



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1814.

Foreign-Office, April 5, 1814.

DISPATCHES, 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