



# The London Gazette

## EXTRAORDINARY.

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*Foreign-Office, April 5, 1814.*

**D**ISPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been this day received at this Office, from the Right Honourable Lord Burghersh, and Lieutenant-General the Hon. Sir Charles William Stewart, K. B.

*Fere Champenoise, March 26, 1814.*

MY LORD,

IN considerable doubt whether this dispatch will reach you, I still am anxious to seize the first opportunity of informing you of the events which have taken place since my last letters, and which, up to the present moment, have been attended with the most brilliant successes.

In the morning of the 23d, the different corps of this army were assembled in positions, from whence the whole were directed upon Vitry. The Russian light division of cavalry of the guard, under General Count Angerowsky, advanced from Metiercelin to Sommepeuis, where they attacked a considerable body of infantry, killed and made prisoners a great number of them, and took twenty pieces of cannon. This attack was conducted with so much talent and rapidity, that the loss on the part of the Russians was inconsiderable. The enemy immediately after began to de-file from all their positions near Arcis, directing themselves upon Vitry. Count Wrede endeavoured to intercept their march, but was unable to do so. The Prince Royal of Wirtemberg followed them, and did them considerable mischief.

By a French courier taken at the charge of the Russian cavalry at Sommepeuis, it was ascertained, that the corps of Marshals Ney and McDonald were in our front filing to join Buonaparte, who was already at St. Dizier. The Commandant of Vitry had been summoned by Marshal Ney, and

threatened with the massacre of the whole garrison if he did not surrender; he had, however, refused; Vitry was still in our possession.

By an intercepted letter of Buonaparte's, the objects of his movements were discovered. Prince Schwartzberg, in consequence, halted his army on the Marne during the night of the 23d, the French having entirely passed to the other bank of that river.

Buonaparte having placed himself upon our line of communication with the rear, and our junction with the army of Marshal Blücher being formed by the arrival of General Winzingerode from Chalons at Vitry, it was determined that the whole of the two great allied armies should march upon Paris. With this object the whole army broke up yesterday, and had advanced in one column upon this place. The corps of Marshals Marmont and Mortier appear to have received orders to join Buonaparte; they arrived within two leagues of Vitry on the night of the 24th. The advanced guard of the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg fell in with them soon after he had commenced his march in this direction.

The enemy perceiving a considerable force advancing upon him, retired; the cavalry of the 4th and 6th corps pursued. The light cavalry division of Russian guards again distinguished itself; it charged first the enemy's cuirassiers, next his masses of infantry, in both it succeeded, a great number of killed and wounded were left on the field of battle, ten pieces of cannon taken, and near one thousand prisoners. Several other charges were made by the Austrian cuirassiers and the Wirtemberg cavalry; the enemy suffered from them considerably, and was pursued, with the loss of above thirty pieces of cannon, to Sezanne. The results of these affairs are not yet completely known; I will transmit them to

your Lordship by the first opportunity. Upon the arrival of Prince Schwartzberg at Fere Champenoise, a cannonade was observed upon our right; soon after a body of infantry was seen moving upon the head-quarters.

The Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia, immediately directed a train of artillery which belonged to the 6th corps, and which was passing at the time, to place itself in position against this corps. The cavalry which was in rear of this body, was soon after discovered to belong to the army of Marshal Blücher, which had been pursuing it during the greater part of the day. Prince Schwartzberg immediately brought up a considerable portion of cavalry from the corps that were pursuing Marshals Marmont and Mortier; the Emperor of Russia directed the advance of the Russian guns, the whole body of French infantry was surrounded, they were charged on all sides, under the immediate directions of the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, and Prince Schwartzburgh; after resistance, which does honour to the enemy's troops, the whole of his two masses, amounting to four thousand eight hundred infantry, with twelve pieces of cannon, were taken.

Such have been, my Lord, the triumphant results of yesterday. The troops are already in advance this morning, the cavalry will arrive to-day at La Ferté Gaucher. General Winzingerode, with ten thousand cavalry, is in observation of Buonaparte's army, on the side of St. Dizier; its direction is not as yet known.

