

ous. This happened before the Saxon Cavalry had reached their Point of Attack, or the Grenadiers had arrived at the Wood; and the Enemy, finding themselves taken in Flank, and most vigorously pursued, retired; their first Line with great Precipitation abandoning the salient Point of their Center, and their defeated Cavalry threw itself in Disorder into the Wood behind their Infantry. Part of the Regiments of Carachy and Nassau followed them, cut to Pieces a Battalion which had formed where the Road leading from Wetzlar to Greiffenstein enters the Wood, and took several Pieces of Cannon; but upon endeavouring to continue the Pursuit still further, they were received by the Second Line of French Infantry, who gave them a severe Fire, and obliged them to return out of the Wood to form again. However, they brought off all the Cannon and Ammunition Waggons that they had taken. The Enemy still kept the Heights of Altenbourg, their Line extending from thence towards Alsteden on the Dille.

The Austrian Grenadiers now attacked and defeated the French Infantry in the Wood.

In the Rear of the Enemy's Left Flank, at the Distance of about Two English Miles, lay the Village of Barghausen on the Dille. In the Vicinity of that Village the Wood retires from the Dille in the Form of a Half Circle, leaving a considerable Space of open Ground; through this the Road, by which the Left of General Le Fevre's Corps was obliged to retreat, passes and enters the Wood again over an Height that affords an excellent Position for Infantry, not only from being so immediately on the Edge of the Wood, but more especially as the Foot of it is covered, in the greatest Part of its Extent, by a Ravine that is very difficult to cross.

It was on this Height that the Enemy had formed Three Battalions, with a Battery of Artillery, to receive their Troops that had been defeated by the Austrian Cavalry and Grenadiers; and, at the same Time, finding that Victory was declared in Favour of the Austrians, they retired their Right from the Heights of Altenbourg, forming the Troops that had occupied that Wing of the Position in the thick Wood which was immediately in their Rear. Four Squadrons of Saxon Cavalry, as if determined to emulate the exemplary Conduct of the Imperial Troops, together with a Squadron of the Regiment of Carachy, advanced through that Part of the Wood which had been cleared by the Grenadiers, and, without waiting for further Support, and not accompanied either by Cannon or Infantry, descended along the Road, and scrambled through the Ravine under the Enemy's Fire, formed, and attacked the Height which I have just described: After suffering great Loss they broke the Three Battalions, cut down every Man who could not save himself by Flight in the Wood, and took the Cannon.

The Night now came on, and put an End to this very brilliant Affair. Nothing could surpass the Steadiness and Intrepidity with which the Austrian and Saxon Troops executed His Royal Highness's masterly and decisive Manceuvres.

The Loss of the Austrians and Saxons amounted to about Five Hundred Men, including several Officers; that of the French, judging from the Number left dead on the Field, and from the Accounts given by Deserters and Prisoners, and by the Inhabitants of the Country through which they passed in their Retreat, must have been very great. It is reported that General Le Fevre, who commanded in Person, was wounded badly in the Arm.

Having failed in his Attempt to make himself Master of this important Position, General Jourdan determined to raise the Blockade of Ehrenbreitstein, and recross the Rhine. Four of the Six Divisions

which composed his Army have directed their March towards Neuweid, the Two others towards Siegburg, Cologne and Duffeldorf.

On the 16th the Archduke marched in pursuit of General Le Fevre to Greiffenstein, where he was joined by General Kray, who had crossed the Lahn that Morning at Leuhn.

On the 17th His Royal Highness marched to Renderodt; the Advanced Guard pushing on to Altenkirchen, and on the 18th to Hackenbourg. The Corps at Limbourg, Nassau and Weillburg crossed the Lahn, and pursued General Jourdan by Montabauer and Thierdorf, whilst the Partisan Corps on the Right advanced to the Sieg. But notwithstanding the utmost Diligence has been made use of by the Austrians, no Affair of Consequence has taken Place since the 15th, as the Enemy have retired on all Sides, with the utmost Precipitation.

Intelligence is just received that Marshal Wurmser's Posts in the Front of Mannheim were attacked on the 14th Instant, and that his Excellency defeated the Enemy, and took from them several Canon

*Head Quarters of His Royal Highness the Archduke Charles of Austria, Hackenbourg, June 20.*

I Have the Honor to inform your Lordship, that His Royal Highness the Archduke's Advanced Corps, commanded by General Kray, marched Yesterday Morning at Day-break in Pursuit of that Part of the Enemy's Army, which, after uniting at Altenkirchen, was retiring, under the Orders of General Kleber, towards Siegburg on the Sieg, with the Intention of proceeding from thence to Cogn and Duffeldorf.

General Kleber found himself under the Necessity of halting that Day on the Heights that lay between Kirpen and Ukareth, on the great Road to Siegburg, in order to give Time for his Reserve, Ammunition and Baggage to pass the Sieg: He therefore occupied the very advantageous Position that these Heights afford, with about Twenty-four Thousand Men. The Front of both his Wings, as well as his Flanks, were covered by Two deep Ravines, that could only be passed at a very few Points. The Approach to his Center was about Three Hundred Yards broad, and ran along a Ridge that connected this Position with the Heights of Kirpen, and in which the Two Ravines above mentioned take their Source. At the Village of Kirpen there is another Range of advantageous Heights, parallel to those where the Enemy was posted; their Right (looking towards Ukareth) terminates in a deep Ravine; their Left on a Plain opposite to the Enemy's Center. This Plain is bounded on it's Left by a small Wood that extends towards the Ravine, which covered the Enemy's Right Wing, leaving the Approach to their Center close on it's Right. From this Wood a long Range of Inclosures and small Copses, intermixed with Two Villages and several scattered Houses; extend in a parallel Direction to the Right of the Enemy's Position, nearly on a Line with the Heights of Kirpen.

On the Altenkirchen Side of Kirpen, about Seven Hundred Yards from the latter, is a third Range of Heights, which take exactly the same Direction as those I have just described, their Right being covered by a deep Ravine, their Center and Left falling gradually into a Plain that is bounded by Kirpen, and by the Inclosures and small Villages above mentioned.

General Kray's Corps consisted of about Eleven Thousand Men, viz. Thirty-two Squadrons of Light Cavalry, Two Battalions of Grenadiers, Six Battalions of Fusileers, Two Battalions of Sclavonian Light Infantry, with a Corps of Rifemen, and a proportionate