

# THE RALEIGH MINERVA.

THREE DOLLARS PER YEAR.

RALEIGH, N. C.—PUBLISHED (WEEKLY) BY LUCA AND A. H. BOYLAN.

[HALF OF WHICH IN ADVANCE.]

VOL. 18.

FRIDAY, JULY 2, 1813.

No. 900

## Interesting Foreign Intelligence.

BERLIN, April 10.

### DEFEAT OF BEAUHARNOIS BY THE RUSSIANS.

Our paper contains the following letter from the head-quarters of General Count Von Wittgenstein, to M. de Tschudi, Military Governor of the country between the Elbe and Oder.

Head-quarters at Zerbst, April 7.

"I hasten humbly to inform your Excellency of the happy occurrences of the 24th of March (5th April) with the intent of entirely relieving the good citizens of Berlin from the dread and fear they entertained of possibly seeing the enemy again within their walls.

"General Von Borstell, with his detached corps, had already advanced as far as Wulwitz, for the purpose of surrounding Magdeburgh on the right bank of the Elbe; but on the 2d of April, being attacked by a superior force, he, according to his previous instructions, retreated back to Nedlitz, and covered the roads to Burg and Gommern by Cossacks.

"On the 5th of April the enemy obliged General Von Borstell to fall back to Gloina (on the road to Gortzke) and forced the Cossacks back to Leitzkau, and towards Burg.

"As I had received certain information that the Viceroy of Italy, who commanded this expedition in person, and with a corps d'armee of four divisions, about 22 or 24,000 men strong, among which were 3000 cavalry, and 40 pieces of artillery, not only caused the country round Magdeburgh in the right bank of the Elbe, to be plundered, but likewise (not being informed that my corps was so near him) intended making an attempt on Berlin. I determined on attacking him with my whole strength, and to drive him back with my entire force. For this purpose, on the 4th of April, I concentrated the corps of Lieutenant General Von York near Zerbst; that of Lieutenant General Von Berg at three German miles from hence, in the village of Leitzkau, and fixed my head-quarters at Zerbst; I directed General Von Borstell, and likewise Lieutenant General Von Bulow, who had so early as the 4th of April, arrived at Ziesar, to push as far forward as the enemy would permit; but that they should on the 5th, when they would be informed by a cannonade, my having commenced an attack, fall on the enemy with the greatest impetuosity. On the 5th of the morning, Lieutenant Von York's corps advanced to Leitzkau, and that of Lieut. General Von Berg, to Liebenburg; Lieut. General Von Borstell had advanced towards Mockern, and Lieut. General Von Bulow to Hohenziatz. At two o'clock in the afternoon Lieut. General Von York was obliged to send a vanguard towards Gommern, and Lieut. General Von Berg to do the same to this place. The first vanguard came up with the enemy near Danigkow, and after a brisk cannonade forced him to quit that place with a considerable loss; whereupon I caused the corps of Lieut. General Von York, and that of Lieut. General Von Berg, to follow the van-guards, which were already engaged, and made a vigorous attack on the enemy. Generals Von Borstell and Von Bulow did the same on their side, the first advancing to Zehdenick, and the latter to Leitzkau, which places were in the enemy's possession, but who was dislodged from thence by the valour of our troops.

"The resistance of the enemy who had the advantage of the ground, was every where very obstinate; but he was nevertheless forced at all points to yield to the bravery of our troops; and was only by the darkness coming on that an end was put to the engagement, and we were prevented from following up this glorious victory. I cannot sufficiently express to your Excellency my approbation of the valour of the Imperial Russian and Royal Prussian troops. The Lithuanian Regiment of Dragoons, and two squadrons of the 1st Regiment of Hussars, cut an enemy's regiment of cavalry totally to pieces, or made prisoners, or dispersed it. The same fate attended a second regiment of the enemy's cavalry, by the Grownow Hussars.

"The Tirailleurs of the brave Pomeranian Battalion of Grenadiers took a field-piece with horses from the enemy, and in the whole, six powder waggons were taken, and we made twenty-seven officers, and nine hundred privates prisoners. The General of Division Grenier, and General Grandier, were wounded.

"The enemy's loss—certainly amounts to 2,000 men killed and wounded. On our side, one officer was killed, seven wounded, and we had 60 privates killed or wounded. The enemy did not take a single man of ours to keep with them; the Cossack was made prisoner, but he made his escape, and even brought a horse along with him. On the 6th, towards noon, I again sent a detachment of infantry, cavalry and artillery, in search of the enemy, who had drawn off from all points in the course of the night, but this proved in vain, as his retreat to Magdeburgh he had quitted the defiles at Wulwitz and Alten Clus, and had cut off all the bridges. I am at present engaged in causing entrenchments to be thrown up at Clus, Sonigsborn and other points, in order to enable Lieutenant General Von Bulow, with the greater security, to blockade Magdeburgh on this side.

