only the *Pedestals*, which are of coloured Marble: The Figures and Ornaments are of *Brass*; and altogether make a Water-work resembling a *Table-cloth*, thro' which the Figures appear. The Water is receiv'd below in a great square *Bason*, adorn'd with a *Basso-relievo* of eight or ten Nymphs bathing themselves, who may be seen thro' the Water that covers 'em in the form of a *Table-cloth*:

And

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And besides, there are other *Basso-relievo's*, representing Rivers, Nymphs, and Children, all as big as the Life, and made by *Girardon*.

On both sides of the Great Alley there are *Groves*, enclosed with *Lattice-Work*, which are distinguish'd by peculiar Names. The first that appears on the Right-hand is the *Triumphal-Arch*, so call'd from the representation of one at the bottom: It contains three *Portico's*, with seven *Basons* above 'em, out of which arise as many *Water-spouts* that fall back into the same *Basons*, and from thence into several others on both sides, forming divers *Napes*, or Figures of a *Table-cloth*: And in the midst of the *Portico's* three *Water-Spouts* arise out of high *Basons*, and make the same sort of *Water-works*. You ascend to the *Portico's* by several Steps, which are also full of *Water-Spouts* that fall into a great *Bason* below. On both sides of the *Triumphal-Arch* there are two *Obelisks* between as many *Scabelons* or *Pedestals* fram'd like *Stools*, on which there are *Basons* that spout forth Water. Returning from thence, you meet with two high *Pyramids*, consisting of several Steps or Degrees, and throwing up Water in a square Figure, which is divided into several Spouts. On both sides of these *Pyramids* are two other *Pedestals* or *Stools*, with *Basons* and *Water-Spouts*: And besides, there are two *Obelisks*, one on each side, between two *Scabelons*, with Ornaments, *Basons*, and *Water-Spouts*, like the first.

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The Fourth Front which faces the *Triumphal-Arch* is beautif'd with a great number of Ornaments, tho' part of it is taken up with the Entrance into that place: For on both sides there are Pedestals, with Basons, Cascades, and Figures representing the Triumphs of *France*; and the part that remains empty is fill'd with Water, which mounting up into those void Spaces, makes 'em appear like so many Works of Crystal, enrich'd with many Ornaments, where Gold is not spar'd. The whole was design'd by *le Nostre*, Intendant of the Garden of the *Tuileries*.

In your passage from the *Triumphal-Arch* to the *Theatre of Water*, you meet, in the first place, with the *Fountain of the Dragon*, in the midst of which there is a Dragon of Brass, that spouts Water from several parts of his Body; and then with the *Bason of Neptune*, in which the Figure of that Deity is plac'd, with all its Attributes or Properties. The *Theatre of Water* derives its Name from the various Figures represented by the Water-Spouts, of which 'tis full. First you perceive three Alleys of Water, in form of a Goose-Paw, border'd with a Trellis; they are on a rising Ground, and higher than the part where you stand to view 'em. The middle Alley is divided on each side from the other two, by a hollow place enclos'd, and surrounded with a Trellis; and before these Enclosures, there are two Basons containing other smaller and higher Basons,

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Basons, disposed in such a manner, that the Water-Spouts which rise up from 'em, fall down again, and filling all the Basons, makes *Napes* of Water all around. There are like Works beyond the other two Alleys, so that each Alley has some of 'em on both sides. The middle Alley is higher than the rest, containing Cascades that make fourteen or fifteen *Napes* of Water one above another: And both the Cascades and Water-works are form'd by a great number of Water-Spouts, which running in five Rows along the whole Alley, divide it into six little Alleys. At the end of it is a large Bason, which takes up the whole Front of the Cascades, and receives their Water; and below that another Bason fill'd by six great Water-Spouts. The other two Alleys have each two Rows of Water-Spouts, which divide 'em into three Parts, or small Alleys. They are in a Bason which is continu'd from one end of the Alleys to the other: And since their Situation is sloping, by stopping the Course of the Water in several places, there are Water-Works in form of a Table-Cloth, and Cascades form'd along the Alleys that accompany those of the middle Alley. Between the Trellises and the Water-Spouts of all the Three Alleys, there are six Rows of small Trees, variously cut, and representing several Figures: And since the Design of the Contrivers was to imitate the Embellishments of Theatres; these Water-Spouts undergo

1664. undergo five several Changes; for they mount up streight at first, afterwards they bend into crooked Figures, and form Arbors on the In-side, and then behind, and at last they form Circles before, which changing on a sudden, appear behind.

The *Marsh of Water* is an oblong Square, eight Toises broad, and twelve long: In the middle there is a great Oak-Tree, encompass'd with the Representations of all the usual Productions of Fenny-Grounds; and the Banks are full of Reeds, among which there are Swans in the Corners. All the Branches of the Oak, the Herbs that surround it, with the Reeds and Swans casting forth Water together, give the Spectator the pleasure of seeing a Million of Water-Spouts at the same time, some higher, and others lower, which form as it were a Field of Water, and washing the Plants, make their greenness appear more natural. About the midst of the two Wings of the Marish, in two hollow places, there are two Marble Tables rais'd on some Steps, and adorn'd with all the Furniture of a Cupboard: But since the greatest part of these Ornaments have only Circles, or other Pieces gilt, the use of 'em does not appear, 'till the Water begins to play. The Situation of this Grove is low, and the rising Grounds that surround it are adorn'd with Vessels of Porcelain, on several sorts of Pedestals before the Trellises, which make a very fine and Pleasant sight.

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1664. In the same part of the Garden there are two Basons which are not enclos'd; one is call'd the *Fountain of Ceres*, and the other has its Name from *Flora*. These Basons, with those of *Bacchus* and *Saturn*, which are on the other side, are call'd the *Fountains of the Four Seasons*. *Ceres* with her Sickle appears in the midst of a Hexagonal Bason, surrounded with Ears of Corn gilt. *Flora* is in a leaning Posture, environ'd with eight large Water-Spouts, and several other small ones, in form of a Heron's Tuft.

The Grove of the *Mountain of Water*, or of the *Star*, takes its Name from the Five Walks that represent a Star, meeting near the principal Fountain. The Water-Spouts that issue out of the Rock on both sides of the Alleys, fall into a little Ditch in form of a Shower, in the midst of which is the principal Fountain surrounded with a Trellis, adorn'd with Architecture and Pilasters: And about it there are hollow parts, enclos'd after the manner of Portico's, and containing Barriers that keep the same Figure. The Top of the Trellises is adorn'd with Vessels of several Figures, full of Flowers and green Herbs. The Water-Spouts of the chief Bason are unequal, and form a kind of *Mountain of Water*, from the top of which issues a large Water-Spout.

At the two ends of the Grove of *Apollo's Baths*, there are two square Pavilions, equally rich and handsome, invented by *Mansard*, each of 'em containing eight Pannels, between

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1664. tween fourteen and fifteen Foot broad, and twenty foot high. They are of white Marble, each being adorn'd with eight Columns of colour'd Marble, and Pilasters cut out of the white Marble. The Ascents of the little Pannels or Pieces in the Corners are full of Trophies of Brass, representing the Arms us'd by several Nations: And there are also like Trophies on the out-side, between the Pilasters. The Domes are enrich'd with several Metallic Ornaments, and end in a Vessel. Over-against the Entry of the Grove, in the midst of the two sides, are the fine Marble Figures, made by Girardon, representing the Sun with Thetis, and her Nymphs washing his Feet, pouring Water upon him, and wiping him: And in the hollow parts of the sides, there are complicated Figures of Tritons holding Apollo's Horses. This Grove is surrounded with a Terrass, adorn'd with Balisters of Brass gilt: And the Arms us'd in Battle by all the Nations of Europe are represented in eighty two Basso-relievo's about the Terrass. In the middle of the Spot of Ground environ'd by the Terrass, there is an octangular Bason, surrounded with Balisters of Brass gilt, of a different Design from those of the Terrass: And every one of the Pedestals that are scatter'd up and down in this Place, spouts out Water, which makes a little Ditch about the Balisters, from whence the Water spreading it's self, forms a Nape. There are also four large Pedestals adorn'd with

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1664. with Marble Figures: On the first is the Break of Day, represented by a young Man holding a Flambeau, with Clouds at his Feet, an Owl flying away, and Zephyrus blowing. The Morning is on the Second, strewing Flowers, and alighting from her Chariot: On the Third Arion is represented, invoking the Gods, and mounted on a Dolphin: And on the Fourth Leucothoe, receiving Offerings from the Mariners.

In the midst of a Grove, adorn'd with Trellis-Work, there is a large Bason, containing Enceladus almost buried under the Rocks he had pil'd up to scale Heaven. That which appears of him is four times bigger than the Life: He casts out of his Mouth a Water-Spout twenty four Foot high, and bigger than a Man's Arm; and an infinite number of smaller Streams gush forth among the Stones that over-whelm him. Besides these, several large Water-Spouts arise out of twelve Heaps of Stones that lie at some distance from the Giant, surrounding the Bason and Arbors of Trellis-Work: And on a sloping Grass-Plot, there are divers little Basons of pieces of Rocks, in each of which there is a Water-Spout.

The Hall of Feasts, or of the Council, is more long than broad; it has a Grass-Plot in the middle, surrounded with Gravel-Walks, at the four Corners of which are round Basons, jutting out over a Ditch full of Water that environs this Place. The Figure of the Borders of the Ditch is odd but plea-

1664. fant; for it comprehends in its Circumference above thirty Angles, stretching outwards, and as many bending inwards. Over-against the midst of each side, there is a Bason without the Ditch, so that the Hall seems encompass'd with Basons, comprehending also those in the Corners: And besides the Water-Spouts in the Basons, the Ditch is full of 'em. Every Spout both in the Ditch and Basons, proceeds from a Combination of gilt Figures of Children in various Postures. The Draw-Bridges by which you enter into the Hall, are remov'd, and drawn under-ground by a sort of Spring, so that you may be imprison'd in it.

Between this Grove and the *Colonnade*, you meet on the out-side with the Fountains of *Saturn* and *Bacchus*, opposite to those of *Ceres* and *Flora*. *Saturn* is in a round Bason, accompany'd with several Children, carrying the old Man's Properties, which cast forth many Water-Spouts. He holds a Stone presented to him by his Wife, who makes him believe she was brought to Bed of it: This Bason represents *Winter*. That of *Bacchus*, which denotes *Autumn*, is of an octangular Figure, where that Deity appears, accompany'd with several Satyrs, and surrounded with all his Attributes; and all together cast forth several Water-Spouts. Besides, there are four other Satyrs at an equal distance from him; and every one of 'em spouts out Water.

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1664. The *Colonnade* (or Range of Pillars) is in the Place where the Springs were formerly, on an Ascent which at present makes a part of that Grove. The Enclosure is an exact Square, twenty one *Toises* and a half in Diameter, environ'd with thirty two Columns of several kinds of Marble, of the *Ionic* Order, twenty Inches about, and fourteen Foot high, comprehending the *Attic* Bases, and the quadrangular Chapiters of white Marble. These Columns are accompany'd with their Pilasters, which stand by themselves, about two Diameters and a half distant from the Columns behind, they are both crown'd with Entablatures, which are only Cornices architrav'd, turning on each Pillar, and leaning in form of a Plat-band on the Pilasters. The Columns and Pilasters are both plac'd on Marble *Socles*, somewhat higher than they are broad; and the first are join'd together by Arches, adorn'd with their *Archivoltes*, with Heads in their Keys, representing the Rural and Marine Deities, as the *Nymphs*, *Naiads*, *Dryads*, *Hama-dryads*, *Sylvans*, &c. The whole is crown'd with a *Corinthian* Cornice, which turning into it-self, makes a perfect Circle. Above the Cornice is a *Socle* adorn'd with Gates in *Bas-relief*; and the *Socle* turning round above each Column, bears a Vessel of white Marble, carv'd, and ending in a Pine-Apple. The Triangular *Tympans* between the Arches are adorn'd with thirty two *Bas-reliefs* of Children, among whom the *Sports*

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and *Loves* are represented. The whole Machine is plac'd in a round Bason or Ditch that runs quite round, and receives the Water that falls in form of a Table-cloth from thirty one Water-Spouts, in a like number of Basons of white Marble, each plac'd on a Foot adorn'd with three Corbels. The Entrance takes up the place of the thirty second Bason, which stands before it in a Nich of Trellis-Work, at the meeting of the two Walks that lead to the place. The *Area* in the middle is gravell'd, and shut up with five Steps distant about thirteen or fourteen foot from the side of the Ditch; and that Interval forms another gravell'd Walk. The whole Structure is built of solid white Marble without Incrustation; the Wood that surrounds it, and the Trellis-Work which adorn the Twigs of the Trees, make an excellent Ground for the more distinct view of the Architecture; and this piece which was only design'd for Magnificence, is no less admir'd for the neatness of the Work, than for the richness of the Matter.

The *Water-Gallery* is full of Antick Statues, that form its Wings, at the side of which there are two Rows of Trees, so cut as not to obscure or hide the Figures. The Statues at the two Ends are not at all bigger than the Life; and the Trees are succeeded by two Rows of Water-Spouts. At each end of the Gallery there is a great broad Bason, into which the Water falls back;

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back; and the Ends jut out at the middle. One of the Basons contains three large Water-Spouts, and in the other a small high-raisd Bason, that forms a Water-Work in form of a Table-Cloth.

The *Royal Island* is a large Canal, in the midst of which there is an Island eight Foot deep, and one hundred and sixty foot long; and there is another less Canal at the end of this. In the place call'd the *Branch'd Candlestick*, the Figure of the Water-Works is exactly suitable to the Name.

The *Hall of Balls* is Hexagonal; four advanc'd Stairs of four Steps each, open a Passage to it, and 'tis surrounded with a double Ditch full of Water of the same Figure. The Banks of the Ditches are cover'd with Shells, and there are several Vessels of *Porcelain* round the third Enclosure that encompasses the Hall. Over-against the four *Perrons*, or advanc'd Stairs, there are two Cascades, and as many Entries: There are also six Benches for Seats, and this place is cover'd with a Trellis. Each of the Cascades consists of seventeen Rows of Basons of Shell-Work, rais'd with seven Basons one above another; but five of the Rows are compos'd of nine Basons. The tops of those that have no Water-Spouts, are adorn'd with Vessels of Metal, four of which represent the *Bacchanalia* on Sea and Land: These Representations are very suitable to the design'd use of the place; for the Dancing-Figures have so natural an Air, that

1664. that 'tis impossible to look on 'em without feeling some Motions of Joy. Under each Cascade there are large Taper-Candlesticks for the Conveniency of Illuminations in the Evening, for the Glittering of the Water contributes very much to please the Eye of the Spectatour. The Sides of the two Entries are adorn'd with Hatch'd-Work, and on the top with Vessels.

The last, and one of the greatest of these Groves or little Woods, is the *Labyrinth*: it contains thirty eight Fountains, contriv'd to represent a like number of *Aesop's Fables*, and embellish'd with many Water-Spouts. Every Fountain has a Bason, in which its proper Fable is represented by Metallic Figures in Relief, with Characters declaring the Subject. The Ornaments which resemble those of one of the Arches enclos'd in the Hedge-Rows, are half-cover'd and environ'd with Leaves and Reeds spouting Water. The greatest part of 'em are of Tin or some other convenient Matter, as well as the Branches thro' which the Water pass'es; and painted green with so natural a Verdure, that they seem to be really what they represent, till the spurting of the Water undeceives the Spectatour. The Name of this Place is a sufficient Indication that 'tis full of Windings, and variously intermingl'd Walks, which are so intricate, that those who are engag'd in 'em cannot without some difficulty avoid returning to the same Parts they had already visited.

The

1664. The *Orange-house* is one of the finest Ornaments of *Versailles*: It was design'd by *Mansard*, and is so large and bold a Structure, that the World cannot produce a more finish'd Work of that Kind. On the left hand 'tis expos'd to the South, and supports the Earth that encloses a large *Parterre*, which fronts the lateral Face of the Castle, and that of the great Isle or Wing. This Building consists of a large Gallery 80. *Toises* long, accompany'd by two others turning inwards of 60. *Toises* each: the Breadth of these Galleries on the North-side of the Wall amounts to 38. Feet, and their Height to the Scutcheon or Key, to seven *Toises*. The Vault is divided into as many Parts as there are Cross-works by Branches Ogiv'd or Semi-circular Arches, supported by little Buttresses that jut out the length of a Foot: and the lateral Galleries communicate with that at the End or Bottom of the Building, by two round Towers or Segments of a Circle jutting outwards, and of equal Breadth within to that of the Galleries. On the Side next the great Isle, the Body of the Wall at the inward Angle is adorn'd with two large Niches; and in the same place, at the other End, there are two Arches with advanc'd Stairs that lead into a Hall or round Porch, which is the principal Entry into the *Orange-house* from the Park. Besides those Niches there is one in the Middle of the main Gallery over-against the great Door; it contains a Statue of the King on Foot of white Marble, which was presented to his

1664. his Majesty by the late Duke *de la Feuillade*, who had caus'd it to be made with a Design to erect it in the *Place of Victories*, in the room of that which is there at present. These Niches are large enough to contain complicated Figures of *Colosses*, such as those of the *Baths of Thetis* and *Caracalla*, where the Statues of *Hercules* and *Flora* stood. The largest Gallery receives Light thro' thirteen Windows taken out of the Arches: the Inside is not adorn'd either with Architecture or Sculpture, as the Rules of that kind of Building require: its main Beauty consisting in the Artificial Contrivance of the Vault. The outward Decoration consists only of Bossages of the Heighth of one Module, or half the Diameter of the Columns which are of the *Tuscan* Order, containing four Feet and two Inches in Diameter, and their Thickness being the seventh part of their Heighth. There are but two outward or Front-Buildings, of which that in the Middle consists of eight Columns coupl'd together, and the other two of four Columns each: and there are also two Columns at the Royal Door of the Hall or Entry; being of the same Order, but of a less Diameter. These Columns are crown'd with a regular Entablature, and the Front-Buildings on the sides are contiguous to that part of the Level of the *Terrass* which leans on the Vaults; so that by two large Pair of Stairs, each ten *Toises* broad, you may descend to the lower Part of the *Orange-house*. The Steps are interrupted by two Landing-Places;

Places; and there are low or creeping Arches under 'em to give light to the Vault. All this great Theatre encloses a *Parterre* of Compartments of Turf adorn'd with a Bason in the Middle: the Fore-part of the *Parterre* is rail'd in with Balisters on a sloping Wall, that makes one of the Sides of a little Ditch or Canal full of Water; the Counterescarp is much lower than the Wall, so that those who pass by on the High-way have a full and very pleasant View of the Building. The principal Entries are equal in Breadth to the Edges, and adorn'd with two great Jaums of a Wall, each of which is beautify'd with two distinct *Tuscan* Columns coupl'd together, and crown'd as well as the Columns with a regular Entablature. The North part of the Jaums is cover'd above with Bossages like to those of the *Orange-house*, and under the Columns is a Sockle of a Medley of Figures between the Jaums, and from the hinder Part of 'em to the Foot of the Stairs. The Space between the Stairs and the principal Gates is inclos'd with an Iron Grate, so that you may go up to the *Parterre* above, without entering into the *Orange-house*. These Grates are kept firm by Stone Pillars on which are plac'd Vessels full of Flowers and Fruits: the Gates are crown'd with rich Iron-Work in two Divisions, with the King's Arms; and all the Ornaments of the Locks are gilded. The *Parterre* is divided into six large Squares with Compartments of Turf, separated by Gravel of the same Heighth with the Walks: and in the

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the midst of the Squares, next the middle Gallery, there is a round Bason or Fountain border'd with Turf. In the Cross-Walk that separates these four Pannels or Squares from the other two, there is a great Complication of Figures of white Marble on a Pedestal, where *Fame* is represented writing the History of the King. In her left hand she holds his Majesty's Picture in *Profile*, in an Oval Medal, which she places on a Book denoting *History*: She is represented by a great wing'd Figure, magnificently apparell'd, and seated on Trophies: she tramples on *Envy*, who tears a Heart, and with her left hand pulls *Fame* by the Gown, to hinder her from Writing. Among the Trophies there are Medals with the Portraictures of the greatest Princes, such as *Alexander*, *Cæsar*, and *Trajan*. This Mass of Figures stands by it self, and is bounded on all sides, making a very fine and glorious Sight: it was made at *Rome* by *Dominico Guidi*, of the *Dutchy* of *Urbino*, one of the most Famous Sculptors in *Italy*, and Disciple of *Alexander Algondy*, who was one of the best Artists of his Age. In this *Parterre* the Orange-Trees are plac'd, when the Season of the Year permits.

The *Kitchen-Garden* is without the Limits of the Park that includes the *Orange-houfe*, being situated on the Side next the great Wing of the Castle and parallel to the *Mall*, from which 'tis separated by a large Bason of Water: 'tis a quadrangular Enclosure a hundred and fifty seven *Toises* long, and a hundred and

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and thirty four broad, divided into thirty one little Gardens separated from each other, and enclos'd with Walls; which communicating together encompass a large Garden, containing 100. *Toises* in Length, and 84. in Breadth, with a round Fountain or Bason of Water in the Middle, of 20. *Toises* border'd with Turf. The King enters into this Place by a Gate, called the *Royal Gate* in the Walk parallel to the *Mall*. The Body of the Edifice almost to the corner of the Wall of the Enclosure, consists of two Sides or distinct Structures, join'd together by two Galleries one above another, call'd the *Figuerie*, which is 25. *Toises* long, and the Garden usually known by the Name of *Meloniere*, or Melon-Garden, is also very large. All those Gardens are appointed for Fruit-Trees, and so artificially dispos'd, that each Row of Trees enjoys the Warmth of the Sun agreeably to their peculiar Natures, some more and others less, some at one time of the day, and some at another. Every Garden has also the Conveniency of a Fountain to furnish it with Water, and of a *Terrass*, under which are vaulted Arbours that serve for Fruit-Houses in Winter. The Pond that separates the *Kitchen-Garden* from the *Mall*, was dug by *Switzers*, from whom it took the Name that still it bears: 'tis very large and ought rather to be call'd a Lake or great Pond, than a Fountain or Bason of Water.

*Colbert* did not content himself with embellishing this Garden with all the Curiosities that *Europe* could furnish; he took care also

to

1664. to replenish the *Menagerie* or *Vivarium* with the rarest Animals that were to be found in the Four Parts of the World. The great Canal leads to that *Rural House* on one side, and to *Trianon* on the other: and tho' the former is design'd only as a Lodge for Animals, as its Name imports, it has the stately Aspect of a magnificent Palace, and presents a lovely Prospect of four Pavilions and a Dome to the Eyes of the Beholder. The Passage to it lies thro' a large Avenue or Walk of Trees, and in the first Place brings you to a Court enclos'd with Iron-Rails, from whence you enter into another, at the opposite End of which there is an octangular Dome, that forms a Hall of the same Figure, whither you ascend by a few Steps to an Entry that leads into the Hall that is surrounded with several Chambers. Beneath these there is a *Grotto* with a wheeling Water-Spout in the Middle that besprinkles the whole *Grotto*; and the Floor is full of little Holes, from whence there arises a Shower of Water. The Hall is environ'd with an octogonal Court, surrounded with Iron Rails, in which you meet with seven Iron Doors at a convenient distance from each other, that open into a like number of Courts, some of which are appointed for Stables, some for Sheep-Houses, and others contain Stalls for several sorts of Animals. In one of these Courts there is a very fine *Bird-House*, for those Birds that must be kept in Cages or Coops; and a *Fish-Pond* in another for the use of *Pelicans*, and several

several other sorts of Fowl that feed on Fishes. 1664. On the right hand in places enclos'd with Rails, such Animals are kept that they may be safely suffer'd to range about; for they may easily pass between the Rails: Here are to be seen in different Lodges, *Ermins*, *Civet-Cats*, *Castors*, *Muscovia-Cats* and *Rats*, and *Barbary Cats*. The left side of the same Court is appointed for wild and voracious Animals, such as *Lyons*, *Tygres*, *Leopards*, *Lynxes*, *Bears*, and *Wolves*. Such Beasts as are made use of for Labour are lodg'd in another Court, and next to that are *Mews* for all sorts of Fowls.

*Trianon* is seated on the other side of the Canal. Before that fine and pleasant House there is a Hollow or Bottom resembling a Half-Oval, with a Door on each Side, and one at the End, opposite to the Entry, which leads into the Principal Court, as those on each Side do into two other separate Courts, that reach along the Oval. At the End of these two Courts, following the Oval, you meet with two Doors that open into the Court, at the opposite End of which is the Principal Apartment consisting only of one Story, and adorn'd on the outside with so vast number of Vessels of several Figures representing *Porcelane*, that nothing else appears to the Eye. The Inside also is painted in Imitation of *Porcelane*; the Walls are all cover'd with Looking-Glasses, and the Furniture is equally Rich and Genteel. The Sides of this Building are border'd with two Square Pavilions, built

1664. built and adorn'd after the same Fashion: And there are two other Pavilions lower down, which terminate the fore-part of the Structure. This place was design'd for a Magazine of all sorts of Flowers, which are preserv'd here both in Winter and Summer. All the Basons either are, or appear to be of Porcelain, and Water-Spouts arise out of the Urns. The Flowers and Shrubs are kept in Pots of Porcelain, or in Boxes that resemble it; and there are long Walks of Orange-Trees planted in the Ground, with Hedge-Rows of Jasmins and Myrtles under a Gallery of Timber that remains open during the Summer, but in Winter is cover'd with Dung, to preserve the Trees from the Cold.

But *Colbert* thought there were still some finishing Strokes wanting to compleat the Beauty of *Versailles*. There was no other Water but what was pump'd out of a Pond, and from thence distributed by Canals, to the places that requir'd its Moisture; nor was it free from the usual defects of stagnating Water, Stench, and Muddiness. The Consideration of these Inconveniencies made *Colbert* undertake to bring Water from the River *Eure* to *Versailles*, by an Aqueduct, which reaches from the Hill of *Picardon* to the Cisterns or Reservers of Water. Five large Basons contain both the Water of that River, and that which supplies the Machine of *Marly*: Four of 'em are oblong Squares, eighty five *Toises* long, and fifty four broad,

1664. broad, with Pannels of eighteen *Toises* at the outward Angles; and in the midst of these, there is a little Bason of ten *Toises* in Diameter, call'd the *Receptacle of Water*, because it receives all the Water, and distributes it to the great Basons at the Corners, which are hollow'd and fram'd into Arches of a Circle. These five Basons are separated by Walks of eighteen Foot in breadth, and surrounded with another of eight *Toises*, which reaches from the outward Brink of the Basons to the *Glacis* of the Earth that is enclos'd with a Wall. The great Basons are eighteen Foot deep, and fill'd with Water to the height of twelve Feet; so that each of 'em contains 8000 Cubical *Toises* of Water, or 224000 *Muids*, amounting in all the four to 896000 *Muids* or Hogsheds of Water. To retain the Water, there is a Lay of Clay eighteen Inches thick, both at the Bottom, and round the Edges of the Basons or Reservers, supported by a Wall four Foot broad above, and five below, founded on a Wooden Grate laid over the Clay with Platforms; 'tis call'd *The Wall of Douvre*, and the *Talus* or Sloping is on the inside, by which it loses a Foot of its breadth. The Aqueduct is 500 *Toises* long, and its greatest height amounts to fourteen or fifteen. The *Basis* or Ground-Work extends to fourteen Feet, which are reduc'd to six on the top; and of that number the Canal takes up three, in which breadth it contains 648  
F Inches



1664. Inches of Water. The River *Eure* is brought to *Versailles* from *Pontgoin*, seven Leagues from *Chartres*; the Canal between *Pontgoin* and *Berchere la Margot*, containing 20000 *Toises*. This Canal is brought along the Surface of the Earth according to its Level, and fifteen Foot downwards: Its height rises or falls, according to the situation of the Ground; and the *Talus* or Slopeness of the Banks is double of the depth. In the Bottom or Valley of *Berchere*, where the Aqueduct of Mason's-Work begins, there is a Bank or Aqueduct of Earth erected, which accompanies that of Stone-Work for the Space of 3607 *Toises*. The Canal of this Earthen Aqueduct is fifteen Foot broad at the bottom, and six, seven, or eight Foot broad at the top, the *Talus* being double the height. The Sides or Banks are supported by a Causey nine Foot broad, with a *Talus* double the height, to keep the Earth from falling. In the Valley of *Berchere*, the height of the Earthen Bank amounts to 100 Feet, in other parts to 70, 50, 40, and 20 Feet; and towards *Maintenon*, where 'tis joyn'd to the Stone-Aqueduct, its height rises to 79 Feet. The Stone Aqueduct is 2960 *Toises* long, consisting of 242 Arches: The breadth of the Arches amounts to forty Feet; their Piles are forty eight Foot long, and twenty four broad, with Buttresses reaching eleven Feet in breadth, and six in Projecture, or out-bearing. In the deepest part there are three Arches

Arches one over another, like those at *Pont du Guard* in *Languedoc*. Towards *Berchere* there are thirty three single Arches, seventy one double, forty six treble; then seventy two double, and in the last place twenty single, which rejoin the Earthen Aqueduct coming from towards *Versailles*, at the height of sixty five Feet, which is gradually diminish'd for the space of 6055 *Toises*, till it be reduc'd even with the Terrasses; and from thence to *Versailles* 'tis brought along the Surface of the Ground, as between *Pontgoin* and *Berchere*, for the space of 25000 *Toises*, unless in some parts where there is a Stone Aqueduct hollow'd in the Ground. The greatest height of the Aqueduct in the Valley of *Maintenon*, thro' which the Rivers of *Eure* and *Gaillardon* pass, and where the treble Arches are, amounts to 216 Feet and six Inches, to the Pavement of the upper Wreaths or Edges, without reckoning the Foundations, which are fifteen or sixteen Foot deep, or the Parapet of three Foot and six Inches. The height of the first or lower Arches to the top of the Concavity of the Vault, amounts to seventy six Feet, and to the Pavement of the second Arches eighty one Foot and six Inches. The Second Arches are seventy Foot high to the top of the Concavity, and eighty five to the Pavement of the Third, which are thirty Foot and three Inches high to the Concavity of their Vault, and nine Foot nine Inches more to the upper Wreaths, on which

1664. there are Parapets of three Feet and six Inches. The Canal is seven Foot broad at the bottom, and widens by degrees till the breadth is increas'd to seven Feet and seven Inches at the height of four Feet, where the sides begin to bow inwards, after the manner of a Vault. On each side of the Canal there is a Corridore three Foot, and a Parapet seventeen Inches broad: The Piles of the Arches are perpendicular above the Ground on the inside, and both the sides. Thro' the whole Aqueduct every *Toise* of Work has an Inch of *Talus* or Sloping; but the Buttresses have more above the first or lower Arches; for on each side, the Reclination or Narrowing amounts to about seven Feet, and to almost six above the second Arches. There is a Door in the middle of each Pile, both in the second and third Arches, for the conveniency of passing along the Aqueduct; the Doors in the second Arches are four Foot broad, and those in the third three Foot six Inches broad, and seven Foot high.

After the Description of the Castle of *Versailles*, it will not be improper to subjoin a short Account of the Church that *Colbert* caus'd to be new-built from top to bottom of hewn Stone, in the *Ruë de Paris*, facing *Ruë Dauphine*, which leads to the Place or Square of the same Name. The Portal, comprehending the two Towers, is nineteen *Toises* broad, embellish'd with four Columns of the *Doric* Order in Front; over which

1664. which are four other Columns of the *Tonic* Order, crown'd with a *Fronton*. The Towers are adorn'd with the last-nam'd Order, and the whole with Sculpture; the length of the Church without the Walls amounts to forty *Toises*, and within, from the greater Altar to the great Door, to thirty. The Nave is thirty two Foot broad, and the Cross is seventeen *Toises* long. In the midst of the Cross, there is a *Cupola* vaulted with Stone, six Foot and a half high. The Lantern contains twenty Feet in Diameter, and leans on the outside on a great Square of Stone-Work eight *Toises* broad. The height from the Key of the Vault on the inside, amounts to nine *Toises* and a half; and from the *Cope* or *Cupola* of the Lantern to the Pavement of the Church, there are in all eighteen *Toises*. The inside is adorn'd with the *Doric* Order; and the great Altar is enrich'd with forty *Corinthian* Columns of Marble, containing two Feet in Diameter, and crown'd with their Entablatures and *Frontons*; and besides, all the Altars are garnish'd with Pictures, by the best Hands. At the side of the Church *Colbert* caus'd a great Building to be erected, containing Lodgings for the Fathers of the *Mission* who serve here. It runs parallel to the side of the Church, reaching forty four *Toises* in length, and is contiguous to the Houses in the Street. It encloses a low Court, thirteen *Toises* square, and the thickness of the Building amounts

The LIFE of

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to six Toises and two Feet. Below it includes a great Corridore, forty three Toises in circumference, and twelve broad, with five great Halls on the out-side. The Refectory is at the Foot of the great Stair-case. The lowest and highest Story have each a great Corridore, and contain above sixty Cells, and ten small Apartments of two Rooms. The whole Building, including the Places or Rooms for the service of the House, contains above one hundred and fifty Rooms, or distinct Places. Both the Church, and the rest of the Edifice were design'd by Mansard.