It is with the greatest regret I have to announce to your Lordship, that Colonel Campbell was yesterday most severely wounded by a Cossack. Colonel Campbell, continuing that gallant distinguished course which has ever marked his military career, had charged with the first cavalry which penetrated the French masses; the Cossacks who came to support this cavalry mistook him for a French officer, and struck him to the ground. From the appearances this morning, I am however in considerable hope of his recovery. Colonel Rapatel, late Aide-de-Camp of General Moreau, was also unfortunately killed.

I have the honour to be, &c.

BURGHERSH,

Lieut.-Colonel 63d Reg.

Viscount Castlereagh, &c. &c.

*Head-quarters, Fere Champenoise.*

MY LORD, *March 26, 1814.*

BUONAPARTE having failed in his attempt to debouche from Plancy and Arcis, across the Aube, and having abandoned his idea of attacking Prince Schwartzberg in his position at Menil-la-Comtesse, seems to have been guided in his next operations by the desire of preventing the junction of the armies of Prince Schwartzberg and Marshal Blücher. Did he not succeed to the utmost in this object, it was evidently his best policy to force their union, and their communications as far to the rear, and to make it as circuitous as possible. It is further manifest, by intercepted letters, that Buonaparte was of opinion, that the movement he determined on, on the right of Prince Schwartzberg, might induce him to fall back towards the Rhine,

for fear of losing his communications—that he thus would be able to relieve his places, and be in a better situation to cover Paris.

It generally occurs, that manœuvres are made with the advance, or the head of an army; but Buonaparte, in his present undertaking, seems to have pushed his object so far, by the passage of the Aube with his whole army near Vitry, as to have left himself completely open to that bold and magnificent decision which was immediately adopted.

Buonaparte put his whole army in motion on the evening of the 21st for Vitry. That night he remained at Sommepeux; on the following day the advanced corps of his army arrived at Vitry, and summoned the place. It had been placed by Colonel ——— in a very tolerable state of defence, and it had a garrison of between three and four thousand Prussians. Marshal Ney endeavoured, by every menace, to obtain a surrender; but the brave Prussian Colonel resolutely refused, and held the town, which reduced the French commander to cross the Marne by bridges constructed near Frignicourt. Buonaparte here passed his whole army on the 23d and 24th, and was immediately ascertained to have taken the direction of St. Dizier.

Three objects might be now in his view, by the movements round our right:—to force us back; if this failed, to operate upon our communications, and even proceed to form a junction with Marshal Augereau; or finally, by moving to his fortresses of Metz, &c. prolong the war by resisting on a new line, while he placed us in the centre of France, having taken the best precautions in his power for the defence of the capital.

The Allies on the 22d having crossed to the right of the Aube, lost no time in adopting the bold resolution of forming the junction of the two armies to the westward, thus placing themselves between the French army and Paris, and proceeding with a united force of at least two hundred thousand men to the capital of the French empire.

In order the better to mask this movement, the march of the allied army was made from Pougy, Lesmont, and Arcis, on Vitry, and His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, by two extraordinary marches of eighteen and twelve leagues, established his head-quarters with those of the Field-Marshal at Vitry, on the 24th instant.

A very brilliant capture of several pieces of cannon, fifteen hundred prisoners, and a large number of caissons, was made by General Augerauski, of the cavalry of the Russian guard, on the 23d; and on this day and the preceding, several advanced-guard affairs took place between General Wrede's corps, the Prince of Wirtemberg's, and the enemy.

So soon as the Marshal took this decision, he made his dispositions accordingly, by forming a corps on the Bar sur Aube line, which he has committed to the care of General Ducca, to protect the head-quarters of the Emperor of Austria, his supplies, &c. and carry them, if necessary, towards the army of the south, and also, by vigorously pressing forward in his operations towards the capital, to secure his rear, while he pursues his objects in front.

The combined army marched in three columns to Fere Champenoise on the 25th. All the cavalry of the army formed the advance, and were to push

forward to Sezanne. The 6th and 4th corps formed the advance of the centre column. The 5th was on the right, and the 3d corps, and the reserves and the guards, on the left.

Marshal Blücher was reported to have arrived with a great part of his army at Chalons. General Winzingerode and General Czernicheff, with all their cavalry, entered Vitry on the 23d, and were immediately detached to follow up Buonaparte's march to St. Dizier, threatening his rear. General Winzingerode's infantry had remained at Chalons with Marshal Blücher, together with General Woronzoff's and Zachen's corps. General Bulow had marched to attack Soissons, and Generals York and Kleist had moved on the line of Montmirail.

