

State Papers Online

The Government of Britain 1509-1714

State Papers Online – Part IV

A Resource for Italy

State Papers Online is an online archive of English/British State documents from the 17th century. There is an enormous range of documents available, providing an insight into the people and politics of an area within the Holy Roman Empire, characterized by foreign domination, where its neighboring countries vied for power through the Thirty Years War, the War of the Grand Alliance and the War of Spanish Succession. Although Italy remained politically fragmented until unification at the beginning of the 18th century, it saw a long period of relative peace, first under Habsburg Spain (1559 to 1713) and then under Habsburg Austria (1713 to 1796). The Black Death repeatedly returned to haunt Italy throughout the 14th to 17th centuries. In the first half of the 17th century a plague claimed some 1,730,000 victims, or about 14% of Italy's population.

Searches performed on the subject of 'Italy'

Search on Full Text: "**Italy**" = hits in 205 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Italian**" = hits in 1414 entries with manuscripts

Protagonists

Search on Full Text: "**Papal**" = hits in 29 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Papacy**" = hits in 7 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Pope**" = hits in 250 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Popes**" = hits in 27 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Urban VIII**" = hits in 22 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Holy Roman Empire**" = hits in 1112 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Holy Roman Emperor**" = hits in 34 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Rudolph II**" = hits in 15 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Matthias**" = hits in 44 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Ferdinand II**" = hits in 142 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Ferdinand III**" = hits in 21 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Leopold I**" = hits in 30 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Joseph I**" = hits in 42 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Charles VI**" = hits in 7 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Tuscany**" = hits in 440 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Grand Duke of Tuscany**" = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Grand Duke**" = hits in 99 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Cosimo III**" = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**King of the Romans**" = hits in 18 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**King of Bohemia**" = hits in 32 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Bohemia**" = hits in 456 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Queen Anne**" = hits in 183 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Doge**" = hits in 97 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Doge of Venice**" = hits in 12 entry with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: "**Marino Grimani**" = hits in 2 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: **“Donato”** = hits in 6 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Priuli”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Morosini”** = hits in 3 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Contarini”** = hits in 35 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Mocenigo”** = hits in 5 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: **“Catholic*”** = hits in 434 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Roman Catholic/s”** = hits in 98 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Jacobite”** = hits in 12 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Protestant*”** = hits in 671 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Heretic*s”** = hits in 24 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“House of Austria”** = hits in 12 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: **“The Old Pretender”** = hits in 2 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Pretender”** = hits in 37 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“James III”** = hits in 5 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“George I”** = hits in 13 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Baron von Stosch”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“John Walton”** = hits in 7 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Consul”** = hits in 450 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Medici”** = hits in 21 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: **“Cardinal”** = hits in 247 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Cardinal Richelieu”** = hits in 40 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Richelieu”** = hits in 66 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Marchese”** = hits in 6 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Collalto”** = hits in 3 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Spinola”** = hits in 57 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Mazarin”** = hits in 12 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Casale”** = hits in 7 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Corsini”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Delfino”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Cardinal Borgia”** = hits in 3 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Barberini”** = hits in 10 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Duke of Savoy”** = hits in 363 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Prince Eugene”** = hits in 132 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Earl of Peterborough”** = hits in 20 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Dauphin”** = hits in 8 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Duchess Dowager of Tuscany”** = hits in 2 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Duchess Dowager”** = hits in 14 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: **“Borromeo”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Calandrini”** = hits in 165 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Burlamacchi”** = hits in 401 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Mansfel?”** = hits in 361 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Sir Dudley Carlton”** = hits in 5 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Countess of Arundel”** = hits in 2 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Foscarini”** = hits in 6 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Duke of Mantua”** = hits in 30 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Daniel Nys”** = hits in 45 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Mantegna”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts

Events

Search on Full Text: **“Plague”** = hits in 99 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Earthquake”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: **“Spanish Succession”** = hits in 4 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Thirty Years War”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Battle of the White Mountain”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Treaty of Utrecht”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Siege of Turin”** = hits in 3 entries with manuscripts

Locations

Search on Full Text: **“Zante”** = hits in 33 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Constantinople”** = hits in 166 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Bohemia”** = hits in 456 entries with manuscripts

Search on Full Text: **“Rome”** = hits in 1378 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Roma”** = hits in 22 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Vatican”** = hits in 1 entry with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Duchy”** = hits in 648 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Kingdom”** = hits in 1826 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Republic”** = hits in 42 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Pisa”** = hits in 5 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Livorno”** = hits in 3 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Leghorn”** = hits in 91 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Florence”** = hits in 145 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Milan”** = hits in 48 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Turin”** = hits in 62 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Venice”** = hits in 5970 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Savoy”** = hits in 2523 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Gonzaga”** = hits in 2 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Lombardy”** = hits in 4 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Genoa”** = hits in 295 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Naples”** = hits in 161 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Bologna”** = hits in 5 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Modena”** = hits in 24 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Mantua”** = hits in 70 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Corsica”** = hits in 12 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Sardinia”** = hits in 2284 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Tuscany”** = hits in 440 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Urbino”** = hits in 4 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Parma”** = hits in 31 entries with manuscripts
Search on Full Text: **“Lucca”** = hits in 3 entries with manuscripts

Other

Search on Full Text: **“Art”** = hits in 196 entries with manuscripts

Search on Language: **“Italian”** = hits in 1008 entries with manuscripts

The following letters linking to the different historic events of the 17th century are a few of the many letters that can be found within the State Papers Online IV. They are subdivided into the main collections of letters linking to Italy: SP085, SP098 and SP099.

Where there is background history (in italics) this mainly comes from Wikipedia, www.arcaini.com and other online sources of historical information.

SPO85 – 1613-1773

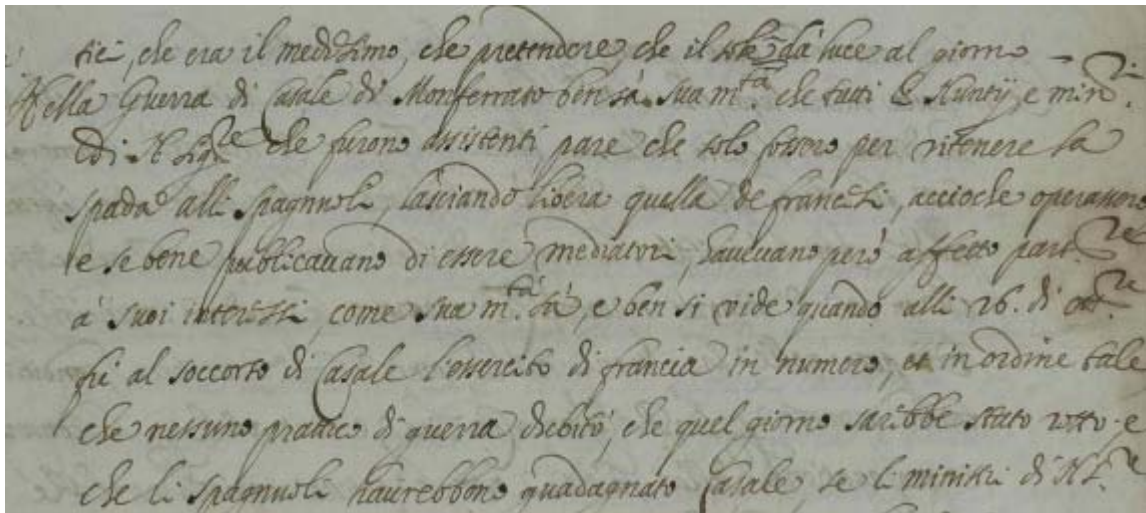
The Thirty Years' War – 1618-1648 / The Church in Disarray

'The **Thirty Years' War** was one of the most destructive conflicts in European history. The war was fought primarily in what is now Germany, and at various points involved most of the countries of Europe. The **War of Succession of Mantua and Monferrato**, also called **the War of Monferrato** (1628 - 6 April 1631) was one of the conflicts within this war.'

