



SUPPLEMENT
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SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1814.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, April 2, 1814.

A DISPATCH has been received by Earl Bathurst from Viscount Castlereagh, wherein his Lordship states, that the Negotiations, which have been held at Chatillon between the Plenipotentiaries of the Allied Powers and the Plenipotentiary of the French Government, were broken off on the 18th ultimo.

Foreign-Office, April 2, 1814.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are copies and extracts; have been this day received at this Office.

Bar sur Aube, March 22, 1814.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, an additional report I last night received from Colonel Lowe, dated Laon, the 16th instant. Also a letter from my Aide-de-Camp, Captain Harris, giving an account of General St. Priest's affair at Rheims, on the 13th instant.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES STEWART,
Lieut.-General.

Viscount Castlereagh, &c. &c. &c.

Colonel Lowe to the Honourable Sir C. Stewart, dated Head-quarters of the Combined Army under Field-Marshal Blucher, Laon, 16th March 1814,

SIR,

NOTHING of material importance has occurred in this army since the battles of the 9th and 10th,

except the affairs that have occurred at Rheims.— The reports of your Aid-de-camp, Captain Harris, who was with General Count St. Priest at the capture and loss of the town, render it unnecessary for me to enter into any details regarding them.— The loss of the town has been productive of some inconvenience, in suspending our communication with the grand army, of whose present situation or movements we are without any accurate information; but I suppose, from the main body of the enemy's army, and Buonaparte himself being in this vicinity, it is continuing its advance towards the capital.

The army here has for some days past been occupying an extended line from Chauny to Corbeny and Craone, with advances posted forward towards Soissons, principally with the view of collecting provisions and forage from the rear and right flank. It is now again concentrating.

Buonaparte, by the reports of deserters and other information, is at Rheims, and has his guards with him.

Field-Marshal Blücher's head-quarters still remain here.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) H. LOWE, Colonel.

Report from Captain Harris, dated Laon, March 14, 1814.

SIR,

The corps of Lieutenant-General Count St. Priest remained during the night of the 12th in the town of Rheims. Between ten and eleven o'clock in the morning of yesterday, it was reported that the advanced posts on the road to Soissons were attacked and obliged to retire, and that the enemy were advancing in force from that direction.

The troops were immediately moved from the town into position on the high ground on each side of the Chaussée leading to Soissons, and about a quarter of a mile from Rheims, in front of which were posted strong parties of cavalry, infantry, and artillery. The enemy were seen advancing in heavy masses of cavalry and a numerous artillery, which they formed into two lines, when within about a mile and a half of the position of the Allies; the advance of both armies were immediately engaged, and for several hours cannonading and skirmishing in the plain between the two positions was constant; during this time the enemy made no other movement than that of extending their line to both flanks; they seemed to be waiting the arrival of the infantry, which had not yet appeared. About four o'clock the columns of cavalry with artillery were advanced, a heavy cannonade opened, and a very vigorous attack was made on two Russian battalions who were placed in advance; the steadiness of these troops defeated this attempt; the enemy were repulsed, and suffered very considerably from the fire of the infantry, who retired to the position without loss.

The enemy moved forward a line of artillery covered by their columns of cavalry; a tremendous cannonade was opened on both sides. The Allied troops were for a long time exposed to the galling fire of a very superior artillery, but they remained firm on their ground.

The enemy were seen to move a large column of cavalry to their right. At this moment, Count St. Priest (who had been constantly in the most exposed situations, setting a brilliant example to his troops), was struck from his horse by a cannon-ball, and obliged to be carried from the field. Such a loss at so critical a moment, was particularly unfortunate; during the short interval that occurred before he was replaced in his command, the enemy were making their greatest efforts.

General Emanuel's brigade of Russian cavalry, supporting the infantry on the left, was attacked by a large mass of the enemy's cavalry; nothing could be more gallant than the resistance made by these troops, but they were overpowered by a force four times their number, and suffered very severely. The enemy were at the same time pressing upon the centre and right, and the unavoidable event was the retreat of the whole corps through the town of Rheims. Such a retreat before an enemy so superior in cavalry, could not be effected without loss, but it has been much less than might be expected. The columns retired by the road of Berri au Bac. The entrance into Rheims was defended by a small party of infantry for two hours, and the enemy did not get possession of the town till ten o'clock; they had however crossed their cavalry round to the right of the town, and pushed on the road to Berri au Bac: this movement cut off the retreat of a small column by that road, and obliged them to retire by the route of Neufchatel. The whole of the corps have this morning joined the army of Field-Marshal Blücher in the neighbourhood of Laon.

I am not able to state the exact loss of the Allies in the affair of yesterday, but I understand it does not exceed two thousand men. Seven Prussian and one Russian gun were left in the pos-

session of the enemy. The cannon taken on the 12th, inst. Rheims, were removed to Châlons, before the town was re-occupied by the French troops.

