

Allied Troops began to assemble about *Venlo* and *Ruremonde*, and a large Body occupied that Neighbourhood, generally esteemed at 40,000 Men, besides Irregulars.—*Ruremonde* is about twenty six *English* Miles from *Maastricht*, and a good Country to march over ; and, when the Stream of the *Maese* is not violent, a convenient Water-Carriage and Communication with *Venlo* on the one Side below, and *Maastricht* on the other above ; and about these the Allied Troops chiefly lay. The Siege of *Maastricht* was formed, and six Bridges of Communication thrown over the *Maese*, when the Rains fell very heavily, and raised the Waters so much, that Marshal *Lowendahl's* Camp on the *Wyck* Side was Knee deep under Water. M. d' *Alva*, the Governor of *Maastricht*, supposing that the Allies would attempt to raise the Siege, if any fair Prospect of Success presented, he sent the nearest commanding Officer Advice of his Intention, and then loading a Number of small Vessels with Stones, which, being turned adrift, carried away all the Enemy's Bridges, and intirely prevented any Communication between the two Armies for seven Days after. If now the Relief of *Maastricht* had been intended, or it had been designed that the cutting and conclusive Stroke should have been given by the Allies, it was probable that *Lowendahl's* Part of the Enemy's Army might have been totally ruined, his Camp being very sickly, and no Possibility of retreating, in case any Light Troops were thrown behind him. But as no Motion was made to this End, though the Advantage very well understood, and at any other