By these general movements your Lordship will perceive, that had Bonaparte even not crossed the Aube and passed between our two armies, he probably would have found himself in a similar position to that at Leipzig, and the result would have been I have no doubt of the same nature.

The army was to have bivouacked on the 25th at Fere Champenoise.

It appears the corps of Marshals Marmont and Mortier, who had been retiring from before Marshal Blücher, were moving down towards Vitry to connect themselves with Bonaparte's operations, ignorant of his intentions, which may not have been fully formed until he found himself too far committed: these corps of his army were much perplexed on finding themselves close to Prince Schwartzberg's army when they expected to meet their own.

It is a singular but a curious fact, that Marshal Marmont's advance was within a very short distance on the night of the 24th to Vitry, without the enemy's knowing it was in the occupation of the Allies.

On the morning of the 25th, the 6th corps under General Reusske fell in with their advance, drove them back to Connantray and through Fere Champenoise; in the former place a large number of caissons, waggons, and baggage, were taken; in the mean time on the left, the Russian cavalry of the reserves, under the Grand Duke Constantine, was equally successful, charging the enemy, taking eighteen cannon and many prisoners. But the principal brilliant movement of this day occurred after the allied troops in advance had passed through Champenoise; a detached column of the enemy, of 5000 men, under the command of General Ames, had been making its way under the protection of Marmont's corps, from the neighbourhood of Montmirail, to join Napoleon with his grand army. This corps had in charge an immense convoy with 100,000 rations of bread, and ammunition, and was of great importance, by the force attached to it. It had left Paris to proceed to Buonaparte, and the cavalry of Marshal Blücher's army were the first to discover and observe this corps on their march from Chalons. My Aid-de-Camp, Captain Harris, was fortunate enough, looking out with some Cossacks, to give the first intelligence to Marshal Blücher of their position.

The cavalry of Generals Kort and Basitschikoff corps, were immediately detached after them, and they were driven upon Fere Champenoise, as the cavalry of the grand army was advancing. Some

attacks of the cavalry were made on this corps, who formed themselves in squares, and it is but justice to say, defended themselves in the most gallant manner, although they were young troops and gardes nationales; when they were completely surrounded by the cavalry of both armies, some officers were sent to demand their surrender, but they still kept marching on and firing, and did not lay down their arms; a battery of Russian artillery opened upon them, and renewed charges of cavalry completed their destruction; and Generals Ames and Pathod, Generals of Division, five Brigadiers, five thousand prisoners and twelve cannon, with the convoy, fell into our hands; Marmont and Mortier's rear-guards seem to have drawn off in the direction of Sezanne, and it is difficult to say whether they will be able to effect their escape. Every disposition is making to harass and surround them. But the moment is so eventful, and every intelligence gives rise to such new conjectures, that I can only beg your Lordship to excuse the very imperfect manner in which I am obliged to detail.

The grand army marches to-day to Mailletet: Head-quarters at Treffan, and the advance is to push as far as La Ferte Gaucher.

Marshal Blücher, who was last night at Etayes, is to advance against Montmirail.

Your Lordship will, I am sure, lament to learn, that that very deserving officer, Colonel Neil Campbell, was unfortunately wounded by a Cossack, in the mêlée of the cavalry, not being known: the pike was run into his back, but he is doing well.

I am also particularly sorry to report the death of Colonel Rapatel, who was shot going up to one of the columns with a flag of truce. The loss of an officer, so much and so justly beloved in this army, from his attachment to General Moreau, his excellent qualities, and his devotion to the good cause, has occasioned a general regret.

(Signed) CHARLES STEWART,  
Lieutenant-General.

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

Head Quarters, Colamiers, March 27, 1814.

MY LORD,

THE reports from the different corps not having been received when I sent off my dispatch of the 26th, added to the hurry of the moment in which it was written, must be my apology for having much under-rated the successes of the 25th instant.

Upon the retreat of Marmont's, Mortier's, and Arrighi's corps before the several columns of the armies, whose junction had been effected between Fere-Champenoise and Chalons, above eighty pieces of cannon, besides the convoy alluded to in my dispatch of the 26th, and a great number of caissons, fell into our hands. The guns were abandoned in all directions by the enemy in the rapid retreat, and were captured not only by the cavalry of the Grand Duke Constantine and General Count Pahlen, but also by the corps of General Reifsky and the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg.

