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ARMY OF RESERVE

Dupont, general of division, chief of the état major of the army of Reserve, to the minister of war.

Head-quarters, Milan, June 3.

After giving an account of the capture of Milan and Pavia, he says, the enemy, who disputed the passages of the Sesia, and the Tescino, is retiring behind the Adda, to Lacco and Lodi. The principal force of Melas is still on the right bank of the Po.

You will without doubt, be astonished at hearing that the general is still at Piedmont, and continues to act in the Livera of Genoa, whilst we are taking possession of Lombardy; but the real object and force of the army have been concealed from him with so much success, and the troops have marched with such celerity, that he has been every where surprised and beaten.

The general in chief has just learned, that the corps under General Mancy has passed St. Gothard, and reached Varese.—That of General Elthencourt, which has passed the Simplon, is at Valanza. The union of the whole army can meet with no more obstacles; and the plan, not less skillful than bold, of the chief consul, is executed in all its parts.

DUPONT.

MILAN, 16 Prairial, June 5.

The General in chief Berthier, having caused the corps of General Duhesin to invest the fortresses of Pizzighitone, and take possession of Crema.

The chief consul has assembled all the bishops and curates, and announced to them his intention to maintain the religious establishment, such as it was when he commanded at Milan. He made them take the oath of fidelity, &c.

Alexander Berthier, general in chief of the army of Reserve to the Cisalpine people.

MILAN, 16 Prairial, June 7.

The French people for the second time now break your chains. The infancy of States is subject to storms and vicissitudes. The misfortunes you have experienced will not be useless to you? You have learnt to appreciate the snares laid by the enemies of your prosperity. They boasted of their respect for property, and they have plundered many families. They pretended a warm zeal for religion, and they have given up Italy to heretics and even to infidels.

Citizens of Cisalpine fly to arms, form your national guard, and secure your towns from the incursions of the enemy! Can you be insensible to the glory of forming an independent nation! Forget then your quarrels; let your unanimous desire be that of consolidating powerful state.—I shall acknowledge none as the friends of liberty but those who observe the laws, extinguish animosities and honour misfortune. Cisalpine people, whenever your territory is delivered from the enemy, the republic shall be re-organized upon the firm foundation of religion, equality and good order.—Hasten that moment by your energy,

(Signed)

A. BERTHIER.

A. Berthier commander in chief of the army of Reserve, to the Chief Consul.

MILAN, June 3.

Citizen Consul,
“I have to give you an account of the movements of the army from the 30th of May, of its operations, and of its traits of bravery which it has distinguished itself.

Passage and combat of the Tescino.

“General Murat, leaving Novara on the 30 of May, proceeded to the Tescino, which he had orders to cross. He disposed his cavalry in such a manner, as to harass the enemy on that river from the lake of Como beyond Vigevano, whilst Boudet's division, which was under his orders, appeared at the bridge of Buffalora, where the enemy had withdrawn their bridge of boats, and the passage of which was defended by some pieces of cannon. I had sent this division to Vigevano.

“General Murat made disposition, the object of which was, to persuade the enemy that his intention was to pass the Tescino near Voltegio. Informed that he had some boats concealed in a small arm of the Tescino, he ordered his artillery, a part of the cavalry, and the 70th demi-brigade to appear at the gate of Galeat, in order to surprize that passage.

“On the 31st May, at day break, the 70th was at the gate of Galeat, which the enemy defended with two howitzers and three eleven-pounders, which kept up a very warm fire of grape shot. General Murat placed his artillery in a proper position, and returned the fire with equal vivacity. During this time the 70th carried the boats which were in the small arm of the Tescino. Soldiers carried these boats on their shoulders, and passed them over to the other arm of the river, amidst a shower of grape shot. In consequence of the orders they received, the grenadiers, above their middle in water, gained woody isle, from which they could keep up an advantageous fire of musquetry. General Murat ordered them to take that of the enemy in flank. Under the protection of that fire, and by the aid of two boats, he passed the river, and obliged the enemy to withdraw their artillery.

