

# NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE

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L O N D O N, June 17.

Official Details of the VICTORIES of the FRENCH-ARMIES upon the RHINE and in Italy.

Army of the SAMBRE and MEUSE.

Extract of a letter from Gen. Jourdan commander in chief of the army of the Sambre and Meuse, to the Executive Directory.

"Head-Quarters, at Raune—

16th Prairial, (June 4.)

"Citizens Directors,

I HAD the honour to inform you, by my letter of the 4th current, that the enemy had broken the armistice, and that hostilities would commence on the 12th (May 31). I have now to give you an account of the first movements of the army.

"On the 12th, the corps which was in the Hundsruck took a position, partly on the Nahe, and partly on the rear of Oberwald. Gen. Morceau, who was encamped at Berkenfeld, attacked the enemy's advanced posts, which were on the right bank of the Nahe, and which might have obstructed our communications.—He beat them in, and established his light troops in their situation. Gen. Poncet proceeded to the Kirn, and carried all the posts. General Championer attacked the cantonment of Nidder Diebach, which the enemy ought not to have occupied, conformably to the conditions of the armistice; this cantonment was forced. The enemy encamped in considerable force, on several points, dispatched on the 13th, (June 1) some light troops to attack the advanced posts of Gen. Morceau, but they did not succeed in forcing them.

"The first operation of the division of the army destined to act on the right bank of the Rhine, under the command of General Kleber, has been most brilliant.—This General set out on the 12th (May 31) on his march towards the Sieg; and on the following day attacked the enemy and routed them completely. I enclose you his report, by which you will see, undoubted; not without pleasure, that the excellent disposition of this general, were executed with zeal and intelligence by the Generals under his command, and with the utmost courage by the troops. You will also find enclosed a copy of his report of the 15th (June 3), which will apprise you of his dispositions to force the enemy to abandon their position at Ukerath, and you will be pleased at seeing that he attained his aim by the dexterity of his manoeuvres, and has by these means spared the blood of the defenders of the country.

"I am informed, that this General proceeded this day towards Altenkirchen where the enemy, it would appear, mean to make a stand. I hope that he will have successes there equal to those on the Sieg. The movement of Gen. Kleber has dispersed the enemy's army on the right bank of the Rhine. The camp of Beunsholder, and all the troops which were on the Nahe, from its source to him, retreated during last night.

(Signed),

"JOURDAN."

The General of Division, Kleber, commanding the left wing of the army of the Sambre and Meuse, to the Commander in Chief Jourdan.

"Head-quarters at Siegbourg, 16 Prairial (June 4.)

"I gave you an account, my dear comrade, in my last, that on the 12th (May 31) the army under my command had marched to the position between Bortz and the Chateau of Benberg, ranking a distance of seven great leagues. On the same day General Lefebvre's advanced posts had two skirmishes, one in the environs of Beunsholder, the other on the Acher, between Troisdorff and Ohmar;—a few of our men were wounded.

"On the 13 (June 1,) at four in the morning the army proceeded in two columns. The

advanced guard, commanded by General Lefebvre, had orders to force the passage of the Archer in the front of Troisdorff, at Ohmar, and at Lomarsh to carry Siegburg, and immediately after to proceed on the right bank of the Sieg, and post itself near Hap-penchols, so as to be enabled, on the following day, to cross the Sieg, above Blankenberg, to attack in the rear the position of Ukerath, in case the enemy should maintain themselves there. The second division, commanded by General Colaud had orders to force the passage of the Sieg on the two points of Wendorff and Mendel, to proceed to the left bank of that river, and to post itself before Burtdorff. The enemy occupied both the Archer and the Sieg where they were strongly entrenched. About nine o'clock in the morning the two divisions, being at the point agreed on, commenced the attack with impetuosity, forced the passages, and drove the enemy every where from their entrenchments. A part of General Lefebvre's advanced guard charged the enemy to the very gates of Siegburg, and immediately after took possession of the city, and of a bridge on the Sieg, although defended by artillery.

"The second division commanded by General Colaud, divided the corps which defended the Sieg, and drove a part of those troops towards the Rhine; but as there was a warm cannonade on the side of Siegburg, the general proceeded, conformably to his orders, from Hute towards Burtdorff, for the purpose of supporting the advanced guard of general L'Eviro. He contented himself with leaving two battalions to watch the motions of the small body of the enemy he left in the rear, and which did not delay to retreat, by the route of the Rhine towards Intz.

