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*Foreign-Office, January 19, 1813.*

**D**ISPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been received by Viscount Castlereagh, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, from General Viscount Cathcart, K. T. His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at the Court of St. Petersburg.

*My Lord, St. Petersburg, Dec. 31, 1812.*

**T**HE military reports addressed to the Emperor at St. Petersburg, and which followed His Imperial Majesty, are not yet returned to be made public; but I have now the honour to inclose herewith a translation of a journal of military operations from the 13th to the 25th instant inclusive.

From these reports your Lordship will observe, that the pursuit from Wilna has been carried on in separate routes upon Kouno, by Counts Wittgenstein and Platoff. But the former having taken and destroyed many of the enemy in his line of march, had proceeded down to the Niemen to Younbourg, and thence towards Tilsit, which place his advanced guard had occupied before the 23d instant.

Count Platoff found a considerable part of the remaining force of the enemy at Kouno; which force, I understand, to have comprised conscripts and convalescents which had been stationed at that place and at Wilna. This corps made considerable resistance, but the Don Cossacs having passed the river on the ice, and got into the rear of the position, the enemy abandoned it in the night, with the loss of twenty-one pieces of cannon, and about six thousand prisoners.

The remains of this corps, being dispersed and pursued by the Cossacs, fled partly in the direction of Tilsit, and partly in that of Wilcovitch, many

of them being killed and taken in the pursuit to the latter place.

Admiral Tchichagoff had pursued in the direction of Ghezno, and by detachments had cleared both banks of the river; General Lanskoj, with part of the advanced guard, having marched upon Colvary and Wilcovitch, to connect with General Platoff upon Gumbinnen.

General Tormazoff, with the column which had been led by the Field Marshal in person, was moving upon Grodno, and your Lordship will observe, that Count Ogeroffsky had by his detachment, taken possession of that place, in which Colonel Davidoff had established himself on the 20th instant. The Austrians had detached towards Grodno, but retired every where on the advance of the Russian troops, and one Russian detachment was ordered to move upon Bialystock.

Lieutenant General Baron Sachen was following the retreat of the principal Austrian corps through Pinsk and Slonim, and expected to be at Rugana on the 24th.

The corps lately under General Ertle, was commanded by General Toutschoff, to which another detachment has been joined, having passed through Minsk, was on the 21st at Candanoff, on the road from the latter place to Slonim.

All the towns upon the right bank of the Niemen appeared to be full of magazines, and the country on the left bank is full of resources.

His Imperial Majesty has expressed his satisfaction at the appearance of the army, and of the great exertions they have made, and in which the greater part are still engaged.

His Imperial Majesty has invested the Field-Marshal with the Grand Cross of St. George, and was present at a ball given by the Field-Marshal, in celebration of His Imperial Majesty's birth-day.

The prisoners of war that have been forwarded into the different Governments, since the battle of Borodino, are stated to exceed one hundred and fifty thousand men; many of these may have become the victims of climate and fatigue, but His Imperial Majesty has directed every possible care and attention to be shewn to them.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CATHCART.

*Continuation of the Journal of Military Operations from the 13th to the 19th December.*

**December 13.**—General Tormassoff reports on the 11th, that the different parties, detached by the Aide-de-Camp General Wasiltschikoff had discovered at Bielieza an Austrian corps of 3000 men, whose advanced posts of cavalry occupied Novogrodeck and Gavion; but that a detachment of the enemy, who were retreating with rapidity, had been defeated by the Cossacs under the Aide-de-Camp General Count Oscharoffsky.

**December 14.**—Major-General Toutschkoff arrived on the 10th, with his corps at Minsk, and immediately sent two regiments of Cossacs, under the command of Colonel Grekoff, towards Novoswerschena, in search of the enemy, and in order to form a communication with the detachment under Count Oscharoffsky.

**December 15.**—Count Oscharoffsky reports, on the 14th, that he entered on the 13th instant, with his detachment into the town of Lida, having pushed his advanced posts even as far as under the walls of Bielieza; but having been informed that the Austrian troops had quitted that place, and had moved towards Grodno, he immediately ordered two regiments of Cossacs, under the command of Colonel Andrianoff, to occupy it, and to send parties on the roads to Grodno and to Slonim.

**December 16.**—He also reports on the 15th, that the Austrian General Moore, was on the 14th with his detachment at Rouschany, and that being watched by the Cossacs, he was continuing his march towards Grodno.