Generals D'York and Kleist, who had moved from Montmirail on La-Ferté-Gaucher, where they arrived on the 26th, very greatly augmented the enemy's discomfiture; General D'York's was very

seriously engaged with the enemy; and took fifteen hundred prisoners at the latter place; and it may be fairly estimated that this part of Buonaparte's army has been so roughly handled as to have lost one third of its efficiency in point of numbers, with nearly all the artillery belonging to it. Nothing but continued forced marches could have enabled any part of the corps above alluded to, to elude their victorious pursuers; and when I detail to your Lordship, that Marshal Blücher's army was at Fismes on the 24th, and was fighting at La-Ferte-Gaucher on the 26th, making a march of twenty-six leagues, it will be evident that no physical exertions can exceed those that the present unexampled crisis brings into action.

The grand army was in position at Mailleret on the 26th. The march was continued in three columns from Fere Champenoise; the head-quarters of the Emperor of Russia and Prince Schwartzberg were at Treffau: the cavalry of Count Pahlen were pushed on beyond La Ferte Gaucher, joining Generals D'Yorck and Kleist; the cavalry and the reserves were bivouacked at La Vergière on the right of the great road; the 6th and 4th corps were in the centre, the 5th on the left, and the 3d remained in the rear to cover all the baggage, artillery, parks and train, and to make the march of the whole compact. Generals Kaiseroff and Ledavin's partizan corps occupied and observed the country about Arcis and Troyes, between the Marne and Seine rivers.

Intelligence was received from Generals Winzingerode and Czernicheff, who continued following Buonaparte's rear with ten thousand cavalry and forty pieces of cannon, that he was marching by Brienne to Bar-sur-Aube and Troyes, hastening back to the capital with the utmost precipitation; a plain demonstration (if any were wanting) that superiority of manœuvring, as well as superiority of force, were in his adversaries scale.

The Prince Field-Marshal continued his march this day without interruption; the head-quarters were established at Colomiers; the 6th corps arrived at Monson; Count Pahlen's cavalry, and the Prince Royal of Wurtemberg who were sent to turn the enemy's right, followed one part of the corps before us, which seemed now to have separated to Crecy; while Generals D'Yorck and Kleist pushed the other by advancing from La Ferté Gaucher to Meaux, where they will secure the passage of the Marne for Marshal Blücher's army; the 5th corps took up its ground near Chailly; the 3d at Mevillon; and the cavalry of the guard, the guards, and reserves in front of this place.

Marshal Blücher's head quarters are to night at La Ferté-Jouarre, and to-morrow his army will pass the Marne; which I apprehend the grand army will do at Lagny; thus concentrating nearly their whole force on the right bank of the river, and taking position on the heights of Mont-Martre.

I am as yet ignorant of the motives that may have directed the corps of the enemy in our front; whether a part has fallen back to form a noyau to the national guards, at Paris; and whether with some of these they will dispute momentarily the passage of the Marne to-morrow; and whether the other part is moving by Provins to join Buona-

parte, remains to be seen, but in neither instance to be apprehended.

Whatever may be the ultimate result of the operations in progress, however brilliant they appear, the Sovereigns who are present, and the Prince Field Marshal who leads their armies, will have the proud and consoling reflection, that by their intrepid manœuvre, they have acted right by their countries, their people, and the great cause.

I have the honour to be, &c

(Signed) CHARLES STEWART,  
Lieutenant-General.

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

*Foreign Office, April 5.*

SINCE the receipt of the preceding intelligence, Captain Harris has arrived with dispatches from Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir Charles William Stewart, K. B. and Lord Burghersh, of which the following are copies.

*Head-Quarters Bondy, March 29, 1814.*

ON the 28th the Grand Allied Army and that of Silesia continued their advance to Paris. The 6th corps, the Austrian grenadiers, the guards, and reserves, and the cavalry of his Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantine, took up their ground in the neighbourhood of Coulley, and Manteuil. The 3d corps was this day at Mowon, the 5th remained at Chailly with the advanced guard in the direction of La Ferté Gaucher, observing the routes of Sezanne and Provins. The head-quarters of the army were established at Cuency.