The loss of the enemy in killed and wounded cannot but have been very considerable. It is said that Buonaparte was himself present during the whole of the day.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) THOS. NOEL HARRIS,
Aide-de-Camp.

MY LORD, *Arcis, March 18, 1814.*

IN consequence of successes obtained by Marshal Blücher's army near Laon, Prince Schwartzberg carried his head-quarters on the 15th to Pont sur Seine, and, with the view of assuming the offensive, directed the 4th, 5th, and 6th corps to pass the Seine, and endeavour to establish themselves at Villeneuve, Provins, and Bray, while the 3d corps established itself at Sens. Before these movements, however, were carried into complete execution, the news of the defeat of a part of General St. Priest's corps on the 14th, and the occupation of Rheims by the enemy, arrived.

Prince Schwartzberg determined to suspend the movement he had commenced; he brought his head-quarters on the 16th to this place, and collected his army within reach of it.

The 5th corps occupied the town of Arcis; its advanced guard was placed at Mailly and Sommesons. The 6th corps was in position between St. Ferrail and Mont le Potier. The 4th corps was at Nogent, parties detached from it occupying Marriot and Sordun, on the road to Provins and Bray. The 3d corps was between Villeneuve and Troyes.

The details of the affair of General St. Priest have not yet been received; I fear that Officer was most severely wounded, he retired in the direction of Berri au Bac, and is supposed to have formed his junction with General D'York.

By the direction of this retreat, Rheims was left open to the French, who immediately occupied it. From thence they moved upon Châlons and Epernay, which they took possession of on the 16th, the small garrisons which occupied them having retired upon their approach.

The enemy yesterday made no movement in advance from those places. It has however to-day been reported from General Keiseroff, that Buonaparte was last night at Epernay, and that he is advancing upon Fere Champenoise.

In the contemplation of such a movement, and in the determination in any case to march upon Châlons, to support the movements of General Blücher, Prince Schwartzberg had yesterday directed the different corps of his army to move into a position, the guards and reserves between Donnemont and Dommartin; the 5th corps between Rammerei and Arcis; the 6th corps between Arcis and Charny; the 4th to form the left at Mery; the 3d to assemble between Nogent and Pont sur Seine.

General Bianchi was attacked on the 11th near Maçon, by two divisions of Marshal Angereau's army. The affair lasted till dark, when the enemy retired, leaving a considerable number of killed and wounded on the field of battle; five hundred prisoners, and two cannon, remained in the hands of the

Allies. General Bianchi pushed his advanced guard the next day to St. George.

By reports from that army of the 14th, the Prince of Hesse Homburg had joined the corps of General Bianchi at Bage le Chatel; he meant to pass the greater part of his forces to the right of the Saone, and move upon the enemy then assembled at Villefranche on the 17th.

General Bubna waited the arrival of a corps of Austrians, which was advancing upon the road of Nantua, to assume the offensive: he would then cooperate in the attack on Lyons.

A most successful effort has been made by a corps under the direction of Colonel Sembschen, against the posts occupied by the enemy upon the Simplon. Captain Luxem, who was charged with these attacks, captured the whole of the enemy's force employed there, and established himself at Domodossola.

Since I commenced writing this dispatch, a report is arrived from General Keiseroff, that the enemy are actually in possession of Fere Champenoise, and are advancing in force on this side of it.

The enemy are also reported to be advancing upon the road from Chalons to Sommesons.

The 5th corps, under the orders of General Wrede, is in consequence now taking up its position in front of this place, and on the right bank of the Aube.

I have the honour of reporting to your Lordship that the fortress of Custrin has surrendered to the Allies.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

BURGHESH.

Lieut.-Col. 63d. Regt.

Lord Viscount Castlereagh, in a letter to Earl Bathurst, dated at Bar sur Aube, the 22d of March, incloses the following copy of a report of an affair with the French army under the command of Bonaparte at Arcis sur Aube, the 21st inst.

Head-Quarters, Pougey, March 21, 1814

The disposition renewed yesterday was to place the army in a concentrated position before Arcis. The right flank was placed at Orthilion on the Aube; and the left between St. Remy and Mont sur Aisne on the Barbnise Rivelet, having in its centre the village of Mesnil la Comtesse; General Keiseroff was placed on the left bank of Barbnise, in observation of the enemy.

The enemy kept a considerable force in Arcis, and had large masses of infantry and cavalry before it, and on the route from Fere Champenoise. He permitted the march of our different columns to form their junction without molestation, having only endeavoured once to interrupt the progress of the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg; but a sudden and bold attack of General Count Pahlen's, in which three guns were taken, forced the enemy so far back, that the junction of the different columns of the army was completed, and the position taken up without difficulty.

Until half past one o'clock nothing particular oc-

curred, and both the armies remained ready for battle opposite each other: about this time the enemy were perceived filing off on the other side of the Aube, and their columns taking the direction of Vitry.

A powerful rear guard remained in possession of Arcis, and had placed itself in a position on this side of the place.