The Machine to raise Waters gave Colbert occasion to embellish Marly, whither the King frequently retires from the Hurry of Affairs, attended only by those who are capable of Diverting him, and by his necessary Servants. 'Tis seated in the Park of Versailles, and enclōs'd with another distinct Park on the Road that leads to St. Germain: At the end of the bottom where it stands, there is a View open'd to the Castle of St. Germain, and the places about it, which makes one of the loveliest Prospects imaginable. The most considerable Charge of this Building was occasion'd by the draining and filling up of the Fenny-Grounds to clear a space for the Garden, and to make so extraordinary a Ground-Plot as that of the Situation of this House; for the Disposition of its Plan is wholly singular. Passing along the Road of St. Germain,

as soon

John Baptist Colbert.

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as soon as you come to Marly, you enter into a round Court of fifty Toises, with Courts of Guard, Coach-Houses, and Stables; and from thence you perceive the Castle at the end of a long Avenue or Walk, of one hundred and fifteen Toises in length, and ten in breadth, enclōs'd with Walls on each side, to keep in the Earth, and planted with Trees. This Walk brings you to the outward Court. The Castle is a distinct Building, separated from twelve other Pavilions, six on each side, as they also are from one another. The greatest of these Pavilions is twenty one Toises large in all its Dimensions, being a large and distinct Structure, with four equal Faces: You ascend to it by round Steps bow'd inwards on both Sides. The lower Story is magnificent, containing four Entries, which lead into a great Octangular Hall, and separate four large Apartments, call'd The Four Seasons. The Hall is the chief Room, consisting of eight Pannels, four great, and as many small; 'tis eight Toises broad, and adorn'd with chancell'd Pilasters of the Compound Order, with their Ornaments. The Doors of the four Entries are in the large Pannels; and in each of the small ones there is a Statue of Marble, plac'd on a jutting Pedestal. The Order is crown'd with its Entablatures, fram'd after an unusual manner with Corbels. Above is an Attic adorn'd with half-body'd Statues of Women, sustain'd by Garlands of Flowers, and with their Hands

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1664. supporting over their Heads an Entablature consisting of an Architrav'd Cornice. The Hall receives the Light thro' four Windows in the *Attic*, under which, on the Compound Cornice in the inside, are four Balconies born by Eagles. The Vault that begins above the Cornice of the *Attic* consists of eight Pannels, which meet, and are united at a great round Moulding, cut by a rich Wreath of Flowers, that serves for a Cornice, and a *Spherical* Vault. All the Ornaments of the Hall are of \* *Stuc*, curiously wrought; and in the midst of the Vault there hangs a prodigiously big Branch'd-Candlestick of *Rock-Crystal*, ten Foot high, and six broad, adorn'd with several Rows of Branches, supported by a large double Eagle of *Crystal*, and surrounded with eight other less Candlesticks, after the manner of a Crown. The four Entries are longer than broad, with relation to their depth, containing four *Toises* in one Dimension, and five and a half in the other, and are embellish'd with Architecture, Sculpture, and Marble Busts. In each Entry there are two great Tables of precious Marble, and two large Pictures by *Vander-Meulen*, eight Foot long, and five Foot high, representing the Sieges carry'd on, and Cities taken by His Majesty. Every one of these great Apartments is compos'd of three Rooms, an Anti-Chamber, Chamber, and Closet; and the Upper Story to which you ascend by two Stair-cases, consists of four Halls, one in the mid-

\* A fine sort of Clay or Plaster.

1664. middle of every Face. They are sixteen Foot broad, and serve for Anti-Chambers to eight of the twelve little Apartments, which consist of two Rooms each. The Dome of the great Hall is surrounded with an *Octangular Terrass* twelve Foot broad, and little *Corridores* of half that breadth. The external Decoration consists in Pictures in *Fresco*, after the *Italian* manner, being a great *Corinthian* Order of Marble Pilasters, having only the Cornice in *Relievo*, to crown the Mass of the Building. On each Face a *Fronton* crowns the Front-Building, without any apparent Projecture, but what it borrows from the Shadows of the Painting. Between the Windows of the first Story that are even with the Ground, there are *Basso-relievo's*, Trophies, and Devises: And the Angles are adorn'd with cleft Stones; because if the Cieling were Angular, the Projecture or jutting forth of the Bases and Chapiters would appear mutilated. The whole Edifice is terminated with Balisters, and has no apparent Roof: All the Sculptures, Bases, Chapiters, and Balisters are of Brass gilt; and the Architecture is of Marble of several Colours. The other twelve Pavilions are adorn'd after the same manner; and six of 'em are of the *Ionic* Order: Each Pavilion contains two Apartments, one below, and another in the first Story; every one of 'em has six *Toises* in Front, and they are thirty two *Toises* distant from each other. Besides these thirteen Pavilions, there are

1664. are two on the right side of the Castle that faces the *Paterre*, in one of which is the Chapel, embellish'd in the inside with Pillars of the *Corinthian* Order; and in the other, even with the Ground, is the Guard-Chamber, and above that the Officers Lodgings. To these Pavilions they have since added two Wings, which being joyn'd to two Walls built in form of an Arch of a Circle, form an outward Court, containing thirty five *Toises* in Diameter. At the foot of the Descent from the Avenue on the other side, and over-against these two Pavilions, there are two others of the like Structure, which make one half of the Building, and comprehend the Kitchens, and other Offices or Work-Houses, being thirty *Toises* in Front, and inclosing a Court for that use. These two Pavilions are adorn'd on the out-side like those that are opposite to 'em, and hide all that Building which is appointed for the service of the Palace: They are joyn'd together by a Wall painted by *Roussseau* in Perspective, which surprizes and charms the Beholder. All these Pavilions, both the twelve of equal bigness, and those last mentioned, communicate together by Trellis'd Arbours, fifteen Foot broad, which form a Half-Moon behind the Castle, and all the Arches of a Circle that compose 'em, end in Pavilions of Trellis-Work. The Garden is so intermix'd with the Building, that the Coaches never pass beyond the Grate between the two Pavilions

1664. vilians on the other side of the Descent. 'Tis to be observ'd, that the Disposition of the Garden is as new as unusual, consisting of several Falls of *Terrasses*, supported by sloping Turfs, with Ever-green Trees, such as *Firs, Yews, &c.* and you descend from one to another by Stone Steps of an extraordinary bigness, and various Contrivance. The *Parterres* are enclos'd with Basons of divers Figures, adorn'd with several Water-Spouts: The Bason behind the Castle is most considerable; 'tis in form of a Half-Moon, thirty eight *Toises* broad, and its Water-Spout rises one hundred Foot high. The Basons of the *Parterre* are in number seven; the first you meet with before the great Descent of Steps, has Three Water-Spouts, and contains twenty *Toises* in one Dimension, and forty in the other. The greatest containing five Water-Spouts, is one hundred *Toises* long, and fifty broad; and the last consisting of Pannels below, is seventy *Toises* long, and thirty two broad, adorn'd with three Water-Spouts. The other four are round, of which two at the foot of the Castle are smaller, each of 'em containing ten *Toises* in Diameter; but the Diameter of those above contains sixteen *Toises*. Both the *Terrasses* and Pavilions run sloping, tho' they are all plac'd level as well as the Basons: And 'tis impossible to behold at a distance without an agreeable Surprize, that unusual Scene of Buildings, *Terrasses*, and Basons, variously intermixt, without Confusion,

1664. on, like curious Works appearing distinctly on an advantageous Ground. The *Park* of this House is enclos'd with a Wall, and divided by Cross-Walks, some eight, and others six *Toises* broad, where you have sometimes the Prospect of the Castle, and sometimes of the Iron Grates before its Entry: and that none of the Advantages of the Situation might be lost, there are Groves of divers Figures contriv'd in the Wood. The *Park-Pale* encloses several large Ponds, among which there are Three that have twelve Foot of Water; the greatest is in the Middle, and its superficial Extent amounts to 18000. *Toises* of Water, whereas the other two together make but 2000; and besides there are two other larger Ponds, of a Regular Figure. The Surface of the Water in the first Pond is higher than that of the last *Bason* of the *Parterre* by thirty three *Toises*: and besides the Cross-ways for Coaches, there are Walks along the Walls of the Enclosure, which open a Passage thro' all the Parts of the Garden. The Conveniency *Colbert* had to make advantageous Bargains with the Work-men that were employ'd in building the *Royal Houses*, because they were oblig'd to address themselves to him for Payment, gave him an Opportunity to make his House of *Sceaux* a magnificent Palace. I will not trouble the *Reader* with a particular Description of all its Beauties, but content my self with mentioning the finest Parts of the Garden. After you have pass'd thro'

thro' several lovely Walks fenc'd with Hedge-Rows, you come to the *Pavilion of the Morning*, so call'd, either because the earliest Glimmerings of the Light are discover'd there sooner than in any other part, and that the Morning seems only to break forth with a design to shine upon so beautiful a Place, or because that *Goddeff* is painted there by the hand of *le Brun*. This *Pavilion* has twelve Openings, reckoning that of the Door; and, since 'tis somewhat rais'd, there are two Stair-Cases opposite to one another, by which you ascend to it. Going from thence to the *Hall of Chestnut-Trees*, you meet with a fine Pond or Canal, at the Side of the Castle: there are five lovely Fountains in the Hall, four towards the Corners, and one in the Middle; and somewhat lower there is a little Wood, made after the fashion of a Labyrinth, and full of Water. Then you come to the *Water-Walk*, which is adorn'd on both sides with Busts, plac'd on small Pedestals like Stools, and Water-Spouts mounting as high as the Trellis. Each Water-Spout appears between two Busts, and every Bust between two Water-Spouts. On each Side of the Walk there is a little Ditch or Furrow, to receive the Water that falls from so great a number of Spouts; and at each of the four Corners there is a great Shell for the same use. Behind the Busts and Water-Spouts there is a green Wall form'd by large Trellisses; and, leaving this beautiful Place, you enter into the *Pavilion of the four Winds*, where you have a charming Prospect. From

1664. From thence you pass to the Canal, and descending somewhat lower, you meet with a Piece of Water, containing about six Acres, which fronts a Cascade at the other End of the Garden. 'Tis on the Brow of a Hillock, forming three Water-Walks, and adorn'd with several Vessels of Brass between the Basons, out of which the Water-Spouts arise. It may be justly said to be altogether natural, for 'tis fill'd with Running Water. Colbert did not only design to make this Place a House of Pleasure; for he annex'd a great Revene to it, by transporting thither the *Oxe-Market* that was formerly kept at *Long-jumeau*, to the Prejudice of Trade, which was diminish'd by that Alteration.

The Desire that Minister had to display in all Parts, the Grandeur and Magnificence of his Master, made him also form several Designs, to encrease the Beauty and Convenience of the Capital City. He began the *Cours* on Ramparts with four Rows of Trees, reaching from the Gate of *S. Honoré* to that of *S. Anthony*: and on the other side of the River 'twas thought sufficient to make the Descent of the Hill somewhat easier between the Gates of *S. Marcel* and *S. Victor*. He order'd the Old Gates of *S. Denis* and *S. Martin* to be beaten down; and, instead of these, Triumphal Arches to be erected in Memory of his Majesty's Conquest of the greatest Part of the *United Provinces*, in 1672. He built the *Key* call'd *Pelletier's*, or the *New-Key*, with a Parapet, from *Our Lady's Gate*, to the

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*Greve* or Place of Execution, which it encompasses on the side next the *Seine*: and he caus'd the Key to be lin'd with Stone, from the first Wicket of the *Louvre*, near the Watering-Place for Horses to the End of the *Old Cours*. The Streets were also enlarg'd by his Orders, which gave Occasion to the President *de Fourcy* to make two New ones, during the time of his *Provoostship* or *Mayoralty*; one of 'em reaching from *S. Anthony's Street* to the Bridge that leads to *Our Lady's Island*, and the other continuing the Street *dès Provaires* to *Pont-Neuf*.

The Publick is oblig'd to the same Minister for the Establishment of the *Academy* for *Painting* and *Sculpture*, in 1664. The *King's Painters* and *Sculptors*, with some others of the most skilful Professours of those Arts, being prosecuted at Law by the *Master-Painters* of *Paris*, join'd together, and began to form a Society, under the Name of the *Royal Academy for Sculpture and Painting*. Their Design was to keep publick Exercises to improve those ingenious Arts, and to advance 'em to the highest Degree of Perfection. They put themselves under the Protection of Cardinal *Mazarin*, and chose Chancellour *Seguier* for their Vice-Protectour: after which they presented a Petition to the King, containing an Account of all the *Prosecutions* that were set on foot against 'em, to the great Prejudice of the Art of *Painting* and *Sculpture*, which their Enemies design'd to deprive of that Noble Liberty which is so natural to it, and to make

1664. make it subject to the Laws of a Mechanical and Servile Trade. This Petition was favourably receiv'd, and by an Order of Council, bearing Date the 20th of *January*, 1648. all Persons were prohibited to disturb or molest the Academy in its Exercises. The Society was, in its Infancy, compos'd of twenty five Members; twelve Officers call'd *Elders*, who were oblig'd to attend monthly, and give publick Lessons; eleven *Academicians*, and two *Syndics*. The twelve *Elders* were *le Brun*, *Erard*, *Bourdon*, *de la Hyre*, *Sarrazin*, *Corneille*, *Perrier*, *de Beau brun*, *le Sueur*, *Juste d' Egtimont*, *Vanostad*, and *Guillemin*: The eleven *Academicians* were *du Garnier*, *Vannol*, *Ferdinand*, *Boulogne*, *Montpecher*, *Hans*, *Tertelin* senior, *Gerard Gofin*, *Pinage*, *Benard*, and *de Seve* senior; and the two *Syndics*, now call'd *Ushers*, were *Bellot* and *l' Eveque*. Not long after the Promulgation of the Order of Council, 'twas thought convenient to regulate the respective Duties of the Members of the *Academy*, and of the *Students*; and in the *February* following, the *Society* drew up *Thirteen Articles of Regulation*, which were approv'd and ratify'd by *Letters-Patents* granted the same Month. Five or six Years after 'twas found by Experience, that it was necessary for the Advancement of the *Academy*, to make some Additions to the former Statutes; and *Twenty one New Articles* were presented to the King, and ratify'd by *Letters Patents* in *January* 1655. Since that time his Majesty perceiving with Satisfaction the Progress made by the *Academy*

*Academy* in the Design of their Institution, granted 'em new Statutes much more ample than the first, supplying the Omissions, and correcting the Faults that were observ'd in the former Regulation. And these three Collections of Statutes, with the several Patents in Confirmation of 'em, were register'd in the *Parliament*, *Chamber of Accounts*, and *Court of Aids*, notwithstanding all the Opposition of the *Master-Painters*. After Cardinal *Mazarin's* death, in 1662, the *Academy* begg'd the Protection of Chancellor *Seguier*, and made *Colbert* their *Vice-Protector*; at whose solicitation they were finally establish'd by a Patent, containing new Privileges, in the Year 1664. They were first lodg'd in the Gallery of the *Royal College* of the *University*; but afterwards his Majesty granted 'em more spacious Lodgings near the *Tuilleries*, and after that another more convenient place, in the Gallery of the *Louvre*. From thence they were remov'd to the *Palace Brion*, behind the *Palace Royal*; and after that House was annex'd to the *Duke of Chartres's* Lodgings, they were plac'd in the *Old Louvre*. There was also a Fund sett'd by his Majesty in the Register of the *Royal Buildings*, to raise a considerable Pension for the Officers of the *Academy*, and to defray the Charges of Models, and other necessary Expences of that Society. All Suits and Causes relating to their Functions, Works, and Publick Exercises, are to be examin'd by the *Council of State*, and the *Academy* it self



1664. self being assembl'd, is declar'd Judge of all differences that may arise about the Arts of *Painting* and *Sculpture*. He that presides in the Assemblies receives an Oath of those that are deem'd capable of being admitted Members of the *Academy*: And the Deliberations agreed on in these Meetings, have the force of Statutes. The *Academy* alone is empower'd to lay down Models, issue out Advertisements; and give publick Lessons concerning the Arts of *Painting* and *Sculpture*, and what relates to, or depends upon 'em. And that none may be admitted to profess these Arts by any other way or Method, his Majesty prohibited all Persons whatsoever, to assume the Title or Quality of his *Painters*, or *Sculptors*, till they were receiv'd into the *Academy*; revoking and making void all Grants or Briefs that might have been obtain'd for that purpose: So that all those who were in that Post were oblig'd to enter into that Society, under pain of losing their Places. Besides, the *Academy* may keep publick Exercises in other Places of the City, and erect *Academical Schools* in all the Cities of the Kingdom, by Virtue of a Patent, and Order of Regulation, granted by his Majesty, in *November* 1676. The same Monarch establish'd an *Academy* at *Rome*, where a Model is kept, and Pensions allow'd to young Students, who travel thither to study these Arts, after they have gain'd the Prize in the *Academy*; and that Society sends one of its *Rectors* to pre-

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side there. Those who are possess'd of the chief Places and Offices in the *Academy*, to the number of forty, are exempted from all Obligations whatsoever, to undertake the charge of Guardians or Curators, or to keep Watch and Ward, and have a right to the great *Committimus*, or special Privileges for that purpose. Those who are brought up in those Arts by any Member of the *Academy*, tho' they have not sufficient Merit to be receiv'd into that Society, are to be admitted to the Office and Dignity of a *Master* in any place of the Kingdom, by Virtue of a Certificate from the Person by whom they were educated, seen and approv'd by the *Chancellor*, and counter-sign'd by the *Secretary*; and that Certificate has in all respects the Force of a Brief, or Writ of Apprenticeship. And the Works of the Members of the *Academy* cannot be moulded or copied without their permission. The Officers that compose this Society are, first, a *Director*, call'd by the first Statutes the *Head*, who may be chang'd or continu'd every Year; and the Company may choose either one of their own Members, or any other, whom they shall think fit to discharge that Office: It was first possess'd by *Charmois*, and in 1656 by *Ratabon*, Superintendant of the Buildings. A *Chancellor*, whose Office is for Life; he approves all Dispatches, and affixes the Seal, which has on one side, the Image of the *Protector*, and on the other, the Arms of the *Academy*: This Office was

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1664. first executed by *le Brun*, who not only as *Chancellor*, but also as his Majesty's *Chief Painter*, presided in all the Assemblies, and receiv'd the Oath. Four *Rectors*, also for Life; and two *Adjuncts*, to supply the Places of those that are absent: Their Office is to serve quarterly, and to meet at the *Academy* with the *Professor*, who is in Waiting, to correct the Students, judge of those who excel their Fellows, and deserve some *Recompence*, and to dispatch all other Affairs. Twelve *Professors*, two of whom may be chang'd every Year by Lot; and Eight *Adjuncts*: The *Professors* are oblig'd to serve by turns Monthly, and during the time of Waiting, to give Daily Attendance at the *Academy*, to correct the Students, order the Model and Postures for designing, and to take care of other Affairs. There is also a *Professor* of *Geometry*, and another of *Anatomy*, who read Lessons twice a Week. A *Treasurer*, who receives and distributes the King's Pensions, and is entrusted with the principal Care of the Pictures, Sculptures, Furniture, and Tools belonging to the *Academy*. Several *Counsellors*, who are divided into two Classes; the first consisting of those who have already discharg'd the other Offices, and the second of Persons of Merit, who for their Love and Knowledge of those Arts, are receiv'd into the *Academy*, under the Title of *Counsellors*, *Lovers of Art*; but can never rise to any higher Post, because their Skill is confin'd to some part, and they do

do not profess the Art in its full extent: 1664. All these *Counsellors* have a Deliberative Voice in the Meetings of the Society. The *Secretary* takes care of Affairs, keeps the Registers, and counter-signs Dispatches. The *Academy* may also have two *Ushers* to serve them on all Occasions, who are to enjoy the Privileges of that Society, if they be either *Painters* or *Sculptors*. The *Roman Academy* that has its Name from *St. Luke*, being inform'd of the erection of that of *France*, and of the Merit of its Members, was desirous to entertain a Correspondence with 'em, both by way of Friendship, and for the Improvement of the Arts they profess'd. And to engage the *French* to a Compliance with her desires, she made the first Step by choosing *le Brun* for her *Head* two Years successively, tho' that Dignity is never bestow'd on any Person that lives out of *Rome*. This Advance gave the King Occasion to grant Letters of Union of these two Societies, in *November 1676*, which were afterwards ratify'd by the *Parliament*. The *Academy* receives none into its Body but those whose Merit has rais'd 'em above the common Excellencies of *Vulgar Artists*: Those who profess the entire Art, may aspire to the highest Offices in that Society; but they who are only Masters of some particular Talents, and apply themselves wholly to *Pictures*, *Landskips*, *Flowers* or *Fruits*, tho' they may be admitted into the *Academy*, can never rise above the Degree of

1664. *Counsellors*: And skilful *Engravers* are also receiv'd on the same Conditions. The Order of their Reception is thus: Those who apply themselves to *Figures* and *History*, are oblig'd to work a whole Month after a Model, in presence of the *Waiting-Professor*: After which there is a Subject prescrib'd to 'em, describing the King's Heroical Actions in Allegorical Figures. The Piece being finish'd, is presented to the *Academy*, who determine by plurality of Voices, whether the Design ought to be receiv'd: And if the *Candidate* receive a favourable Sentence, he is order'd to draw a Picture of a certain bigness, and that being examin'd and approv'd by the Majority of Voices, he is sworn before the *Chancellor*, and admitted into the *Academy*. They who pretend only to some particular Talent, present their Works as the others, but are not oblig'd to draw from the Life. *Colbert* being made *Protector* of the *Academy*, after the Death of Chancellor *Seignier*, thought fit that there should be a *Historiographer* appointed, to collect all useful and curious Observations that were made at the Conferences, and perswaded his Majesty to create one, with a Salary of 300 Livres. This Employment was bestow'd on *Guillet de St. Georges*, whom *le Brun* presented to that Minister; and he has since acquir'd a great deal of Honour by the Works he has communicated to the Publick; and among others, by his *Ancient and Modern Athens*, his *Dictionary of Arts*, and his *History of*  
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*Sultan Mahomet II.* He was receiv'd on 1664. the thirty first of *January*, 1682, and made a very fine Discourse in Praise of the *Academy*, and its *Protector*.

Before I finish this Account of the *Academy*, it will not be improper to present the Reader with a Catalogue of the Works of *le Brun*, its first *Director*. He painted the Battle and Triumph of *Constantine*, the Design of five Pieces of Tapestry, representing a like number of the most glorious Actions of *Alexander*, the Battle of *Porus*, the Family of *Darius*, the Battle of *Arbella*, the Passage of the *Granicum*, and that Prince's Triumph; the Angel's Crucifix, the King on Horse-back at large, a Representation of the same Monarch granting Peace, the *Platfonds* of *Vaux le Vicomte*, and of *Sceaux*, the Massacre of the Innocents, the Fall of the Rebellious Angels, *St. Stephen* at *Notre-dame*, the Presentation of the Virgin at the Temple, *Christ* in the Garden of *Olivet*, a Crucifix, a *Magdalen*, the Descent of the Cross, *St. Austin*, *St. Anthony*, the Twelve Apostles, the Martyrdom of the Jesuits in *Japan*, *Christ* in the Desert serv'd by Angels, the *Cupola* of *Sceaux*, *St. Teresa*, *St. Charles*, whose Picture is in his Chapel; *St. Mary Magdalen* at the instant of her Conversion, the Brazen Serpent at the House of the *Recollects* of *Picpus*; the *Pentecost* at *St. Sulpicius's*, and the Sepulchre on the High Altar. There are four of his Pictures at the *Carmelites*; a Presentation of the Virgin at the *Capuchins* Church

1664 in St. James's Suburbs, and the Maffacre of the Innocents, in the poffeffion of *du Mets*, formerly Treafurer of the Money rais'd by the Sale of Offices. The Prefident *Lambert's* Gallery, and that of *Apollo* in the *Old Louvre*, were alfo painted by him. And there are fome Pieces begun by him at *Ramboillet*, in the Guard-Chamber of the Palace-Royal, at *St. Germans en Laye*, and at the Houfe of the *United Farms*, where Chanceller *Se-guier* then liv'd.

The Learned World is alfo oblig'd to *Colbert* for the Erektion of the *Academy of Sciences*, that meets twice every Week in one of the Halls of the King's Library in the Street *Vivienne*, and has made fo many curious and ufeul Discoveries. On *Wednesdays* they treat of *Natural Philofophy*, and on *Saturdays* of *Aftronomy*, and other parts of the *Mathematicks*. They have invented a Method to determine the *Longitude* of Places, which has been try'd in *Denmark* by his Majesty's Order; at *Cayene* in *America*, and in feveral Parts of the World, according to the Directions of the *Aftronomers*. Thefe Observations were made, and are ftill carry'd on every Year by *Picard*, *Richer*, and *de la Hyre*, who are Members of that Body. And during the Voyages that are undertaken on this Occafion, *Caffini* remains ftill in the *Obfervatory at Paris*, to make like Obfer-vations at the fame time with the Travellers. They are all fo juft and exact, that the *Longitude* may be certainly found out

1664 out at any Diftance, without incurring an Error of above one hundred *Toifes*, which bear no proportion to the greatnefs of the *Terraqueous Globe*. When the *Academy* was founded, *Carcavy*, Intendant of the King's Library, was made *Moderator* of it, who was fucceeded by the Abbot *de Lanion*, and he by *Thevenot*. The prefent *Moderator* is the Abbot *le Tellier*, who prefides in that Affembly, tho' he is very young. *Huguens*, one of the *Aftronomers*, difcover'd the *Ring of Saturn*, and one of that *Planet's Satellites*, and has oblig'd the Publick with a *Treatife de Horologio Oscillatorio*, which we call a *Pendulum*. And it muft be acknowledged, that 'tis one of the moft Learned and Ingenious Pieces extant on that Subject. *Blondel*, *Camp-Marechal*, and formerly Teacher of *Mathematicks* to the *Dauphin*, has compos'd a *Course of Architecture*, with the Solutions of the four principal Problems of that Science. *Caffini*, who was esteem'd at *Bologna* the chief *Aftronomer* of his Age, has publish'd feveral *Treatifes*, and among the reft, one concerning the *Satellites* of *Jupiter*, with their *Ephe-merides*, the difcovery of two *Satellites* of *Saturn*, different from that of *Huguens*, a *Planisphere*, and a *Discourfe* of the *Comet* in 1680, and 1681. *Picard* wrote an Account of his *Voyage to Uraneburg*, enrich'd with all the *Caeftial Obfer-vations* he made in the fame place where *Tycho Brahe* contemplated the Heavens. *La Hyre* compos'd two *Treatifes* of *Conics*, containing an Explication of that hardeft

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1664. hardest part of Geometry, to which in 1679, he added new Elements of the Conic Sections, Geometrical Places, and the Construction of Equations. Röemer invented two Machines with Wheels, the first representing in a moment the Motion of the Planets, and their Aspects, for any Year or Day; and the second shewing the Day and Hour in which Eclipses either have happen'd, or shall happen. He left Paris to return to the North, where he was born, the King of Denmark being desirous to see him again. Mariotte wrote three Books concerning the Organ of Vision, a Treatise of Libellation, another of the Collision of Bodies, an Essay of Logic, a Treatise of Colours, and three small Discourses or Physical Essays, of the Vegetation of Plants, the Nature of the Air, and of Heat and Cold. Duclos is the Author of two Treatises, one of the Mineral Waters in France, and the other of Salts. Perrault translated Vitruvius, and illustrated his Author with learned Annotations, and an Explication of the Terms of Art; besides which he publish'd three Discourses, entituled, Physical Essays, of Noise, of Mechanics, of Animals, and the Circulation of the Blood. Dodard drew a Scheme of Plants. Bailly apply'd himself with extraordinary Success to the contriving of Objective-Glasses for Telescopes, or large Prospective-Glasses; and among the rest, he made one seventy Foot long, which is at present to be seen in the Parisian Observatory. Du Verney labour'd to improve Anatomy; and Bourdelin has made new

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new Discoveries in Chymistry. The Abbot Gallois wrote the Journal des Savans, from the 4th. of January 1666, to the 17th. of December 1674. Du Hamel publish'd, in the Year 1670, a Treatise in Two Volumes, De Corporum Affectionibus; and another also in Two Volumes, De Corpore animato & de Mente humana: And in 1682, he communicated to the Publick a Work five in Volumes, entituled, Philosophia vetus & nova ad usum Scholae accommodata. Besides these Productions of some of the Members of the Academy, the Curious have been oblig'd with the Anatomical part of the History of Animals, publish'd in the Name of the whole Society. And to make this Foundation more useful to the Publick, Colbert caus'd an Observatory to be erected at the end of St. James's Suburbs, in the Year 1667.