'Cardinal Richelieu was considered to be the world's first Prime Minister. His chief foreign policy objective was to check the power of the Austro-Spanish Habsburg dynasty, and to ensure French dominance in the Thirty Years' War. Although he was a cardinal, he did not hesitate to make alliances with Protestant rulers in attempting to achieve this goal. His tenure was marked by the Thirty Years' War.'

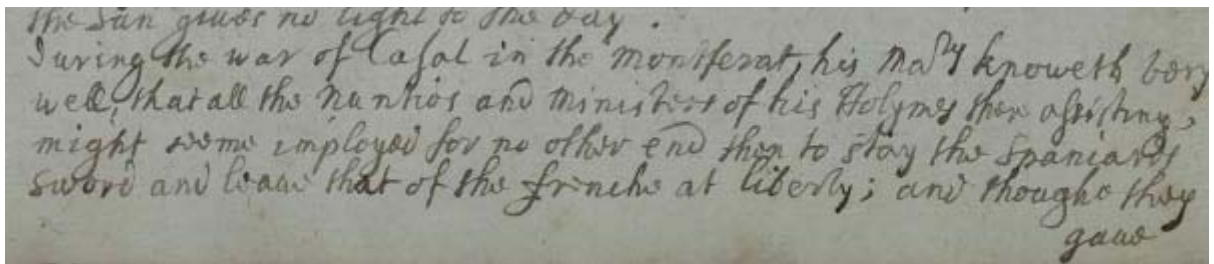
Letter of pope's secretary to Cardinal Bichi talks of the 'Guerra di Casale' which came at the end of the War of Monferrato (1631)

SP085 – 001 – 001 – 0045 – 38

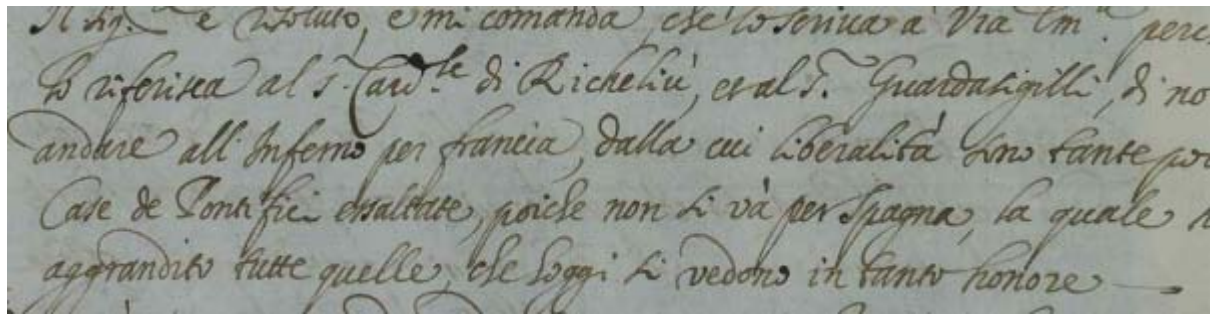


...che era il medesimo, che pretendere che il sole sia luce al giorno -
Nella guerra di Casale di Monferrato ben si veda che tutti i Ministri e ministri
di Casale che furono divisi pare che solo fecero per ritenere la
spada all' spagnuolo, lasciando libera quella de' francesi, accioche operassero
e se bene pubblicavano di essere mediatori, salvavano però affetto part
a' suoi interessi come sua m. e ben si vede quando alle 16. d' oct.
fu al soccorso di Casale l' esercito di francia in numero, et in ordine tale
che nessuno pratico di guerra dubita, che quel giorno sarebbe stato vinto e
che li spagnuoli habrebbono guadagnato Casale, se li ministri di N. S.

Translated in a further letter SP085 – 001 – 001 – 0051 – 44 as

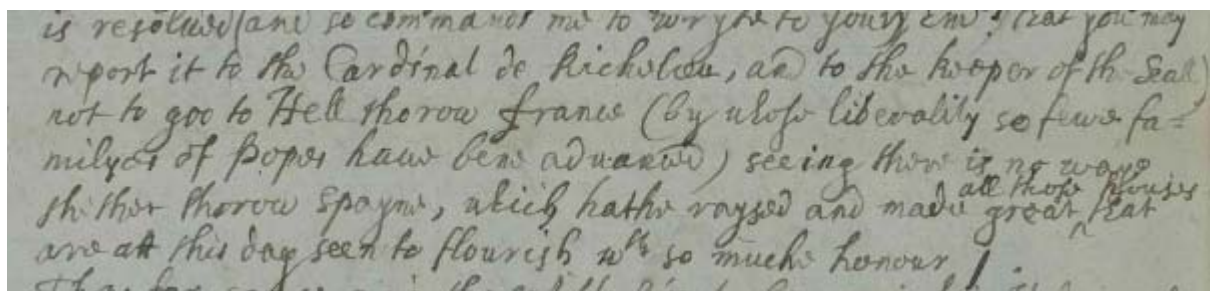


The sun gives no light to the day.
During the war of Casale in the Monferrat, his Majesty knoweth very
well, that all the nations and ministers of his Holiness then assisting,
might seem employed for no other end than to stay the Spaniards
sword and leave that of the French at liberty; and though they
gave



Il sig. e subito, e mi comanda, che lo scriua a Via tm. per
la riferita al s. card. di Richelieu, et al. Guadagnigilli, di no
andare all' Inferno per francia, dalla cui liberalità uno tante per
Case de Pontifici emalitate, poiche non si va per Spagna, la quale
aggrandito tutte quelle, che oggi si vedono in tanto honore

Throughout this same letter the Pope talks of the issues between Spain and France, mentioning the necessity of informing Cardinal Richelieu of the events and stressing the importance of not ‘andare all’Inferno per Francia’ – or, not ‘to go to hell throrow France’ who, incidentally have had few Papal families, due to their liberality!
SP085 – 001 – 001 – 0046 – 39/SP085 – 001 – 001 – 0052 – 45



is resolutiōne se comanda me to write to you, that you may
report it to the Cardinal de Richelieu, and to the keeper of the Seal
not to goe to Hell throrow France (by whose liberality so few fa-
milies of popes have bene advancd) seeing there is no way
thither throrow Spain, which hath rayzed and made ^{all those prynces} great
are at this day seen to flourish wth so much honore

This long letter continues to discuss the situation of the Catholics and the Church, with obvious concern about the state of the church at this time affected by the influence of the Protestants from Germany.