"As soon as I was certain that Gen. Colaud's division was advancing full speed, I ordered Gen. Lefebvre's cavalry, commanded by Gen. Haupole, to cross the Sieg as secretly as possible, for the purpose of pursuing the enemy. To this cavalry, that of Gen. Colaud's division, at the head of which were the Adjutant Generals Ney and Ormancey, was instantly united. They advanced, and every where the Austrian cavalry, altho' far superior in number, yielded the ground. It was now that the first regiment of Chasseurs commanded by the chief of the squadron, Richepaufe, came up with a part of them opposite Heneff; and, having reached this village, he ordered his troops to charge, and made a horrible carnage. This commander displayed on the occasion proofs of the utmost coolness in the midst of dangers, and of an intrepid boldness. In pursuing the cavalry, he fell on a post of infantry, when he made his chasseurs halt, ordered a hedge first to be kept up, and, in chasing the enemy, contrived also to overcome the obstacles which was thrown in the way of his pursuit.

"At length the Austrians, every where defeated, retreated with precipitation, and threw themselves into the formidable post of Ukerath. A forced march and four hours fighting, would not admit of any farther pursuit, and more particularly as this post, impregnable in front, required great circuits to turn its flanks.—Thus the infantry of Gen. Lefebvre's advanced guard continued its march towards the right bank of the Sieg, passed the night in the post of Hap-penchols, and Gen. Colaud's division on the heights before Baldorff. It unquestionably does not belong to me, to bestow praises on these Generals my fellow labourers; but it would be difficult for me not to express the satisfaction I felt at seeing the zeal and activity of them, the unity of the operations with which they were charged, and the ardor which prevailed in their respective columns, even in the midst of action. The officers of the staff equally distinguished themselves. They every where furnished an example to the troops, Citizen Viron, second to Adjutant General

Cayala, with a very small force, made the whole post of Ohmar prisoners.

"Citizen Bevalot, second to Adjutant General Ney, by a charge purposely executed, protected the crossing of the Sieg, effected by General Forge at Mendel. His hat was shot thro' in several places. Peurmann, my aid-de-camp, received a sabre wound on the wrist, but killed the soldier from whom he received it: Auguste Demas, another of my aids de camp, had his horse wounded. The light artillery was managed in the usual way, with boldness and intelligence: its batteries constantly well directed, and served with the utmost celerity, did a great deal of mischief to the enemy. The names of all the officers and soldiers who distinguished themselves on this day not being yet made known to me, I shall hereafter transmit them to Gen. Lenout by the chief of my staff.

"The lots of the enemy may be estimated at 2,400 men at least, upwards of 1000 of whom are prisoners. Among the latter are a major, and several other officers. They will remove in the course of the day to Bonn.

"Among our wounded are two captains of the first regiment of chasseurs, of the most distinguished courage; these are citizens Mathieu and Huduy—the first received fourteen sabre wounds, several of them mortal; the lower arm of the second was carried away by a ball.

(Signed)

"KLEBER."

Extract of a letter from the General of Division, KLEBER, to the commander in chief, JOURDAN.

"24th Prairial, June 2, 4th year.

"I gave you an account, my dear comrade in my report of yesterday, that, after the battle of the Sieg, the enemy retreated to their camp at Akareth, and that the division commanded by Gen. Lefebvre passed the night on the right of the Sieg, opposite Hoppenschhofes, and that commanded by Gen. Colaud on the heights of Heneff. Thus, with a view to attack the enemy in flank and rear, Gen. Lefebvre received orders to cross the Sieg above Blankenburg, and to General Colaud to proceed towards Jungrath, to reach from thence the highway by a cross-march, leaving, however, a few battalions at Wurch, and a few posts of infantry and cavalry, blended along the ravine to the right of that village.—These movements, altho' extremely difficult on account of the very bad state of the roads, were perfectly well executed. At 4 in the afternoon, the columns were stationed almost at the same time by the right and the left, on the heights behind Akareth, and certainly, if the enemy had determined to continue in their post, not one of them would have escaped; but being apprised of our movements by their hunters, they soon became acquainted with our manoeuvres, and retreated to Altenkirchen, contenting themselves with leaving, on the heights behind Akareth, two or three squadrons to protect their retreat. The two divisions accordingly established themselves at three quarters of a league from Akareth, in a very advantageous position. Since their departure from the Wipper, the troops have done nothing but march and fight.

(Signed)

"KLEBER."

Extract of a Letter from the Government Commissioners, stationed with the army of the Sambre and Meuse, to the Executive Directory.

"Head-Quarters at Hagenau, 16 Prairial, 4th year.

"Citizens Directors,

"You are without doubt already informed of the important victory gained by the left wing of the army, commanded by the brave General Kleber, over the enemy's army,