At this period the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg, with the 3d, 4th, and 6th corps of the army, made a united attack on Arcis, at the same time the 5th corps of the army, and the cavalry, were directed to move on Reimerie, and the infantry of the guards and reserves to Lesmont, to pass the right bank of the Aube.

The attack on Arcis was begun about three o'clock, and was withstood by the enemy with the greatest obstinacy; but the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg, by his good and able dispositions, carried every thing before him, and the enemy must have sustained an immense loss in killed and wounded, with which the field of battle was covered when he abandoned Arcis.

The necessary dispositions to follow up the enemy are made.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, March 30, 1814.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is a copy, has been received this day by Earl Bathurst, addressed to his Lordship by Lieutenant-Colonel Cooke.

MY LORD,

Rheims, March 22, 1814.

THE army of Marshal Blücher was reinforced, upon the 16th instant, by the corps of Count St. Priest, which had retired from Rheims, after a combat, in which the General was unfortunately wounded in a dangerous manner.

Upon the 18th instant the army was again put in motion. The corps of Generals Kleist and Yorck were upon this day at Bery au Bacq; that of General Bulow marched from La Fere to Laon; and the Russians, under General Winzingerode and Count Langeron, in position at Amifontaine and Ramcourt.

The bridge having been destroyed at Bery au Bacq, two pontoon bridges were established this night, and the rear guard of the enemy having retired, the whole passed the Aisne upon the morning of the 19th, the Prussians taking the route to Fismes, and the Russians the high road to Rheims.

The allied cavalry, under the orders of Generals Chernicheff and Benkendorff, surrounded the town of Rheims early in the day. Towards six in the evening the infantry, under General Count Woronzow, having arrived, dispositions were immediately made for carrying the place by assault.

For this purpose some guns were moved forward, supported by two battalions of Russian light troops, to the gates of the town, which were blown open, and the troops entered without resistance.

The strictest order and discipline was observed.

The rear guard of the enemy, under the command of Marshal Mortier, retired in the direction of

Epernay; their cavalry quitted the town about the same time the Allies entered.

Napoleon left this place, with the greater part of his army, upon the 16th instant: he also marched upon the same route.

I have the honour to be, &c,
(Signed) HENRY COOKE, attached to
the Army of the North.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, April 1, 1814.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is a copy, has been this day received at Earl Bathurst's Office, addressed to his Lordship by Field-Marshal the Marquess of Wellington, K. G.

MY LORD, *Tarbes, March 20, 1814.*

THE enemy collected their force at Couches on the 13th, as I reported to your Lordship in my dispatch of that date, which induced me to concentrate the army in the neighbourhood of Ayre. The various detachments which I had sent out, and the reserves of cavalry and artillery moving out of Spain, did not join till the 17th. In the mean time the enemy not finding his situation at Couches very secure, retired on the 15th to Lembege, keeping his advanced posts towards Couches.

The army marched on the 18th, and Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill drove in the enemy's outposts upon Lembege. The enemy retired in the night upon Vic Bigorre; and on the following day, the 19th, held a strong rear guard in the vineyards in front of the town. Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton, with the 3d division, and Major-General Bock's brigade, made a most handsome movement upon this rear guard, and drove them through the vineyards and town; and the army assembled at Vic Bigorre and Rabestens.

The enemy retired in the night upon Tarbes. We found them this morning with the advanced posts of their left in the town, and their right upon the heights near the windmill of Oleac, their center and left were retired, the latter being upon the

heights near Augos. We marched in two columns from Vic Bigorre and Rabestens; and I made Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton turn and attack the right, with the 6th division, through the village of Dous, while Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill attacked the town by the high road from Vic Bigorre.

Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Clinton's movement was very ably made, and was completely successful: the light division, under Major-General C. Baron Alten, likewise drove the enemy from the heights above Orleix; and Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill having moved through the town, and disposed his columns for the attack, the enemy retired in all directions. The enemy's loss was considerable in the attack made by the light division; our's has not been considerable in any of these operations.

Our troops are encamped this night upon the Larzet and Larroz; Lieutenant-General Sir H. Clinton with the 6th division, and Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton with Major-General Ponsonby's and Lord Edward Somerset's brigades of cavalry, being well advanced upon their right.

Although the enemy's opposition has not been of a nature to try the troops, I have had every reason to be satisfied with their conduct in all these affairs, particularly with that of the 3d division in the attack of the vineyards and town of Vic Bigorre yesterday, and with that of the 6th division and light division this day.

In all the partial affairs of the cavalry ours have shewn their superiority, and two squadrons of the 14th dragoons, under Captain Miller, on the 14th, and one squadron of the 15th, on the 16th, conducted themselves most gallantly, and took a great number of prisoners.

The 4th Portuguese dragoons under Colonel Campbell, likewise conducted themselves remarkably well in a charge on the 13th.

I have not received any recent intelligence from Catalonia.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WELLINGTON.