The Observatory is situated in the highest place in the City towards the South, that the Prospect of the Stars, and especially of the Planets which move towards that part of the Heavens, might not be obstructed by the Vapours of the River, or the Smoke that ascends from the Houses on the other side. 'Tis of a square Figure, containing about fifteen Toises on each side, with two Octangular Towers, at the Corners of the South Front, of seven Toises in Diameter; and another square, and somewhat less Tower in the midst of the opposite Face, where the Entry is: And all the three Towers are of the same height with the rest of the Building. The Eastern Tower is open from the second Story; and its two opposite Faces that front the

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1667. the *South* and *North*, are cleft or divided, to make way for *Telescopes* of above fifty Foot in length, for the conveniency of observing the Passage of the *Planets* thro the *Meridian*, and on the *North* side to view the *fix'd Stars*, at their coming to the *Meridian*, both above and under the *Pole*, in order to the finding of the *Latitude* or *Elevation* of the *Pole* above our *Horizon*. The Tower in the *North* Front is cover'd with *Flints* by way of *Plat-form*, as is also the Body of the Edifice on the *East* side: And the *Platform* of the *Northern* Tower is open in the middle, that those who are employ'd in observing the *Stars* may be shelter'd from the *Wind*. The Building below comprehends two *Stories* vaulted with hewn *Stone*, the *Walls* being nine foot thick, and sixty six Foot high, comprehending the *Rail'd Gallery* on the *Platform*. The lower or half-*Story* of the whole Building, is on the *South* side, back'd with a *Terrass* rais'd more than twenty Foot high above the *Field*; so that the first *Story* lies almost level with the *Terrass*, where there is a *Pole* or *Maft* that carries a *Telescope* seventy Foot long, and a *Tower* of *Timber-Work* one hundred and thirty Foot high. The Building rises ten *Toises* and a half above the *Ground*, but reaches deeper under it, because of the *Quarries* on which 'tis built: And at the bottom of these there are winding *Stairs*, that seem to hang in the *Air* by the middle; where there is a void *Place* fourteen *Toises* deep. These *Stairs* are directly under the middle of the Building; and there

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1667. there are round *Holes* about three Foot in *Diameter*, both in the *Vault* of the *Ground-Floor*, and in the *Vaults* of the two *Stories*, and also in the *Platform*. The *Centres* of these four *Holes* are perpendicularly over the *Centre* of the void *place*, in the winding *Stairs*: So that all together make, as it were, one continu'd *Pit* twenty four *Toises* and an half, or one hundred forty seven Foot deep; which was design'd; and has been made use of, for the *Trial* of several *Experiments*; as to examine whether the *Stars* in the *Zenith* might be seen in the *Day* from the bottom of this depth; to observe the *Degrees* of *Acceleration* in the descent and fall of *Bodies* in the *Air*, and the *Vibrations* of *Pendulums* under one hundred forty seven Feet in length, without danger of any *Alteration* from the *Motion* of the *Air*; to make *Observations* with *Barometers* above eighty Foot long, both with *Mercury* alone, and *Water* alone; and to try with *Tin-Pipes* of the same length, what height of *Water* is requir'd to break the *Pipes*, that it may be known how strong those *Pipes* must be made, that are made use of for the *Conveyance* of *Water* from a high place to another of like height. There were also *Chambers* dug out of the *Quarries*, that it might be observed whether *Grains* and *Fruits* could be preserv'd in 'em. Besides there have been *Enquiries* made to discover the different *Properties* of the free and open *Air*, and that which is inclos'd under-

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1667. der-ground; a and hundred Experiments have been try'd both with *Thermometers* and *Hydrometers*, to observe the various Effects that proceed from the different Degrees of Moisture, Dri-ness, Heat, and Cold both in Winter and Summer; which curious and instructive Im-provements of natural Knowledge, may with excellent Success be apply'd to the Advance-ment of Medicine. From the lower Apart-ment you ascend to the first and second Sto-ry, and even to the Platform of the whole Building, by a Stair-Cafe as large as 'tis bold and beautiful; 'Tis adorn'd with rich Iron Balisters, and seems to hang in the Air, ha-ving a void Place in the middle. Since the Faces of the Building look directly to the Four Parts of the World, and the Windows of the second Story are each eight Foot broad, and twenty six Foot high, the inqui-sitive *Astronomer* has a full Prospect of the whole Heavens, and enjoys the double Con-veniency of fixing his Instruments in the Walls, and of satisfying his Curiosity in a cover'd Room, with Telescopes of fifteen or twenty Foot; for those Observations that re-quire Instruments of a greater Length must be made on the *Terrass*. In this Edifice there is a Collection of all the Machines us'd by Artificers, and the Warlike Engines of the Ancients; so that here a Man may in a little time be sufficiently instructed, and fitted ei-ther to serve as an Engineer, or to teach the Arts of *Fortification* and *Navigation* in an Aca-demy. Here is also a Burning-Glass, that melts

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1667. melts Lead in an Instant, as soon as 'tis plac'd on its *Focus*; a Planisphere, containing all the Stars that are visible above the *Horizon* of *Paris*, and shewing their Situation in the Heavens; and a Copper Machine, compos'd of the Circles of the Sphere, carrying an Ob-jective-Glass one hundred and forty Foot di-stant from the Solar *Focus*, which by the Moti-on of a Watch follows that of a Star, when 'tis only two or three Degrees elevated above the *Horizon*: The Engine must be rais'd to the heighth of six or seven Feet, till the Sur-face of the Glass be parallel to the Disk of the Star; then retiring in a streight Line to the distance of one hundred and forty Foot, place the Eye-Glass, so that the four Centres of the Star, of the Surface of the Objective-Glass, of the Eye-Glass, and of the opening of the Ball of the Eye be in one streight Line: If the Star be considerably elevated about the *Horizon*, the Machine must be rais'd proportionably in the Air, by a Rope, towards the Angles or Corners of the above-mention'd wooden Tower, which is a hundred and fifty Foot high, and stands before the South-Front of the Observatory; but you must learn by several Trials, and a long continu'd Use, to follow the Star with the Eye-Glass, so that the Eye may describe a Circle of almost a hundred and forty one Foot of Rays, of which the Glass is the Centre. Here is also to be seen a large Astronomical Ring, that serves to find by the Sun, the Hour and Minute, as well as the

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the Declination of the Magnet, for the Use of Navigation; a Level with a Prospective-Glass, that comes quickly to an *Aequilibrium*; and a very exact Figure of the Moon, with all the hollow and rising Parts that are observ'd in its Surface. And besides, there is a Machine for the Planets (fram'd according to *Copernicus's* System) which may be call'd a *Speaking Ephemeris*, to find the Position of the Heavens at any time propos'd, whether past, present, or to come; the Longitude and Latitude of each Planet, and consequently its true Place in the Heavens at any time whatsoever, only by turning a Handle, as in the above-mention'd Machine. It shews also the Swiftnes and Slowness of each Planet, its Excentricity, and when it appears to us to stand still or move backwards; for the Machine is so contriv'd, that it must of necessity follow both the swift and slow Motion of every Planet, as it approaches to its nearest, or retires to its greatest Distance from the Sun. There is also a Pneumatical Engine for the Experiments of *Vacuum*; a Machine to make Stuffs; one to wind a hundred Hanks of Thread at once; another to cleanse Sea-Ports, and a *Catapulta* of the Ancients. By what has been said the Reader will be easily convinc'd of the Usefulness of the Observatory, and that the Ingenious World is highly oblig'd to *Colbert* for employing his Interest with the King, and his own Care and Industry for the Foundation and Erection of that Edifice, according to the Directions of those great Men that are now lodg'd in it. But

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But these are not the only Obligations *France* has to that Minister: She owes to him all the Advantages she receives by the Union of the two Seas. The Success of that Attempt is so much the more surprizing, that it was always before esteem'd impossible. The Glory of the Invention is due to *Riquet*, a Native of *Beziers*, a Person of a happy *Genius*, and an admirably quick and piercing Judgment; for 'twas he that found the Secret which had never before enter'd into the Imagination of any Man. The several Offices he enjoy'd in that Part of the Country, gave him an opportunity to consider it with great Care and Attention; and the exact Knowledge he had of it convinc'd him, that the way that leads from *Higher* to *Lower Languedoc* was the only thing that render'd the Design practicable; since on both sides there are Mountains of a prodigious height, the *Pyrenean Hills* on one side, and on the other the *Black Mountain*, neither of which cou'd ever have been divided by the united Labors of the whole Kingdom. He discover'd also that there was only one place where the Water of the Rivers that fall into the Ocean cou'd be united to those that fall into the *Mediterranean*. That place is call'd *Naurouse*, being a little Eminency or Rising-ground, bounded with two Valleys, one of which runs sloping from *West* to *East*, and is wash'd by a little River that falls into the *Fresque*, as that does into the River *Aude* above *Carcassone*: And the *Aude* empties it self on one side, by its natural Chanel, into the Lake of *Vandres*, that communicates with the *Mediterranean*; H and



1664. and on the other, is convey'd by an Artificial Canal to *Narbon*, from whence it runs to the Sea. The other Valley that descends from *East* to *West*, is cross'd by the River *Lers*, which enters into the *Garonne* below *Tbolouse*. Now the Springs of these two little Rivers of *Aude* and *Lers*, being at the Head of the two Valleys, about a quarter of a League distant from each other; *Riquet* concluded that if they were Navigable, the Boats that pass along their Channels might be brought very near each other. All the difficulty was to know whether a Basin or Pond cou'd be dug on the Eminency of *Naurouse*, and two Canals made to descend on one side to the Head of the *Lers*, and on the other to the Source of the River *Fresques*, that falls into the *Aude*; and supposing such a Pond cou'd be made, whether it were possible to gather and bring together a sufficient quantity of Water to fill the Canals, and make 'em Navigable. To clear these Doubts, he visited all the neighbouring Mountains, examin'd the height of the Sources of several Rivers that arise among 'em, run over all the Country, consider'd every part attentively, and measur'd the Ground so often, and so exactly, that he was at last convinc'd of the Easiness of the Attempt, to gather together the Water of the little Rivers of *Alsau*, *Bernasson*, *Lampy*, *Lampillon*, *Rientort*, and *Sor*, which fall from these Mountains into the Plain of *Revel*, and the other Countries of *Laurageois*. And besides, he concluded that by

1664. by digging a Canal along the side of the Hills, the Water of the Rivers might be convey'd down to the Hillock of *Naurouse*, which he consider'd as the Point of Division from whence the Waters might be distributed on both sides towards the *Ocean* and *Mediterranean*, to fill the Canals that might be made for the conveniency of Navigation. These Considerations having encourag'd him to undertake the Project, and convinc'd him of a possibility of Success; he address'd himself to *Colbert*, with whom he prevail'd to mention the Design to the King. But that Minister being unwilling to engage his Majesty in an unprofitable Expence, propos'd that there might be a Tryal made with a little Ditch, which was accordingly begun in the *Black Mountain*, above the Town of *Revel*, and carry'd on so happily, that it brought the Water of the above-mention'd Rivers to *Naurouse*. So encouraging a Success of the first Essay, gave a reasonable Hope, or rather Assurance of the happy Accomplishment of the Main Design, which was undertaken and carried on with Vigour: And the little Ditch was turn'd to a Canal of a convenient largeness and depth, for the conveyance of a sufficient quantity of Water. It begins near the Forest of *Ramondins*, a little above the Head of the *Alsau*, and descending to the little Rivulets of *Comberouge* and *Coudiere* takes in the River of *Bernasson*, with another Brook of the same name a little lower,

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1664. lower, after which it receives the Rivers of *Lampy* and *Lampillon*, with the Brook *Costere*, and empties all these Waters into the *Sor* above *Campinase*. The whole Course of the Canal is full of Windings, and contains 10761 *Toises* in length. That the Water of those Rivers might enter into the Canal, 'twas found necessary to stop their wonted Course with several Banks or Dams of well-cemented Earth, which were built of so convenient a height, that when the Water rises too high, it may run over the Banks, and fall into its natural Channels. Nor was it design'd to leave the Beds of those Rivers perfectly dry, after the Basons of Communication were furnish'd with a sufficient Stock of Water; and therefore there were several Sluces made in the Ditch, call'd in that Country *Escampadous*. The *Sor* having receiv'd so considerable an Addition of Waters, carries 'em along with it for the space of 3449 *Toises*, to the Foot of the Mountain, where its Course is stopt by Banks like to the former, to bring it into a new Canal; which, nevertheless, is only a Continuation of the Ditch, and creeps along the Hillocks to *Naurouse*, for the space of 19378 *Toises*. But lest the Water of all those Rivulets should not be sufficient to fill the Ditch, especially in the Summer when most of 'em are dry, 'twas judg'd convenient to seek out a fit place in the Mountain to make so considerable a Receptacle, that it might be in a readiness on all Occasions to supply

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1664. supply that defect. The place appointed for this purpose is a Valley, a quarter of a League below the Town of *Revel*, call'd *The Valley of S. Ferreol*, from a great Farm of the same name in the Neighbourhood; and 'twas presum'd that it might be fill'd with the Water of the *Audaut* that runs thro' it, together with that which proceeds from the Snow and Rains that happen very frequently in the Mountain. The Valley is 760 *Toises* long, and 550 broad, being very narrow at the Head, wide in the Middle, and contracted again at the End, by the approaching Mountains that bound it on both sides; and to keep in the Water in form of a Lake, the Mountains are join'd by a Causey, which may be call'd a *Third Hill*, by reason of its great thickness and height. Its breadth amounts to sixty one *Toises*, and its Base is a solid body of Stone-Work, founded on the Rock, and as it were mortais'd into it, having only one small opening or hole vaulted above, and level with the Ground, to let out the Water. 'Twas thought convenient to follow the Course of the Brook *Audaut* that runs thro' the Valley, and to contrive the Passage on that side whither the Stream naturally tends, to prevent the Ruines or Breaches in the Work, that might have been occasion'd by a violent alteration of its Course; and therefore the Passage was made nine Foot broad, twelve Foot high, and ninety six *Toises* long, in a crooked Line. On the Body of Stone-Work there is a thick Wall, H 3 reach-

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reaching in a streight Line from the Head to the Foot of the Dam, and exceeding by some *Toises* the height of the vaulted Aqueduct. In the thickness of the Wall there is another Vault in form of a Gallery, the Entry of which is towards the Foot of the Causey; and its height as well as breadth is parallel to that of the former. The Gallery growing insensibly narrow towards the bottom, contains but one *Toise* in breadth, and a *Toise* and a half at the Head of the Work: 'Tis only sixty one *Toises* long, because it runs in a streight Line; whereas the length of the Aqueduct amounts to ninety four *Toises*. Above, or at the Head of the Causey, it answers perpendicularly to the Orifice of the Aqueduct; and below 'tis on the left side of its Mouth. Things being thus dispos'd, there were three Cross-Walls built from one end of the Causey to the other, being founded on the Stone-Work that makes the Basis of the Structure. They are not only interlac'd with the Stone-Work of the Gallery, thro' which they pass in form of a Cross; but are also inserted into the two Hillocks that surround the Valley. The first Wall at the Head of the Causey is seven *Toises* high, eight or ten broad, and twelve Foot thick at the end, being largest below, because of the sloping. The second being the highest of all the three, is one hundred and eighteen *Toises* long, fifteen Foot thick, and sixteen *Toises* and two Foot high: 'Tis plac'd almost in the

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the midst of the Causey, at the distance of thirty three *Toises* from the first; and the length of it may be extended to two hundred ninety nine *Toises* and more. The third makes the Foot of the Causey, and is thirty one *Toises* distant from the second: 'Tis eight Foot thick, and equal to the first in height and breadth. Of the two above-mention'd Vaults, the lower lets out the Waters of the Magazine; and the other serves for an Entry to those who go to open, or shut the Passage of the Water, by means of two Brazen Trap-Doors, plac'd horizontally in a Tower call'd *The Drum*, which is join'd to the first or inward Wall; the Openings of the two Vaults being in the third or outward Wall. As for the Bason or Pond of *Naurouse*, whether the Waters of the *Black Mountain*, and of the Magazin of *St. Ferreol*, are brought by the Canal of *Deviation*; 'tis call'd *The Point of Division*, because from thence the Water is distributed on both sides, to the Canals that convey it to the two Seas. The Figure of this Bason is an Octangular Oval, its greatest Diameter containg 200 *Toises*, and its least 150: 'Tis lin'd with hewn Stone. It receives the Water of the Ditch by one of its Angles, and distributes it by two Canals, that issue out of the two other Angles. One of these Canals bends its Course towards the Ocean, and reaching the Valley of *Lers*, falls into the *Garonne*: It has eighteen Sluces, both double and single, which

1664. make twenty seven Bodies of Sluces in the space of 28142 *Toises*, or fourteen *French Leagues*. The other Canal, which runs towards the *Mediterranean*, to the Lake of *Thun*, contains forty six Sluces, double, treble, quadruple, and octuple, in the length of 99443 *Toises*, or almost fifty *French Leagues*. Besides these, there are two other Canals, one to empty the *Bafon* when 'tis too full, by discharging the superfluous Water into the River *Lers*: The second which is not united to the *Bafon* at its coming out of the Ditch, to drain away the foul and muddy Water, that the *Bafon* or Pond receiving only pure and clean Water, may be freed from the usual Inconveniencies of other Ponds that are apt to be gorg'd with Mud, and must be cleans'd and hollow'd from time to time. The River *Garonne* contributed very much to promote the design'd Communication of the two Seas, by opening a free and commodious Passage to the Ocean: But the same Conveniency was not to be found among the Rivers that fall into the *Mediterranean*, along the Coast of *Languedoc*; for the *Aude* was not Navigable above *Narbon*, and besides it enters into the Sea by the Lakes of *Bayes* and *Vandres*, where the Road or Shoar is so shallow, that 'twas impossible to make a Haven. After an exact View of all the Coast, there was no place found but *Cape de Sete*, of a sufficient depth for Vessels of five or six hundred Tun; and therefore 'twas resolv'd to make a Harbour there. *Sete* is

1665. a Promontory, in the Neighbourhood of the little Town of *Frontignan*, famous for its *Muscadine* Wine. The Sea is on one side of it, and on the other it has the Lakes of *Thun*, *Maguelone*, and *Peraut*, border'd with the Plains of *lower Languedoc*; and on the Right and Left-hand 'tis bounded with the Strand, between those Lakes and the Sea. This Mountain thrusts a long Point into the Sea; and on the other side the Sea advances into the Land, making a Bay, where the above-mention'd Depth was found. The Shoar along the Strand is full of Sand, as are all the Coasts of *Languedoc* about the Gulf of *Leon*; the Cape sinks deeper, and all around the Depth amounts to twenty or twenty four Feet. Now these Lakes or Ponds have no Water but what they receive by the Inlets or Passages, which the Sea makes when it beats strongly against the Shore; and these Inlets that open a Communication between the Lakes and the Sea, are chang'd according to the various alterations of the Wind: So that there was only a Passage for small Vessels, by reason of the Shallowness of most of the Lakes, Inlets, and parts of the Sea where they enter: And therefore to accomplish the intended Communication of the Seas, 'twas necessary to make a fit Harbour for all sorts of Ships. In order to the Execution of that Design, the Lake of *Thun* was chosen, as being the largest and deepest of all those Lakes, and not far from the Cape of *Sete*: 'Tis of

1665. of great extent, and is twenty five or thirty Foot deep in several places: 'Tis equally safe and commodious for sailing, and in case of necessity might serve for a Harbour. For these reasons 'twas thought fit to bring the Canals that come from *Naurouse*, and communicate with the Ocean, to the Lake on one side; and a Canal was also dug between the other side and the *Mediterranean*. The last Canal is two *Toises* deep, sixteen broad at the Surface, and eight at the Base, and about eight hundred in length. The whole Work was begun in 1666, after *Riquet* had undertaken to warrant the Success, and was finish'd before his Death, which happen'd in the beginning of *October* 1680; tho' it was not brought to the utmost degree of Perfection, till afterwards, by the care of his Sons, *Bonrepos*, Master of the Requests, and *Caraman*, Captain of the Guards; and his two Sons-in-Law, *Grammont*, Baron of *Lanta*, and *Lombreuil* Treasurer of *France* at *Toulouse*.

After so many and so useful Designs for the Publick Good so happily accomplish'd, *Colbert* thought he might justly aspire to some distinguishing Marks of Honour; and in that Design, on the 27th. of *August* 1665, he purchas'd the Office of *Treasurer of the King's Orders*, vacant by the Death of *Nouveau*, Superintendant of the *Post-Office*. The Order of *St. Michael* was instituted on the first of *August* 1669, by King *Lewis XI.* the number of the Knights being fixt to thirty six, tho'

1665. tho' it was afterwards increas'd to one hundred. All the Knights of the *Holy Ghost* are made Knights of *St. Michael* some days before they receive the Collar of their own Order. The Order of the *Holy Ghost* was instituted at *Paris*, on the first Day of the Year 1579, by *Henry III.* in memory of his having been advanc'd to the Crown of *Poland*, and afterwards to that of *France*, on the Festival of the *Holy Ghost*. The late King *Lewis XIII.* conferr'd it on fifty Lords, in the Year 1633. There were seventy created in 1662, and seventy four in 1669. The Badge of the Order is a *Cross of Gold*, fasten'd to a blue Ribban four Fingers broad, and one embroider'd with Silver, with the *Holy Ghost* in the middle, on the *Justaucor*. The four Officers are the *Chancellor*, *Master of the Ceremonies*, *Great Treasurer*, and *Secretary*, who wear the same Badges that are used by the Knights, even after they have sold their Offices.

The liberty which the Sons of the Farmers of the King's Revenue had obtain'd to possess Employments in the superior Courts, had rais'd the price of those Offices so high, that the Trade was considerably decay'd. The Office of *Counsellor* in the *Court of Aids*, was sold for 40000 Crowns, that of *Counsellor* in the *Great Council* for 50000, of *Counsellor* in the *Parliament* for 70000, of *Master of the Court of Accounts* for 80000, of *Master of Requests* for 100000, and that of *President à Mortier* for 400000. The King by  
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1665. Colbert's advice, publish'd an Edict in December 1665, by which the Rates of these Offices were fixt; that of *President à Mortier* at 400000 Livres, of *President* in the *Chamber of Accounts* at 300000, of *President* in the *Court of Aids* at 200000, of *Master of Requests* at 150000, (but was afterwards encreas'd to 200000) of *Counsellor* in the *Parliament* at 100000, of *Counsellor* in the *Great Council* at 90000, of *Counsellor* in the *Court of Aids* at 80000 Livres, of *President à Mortier* in the other *Parliaments*, and *President* in the *Chambers of Accounts* at 40000 Crowns, of the *Counsellors* at 20000 Crowns, except those of *Rhoan*, that were rais'd to 70000, and of *Mets*, who were reduc'd to 36000. These Regulations were not at first attended with the desir'd Success; for the Purchasers eluded the Force and Design of the Edict by private Bargains, which rais'd the Prizes very high above the appointed Rates. And therefore *Colbert* perceiving that there was no other way to moderate the Prizes of those Offices, resolv'd to lessen their Jurisdiction. During the King's Minority, the Superiour Courts were ambitious of raising their Privileges, in imitation of the *Parliament of England*, that claims a share in the Royal Authority. The King himself carry'd his Edicts to the *Parliament*, and sent 'em to the *Chamber of Accounts* by his Uncle the Duke of *Orleans*, and to the *Court of Aids* by the Prince of *Condé*. The Edicts were order'd to be register'd in the King's Presence, after

1665. ter which the *Parliament* examin'd 'em, and agreed to 'em with several Limitations; by that means assuming a kind of Sovereign Power, not much different from that of the Crown. 'Tis true, the *Parliament of Paris* according to its Original Institution, had a right to take Cognizance of all the Affairs of the Kingdom; and that Body being compos'd of the Three Orders, represented the *States-General* of *France*. At that time the Authority of the *Parliament* was both useful and innocent: Nor could the Power of the King be invaded by that Assembly, since they met only at a certain time of the Year, and their Session was confin'd to Six Weeks. But after *Lewis Hutin* had render'd the *Parliament* a perpetual and fixt Court, he reduc'd its Authority to a Right of judging the Differences of Private Persons: And this Abridgement of its Jurisdiction became still more necessary when *Henry II.* expos'd the Offices to Sale; for Merit was no longer a necessary Qualification of the Members of that Assembly, and the Secrets of the State could not be safely entrusted to young and unexperienc'd Persons. Besides, 'tis certain that if the Power and Jurisdiction of the Sovereign Courts had not been restrain'd within their ancient Bounds, *France* had not been at present a *Monarchical* State, the Government wou'd have been reduc'd to an *Aristocracy*, and the King made a *Doge of Venice*. For 'tis only that unlimited Power he now enjoys,

1665. joys, that has enabl'd him to execute those great Designs which make his Reign the Subject of our Admiration. The Abuses that crept into the Administration of Affairs during the *Regency*, made the Government subject to two Inconveniencies, that wou'd have infallibly ruin'd the best contriv'd Projects: *Secrecy* and *Diligence* are two necessary Qualifications in all those that are intrusted with the Management of great Attempts; neither of which cou'd have been expected, if the King had been oblig'd to take the Advice of the Parliament. For what Method cou'd have been taken to prevent the divulging of those Deliberations that depended upon the Votes of so many Persons? nor had it ever been in the King's Power to take Advantage of any favourable Juncture, if he cou'd not have dispatch'd his Orders without summoning a Meeting of the Chambers. The Ease and Interest of the People on which these Innovations were pretended to be grounded, was a meer frivolous pretext; and never were they so miserably oppress'd as in those unhappy Times. These were the convincing Reasons that *Colbert* urg'd to his Majesty, and in compliance with which, that Monarch laid aside the usual Custom of keeping his Seat of Justice in the Parliament, and of sending the Princes with his Edicts to the Chamber of Accounts, and the Court of Aids: And besides, he sav'd 100000 Livres which he must have given to the Duke of Orleans, and

and 50000 to the Prince of *Condé*. All the Edicts pass'd without dispute: And the Parliament was afterwards humbl'd to such a degree, that *Colbert* contented himself with sending the Edicts to that Assembly by one of the Commisaries of his Nephew *Desmarets*: And by this means the Rates of Offices in that Company fell so low, that they are now sold for 70000 Livres. About the same time a stop was put to the Prosecution of the Farmers; and an *Amnesty* was granted 'em by an Edict in December 1665, on condition they shou'd pay the Summs at which they were assess'd.

But all these important Affairs of State cou'd not make *Colbert* forget the embellishment of *Versailles*. The Architecture was already brought to perfection; there was nothing wanting to compleat that vast Design but suitable Furniture, and the Ornaments of the inside; and these he resolv'd to make the Object of his next Care. He settl'd a Manufactory at the *Gobelins*, and committed the Management of it to *le Brun*, as the only fit Person for such an Employment: That place was already famous for dying of *Scarlet*, the Water of the River of *Gobelins* being endu'd with a peculiar quality to brighten the Colour, and give it that shining Lustre which dazzles the Eye of the Beholder. There *Colbert* order'd *Tapestry-Hangings* to be made for the King's use, after *le Brun's* Designs: And in the same place he employ'd Artists about *Inlaid Stone-Work,*





1666. fine Work that the *Venice-Point* was generally slighted. The Manufactory was afterwards remov'd to *St. Saviours-street*, and at last to *Châtumont-Houfe*, near *St. Denis's-Gate*. *Mademoiselle du Mont* having marry'd her eldest Daughter to a *Norman* call'd *Marsan*, went to *Portugal* with *Manque* and *Lisbette*, and left the charge of her Manufactory to *Mademoiselle de Marsan*. But as all Modes and Fashions are subject to frequent changes in *France*, People grew weary of this sort of *Point*, both because of the difficulty of blanching it, (for they were forc'd to raise the Embroidery at each Washing,) and because its thickness made it seem less becoming on the Face. There was *Spanish Point* made with little Flowers, which being very fine, was esteem'd more graceful by the Ladies: And at last the *Mecklin-Lace* coming in fashion, that Manufactory was entirely laid aside.

1667. Tho' *Colbert* had no reason to doubt of his Master's Favour, he thought fit to secure his Fortune by powerful Alliances. On the 2d. of *February* 1667, he marry'd his Daughter *Joan Mary Teresa* to *Charles Honoré d'Albert*, Duke de *Chevreuse*, Peer of *France*, Knight of the *King's Orders*, Count of *Montfort*, Baron of *Chars*, Lord of *Marigni*, *Marran*, &c. and Captain-Lieutenant of his Majesty's Light-Horse. The Duke de *Chevreuse* is the Son of *Lewis Charles Albert*, Duke de *Luines*, Marquess d' *Albert*, Count de *Tours*, Baron of *Roche-corbon* and *Samblancey*, Knight of the *King's Orders*, and Colonel of the Re-

Regiment of *Auvergne*, who after the death of his first Wife, *Louise Mary Segnier*, the only Daughter of *Lewis Segnier*, Marquiss d' *O*, which happen'd on the 14th. of *September* 1651, took for his second Wife, in the Year 1661, *Ann de Roban* Daughter of *Hercules de Roban* Duke of *Montbason*, and of *Mary d'Arvaugour* his second Wife. *Charles* Marquiss d' *Albert*, Grandfather of the Duke de *Chevreuse*, Favorite of *Lewis XIII*, and Constable of *France*, procur'd the Baronies of *Luines*, *Roche-corbon*, and *Samblancey* to be erected into a Dutchy and Peerage by the Title of *The Dutchy of Luines*.

The great Charge the King was oblig'd to maintain during the War against *Spain*, had oblig'd him to alienate the greatest part of his *Demaine*. But *Colbert* being desirous to clear his Majesty's Revenues, perswaded him to re-unite the alienated Crown-Lands to the rest of his *Demaine*; which was put in execution by Virtue of an Edict set forth in *April* 1667, on condition to reimburse the Purchasers; but since most of them had been tax'd, the King had but little to pay. The same Minister undertook the Reformation of *Justice*; and the ill success of that Design was, perhaps, owing either to the Unskillfulness of *Puffort*, and the rest whom he employ'd in compiling the *Code*, or to their Unwillingness to remove the Foundations of Wrangling, lest the Officers of the Courts of Judicature shou'd remain without Employment. To demonstrate the Usefulness

1667. of the new Regulation it must be observ'd, that the Litigious *Wrangling* of *Lawyers* proceeds from *Four* Causes; the various Degrees of Officers or Courts of Justice, the Contests about their Jurisdiction, frivolous Suits and Forms, and the confounding of Matter of Fact with Matter of Law, which makes it impossible to refer every Particular to its proper Head. The first Inconveniency might have been easily remedy'd; by bringing the Appeals from the Sentences of the Judges of *Signiories* to the *Presidial Courts*, to which they are subordinate, where the Cause shou'd be finally judg'd without any further Appeal; and by bringing the Appeals from the Royal Jurisdictions immediately to the Parliament, without stopping at the *Presidial Courts*. And if it be objected, That the Parties wou'd by such a Regulation be engag'd in long and chargeable Voyages; it ought to be consider'd, that there lies always an Appeal to the Parliament from the Sentence of the *Presidial Courts*, that have condemn'd or approv'd the Judgment of their subordinate Royal Courts of Justice. And besides the Jurisdiction or District of the Parliament of *Paris*, which is certainly too wide, might be divided into several Parts, by creating two other Parliaments, one at *Lyons*, and another at *Poitiers*; as likewise *Lower Languedoc* might be taken from the Parliament of *Toulouse*, by erecting another at *Nimes*.

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1667. The Contests between Courts concerning their Jurisdictions, are chiefly occasion'd either because the *Court of Aids* has a Right to cite before it, all the Causes in which the King's Farmers are concern'd, or by reason of the Audiences erected in the *Courts of Inquest*; which, according to ancient Custom, belong only to the *Great Chamber*, as that alone has a Registry of Enrollments; for every Court reclaiming its Jurisdiction under Pretext of some incidental Controversie, there are an infinite number of Disputes occasion'd. And besides these, Contests are frequently owing to the Opposition against Sentences or Decrees obtain'd for want of Appearance, or of defending the Farmer at the *Great Chamber*, tho' the Petitions were presented to one of the Chambers of *Inquest*. The Code requires these Cases to be judg'd at the Bar, which is the true way to make the Decision of the Incident or Bye-matter last longer than the Judgment of the Main Suit, because the Advocates cannot be made to confer; and there is always a Return in Law against the Sentences given according to the Opinion of the Bar. The only way to redress these Inconveniencies is, with respect to the *First*, to restrain the *Courts of Requests* of the Palace, and other ordinary Jurisdictions, from taking Cognizance of Matters belonging to the *Court of Aids*; or else to hinder the *Court of Aids* from withdrawing a Cause from the other Courts of which they are actually possess'd. And the

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Second

1667. *Second* might be easily remedy'd, by reducing the Courts of Inquest to their Primitive State; and by ordering all Incidents to be judg'd in the Court call'd *The Chamber of the Council*, and all Petitions to be carry'd thither; and either join'd, if they have a Relation to the main Suit, or judg'd on the Verbal Relation of the Reporter, if they be conditional or include a *Proviso*. This Regulation would also redress another Abuse: for the Hearings at several Courts of Inquest falling out in one day; and there being also an Audience at the Court, call'd the *Tournelle Civile*, at the very same Hour, 'tis impossible for the *Advocates* or *Counsellors* at Law to be present in all those places at once, and therefore they are forc'd to incur the Penalty for want of Appearance, which might be prevented if there were no Audiences at the Courts of Inquest; for then they wou'd all remain at the *Tournelle Civile*. 'Tis true, there are Hearings at the same Hour at the Courts of Requests, in the Palace and in the Town-House; but that Inconveniency might be also regulated, by excluding the *Advocates* under Ten Years standing from the Superior Courts, and by restraining the old *Advocates* from pleading before the subaltern or inferior Courts.

If we consider the idle and unprofitable Pleadings or Forms, it will appear that the *Code* ought to cut off the Contradictions, Rejoinders, Replications, and all the New or Additional Proofs and Reviews, which only make

1667. make way for the Repetition of what had been urg'd a hundred times before. And besides there is another great Abuse, concerning the Defaults for want of timely Defence; for the Attorneys to gain time, demand in the general a Copy of all the Instruments or Pleadings, without mentioning particularly which are necessary to 'em, and after they have incur'd the Default, they are receiv'd as Opponents, without any previous Examination, whether their Exceptions are well or ill-grounded. The only effectual way to redress this Abuse, is to ordain that the Cause shall be judg'd only by those Pieces or Instruments of which Copies have been given, with an Express Prohibition to make use of any others; and this being suppos'd, if the Proctor or Attorney do not put in his Defence within the time limited by the Regulation, that in that Case he may and shall be fin'd in his own Name; and that it shall not be in the Judge's Power to moderate the Fine. And besides the Attorneys ought to be restrain'd from withdrawing their Allegations, and oblig'd to communicate 'em to the Reporter: for tho' the Regulation has made 'em liable to a Pecuniary Mulct, instead of Bodily Restraint, they never pay any thing, tho' by this means they have gain'd a great deal of time.

The last Article is of greatest Importance, since it relates to the Manifestation of the Truth, which the *Advocates* endeavour to disguise with their Forms and Pleadings, so

1667. that 'tis almost impossible for the Judge to discover it. For 'tis their constant Practice to spend the time allow'd 'em in several Audiences in the Pleading of one Cause, which is often referr'd, and in the mean time the Claims are not dispatch'd; besides that, the Cause being put off from Week to Week, it becomes a hard Task to remember what has been already alledg'd. And therefore to prevent such an useles Waste of Time, the Plaintiff ought to present an Account of the Matter of Fact, which the Defendant shou'd return corrected. And if the two Proctors or Attorneys cannot come to an Agreement concerning the Manner of Pleading, the Advocates shou'd endeavour to agree at the Bar; or if they cannot reconcile their Differences, they shou'd sign a Referment, which ought to be indors'd, and no Cause brought to Hearing, till the Matter of Fact be unexceptionably clear, and only some Questions of Law remain to be decided: Then he that pleads first shou'd read the Account of the Matter of Fact, and afterwards alledge his Reasons, to prove his Claim in Law; expecting the Reply of the Opponent. Thus, only rare and nice Causes wou'd be pleaded, and the Audience being freed from the overwhelming Multitude of Suits, wou'd quickly dispatch all that came before 'em; nor wou'd there be any occasion for Rolls. Besides, the same Custom that is sometimes observ'd at the *Chastelet*, ought to be be introduc'd into the Subaltern Courts:  
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1667. The Attorneys shou'd be oblig'd to regulate petty Affairs among themselves, and when they cannot agree, to refer the Case to an old Practitioner, endorsing the Referment, from whence an Appeal might be brought before the *Tournelle Civile*; and since 'tis to be suppos'd that only important Cases wou'd be pleaded, a farther Appeal might be made to the *Great Chamber*.

