

THE NORTH-CAROLINA M AND SALISBURY ADVERTIS

SALISBURY:—PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY FRANCIS COUP

NUM. 124.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1800.

LONDON, July 2.

Last night we received the Paris papers to the 29th ult from which we have given a full length Berthier's interesting account of the Great Battle at Maringo—and we have added the latest Bulletin of the army of Italy, announcing that the French have taken possession of the first line of fortresses, and that Melas has marched from Mantua. There is another Bulletin filled with the praise of Desaix, and very severe animadversions on Lord Keith for ill treating him. The Bulletin also gives an account of the Chief of Staffs being present at the performance of Te Deum for the deliverance of the Cisalpine Republic. By letters from Souchet, his left was at Ormea and his right at Borghetta, on the 6th of June, and he had gained several advantages. There is no full account of the passage of the Danube at Dillingen, but no doubt can be entertained of the fact. The private accounts shew that the Austrians were previously preparing to abandon Ulm. We have at last Lord Keith's letter, proving it was in consequence of his refusal to sanction the convention between Kleber and the Turks, that hostilities again broke out in Egypt. Another negotiation is said to be on foot between the French and the Porte.

BATTLE OF MARINGO.

Report to the Commander in Chief, from Alexander Berthier.

To obtain possession of Milan, effect a junction with the division of General Moncey, cut off the retreat of the enemy to Brescia, Orsinovi, Marcaria, and Plaisance, to gain the immense magazines of the enemy, prevent their communications, and secure their depots, their sick and artillery, such were the orders issued, whilst our army observed the motions of that of the enemy, harassed them on the Po, and effected the passage of that river before Stradella. The activity of our movements were preparatory to the accomplishment of these objects; the genius of Buonaparte profited by them.

The enemy, beaten at Montebello, were successively reinforced by troops, under the command of Generals Elsnitz and Bellegarde. I was informed, that Melas had assembled all his forces at Alessandria. It was important to prevent his ulterior movements. With this view every thing was arranged.

The enemy had the alternative either of advancing towards Genoa and penetrating into Tuscany on passing the Po and the Tefin, in order to gain Mantua, or of forcing their way by giving battle to our army: or finally, of shutting themselves up in Turin.

The division of Chabran and Lapoye, received orders to guard the Po. The detachment left at Yvrea observed the Orco, the corps of General Moncey, occupied Plaisance, observed Bobbio, guarded the Tefin, the Sesia, and the Oglio, from the source of that river to the Po, and extend its observations towards Peschiera and Mantua. The Italian legion occupied Brescia, and the remainder of the army, with Buonaparte at their head, marched against the enemy.

On the 24th prairial (June 13) at day break, the army directed its march towards Tortona and Castel Nuovo di Scrivia. The corps of General Victor, which formed the advanced guard, passed the Scrivia at Dora. That of General Lannes obtained possession of Castel Nuovo, where the enemy abandoned 1500 sick, among whom were 600 in a state of recovery, and ready to resume active service in army. The corps under the orders of General Desaix took a position near Ponte

Coronne. The same day the army marched towards San Juliano, which the advanced guard of the enemy evacuated, for the purpose of occupying a position at Maringo. They were attacked by the division of Gardanne, supported by the 24th light infantry, and forced to retire to the bridge on the Bormida, after having lost two pieces of cannon, and 180 prisoners.

The enemy refused to give us battle in the plain of San Juliano and Maringo, where they might have derived the utmost advantage from their numerous cavalry. We had every reason to presume they would not have attacked us after we had acquired a knowledge of the ground and their situation, and that their object was either to pass the Po and the Tefin, or advance against Genoa and Bobbio. Measures were taken to oppose them with sufficient force on the road from Alessandria to Genoa, and on the left bank of the Po, the passage of which it was supposed they would attempt at Casal or at Valence. A division of the corps under the command of general Desaix advanced towards Rivalta by turning Tortona. Flying bridges were established on the heights of Castel Nuovo, in order expeditiously to pass the Po, and by a movement in flank, united the divisions on the left bank of that river. But on the 25th (14th June at 7 in the morning, the divisions of Gardanne, which formed our advanced guard, was attacked. The enemy, by the development of their forces, manifested the object of their plans. The troops under the command of General Victor were immediately ranged in order of battle. One part of it formed the centre, which occupied the village of Maringo; another formed the left wing, which extends to the Bormida; the corps of General Lannes constitutes the right wing.

The army formed into two lines, and its wings supported by a formidable corps of cavalry.

They made successive attacks, advancing in three columns. Their right advanced towards Rigorale, by proceeding up the Bormida; their centre by the great road; and their left by Castel Caricchio.

General Victor informed me that he was attacked by the whole of the enemy's forces. I immediately marched the reserve of the cavalry, and the corps of Gen. Desaix, from which I however except the division which has been directed against Seravalle.

The First Consul rushed with eagerness to the field of battle. On arriving there we found the action general. Both sides fought with equal fury. General Gardanne sustained, for two hours, the attack of the right and the centre of the enemy, without losing an inch of ground, notwithstanding the inferiority of his artillery. The brigade under the command of General Kellerman, composed of the 2d and 20th regiments of cavalry, and of the 8th of dragoons, supported the left of General Victor. The 44th and 10th of the line bravely maintained their former well-earned reputation.

General Victor sent orders to the brigade of cavalry of General Duvigneu; but that general had quitted without authority the command of his brigade, the circumstance retarded the execution of four movements. Two hundred men of that corps were commanded to proceed up the Bormida and observe the motions of the enemy; the rest received orders to support the left of the army; and they conducted themselves with valour. General Gardanne, obliged to quit his position as advanced guard, retired and took an oblique position. The right was to the village of Maringo, and the left towards

the left bank of the river. In this situation he took in the morning, and marched towards Maringo, a terrible and

The ranks of the enemy, they hesitated, they began to receive, they received their muskets, they pointed their bayonets, and the 96th of Maringo. While the bridge was left, 3 pieces of artillery, they were forces.

valry supported 100 prisoners. The 1st of Castel Caricchio, ing fresh possession, they took the houses.

Some of the cartons in disorder, their success, advantage, sited the of the cavalry, enemy with the left,

reinforce to lost ground, in their centre, finished by fugo. General make a retro

General Lannes attacked by force of infantry made formidable artillery, and the 28th, point of being to they were supported by goons under the peaux. This ch Victor obliged Gen

same movement, The First Consul, of General Desaix immediately hastened in Lannes to favour his time the enemy advanced 72d demi-brigade to movements—he endeavoured to flank, and charge at the brigade; but a general cry in “We will not suffer the First Consul to expose himself!” This exclamation followed by an interesting struggle, troops, who unmindful of their thought only of their chief. He gained time.

The retreat was soon effected, fire of eighty pieces of artillery, preceded the march of the Austrian battalions and vomited forth a shower of balls on our ranks. They manoeuvred with the coolness as if they had been merely performing their exercise. The rank, which had been just in a manner annihilated, was immediately succeeded by other brave troops. Never was there beheld a movement more regular, or more striking.

The enemy believed themselves sure of victory. A numerous cavalry, supported by many squadrons of light artillery, pressed upon our right, and threatened to turn our army. The grenadiers of the Consular guard