The passage of the Marne at Meaux was effected by the 6th corps with little resistance. A part of Marshal Mortier's corps, under the immediate command of the French General Vincent, who retired through the above place, broke down the bridge in his retreat, and detained the Allies in their advance.

About ten thousand of the National Guards, mixed with some old soldiers, endeavoured to make a feeble stand before the army of Silesia, between La Ferté Jouarre and Meaux; but General Horne attacked them, and placing himself gallantly at the head of some squadrons, he pierced into a mass of infantry, taking, himself, the French General prisoner.

The passage of the river was also disputed at Triport, where the army of the Marshal passed; but notwithstanding the fire of the enemy, the bridge was soon completed, and the whole of this army passed the Marne to-day.

The French, on their retreat from Meaux, caused a magazine of powder, of an immense extent, to be blown up, without the slightest information to the inhabitants of the town, who thought themselves, by the monstrous explosion, buried in the ruins of the place; not a window of the town that was not shivered to atoms, and great damage was done to all the houses, and to the magnificent cathedral.

The corps of D'Yorck and Kleist advanced this day to Claye; the corps of General Langeron was on their right, and General Sacken's in reserve; the corps of Woronzoff was in the rear at Meaux.

Different bridges were constructed on the Marne

to enable the grand army to file over in various columns.

Winzingerode's rear towards St. Dizier seems to have been assailed on the evening of the 26th, and morning of the 27th, by a very preponderating force of the enemy, especially as to infantry. The details of the affair are not arrived, but it appears the General was obliged to retreat in the direction of Bar le Duc.

From the most recent reports Buonaparte was himself at St. Dizier on the 27th, and it is said his advanced guard is at Vitry. It would thus appear that he is marching after the Allies, or directing himself on the Marne; but it is to be hoped this is now too late.

On the 29th, the army of Silesia, having a corps on the Marne, was directed to its right, to advance on the great road of Soissons to Paris; General Count Langeron was on the right, near the village of La Villette; Generals D'Yorck and Kleist moved from the Meaux route into that of Soissons, to make room for Prince Schwartzberg's army; Generals Sacken and Woronzow were in their rear.

On the 28th in the evening a very sharp affair occurred at Claye between General D'York and the enemy's rear; the ground they were posted on was very favourable for defence; and in a very severe tirailade General D'Yorck lost some hundred men; but the enemy were driven back at all points.

The 6th corps passed at Triport, and reached Bondy at night, and the heights of Pantin. The 4th corps crossed at Meaux, with the guards and reserves and cavalry; the former was immediately directed to gain the high road from Lagny to the capital, and to take post on the heights of Chelle. The 3d corps was to support the 4th. The 5th moved to Meaux, and remained on the left of the Marne, having their cavalry at Cressy and Coulommiers.

On the advance of the 6th corps some slight resistance was made at Villaparis; and as it was necessary to relieve Generals D'Yorck and Kleist, and move them more to the right, a cessation of hostilities for four hours was agreed on by mutual consent which delay prevented the march forward being so rapid as usual.

The army this night may be stated to have their right towards Montmartre, and their left near the wood of Vincennes.

I have the honour to be, &c.  
(Signed) CHARLES STEWART,  
Lieut. Gen.

*Proclamation of Marshal Prince Schwartzberg to the Inhabitants of Paris,*

INHABITANTS OF PARIS!

THE allied armies are before Paris. The object of their march towards the capital of France is founded on the hope of a sincere and lasting reconciliation with France. The attempts made to put an end to so many misfortunes have been useless, because there exists in the very power of the Government which oppresses you, an insurmountable obstacle to peace. What Frenchman is there who is not convinced of this truth?

The Allied Sovereigns seek, in good faith, a salutary authority in France, which may cement the union of all Nations and of all Governments with her; it is to the city of Paris that it has fallen, under the present circumstances, to accelerate the peace of the world. The wish of this city is looked for with that interest which a result of such importance must inspire. Let her declare herself, and from that moment the army before her walls becomes the support of her decisions.

Parisians, you know the situation of your country, the conduct of Bourdeaux, the friendly occupation of Lyons, the evils brought upon France, and the real dispositions of your fellow-citizens. You will find in these examples the termination of foreign war and of civil discord; you cannot search it elsewhere.