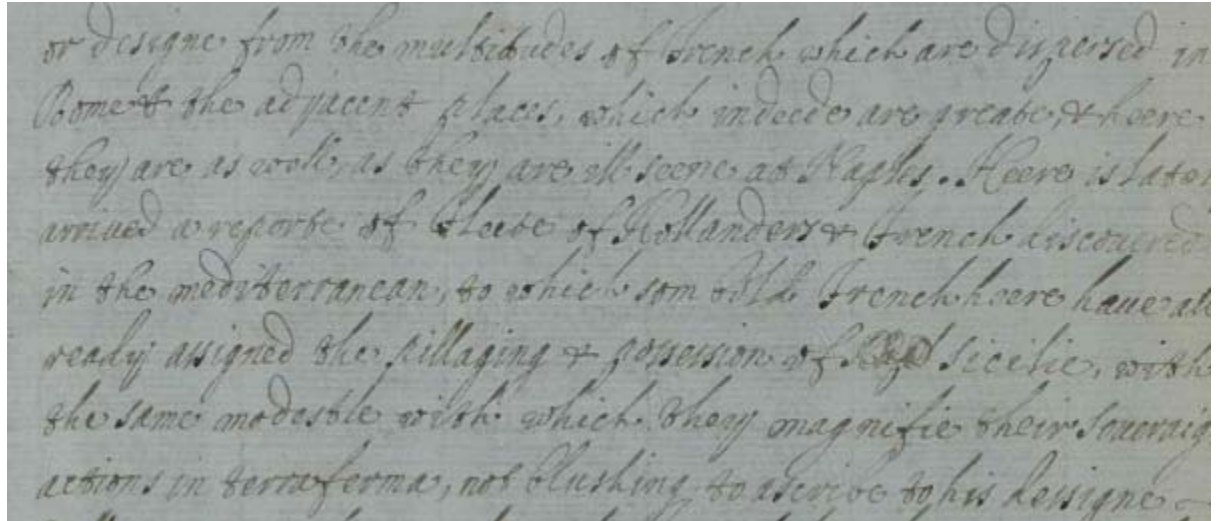
In this letter (unknown author) there is more concern about the defence of the Catholic religion; it talks about the imminent danger to Germany and Italy and also of recommending that the Pope should excommunicate the Kings of France and Sweden for their actions ‘against the Catholic Religion???’ Later it talks about the ‘irreparable wrongs...brought upon all Christiandom, and particularly upon Italy.’ Cardinal Richelieu had by this time turned against the Swedish King, despite previously financing him. (1632 Jan 28/Feb 7)
SP085 – 001 – 001 – 0054 – 47

The Pope – Urban VIII/Cardinal Borgia – Unsettled Times – 1632-35

'In March of 1632 Borgia, backed by another seven Cardinals, publicly criticised the Pope at a consistory, accusing him of favouring heretics and lacking apostolic zeal, leading almost to a brawl when the Pontiff's brother, Cardinal Antonio Barberini, took exception.'

In this letter, Cardinal Borgia writes (in Latin) his attestation against the Pope, accusing him of conspiracy with the heretics (1632 Feb 25/March 6)

SPO85 – 007 – 001 – 0060 – 53



Morton writes to the secretary of State about the Dutch and French fleets arriving at the mediteranean near Rome and attempting through pillaging to take posession of the Kingdom of Sicily. (1634 Feb 27/Mar 9)

SP085 – 007 – 001 – 0079 – 73

He talks about Vallestein's revolt, how the Pope was warned of this and pressured by Borgia to treat this event of great consequence seriously, but the Pope had already been pressed by a Spanish Ambassador to look into what the French were doing in Germany. A time of indecision for the Pope.

'A voice in the towne' stated that the Pope was going to provide 10,000 men to go to Germany.

A letter from Rome warning the Duke of Savoy to stop going beyond the limits of his boundary, otherwise the Pope would start favouring the Florentine Ambassador instead. (1635 Feb 20/Mar 2)

SP085 – 007 – 001 – 0091 – 85

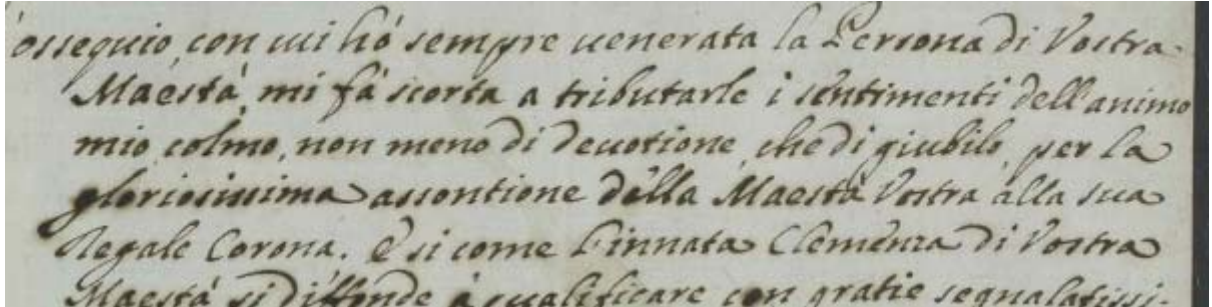
Manifesto of Baron Vandenberg against Count Serbelloni providing more details of fighting in the Valtellina, Lombardy, as do the letters which follow. (1635 June 24/July 4)

SP085 – 007 – 001 – 0092 – 86

Some Events During the War of Spanish Succession – 1701 – 1714

Coronation of Queen Anne, April 1702

'William's death on 8 March, 1702 led to Anne becoming the fourth Queen of England. And her coronation was held on St George's Day, 1702.'



Letter from Cardinal Livio Odescalco in Rome to Queen Anne expressing sentiments of loyalty on her accession (April 29, 1702)

SP085 – 013 – 000 – 0043 – 40 or SP 85 / 13 / 18

Letter from the Duke of Florence in Florence to Queen Anne expressing condolences on the death of King William III (May 12, 1702)

SP085 – 013 – 000 – 0046 – 43 or SP 85 / 13 / 20

Letter from the Duke of Florence to Queen Anne accrediting Marquis Carlo Rinuccini as Envoy / also congratulations on Coronation (Nov 3, 1702)

SP085 – 013 – 000 – 0048 – 45 or SP 85 / 13 / 21

The Hostilities of the Spanish Succession

Newsletter from Milan – mentions the ‘hostilities against his Royall Highness’, detailing events in Piedmont (Turin) (Nov 10, 1702?)

SP085 – 013 – 000 – 0050 – 47 or SP 85 / 13 / 22

The next letters to 1706 refer at times to the restless situation in France / Italy.