I shall, in the next place, proceed to some particular Instances, and consider the usual Practice with relation to Seizures, Arrests, Executions, and Decrees or Orders for Sale of Goods. As for Seizures and Attachments, when a Man finds himself unable to pay his Debts, he is reduc'd to Beggary, with the seiz'd Goods in his possession; and during the time that is spent in the Valuation, he becomes insolvent, or the Summs that were seiz'd are consum'd by the charge of the Distribution. This Abuse might be prevented, by ordaining that the Debtor should immediately consign, as soon as the Goods are seiz'd in his Possession; and that the Distribution be made by an old Attorney, without any other charge than six *Deniers* in the *Livre*. As for Executions, 'tis certain that the charge of the Sale consumes the greatest part of what it amounts to; whereas it might be enacted, that he who procures the Execution shall take the distrain'd Goods at the price set upon 'em by the Sergeant, and that

1667. that the Owner may claim and recover 'em, before a Month be expir'd, if he can find one who will allow him a greater Price. The case is still worse with respect to Decrees for Sale of Goods, the charge of which amounts to excessive Summs: But this Grievance might be also redress'd, by granting to the Attacher the Enjoyment and Possession of the seiz'd Goods, who shou'd be oblig'd to restore the Over-plus of the Price, (after the satisfaction of his own Claim) to be distributed among the Opponents, on condition, that he may be cast by the same Opponents within a Year, reimbursing the principal Summ, Interest, and Charge. I could add many other Remarks on the Forms of Proceeding at Law, but I have already said as much on that Subject as the succinctness of my intended History will allow.

About the same time *Nicholas de la Regnie*, then Master of Requests, and now Counsellor of State, was made Lieutenant of the Polity or Government of the City of *Paris*, which would have certainly receiv'd great Advantages by this new-created Office, if a larger Jurisdiction had been annex'd to it; and if at the same time some necessary Regulations had been made for the security of the City and of Trade. 'Tis true, that new Magistrate has redress'd several Abuses, and in some measure suppress'd the Insolency of Robbers, which was grown so

intolerable, that 'twas not safe to walk in the Night without a Guard. But the City is not perfectly freed from that inconveniency; for the Watch-men are either Robbers themselves, or in League with others that are so; and the Commissaries of the *Chastelet* are too remiss in the performance of their Duty in their respective Wards; either out of Carelessness, or for fear of hazarding their Lives. Nevertheless there might be several Ways found out to put an entire stop to these Disorders. The First is, to oblige the Owners of Houses, or their principal Tenants, when the Land-lords do not live in their own Houses, to keep their Doors lock'd after Nine a-clock at night in Winter, and Ten in Summer, so that none can go out or come in without their knowledge; and to give notice to the Lieutenant of the Polity of those who are wont to go abroad too frequently in the Night, that he may proceed against 'em as he shall think fit. In the second place, the Land-lords or their chief Tenants, might be enjoind to seize on all the Fire-Arms that are in their Houses, and not to restore 'em to the Owners, till they take Horse to go into the Country. Thirdly, all Persons should be forbidden to go to the places whither the People resort to smoke *Tobacco*, under pain of being sent to the Gallies; for those places are the Rendezvous of Rogues and Disorderly Persons. The Fourth and surest way to prevent these Abuses, would be to put the

1667. the Government of the City into the hands of the Citizens, who are most concern'd, and wou'd consequently be most diligent in the preservation of its Peace and Security: And, for that effect, 'twou'd be expedient in all the Quarters or Wards of the City, to establish Captains with their Officers, who might be chang'd every three Years. These Captains might be oblig'd to keep Registers of all Persons in their respective Wards, of their Age, Profession, and Estate; whether they are Boys or Girls; in the state of Marriage or of Widowhood: So that no Person cou'd come to live in any part of the City without the knowledge and leave of the Captain of that Ward, who might be injoyn'd not to grant a permission to that effect, till a Certificate were produc'd from the Captain of the Ward, where the New-comer had his last abode, testifying that there were no Complaints against him all the while he liv'd there, and showing the reason of his Removal. And if it be a Stranger newly come to Town, he might be oblig'd to bring a Certificate to the same purpose, from the Magistrates of the City where he liv'd. In the mean time, since the Captain of the Ward cou'd not be in justice oblig'd to undergo so much trouble without some reward, there might be a moderate Fee appointed to be given for every Certificate. And besides 'twou'd be convenient, in every publick place where Streets meet, to set up a Bell of a sufficient bigness to be heard at the

1667. the Captain's Lodging, and to ring an Alarm on occasion of any Disorder or Tumult, whether by Night or by Day. And at the same time the Citizens list'd in the Company of the Ward might be oblig'd to take Arms, and attend the Captain, who is to march with his Company to the Place where the Alarm was rung, to quiet the Tumult, secure the Authors of it, and draw up an Information to be sign'd by all the Assistants, and produc'd before the Lieutenant Criminal, as a sufficient Evidence for passing Sentence against the Rioteers. Besides, the Captain alone should be impower'd to cause any Citizen within the Bounds of his Ward, to be Arrested or Apprehended either for Debt or Crimes, and to serve Executions on Moveable Goods; which would be a means to prevent the Roguish Tricks of Sergeants, who are oftentimes wont to rob those Houses whither they are sent to serve an Execution, or arrest a Prisoner. And, finally, there might be a certain Day appointed in every Week, on which the *Lieutenant* of the *Polity* shou'd be inform'd of all Occurrences by the Captains of the Wards, and give 'em such Instructions and Orders as he shou'd judge fit to be executed.

There is also another Abuse, no less intollerable than those already mention'd, relating to *Women* that make a Trade of *Debauchery*; who are treated either with too much Rigour or Indulgence on several Occasions: For the Commissaries are brib'd to

1667. to connive at those infamous Practices; and if at any time they seize and imprison lewd Women, they are commonly such as retain some fence of Decency, whose Houses are best stor'd with Furniture, and their Persons may be apprehended with less danger; while common Prostitutes are suffer'd to live unmolested, secur'd by their Poverty, and their Guard of Bullies. Nevertheless, 'tis certain that this Method is directly opposite to that which ought to be observ'd; neither ought the Officers to content themselves barely with dislodging those unhappy Creatures, since they only remove to another Street, where they set up the same Trade as before. The care of redressing those Abuses ought to be committed to the Captain of the Ward, who being inform'd of the lewd Practices of those Whores, and of the Women that procure 'em, shou'd either banish 'em out of the City, or shut 'em up for ever in the Hospital. This Regulation wou'd be attended with two very advantageous Consequences; for Paris wou'd at once be freed from *Debauchery*, and dispeopl'd of *Ruffians*, who are maintain'd by those Women. But those who make a considerable Figure in the World, if they occasion no scandal in the Neighbourhood, and keep constant to one Man, ought not to be molested; and even they who take a greater Liberty, and are not willing to be confin'd to one Person, if they be rich, and receive none but civil Persons into their Houses, shou'd

1667. shou'd only be oblig'd to wear some Marks of Distinction, as at *Rome*. Thus they might be order'd never to go abroad in Coaches or Chairs, and never to wear Hoods, Coifs, Scarves or Gloves, that their Character and Occupation might be known by their Dress; for that wou'd be the most effectual Method to lessen their Numbers insensibly.

The great Fines that are impos'd on those who play at forbidden Games, have in some measure produc'd the Effect for which they were design'd; yet there are still some Houses where Gaming is very frequent, and runs very high; and (which is worse) there are profess'd *Rooks*, who live on what they get by cheating, and are supported by their Confederate *Hectors*, with whom they share their dishonest Gain. To suppress those Abuses, 'twou'd be convenient to limit the Sums that are hazarded, so that none might lose above *Ten Pistoles* at any sort of Game, condemning those that suffer higher Gaming in their Houses, to be fin'd 1000 Crowns, and those who cheat at Play, to the Gallies; to be convicted by the Complaints of the bubb'd Losers, and the Testimony of the Spectators. The Captain of the Ward might be empower'd and order'd to make diligent Search after those who are guilty of these Disorders, and to make his Enquiry the more successful, the third part of the Fine might be given to the Informer; and since there wou'd be a Man out of each

1667. each House, in the Company, 'twou'd be impossible to conceal or disguise the Truth.

There cannot be a more pernicious Practice than the Usury of those who lend Money on Pledges: But the care that is taken to punish Usurers, serves only to encrease the Abuse. For since they dare not drive their Trade openly, they make use of He and She-Brokers, who bring the Pledges, and carry away the Money. Now these Brokers are mere pilferring Vagabonds, who, having nothing to lose, assume a Privilege to commit any Villany. Thus they give but a part of the Money to the Borrowers, and make 'em pay more than they receiv'd, when they are desirous to redeem their Clothes, which are oftentimes utterly lost, because 'tis impossible for 'em to discover whither the Brokers carry'd 'em. So that 'twere certainly better to tolerate the lending of Money on Pawns; for then People wou'd give their Clothes to responsible Persons, who wou'd oblige themselves to restore 'em.

There are also great Abuses committed in the retailing of Commodities, since the Prizes are not fix'd, as they are in other Countries. Now the Price of Corn, and consequently that of Bread, might be regulated immediately after Harvest. And there ought to be only two Prizes permitted to be taken for the Wine sold in Taverns, that is, from Three to Four Sous for Tradesmen, and

1667. and from Six to Eight for the better sort of Citizens: Nor shou'd these Vintners be suffer'd to escape unpunish'd, who mingle Drugs with their Wine, that are prejudicial to the Health of the Drinker. Besides, about Easter there ought to be a Price set for the whole Year on the Meat in the Shambles, by the Pound; and for the Provisions in the Market, 'tis an useles Precaution to restrain the Cooks from buying till after Nine a-clock, for the Peasants will sell nothing to private Persons till the Cooks are provided. To prevent these Abuses, the Cooks shou'd be order'd in the Morning to set a Price on each sort of Fowl, and a Bill with the several Prizes hung up at each End of the Market; and the the Country-People shou'd be oblig'd, under Pain of Forfeiting their Panniers, to let Private Persons have their Goods for Two Pence more in the Pound Weight; and for the better Execution of these Regulations, a Commissary shou'd be appointed to inspect the Sale of Provisions till Eleven a Clock. 'Tis an astonishing Effect of Luxury, to give 50 Crowns \* Some- for a \* Litron of Green Pease, as some Persons what more have actually done; and therefore 'twou'd than a be convenient to regulate the Prizes of Pulse Pint. and Fruit, at their first coming into Season; and care shou'd also be taken to hinder the Country-People from filling their Baskets with Leaves, and putting only so much Fruit, as appears outwardly on the Top.



1667. The Usurpation of Noble Titles was none of the least Abuses that crept into the Kingdom, during the Troubles. 'Twas the usual Practice of those who were scarce Gentlemen, to assume the Title of Counts and Marquisses; and the Sons of Merchants had the Impudence to add a Coronet to their Coat of Arms, because they were possess'd of some Offices. These Rhodomontado's occasion'd the Pun of one of our Comical Poets;

*Depuis que dans Paris on s'est emmarquisé  
On trouve à chaque pas un Marquis supposé.*

In order to the redressing of this Abuse, Colbert order'd the Claims of those counterfeit Nobles to be examin'd: and all those who pretended a Right to the Privileges of the Nobility, were oblig'd to produc'd their Titles before the Intendants of the respective Provinces. And besides, they who had in publick Deeds assum'd the Title of Knight or Esquire, and were not able to prove their Claim to those Honours, were not only made liable to the common Taxes, but were forced to submit to an extraordinary Assessment.

1668. Thus you see how diligently Colbert apply'd himself to the Reformation of the State, but in the mean time he neglected not the Advancement of his Family. The King had declar'd War against Spain, in Pursuance of his Right to those Countries in the Netherlands that were laps'd and devolv'd to the Queen;

1668. Queen; and had already made himself Master of several Places, the Principal of which were Doñay, Tournay, Lille, Courtray, Oudenarde, and Charleroy, with all the Franche-Comté. Clement IX. who was lately made Pope, had employ'd his Ministers to negotiate a Peace between the two Crowns, and the Conferences were appointed to be held at Aix la Chapelle. Colbert procur'd the Dignity of his Majesty's Plenipotentiary for his Brother Charles, who arriv'd at that City with a Magnificent Equipage, and was shortly after follow'd by the Baron de Bergeyk, sent in the same Quality by his Catholick Majesty; Franciotti, the Pope's Nuncio, Sir William Temple, the English Ambassador, and Beverning, Ambassador from the States-General, performing the Office of Mediatours. The French maintain'd that by Right of Devolution, which takes place and is in force in the Dutchy of Brabant, the Lordship of Mechlin, the Marquisate of the Holy Empire, the County of Alost, High Guelderland, of which Ruremond is the Capital City, the County of Namur, the Dutchy of Limburg, the Lordships of Dalern, Valquernburg or Fauquemont, Roder-le-Duc, and other places beyond the Meuse, the County of Arlon, the Dutchy of Cambrai, Franche-Comté and the Dutchy of Luxemburg, the Daughters of the first Marriage excluded the Males born in the second. To this Right the Spaniards oppos'd the Queen's Renunciation by her Contract of Marriage, of her Claim to the Inheritance

1668. of the Estates belonging to her Father and Mother, pretending that her Renunciation was a Part of the *Pyrenean* Treaty. The *French* wou'd not allow of that Connexion, affirming that they were two separate Acts, and besides, that the Renunciation was void, as relating to an Inheritance that was not yet fall'n, and that she cou'd not abrogate the local Custom of those Provinces; especially since the Condition of the Renunciation was not accomplish'd, the Dowry stipulated by the Contract not being paid: and 'twas further alledg'd, that she never renounc'd the Inheritance of her Brother, Prince *Baltasar*, who inherited the Dowry of *Elizabeth* of *France* his Mother. Tho' all these Reasons were more than sufficient to assert the Queen's Right, and tho' the King was able to maintain her Title by his Arms, he chose rather to relinquish part of it for the Love of Peace. He offer'd to restore *Franche-Comté*, that belong'd to him both by Right of Succession and of Conquest, and to content himself with the Places he had taken in *Flanders*. *Charles Colbert* made the *Spaniards* and Mediators so sensible of the Reasons on which the King his Master's Claim was founded, that the Baron *de Bergeyk* receiv'd as a Favour the Offers of his most Christian Majesty. Thus the Treaty was sign'd on the second of *May*, 1668. and the Brother of our Minister by so successful a Negotiation, open'd a way to a higher Preferment.

Colbert

1669. *Colbert* had no reason to complain of the Ingratitude of his Master: He was made Secretary of State in the room of *Guene-gaud*, and was entrusted with the Management of Affairs relating to the Sea; nor were his Performances in that Post unsuitable to the Confidence his Majesty repos'd in him. For he was so industrious to augment the Naval Forces, that the King may style himself Master of the Sea; since in the time of Peace there is no Nation that dares refuse to salute his Flags.

That Minister who made it his principal Care to enrich his Master, by suppressing all the Rights and Offices that might be chargeable to him, began with the *Paris*, and the Rents upon the Entries, that were created on the *Third Penny* and a *half*, and yielded Interest at the *Seventh Penny*, there being only a Fund for two Quarters. The Duties on the *Gabels* of *Languedoc*, and the Offices of the King's Advocate and Attorney, for the Garners and Chambers of that Province, had the same Fate: and since he cou'd easily exact the Taxes impos'd on those who had been concern'd in publick Business, out of the Reimbursements that were due to 'em from the suppress'd Rights, Rents and Offices; he procur'd by the Edict that abrogated the Chamber of Justice, all those that were tax'd to be restor'd to their Lands or Immoveable Estates, that had been seiz'd, and even order'd to be sold; contenting himself with retaining their Reimbursements. But he ex-

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1669. cluded from receiving any Benefit by that Act of Grace, the three Treasurers of the Exchequer, the Monerot's, Languet, Bance, and the Heirs of Girardin, for the Reasons alledg'd in the Beginning of his Life.

In the mean time, perceiving the King's Zeal for the Extirpation of Heresie, he suppress'd the Chamber instituted by the Edicts of Paris and Rboan, tho' they were not equally divided as those of Castres and Guien (which were abrogated some Years before), but admitted only one Huguenot, Counsellour, every Year. 'Tis true, there was also one of that Perswasion in each of the Courts of Inquest, but afterwards as their Places became vacant, they were supply'd by Catholicks. At the same time there was a Tournelle Civile erected, to judge of all Causes under 1000 Crowns, to ease the Great Chamber and Courts of Inquest, whither all the Suits were transferr'd, that were depending in the Chamber of the Edict at the time of its Suppression. And besides, the Form of the Court of Vacations was chang'd; for whereas formerly each President à Mortier presided in it for the Space of a Week, and Affairs of small Importance were determin'd there, by a definitive Sentence: two Presidents were appointed every Year, one to preside in the others Absence, from the 9th of September to S. Simon and Jude's Day, and its Jurisdiction was confin'd to Matters implying a Condition or Proviso. These new Creations are of no great Importance, nor do

do they afford Matter for Variety of Reflections: but 'twill not be improper to insist somewhat longer on the Examination of the Criminal Code, the Regulation of the Council, and the Orders for the Committimus or Special Letters of Priviledge.

The Criminal Code is as useles as the Civil: for Affairs of small Importance are oftentimes kept longer in Agitation, than Prosecutions for the most enormous Crimes; and the Judges neglect these Cases in which the Publick is most deeply concern'd, especially if there be no private Person to carry on the Pursuit at his proper Cost. These Abuses proceed from a twofold Cause: First, the Lieutenant Criminal of the Chastelet is overcharg'd with Multiplicity of Business; for I mention only that Officer, because in other Courts of Justice, Affairs are dispatch'd with greater Expedition. Secondly, the Forms of Proceeding are too long, both at the first hearing, and after an Appeal. Now to enable the Lieutenant Criminal to use greater Expedition in the dispatching of all sorts of Affairs, and not to neglect those that are not manag'd by a private Person, I wou'd appropriate to the Courts of Request in the Palace, the Cognizance and Judgment of all Actions and Pursuits against Gentlemen; and to restrain private Persons from entering their Accusations against Noble Persons before the above-mention'd Officer; I would have the Courts of Request in the Palace abrogate and cancel all that is done at

1669. the *Chastelet* to the Prejudice of their Jurisdiction; and if Gentlemen be not directly comprehended in the Accusation, but involv'd in it by the Examination of others that are accus'd, in that Case the Lieutenant Criminal shou'd be oblig'd to remit the Procefs to the Courts of Request, and in Case of Failure shou'd be liable to be call'd in question, and even interdicted by those Courts if they think fit. I wou'd also appropriate to the Provost of the Isle of *France*, and the Lieutenant of the short Robe, the Cognizance of all Causes and Criminal Actions against Persons that have no Habitation, in which number shou'd be comprehended all Pages or *Valets de Chambre*, Servants that wear Livery, and Vagabonds that have no other Employment than to wander about the Streets, tho' they lodge not in a furnish'd Room: One of these Officers might be appointed to judge and take Cognizance of all Crimes committed in the Country, and the other, of those that are committed in the City; with an exprefs Prohibition to the Lieutenant Criminal, and Commissaries of the *Chastelet*, to proceed against Persons of that Character. And to oblige the King's Attorney and Lieutenant of the Short Robe not to suffer those to go unpunish'd who are not charg'd by a private Person; I wou'd have all those that are condemn'd to undergo corporal Punishment by the Lieutenant Criminal or Courts of Request, to be fin'd also in considerable Summs; which shou'd remain as a  
Fund

1669. Fund in the Hands of the Receiver, never to be diverted to any other Use, but only for the Payment of the Charges and Damages of those who shall pursue these Vagabonds, who have nothing to lose, and can make no Reparation: for private Persons wou'd willingly become Prosecutors, if they were sure to recover their Damages. As for the Forms of Proceeding, 'twou'd be convenient to abolish all Assignments or Appointments over, to be heard on a Personal Summons, and from the Summons on an Order for Corporal Seizure. If there be no cause to require a Warrant for Corporal Seizure, 'twou'd be sufficient to take out an Order of the Judge to cite the Person accus'd to appear before him, on such a Day and Hour, there to be examin'd and interrogated; and in case of Non-appearance, for the Profit of the Failure, the Reparations awarded by a definitive Sentence might be adjudg'd to the King's Attorney and the Accuser, without leaving room for an Appeal. But the Judges ought to proceed with more Caution, in issuing out Orders of Corporal Seizure against Gentlemen, and never to give any such Warrants but in case of Capital Crimes: whereas, on the contrary, the Prosecution of Vagabonds shou'd begin with Seizure of their Bodies, which shou'd be immediately follow'd with Examination on the Complaint made against 'em, and that with Information. Banishment is, in my Opinion, a Punishment that ought never to be inflicted on those who  
have

1669. have no Reputation or Sense of Honour; for to what purpose shou'd a Sentence be given against a Criminal who is neither afraid of its Execution, nor will perform what it ordains. 'Tis plain then that 'twou'd be a great deal better to order the Men into the King's Service, and the Women to be imprison'd, or (for great Offences) to be transported to the *American Colonies*: and the best way to punish those that are rich, is to drain their Purfes. As for Prosecutions of Persons without a particular Description of the Party accus'd, the Action ought never to be prepar'd for Hearing, nor proceed further than a bare Information; for under that Disguise a Design may be carry'd on against Persons of Quality, to charge 'em with Crimes of which they were never guilty. And besides 'twou'd be highly convenient to regulate the Jurisdictions of Courts and Officers of Justice, that there might be no Contests between 'em, either by settling the Extent of their Authority, or by ordaining that every Action shou'd remain where 'twas first enter'd, till it be determin'd by a definitive Sentence.

As for the Council, I wou'd take away all *Evocations* or Removals of Causes from one Court to another, and the Rules of Judges, which put the Parties to a vast Charge, without deciding the Main Suit; and create for that Effect a *Court of Evocations*, to sit at *Lions* or *Poitiers*, which shou'd be compos'd of a *President à Mortier*, and two *Counsellours* of the *Parliament*

1669. *Parliament of Paris*, a *President* and two *Counsellours* of the *Great Council*, a *President* and two *Counsellours* of the *Court of Aids*, and two *Counsellours* out of each *Parliament* and *Court of Aids* in the Kingdom, to be taken, one from the *Seniors*, and another from the *Juniors*, and chang'd yearly. This Court shou'd judge all Causes remov'd or transferr'd from any other Court whatsoever; and to avoid troublesome Enquiries into contested Parentages, all the Officers of each Company shou'd be oblig'd to remit their Genealogies into the hands of the *Attorney-General*, containing 16. Quarters, of which a Book shou'd be compos'd and re-printed every Year, as the State of *France*, with all the Changes and Alterations happening by Death, Marriage, or Sale of Office. Thus when a Cause shou'd happen to be transferr'd, the Book of the Genealogies of the Company, where the Cause was in dependence, might be consulted for a Proof of the controverted Parentage; and without further Trouble, Letters might be granted under the *Great Seal*, importing a Referment to the *Court of Evocations*. As for the Rules of Judges, as soon as a Conflict is form'd, instead of taking out a Writ in pursuance of a Judge's Rule, Letters of Referment wou'd be dispatch'd to the *Court of Evocations*. The same Court might also be empower'd to judge of Reviews or Appeals of Judgment; after the Council, upon a Petition communicated to the Party, and his Answer, without any other Instruction, shou'd conclude

1669. clude that there was an Overture for a Repeal or Review. The Constitution of this Court wou'd be attended with one very considerable Advantage, as being compos'd of Officers belonging to all the other Courts, so that they cou'd not be ignorant of the Customs and Manner of Proceeding in the Companies from whence any Suit might happen to be transferr'd; which is the usual Inconveniency of the Removal of a Cause to another Parliament or *Court of Aids*, tho' next to that where the Cause was depending; since 'tis certain that the Parliament of *Paris* is not better acquainted with the Customs and Manner of Proceeding in the Parliament of *Rhoan*, than with those that are observ'd in the Parliament of *Thoulouse*; and the same Remark is equally applicable to the rest. As for the Reviews of Judgment, since they are remitted to the same Chamber, the Sentence formerly given is very rarely annull'd afterwards.

It must be acknowledg'd that the New Regulation of *Committimus's*, or Special Commissions in behalf of priviledg'd Persons to their proper Judges, has in a very considerable measure taken care to prevent the abusing of that Privilege, by depriving those who have a Right to it of the Power of making use of it for small Summs, or of lending their Name to their Friends, since they are oblig'd to signifie and give notice of the Assignments they have obtain'd, a Year before they can put in their Claims

1669. Claims at the Courts of Requests either in the Palace or Town-house, for the Payment of what is made over to 'em. But 'tis no less certain, that many important Additions might be made to that Regulation; for tho' the Officers of the King and Princes, and other priviledg'd Persons ought not to be diverted from giving personal Attendance, by going to manage Law-Suits in Places remote from the Court, yet their Privileges are attended with this Inconveniency, that many Persons are forc'd to relinquish their undoubted Rights, merely to avoid a chargeable Journey to *Paris*. And therefore there ought to be a middle way found out to save the Privileges of one Party, and the Rights of the other. Thus the Intendants of the Place where such Differences arise, might take cognizance of those Cases, and endeavour to reconcile the contending Parties: but if the Agreement seem impracticable, the same Officers might transmit to one of the Masters of Requests, the respective Instructions and Claims of both Parties, with an Extract of 'em, and their own Opinion at the end of it: And a Report of those Pieces might be made to the Council without further Charge or other Writings, on which a *Mandamus* might be issu'd out. In the mean time, since the Courts of Request in the Palace ought not in Justice to be left without Employment, besides the Right of Judging in Criminal Cases, in which Gentlemen are concern'd, these Courts ought to have the first Hearing of

1669. of all Suits and Cafes relating to Marriage, Separation, Controversies about Estates, Reclaiming of Vows, Testaments, Substitutions or Deputations, Deeds of Gift, and all other provisional Cafes, whether the Parties concern'd have a Right to the *Committimus* or not. For 'tis not fuitable to the Dignity of these Courts, that consist of Members of Parliament, to determine Controversies concerning Heirs, Seizures, Repairing of Houses, Conditions of Service, Servants Wages, and other petty Cafes that ought not to be remov'd out of the *Chasteler*. Besides since there are two of those Courts, they might by Turns, and from Month to Month, take cognizance of Civil and Criminal Cafes: and 'twou'd be sufficient for the Courts of Request in the Town-House, to meddle only with those Cafes which they are empower'd to determine Sovereignly, and without Appeal.

There were also *Two Edicts* publish'd in 1669, one for the Controllment of Warrants or Dispatches, and the other relating to the Fines that are to be consign'd for Appeals. The first is most certainly advantageous to the Publick, because it prevents Ante-dates, which were very frequent before; tho' at the same time 'twou'd be no less convenient to hinder the counterfeiting of Warrants, which might be easily done, by obliging the Sergeants to cause 'em to be sign'd by those on whom they are serv'd, or in case of Refusal, by any other Persons, who might be call'd

1669. call'd for that purpose, and the Refusers might be fin'd on the Verbal Report of the Sergeant, attested by two Witnesses signing the same with him. But the same Character cannot be given of the other Edict, which augments the Charges of those who have the best Right; since they must advance the Fine before the Appeal can be judg'd. And therefore to make this Edict useful, it ought to be provided that the Sentence might be executed without giving Bail, till the Appeller had consign'd the Fine, which wou'd be more effectual if it were augmented; And besides 'twou'd be convenient to oblige the Opponents to acquiesce in the Sentence, and the rest to consign before they be admitted to oppone: for such a Regulation wou'd lessen the Number of Judgments on Default. The Parliament of *Thoulouse* resolving to hinder the Execution of the Edict for the Controllment of Warrants, issu'd out an Order to oblige those who were appointed to levy that Duty, to restore a Horse, that had been sold for the Payment of the Fine awarded against Deficients. The first President was not accessory to the passing of the Order; but *Colbert* gave him to understand that 'twas expected the Parliament wou'd cancel it, unless they were resolv'd to draw a severe Punishment on the whole Body. The same Minister wrote also to the Solicitor-General, and to the Advocates-General, exhorting 'em to a more diligent Performance of their Duties for the future. The Parliament

1669. ment endeavour'd to ward the Blow, and propos'd several other Expedients; by which they thought to save their Honour, yet at last they were oblig'd to buy their Peace by cancelling the Order. But they were not the only Objects of *Colbert's* Severity; for the Lieutenant of the Polity met with a no less rigorous Treatment, for endeavouring to oppose the Lease of the little Shops that belong to the King's *Domaine*, under Pretext that it wou'd occasion a Mutiny among the Herring-Sellers: nevertheless the Lease pass'd, and the Lieutenant was forc'd to truckle.

The main Design of that Minister in reforming the Manner of Proceeding at Law, was to give the People more leisure to apply themselves to Trading; for the Advancement of which he procur'd an Edict, containing 29 *Articles*, to be register'd the same Year, importing the Creation of a Company or Office, for Ensuring the Adventurers of *France* in the City of *Paris*. Several Merchants had found a way to avoid considerable Losses, by paying moderate Rates for Ensuring their Vessels and Goods. And that all Traders might have the same Advantage, of lessening the Hazards they run in the ordinary Course of their Trade, for their further Encouragement to undertake and carry on considerable Adventures with more Ease and Security; *Colbert* caus'd a Company for a General Ensuring-Office, with Common Stock and Seals, to be incorporated and settled in *St. Martin's-Street*, which being in the Middle

1669. Middle of the City, was the most convenient place for all Parties concern'd. There a House was hir'd and Meetings held, to treat of the Affairs of the Society, with a Permission to the Merchants, Adventurers, and others of the Cities of *Roban*, *Nantes*, *St. Malo*, *Rochel* and other Places, who were already engag'd in a like Project, to continue the same, as before. The Edict requires, that there be a Principal Stock or Fund of 300000 Livres, and that the Company shall consist of Thirty Officers, Five of 'em to be elected by Plurality of Voices, to execute the Office of *Directors* for a limited Time; Two of the Five to be remov'd six Months after their Election, Three more after other six Months, and so every six Months successively, a like Number being always chosen to succeed 'em; so that there are still two or three *Directors* who cannot be continu'd for above two successive Elections, and in that Number there must always be three Traders. The Contract of the Society containing 43 *Articles*, was presented to the King by the thirty Associates: whose Names are here inserted; *de Lagni*, Director-General of Trade; *Soulete Desvieux*, *le Fevre*, *Rousseau*, *le Jarviel*, *Matry*, *de Vitri la Ville*, *T. de Lile*, *Charles le Brun*, *Chauvin*, *Tardif*, *Poquelin*, *Herbert*, *P. Chauvin*, *Cl. le Brun*, *Pasquier*, *Paignon*, *A. Pelletier*, *Molliere*, *Barry*, *Cousinet*, *N. Soulet*, *Gaillart*, *de Loubert*, *Franchepin*, *Herson*, *de la Rivoire*, *de Meur*, and *Ceberet*.

Amidst such a vast multiplicity of Business *Colbert* was still mindful of his being a Parent of Children, as well as a Minister of State.

L On



1671. On the 21th of January, 1671. he marry'd his Daughter *Henrietta* to *Paul de Beauvilliers*, Duke of *S. Aignan*, Peer of *France*, Knight of the King's Orders, first Gentleman of his Majesty's Bed-Chamber, Governour and Lieutenant-General of the Town and Cittadel of *Havre de Grace*, Camp-Master of the Regiment of *S. Aignan*, Son of *Francis de Beauvilliers*, Count and afterwards Duke of *S. Aignan*, and of *Antoinette de Servien*, Daughter of *Nicholas Servien*, Counsellour of State, and of *Mary Groulard*. The County of *S. Aignan* fell to the House of *Beauvilliers*, by the Marriage of *Emeri de Beauvilliers*, Bayliff and Governour of *Berry*, with *Louise de Hussion-Tonnere*.