“Several small boats collected on the opposite bank, afforded the means of passing over a battalion, which charged the cavalry, and protected the passage of the demi-brigade; the chief of brigade Duroc, was near being drowned. Adjutant General Gerard passed with the first troops. The enemy fell back to the village of Tarbigo, received considerable reinforcements, commanded by General Laudin in person.

“Adjutant General Gerard got possession of the bridge in front of Tarbigo, and opposed the torties which the enemy's cavalry attempted to make against our infantry.—Night approached—General Murat, feeling the importance of driving the enemy from their position, ordered General Mennier to make a warm attack on Tarbigo.—That general accompanied by the Cisalpine General Pino, attacked with impetuosity and carried the village at the point of the bayonet. After an obstinate defence he killed 200 men, and took 400 prisoners. We had on our side 15 men killed and 50 wounded. General Murat then proceeded to Buffalora, which this movement forced the enemy to evacuate.

“During the night we employed ourselves in building flying bridges. The night and the whole of the first of June were spent in passing over the divisions of Boudet, Loison, and Victor, which proceeded the next day to Milan, of which General Murat will not fail to receive the keys.—He forms immediately the blockade of the castle.”

Bulletin of the army of Reserve.

MILAN, June 7.

“General Loison, after having passed the Adda at Lodi, took possession of Cremona, passed the Oglio on the 6th and took posses-

sion of Orsi Novo, a place of some strength, between Brescia and the Po.

“After having pursued the enemy along the road at Brescia, General Loison proceeded by a counter march to Cremona, for the purpose of seizing the numerous magazines which the enemy had in that place, of passing the Po there and of joining the corps of Murat, which is at Placentia.

“On the 5th General Murat advanced towards Placentia. The enemy defended the head of the bridge with a great quantity of artillery. It was taken possession of by Murat at 11 o'clock in the night, and 100 men, who remained to guard the passage, were made prisoners.

“We have taken possession of every bridge on the Po, except two or three on the side of Placentia, which the enemy had time to destroy.

“On the 6th, at 4 in the morning, General Lannes occupied the celebrated position of Stradella, and thus cut off the only means which the enemy had of making their communications. The enemy feeling the importance of this position, united their several posts, and attacked general Lannes with the greatest impetuosity. The 28th demi-brigade has been covered with glory; the enemy was put to the rout, leaving 200 dead, 300 prisoners, as many wounded, and some waggons. They have retreated to Placentia.

“A part of the French army will be united to-morrow at Stradella. No other resource remains for Melas but a battle, he has no means of retreating except through Alessandria.”

JUNE 8. “General Loison has proceeded to Brescia. The Cisalpine legion, commanded by General Lechi, took possession of the flotilla, which the enemy had on the Lago Maggiore, passed the Adda of Lecco, went to Bergamo, and took 50 prisoners, and four pieces of cannon.

“A corps of the enemy, in attempting to enter the castle of Placentia this day, was surrounded and taken.

“General Murat has intercepted a courier from Melas with very important dispatches, and took more than 200 prisoners at Placentia.

“The dispatches of General Melas to the court of Vienna announce that at the moment when the order arrived for General Ott to raise the blockade, Massena sent a messenger offering a capitulation: It appears from the letter of General Melas, that Massena has given up Genoa, but that his army have not been made prisoners of war.

“General Elsnitz, who evacuates Nice, has not been able to effect his retreat by the Collo di Tende. By the intercepted letters of General Melas, it appears that Alessandria is badly provisioned. It is thought that General Melas will take shelter in Genoa, if the first events are unfavourable to him.”

JUNE 9. “General Dubesme has occupied Cremona, where he found considerable magazines. General Elsnitz has been considerably harassed in his retreat by General Souchet, who on the 2d and 3d took 1500 prisoners.—General Gorroup has lost his artillery, and retired with very few men to Coni, the command of which place he has taken.

PETIT, Counsellor of state, to the Consuls.

MILAN, 31 prairial—June 10.

The First Consul writes to me to-day from Bronni, the following letter:

“We had yesterday a very brilliant affair. Without exaggeration the enemy had 1500 killed, and twice as many wounded. We