

of Lieutenant-General Bellegarde, by Silva, Plana, Malagio, and Caffatsch. Demonstrations were made for the purpose of alarming the enemy on the hills of Julie and Albula, in order to facilitate the operations of General-Lieutenant Hotze, whom General Bellegarde was prepared to support on the side of Javos and the hill of Albula. Col. de Marseille of the regiment of Clairfayt had brought from Albula two pieces of cannon belonging to the enemy. At Malagio, and at several other places on the road to Chiavenna, were found a great quantity of ammunition, muskets, and waggons. The enemy had destroyed a part of them in retreating. The first intention of the enemy was to proceed to Chiavenna by the mountain of Septime, in order to join General Lacourbe near Lenz; but the detachment of the van guard of Gen. Bellegarde, which had advanced from Pamada as far as Malagio and Caffatsch, prevented this, and obliged them to retreat by the Splugen.

*Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant Colonel A. Craufurd, dated Head Quarters of General Hotze, Mayensfeldt, May 22. 1799.*

On the 14th instant I had the honour to write your Lordship a few lines, containing the account of the successful attack made by General Hotze on the enemy's post at St Lucien's Steig, and his other positions in the Grison country. In the course of the evening of the 14th, above a thousand more prisoners were brought in, so that the number taken in this affair amounted in the whole to between three or four thousand men.

The difficulties attending this operation were extremely great, and its success reflects the highest honour on the General and the troops. The fortified pass of St Lucien's Steig completely closes and defends the direct passage from Veldkirch into the Grison country; its natural and artificial strength is such as to render a direct attack upon it in front extremely difficult and imprudent, and its flanks are so well supported as to render it impossible to turn it, without marching over such mountains as might almost have been deemed impracticable for troops. The first or right hand column marched from Veldkirch on the great road straight to the Steig. The destination of this column was to form in front of the post, to make such demonstrations as to threaten an attack, and endeavour to draw off the enemy's attention from his right flank, and to be in readiness to pursue the enemy with the cavalry and flying artillery, as soon as the other columns should have obliged him to abandon the Steig. The second column, commanded by Major-General Yelachitz, consisting entirely of infantry, made a considerable detour to the left, effected this march by extraordinary exertions over a chain of mountains, by which the right flank of the position of the Steig is covered, and descended about day-break in the rear of the flank, in a place where, from the extreme difficulty of the ground, the enemy could not expect an attack. This column dislodged the enemy from the post of the Steig, and made prisoners great part of the infantry that defended it. The third and fourth columns, commanded by General Hiller and Colonel Plunket, marched from Veldkirch up the Montafune Valley, from whence they with great difficulty crossed at different points the chain of mountains which separates it from the valley called the Brettigaw, and driving the enemy from the different positions he occupied on this side, they descended into the Valley of the Rhine by Marchlines and Zizers; the advanced guard of the first column pursuing the enemy from the Steig, arrived at Zizers time enough to cut off the retreat of the enemy from the Brettigaw.

Of the remains of the enemy's corps in the Grisons, one column retired through Coire to Rechenau, where they took post behind the Rhine, and another passed that river at the Zollbrucke, and marched through Ragatz towards Sargans, leaving a rear-guard at Ragatz. On the 15th, General Hotze reconnoitred the enemy at Reichenau; but finding them very strongly posted, and not having any infantry at hand, he could not attack them. The same day, however, he ordered Colonel Cavacini to attack them at Ragatz, from whence they were driven with considerable loss. About 50 prisoners and two pie-

ces of cannon were taken. The advanced posts were pushed forward to Sargans.

On the 16th, the enemy retired from Reichenau towards Disentis, where they were attacked on the 18th, and obliged to retreat with the loss of two cannon and several men. On the same day they were driven from Wallenfadt and Werdenberg, on which occasion they also lost three pieces of cannon. On the 19th, the enemy with a very superior force, made a severe attack on the corps commanded by Colonel Cavacini, at Wallenfadt, but was completely repulsed on this occasion. The battalion of Swiss Emigrants, commanded by Colonel Rovorca, (which formed a part of Colonel Cavacini's corps,) was engaged for the first time; it suffered a good deal, and behaved with great bravery. The enemy is now in full retreat from the Pockenbourg, and canton of Appenzell. The Austrian patrols entered St Gall the night before last, and found between Rheineck and that place thirteen pieces of ordnance, besides a considerable quantity of ammunition, which the French had abandoned in their retreat. On the whole, the enemy's loss in this quarter, from the 14th to this day, exclusive of killed and wounded, may be estimated at near 4000 prisoners, and 36 pieces of cannon. Lieut. General Bellegarde is at Chiavenna.

At the Court at St James's, the 5th of June, 1799.

PRESENT,

The KING's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

This day, his Royal Highness the Duke of Kent was, by his Majesty's command, introduced into the Privy Council by the Right Honourable the Earl of Chatham, K. G. Lord President, and his Royal Highness took his place at the Board on his Majesty's right hand.

This day, his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland was, by his Majesty's command, introduced into the Privy Council by the Right Honourable the Earl of Chatham, K. G. Lord President, and his Royal Highness took his place at the Board on his Majesty's left hand.

DUBLIN-CASTLE, JUNE I. 1799.

This day, his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant went in State to the House of Peers, and being seated on the Throne with the usual solemnity, Bryan Connor, Yeoman Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a message from his Excellency to the House of Commons, signifying his pleasure that they should immediately attend his Excellency in the House of Peers; the Commons being come thither accordingly, his Excellency gave the Royal Assent to the several bills passed during the Session.

Then his Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of Parliament, which is as follows:

*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"I have received his Majesty's commands to release you from your further attendance in Parliament, in order that the various parts of the kingdom, which are still agitated by the projects of the disaffected, may reap the advantage of your more immediate vigilance and protection.

"I am at the same time to thank you in his Majesty's name, for the continued and undiminished zeal which you have manifested for counteracting the wicked plots of internal conspirators, and for the defeat of every hostile attempt which the desperation of the enemy may meditate.

"The situation of affairs on the Continent has been materially improved in the period which has elapsed since the commencement of the Session. The signal advantages already obtained by the Austrian arms, and the vigorous and decisive exertions on the part of Russia, must be subjects of great joy and congratulation to all who can estimate the value of established order and legitimate Government. I know the pleasure you must derive from the consoling prospect that Europe may be ultimately rescued from the ravaging arms and desolating principles of France.

*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

"I thank you in his Majesty's name for the large and ex-