1673. Hitherto *Colbert* seem'd to have made it a main part of his Care to ease Pleaders, by abridging the tedious and wrangling Forms of Law, and preventing Abuses; but the bringing in of *Mark'd Paper* and *Parchment* rais'd the Charge of Suits to so prodigious a heighth, that it ruin'd most of those who were engag'd in 'em. If it had been only appointed to be us'd for writing the Instruments or Deeds of *Notaries*, and Sentences, it might have been look'd upon as an Invention to prevent *Ante-dates*, since by reason of the frequent Alteration of the *Marks*, 'twou'd be hard to find immediately any Paper or Parchment that was in use at the time of the false Date. But to what purpose shou'd Petitions, Inventories, and Réplications be written on *Mark'd Paper*? And why shou'd the Grievance be made still more intolerable, by obliging Attorneys not to exceed a certain

tain Number of Lines in every Page, and even fixing the Number of Words that are to be contain'd in each Line?

*Colbert*, who was desirous to obtain the Reversion of the Office of Secretary of State for his Eldest Son, the *Marquess de Seignelay*, sent him abroad to visit the principal Courts of *Europe*, under the Inspection of *Isarn*, who was recommended to him by *Pelisson*. The Young Traveller took a View of *Italy*, *Germany*, and *England*, and on his Father's Account was receiv'd every where with extraordinary Respect. His Tutor *Isarn*, had the Misfortune to die in an Inn at his Return to *Paris*; for the Door of his Chamber being double-lock'd, and the Key carry'd away by the *Marquess's* Servants, he was suddenly taken ill, and having in vain attempted to come forth, he fell down dead as he was endeavouring to call out for Assistance.

The *Marquess* at his Return from his Travels, eas'd his Father of part of that prodigious Load of Business he was oblig'd to sustain; as being entrusted with the Care of all the Home-Affairs of the State. The earnest Desire he had to compleat the Reformation of Abuses, made him perswade the King to suppress the Courts of Justice that were kept by several Lords in *Paris*, because of the Contests that usually happen'd between the *Chastelet* and the Judges of those Courts, about their Authority and Jurisdiction; and besides, those Judges were apt to be corrupted, as knowing that they were only to execute their

1675. their Office, during the Life of their Masters. The Archbishop of *Paris* had his Bayliff, and King's Attorney at *Fort l' Evêque*, the Abbot of *S. Germain* in his Abbey, the Grand Prior of *France* at the Temple, and the Abbess of *Montmartre* at *Ville-Neuve*. The Chastelet being over-crowded with Affairs after the Suppression of these Courts, was divided into two Parts, their Jurifdictions being separated by the River. The Lieutenant-Civil, Lieutenant-Criminal, Lieutenant-Particular, and King's Attorney of the new Chastelet, were to serve by turns from Year to Year in the in the Old; and those of the Old to remove to their respective Places in the New. *Peter Girardin* was made Lieutenant-Civil of the New, *Antony le Ferron* Lieutenant-Criminal, *Lewis de Vienne* Lieutenant-Particular, *Claude Robert* King's Attorney, *James Bribard* and *Nicholas Merant* Advocates-General. The New Chastelet sate at the Abbey of *S. Germain*, in the Hall of the Bailiwick, till the Building began at the Old was finish'd: after which both Courts sitting in one Place, the Advocates and Attorneys cou'd with more Ease and Conveniency go from one Audience to plead at the other.

1672. While *Colbert* was busi'd in regulating the State at home, a War broke out between *France* and the House of *Austria*, occasion'd by several Actions of the *Dutch*, to the Prejudice of the Kings of *France* and *England*. A League was concluded between those two Monarchs by the Mediation of the *Dutchess* of

1672. of *Orleans*, and by Virtue of the Treaty which they sign'd, the *United Provinces* were to be divided between 'em. But the King of *England* growing jealous of his most Christian Majesty's Victories, who in 40 Days conquer'd 4 Provinces, and took 40 Cities, withdrew from the League, and became the Mediator of a Peace. The Conferences were begun at *Cologn*, and interrupted by the carrying away of *William Egon* of *Furstenberg*, Plenipotentiary of the Elector of that Name, the Marquess *de Grana* having arrested him by the Emperour's Order. But the Treaty was again set on foot by the Pope's Mediation, and all the Potentates concern'd in the War sent their Plenipotentiaries to *Nimmegen*, the Place appointed for the New Conferences. *Charles Colbert* went thither for *France*, with the *Maréchal d' Estrade*, and the Count *d' A-vaux*: and while he was at *Nimmegen* his Brother procur'd for him the Office of President à *Mortier* in the Parliament of *Paris*, vacant by the Resignation of *Nicholas Potier*, Lord of *Novien*, who was made first President. At the same time *John Baptist Colbert* was made Minister of State; and forgetting his Birth, and the Modesty he had till then affected, assum'd the Title of *Grandeur*. His Office of Counsellour of State in Ordinary, was given to *Claude Pelletier*, Counsellour of State de *Semestre*, or for six Months, and *Bignon*, formerly Advocate-General in the Parliament of *Paris*, was made Counsellour de *Semestre*. At the same time *Colbert* obtain'd the Rever-

1672. sion of the Office of Secretary of State for his Eldest Son, the Marquess de Seignelay, and that of the Superintendancy of the Buildings for his Younger Brother, Julius Armand Colbert, Marquess of Ormoy.

This Marquess, who was no Enemy to Love, cou'd not resist the Charms of Mademoiselle de la Sale, a Young Lady of Quality, but of small Fortune, and the Youngest of Three Sisters. She cou'd not boast a regular Beauty, for her Mouth was somewhat large, and her Complexion too ruddy, but she had the Advantage of a fine Sett of Teeth, and Sparkling Eyes; her Hair was of a lovely light Ash-colour; she sung prettily, danc'd with a becoming Grace, and her pleasant Humour made her Conversation very agreeable. Her large Stature, and fine Shape appear'd with Advantage in the Habit of a Man, in which Dress the Marquess of Ormoy made her often come to Versailles, and even gave her a Key to the Park, that she might go there to wait for him. It happen'd one day, that she made use of her Key to introduce her into that Place, when the King had given Orders to suffer no Person whatsoever to enter. Bontemps, Governour of the Park, perceiving her at a considerable distance, took her for a Man; and coming up to her, ask'd her how she came thither. So unexpected a Salutation put her out of Countenance, and not being able to conceal her Sex, she told him, that her Mother having attempted to force her Inclinations in the Choice of a Husband,

1672. Husband, she came to beg his Majesty's Protection: and the Governour assur'd her, that he wou'd do her all the Service he cou'd, and speak to the King in her Favour. Nor was he unmindful of his Promise, for he acquainted his Majesty with the Adventure, whose Curiosity at the hearing of so rare an Accident, was so great, that he went along with Bontemps into the Park to discourse with her. She repeated to him the Story she had invented to conceal her Intrigue with the Marquess, and he promis'd to enquire into the Matter, and to secure her from any Violence that shou'd be offer'd to her. In the meantime he told her that 'twas fit she shou'd have some regard to the Decency of her Sex, and desir'd her to go to Bontemps's House, who wou'd furnish her with a more suitable Dress, and after Dinner conduct her to a Convent, where she shou'd be safe from her Mother's Persecutions. In obedience to the King's Desire, the Governour carry'd her home with him; where having chang'd her Habit, she was put into one of his Majesty's Coaches, and conducted by two Soldiers of the Guard, to the Monastery of Benedictin Nuns, at Argenteuil, where she liv'd two Years at the King's Charge; who being afterwards inform'd that the Relation she made him of her Fortune was a mere contriv'd Story, order'd her to be set at Liberty; after which she return'd to her Mother. In the meantime, so long an Absence had wrought such a perfect Cure on the Marquess, that he

1672. never thought of renewing his Intrigue; and she repair'd the Loss of that Lover with fresh Conquests.

Colbert's Sister made a better use of the Company and Example of the *Bernardin* Nuns; for she was admitted into their Society at *Port-Royal*, a Convent of the same Order. Her own Piety and Modesty recommended her no less effectually than her Brother's Interest to his Majesty, who made her Abbess of *Lys*, near *Melun*. She receiv'd the Benediction at *Port-Royal* from the Archbishop of *Paris*, in *May* 1667, and the whole Court assisted at the Ceremony.

1677. After *Colbert* had considerably augmented the number of the King's Vessels, his next Care was to furnish 'em with Artillery. About six Years before, there was a Manufactory of Iron-Guns set up in some Forges in *Nivernois*, those especially that are next to the City of *Nevers*, and River of *Loire*: But the hope of Success in that Undertaking was much abated, after 'twas discover'd that the Metal of the Mines in that Country was so little fit for such an Use, that the cast Pieces were not able to abide the Tryals which the King's Commissioners requir'd to be made of 'em, before they wou'd receive 'em on Board. At last, in

1678. 1678; two Strangers and a Man of *Dauphiné* undertook to correct the Fault of the Metal; and for the accomplishment of their Promise, submitted to a Tryal, which was perform'd by Commissioner *Du-Clos*, with a great

great deal of Exactness and Rigour. All the Guns that were made by the Strangers burst at the first Shot; and those that were cast by the Native of *Dauphiné* were thrice discharg'd without receiving any Damage. But this Trial did not satisfy *Du-Clos*, who cou'd hardly give credit to his own Eyes; he appointed two other Days, when they were charg'd, and shot off with the greatest Exactness imaginable, and the same Success as before: Yet he still suspected the Event, till on the third Day he saw 'em bear the Shock of twenty Discharges that were made one after another, without suffering the Guns to cool. At last one and twenty of 'em were sent to *Brest*, to be put on board the Ships, and were there try'd by the Captains, with as much exactness as if they had never been discharg'd before: For most of the other Guns that were brought from *Nivernois* were so shatter'd and weaken'd by *Du-Clos's* Tryal, that they cou'd not endure a second at *Brest* without bursting to pieces. Prior *Frantot* was the Inventer of this Secret; he had four Brothers kill'd in the King's Service, and was a Soldier himself, till several Wounds he receiv'd in the Wars, oblig'd him to leave that Profession.

Several other ingenious Persons came afterwards to assist him in his Work at *Nevers*; and a Gentleman of his own Country brought thither a certain Powder, being a Secret of his Invention, to refine and purifie the Mines.

Nicholas

The LIFE of

1679. *Nicholas Desmarests*, the eldest Son of *Mary Colbert*, Sister of the Minister of that Name, had for some time serv'd his Uncle in the Quality of his *Chief Commissary*, tho' he was already one of the *Masters of Requests*, and marry'd to the Daughter of *Lewis Becharnel*, Secretary to the *Council*. But *Colbert* resolv'd to raise his Nephew's Fortune higher, and procur'd him the Office of *Intendant of the Finances*, vacant by the Death of *Claude Marin*: And by the same Minister's Interest, *James Desmarests*, the Intendant's Brother, was made *Agent* of the *French Clergy*, with the Abbot of *Bezons*; a Preference that is usually a Step to a *Bishoprick*. *James Nicholas Colbert*, the Minister's second Son, Licentiate of the *Sorbon*, Abbot of *Bec*, and Prior of *la Charité*, was the same Year receiv'd into the *French Academy* in the room of *Esprit*, and in the presence of several Persons of Note. *Anthony Martin Colbert*, his third Son, who follow'd Arms, was admitted *Knight of Malta* very young, tho' 'tis plain by the Account of his Descent in the beginning of this Work, that he cou'd produce but very slender Proofs of his Nobility; but his Father's Grandeur supply'd that Defect, and his Proofs were receiv'd without a rigorous Examination. Some time after he obtain'd the Commandery of *Boncourt*, and was afterwards made Colonel of the Regiment of *Champaign*.

1679. On the 12th. of February 1679, *Mary Anna Colbert*, the Minister's youngest Daughter, was marry'd at *St. Germain en Laye*, to *Lewis*

John Baptist Colbert.

1679. *de Rochebouart*, Duke of *Mortemar*, and Peer of *France*, who had obtain'd a Right of Survivorship to the Office of General of the Galleys, and was the Son of *Lewis Victor de Rochebouart*, Duke of *Vivone*, Peer and *Marfchal* of *France*, and Governour of *Champaign* and *Brie*, and of *Antoinette Louise de Mesmes*, Daughter of *Henry de Mesmes*, Lord of *Roissy*, second President in the Parliament of *Paris*, and of *Mary de la Vallée-Fosse*, Marchioness of *Everly*. Abbot *Colbert* was receiv'd Doctor of the *Sorbonne*, in the following *April*; and the Ceremony of giving him the Cap was perform'd by *Francis de Harlay de Chanvalon*, Archbishop of *Paris*.

The Treaty of *Nimneghen* having put an end to the War, *Colbert* gave Orders to *du Mets*, Keeper of the Royal Treasury, to repay the Summs that were lent in 1674, by the Officers of the Civil Government to his Majesty, for supplying the necessities of the State: and those who were unwilling to receive their Reimbursements, had Rents assign'd 'em. The Archbishop of *Paris* perceiving that *Colbert's* Power, and Favour with his Master encreas'd daily, took occasion to oblige him in the Person of his Nephew, the Abbot *Desmarests*, on whom he bestow'd a Canonship of *Nôtre-Dame*, vacant by the Death of the Abbot *Salo*, Counsellor in the Parliament of *Paris*. *Charles Colbert* at his return from *Nimneghen*, took possession of his Office of *President à Mortier* in the Parliament

1679. ment of *Paris*, in *September* 1679. The Marquis de *Seignelay* having had only one Daughter (who died in her Infancy) of his first Wife *Mary Margaret*, Marchioness of *Alegre*, was marry'd a second time, on the sixth of the same Month, to *Catharin Teresa de Matignon*, Daughter of *Henry* Count of *Thorigny*, his Majesty's Lieutenant-General in *Normandy*, and of *Frances de Lutbunieres*. On the 11th. *Colbert* carry'd all the Company that were present at his Son's Marriage, to *Sceaux*, and regal'd 'em with a magnificent Treat. The Family of *Matignon* is one of the most ancient Houses in *Normandy*; and the Count of *Thorigny* can reckon five or six Knights of the Order among his Ancestors, since the time of *Maréchal de Matignon*, who was one of the greatest Men of his Age. His Mother *Eleonora* of *Orleans*, was a Princess of the House of *Longueville*, and Daughter of *Mary* or *Margaret de Bourbon*, *Henry IV's* Aunt. The Marquis de *Seignelay*, after a short stay with his Bride, took Post for *Marseilles*, where he arriv'd on the 25th. of the same Month; and having visited the Arsenal, took a Review of eight Galleys that were ready to depart; after which he proceeded on his Journey to *Dauphiné*, stopping at *Toulon*, and some other Places where his Presence was necessary; and having seen the above-mention'd Guns of a new Invention at *St. Servais*, above *St. Marcellin*, on the Banks of the *Isere*, he return'd to *Paris* by the way of *Lyon*.  
During

During his abode at *Toulon*, he order'd two Companies, of one hundred Men each, by the name of *Soldiers, Guardians of the Ships*, to be levy'd under the command of the Captain of the Port, and of the *Chevalier de Levy*, Aid-Major of his Majesty's Naval Forces. The last of these Officers rais'd his Company of one hundred chosen Men, who had serv'd in the Marine, consisting of twenty five Sergeants, as many Corporals, and fifty private Centinels, all neatly cloath'd.

At the same time the President *Colbert* took Journey for *Munich*, to treat of the *Dauphin's* Marriage with the Princess of *Bavaria*. Aftoon as he had concluded the Match, he sent an Account of his Negotiation to his Brother, who receiv'd it before that which was directed to his Majesty came to the Hands of *Pomponne*, Secretary of State, who was gone into the Country, where he had order'd some Buildings to be erected. *Colbert* went immediately to Compliment the King on the happy success of the Treaty, who was extremely surpriz'd that he had not the first notice of it; and when *Pomponne* came afterwards to give him an Account of it, his Majesty told him, that he might return home, since he was so full of Business; and that in the mean time he would take care to put another into his Place, who wou'd be more diligent in the performance of his Duty. 'Tis thought this Affair was concerted between the two Brothers,

1679. Brothers, and that a Courier was dispatch'd to *Colbert* before there was one sent to *Pom-pone*; to lay a Snare for that Minister, that his Disgrace might be a step to the Advancement of the President's Fortune. However, 'tis certain that *Colbert* obtain'd the vacant Place for his Brother, and perform'd the Duties of it during his Absence. There was no need of this new Accession to that vast Load of Business he was oblig'd to sustain; for his Mind was so fatigu'd with such a multiplicity of Cares, that, notwithstanding his accusom'd Gravity, he chose rather to commit an Action that was equally inconsistent with his Dignity, and the Rules of Civility, than to bear the importunity of a Lady of great Quality, who was one Day urging him to do her a Piece of Service which he judg'd to be impracticable. The Lady perceiving his Inflexibility, threw herself at his Feet in the Hall of Audience, in the presence of above one hundred Persons, and bursting forth into Tears, cry'd out, *I beg Your Grandeur, in the Name of God, to grant me this Favour: And he kneeling down over-against her, reply'd in the same mournful Tone, I conjure You, Madam, in the Name of God, not to disturb me.*

*Francis de Roxel de Medavy de Grancey*, Archbishop of *Roien*, having demanded a Coadjutor to assist him in the Government of his Diocess, *Colbert* obtain'd of the King the Nomination to that Dignity for his Son, the Abbot. And while that Prelate was expecting

expecting his Bulls from *Rome*, his Brother-in-Law, the Duke of *Mortemar*, began his Travels to *Italy*, with a resolution to visit all the Courts in that Countrey. He began with that of *Savoy*, and from thence passing to *Parma* and *Modena*, he went to *Bologna*, where he was receiv'd with great Marks of Honour by the Cardinal *Guastaldi*, Legat of that place. Proceeding on his Journey, he visited the Great Duke at *Florence*, and arriving at *Rome*, met with a very favourable Treatment from Pope *Innocent XI.* in consideration of his Father, the Marschal Duke *de Vivone*, who was *Generalissimo* of the Gallies of the the Holy See at *Candy*.

The *Marquess de Seignelay*, immediately after his return from *Provence*, began another Journey to *Rocheport*, *Bordeaux*, and *Bayonne*; and after he had given some Orders concerning those places, he accompany'd the King in his Progress to the Coast of *Picardy*. His Majesty began with the Port of *Ambleteuse*, the Situation of which he examin'd with the *Marquess de Vauban*, Marschal de Camp. From thence he went to the Port of *Wissan*, two Leagues from *Ambleteuse*; and after he had visited the Fort of *Mulon*, arriv'd at *Calice*, from whence he return'd to *Versailles*. Thus *Colbert* had the pleasure to see how well his Relations employ'd their time, and with how much Care and Success they made their Court; but his Joy was moderated by the News he receiv'd

1680. *ceiv'd of the Death of his Sister, the Abbess of St. Clare at Rheims, who was much lamented by all the Nuns that were under her Government.*

In the mean time the King persisted in his Resolution to extirpate *Heresie*, and by *Colbert's* advice, establish'd a Regulation concerning the Royal Farms or Leases, ordaining that none but *Catholicks* shou'd be afterwards admitted to take either Farms, or Under-Farms; and that no *Protestants* shou'd be employ'd as Directors, Commissaries, or in any Office whatsoever, for the levying and collecting of Money.

The Abbot *Colbert* having receiv'd his Bulls, was consecrated in the Church of the *Sorbonne*, Titulary Archbishop of *Carthage*, by the Archbishop of *Roban*, assisted by the Bishops of *Bayeux* and *Lizieux* his Suffragans; after which he set forward to take possession of his Coadjutorship of *Roban*, accompany'd by the Coadjutor of *Arles*, the Bishop of *Lizieux*, and the Abbot of *Grignan*, nam'd to the Bishoprick of *Eureux*, and arriving at *Gaillon*, was receiv'd with a great deal of Magnificence by the Archbishop of *Roban*, to whom that House belong'd, and there complimented by *Lewis le Blanc*, Intendant of the Generality of *Roban*, and *Mascarany*, Great-Master of the Waters and Forests. The next Day in the After-noon he departed with the Bishop of *Lizieux*, and arriving about five a-clock at Port *St. Oüen*, was attended by above thirty of his Canons, with several

1680. several Persons of Quality: Proceeding further, he was met by *Claude Pelot*, first President of the Parliament; and several of the most considerable Members of the other Companies, who made a Convoy or Cavalcade of above fifty Coaches, to conduct him to his Archiepiscopal Palace, where he arriv'd on the 28th. of *September*, 1680, and after he had given Audience to the Deputies of the Chapter, went to *St. Heibland*, where he was receiv'd by the Curate of the Parish. There he put off his Shooes and Stockings, and clothing himself with a *Rochet* and *Camail*, march'd barefoot towards the Cathedral, accompany'd with the Priors and Monks of the Abbey of *St. Oüen*, all in Copes, the Ancient and Reform'd Monks having each their Prior. He found all the Way from that Parish to *Nötre-Dame* matted, and was receiv'd at the Gate by *Bretel de Gremorville*, Dean of the Chapter, with all the Canons and Curates of the Chapel, in rich Copes. After the Dean had presented the Holy Water, and given the Cross to the Coadjutor to kiss it, the Prior of the Ancient Monks, addressing himself to the whole Chapter, *We give you*, said he, *our Archbishop alive, and you shall restore him dead.* The meaning of that Expression depends on the usual Custom of exposing the Bodies of the dead Archbishops in State at this Monastery. That Ceremony being finish'd, the Dean presenting his Church to him, ask'd his Protection, and made him swear the usual Oath

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1680. on the Gospels. Then the Coadjutor put on his Shooes and Stockings at St. Peter's Altar, after he had offer'd a Crown of Gold at the Altar of Vows. At last having been receiv'd into the Chapter as a Canon, and into the Pontifical Chair in the Choir as Archbishop, he heard Mass sung, and afterwards treated the whole Chapter at three Tables, which were serv'd with equal Delicacy and Profusion.

That Prelate's Father having accompany'd the King in his Journey to the *Netherlands*, was attack'd with a Fever, the Fits of which lasted fifteen Hours: He was cur'd with the *Peruvian Bark*, prepar'd by an *English* Physician; and so considerable a Success brought that Remedy into Vogue. About the same time the Marquess *de Torfy*, Son of *Charles Colbert*, Secretary of State, defended *Theses* dedicated to his Majesty, which he presented to the whole Royal Family, in magnificent Boxes. There that Monarch was represented, giving Peace with one hand to *Europe*, who was arm'd to denote Power, and accompany'd with a *Ticra* and Keys, to signify that it was the *Christian* part of *Europe*. *Discord*, and the *Fury of War*, whom the King had vanquish'd, were under his Feet; and with his other Hand he stopp'd the Course of *Victory*, who was inciting him to new Conquests. *Love* and *Peace* held his Majesty's Thunder; and the latter was follow'd by *Abundance*, *Magnificence*, and *Tranquillity*. Above the King was *Glory* setting

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1680. a Crown on his Head, and the *Love of Immortality* holding another, and just ready to Crown him. Behind *Glory* appear'd *Piety* and *Mildness*, who was busy'd in shutting the Temple of *Janus*. On the other side was *Fame* displaying the Banner held by *Victory*, to expose the History of those Actions to be read which she had already publish'd with her Trumpet. Below, *Philosophy* was represented by a venerable Woman, to whom *Nature* imparted all her Secrets: *Nature* appear'd under the Figure of another Woman, crown'd with the *Zodiac*, and accompany'd with a Lion for the Symbole of Fire; Fruits and fruitful Animals, representing Water; and a Vultur devouring a Bird, to signify the perpetual Round of Things, which Nature re-produces by their Destruction. All these Figures seem to be enlighten'd and discover'd to the Spectator by a Flambeau, held by the *Love of Wisdom*, who shew'd the King the Beauties of *Philosophy*, and display'd her Mantle, the Folds of which were as so many Steps to ascend to the Top or Perfection of Wisdom: And the same Love represented the *Genius* of him who defended the *Theses*.

1681. *Colbert* continu'd still to apply himself with a great deal of Industry and Diligence to the management of Naval Affairs: And in pursuance of that Design, he employ'd some Persons at *Versailles*, under the inspection of the Chevalier *de Tourville*, now Marechal of *France*, to build a Frigat after a new

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1681. Contrivance, which resembl'd the *English* way of Building, but was thought to exceed it, both with respect to the Materials, and the Frame of the Vessel, to make her carry her Sails well, and render her Light, tho' she were loaded with a great number of Guns. This Frigate being only thirty Foot in the Keel, cou'd nevertheless carry sixty Guns; and if that Design shou'd be brought to perfection, as it afterwards was, 'twas resolv'd that she shou'd serve as a Model for the Future. This Undertaking was attended with extraordinary Success; and Trade encreas'd so fast, that in the Year 1681, the Town of *St. Malo* alone set forth in one Month sixty five well-rigg'd Ships, the least of 'em being of 150 Tun, for the Fishery of Cods at *Newfoundland*, without reckoning those that were employ'd in the *Lewant*, *Spanish*, and *West-India* Trade, besides ten that were on the Stocks. *St. Malo* is a little Town in *Bretaign*; its Situation is admirable, by reason of the Rock on which 'tis built; and the Inhabitants are entrusted with the Guard of the City, as a Privilege due to their unshaken Loyalty. The Advancement of Trade was not the only Object of *Colbert's* Care and Application; for he made his Majesty's Arms as terrible at Sea, as they were already at Land. To make the Reader sensible of the Truth of this Assertion, 'twill be sufficient to put him in mind of the Duke of *Mortemar's* Expedition with his Majesty's Gal-

1681. Galleys in *June* 1681. No sooner did he appear before *Majorca*, but the Pyrates of that Island deliver'd all their *French* Prisoners, according to the List drawn up by the Deputies of *Marseilles*, and gave Money for those that cou'd not be found. Then the General returning to *Marseilles*, left the ten Galleys that were under his command, and immediately put to Sea again with a like number of others. He gave Chase to the Pyrates, and having secur'd the Peace and Tranquillity of the *Mediterranean*, was returning from *Corfica* to *Marseilles*, when before *Leghorn* he fell in with a Fleet of 9 *Dutch* Merchant-Ships, from 25 to 40 Guns each, under the Convoy of two Men of War of 60 Guns, commanded by the Count of *Stirum*, Vice-Admiral of *Holland*, who refusing to salute the *Reale*, the Duke resolv'd to bring him to reason; and having secur'd the Advantage of the Wind of all the Ships in the Road, he order'd his Men to take breath (who had row'd all the way from *Porto-Ferrato* to *Leghorn*) that they might be afterwards in a condition to attack and burn the Vessels, and drive 'em foul of each other. But the Execution of his Design was prevented by the Arrival of the Captain of the Port in a Felucca from the City, with advice that the *Dutch* were resolv'd to comply: And after several Messages, 'twas agreed that the Count of *Stirum* shou'd salute the *Reale* with nine Guns, and only be answer'd with two, which was accordingly executed.

1681.

The Terror of the King's Flags was not confin'd to the *Mediterranean*: The Chevalier *de Bethune*, Captain of a Frigate call'd the *Mutine*, set sail from *Port-Lewis*, on the 23<sup>d</sup>. of *June*, to rejoin the Chevalier *de Château-Regnaut*, and rang'd the Coast to the Road of *Cascais*, about seven Leagues distant from *Lisbon*, where he anchor'd *July* 1, and the next Day set sail again, on advice that Captain *Bart*, Commander of two *Dunkirk* Frigates, had taken a Vessel belonging to the Pyrates of *Salley*; and that there was another of 16 Guns on the Coast of *Portugal*. The Vessel which *Bart* forc'd ashore, was mann'd with 103 *Moors*, who escap'd to Land, but were afterwards deliver'd up to him by the Orders of the Prince-Regent: The Nephew of the Governour of *Salley*, and some of the most considerable Persons of that City, were found among the Prisoners; and eighteen *Christians* were set at liberty. The Chevalier *de Bethune* being inform'd of that Action, cruiz'd on the Coast of *Portugal* till the fourth of the same Month, when about ten a-clock in the Morning, he descry'd a Ship at the height of 40 Degrees, five or six Leagues South-South-West of the *Berlingues*. He chas'd her till eight at Night, when being too near the Shore, he gave Orders to tack about for Sea-room: Next Morning about half an Hour after four, he perceiv'd the Pyrate sailing close by the Shore, in Chase of a *Portuguese Caravelle*, whom she left when she

1681.

she saw the *Mutine* stand in after her, and endeavour'd to escape; but finding that she cou'd not otherwise avoid fighting, she chose rather to run a-shore about half an Hour after two a-clock in the Afternoon. Before she took that Resolution, she fir'd ten or twelve Shot, without reaching the Frigate; and then tack'd towards the Shore, five Leagues South (declining a little towards the West) of *Montaign*. As soon as the Vessel struck a-ground, all the Men leap'd over-board except eighteen *Christians*, whom they had taken and made Slaves. Immediately the Frigate cast Anchor in seven Fathom Water, and *Denoy*, one of the Lieutenants, with six or seven Soldiers of the Marine Guard, went in the Boat to see whether there were any *Turks* in the Vessel; where they learn'd that there were 125 of 'em, and that they had all made their escape. After the Boat went off from the Frigate, the Baron *des Adrets*, Lieutenant, the Chevalier *de Blenac*, Ensign, and the Chevalier *de la Barre*, with some Soldiers, mann'd the Pinnace, and stood away to join *Denoy*, whom they found on board the Pyrate. Then they began to consider whether the Vessel cou'd be gotten off, but the Sea was so high, and she had receiv'd so violent a Shock, that they quickly lost all hope of saving her. Finding none but *Christians* in the Vessel, the Baron *des Adrets*, and the Chevalier *de Blenac*, with some Soldiers of the Marine Guard, went a-shore in pursuit of the

1681. the *Turks*, if perhaps they cou'd meet with any of 'em straggling: And in the mean time *Denoy*, and the *Chevalier de la Barre* endeavour'd to set Fire to the Ship; but finding they cou'd not compass their Design, the *Chevalier* went back in the Pinnace with ten *Frenchmen*, to the Frigat, and return'd with the Master-Gunner to burn the Ship with artificial Fire-Works; but she was so over-set, that 'twas impossible to get on board; and immediately after she was broken to pieces with so much Violence, that nothing but her Flags cou'd be sav'd. *Denoy* and six or seven more, who were with him in the Vessel, leap'd over-board, and got to the Shore; and the *Chevalier de la Barre* finding that he cou'd not approach so near as to take 'em in, return'd with the Pinnace to the Frigat. Two Days after, the *Chevalier de la Bethune* went to *D. Pedro*, the Prince-Regent, now King of *Portugal*, to demand the *Turks* who had thrown their Arms into the Sea, and made their escape a-shore: His Request was granted, and the Infidels were deliver'd to him. The *Marques du Quene*, Lieutenant-General of his Majesty's Armies, chas'd some *Tripolin* Pyrates into the Port of *Chio*, where he Cannonaded 'em, and almost quite destroy'd the Fortrefs, because it fir'd some Guns at the Fleet under his Command. The Pyrates offer'd to buy their Peace at the rate of 300 *French* Slaves, to be restor'd without Ransom, and were at last constrain'd to deliver 'em all

all to the *Marques*. 'Twas stipulated by the Treaty with the Divan of *Tripoli*, that all the *French* that were to be found in their Squadron, or on board any Ship that had come out of their Port that Year, shou'd be set at liberty; that Captain *Courcillier's* Ship which had been taken under *French* Colours, and was at that time in the Port of *Chio*, with 16 Guns mounted, shou'd be restor'd, with her Men, Arms, and Ammunition; That the Ship call'd *Europe*, taken under the Colours of *Majorca*, and then in the Port of *Chio*, shou'd remain under the Authority and Protection of the Captain *Basha*, till it shou'd be decided whether she ought to be reckon'd a *French* Vessel; That no *Tripolin* Ships shou'd search any Vessel Trading under *French* Colours, nor injure or molest the Persons, Ships, or Goods of those who shou'd produce a Pass-port from the Admiral of *France*; That all Strangers who shou'd be found on board any Vessel bearing *French* Colours, shou'd remain free and unmolested, both with respect to their Persons and Goods; and likewise *Frenchmen* who shou'd happen to be embark'd on Vessels under strange Colours, tho' Enemies to that State; That neither *French* Slaves, nor Prizes taken by the Enemies of that Kingdom, shou'd be permitted to be sold in the Ports of the Kingdom of *Tripoli*; that a *French* Consul shou'd be settl'd there; and that no Prize shou'd be taken within ten Miles of the Coast of *France*.

Colbert

1681.