The preservation and tranquillity of your city will be the object of the cares and measures which the Allies are ready to take, in conjunction with the Authorities and the Notables, who possess the largest share of public estimation. No troops shall be quartered upon you.

In these sentiments, Europe in arms before your walls, addresses you. Hasten to reply to the confidence which she places in your love for the country, and in your discretion.

The Commander in Chief of the  
Allied Armies, Marshal Prince of  
SCHWARTZENBERG.

*Heights of Belleville, above Paris, March 30, 1814,  
Seven o'Clock in the Evening.*

MY LORD,

I SEIZE an opportunity which offers at this instant, to transmit to you an account of the successes of this day.

After the affair of Fere Champenoise, the details of which I had the honour of giving to your Lordship in my last dispatch, the united army of Prince Schwartzberg and Marshal Blücher, passed the Marne on the 28th and 29th, at Triport and Meaux.

The enemy opposed a feeble resistance to the passage of the river; but on the 28th in the evening, General D'Yorck was severely engaged near Claye; he drove the enemy, however, at last from the woods about that place with very considerable loss.

Yesterday the whole army (with the exception of the corps of Marshal Wrede and General Sacken, which were left in position at Meaux,) advanced upon Paris. Continual skirmishing took place with the enemy, but he retired, giving up Pantin on his right, and the ground in front of Montmartre on his left.

It appears that during last night the corps of Marshals Mortier and Marmont entered Paris. The garrison which previously was assembled in it, was composed of a part of General Gerard's corps under General Compans, and a force of about eight thousand regular troops and thirty thousand national guards, under General Halin, the Governor of the town.

With this force, the enemy, under the command of Joseph Buonaparte, took up a position this morn-

ing, the right on the height of Belleville occupying that town, the center on the canal de l'Ourque, the left towards Neuilly.

This position was strong, from the intersected nature of the ground on its right. The heights of Montmartre commanded the plain in rear of the canal of L'Ourque, and added strength to the position of the enemy.

The disposition of attack for this morning was, the Prince Royal of Wurtemberg, forming the left, marched upon Vincennes; General Rieffsky upon Belleville; the guards and reserves upon the great chaussée leading from Bondy to Paris. Marshal Blücher was to march upon the chaussées from Soissons, and attack Montmartre.

All the attacks succeeded; General Rieffsky possessed himself of the heights of Belleville; the troops under his orders particularly distinguished themselves in the different attacks made by them.

The village of Pontin was carried at the point of the bayonet; the heights above Belleville were carried in the most gallant manner by the Prussian guards; these corps captured forty-three pieces of cannon, and took a great number of prisoners.

Nearly at the time these successes had been obtained, Marshal Blücher commenced his attack upon Montmartre. The regiment of Prussian black hussars made a most brilliant charge upon a column of the enemy, and took twenty pieces of cannon.

At the moment of these decisive advantages, a flag of truce was sent from Marshal Marmont, intimating a desire to receive any propositions that it might have been intended to make to him by a flag of truce which had previously been refused admittance. An armistice was also proposed by him for two hours, to obtain which, he consented to abandon every position he occupied without the barriers of Paris.

Prince Schwartzberg agreed to these terms. Count Nesselrode, on the part of the Emperor of Russia, and Count Par, from Prince Schwartzberg, were sent into the town to demand its surrender.

An answer is just arrived; the garrison will evacuate Paris by seven o'clock to-morrow morning.

I may therefore congratulate your Lordship on the capture of that capital.

The allied troops will enter it to-morrow.

Your Lordship will excuse the hurry in which this letter is written; I have only time to give you the general details of the great events which have taken place; at such a moment it would be difficult to repress a feeling of exultation.

The Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia were present in all the actions.

Prince Schwartzberg, by the decision with which he determined to march upon the capital of France, as by the mode in which he has conducted its advance, has obtained universal admiration.

I have the honour to be, &c,

BURGHESH,  
Lieut.-Col. 63d Regt.

The Right Hon. the Viscount Castlereagh,  
&c. &c. &c.

Heights of Belleville, March 30, 1814,

MY LORD,

AFTER a brilliant victory, God has placed the capital of the French Empire in the hands of the Allied Sovereigns, a just retribution for the miseries inflicted on Moscow, Vienna, Madrid, Berlin, and Lisbon, by the Desolator of Europe.