1706 – Battle of Turin – Prince Eugene gained success as Imperial Commander of Northern Italy

Letters to Queen Anne from Don Mario, Marchese della Corgnia, in Verona referring to progress in Italy of Prince Eugene, etc (1706 July 9 and 1706 July 24)

SP 85 / 13 / 30 and SP 85 / 13 / 31

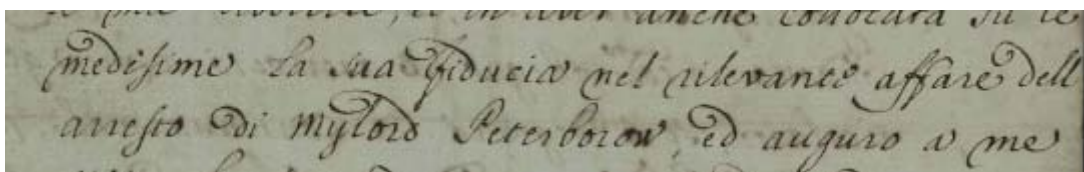
SP 85 / 13 / 32 English translation of SP 85/13, no 31 (Mentioning reaching the rivers of the Po, Adige, Mincio)

The Old Pretender and plot against George I

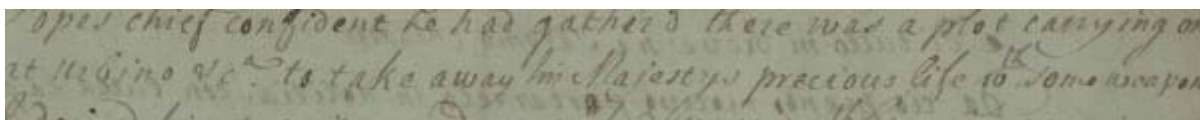


James Francis Edward Stuart, the 'Old Pretender'

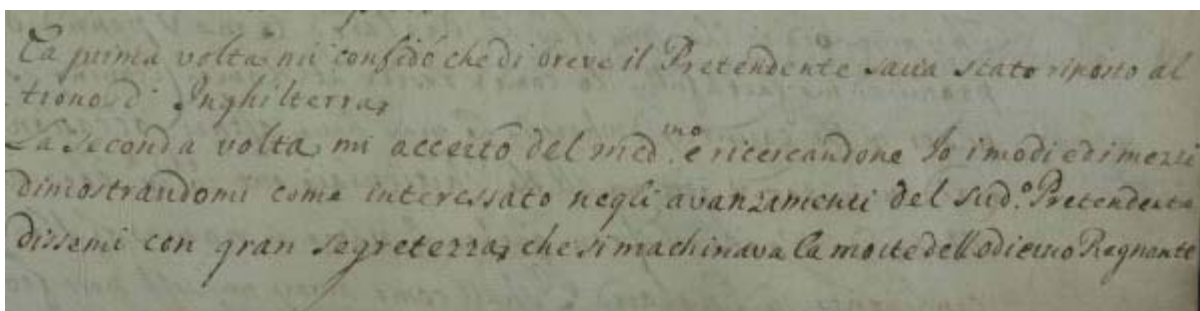
Letter from the Count di Gallasso in Rome to Joseph Addison, Secretary of State, thanking him for King George I approval of his conduct in the arrest of the Earl of Peterborough. This Earl, Charles Moruant was arrested on suspicion of his being concerned in a conspiracy against the Pretender, James Francis Edward Stuart (or James III as he claimed) (1717 December 8)
SP085 – 013 - 000 - 0100 – 97



John Fleetwood, Consul of Rome, writes to Earl Stanhope, Principal Secretary of State, warning of a plot organised in Urbino against the life of George I, and thus make room for the Pretender. (1718 June 6)
SP085 – 013 - 000 - 0102 – 99



He includes, in Italian, the details written by his informant (who wished his name to remain a secret).



Expressing that the Pretender would soon be on the throne of England and that the death of the present Monarch was being organised in great secrecy, involving the Kings of Sweden and Spain among others.

Baron Philippe von Stosch alias John Walton – ‘the spy’ – Rome and the Old Pretender

“Baron Philip von Stosch was born in 1691 and was a trusted agent of King George II. He had already worked as a spy in the pay of the Dutch when, in the early 1720s, he was sent by his new British handlers to spy in Rome, where he was to watch the exiled court of the Old Pretender and claimant to the British throne, James Stuart. Acting under the alias John Walton he quickly found himself on good terms with the Pope, and struck up a friendship with the Pope’s nephew. “

John Walton writes of the illness of Pope Benedict XIII, the Cardinals are expecting a Conclave at any time, the Pope in fact didn’t die until the next year.

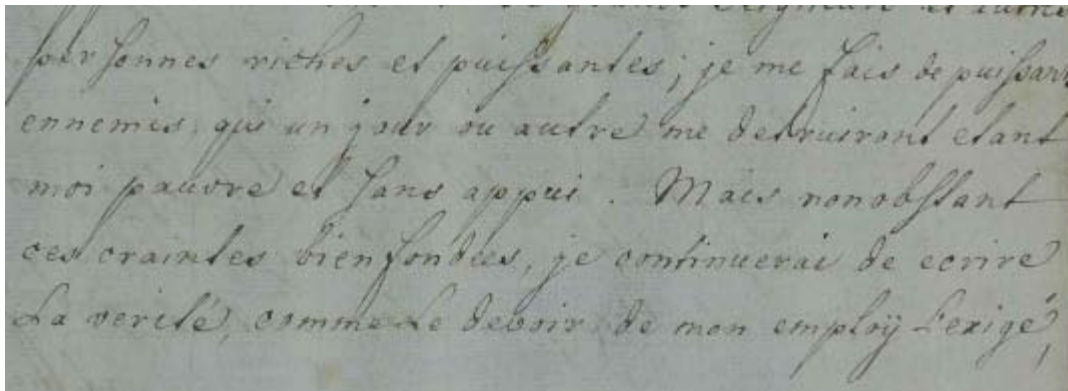
In this letter John Walton talks of the money spent on military and the soldiers getting prepared on the coast of Tuscany, to prevent anyone trying to embark their troupes on the coast of Italy, emphasizing the fact that the Court of Vienna will not allow any Bourbon Princes to set foot in Italy. (1729 July 2)

SP085 – 013 - 000 - 0133 – 127

Rome and the Old Pretender

John Walton writes of the Government of Rome’s unquestioning support of the Pretender, even to the extent of turning a blind eye to ‘crimes’ in his support or against his (non supporters).

He also writes about the celebrations for the birth of the Dauphin.

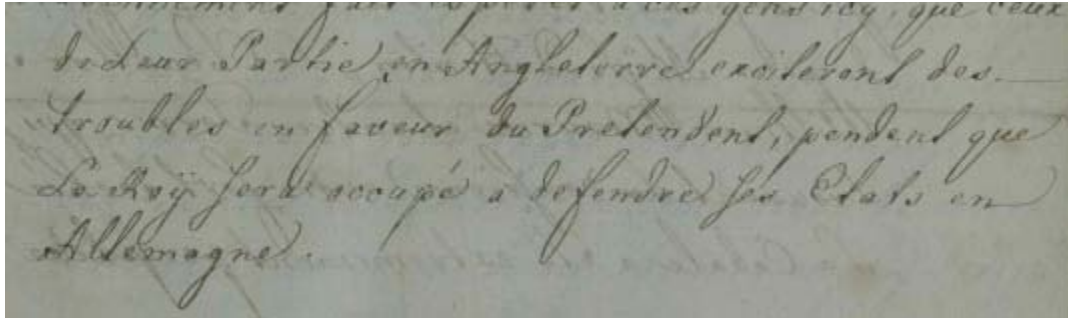


In this letter, Walton also writes that he will continue to pass on the truth about the events in Rome even if he is making powerful enemies who eventually will destroy him as he is ‘poor and without support.’ (Sept 15 1729)

SP085 – 013 - 000 - 0148 – 142

John Walton writes of the Pretender's audience with the Pope, efforts of Sir Toby Birk to settle an agreement between the Pope and the Duke of Parma, offer of the King of Sardinia to loan troops to the Pope.

