

by forced Marches at Schluittern, on the great Road from Fulda to Hanau, in the Evening of the 6th; but finding that the Duke was already Master of Aschaffembourg, he gave up his Attempt, and, turning to the Right, directed his March across the Vogeltberg towards Wetzlar, where, it is reported, he is endeavouring to assemble his Army.

From Information of the most authentic Nature, relative to the present Situation of the French Troops, I can venture to assure your Lordship, that they are in a State of the utmost Confusion and Despondency. A great Part of the Infantry have thrown away their Arms, and are almost naked. Their Retreat has lost all Semblance of Order, and has become a tumultuous Flight. Excessive Fatigue has probably destroyed more of them than the Sword; and the continual Dread they entertain of a general Rising of the Peasantry in the Countries they traverse has spread a Panic among them, which renders them deaf to the Commands of their Officers. The Loss which Jourdan has sustained since he advanced from the Lahn may be estimated, without Exaggeration, at Twenty Thousand Men; a Number which must be daily increased by Desertion, in the present State of his Army.

The Conduct of the French, during their Abode in this Country, has exhibited a Scene of Depravity, which is degrading to Human Nature. Robbery and Peculation have been universal in every Rank and in every Department of the Army.

Every Species of Violence has been exercised on the Persons as well as on the Properties of Individuals. Many Villages have been reduced to Ashes, without the Existence of even a Pretext for this Act of Barbarity; and the Countries, through which their Army has passed, exhibit every where a Spectacle of the utmost Desolation and Distress.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

R. ANSTRUTHER,

Captain 3d Guards.

*Head Quarters of His Royal Highness the
Archduke Charles, Windecken, September 11, 1796.*

MY LORD,

BY Reports received from General La Tour it appears, that on the 1st and 2d Instant Moreau attempted, with his Right Wing, to make himself

Master of the Bridge on the Yser at Munich. After a very obstinate Combat, which lasted the whole of both Days, he was repulsed by the Prince of Fustenberg with considerable Loss.

General La Tour, in the mean Time, having formed a Junction with the Corps of General Nauendorf, attacked, on the 2d, the Left Wing of the Enemy, and drove it before him the Space of Six Leagues. In the Neighbourhood of Langenbruche, however, the Enemy having received considerable Reinforcements, posted himself so advantageously, that General La Tour, after several fruitless Attempts to dislodge him, judged it expedient to retire to his original Post behind the Yser; having, however, succeeded in the Object of his Operation, which was to weaken the Enemy's Attack on the Prince of Fustenberg.

There is as yet no positive Information that Moreau has begun his Retreat, although from the late Movements, there is Reason to apprehend that he is making Preparations for it.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT ANSTRUTHER,

Captain 3d Guards.

Wilhelmsbad, near Hanau, September 6, 1796.

JOURDAN continues his Retreat in the same disorderly Manner: Numbers of Stragglers pass by Hanau, and likewise on the other Side of the River by Steinheim; but the principal Part of the Army seems still to direct its March by Fulda and Gettenhausen. About 200 Artillery Men passed this Place Yesterday, without even Side Arms: They said they were disarmed and ill-treated by the Inhabitants of the Spesselt. It appears that great Numbers of the Enemy have been killed by the Peasants; they fell upon the Quarter-Master-General Ernouff, who was retreating with what is called the Grand Etat Major of the Army, killed the greatest Part of the Escort, seized the Military Chest, and divided the Money they found in it. General Ernouff, who is arrived at Frankfort, only escaped by the Swiftmess of his Horse. As soon as the French appear, the Alarm is given by the Ringing of Bells, when the Peasants immediately assemble where they think they may be able to attack the Enemy to Advantage.