Colbert was not unmindful of *James Desmaretz de Vauburgh*, Brother to the Intendant and Abbot of that Name: for to recompense the care he took to ease him in the Discharge of his Ministry, he bought for him one of the Places of *Master of Requests*, vacant by the Death of *Peter Forcoal*. *Desmaretz* was, by his Uncle's Interest, admitted to the Exercise of that Office, tho' he was not above 25 Years old, as he had already been receiv'd into the Parliament at the Age of 22. He marry'd afterwards the Daughter of *de Voisin*, another *Master of Requests*, who had successively executed the Offices of *Intendant of Picardy, Normandy, and Tourain*. The Ceremony of the Marriage was perform'd in *St. Bennet's Church*, and the Feast of the Wedding was kept in the House of *Daniel Voisin*, the Bride's Uncle, who had been \* *Provost* of the Merchants. *Vouffy*, the *Intendant's* Fourth Brother, was first Lieutenant, then Captain of a Ship, and was now made Captain of the Guard. There were two other Brothers, one of whom di'd in *Candie*, and the other perish'd at Sea. And of the Three Sisters, Two are Nuns at *Notre-Dame de Soissons*, and the other was marry'd to *Andrew Jubert de Bouville*, Master of the Requests, who was since made Intendant of *Limosin*; but by reason of his indiscreet Zeal in the Defence of the Lieutenant-General of *Limoges*, who was accus'd of Bribery and Exaction, was suspected by the whole Province to have shar'd the Booty with him whom he protected.

\* The Provost of the Merchants may be called, in some sense, Mayor of Paris.

On

1681.

On the 16th. of *December*, 1681. the King came to *Paris*, and visited the Orchard or Nursery of Fruit-Trees for the Use of the Royal Houses; from whence he went to the *Louvre*, where he saw his Cabinet of Pictures, and from thence to his Library in the Street *Vivienne*, where the Coadjutor of *Roban* shew'd him the most curious Books, and the Cabinet of Ancient and Modern Medals, and engrav'd Agats. His Majesty went also to the Academy of Sciences, the Chymical Laboratory, and the Rolling-Press for Prints, and expressed a great deal of Satisfaction at the Sight of so many Marks of *Colbert's* Diligence in ordering all things that were committed to his Care. At the same time the *Marquess de Seignelay* went to *Dunkirk* to be present at the Tryal of some newly-invented Machines; the Success of which gave a fair Prospect of great Advantages in time of War. The Frigate call'd *Echole* was set apart by his Order for the Instruction of the young Officers of his Majesty's Ships and the Marine Guards, and disarm'd by the *Chevalier le Bret* of *Flacourt*, who had commanded her, and cruis'd six Weeks on the Coast about *Rochefort*. And the same Officer was made Captain of the Marine Guards on that side.

The Terrour which the King's Gallies had spread over all the *Mediterranean*, occasion'd an Embassy to his Majesty from *Mula Ismael*, King of *Morocco*, and Brother of *Muley Axid*, who was call'd King of *Tafilet*. That Country

1681. try is of a considerable Extent, being part of the ancient *Numidia*, at present call'd *Biledulgerit*, and is situated between *Fez* and the *Mediterranean*. The above-mention'd King of *Tafilet*, who was one of the greatest Conquerours in *Afric*, as he was one day managing his Horfe, struck his Head against the Branch of a Fig-Tree, and receiv'd a mortal Blow, of which he died some days after; tho' others say he was poison'd by one of his Concubines. But whatever was the occasion of his Death, 'tis certain that when he felt it approaching, he deliver'd his Sword as the Badge of Royalty to his Brother *Mula Ismael*, telling him that his two Sons, (the Eldest of whom was but 4, and the other 3 Years old) were incapable of sustaining the Weight of a Crown; and that he foresaw that all the Countries he had conquer'd wou'd revolt after his Death. Nor was he mistaken in his Prediction; for the People took Arms; and *Mula* at the Head of the *Negro's* and some other Troops, was oblig'd to re-conquer the Kingdoms of *Fez* and *Morocco*, the Principalities of *Tetuan*, *Salley*, and *Arcassa*, and a Part of the Kingdom of *Sus*. His Subjects are compos'd of several Nations, of which I shall only name some of the most remarkable. The Cities are inhabited by the *Moors*; who are the Posterity of the ancient *Saracens*. The *Barbarians* live in houses cover'd with Stubble, on the vast Mountains of *Atlas*, which cross the whole Country. The *Alarbs* or *Arabs* possess the Plains,

1681. Plains, and are divided into Tribes: The Head or Oldest Man of a Family, is the Commander, and is call'd the *Checq* or Captain. They pass their whole Life in Tents made of Wooll and Goat's Hair, and the Plains are strew'd with their *Adonards*, which are a sort of Hamlets, consisting of 40 or 50 Tents, set up together in a round Figure: and some of the most numerous Tribes inhabit 50 *Adonards*. To all the Conquests I have already mention'd, *Mula Ismael* added that of *Mammora* on the Ocean, which he took from the *Spaniards*, and of *Tangier*, the Metropolis of *Mauritania Tingitana*, which the *English* were forc'd to abandon. He is of the Race of *Mahomet* surnam'd *Cherif*, whose Name he bears in his Signet in the *Arabic* Tongue, together with that of the *Saviour of the World*, whom the *Moors* call *Cydy Nayssa*, but only acknowledge that he was a great Prophet. In the same Signet is the Name of *GOD*, and of *Mahomet*, the Author of their Religion: for all other Coats of Arms are forbidden by their Law, which expressly prohibits all sorts of Figures. They pretend to be the only Professors of the true *Mahometan* Religion, and affirm that 'twas begun by *Christ*, whom they make the First of all the *Moors*, and the Invention of their usual Habit. They wear neither Gold, Silver, nor Silk, and are only cloath'd with a Piece of Stuff, wrapp'd two or three times about their Body, and leaving their Arms and Legs bare: They call this Garment a *Hocque*, and it ought

1681. ought always to be made of *White Stuff*. Nor are they less Religious Observers of that Part of their Law which contains Regulations about Meat, for they eat no Flesh but of such Beasts as are kill'd by Persons of their own Sect. He who supplies the place of a Butcher, presents the Animal with its Throat towards *Mecca*, saying, *My God, behold a Victim which I am going to sacrifice to thee; I pray thee that our Eating of it may be for thy Glory*, and then cuts its Throat. They perform their *Sala* or Devotion, exactly five times every Day: first they wash their Feet and Legs up to the Knees, and their Hands and Arms to the Elbows; then seating themselves on the Ground, with their Face turn'd *East-ward*, they invoke their *Cydy Mahomet*, and afterwards *Cydy Bellabec*, (whom they interpret to be *St. Augustin*) and several others. Among their Saints they reckon also *Cydy Nayssa*, for so they call the Saviour of the World, who, they believe was born of a *Virgin*, and conceiv'd by the *Breath* of *GOD*, but they cannot comprehend that *Breath* to be the *Holy Ghost*, and consequently that there are *Three Persons* who are *One God*. *Mula Ismael* perceiving that the Squadron of six Ships commanded by the *Chevalier de Château-Regnaut*, had quite ruin'd the Trade of his Kingdom by lying before his Ports, resolv'd to send an Ambassadour to his Majesty; and gave that Commission to *Hagdi Mehemed Thurnmin*, Governour of *Tetuan*, who embark'd on the Vessel commanded by *la Barre* in *Château-Regnaut's*

1681. *Regnaut's* Squadron, and arriv'd at *Brest*, where he stay'd for his Majesty's Orders, who was then at *Strasburg*, and came afterwards to *Paris*, by the way of *Vannes*, *Nantes*, *Angers*, *Saumur*, *Blois*, and *Orleans*. His Wit was every-where admir'd, and convinc'd those who convers'd with him, that he was Master of all that Politeness for which the ancient *Moors* were famous. In every Town thro' which he pass'd, he made a Queen and an Ambassadors: One day a Lady, whom he had honour'd with the first of these Titles, seem'd to be jealous, and complain'd, that She whom he call'd Ambassadors engross'd all his Eloquence and Kindness: *You are Queen*, reply'd he immediately, *and my Duty is to admire you in Silence*; after which he continu'd his Discourse with the Ambassadors. Another Lady blaming the Custom of his Country-Men who take a great Number of Wives. *If our Women were as handsome as you*, answer'd he, *we wou'd never marry more than one*. After the King had granted him Audience, *Colbert de Croissy*, Secretary of State, and the Marquess of *Seignelay* were appointed to hear his Poposals. At last he concluded a Treaty for Commerce, and left *France*, extremely pleas'd with the Country, and charm'd with his Majesty's Grandeur.

We have already seen with what Zeal *Colbert* apply'd himself to the Advancement of some of his Relations; and he was not less mindful of his Brother *Edward-Francis*. In the Year 1658, he marry'd him to *Mary-Magdalen Baurru*,

1682. *Bautru*, Daughter to the Count of *Serran*, Chancellor to *Philip of France*, Duke of *Orleans*, the King's Brother, and made him buy the County of *Maulevrier*. He procur'd him to be made Captain-Lieutenant of the Second Company of his Majesty's Musquetiers, *Maréchal de Camp*, and afterwards Lieutenant-General; and at last obtain'd for him the Government of *Tournay*, in *May 1682*. *Tournay* is a very strong Place, defended by a Castle, which is said to have been built by the *English*: 'tis seated on the *Scheld*, and is the *Metropolis* of a little Territory call'd *Tournaisis*. Besides the Cathedral-Church of *Notre-Dame*, which is a very fine Structure; it contains Ten Parishes, Two Abbeys, and several other Religious Houses. In the Year 1521. the Emperour *Charles V.* took it from the *French*, who had seiz'd it Three Years before: It was again conquer'd by his Majesty in 1667. and yielded to him by the Treaty of *Aix la Chapelle*, as I intimated before. This City is very ancient, and its Bishop is a *Suffragan* of the Archbishop of *Cambray*.

The Insolence of the Pyrates of *Algier*, who wou'd not be taught Wisdom by the Example of those of *Tripoli*, provok'd the King to send thither the *Marquess du Quêne* with his Squadron. He sail'd from the Port of *Thoulon*, *July 12. 1682.* on the 18th. he join'd the Gallies that expected him at *Tovica*; and on the 23. anchor'd before *Algier*, where the Gallies stopp'd a Bark they had taken by the way, which was bound with Provisions

ons for the City. The *Marquess du Quêne* was join'd in the Road by some Men of War and Bomb-Vessels; so that the whole Fleet consisted of 15 Gallies, 11 Men of War, 5 Bomb-Vessels, 2 Fire-Ships, and 3 arm'd Barks, besides Tenders and other Vessels laden with Ammunition. The Coast of *Afric* makes a crooked Line in this place, and forms the Bay of *Algier*; the City is built on that part of the Shore that reaches from *South* to *North*, and looks towards the *East*. Its Situation on the Brow of a Hill yields a very pleasant Prospect to those who are at Sea; for they have a full view of all the Houses which are roof'd with *Terrasses* and whited without. 'Tis defended with strong Walls, and several irregular Works all of different Figures: besides, there is a Castle in the highest part of the City, and on the Fortifications which reach along the Shore there are above 50 Pieces of Cannon mounted. The Harbour is overagainst the Middle of the City, and cover'd on the Side next the Sea with a little Island fortifi'd with several Works, and about 50 Pieces of Cannon. At the *North* End of the Island is the Watch-Tower, furnish'd with 27 Piece of Cannon on three Batteries: On the *North* Sides the Harbour is cover'd by a Mole that joins the Island to the City, and shut up with a Chain toward the *South*. About 1000 Paces without the City on the *North* side, there is a little Fort, call'd the *Englishmens Fort*, defended by 10 or 12 Pieces of Cannon; and nearer

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1682: the City is *Fort Babaloüet* with 15 Pieces of Artillery. On the *South* side of the City near the Shore, stands the Fort of *Babassan*, where there are 10 or 12 great Guns; and there is also another Fort on the top of the Hill call'd the *Emperour's Fort*, from *Charles V.* who encamp'd there at the time of his unfortunate Expedition in 1541. Thus 'twas impossible for the *French* to bombard *Algier*, without exposing themselves to the Fire of above 160 Pieces of Cannon, 80 of which carry'd from 24 to 60 Pound Ball. All the Forces of the State were in the City, and all the Vessels of the Pyrates, except one Galley, left the Sea as soon as the King's Ships appear'd, and got into the Harbour, where they were disarm'd, and the Chain drawn up. Besides the Road is very dangerous, and pester'd with a great number of Rocks: The Currents that run there almost perpetually, and the East, South-East, North, and North-West Winds, which usually reign there, make it very unsafe for Ships. But the *Marquess du Quêne* was so far from being deterr'd from the Prosecution of his Design by the discouraging Prospect of so many Difficulties, that he only waited the Conveniency of calm Weather to put it in execution. The Gallies were to tow in the Ships and Bomb-Vessels within half Cannon-shot on the *North* side of the City; and the greatest part of 'em were to draw up in a Line in Figure of a Half-Moon on the *North-East*, and the rest along the Shore to batter the *Englishmens* Fort,

Fort, and that of *Babalouët*, while the former play'd on the City. On the 6th. of *August* the Weather was calm, and immediately the *Marquess du Quêne* gave Orders to prepare for the Cannonading of the City. But the Gallies and Gallions had hardly weigh'd Anchor, when there arose such a fresh Gale, that they were oblig'd to defer the Attempt: and on the 13th. there happen'd so violent a Storm of Wind from the West-South-West, accompany'd with Thunder, that they cou'd not without a great deal of Difficulty, get clear of the Shoar. The *Marquess* seeing the Weather so rough, the Season of the Year so far advanc'd, and the Miseries with which the Gallies were threaten'd for want of Water, sent 'em back to *France* on the 15th. and after their departure resolv'd to make use of the Gallions to throw Bombs into the City. And that they might stand in, and come off without danger, he commanded *Forant*, a Captain of a Ship, to cause five Anchors to be let down on the North-East side of the City, to which there were Cables fasten'd of 1500 Fathoms in length, their Ends being distributed among the Vessels call'd the *Vigilant*, *Valiant*, *Prudent*, *Laurel*, and *Star*, commanded by the *Chevalier de Tourville*, Lieutenant-General of the Navy, Captain *Beaulieu*, *Lery*, Commander of the Squadron, and the Captains, *Forant* and *Belle-lile*. The first of these Officers was posted on the South, and the last on the North; and the Cables were appointed for the Conveniency

1682.   
 veniency of sending in and bringing off the Galliots or Bomb-Vessels. While they were executing these Orders, the *Algerines* fir'd above a hundred Cannon-shot, of which the Ship call'd the *Holy Ghost*, receiv'd one in her Top-Mast, and the *Assurè*, two under Water, and one in her Sails. The 22th. in the Evening, the Weather proving fair, with a perfect Calm, the Five Ships stood in to come to an Anchor in their respective Posts, and the Five Bomb-Vessels approach'd the Town till they were a-peak of their Anchors; the *Cruel*, commanded by *Ponti*, was posted on the South, and after her in order, the *Menaçante*, commanded by *Goetton*, the *Bombard* by *de Combe*, on which *Comarin*, Captain of the *Bombardiers*, was embark'd; the *Thunderer* by *du Herbier*, and the *Brulante*, by *Beaussier*. When all things were in a readiness, and the Bomb-Vessels were moor'd without the least opposition from the *Algerines*, they threw some Bombs, to try the reach of the Mortars. But 'twas found by Experience that they were at too great a distance, since few of the Bombs reach'd the City; and therefore all the Vessels came to an Anchor the same night in their usual Posts. Afterwards *Lery* and *Bellile* undertook to carry the Anchors nearer the Town; the first caus'd the Anchor of the three first Bomb-Vessels to be dropp'd on the East side of the Harbour, and the second that of the two last on the North-East; tho' during the Execution of that Attempt, the  
 Enemy

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 Enemy made a continual Fire with Cannon and Musquet-shot. The 30th. in the Evening the Weather proving fair, the *Marquess de Villefons*, *du Chalarad*, the *Chevaliere d'Aire*, and several Officers of the Marine Guards, besides Voluntiers, went on board the Bomb-Vessels which stood in to their Posts, and were by the *Marquess du Quène's* Orders, supported by two Arm'd Barks, ten Pinnaces, and the Prize which he had order'd to be arm'd. The Bomb-Vessels being moor'd began to throw their Bombs with very good Success, for in four hours they threw in 120, which almost all reach'd the City. In the mean time the Enemy made a continual Fire with Musquet-shot, for the space of an hour, without doing the least Execution, because the Bomb-Vessels were at too great a distance; and besides they fir'd 1000 or 1200 Cannon-shot, taking their time to fire always when the Bombs were discharg'd, that the Flashing at the Touch-hole might serve 'em for a Mark to level at. About two hours before Day they were hal'd off, and there was not one Man kill'd or wounded in the whole Action. The *Marquess du Quène* was not long ignorant of the successful Effects of the Bombs, for the Approach of the Fleet gave an opportunity to a considerable Number of Slaves to make their Escape; and those who came off the Day after the Action, among whom was an *English* Captain, whose Ransom was fixt at 6000 Crowns, related that the Bombs had kill'd several Persons, and  
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1682. thrown down a great Number of Houfes; that one of the Bombs falling into the great Mosque, where the People of the Town were at Prayers, kill'd above 100 Persons, and ruin'd one side of the Building; that the Town was in a great Consternation; that the Women and Children were sent away; that several *Turks* and *Mooris* were retir'd to the Fields, and that a considerable Party in the Town had already declar'd for a Peace. The Night between the *third* and *fourth* of *September*, the Bomb-Vessels stood into their former Posts without any opposition, but they had scarce thrown two Bombs, when they began to cry, *A Galley, A Galley*; and the Alarm proving true, all things were put in a fit Posture to receive the Enemy. The Galley follow'd by three Brigantines and some Barks, advanc'd towards the nearest Bomb-Vessel call'd the *Cruel*, on board of which were *Renard* and *Landoiillet*, Commissioners of the Marine, and discharg'd a Broad-side of Cannon and Musquet-shot against her, which kill'd only one Soldier. In the mean time the *Marquess de la Porte* had got into the *Cruel*, and she gave the Galley so warm a Return with her Musquets and great Guns charg'd with Small-shot, that she stood off to attack the second Bomb-Vessel call'd the *Menaçante*; where she thought to meet with less Resistance. Immediately *Beaulieu*, Captain of the *Valiant*, who was order'd to support that Vessel, got on board with Major *Raymundis* and the *Chevalier de Comenge*, leaving

1682. ving his Pindace under the Command of his Lieutenant *Isarn de Monclair*. The Musquet-shot on both Sides lasted about a Quarter of an Hour, and the Patereroes and Cannons of the Bomb-Vessel play'd with very good Success. *Beaulieu* himself levell'd a Cannon so exactly against the Galley, as she was closing with the *Menaçante* to board her, that he cover'd the whole Vessel with Small-shot consisting of broken Pieces of Iron, kill'd and wounded a great number of her Men, and so shatter'd her, that she bore away as fast as she cou'd, without once tacking about. And she was even in so great a Disorder, that if the Bomb-Vessels cou'd have follow'd her, she might have been easily taken. She had not yet enter'd the Port, when the Bombs began to fie at the Town, which very much surpriz'd the Enemy, who concluded that their Galley had at least brought off two of the Bomb-Vessels. They left off shooting till their Galley was got into the Harbour; but as soon as they saw her safe, they began to shoot from their Batteries, and fir'd five or six hundred Cannon-shot. This Night there were almost eighty Bombs thrown into the City, with no less Success than before: In the coming off, *du Herbier* receiv'd a Cannon-shot in his Poop, which burst one of his Guns, kill'd six Men, and wounded two: but in the whole Action there were only fourteen Men kill'd, besides some that were wounded. The next Day, being the *4th*. of *September*, the *Algerines* sent to the

1682. the Admiral to desire a Peace: The Missionary *le Vacher* was entrusted with that Commission, who before the Rupture executed the Office of Consul of the *French Nation* in that City. He deliver'd his Message from the *Divan*, who had order'd him to desire a Cessation, and that some Person might be sent to treat of the Conditions of a Peace: To which the *Marquess du Quêne* made answer, That if they had any Proposals to make, he wou'd hear 'em on board his Ship, and that he was resolv'd to continue the Bombarding, and all other acts of Hostility against 'em, 'till they grew tamer, and were willing to submit to reasonable Conditions. *Le Vacher* added, that the Bombs had ruin'd above one hundred Houses, and kill'd above seven hundred Men; that several others were buried under the Ruines; and that the Shore was cover'd with dead Bodies, which were order'd to be laid there by the *Dey, Baba Hassan*, least, if they were brought into the City, the sight of 'em shou'd cause an Insurrection. The same Day in the Evening about seventy Bombs were thrown in, which were almost all levell'd at the Harbour with a design to burn the Ships. One of the Bombs sunk a Bark; and another falling between two Vessels, broke off a part of their Keels. But the Season of the Year being far advanc'd, the *Marquess du Quêne* return'd to *Toulon*, leaving *Lery* with the Ships commanded by *St. Aubin, Bellile, and Bellefontaine,*  
to

to cruise before *Algiers*, and curb the Insolency of the Pyrates. Nor did they alone disturb the Commerce of those Infidels; for a Vessel call'd the *Regle*, which they had seiz'd near *Maromas*, was retaken by *Forant*, Commander of one of his Majesty's Ships. They had sold her to two *Jews*, who mann'd her with *Dutch* Seamen, and sent her to *Holland* to be laden with War-like Ammunition, and other Furniture for Ships. In her Return she joyn'd in Company with a Fleet of thirty *Dutch* Merchant Ships under the Convoy of three Men of War, and arriv'd in sight of *Alicant* about the beginning of *November 1682.* *Forant* and *S. Aubin*, who were cruising in those parts, had notice of her Arrival, and sent their Pinnaces to discover her with some Seamen of *S. Malo*, who found her riding at Anchor between the Forts of *Alicant* and the Fleet. The Night between the 18 and 19<sup>th</sup> of the same Month, they mann'd their two Pinnaces, and sent 'em under the command of *Pallieres* and *Sainte Maure*, with Orders to seize on the Vessel; which they executed very happily, and without Noise, and tow'd her out thro' a Fleet of above fifty Vessels of divers Nations. The Commanders of the *Dutch* Men of War sent to expostulate with *Forant*, complaining that he had seiz'd on a Ship that carry'd the Colours of the Republick, and was under their protection: But he reply'd, that the Vessel belong'd to the *Jews* of *Algiers*; that she was bound thither, and had neither a Protection,  
nor

1682. nor Bill of Lading. These Reasons were unanswerable, and the Commanders permitted the Ship to be carry'd off.

Colbert, who neglected nothing that might tend to the promoting of Trade, being inform'd that there were very fine Horses in the Isles of *Antilles*, communicated that Advice to *Coulon*, Master of an Academy in the *Rue Ferou* in the *Fauxbourg S. Germain*, who in compliance with so advantageous a Proposal, sent his Kinsmen, *Pair*, and *du Cornet*, two of his Majesty's Grooms, to the Islands of *Bonaire*, *Curassol*, and *Roubes*, from whence they brought Horses of an admirable Beauty, and surprizing Fleetness. *Gabaret*, Commander of a Squadron, was sent to the *Antilles* with three Ships, the *Furious*, *Pearl*, and *Tempest*, under the command of the *Chevalier d'Arbouville*, *d'Amblimont*, and *Machaut*: This Squadron sail'd from the River *Charante*, on the 8th. of *May* 1682, and anchor'd in the Road of *Rochel*, at the Point call'd *Chef de Bois*, from whence they set sail on the 25th. for *Martinico*, where after forty Days sailing, they arriv'd on the 5th. of *July*, and anchor'd at *Fort-Royal*, to salute the Marquis of *Blenac*, General of the Isles. The *Pearl* sailing close by the Shore to get the Advantage of the Wind, touch'd on certain Rocks, from which she got clear by the help of her Anchors; but tho' she felt no damage at present, she was afterwards sensible of the ill Effects of that Accident. Next Day they weigh'd

weigh'd Anchor, steering towards *Fort S. Peter*, where they arriv'd betimes. This is a considerable Place with respect to its Inhabitants, but inferiour in strength to *Fort-Royal*. *Martinico* is the chief of all the *American* Islands that are inhabited by the *French*: 'Tis all over Mountainous, and full of Wood, but extremely fertile in Sugar-Canes, from which the Inhabitants draw their principal Revenue. It produces good Melons, and a most pleasant kind of Fruit call'd *Anana*; besides several other sorts of Fruit, as Gogaves, Potato's, Banana's, and Figs, which are different from those of *France*. The Squadron sail'd from hence on the 15th. of *July*, and arriv'd on the 17th. at *Granada*, an Island inhabited by the *French* and the Wild Natives, abounding with Sugar-Canes, Tobacco, and Tortoises, and defended by a Fort of no great strength; from whence they continu'd their Course with a fore-wind to the Lee-ward (for the Land stretches Westerly, and the Eastern Winds reign perpetually in those Seas) and had so quick a Passage, that on the 24th. they descry'd *Cape de la Velle* in *New-Spain*, and afterwards discover'd at a great distance *Mount St. Martha*, call'd in that Country *Sierra Neuada*, or the *Snowy Hill*, which is the highest Mountain in the World. It lies in the *Torrid-Zone*, in the 303 Degree of Longitude, and 8 of Latitude, containing about thirty or forty Leagues in circumference. 'Tis sixty Leagues from the

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1682. the Sea, and yet may be distinctly perceived from *Cape S. Tiberin* in *Dominico*, at the distance of 150 Leagues. Its perpendicular height from the top to the level of the Sea, is reckon'd to amount to two Leagues, tho' Geographers affirm, that there is not a Hill in the World half so high: But the Snow that covers its top, notwithstanding the excessive heat of the Climate, is a convincing Proof of the Truth of this Computation. Its Foot, and part of its Sides are inhabited by People of a very low Stature, who may pass for the *Pigmies* mention'd by *Pliny*. They never venture their little Bodies beyond the Confines of their own Territory, nor entertain any correspondence with their Neighbours; for the sight of a Man of ordinary Stature puts 'em to flight, and they run into their Holes at his approach. During the excessive Heats, they leave their usual Habitations, and live higher up in the Mountain; but as soon as the Weather begins to grow Cold, they return to their former Abodes. They live on a sort of Grain of which they make both Bread and Drink; and their *Ouicou*, or Drink is also made of the Root of a Shrub, after they have press'd out the poisonous Juice. Their Religion is only known to themselves, and never any Traveller cou'd hitherto discover its Nature. On the 26th. the Squadron rode an hour or two before *Cartagena*, bringing the Ships to a Lee without Cannon-shot of the Town, which is seated in

John Baptist Colbert.

1682. in a *Peninsula*, the Harbour being on one of the Sides. 'Tis a City of indifferent bigness; and its Figure is as irregular as its Fortifications: 'Tis commanded by a rising Ground, where there is a Fort flank'd with four Bastions lin'd with Earth. It stands in 300. Degrees of Longitude, and 10 Degrees, 30 Minutes of North-Latitude. On the 29th. they set sail to discover the Coast of *Nombre di Dios*, and the same Day anchor'd before *Portobelo*. This is a little, but very famous City, and one of the most considerable places of the *Spanish* Dominions in *America*, both for the Advantage of its Harbour, and the conveniency of its Situation: For 'tis but eighteen Leagues distant from *Panama*, where all the *Peruvian* Riches are unladen, to be afterwards transported on Mules to *Portobelo*, where they are embark'd for *Havana*, and from thence carry'd to *Spain*. The Harbour is very large and fair, and so clear of Sands or Rocks, that there is every where safe Anchorage for Ships of the greatest Burthen. When the *French* Squadron arriv'd, there was a laden Ship in the Port ready to Sail, under the Convoy of a great Galeon, which cou'd not protect her from the *Bucaniers*, who took her in her Passage. 'Tis a surprizing Neglect of the *Spaniards*, that they take no care to fortify a place of so great importance; for the Entry of the Harbour is defended only by a paltry Fort of a very irregular Figure, nowhere flank'd, and commanded by the Hillock

1682. lock at the Foot of which 'tis built. The Town which is at the bottom of the Bay, and appears not to those who are at Sea, till they come just before it, has no Walls, and is only cover'd with two small Works on the above-mention'd Hillock. 'Tis altogether defenceless on the side next the Mountain, and on the other two sides, by which it communicates with the Land. The side next the Sea is only flank'd with two small Bastions, containing about nine Foot in the Flank; and at the end of the Bay there is a Redoubt about twelve Toises square. I have nothing more to add to this succinct Description of *Portobelo*, but that the *Spaniards* pretend it will be quickly fortify'd with a Cittadel of six Bastions, between two Rivers, half a Cannon-shot from the Forts. The Squadron anchor'd near the Fort that defends the Entrance into the Harbour, where the *Spaniards* keep always a Guard, which was doubled during the stay of the *French*. *Gabaret*, to discover the Humours and Inclinations of the *Spaniards*, immediately after his Arrival, sent *Septeme*, Major of the Squadron, who having spoken with the Commander of the Fort at the Entry, was sent forwards to the Governour. As he drew near to the City in his Boat, with his Colours display'd, he was met by a Pinnace with *Spanish* Colours, which came to receive him: And having had Audience of the Governour, he return'd to give *Gabaret* an account of his Negotiation. The Subject of that

1682. that Conference, and of those that were afterwards manag'd by other Deputies, was never perfectly known: Only 'twas given out that *Septeme* was sent to enquire after *French* Prisoners, and that he was told there were none in the Town. Nevertheless, the same Night very late, there came a Man swimming to *D'Amblimont's* Ship, which rode next the Shore; and that Officer receiving him into his Boat, sent him immediately to *Gabaret*, whom he inform'd that there were seventeen or eighteen *Frenchmen* in the Town, but said nothing of their being Prisoners. Next Morning the Commander sent to discover the Truth of what he had learn'd, and to demand the *Frenchmen* of the Governour, who acknowledg'd that there were some of that Nation in the Town, who were not kept Prisoners, but serv'd for Wages; adding, that the Commander might, if he pleas'd, carry 'em along with him; and accordingly those ragged, lean, and disfigur'd Creatures were restor'd and distributed among the three Ships. This Accident was not attended with the least disorder; for the Affair was transacted on both sides in the most amicable manner imaginable; and their only Contest seem'd to be to out-strip each other in Civility. The Governour made the first step, by sending a Present to *Gabaret* of two fat Oxen, *Spanish* Wine, Sweet-meats, Oranges, and Citrons; and the *French* Officer in his turn present-  
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1682. ed the Spaniard with a Case of Pistols, a Castor, and other things of that Nature. The Deputies of the Squadron were regal'd on Shore, and those that were sent to the Commander were treated on board his Ship, where they drank several times to the Health of the two Kings of France and Spain with the usual Ceremonies, making a confus'd, but not unpleasant, Noise, by striking a Knife against a Plate. The place where the French cast Anchor at their first coming into the Harbour being somewhat incommodious, the Governour very civilly sent 'em a Pilot to bring 'em farther in, to a place where they might Anchor more safely. Two Armadilla's that were unrigg'd, began to put themselves in a posture of Defence, as soon as the Squadron appear'd, but resolv'd to stay in the Harbour. On the Second of August the French left Portobelo, and were by contrary Winds carry'd in sight of the *Cattives*, which are above fifty inhabited Islands. On the 11th. they made the Isle of *Rotan*, in the Gulf of *Honduras*, which lies in 286 Degrees of Longitude, and 16 of Latitude, and is only inhabited by Pyrates, who land there for the conveniency of Refreshment. Here the French found a forsaken Ship, and concluded that her Men were either taken, kill'd, or drown'd, and that the Vessel was a Prize, taken by the *Bucaneers* from the Spaniards. For besides a great number of Horse-Shoes that remain'd of her Cargo, there were several

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Jars of Spanish Wine, and Letters in that Language, by which it appear'd that she set out in June, and consequently that she had been taken not long before. The 13th. they discover'd a small Pyrate cruising about that part, and wou'd have chas'd him, if the Booty cou'd have made amends for their trouble; for he wou'd not come near the Squadron, tho' the usual Signal by the firing of a Gun was made for him to approach. The Passage from *Portobelo* to *Rotan* is dangerous, by reason of the Banks of Sand with which those Seas are pester'd; and the Water is so shallow, that the Pilots are oftentimes puzzl'd to find the Chanel. The 25th. they made the Isle *des Pans*; and the Capes of *Las Corrientes*, and *Sant-Anton*, at the Western end of the Island of *Cuba*, and were oblig'd to wait several Days for a favourable Wind, before they cou'd double the last of those Capes. The 3d. of September they pass by *Porto Carvamo*, in the same Island; and on the 6th. came before *Havana*, which is the Metropolis of the Island, and the usual Residence of the Captain-General. The Spaniards have been very diligent in improving the Fortifications of so considerable a Place: for its Harbour is the Rendezvous of all the Galeons that bring the Silver from the *Indies*, and of all the Ships that come from *St. Martha*, *Cartagena*, *Nombre de Dios*, *Portobelo*, *Vera Cruz*, *Campeche*, and all the other Ports of *Mexico*. The 7th. they anchor'd at *las Matangas* in the

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1682. same Island, where they took notice of the Comet that appear'd in *France*, and was illustrated with several Observations: They perceiv'd it first in the Night between the 25th. and 26th. of *August*, its Head being North-North-East, and its Tail South and by West. Here they stood into the Bay to refresh themselves, and took in fresh Water, Wood, Flesh, Fish, and all other necessary Provisions. The Bay is large, but not every-where fit for Anchorage; nor is that its only Inconveniency, for 'tis wholly destitute of Inhabitants; but those Defects are in some measure supply'd by the great abundance of all sorts of Game, as Wild Oxen, Herons, Parrots; and a prodigious Number of other Fowls that are fit to be eaten. Among other Animals, there are certain Rats much larger and thicker than our Cats, that sit on Trees along the Rivers, and are not scar'd at the sight of the Hunters. And for the Refreshment of those whose Stomachs are disorder'd after a tedious Voyage, there is a sort of *Colewort* that grows on the top of a very spongy Stem, from thirty to fifty Foot high, and may be eaten several ways, as in Sallads, Broth or Pottage. The Bay abounds with excellent Fishes, and those who take the Diversion of Fishing in the Rivers that fall into it, may gather as much *Cresses* as they please, which is like to that we have in *Europe*. And besides all those Marks of the bounty of Nature that appear in this place; it yields store of Salt, and

and produces several kinds of Fruits, among which there are Plums call'd *Mourbin*, and two sorts of Grapes. This pleasant Country is, as I intimated before, a part of the Island of *Cuba*, which, according to the Observations of Geographers, contains 280 Leagues in length, and 40 in breadth, extending between 289 and 300 Degrees of Longitude, and from the 20 to the 22d. Degree of Latitude, its Northern side being 30 Leagues distant from the *Tropic* of *Cancer*. On the 19th. the *French* set Sail from *Matanzas*, standing in to the Frith of *Babama*, where the North-Wind being imprison'd between the Coast of the Main-Land, and that of the Islands, which bound the Strait on both sides, breaks forth with so violent an impetuosity, that the Ships which are engag'd in this dangerous Passage, run the hazard of being dash'd to pieces on one of the opposite Shores: And besides, the agitation of the Sea by those Tempestuous Winds, is encreas'd by the Rapidity of the Currents, which are oftentimes fatal to such small Vessels as those that compos'd this Squadron: Yet they had the good fortune to escape the Danger of this Canal, which is 60 Leagues long, and 25 broad, between 24 and 27 Degrees of Latitude; and afterwards sail'd along the Coast of *Florida*, to the height of the *Bermudas*, where they met with a fair Wind for *Martinico*, which they discover'd on the 24th. of *October*, and Anchor'd the 26th. at

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1682. *Fort S. Peter.* The 2d. of November, they set sail for *Granada*, to bring the Governour of that Island, who was *Gabaret's* Brother, with his Wife, to *Martinico*, where she was desirous to Lie in. In their Passage they descri'd a small Skiff, and made towards it by *Gabaret's* Orders, who was extremely surpriz'd at the sight of four or five Wretches, that cou'd hardly stir an Oar to approach the Ship, being starv'd, and quite spent with Hunger, Thirst, ill Weather, and the beating of the Waves. At last he receiv'd 'em on board, and learnt that they were *Englishmen* of the Isle of *Tabago*, where they were so cruelly us'd, that in a Fit of Despair, they resolv'd to commit themselves to the less-dreaded fury of the Waves; and that their small stock of Provision was consum'd five Days before they were taken up. On the 5th. of December, *Gabaret* arriv'd at *S. Christopher*, where he left the *Englishmen*; and the next Day sail'd for *France*, directing his Course to the Port of *Brest*, where he landed.