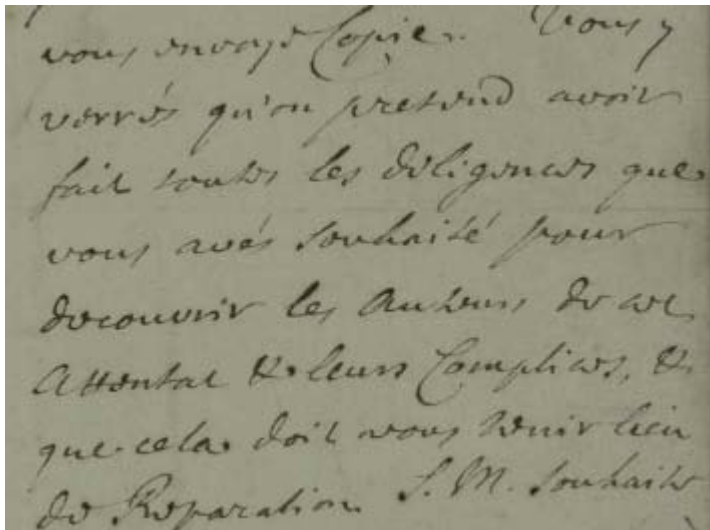
He also writes of plans in favour of the Pretender while the King is away defending his estates in Germany. (1729 Sept 21)



SP085 – 013 - 000 - 0149 – 143

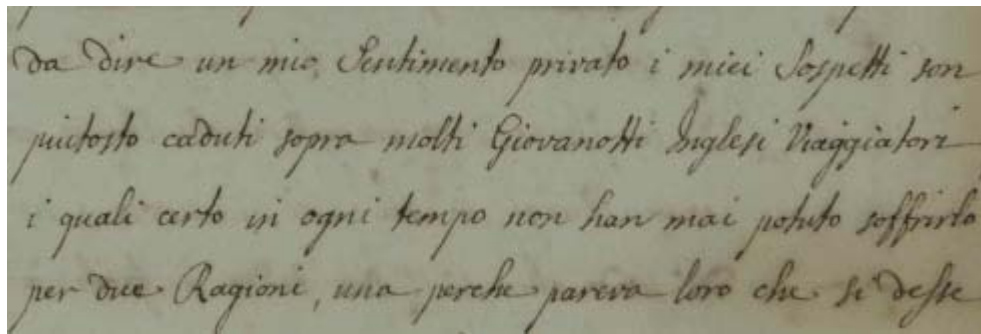
The Attack on Baron von Stosch

'Towards the end of January 1731 the London government received a frenzied report from Rome. Its author was a certain Baron von Stosch, a resident in the Holy city, and a personal favourite of King George II. Stosch reported that about 10 o'clock the previous Sunday he had been returning home, when suddenly his carriage had been surrounded near Prince Ruspoli's palace by three masked assailants brandishing muskets..... Within days the terrified Baron had fled the holy city and was on the road north,Stosch arrived in Florence where he immediately set about contacting London. Upon receipt of the communiqué the British Secretary of State, the Duke of Newcastle, was infuriated and responded by lodging a protest with the Holy See. However in 1730 the Papal throne fell vacant and came to be occupied by Pope Clement XII, who was sympathetic to the Stuart cause, and soon afterwards Stosch was attacked. His immediate protests to the Pope's brother and Governor of Rome, Cardinal Corsini, elicited little response.'



Draft letter to John Walton writing of actions taken following his attack in January of the same year.
(June 3 1731)

SP085 – 013 – 000 – 155 – 149



Da dire un mio Sentimento privato i miei sospetti son
piuttosto caduti sopra molti Giovanotti Inglesi Viaggiatori
i quali certo in ogni tempo non han mai potuto soffrirlo
per due Ragioni, una perche pareva loro che si desse

A letter from Cardinal Corsini, the Pope's brother and Governor of Rome, giving his description and opinions of the attack on Baron Stosch – adding his personal opinion that it was probably carried out by young English travellers “molti Giovanotti Inglesi Viaggiatori” who didn't like him for two reasons – his superior air and the fact that he was a spy. (May 9 1731)

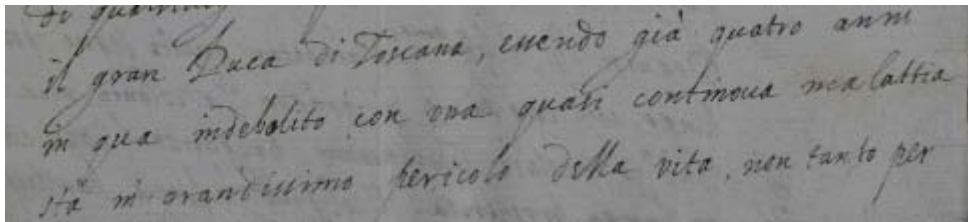
SP085 – 013 – 000 – 157 – 151/SP085 – 013 – 000 – 158 – 152

SPO98 – 1612-1718

Grand Duke of Tuscany

Duchess of Florence writing to King James I about fleeing Rome to the security of Florence and Pisa. Everyone is talking about the war with Germany; the Duchess mentions the Pope's financial involvement – paying off the Heretics.

She mentions the illness which the Grand Duke of Tuscany (Cosimo II) has been suffering from, and how his life is at risk. She talks about the worries of who will succeed to the title, about the people not wanting to be ruled by a woman etc. (Nov. 2, 1619)



SPO98 – 003 – 001 – 0040 – 32

Goodwin writes about the concerns about who will become Grand Duke of Tuscany after the death of Cosimo II, as he is by now very weak. One of the concerns being that the people will not like being ruled by a woman! (Feb 21, 1620)

SPO98 – 003 – 001 – 0041 – 33

Duchess dowager of Tuscany to James I – talks about death of husband Cosimo II (which was in February of that year) and succession of son Ferdinand (eldest son of Cosimo II de' Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany.) (1621 May 3)

SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0042 - 34

Grand Duke of Tuscany informing James I of his marriage to the only daughter of the Principe d'Urbino (1623 May 11)

SP 98 / 3 - SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0070 – 61

Livorno / Leghorn as important Merchant Port – various events

From this letter from the Grand Duchess of Tuscany to James I, dated 1621, Sept 11, where ships are mentioned with trips to Algeria and merchandise brought to Leghorn etc. this starts a series of letters about Livorno as a merchant Port.