I must very imperfectly detail the events of this glorious day at such a moment as the present, and therefore throw myself on your Lordship's indulgence.

The enemy's army, under the command of Joseph Bonaparte, aided by Marshals Mortier and Marmont, occupied with their right the heights of Fontenoy, Romainville and Belleville; their left was on Montmartre, and they had several redoubts in the centre, and on the whole line an immense artillery of above one hundred and fifty pieces.

In order to attack this position, the Silesian army was directed on Montmartre, St. Denis, and the village of La Valette and Pantin, while the grand army attacked the enemy's right on the heights before alluded to at Romainville and Belleville. Marshal Blücher made his own dispositions for his attack.

The 6th corps under General Reiski moved from Bondy in three columns of attack, supported by the guards and reserves, and leaving the great route of Meaux, attacked the heights of Romainville and Belleville. These are very commanding, as well as Montmartre, the ground between being covered with villages and country seats, and the possession of them commands Paris and the whole country round. Prince Eugene of Wirtemberg's division of the 6th corps commenced the attack, and with the greatest spirit endured for a long period a very galling fire of artillery, being supported by the reserves of grenadiers; his Serene Highness, after some loss, carried the heights of Romainville, the enemy retiring to those of Belleville behind them. The 4th corps supported this attack more to the left, and was directed on the heights of Rosny, and on Charenton by their gallant Commander the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg. The 3d corps of the army was placed in echelon near Neuilly in reserve, as well as the cavalry.

The attack of the grand army had commenced some short time before that of the Silesian, delayed by some accident; but it was not long before Generals D'York and Kloest debouched near St. Denis on Aubeville, and here and at Pantin a very obstinate resistance was made. His Royal Highness Prince William of Prussia, with his brigade, together with the Prussian guards were much distinguished. The enemy's cavalry attempted to charge, but were brilliantly repulsed by the Brandenburg and black hussar regiments. A strong redoubt and battery of the enemy's in the centre, kept Gen. D'York's corps in check for some part of the day, but their right flank being gained by the heights of Romainville, as well as their loss in every part of the field, and finally, the complete discomfiture on all sides, reduced them to the necessity of sending a flag of truce to demand a cessation of hostilities, they giving up all the ground without the Barrier of Paris, until further arrangements could be made.

The heights of Montmartre were to be placed,

by the generosity of a beaten enemy, in our possession (Romainville and Belleville being carried) at the moment when Count Langeron's corps was about to storm them, and had already taken possession of the rest of the hill.

Count Woronzow's division also carried the village of La Villette, charging with two battalions of chasseurs; and possessing themselves of twelve pieces of cannon, were also stopped near the Barrier of Paris by the flag of truce.

However, His Imperial Majesty, the King of Prussia, and Prince Schwartzberg, with that humanity which must excite the applause, while it calls for the admiration of Europe, acceded to entertaining a proposition to prevent the capital from being sacked and destroyed. Count Par, Aide-de-Camp to the Prince Field-Marshal, and Colonel Orloff, Aide-de-Camp to His Majesty the Emperor, were sent to arrange the cessation of hostilities; and Count Nesselrode, His Imperial Majesty's Minister, went in at Four o'clock this evening, when the battle ceased, to Paris.

The result of this victory cannot yet be known; numerous pieces of artillery taken in the field, and a large number of prisoners have fallen into our

hands. The number of guns in the margin\* are already reported.

Our loss has been something considerable; but we may have the consoling hope, that the brave men who fell, will accomplish the work of the downfall of despotism, and rear the standard of renovated Europe under a just equilibrium, and the dominion of its legitimate sovereigns.

I take the liberty of sending my Aide-de-Camp, Captain Harris, with this dispatch, being with me during the day; he will make his way, I hope, with the Cossacks, whom Lieutenant-General Count Woronzow has given him, and will acquaint your Lordship verbally, with details I can but imperfectly enter into. When I receive Colonel Lowe's report, as well as Colonel Cooke's, I shall not fail to dispatch again, to put you in possession of all further information in my power of this interesting and wonderful day.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES STEWART,  
Lieutenant-General.

\* Blücher, 16; Prussian guards, Baden ditto, 14; General Reiffski and Russian grenadiers, 21; Prince Royal of Wirtemberg, 6; Lieutenant-General Count Woronzow, 12. Total—69.

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