**December 17.**—General Count Platoff reports, on the 15th, that, continuing to pursue the enemy closely, he arrived on the 14th of this month, at ten o'clock in the morning, at Kowno; and that the enemy, uniting with the troops in the town, which was surrounded with entrenchments, having redoubts upon its heights, maintained and defended himself with obstinacy, opening at the same time a very considerable fire. The cannonade continued on both sides till dark. In the mean time, Count Platoff ordered his regiments of Don Cossacs to pass the Niemen upon the ice, to menace the enemy upon the left bank of the river, and to force him, by that means, either to abandon the town as quick as possible, or to surrender. Towards night, two columns, one after the other, made a sortie from the town, but they had hardly passed the river, when the Cossacs vigorously attacked them with their pikes, and dispersed them, leaving a considerable number of killed on the spot. One party of them fled along the river towards Tilsit, another took the road to Wilkowisk being pursued by the *Aile* of the Cossacs. Amongst the killed was found

a General of rank, as was proved by his being decorated with the chief order of the legion of honour. Many say, that it was Marshal Ney, as commander of these troops. In this attack Major Karatschkowitsch took a *hausse col*, two standards were also taken. At the capture of Kouno were made prisoners eighty staff, and other officers, and above five hundred privates, without reckoning the invalids that were found in the hospitals. During the pursuit of the enemy for three days, and upon his defeat on the Niemen, five thousand were made prisoners, amongst whom were two colonels, and above one hundred and sixty staff and other officers, and twenty-one pieces of cannon, were taken. Even in this town were found seven hundred and seventy-nine artillery tumbrils complete, and with all their ammunition, and in the magazines three thousand tchetwert of rye and corn.

Major General Toutschkoff reports, that having united his corps with the detachment of Colonel Knorring, he will quit Minsk on the 13th of this month to go to Novoswerschene.

General Tormassoff reports on the 13th, that the fourth, sixth, and eighth corps, and the van-guard of the Aide-de-Camp General Wasiltschikoff, take up their cantonments in the districts of Wilna, Lida, Oschoniani, and Wilkomirsk, having stationed the advanced posts of cavalry of the latter place, at the village of Bocksti, upon the Berezena, and at Doudi, as well as strong pickets of Cossacs at Nikolaeff, upon the Niemen.——To day the regiments of horse guards, and the *chevalier gardes*, as well as the regiments of infantry, have entered Wilna under the command of His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantine.——In defiling before the Field Marshal General Prince de Smolensko, each man expressed his joy by three hurrahs.

All the troops of the guards have taken up their quarters in the town and in the suburbs, as well as their cantonments in the neighbourhood.

**December 18.**—The head-quarters of the Field-Marshal at Wilna.

*Journal of the Military Operations from the 19th to the 25th Dec. 1812.*

**December 19.**—The Aide-de-Camp, General Wasiltschikoff, arrived to-day with his detachment at Mosty.

**December 20.**—The Lieutenant-General Schepelleff reports, that on the 10th December he detached 1000 men of the militia of Kulouga, to Bobrouisk.

The Aide-de-Camp, General Count Oscharoffsky, reports on the 19th December, that Major Schamscheff, whom he had sent with a regiment of Cossacs to Lounna, having learnt that a party of Russian prisoners, under an Austrian escort, were on the Grodno road, immediately detached l'Esaul Markow, with a party of Cossacs, who, having overtaken the enemy at ten versts from Grodno, attacked him, and delivered the prisoners, viz. four officers five sub-officers, and forty-two soldiers, and also took from him one officer of Gens d'Armes and one hundred soldiers. He further states, that he had ordered his detachment, consisting of the 19th regiment of Cuirassiers, the Hussars of Ma-

rienpot, and a company of flying artillery, to advance to Grodno, in order to repose after its long and fatiguing marches; and that he was himself going with the Cossacs to Bialystock.

December 21.—Major-General Teutschkoff arrived with his corps, the detachment of Colonel Knorring having been added to it at Kaidanow, on the 2d. Colonel Grekoff being with two regiments of Cossacks at Holzbach, made prisoners, by a party which he had detached, four men of an enemy's patrol of the Hussars of Kienmayer.

December 22.—Lieutenant-General Saeken reports, on the 12th of December, that he should march, on the 13th of December, with his corps to Pinsk, from thence to Slonim; and that after the battles, which took place on the 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th, at Gornostaitz and Wilkowisk, his right flank occupied Kowle and Kolka, and his left flank Loubomté.

Admiral Tchichagoff reports, on the 18th, that he is arrived with his army at Jeszno, and that Major-General Landskoy, whom he had sent with a detachment of light troops from Jeszno to Preme, fell in with the enemy at this last place, attacked him on two sides, repulsed him, and made prisoners five officers and one hundred and eighty soldiers. Another party, under the orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Danizoff, having been detached along the right bank of the Niemen, attacked the enemy near Pouny with the bayonet, and made two hundred and seventeen prisoners. This same party having afterwards passed the Niemen, occupied the position of Balberschick. In the mean time Major-General Landskoy opened the road to Wilkovich, in order to establish a communication with the troops of General Platoff, at Kalwary, and entirely cleared the country of the enemy between the frontier and the line marked. In these operations he made fourteen officers and six hundred soldiers prisoners.