SP 98 / 3 - SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0044 – 36

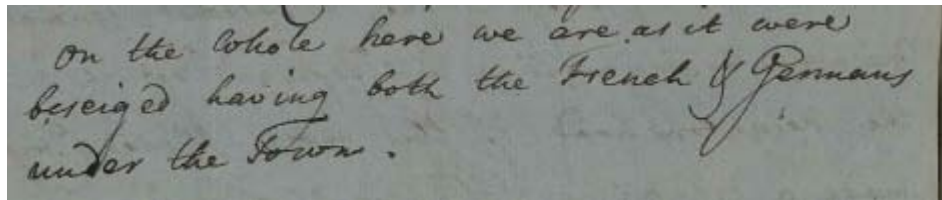
Some of the documents are :

- **Contracts to transport goods** 1622 Jan 9/19 - SP 98 / 3 - SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0048 – 40
- **Contracts for hire of ships** 1622 – Dec 4 - SP 98 / 3 - SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0053 – 44
- **Notes of lading of goods** 1623 Jan 10 - SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0054 – 45
- **Duchess and grand Duchess naming Richard Allen as consul of Livorno City and Port** 1623 Jan 14 SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0060 – 51
- **Grand Duke writing to Charles I requesting that boats and wares (linen and cotton) captured by the English are freed and sent back** 1626 Nov 9 - SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0075 – 66 A number of letters referring to this incident
- **Details of attack by Bonduck and his brother on Cosimo Orlandi's (subject of Grand Duke of Tuscany) ship.** 1628 - SP098 – 003 – 001 – 0099 – 90 / 100 - 91

General Military Unrest / Spanish Succession

Talking about general unrest – soldiers under General Medavi / General Delfino – ‘most afflicted City’ (Brescia, December 17th, 1705)

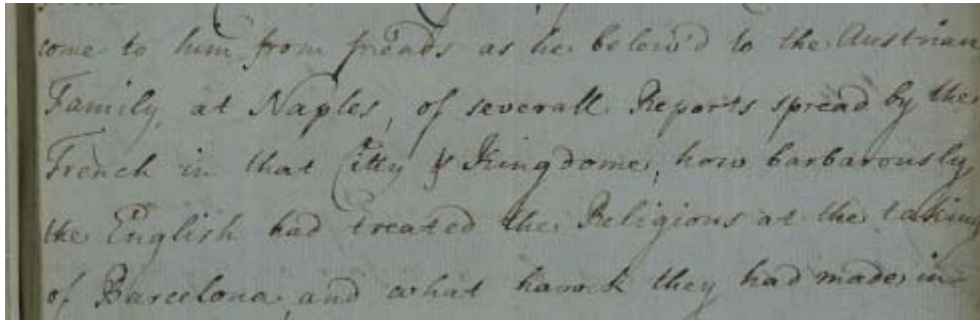
SP098 – 022 – 000 – 0217 – 191/192



About Prince Eugene ensuring the English are treated well by Italian Missionaries. (January 1706, Florence)

SP098 – 022 – 000 – 0219-193

Letter about the barbarous treatment of the Religious people in Barcelona by the English. (January 16 1706)
SP098-022-000-0221-195

A snippet of a handwritten manuscript in cursive script. The text is written on aged, slightly yellowed paper. The visible portion of the text reads: "come to him from friends as he belong'd to the Austrian Family, at Naples, of severall Reports spread by the French in that City & Kingdome, how barbarously the English had treated the Religious at the taking of Barcelona, and what havoc they had made in".

Secretary Hedges translates Monsignor Kannitz letter explaining how the French made up rumours which they spread about the English barbarity in Barcelona, which in fact was not true. (January 23, 1706)
SP098 – 022 – 000 – 0225 – 199

Rest of letters within SP 98 / 22 – many mention aspects of the revolution, battles etc. leading to the Spanish Succession.

SP099 – 1606-1714

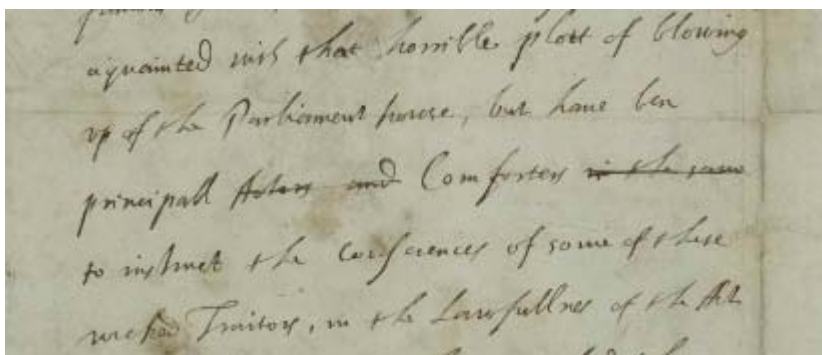
Venice

Many of the letters in Italian contain a code when certain names and events are mentioned, which is made up of a series of numbers. In some cases the name has been deciphered and written above.



Henry Wotton (1568 – 1639) was the British Ambassador to Venice.

'The Gunpowder Plot of 1605, in earlier centuries often called the Gunpowder Treason Plot, was a failed assassination attempt against King James I of England and VI of Scotland by a group of provincial English Catholics led by Robert Catesby.'



Salisbury writes to Wotton about the Gunpowder plot

(1606 Jan.23)

SP099 – 003 – 001 – 0008 - 2

Doge of Venice

Wotton writes of death of Marino Grimani (89th Doge of Venice) in December of previous year and of succession of Leonardo Donato (1606 – 1612) in his place in an election on January 10, 1706. (1606 Feb 8)

SP099 – 003 – 001- 0011- 5

1621–22 Bohemia

London by his father Giovanni and another brother-in-law, the famous London banker of the Stuart period, Philip Burlamachi. His financial contacts were extensive and he became the Genevan Republic's leading banker until he was ruined by Philip Burlamachi's spectacular bankruptcy in England in 1634.¹³ His brother Philip, born two years later, looked after the interests of the Calandrini/Burlamachi firm in Amsterdam after his father and brother-in-law had moved to London at the start of James I's reign. In 1622 Philip collaborated with Sir Henry Wotton in Venice in a Calvinist attempt to raise funds for the recapture of Bohemia.¹⁴

Shortly after Philip's birth Giovanni Calandrini moved to Stade near Hamburg. In 1589 he became an elder to the Reformed church in Stade and

Here there are two letters between Venice and Bohemia and in following letters there are many places where Bohemia and the King of Bohemia are talked about. Bohemia was affected, as was Italy, by the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648) (February 6 1621)
099 - 023 - 002 - 0292 - 278 / 099 - 023 - 002 - 0294 - 280

"On 17 August 1619, Ferdinand was officially deposed as King of Bohemia and was replaced by the Palatine Elector Frederick V. In Hungary, even though the Bohemians had reneged on their offer of their crown, the Transylvanians continued to make surprising progress. They succeeded in driving the Emperor's armies from that country by 1620. Some historians regard the period from 1621–1625 as a distinct portion of the Thirty Years' War, calling it the "Palatinate phase". With the catastrophic defeat of the Protestant army at White Mountain and the departure of the Prince of Transylvania, greater Bohemia was pacified."

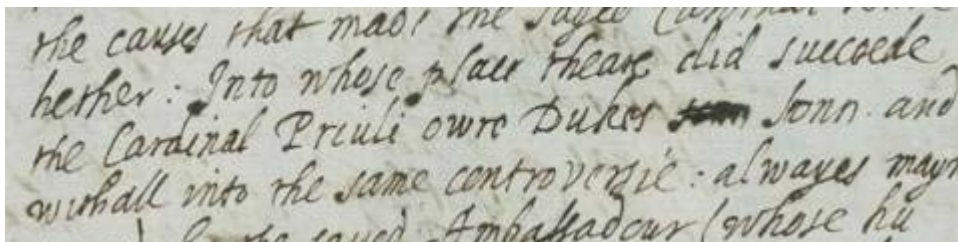
The New Pope – Gregorius XV – General Unrest

Letter referring to the New Pope (Gregorius XV 1621-1623) helping out against the Spanish – allowing the Neapolitan Cavalry through Ecclesiastic States. Here it is also mentioned about the 'admonishe' of the King of Spain, endeavouring to find out what his clear plans are 'in this countrie'. Followed by much discussion about the relationship between the Pope and France and Spain including the situation in Austria and Constantinople. (Nov 1621)