The favourable Treatment which *Gabaret* receiv'd from the *Spaniards* in *America*, was a glorious Effect of his Master's Power: And the kind reception of the *French* Ambassador at the Court of *Morocco*, is a convincing Proof of the Awe and Respect with which that great Monarch inspires the most barbarous Nations. The Count of *S. Amand* embark'd on the *Valiant*, a Ship of 60 Guns, commanded by *Beaulieu*, and came before *Algier*,

John Baptist Colbert.


*Algier*, where he was present at that memorable Action I have already describ'd. From thence he set sail for *Tetuan*, where he arriv'd on the 2d. of October 1682, and sent some Persons a-shore in his Pinnace, who were inform'd by the *Turks* that were come to the Sea-side, that for two Months they had been daily expecting the Ambassador's Arrival, and that they had Orders to intreat him not to Land, till they had heard from the Vice-Roy of the Province, because they cou'd not receive him according to his Dignity, during the absence of that *Alcayd*. The 4th. *Mebermed Thummin*, who was formerly Ambassador in *France*, came on board, with the Lieutenant-Governour, and the Commander. They were saluted at their Entry with the firing of eleven Guns, and conducted to the Council-Chamber, where they were receiv'd by the Count of *S. Amand*, accompany'd with eight Officers of Ships, twelve of the Marine Guards, and several Gentlemen. After they had all taken their Places, the Ambassador began the Discourse with telling *Mebermed Thummin*, that at his return from the Campaign in *Chio*, he had heard of his being in *France*, and was a Witness of the Universal Acknowledgments that were paid to his Wit and Merit. *Thummin* reply'd, that he was oblig'd for so flattering a Compliment to that Candor which is so natural to the *French* Nation: And those mutual Returns of Civility were continu'd


1682. for some time on both sides. Then the Ambassador took occasion to Discourse of the King of *Morocco's* Greatness, of his Conquests, and of the Titles of his Predecessors. The *Moors* were very attentive to what he said on that Subject, extolling their Prince's Valour; to whom they always gave the Title of *Emperour*. After they had been entertain'd with a Collation, the Ambassador shut himself up with 'em, making use of *la Croix* for his Interpreter, with whose performance he was very well satisfy'd. The Conference lasted an Hour and a half, and 'twas so late before they came out, that the *Moors* were forc'd to lie on board. They order'd a clean Table-Cloth to be spread on the Boards, and stepping upon it with their bare Feet, began to pray, crying often *Alla, Alla*, which signifies *God*; and kneeling thirty times in the space of a quarter of an Hour. They sat upon their Heels, and from time to time stretch'd themselves on their left Side; and after they had remain'd a Moment in that Posture, they stroak'd their Forehead and Face with their Right-hand, which is the Badge of their Religion, as the Sign of the Cross is of *Christianity*. The next Day after Dinner, which was only a Banquet of Fruits, they visited *la Gallisoniere*, who conducted 'em to the Shore, and at their Landing were saluted with eleven Guns. At the same time a Bark appear'd under *Algerine* Colours, without a Skiff, standing into the Mouth of the River; she was

1682. was known to belong to *Salley*, and had taken a *French* Vessel laden with Cod-Fish. The 6th. the Ambassador wrote to *Mehemed*, requiring Satisfaction for the Injury done to his Nation; and was answer'd, that the Master of the Bark was arrested, and that the Prize shou'd be restor'd. The 7th. a Messenger was dispatch'd to *Tetuan*, which is situated two Leagues from the Shore, for the *French* Consul, who sent word that he cou'd not come without the Governour's Permission. The same Day *Mehemed* gave the Ambassador notice that he had receiv'd an Answer from the *Alcayd*, who had desir'd him to carry his Son on board, and therefore he entreated the Pinnace might be sent a-shore next Morning. His desire was granted, and the Pinnace waited upon him at the time appointed; but he was forc'd to embark alone, for the Youth was afraid to venture on the Sea, which happen'd at that time to be very rough. In the mean time the *Alcayd* wrote to the Ambassador, to congratulate his Arrival, assuring him that he wou'd come with all possible haste to receive him, and that the Emperour his Master had commanded him to treat him with the highest respect. The 9th. several Boats came to the Ship to Land the Ambassador's Retinue; and *Mehemed* went on board to compliment him in the Name of the *Alcayd*, who waited on the Shore to receive him: But 'twas so late that the Ambassador thought fit to put off his

1682. his Landing till the next Day, assuring *Mebermed* (who resolv'd to lie that Night on board) that at Sun-rising, he wou'd give Orders to salute the *Alcayd* with thirteen Guns, and a triple discharge of Musquet-shot; and the same Evening he sent two Officers to compliment him. Next Morning the promis'd Salutation was perform'd; and after the Ambassador had heard Mass, and din'd with *Mebermed*, he embark'd with all his Retinue, besides several Officers of the Ship and Marine Guards, and Landed about nine a-clock. He found the Shore lin'd with 400 Musquetiers, and was met by the *Alcayd* and his Son, at the Head of 200 Horse. At their Meeting, he told that Officer, that he was glad he had the good Fortune to enter the Dominions of the Emperour of *Morocco* in a place that was under his Government. The *Alcayd* reply'd, That he was welcome, He and all his Company, and enquir'd concerning his Health. He was cloath'd in Yellow, with a little Cowl or Hood of the same Colour on his Head, and a Lance of the length of a Pike in his Right-hand. One half of the Horsemen carry'd Lances, and the other Fire-locks, which they discharged, and were follow'd by a Volley from the Infantry. Then the Squadron broke, and some of 'em gallop'd along the Shore, turning and managing their Horses with a considerable Dexterity. At the same time the Ambassador was conducted by *Mebermed* to the *Alcayd's* Tent, where there was

1682. was a large Table-Cloath spread on the Ground, with an *Indian* Cloth, and a Coverlet over all, of the same largeness. As soon as the Ambassador enter'd, he sat down on the Coverlet, and Cushions were brought to the *Alcayd*: Then the Ambassador rose up, saying, that *Frenchmen* were not accusom'd to sit so low; but the *Alcayd*, who knew his meaning, reply'd, that this Interview was not to be made a Precedent, and that he did not pretend to entertain him with all the Ceremonies of a formal Reception; in the mean time he order'd two Cushions to be laid one above another, and the Ambassador sat down upon 'em. After they had discours'd a quarter of an Hour, the Collation was brought in, consisting of March-panes, which were taken out of a Wicker-Basket, and laid upon a piece of *Spanish*-Leather after the manner of a Table-Cloth, adorn'd with some Cyphers: Then they presented Nuts and Raisins, with very white, but very bad, Bread. All the Company drunk out of the same Pot or Dish, which was made of Wood in form of a Porringer, and adorn'd on the out-side with Silver-Gilt. The Banquet ended, they mounted on Horse-back, the Infantry marching in the Wings, and the Horse in the Front, who, as often as they met with plain Fields, divided themselves into two Squadrons, representing the *Moorish* way of fighting with Lances. Some of the bravest of 'em broke out of their Ranks, and having darted

1682.  darted their Lances into the opposite Squadron, gallop'd back to their own, with some of the other Party at their Heels. Then the whole Squadrons engag'd without observing any Order, and after they had fir'd, the Commander, who march'd in the Front, fell back to the Rear, galloping, and calling on his Men, whom he rally'd, and put into Order: And sometimes one of the Squadrons kept their Ground, expecting the Assault of the Enemy. They engag'd after the same manner nine or ten times before they reach'd the Town, where the *French* arriv'd about four a-clock, and the Ambassador was carry'd to a little and ill-furnish'd, but not unpleasent, House, which they told him was the King's. There is a Basin or Pond surrounded with Orange-Trees before the Gate; and the Garden is adorn'd with several Arbours of Fruit-Trees. The *Alcayd* sent to inform the King of the Ambassador's Arrival, and receiv'd an Answer on the 4th. of *November*; but the bad Weather which lasted till the 14th. and the Ambassador's Indisposition retarded his Journey for some time. *Mehemed* brought the Horses that were prepar'd for him, magnifying the Care he had taken to procure so great a number: And when he was ready to depart, the *Alcayd* came to him on Horseback, and enquir'd whether he wanted any thing; after which he went to the *Alcayd's* House, and thank'd him for all his Civilities; and that Officer not only return'd a very

 very obliging Answer, but offer'd the Ambassador three or four Thousand Crowns, if he stood in need of such a Summ. Then the Company took Horse, and the Musquetiers who were at the Gate, saluted the Ambassador, as he pass'd by, with a Volley of all their Musquets. The first Village they saw on the Road is call'd *Dezurburg*, where the Lord of the Place accommodates all Persons with Lodgings *gratis*, and has sometimes fed two hundred at one time. They travell'd till the 14th. thro' a Mountainous and almost uninhabited Country, where there is no Water, but great abundance of Partridges. The 14th. they encamp'd near *Alcaza*, where the Ambassador was complimented by the *Alcayd*, Brother to him of *Tetuan*. He wore a large Robe or Gown of black Velvet spangl'd with Gold, and rode on a very fine Horse, who was of a large size for one of *Barbary*, and magnificently harness'd with red Velvet, adorn'd with little Plates of Gold: Two Slaves held the Reins of his Bridle, and there was a great deal of massy Gold on the Head-Stall and Throat-Band. He was accompany'd with his Son, who was mounted on a Horse of the same kind; and his Train consisted of 100 Horse, and a like number of Foot. After some mutual Compliments he retir'd, wheeling, and managing his Horse, he and all his Horsemen, as his Brother and his Company did at *Tetuan*. The whole Journey to *Salley* was very troublesome

1682. blefome to the Ambaffadour's Retinue; the Ways were generally hard to be found, the Meat was bad, and they were forc'd to keep themselves always in a Pofture of Defence, both becaufe of the Robbers, who came very near their Tents in the Night, and the Lions with which that Country abounds. On the 20th. they were met by *Midy Aly Manino*, Lieutenant of the Polity or Civil Government of *Salley*, and Brother of the *Alcayd* of that City, where they arriv'd in the Evening, and abode two days, their Tables being much better furnish'd than they were upon the Road. The Ambaffadour, according to the ufual Custom, receiv'd many Compliments and Presents of *Passara*, *Dates*, and some *Hens*, and *Sheep*. The Inhabitants of most of the Villages thro' which they pass'd, receiv'd 'em with loud Acclamations of Joy, some of 'em shew'd their Dexterity in Leaping, and Horse-Races were never omitted. They found neither Bridges nor Boats on the Rivers, but were forc'd to pass 'em on Leathern Bags stuff'd with Wind. Two Days before they arriv'd in the Camp, they pass'd by a Place where there are 150 Wells or Pits, call'd in the Map, *Centum Putei*, which are of great use in a Country wholly destitute of Water, but that which proceeds from Rain, and is preserv'd in those Pits. The 9th. of December they pass'd by a paltry Fort, where the Grand Vizier lay, having been lately wounded with a Musquet-shot by a certain Moor, who fled to *Muly Hamet*, King of *Suz.*

*Suz.* and they observ'd a Guard of 150 Musquetiers at the Gate. The 10th. the King sent four Horse-Men for the Ambaffadour, who immediately set forward, and arriv'd in the Camp on the Day of the Great Festival of the *Bayran*, which the *Moors* were celebrating with many Expressions of Joy, and Sacrifices of Camels and Sheep. As the *French* approach'd the Place of Sacrifices they perceiv'd four Men mounted on Mules full of little Bells, who were stain'd with the Blood of Victims which they had sacrific'd before the King. All the *Alcayds* of the Kingdom are oblig'd to be present at that Solemnity, and that Monarch sent to tell the Count of *S. Amand*, that he might advance further and take a nearer View of the Ceremonies. As soon as he approach'd, the King retir'd unseen, and put himself at the Head of 2000 Horse, with whom he attack'd a like Number of others: the Engagement lasted 3 Hours, and they fir'd their Musquets charg'd with Powder in one anothers Faces; after which the King sent an *Alcayd* to compliment the Ambaffador, and to acquaint him that by reason of the Solemnity of the Festival he cou'd not give him Audience till the next Day. Then the Ambaffadour with his Train was carry'd to a Place 50 Paces distant from the Camp, where he was attended next Morning by an *Alcayd*, who conducted him to the Audience. All the Company took Horse, and alighted when they drew near to the King's Tent, who when he perceiv'd the Ambaffadour







1682. who, two hours after, went to receive his Audience of Leave. He found the King on Horse-back, engag'd in his usual Exercifes, which lafted till Night, after which his Majesty fent word to the Ambaffador, that 'twas the Hour of Prayer, and that he wou'd fpeak with him at his coming out; and asfoon as he came forth he fent the *Alcayd Lucas*, who had been Ambaffador in *England*, to acquaint him that he had granted all his Propofals. The Ambaffador reply'd, that he had nothing more to desire of his Majesty, and that he esteem'd himself too happy in being an Eye-witnefs of fo firm a Peace concluded between two fuch potent Emperours: after which the *Alcayd Lucas* return'd with that Answer to the King, who order'd him to bring the Count of *S. Amand* before him. He found his Majesty ftanding in the midft of his Camp, who receiv'd him in a very kind and friendly Manner, and after the Ambaffador had thank'd him for the favourable Treatment he had receiv'd in his Dominions, that Monarch charg'd him to falute the Emperour of *France* in his Name, and to give him the Salutation of Peace, which is esteem'd a very eloquent Phrafe in that Country to exprefs a fincere Affection, nor do they ever use it in fpeaking to *Chriftians*. The King of *Morocco* is of a middle Stature, neither too great, nor too fmall; his Air is courteous and infpires Refpect, his Gate lofty, and his Mouth fomewhat little; he has black Hair, fparkling Eyes, and a Hawk-Nofe. He had on his Head a red Cap  
wrapt

1682. wrapt about with a Muffin Turbant, a *Da-va* of a fort of very White Wooll, with another about it of Yellow *Da-*mask. The Habit he wore confifted of a *Cafetan* of Nut-colour'd Cloth, a wide and fleevelefs Coat of Gold and Silk, and under that a *Haique* of white Muffin girt round his Body like a Cloth, with a Shirt of Mail to fecure him againft private Attempts, a Piece of Caution that may be excus'd in one that has been three or four times in danger of Affaffination; a green Waf-Coat, and then a Shirt with Sleeves like thofe of a Surplice. His Boots, or rather Buskins, were of red Leather plaited all over; and his Spurs of Iron gilt, with a Prick as long as a Bodkin. He had about 200 Horses who were not very beautiful, but they were of a large Size, and feem'd to be very good. His Army confifted of between 40 and 50000 Men, encamp'd (as they fight) without any Order, on Mount *Atlas*. Sometimes he puts himself at the Head of 10000 Horse to enure 'em to War, for they are only a fort of undisciplin'd *Militia*. His usual Guard was then compos'd of 7000 *Negro's*, and 300 *Renegado's* cloath'd in Red and Green, befides 200 Pages both *Moors* and *Blacks*, who are his Slaves. The Ambaffador in his Return was conducted by *Bengaraya* Son to the King of *Talmenin*, who provided much better Entertainment for him on the Road, than *Mebemed Thummin* did in his Journey to the Court, tho' he was treated with all poffible Civility in *France*. It  
P 2 happen'd

1682. happen'd by the way, that one of the Ambassador's Servants was slightly wounded by a *Barbarian*, with a Fire-Lock charg'd with Hail-shot: Immediately *Bengaraya*, without speaking a word, laid his Hand on his Horse, and drawing out his Scymitar, cut off the Heads of three Men, without once enquiring who discharg'd the Piece, and ask'd the Ambassador whether he wou'd have him cut off Fifty Heads more, who reply'd that he was more than satisf'd with what he had done already: then, said he, you must give me an Acquittance under your Hand, for, without that, if the King shou'd be inform'd that I have only cut off three Heads, he wou'd certainly take off mine. The Ambassador granted his Desire, and learn'd afterwards that the *Bassa* of *Morocco*, who commands under the King's Brother, passing by the Place where the Accident happen'd, had caus'd 20 *Barbarians* to be beheaded, and sent 50 more to *Morocco*, where they were kept Prisoners. In most Places the Ambassador was receiv'd with extraordinary Respect, and even the Women came forth to meet him shouting for Joy, tho' that Honour is by Custom appropriated to the King. He arriv'd at *Tetuan* on the 19th. and the 22th. the Consul of *Salley*, *Aly Manino*, *Benachey*, the Admiral *Ben Joseph*, and the *Alcayd Lucas*, Keeper of the Seals, gave him the Letters directed to his Majesty, which were seal'd on the Out-side. And after he had receiv'd Satisfaction for the Vessel taken by the *Salley*-Bark

John Baptist Colbert.

1683. Bark, he went on board the *Valiant*, and arriv'd at *Toulon* on the 14th. of *April* 1683, with twenty *French* Slaves, whom the Emperour of *Morocco* sent for a Present to his Majesty.

At the same time that *Colbert* neglected no Opportunities of displaying his Master's Grandeur in foreign Countries, he apply'd himself with his usual Diligence to the Regulation of Affairs at Home: He enjoyn'd a rigorous Execution of the Orders that exclude those who are not arriv'd at the Age appointed by Law, or have Relations in the prohibited Degrees already in Office, from being admitted into the Superiour Courts: But when he perceiv'd how much the Offices of Judicature were disregarded since their Prices were fixt, he thought fit, in some measure, to mitigate that Severity; and to facilitate the filling up of those places, he perswaded the King to grant Dispensations till the end of the Year 1686, at the rate of 1500 Livres for each prohibited Relation, and as much for the defect of Age. The same Minister being inform'd that the Money rais'd by the Duties granted to the Cities and Corporations for the payment of their Debts, was diverted to other uses, procur'd an Order of Council bearing Date the 13th. of *March* 1683, by which the Mayors, Echevins, Consuls, and other Officers who had receiv'd those Summs, were oblig'd to give an Account of 'em in three Months, before the Intendants of their

1682.

respective Generalities. Colbert obtain'd also the Publication of another Edict, to restrain those that were possess'd of Offices in Courts of Judicature, from making use of their Authority to defraud their Creditors: And the better to regulate the Distribution of the Valuation, 'twas ordain'd by the same Edict, that Opponents to the Seal shall be preferr'd before all other Creditors, tho' they be priviledg'd Persons, who have neglected that Circumstance, and even before those who have obtain'd an actual Seizure of the Benefits of the Offices; and that of those Opponents such as are priviledg'd shall be first paid; that afterwards the Mortgagees shall be rank'd according to the order of their respective Mortgages, and that the Overplus of the Valuation shall be shar'd among the Creditors that have only Bills or Notes for their Assurance. The same Edict ordains, that six Months after the seizure of the Benefits of Offices in Superiour Courts, and three Months in the Subaltern Courts, the Creditors may obtain an Order, obliging the Titulary Possessor to constitute an Attorney *ad resignandum*, in default of which, the Judgment awarded shall have the force of a Warrant of Attorney; and that three Years after the Declaration of a Judgment, if it be confirm'd by a Sentence, or if there be no Appeal made from it, the Officer shall remain absolutely prohibited and incapacitated to discharge his Office.

Colbert

1683.

Colbert being inform'd that the Pyrates of *Algiers* continu'd still to disturb his Majesty's Subjects in the prosecution of their Trade, resolv'd either to destroy 'em irrecoverably, or to force 'em to beg a Peace: And in order to the accomplishment of that Design, he sent his Son, the Marquess *de Seignelay*, to *Provence*, to hasten the departure of the Fleet. Immediately after his Arrival at *Marseilles*, he took a review of the Galleys, which he found in very good order, especially the sixteen that were fitted out by his Majesty's Orders. He visited also the Harbour, Magazins, and Hospital, and then went to *Toulon*, to dispatch the Marquess *du Quene* on the design'd Expedition, with the Galleys and other Vessels of his Majesty's Navy. After the departure of the Fleet, the *Chevalier de Lery*, by the way, took a Pyrate of *Algiers*, of eighteen Guns, and one hundred and fifty Men, in which he found thirty *Christian* Slaves, whom he set at liberty. And the Marquess *d'Amfreville* sunk a Bark belonging to the same Pyrates, and retook a Vessel laden with Marble, which they were sending to *Algiers*. The News of this Expedition drove all the Pyrates into their Harbour, except two Caravells, two Barks, and another Vessel, that were sail'd to *Constantinople*. The Marquess *du Quene* set sail from *Toulon*, *May 6th. 1683*, with six Men of War, having order'd the Galleys, Bomb-Vessels, Pinnaces, and other Vessels, to meet at the Islands call'd *Fromentieres*,

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near

1683. near *Yvoica*. Some Days after he met with a Storm, and was forc'd to spend some time in refitting his Ships; after which he set sail on the 18th. and arriv'd on the 4th. of *June* at the appointed Rendezvous, after he had scowr'd the Coast of *Catalonia*. He was joyn'd on the 9th. by the Bomb-Vessels and Pinnaces, and proceeded on his intended Voyage without the Galleys, who were not yet come up. On the 18th. he discover'd the Road of *Algiers*, where he found the Marquess *d'Amfreville*, who had lately retaken an *English* Ship from a Pyrate that pretended to belong to *Tetuan*, but had a Commission from *Algiers*: And in the same place he was joyn'd by *Septeme*, *Vilette*, *du Merré*, and *S. Mars-Colbert*. He order'd his Ships to Anchor as near the Port as they cou'd, but without Cannon-shot, and posted nine of 'em at equal distances, in a crooked Line, resembling the Figure of the Mole. These were the *Fleuron*, *Firm*, *Syren*, *Prudent*, *Amiable*, *Vigilant*, *Laurel*, *Sea-horse*, and *Star*, commanded by the Count *d'Etrées*, the *Chevalier de Tourville*, the Count *de Seville*, the *Chevalier de Lery*, *Septeme*, the Marquess *d'Amfreville*, the Marquess *du Quêne* the Son, *Bellile*, and the Commander *des Goutes*. The seven first were order'd to carry each an Anchor, with middle-siz'd Cables, having one end fasten'd to the Ship, within 600 *Toises* of the Mole, to serve for the Towing of the Galleys to their respective Posts; and the *Sea-horse* and *Star*

*Star* had orders to carry their Anchors, for Towing nearer the Town than the other seven, that advancing by the help of their Anchors, they might lie on the Wings and Flank, and support the Bomb-Vessels, if they shou'd be attack'd by the Enemy; for the Marquess *du Quêne* had receiv'd Advice, that the *Algerines* had prepar'd two arm'd Galleys, and other light Vessels for that purpose; and besides, he order'd the Anchors to be cast nearer to each other than the distances between the Men of War, that their Front being contracted, they might be more easily supported by the Men of War posted on the Wings, and that the Vessels might not be endanger'd by the changes of Wind and Tide. The Bomb-Vessels were the *Fulminant*, *Thunderer*, *Brulante*, *Eombard*, *Cruel*, *Menacante*, and *Ardent*, commanded by *Cheveigny*, *Piaudiere*, *la Motte d'Eran*, *de Combes*, *de Poenti*, *Goeslin*, and *du Quêne-Monier*. Besides the usual Complement of the Galleys, the Marquess order'd ten Soldiers of the Marine Guard, ten Granadiers, and as many chosen Soldiers to embark on each of 'em; and appointed two Pinnaces or arm'd Boats to attend each Bomb-Vessel, and two *Corps de Guard* of those Boats to support the rest. The 21st. and 22d. were spent in taking up the Posts, and other necessary Preparations. The 23d. the Captains of the Ships carry'd in their Towing-Anchors; the *Chevalier de Tourville* carry'd the Anchor of the Vessel that was to be posted next the North, and the

1683. the Marquês *d'Amfreville* the Anchor of that which was to be posted towards the South. The *Chevalier de Lery* carry'd the middle Anchor; and those of the Intervals were carry'd by the Commanders of the Ships to which the Cables were fasten'd. All these Orders were executed without the least Opposition from the Enemy, who imagin'd that the *French* made these Motions only to observe the Mole, and try the reach of their Guns; for the Work was carry'd on with so much exactness, that the Enemy saw neither the Anchors nor Cables. The rest of the Day was spent in preparing the Bombs and Mortars; and in the Evening *Raymondis*, Major of the Fleet, receiv'd Orders to appoint a Guard of Pinnaces to prevent the Enemies from weighing the Anchors during the Night; but they kept close in the Port. The 24<sup>th</sup>. no Attempt cou'd be made, by reason of the bad Weather, which continu'd also on the 25<sup>th</sup>, but at Night was succeeded by a perfect Calm; and therefore the Marquês *du Quêne* gave the Signal for the Bomb-Vessels to advance in order; the Men of War took up their Posts on the Wings, and the Major sent part of the arm'd Boats towards the Vessels on the North, and the rest towards those on the South. Each Bomb-Vessel was accompany'd with two Boats, and two others were plac'd near the Entry of the Port, with two light Boats furnish'd with Matches and Trains, which they were order'd

order'd to fire if the Enemy shou'd venture out of the Port, for a Signal to all the arm'd Boats on the Wings to advance to the relief of the Galleys. The Bomb-Vessels did not begin to play till one a-clock in the Morning, because the roughness of the Sea hinderd their Approach: They continu'd firing two Hours, and threw ninety Bombs, which fell (at least almost all of 'em) either in the Port, on the Mole, or in the City. In the mean time the *Chevaliers de Tourville*, and *de Lery*, with the principal Officers, went about in their Boats to give necessary Orders, with an extraordinary Bravery and Diligence. Assoon as the Enemy saw the Mortars planted, they play'd furiously with their Great Guns, and fir'd above 600 Shot. They had kindl'd great Fires on the Mole, to discover the Bomb-Vessels and Boats; and always when they perceiv'd the Fire of the Mortars, they immediately discharg'd all their Guns, but without doing any Execution. The Bombs made a prodigious havock, as the Slaves afterwards related: Several arm'd Barks that were in the Port were sunk in an instant. Some of the Bombs falling on the Batteries, dismounted several Pieces of Cannon; and those which fell into the City kill'd a great number of Persons. Several Houses were thrown down, and many of the Inhabitants buried under the Ruins. After the Bomb-Vessels had continu'd firing for two Hours with so great Success, the Marquês

1683. *ques du Quêne* thought fit to give the Signal of Retreat by firing two Guns, because there arose a Land-Wind which wou'd have endanger'd the Bomb-Vessels. The 27th. in the Evening, perceiving the Sea to be calm, he commanded the Bomb-Vessels to advance in the same Order as before; and they threw in about 120 Bombs with extraordinary Success, while the Enemy made a continual fire with their Cannon. The *French* lost only *Choiseul d'Ambouville*, Ensign of the *Prudent*, who was kill'd, with two Soldiers in a Boat, by the same Shot. Some of the Enemy's Bullets reach'd the Bomb-Vessels, and the *Ardent*, commanded by *du Quêne Monier*, which lay next the Mole, receiv'd several Shot without any damage, by reason of the singlar Artifice with which she, as well as the rest, were contriv'd. At last there arose so furious a Land-Wind, and the Sea grew so rough, that the Bomb-Vessels were forc'd to retire to the Ships that supported 'em, because all the Towing-Anchors were set a-drift by the Storm. The Bombs that were thrown this Night did greater execution than before: For one of 'em falling upon the Watch-Tower, and rolling downwards, disorder'd the Batteries, and kill'd several Officers of the Artillery; and most of the rest fell either into the City, or upon the Mole, which were very much shatter'd by 'em. As soon as the Galleys retir'd, there arose a Mutiny in the Town, and a great number of

1683. of Women, not able to support the cruelty of their Disasters, went in a desperate manner to the *Bassa*, *Dey*, and principal Officers, some carrying their mangl'd Children, and others the Arms and Heads of their Husbands and Relations that were kill'd by the Bombs. The Soldiery were also accessory to the Mutiny, and accus'd *Baba-Hassan* in a threatenng manner, as the Author of the Breach with *France*, and consequently of the Misery of *Algiers*: Their Commanders protested they were and wou'd always be ready to march against their Enemies, but added, that they wou'd not be thus kill'd in their Houses; and went boldly to the *Bassa's* House, requiring him to inflict a due Punishment on *Baba-Hassan*, and make a Peace with *France*. In compliance with their Desires, the *Bassa*, whose Office does not entitle him to an absolute Authority in the City, call'd a meeting of the *Divan*, on the 20th. early in the Morning, and after he had prepar'd their Minds with a pathetic Declamation against *Baba-Hassan*, he endeavour'd to convince 'em of the necessity of desiring a Peace from the General of the *French* Fleet, adding, that if they refus'd to take that Course, which was the only way to save the City from utter Destruction, he was resolv'd to retire to *Tunis*, and write to the *Grand Signior* that *Baba-Hassan* had ruin'd *Algiers*, and made it incapable of paying the usual Tribute to his Highness. The Principal Members of the *Divan*

1683. *Divan* and Military Officers were so mov'd by these Remonstrances, that they agreed unanimously to follow his Advice: And in pursuance of that Resolution, they deputed a particular Friend of *Baba-Hassan*, whom they sent, with an Interpreter, in a Pinnace with a white Flag, and oblig'd the Missionary *le Vacher*, to accompany him. They arriv'd about nine in the Morning, at the Admiral's Vessel, who without suffering 'em to come on board, order'd 'em to retire behind the Ship, where they might deliver their Proposals, and receive an Answer from the Deck: But being inform'd by *le Vacher*, of the Secret of the Message, he permitted the Deputy and his Interpreter to come on board, and answer'd 'em in Writing, to prevent both Mistakes and Misrepresentations; that he wou'd not hearken to any Proposals of Peace, till they had freely discharg'd and set at liberty all their *French* Slaves, and even those of other Nations whom they had taken on board *French* Ships. At last, after several Comings and Goings, 141 Slaves were brought on board the Admiral, among whom was *Beaujeu*, a Captain of one of his Majesty's Ships, who was taken in a small Vessel, and sold for 11200 *Piasters*; and the Deputy who accompany'd 'em, assur'd the Admiral, that there was Orders given to gather together all the *French* Slaves, and those that were taken under the Banner of *France*, and to restore 'em without delay. He demanded

manded also (in *Baba-Hassan's* Name) the liberty of the *Reys*, and other *Algerines* that were taken by *de Lery* in his way to *Algiers*, but cou'd not obtain a favourable Answer. On the 30th. of *June*, and 1st. of *July*, he brought 276 Slaves more; and after several earnest Solicitations, obtain'd the liberty of the *Reys*. The remaining Slaves were also freed, and brought on board before the 5th. and among the rest, four Women, one of *Marseilles*, and three of *Messina*. Thus his Majesty humbl'd the Insolence of those haughty Pyrates, who imagin'd themselves to be secur'd from the danger of being attack'd in their Port, after the unsuccessful Attempt of the Emperour *Charles V.*

The Joy with which *Colbert* receiv'd the News of the happy Success of his Majesty's Arms at Sea, and his desire to outstrip the Marquis of *Louvois*, who for a long time had been the Object of his Jealousie, made him strive with so much eagerness to discharge the Duties of so many several Offices, that at last he sunk under that perpetual and insupportable Load of Cares, and the fatal violence of his last Disease, occasion'd by a Stone in the Kidneys, which put an end to his Life on the 6th. of *September* 1683, at the Age of Sixty four Years. He was assist'd at his Death by *Cornouaille*, Vicar of *St. Eustachius*, and that celebrated Preacher, Father *Bourdaloine*, the Jesuit: And the Ceremony of his Interment was perform'd in the Night, under a Guard of

1683. of the Soldiers of the Watch, to prevent the Fury of his implacable Enemies, the Inhabitants of Paris.