The Partizan Colonel Davidoff reports on the 21st December, that on the 20th he occupied the city of Grodno, and found there the enemy's magazines and hospitals, of which he will send a detailed report: that he likewise found a magazine at Meretech; and that he left it under the protection of the Moscow regiment of dragoons, which had just arrived there.

The Austrian General Froelich, who occupied Grodno, retired.

General Count Wittgenstein reports on the 21st, that the Aide-de-Camp General Gotenistscheff Kutousoff, in pursuing the enemy from Wilna to several miles beyond Kowno, made prisoners one hundred and sixty nine staff and other officers; and one thousand nine hundred and seventy soldiers, and took one colour; and that on the 17th, a party of his detachment, going to Furburg, overtook a small column of the enemy, completely defeated it, and took one staff officer, seven superior officers, and two hundred men prisoners. This detachment afterwards occupied the town of Furburg.

The Colonel of the guards Souchosaneff, having been detached from the advanced guard of Major General Diebitsch, found some small magazines at Kaidanow and Datkoff, took several prisoners, and one hospital with eighty sick. Another party under the orders of the Lieutenant Colonel of Artillery

Kostomaroff, discovered the enemy on the 23d at Grinkischki, and having attacked him in the evening, made prisoners two officers and thirty soldiers; and also took two hundred new muskets.

His Imperial Majesty arrived this day in good health at his army at Wilna.

December 23.—General Platoff reports on the 21st, that since his report of the capture of Kowno, several magazines have been discovered, and one hundred and seventy tonnelets of brandy; that thirty thousand new muskets with bayonets were found in one of the churches; and that a like number had been burnt at the arsenal, of which nothing remained but the iron.

December 24.—General Platoff also reports on the 23d, that two hundred barrels of flour, one hundred and fifty of rye, five hundred of oats, and fifty quintals of hay, were found at Kalwary; and five hundred muids of flour, and two hundred of flour at Wilkovich.—The inhabitants of the neighbourhood had also engaged to furnish rations, every three days, of bread and grain for fifty thousand men, and also oats and hay for fifteen thousand horses. They were ordered to provide this quantity for the use of the enemy, and they now voluntarily offer to supply our troops with it.

During the pursuit from the passage of the Niemen to Wilkovich, the enemy has lost, independent of the privates, of which one thousand are daily brought in, more than two hundred officers and four pieces of cannon.

General Count Wittgenstein reports on the 23d, that the detachment of Lieutenant-Colonel Testenborn, sent by the Aide-de-Camp General Gotenistscheff Kutousoff, fell in with two squadrons of Prussian hussars before Tilsitt, immediately repulsed them, and pursued them through that town, and a mile beyond. The enemy lost forty men in prisoners, and one cannon was taken at the village of Dobrowski.

Considerable magazines were found at Tilsitt and Raguit.

Lieutenant-General Saeken reports on the 21st, that he is passing with his corps by Chousk and Pesky, and hopes to arrive at Rouschany on the 24th.

Head-quarters at Wilna.

*State of Captures made by the Russians up to the 26th December.*

- Up to the 20th December were taken,
  - 33 generals.
  - 900 officers.
- 143,000 non-commissioned officers and soldiers.
- 746 pieces of cannon.
- From the 20th to the 25th December,
  - 1 general.
  - 156 officers.
  - 9,754 non-commissioned officers and soldiers.
  - 168 pieces of cannon.
- Besides these were taken at Wilna,
  - 7 generals.
  - 242 officers.
  - 14,756 non-commissioned officers and soldiers.
  - 217 pieces of cannon.

TOTAL.

41 generals.  
1,298 officers.  
167,510 non-commissioned officers and soldiers.  
1,131 pieces of cannon.

My LORD, *St. Petersburg, Dec. 31, 1812.*

IT is with deep affliction that I am to announce to your Lordship the death of the Earl of Tyrconnel.

His Lordship served with the army under Admiral Tchichagoff, and his zeal and desire to see every transaction of that army led him to expose himself to cold and fatigue beyond his strength, especially during the pursuit of the French from the Berezina to Wilna.

It appears that a pulmonic complaint had already made a considerable progress, and these exertions brought on the fatal effects of that disease with great rapidity.

He first stated himself to be ill on the 11th December, the day of his arrival at Wilna, where he expired on the morning of the 20th December.

His Lordship had the best medical attendance, with every care and attention that could be procured.

Field-Marshal Prince Kututoff Smolensko ordered all military honours to be paid to his remains, and has directed a monument to be erected in the church of the reformed religion.

It is but justice to the memory of Lord Tyrconnel to say, that in every situation in which he has been placed since he has been employed under this embassy, he has conducted himself with the utmost zeal and propriety, and had gained the esteem of every body to whom he was known in Sweden and in Russia.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CATHCART,

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