099 - 023 - 002 - 0296 - 281a

Henry Wotton updates the situation of the animosity between an Ambassador and Cardinal Delfino which may have led to his retirement, to be replaced by Cardinal Priuli's son (Jan 2 1622 and 4/14-5/15 Jan 1622)

099 - 024 - 001 - 0009 and 099 - 024 - 001 - 0010

A snippet of handwritten text in cursive script, likely from a letter. The text is partially obscured but clearly legible. It discusses a dispute involving the Duke of Ferrara and Cardinal Priuli, mentioning a controversy and an ambassador. The text reads: "the cause that made the Duke... better: Into whose place they did succede the Cardinal Priuli owre Duke ~~from~~ John. and we shall into the same controversy: alwayes mayn... Ambassador (whose hū

He also writes to Calvert about the events in the Rhetian Alps, mentioning complaints about Sir Dudley Carleton in the Hague (in whose house in the Hague Frederick V, Elector Palatine and Elizabeth of Bohemia had taken refuge). Later in this letter he praises the achievements of the Duke of Feria, having achieved more than Charles the Fifth or any former King. (Jan 21 1622)

099 - 024 - 001 - 0015 - 8

disarming of them...
 cutt the last knot of libertie And so
 hath this half English man done more
 in a little tyme by practise then Charles the
 fifth or any of his former Kinges (though it
 hath been a long designe) could doe with
 the sword

Wotton writes to Calvert about changes with regards to women amongst the Jesuits

Al corpo del mondo guerra e galante. staueremo
un nuovo ordine di Giesuitesse. For that seemeth
 a braunche of their proposition that they will ca-
 thechize girles in the Roman faythe as fast as the
 masculin Jesuites doe boyes. Their particular
 names I yet knowe not but I should imagine my
 Ladie Lovel to be the leader who hath been hat-
 ching some such thing a long while in her elevated
 thoughtes. Of this, and diuerse other thinges
 I write at large by

He also continues to update the situation of Mansfeld's activities. (May 13) – this letter talks about Mansfeld's recent victory.
 SP099 – 024 – 001 – 0076 – 69



'The Countess of Arundel and the arrest of Foscarini 1622

Alatheia Talbot was the granddaughter of the infamous Bess of Hardwick (goddaughter of Queen Elizabeth I of England) and the wife of Thomas Howard, 2nd Earl of Arundel, and a leading figure at the court of King James I of England. Both Alatheia and Thomas were passionate art lovers, and used their boundless wealth to amass the first great private art collection in England. And this was the reason for Alatheia's journey to Venice in 1621. Alatheia left her children at the villa in Dolo whilst she continued onto Venice and settled in Palazzo Mocegnigo on Grand Canal.

The Senator & the Countess

It was whilst situated in the Palazzo Mocegnigo, that the Senator possibly renewed his acquaintance with the Countess. In his position as Ambassador to England, Foscarini would have come into contact with both the Countess and her husband, who was a prominent official of the royal Court. As to the true nature of this acquaintance, it has been suggested that the two were not particularly close.

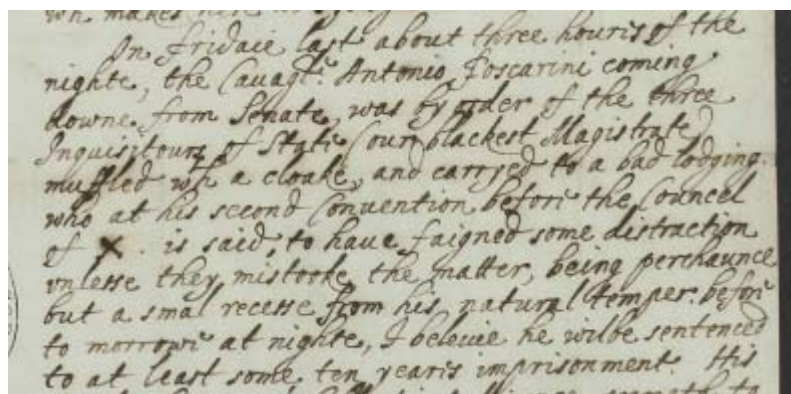
Whatever the suggestion, on the evening of 8th April 1622 as Foscarini was departing the Senate, he was arrested on the orders of the Consiglio dei Dieci and charged with:

... having secretly and frequently been in the company of ministers of foreign powers, by day and by night, in their houses and elsewhere, in this city and outside it, in disguise and in normal dress, and having divulged to them, both orally and in writing, the most intimate secrets of the Republic, and having received money from them in return ...

Less than a fortnight later, Foscarini was strangled in prison and the following morning found hung between the two columns in Piazzetta San Marco.'

In Calandrini's letter, he talks about the Countess of Arundel. (April 8th, 1622)

SP099 – 024 – 001 – 0052 – 45



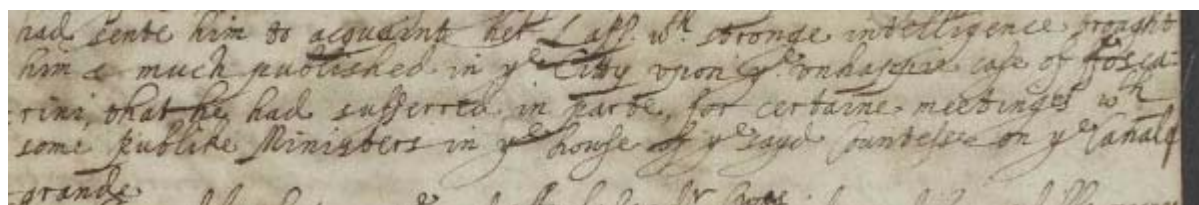
Henry Wotton in his letter dated 5/15 April 1622 writes of the arrest of Foscarini
SP099 – 024 – 001 – 0060 - 53

On 19 April 1622 Henry Wotton writes of the earthquake that affected Venice and resulted in one of his own Gondoliers falling into the water.

In this letter Wotton talks about Pope Gregorius XV passing some of his responsibility over to his nephew, maybe due to fears of reoccurrence of ill health, and the increasing of the Cardinals from 70 to 80.

SP099 – 024 – 001 – 0068 – 61

A letter attempting to disassociate Countess of Arundel from the 'sad case of Foscarini'



Explaining in detail the falsehoods about her association with Foscarini and describing the true facts. (April 1622)

SP099 – 024 – 001 – 0074 – 67

1629–30 – Venice - Unsettled period in part due to the Mantua War 1629-1630

Mantua I 1629–1630 I Thirty Years War (Mantuan War)

In a disputed succession in Mantua and Montferrat, Imperial Commander Rambaldo Collalto besieged Mantua, held for the French-born heir Charles di Gonzaga Duke of Nevers. Cardinal Richelieu himself crossed the Alps, though could not prevent Mantua falling to Collalto. However, Casale held out and the ensuing peace secured Nevers his inheritance (13 October 1629–18 July 1630).

Siege of Mantua during the War of Mantuan Succession (1629-1631) is mentioned in this letter from Rowlandson to Dorchester. Rowlandson also writes about Casale and Cardinal Richelieu. (Jan 1/11, 1629 (1630?))

SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0007

Rowlandson writes of the taking of Mantova; mentioning also that the ‘sickness’ weakened the soldiers. (July 19, 1629/30 and July 28, 1629/30)

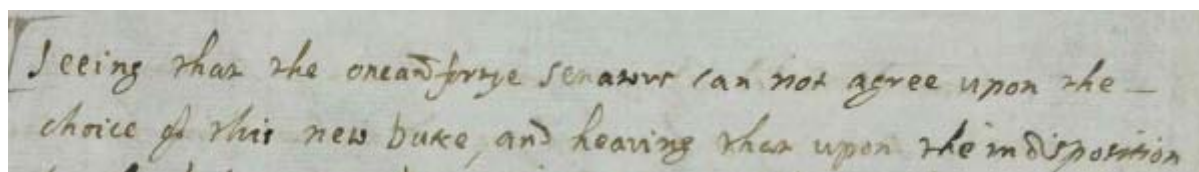
SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0150 – 144/ SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0166 – 160

Duke of Mantua (the dates seem to be uncertain in this collection of letters)

The death in 1627 of Duke Vincenzo II without immediate heirs plunged the Gonzaga Duchies of Mantua and Monferrato into crisis.

Letters from Rowlandson mentioning the uncertainty of the choice of the new Duke (Jan. 15/25 and Jan.18. 1630)

SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0009 – 3 and SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0011 – 5



Continued unrest linked to Mantova and talks of not being certain when Richelieu would be arriving. (January 1630)

SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0010 – 4 (and following letters)

Letter with news of the arrival of Richelieu SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0017 – 11 and then claims this news was false. SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0023 – 17

Rowlandson writes further of Richelieu's arrival, mentioning also Montferrat and Casale (January 25, 1630)

SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0027 – 21

The next letters from Rowlandson provide a roughly week-by-week account with more details of the battles, disputes etc. (from March, the letters do seem to be accurately dated 1630).

The Plague

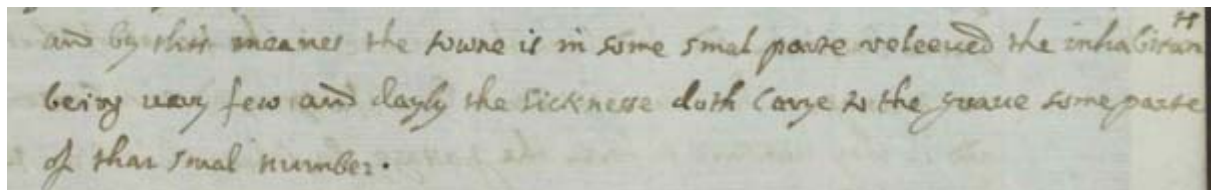
'After the Mantuan War, between France and the Habsburgs in Italy, the northern half of the Italian peninsula was in the throes of a bubonic plague epidemic. In July 1630 the plague had reached Venice from Mantua in the southwest. It claimed 700,000 victims in the entire Republic, and 46,500 alone in Venice, who died before the next summer.'

The plague was mentioned by Rowlandson. (April 1630)

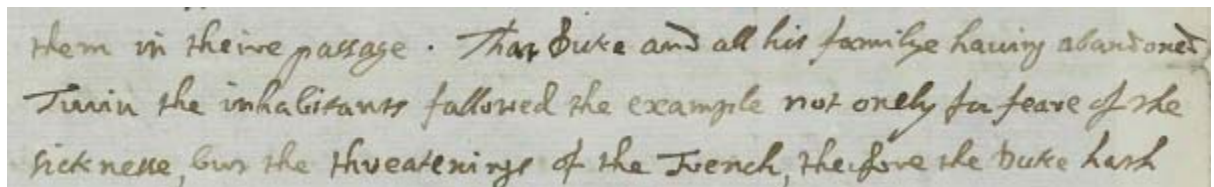
SP099 - 032 - 000 - 0068 - 62

There are more references to the 'sickness' or plague (June 28 1630)

SP099 - 032 - 000 - 0122 - 116 also in SP099 - 032 - 000 - 0123 - 117



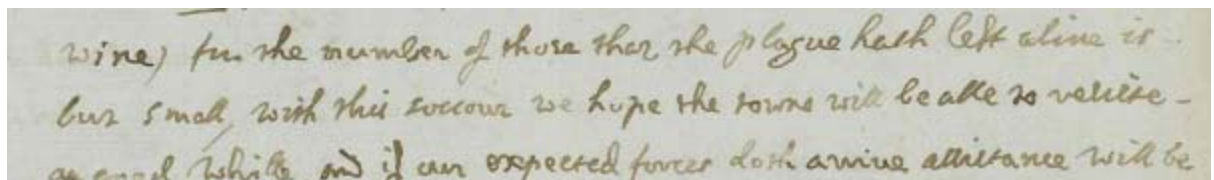
and by this means the town is in some small parte recovered the inhabitants being very few and daily the sickness doth come to the grave some parte of that small number.



them in their passage. That Duke and all his familie having abandoned Turin the inhabitants followed the example not only for feare of the sickness, but the threatening of the French, therefore the duke hath

Not just Mantova, but most of Italy lost a lot of people, including soldiers, due to the plague. (July 12 1630)

SP099 - 032 - 000 - 0135 - 129

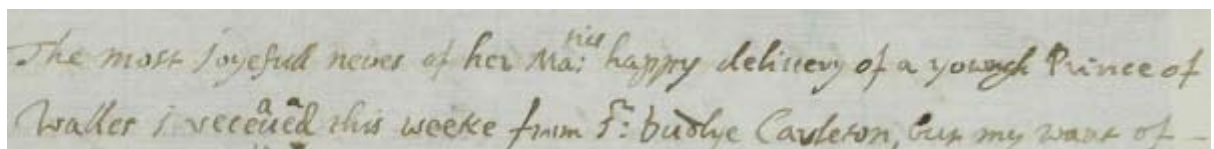


wine) for the number of those that the plague hath left alive is but small, with this succour we hope the towns will be able to revive - an good while, and if an expected force doth arrive assistance will be

Future King - Charles II - 1630

Rowlandson writes of the birth of a new Prince of Wales (June 28, 1630)

SP099 - 032 - 000 - 0122 - 116



The most joyefull news of her Ma:^{ties} happy delivery of a young Prince of Wales I received this weeke from Sr: budye Carleton, but my want of -

The Senate replies to the above news with congratulations (July 5, 1630)

SP099 - 032 - 000 - 0126 - 120

As does Daniel Nys (July 19, 1630)

SP099 - 032 - 000 - 0142 - 136

Important works of Art purchased by King Charles I from the deceased Duke of Mantova by Daniel Nys - 1629

“Considered to be some of the most important Italian Renaissance paintings in the world, The Triumphs of Caesar were described as ‘the best thing Mantegna ever painted’ by Giorgio Vasari in the 16th century, and their status as masterpieces has remained unchallenged ever since.....The canvases were acquired by Charles I in 1629 when his agent Daniel Nys travelled to Italy and purchased works of art, including paintings by Titian, Raphael and Caravaggio as well as The Triumphs of Caesar. Soon after their addition to the Royal Collection they were brought to Hampton Court Palace, which has remained their permanent home ever since.”

Letter from Nys about the purchase of the Mantegna works. (April 13, 1629)

SP099 – 031 – 001 – 0125 – 15

This letter talks about the payment for the statues and paintings mentioned above, as purchased by Daniel Nys. (July 8, 1630)

SP099 – 032 – 000 – 0130 – 124

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