His Children erected a stately Monument to his Memory, in the Church of St. Eustachius, where his Bust of White Marble is to be seen, of very curious Workmanship. His Death was made the Subject of many Verses, of which those that follow are agreeable to the Account of his Birth, in the beginning of this History:

Colbert's dead ----- I'm sure he's dead;  
I saw his breathless Body laid  
On a Bed of mournful State,  
With all the solemn Pomp of Fate.  
I softly walk'd, and often stood,  
And long the pleasing Object view'd,  
Each Room Death's Sable Liv'ry wore,  
And all the Marks of Sorrow bore;  
Splendid Sorrow reign'd o'er all;  
Sorrow cover'd every Wall.  
At last I spy'd a Fellow grinning,  
And heard him whisper out his meaning:  
Pray, Sir, what makes you look so sullen?  
D'ye grudge the waste of so much Woollen?  
Cou'd less be done, good Mr. Gaper,  
In honour of old Dad the Draper?

The Manuscripts and most curious Pieces of that numerous Collection of Books which he left, were taken out of Cardinal Mazarin's Library, who entrusted him with the Administration of that part of his Goods:  
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for he sent only the most common Pieces to the College of the Four Nations, contrary to the Will of his Benefactor, who left his Library for the Use and Instruction of the Students of that College.

His Offices were divided after his Death: That of Comptroller-General of the Finances was given to Claude le Pelletier, Counsellour of State, who had formerly been Counsellour in the Parliament, President of the Court of Inquests, Provost of the Merchants, and was afterwards made Counsellour of State in Ordinary: He had also been Tutor to the Children of John-Baptist Gaston, Duke of Orleans, and acquir'd a great deal of Honour by his wise Management of that Trust. He was an exact and judicious Person, and a good Judge; but his unacquaintedness with the Affairs of the Finances made him so slow in dispatching 'em, that no less skilful a Successor than Pontchartrain, cou'd have prevented the ill consequences of his Remissness. The Office of Superintendent of the Buildings was bestow'd on Michael-Francis le Tellier, Marquess of Louvois, Minister and Secretary of State, with the Protectorship of the Academy of Painting; tho' Julius-Armand Colbert, Marquess of Blainville, Son of the Deceas'd, had obtain'd the Reversion of the Office of Superintendent. So that of all his Places, only the Offices of Secretary of State, and of Commander and Great Treasurer of his Majesty's Orders remain'd in the Family, which were given

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1683. to the Marquess of *Seignelay*, whose Character was perfectly opposite to that of his Father. For the Son's Magnificence was as remarkable as his Father's Frugality: His Table was sumptuous, and his Furniture splendid and rich: He had a Closet set round with Looking-Glasses, and another Waincotted with *Calamba-Wood*, which was brought by his Orders from *Siam*: He bought of *Alvarez* a Collection of *Italian* Pictures and Statues, to the value of 300000 Livres, part of which he paid in Pass-ports, and in the Ships that he lent him. He was Master of a great deal of Learning and Politeness; but never any Man exceeded him in Vanity; and he was an immoderate lover of Pleasures. He was twice Married, first with *Mary Margaret*, Marchioness of *Alegre*, whose Fortune amounted to above 60000 Livres, Yearly Revenue, and after her Death with *Katharin Teresa de Matignon*, Daughter of the Count *de Thorigny*, his Majesty's Lieutenant-General in *Normandy*, and of *Frances de le Luthumiere*. The Marchioness of *Alegre* cou'd not easily be persuaded to Marry a Husband of so mean birth, but *Colbert* had gain'd the *Marquesses d'Alegre* and *d'Urfé*, the Uncles and Guardians of that rich Heiress. In consideration of this Match, the Bishoprick of *Limoges* was bestowed on the Count *de Sommerive*, the Son of the latter; and the Father obtain'd recommendatory Letters to the principal Officers in the Parliament of *Bordeaux*, where

1683. where he had an important Suit depending, against his Nephew the Count *de Mailly*, about the Inheritance of the Dutchess of *Crouy*. The Marchioness *de Seignelay's* Contempt of her Husband occasion'd frequent Quarrels between 'em; and the Marquess, who was naturally of a haughty Temper, was once so transported with Fury, that he gave her a Blow, which cost him a Drubbing that his Father bestow'd on him, for the Improvement of his Manners: But the *Bastinadoe* produc'd no other effect on him, than the *Indian Root*, with which *Boccace's Joseph* attempted to cure his Wife of her Sawciness. After that Lady's Death, the Duke of *Bournonville* offer'd his Daughter, who was also very rich, to supply her place; but *Colbert* refus'd the Match, knowing that the Duke (who was *Fouquet's* intimate Friend) hop'd by that means to be reinstated in the Government of *Paris*, which he enjoy'd during Cardinal *Mazarin's* Life.

The Marquess *de Blainville* having lost all hope of his Superintendantship, resolv'd to depend on his Sword for the Advancement of his Fortune, and contented himself at present with the mean Preferment of a Lieutenant's Place in the Regiment of *Picardy*. *Anthony Martin Colbert*, tho' scarce a Gentleman, was (as I hinted before) receiv'd Knight of *Malta*, during the Life of his Father; and a Commander, to flatter both, said aloud at his coming out, that the young Pretender had

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1683. pass'd his Four Quarters. *Moreri* derives *Colbert's* Pedigree from an ancient *Scotch* Family that settl'd in *Champaign* in the XIII. Age, according to that Author's Opinion, which he grounds on the Epitaph of *Richard Colbert*, at the Church of the *Cordeliers* at *Rheims*, accompany'd with the Arms of that Family: But that Proof is of no force, for the alledg'd Inscription was plac'd there, when *Colbert* design'd to procure the Honour of the *Maltese* Knighthood for his Son, as appears by the Testimony of the old Inhabitants of that City, who affirm that formerly there was no Engraving on the Tomb. *Giles Menage*, a profess'd Wit, and one of *Colbert's* Pensioners, attempted to squeeze some new Favours out of him by composing his Genealogy, which he deduc'd from the ancient Kings of *Scotland*; but that Minister perceiving the obvious grossness of the Flattery, instead of rewarding his Zeal, depriv'd him of his Pension. A memorable Example for those designing Panegyrist, who over-act their Parts, and injure their Patrons by strain'd and fulsom *Encomiums*. The *Chevalier Colbert* was so fortunate in his new Dignity, that he was made *Grand Croix de Grace*, and General of the Galleys of the Order: But that Preferment serv'd only to hasten his Disgrace, by discovering his Unfitness for the suitable Discharge of so great a Trust: For with seven Galleys that were under his command, he had not the  
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1683. Courage to attack three *Tripolin* Vessels which he found becalm'd; and his Cowardice wou'd have infallibly ruin'd him, if he had not been protected by the Authority of his Brother, the *Marquess de Seignelay*. After that Disaster he left the Sea-Service, and endeavouring to recover his Honour, lost his Life at the Head of the Regiment of *Champaign*, of which he was Colonel. *James Nicholas Colbert*, at present Archbishop of *Roban*, tho' he had renounc'd the Fair Sex, by entering into the Episcopal Order, cou'd not forbear espousing the Quarrel of his old Mistress, *la Certain*, and even carry'd his Complaisance so high, as to punish the Inconstancy of her new Lover, *Lully*, who had forsaken her for the young *Brunet*, by making the *Marquess de Seignelay* give him a severe Reprimand, and causing him to be shut up in *St. Lazarus's*.

The difference that happen'd shortly after between the King and the Republick of *Genoa*, gave the *Marquess de Seignelay* an opportunity of discovering the Extent and Variety of his Abilities. His Majesty complain'd that the *Genoese* entertain'd a closer Correspondence with the Count *de Melgar*, Governour of *Milan*, than was consistent with the Neutrality they promis'd to observe between the two Crowns; that they were fitting out four new Galleys to join those they usually kept in his Catholick Majesty's Service, under the Command of the Duke of *Tursis*; that they sent Powder  
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1683. and Bombs to the *Algarins*, for the burning of his Majesty's Gallies in the Port of *Marseilles*; That they refus'd to grant a Passage for the Transportation of the Salt; that by Virtue of an agreement with the Duke of *Mantua*, was to be carry'd thither from *France*, and wou'd not suffer him to settle Magazins at *Savona*; and that they wou'd not do Justice to the Count *de Fiesque*, by restoring to him the Inheritance of the Count *de Lavagne's* Estate. The Marquess *de St. Olon*, the French Resident at *Genoa*, represented all those Injuries to the Senate, demanding Satisfaction in his Master's Name, and at last declar'd, That if they persisted in their Resolution to launch four new Gallies, his Majesty wou'd interpret that as an Act of Hostility, and command his Subjects to seize not only on these Vessels, but on all that belong'd to the Republick. But all his Remonstrances and Threatenings were slighted by the *Genoese*, who wou'd not be persuaded to give his Majesty any Satisfaction; and therefore the Resident took his Audience of Leave, and the Marquess *de Seignelay* was order'd to make necessary preparations for a Naval Expedition, and even for the Landing of some Forces, if the Obstinacy of the *Genoese* shou'd constrain his Majesty to use 'em with the utmost Rigour.

1684.

Assoon as the Marquess receiv'd these Orders, he wrote to *Bonrepos*, Intendant of the Marine, to put 'em in execution, with-

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1684. out acquainting him with the Design; and not long after set forward for *Toulon*, where he arriv'd on the 26th. of *April* 1684, and took a Review of the Ships and Gallies. On the 5th. of *May* he embark'd for the Isles of *Hieres*, where the General Rendezvous of the Fleet was appointed; and set sail on the 12th. with fourteen Men of War, three light Frigats, ten Gallies or Bomb-Vessels, two Fire-Ships, eight Fly-Boats, seventeen Tartans, and twenty Gallies. The Men of War were the *Ardent*, *Ferme*, *Valiant*, *Vigilant*, *Amiable*, *Parfait*, *Assure*, *Fortune*, *S. Jacques*, *Fleuron*, *Aquilon*, *Indien*, *Capable*, and *Bizarre*, commanded by the Marquess *du Quene*, and the *Chevalier de Tourville*, Lieutenant-Generals; the Marquess *d'Amfreville*, and the *Chevalier de Lery*, Commanders of a Squadron, *S. Aubin*, the Commander *des Goutes*, *Belle-Ile-Erard*, the *Chevalier du Meré*, *Septeme*, the Marquess *de la Porte*, the *Chevalier de Bellefontain*, *Forant*, *la Motte*, and *Chaumont*. The three light Frigats, the *Viper*, *Trompeuse*, and *Subtile*, were commanded by *Clarier*, *Flôte*, and *Pelerin*. The Gallies were the *Reale*, *Patrone*, *Invincible*, *Forte*, *Vite*, *Reine*, *Valeur*, *Sirene*, *Grande*, *Belle*, *Françoise*, *Hardie*, *Amazone*, *Galante*, *Ferme*, *Dauphine*, *Fleur-de-lis*, *Couronne*, and *Perle*; under the Command of the Duke *de Mortemar*, General of the Gallies; the *Chevalier de Nouailles*, Lieutenant-General; the *Chevalier de Bethomas*, the *Chevalier de Breteuil*, the *Chevalier de Janson*, *Montaulieu*, *le Sorrier*, *For-*

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1684. *v*ille, *Maubousquet*, the Count *de Bèuil*, the *Chevalier de Pennes*, the *Chevalier de S. Herem*, the *Chevalier de Rochebouart*, *Montfuron*, the *Chevalier du Cher*, the Viscount *de Lauzun*, the *Chevalier de la Fare*, the Count *du Luc*, *Bourse Ville*, and the *Chevalier de Tancour*. The Fleet arriv'd before *Genoa* on the 17th. of *May*, and the ten Bomb-Vessels which carry'd two Mortars each, were drawn up in a Line at the distance of Cannon-Shot from the Walls, stretching from the Watch-Tower on the Left, to the *Fauxbourg de Bisagno* on the Right. The Men of War made another Line behind the Bomb-Vessels, at the distance of 200 *Toises*, with the Gallies divided into two Squadrons. The Day after their Arrival, the Senate deputed six of their Body to offer Proposals, by way of Excuse, to the *Marquess de Seignelay*, which he rejected, because there was no mention made of giving Satisfaction to his Majesty. And they were even so little inclinable to an Accommodation, that after the Deputies were return'd, they began to fire at the *French Fleet*; which was a sufficient Provocation to oblige the *Marquess de Seignelay*, to begin the Bombardment, with the Success of ruining several Palaces, and other Buildings in the *Prado*. The 20th. some of the Bomb-Vessels were order'd to stand in nearer the Harbour, to play upon those parts of the City that had not yet receiv'd any Damage; and one of the Bombs that were thrown in after that Motion,

1684. *v*ion, fell upon a Palace at a great distance, whither several Ladies of Quality had retir'd; nor was the Havock they made in the Port less considerable, where several Barks were shatter'd to pieces. The *French Bombs* wou'd have quickly frighted the *Genoese* into a Compliances with his Majesty's Desires, if they had not been animated by the *Spaniards* whom they had receiv'd into the City. And therefore the *Marquess de Seignelay* seeing that they persisted in their Obstinacy, resolv'd to make a Descent, in order to destroy the fine Palaces in the *Fauxbourg* of *S. Pietro d' Arena*. To execute this Design, 1500 Men were detach'd from the Men of War, and 2000 from the Gallies, under the Command of the Duke *de Mortemar*, and the *Chevalier de Tourville*: And at the same time a false Attack was made with 700 Men, towards *Bisagno*, by the *Marquess d'Amfreville*, who executed his Commission with a great deal of Vigour, tho' in the beginning of the Engagement he receiv'd a Wound in the Thigh, which was very troublesome to him for a long time after. They who were appointed to carry on the true Attack, in the first place made themselves Masters of a Fort that might have cut off their Retreat, and afterwards drove the Enemy from House to House, possessing themselves of the same Posts which they abandon'd. And after they had almost wholly ruin'd that *Fauxbourg*, they retir'd on board the Ships, having

1684. ving lost the *Chevalier de Lery*, and four or five inferiour Officers. The 29th. of the same Month, the Fleet set sail, and arrived at *Toulon* on the first of *June*. The Pope offer'd his Mediation for a Treaty of Peace, which was concluded on the 12th. of *February* 1685, on the Terms propos'd by his Majesty. For to obtain an entire Cessation of all Hostilities, the *Genese* submitted to, (and afterwards punctually perform'd) these Conditions; That the *Doge*, accompany'd with four Senators, shou'd come in Person to give Satisfaction to his Majesty, and at their return, re-enter into the Possession and Exercises of their Offices; That the Republick shou'd dismifs all the *Spanish* Troops, reduce the Gallies to their ancient Number, restore or make good all that they had taken from the *French*, and pay 100000 Crowns to the *Count de Fiesque*. The *Marques de Seignelay* was so pleas'd with the happy Success of this Expedition, that 'twas almost the only Subject of his Discourse; and he caus'd his Picture to be drawn, as he stood in the *Reale-Galley*, with a *General's* Batoon in his Hand.

1684. The first Office of State that he perform'd after his Return, was the giving Audience to the Ambassadors of *Siam*. For that Prince being inform'd that his first Ambassadors to *France* were unfortunately lost at Sea, made choice of two Officers of his Household to undertake that Voyage in the same

1684. same Quality, and to settle a free Trade and Commerce between his Subjects and the *French East-India* Company. And the Confidence he repos'd in the Apostolical Missionaries that were in his Dominions, made him desire the Bishop of *Metellopolis* to appoint one of these Fathers to accompany his Ambassadors in their Voyage to *Siam*. In compliance with so just a Desire, that Prelate made choice of *Vachet*, an old Missionary of *Cochin-China*, who, with the two Ambassadors, *Okoane Pichey Vallite*, and *Kbonne Pichise* or *Aiti*, six other *Siamese*, and an Interpreter of the same Nation, embark'd on an *English* Vessel *January* 13, 1684. which brought 'em to *England*, from whence they pass'd to *Calice*, where they were receiv'd by the *Marques de Seignelay's* Order, and conducted to *Paris* at the King's Charge. Afterwards the *Marques* sent two Coaches to bring 'em to the Audience he had granted 'em, and receiv'd 'em in his Closet. The Ambassadors at their Entry bowed thrice with their Faces to the Ground, and their Hands joyn'd and lifted up to the Crown of their Head, after the Fashion of their Country: Then they sat down on a piece of Tapestry, and having repeated the principal Articles of their Commission, regulated some of the Articles with him; after which they had Audience of the *Marques de Croissy*, with whom they concluded the Treaty.

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1685.

The Marquess *de Seignelay*, who succeeded his Father in the Management of Affairs relating to Trade, procur'd an Order of Council, bearing date *January 6, 1685*, by which his Majesty not only confirms the Licence granted to the *Senega-Company* to Trade on the Coast of *Afric*, from *Cape-Blanc* to the River of *Sierra-Leona*; but expressly prohibits all other Persons whatsoever, to drive any Trade or Traffick in those Parts, under the pain of forfeiting their Ships and Commodities, and paying a Fine of 3000 Livres: Revoking, nevertheless, the Privilege granted to the same Company, to engross the whole Trade of the Coast of *Guinea*, to the *Cape of Good Hope*; and giving free leave and permission to all his Majesty's Subjects to Trade on any part of the Coast between the Cape and the River of *Sierra-Leona*. In *February* the Marquess *de Blainville* purchas'd the Office of *Great Master of the Ceremonies*, of the Marquess *de Rodes*, and took the usual Oath before *Julius-Henry*, then Duke *d'Enguien*, and now Prince of *Condé*, *Great Master of the King's Household*.

About the same time the King call'd a Meeting of the Clergy at *St. Germain en Laye*, to conclude on the most proper Methods for the utter extirpation of *Calvinism* out of his Dominions. His Majesty sent *Lewis Boucherat*, at present *Chancellor of France*, and *Claude Pelletier*, with the Marquess *de Seignelay*, to communicate his De-

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1685.

sign to the Prelates and other Members of that Assembly; and on the *14th. of July* the Clergy sent Deputies to acquaint his Majesty with their Resolutions, who were conducted to their Audience, by the Marquess. In pursuance of that Advice, the King set forth an Edict, revoking and abrogating the Edict of *Nantes* in 1698, that of *Nimes* in 1629, and all other Edicts and Declarations granted in favour of those of the Reformed Religion. The principal Traders of the City of *Paris*, professing that Religion, met according to the Edict, in the Marquess *de Seignelay's* House, and in the presence of *Achilles de Harlay*, then *Attorney-General*, and now chief President in the Parliament of *Paris*, and of *Nicholas de la Reynie*, Lieutenant of the Polity, promised to embrace the *Catholick Faith*; and their Example was follow'd by a great number of the Masters of the incorporated Companies of Trades-Men.

The King resolving to sup at the Marquess *de Seignelay's* House at *Sceaux* on the *16th. of July, 1685*. the Marquess prepar'd to Regale him with his usual Magnificence. His Majesty arriving about half an hour after Six, was receiv'd at his Coming out of his Coach by the Marquess, who conducted him to the Garden, where he with the Dauphiness, and the Dutchess of *Orleans*, took their Seats in a large Chair with four Places, and as many Umbrella's, carry'd by Men; and the rest of the Ladies of the Court took the Conveniency of other Chairs which they found

found

1685. found there, the Princes and Lords attending his Majesty on Foot. First they enter'd into the *Pavilion of the Morning*, where in a Corner there were some of the most able Masters of Instrumental Musick, who diverted the Court with their Conforts for a Quarter of an Hour, after which they continu'd their Walk. When his Majesty arriv'd at the *Cascade* he heard the agreeable Noise of several Haut-Boys mixt with the Murmuring of the Water; the *Musicians* walking behind the Hedge-Row, which kept them a long time from being perceiv'd, and the same Diversion was renew'd in several Places of the Garden, where the Flutes and Haut-Boys lay conceal'd in the Thickets; in the *Orange-House* his Majesty was Regal'd with a Confort of Musick prepar'd for that Occasion. The Seats were taken out of the Gallery that ends in the *Orange-House*, and was separated from it by large Pilasters of Marble, leaning on Façades to which five great Candlesticks were fasten'd, it being already dark. The same Order was observ'd throughout, and at the End of the Place there appear'd two Benches or Stools, on each side along the Declivity of an Amphitheatre, above which there was a Gallery; All these Parts were lighted by an infinite number of little Lamps. The Fronts and Pilasters were adorn'd with flat Pieces of Gold-Smiths Work, and Candlesticks for Tapers; the rest of the *Orange-House* was hung with Tapestry representing a Hunting Match, and the twelve Months of the Year, and embel-

embellish'd with two Rows of Lamps from one end to the other. The Confort being ended, his Majesty came forth at a great Door in the Middle of the *Orange-House*, and saw on his Right-hand several Walks of Orange-Trees, adorn'd with a great number of Lights plac'd before the Boxes; And after he had march'd about 30 Paces in in one of those Walks, he discover'd a Table in a Green Arbour. The Table was four Foot and three Inches broad, reaching quite round the Canal, but cover'd only in those places that were under the Arbours on the Banks of the Canal, to the Angles on those parts of the Flanks that were form'd into an Amphitheatre, descending by three Degrees towards the Water. The King took his Seat at the Table in the Midst of an Arbour, at one of the Ends of the Canal, and the *Dauphin* was plac'd in the opposite Arbour, so that there were 38 Foot of Water between 'em; the two sides of the Table were adorn'd with a Wreath of Baskets and Vessels of *Porcelane* full of Flowers, between the branch'd Candlesticks, and other Machines of Gold-Smiths-Work carrying 25 Tapers; besides which there were others somewhat lower. The Machines of Light were all of a different Contrivance, representing his Majesty's Actions under Allegorical Figures; and the other two Degrees were adorn'd after the same Manner. The Arbours at each End of the Canal, which cover'd the two parts of the Table where his Majesty and the *Dauphin*

The LIFE of

1685. *phine* fate, were 18 Foot high, being arch'd after the manner of a Porch, and so artificially contriv'd, that the Cornices and other parts of the Architecture were easily distinguish'd. The Plafond of the place where the King fate was encompass'd with a rais'd Work, but those of the two Wings were flat, and all the *Portico's* were arch'd and adorn'd with his Majesty's Arms and Cyphers in the Middle. Several Busts and Garlands of Flowers hung also in the Middle of the Arches, and the King's Arbour was cover'd with the like Ornaments. All the Cornices were border'd with 150 branch'd Candlesticks, bearing six Tapers each, with a silver Basket full of Flowers between every two Candlesticks. All the Arches were furnish'd with Damask Curtains, ty'd back to the Pillasters, to preserve the Company from Rain, if there shou'd be occasion; and over-against the sides of the Table there were two Cupboards of State, supported by great Arches, and crown'd with Arbours, containing 20 Foot in Front, and rising by three Degrees, adorn'd with Multiplying-Glasses, besides several Curious Pieces of Gold and Silver-Work, among which there was a great number of branch'd Candlesticks, carrying several Tapers, and besides they were border'd with Boxes of Orange-Trees. The Entertainment consisted of five Courses of the rarest Kinds of Meat and Fruit which cou'd be procur'd in that Season. The King was serv'd by the Marquess *de Seignelay*, the *Dauphiness* by the *Bailly*

John Baptist Colbert.

*Bailly Colbert*, and the Duke of Orleans by the Marquess *de Blainville*; and at the other end the *Dauphin*, and *Madam* by the Marquess *de Maulevrier*. During the Repast, they were by turns diverted with the Harmonious Sounds of Trumpets, Violins, Flutes, Hautboys, and Kettle-Drums; and at the same time there were two Tables prepar'd in the Castle, with twenty or thirty cover'd Places at each, for Persons of Quality attending on the Court; and several others were plac'd in the Garden and Court for the Officers, not forgetting even the Foot-men.

Whilst the Marquess *de Seignelay* was displaying his Magnificence at Home, his Brother-in-Law the Duke *de Mortemar*, gave illustrious Proofs of his Vigour and Conduct in the Treaty which he concluded with the Pyrates of *Tripoli*. He arriv'd before that Place the 28th. of July, 1686, and sent such a peremptory Letter to the *Dey*, that he assembl'd the *Divan* the same Day; where 'twas resolv'd to grant all that the Duke demanded, excepting only the entire Payment of the 60000 Crowns, being part of the Summ which they were oblig'd to pay by the Treaty concluded in 1685: For they were not then able to advance so considerable a Summ, by reason of their bad Harvest, and of the Civil War that had harass'd their Country since that time, and was just then terminated by the Death of the *Dey*, whom the *Moors* endeavour'd to make Sovereign of the Country. In the

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1685. mean time they laded one of the King's Ships with Corn; and since they cou'd not restore seven of the *Frenchmen* that were ask'd of 'em, whom they had sold in several parts of the *Levant*, from whence they cou'd not possibly bring 'em back, they deliver'd thirty Strangers instead of the twenty *French* Slaves that were demanded of 'em, with eleven young Ship-Boys of *Provence*, whom they had forc'd to renounce *Christianity*, which they had never before granted by any Treaty whatsoever. The Duke de Mortemar at his Arrival, found five *Venetian* Men of War and Fly-Boats that were come to Land the Garison and Inhabitants of *Navarrens* and *Modon*, which were surrenderd on Articles to the *Generalissimo Morosini*. The Commander of this Squadron had retain'd some Women, under pretext that they were willing to embrace the *Christian* Faith; and the *Dey* of *Tripoli*, on the Complaints made to him by the Husbands and Relations of those Women, had, by way of Reprizal, seiz'd on the whole Crew of a Pinnace belonging to the *Venetians*. But the Difference was accommodated by the Duke's Mediation, the Women being restor'd to the *Turks*, and the Mariners of the Pinnace to the *Venetians*. After which the Duke wrote to the *Dey* of *Tunis*, who sent in the Vessel call'd the *Granade*, the rest of the Slaves that were taken under the Banner of *France*. The next Year the *Dey*, *Divan*, and Soldiery of *Tripoli* sent to

1685. to *France*, *Kbelyt Aga* the *Bassa's* Deputy, and *Hector Aga*, a Naval Officer, to present to his Majesty, by way of Tribute, two Dromedaries, six of the finest Horses in the Country, and some Ostriches. These *Envoys* arriv'd at *Toulon* on the 3<sup>d</sup>. of *May*, 1687, where they were receiv'd by *Vauvrou*, Intendant of the *Marine*, and maintain'd at the King's Charge, with their eight Attendants, during the forty Days they remain'd in that Place, to repose themselves and those Animals who had suffer'd very much in the Voyage. At last they set forward by an Order from the Court, accompany'd by *de Magrie*, a *Marine* Officer in the *Toulon* Division, and *Antonio Boyer*, a Native of *Malta*, to perform the Office of an Interpreter on the Road. On the 10<sup>th</sup>. of *August* they came to *Charenton*, and *de Magna* went immediately to inform the *Marques de Seignelay* of their Arrival. The 22<sup>d</sup>. they were brought to *Versailles*, and introduc'd to his Majesty's Presence by the *Marques*. After they had made their Compliment in *Turkish*, which was interpreted by *Dipy*, they presented the Animals to the King; after which a *Moor* about eighteen Years old, of a very large Stature both for height and thickness, mounted one of the Dromedaries, harness'd after the Mode of the Country, and galloping about the Court, he rais'd himself with wonderful agility on the Back of that Animal, and having made several whirling Turns, fell back into his

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1685. former Posture. Some Days after the Ambassadors went to see the Marquess de Seignelay's House, where they were regal'd by his Officers, tho' they had receiv'd neither Orders for the Entertainment, nor so much as Notice of their coming. At their departure the Marquess gave each of 'em in the King's Name, a Gold Chain and Medal, with his Majesty's Picture.

In October 1689, the Marquess de Seignelay was made Minister of State; but he did not long enjoy that Dignity, for he dy'd the next Year, three Months after the Dauphiness, as his Father deceas'd some Days after the Queen. His Death was believ'd to be occasion'd by his Debauches, and especially by the Excesses he committed with Women. He was extremely in Love with one of his Mistresses, but did not take care to raise her Fortune, tho' it was not suitable to her Birth. When she was inform'd that there was no hope of his Recovery, and that he suffer'd no Ladies to be brought into his Presence, she disguis'd her self in the Habit of a Courier, and pretending that she had a Pacquet concerning some important Affair to deliver to the Marquess. She was introduc'd into his Chamber, where she discover'd her self to him, and told him, that hearing he was about to undertake a long Journey, she cou'd not forbear bidding him adieu before his departure; and withal, intreated him to remember her Condition. He easily understood

stood her meaning, but having more pressing Debts to pay, sent her away with a Promise that he would think of her. The Abbot de Fenelon gave him notice of his approaching Death; and he was so much the more surpriz'd with so unwelcom a Message, that two Days before he had spent eight Hours in doing Business with his Commissaries. His Body being open'd, there were found twelve small and very hard Glands in his Breast, and the Rudiments of some others in his Kidneys; his Lungs were found sticking to his Sides, all his Blood was congeal'd, and his Stomach so hard, that they cou'd not open it without some difficulty. The Inventory of his Estate amounted to 1700000 Livres, and might have been much greater, if his Expences had been less extravagant. He left five Boys, of whom the eldest, call'd the Marquess de Loure, being then about seven or eight Years old, some time after obtain'd the Reversion of the Office of Master of the Wardrobe, at present in the possession of the Marquess de la Sale.

Lewis Phelippeaux, Count of Pontchartrain, was made Minister and Secretary of State, in room of the Marquess de Seignelay. He had already pass'd thro' the Offices of Counsellor in the Court of Requests in the Parliament of Paris, Master of Requests, First President in the Parliament of Bretaign, and Intendant of the Finances, and was then (as he is still) Comptroller-General of the

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1685.

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*Finances.* The Marquess *de Louvois* had the Titles of Governour of the Fortifications of Maritime places, and of the ancient Fortifications; Great Master of the Races, and Director of the Cloth-Manufactory. And the Office of Commander and Great Treasurer of the King's Orders, formerly in the possession of the Marquess *de Seigdelay*, was given to his Uncle, the Marquess *de Croissy*, Minister and Secretary of State. Of all *Colbert's* Sons, at present there are only two remaining, *James Nicholas*, Archbishop of *Roban*, and *Lewis*, formerly Abbot of *Bonport*, and Prior of *Nogent le Rotru*, who after the Death of his Brother *Charles* Count *de Sceaux*, who was kill'd in *Flanders* at the Head of the Regiment of *Champaign*, left a Religious for a Military Life, and was made Commander of the same Regiment which the Marquess *de Blanville* had commanded before him.

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