(Signed) F. DAUVRAY, Imperial Russian Major-general, and Chief of the General Staff, in the name of Count Wittgenstein.

BERLIN, April 15.

From the Lower Elbe the French, who had

lately advanced thither, have again retreated to the Old Mark. Davoust, whose force is now estimated at not more than 8000 men, is at present entrenching himself at Salzwedel. By a parallel march General Dornberg's corps has advanced to Demitz; and, according to the latest accounts, had again crossed over to the opposite bank of the Elbe. The Swedes are advancing by forced marches to the Elbe. We also learn, that they have not only reached that river, but that 6000 of them crossed it at Magdeburgh.

Through East Prussia are marching at present 30 battalions and 45 squadrons of Russian troops, for the army. It is not expected that M. Berlin can hold out long, as only the body of the fortress is completed, and it has no outworks.

The Imperial Russian army, under Field-Marshal Kutousoff, 30,000 strong, with 200 pieces of cannon, was expected at Lubben, on the 15th, and will reach the Saxon confines by the end of his month.

The corps of General Miloradovitch on the 7th and 8th passed through Buntzlau. The corps of Count Woronzoff is expected in Berlin, from Frankfort on the Oder; it consists of seven regiments of infantry, and two of cavalry, and has with it much artillery.

The King of Saxony, it is said, positively refused to obey the orders requiring him to repair to Frankfort.

The Polish corps, which still remains at Cra-cow, under Poniatowski, and whose strength is variously estimated, has requested permission to march undisturbed to France, which of course was refused.

Private intelligence states, that the head-quarters of Gen. Blucher were on the 13th at Chemnitz.

BANKS OF THE ELBE, April 12.

After the defeat of the French at Mockern, they retreated towards Magdeburgh; but only the Generals and the Viceroy with his guards entered that city. On the evening of the 5th, the wounded were conveyed over the Elbe by a bridge of boats; and in the morning of the 6th, the rest of the troops crossed over in this manner, and marched to Stassfurt. On the 8th the Viceroy and his guards left Magdeburgh.

The garrison left in that city does not exceed 7000 men, of whom only 2500 are French. There are frequent quarrels between the French and Westphalian troops.

After the battle of Mockern, Laufstou was missing for three whole days.

FRONTIERS OF SAXONY, April 11.

The main body of the French force appears to be assembling at Wurzburg.

Leipzig is to contribute a considerable sum for the payment of the Russian troops. Yesterday 25,000 crowns, and to day 36,000, were to be paid for that purpose.

The Emperor of Russia, with the guards, was expected on the 20th at Dresden.

COELEN, April 11.

Today the head-quarters of Count Wittgenstein are in Dessau, and those of General York in Coelen, whilst the outposts of the army, which on the 9th crossed the Elbe at Rossla, are on the Saale from its junction with the Elbe as far as Nicuberg, Beruburg, and Alsteden. General Winzingerode is in Halle, and thus the communication between the corps of Wittgenstein and Blucher is kept up. The French have evacuated the Lower Saale, and in the rear of Beruberg, many prisoners have been taken by the Cossacks.

BRANDENBURGH, April 15.

A messenger has just arrived from Zerbst, with the news that the day before yesterday a very severe battle took place at Nicuburg on the Saale. Seven hundred prisoners were yesterday brought into Zerbst, and four hundred more were to follow to-day. It is also said that three thousand French were driven into the Saale, and drowned. We conclude that it was the corps of Von York which obtained this victory.

The day before yesterday there was also another combat near Biederitz. The issue is not ascertained, but it is known that the French were driven back, and to day 80 prisoners were brought in.

HAMBURG, April 20.

The raising of the Hanseatic Legion has gone on so successfully, that above 3000 infantry, and a number of squadrons of cavalry, completely equipped, have already, by daily drilling, acquired no small degree of expertness; and full of zeal in their country's cause are ready to follow their leaders into battle.

Not less care has been bestowed in securing the defence of the city. The General daily inspects the works on the walls, and in the suburbs: all ready all the breast works are finished, and Hamburg might now await in tranquillity, even a considerable corps of the enemy. The Burger Guards are to be raised to 7,200 men, and that number will be completed in a few days: they are daily exercised in the use of arms to receive the enemy, should he approach, with the energy of patriotic warriors, resolved to defend their liberty and property.

According to the latest accounts, the Russian light troops, under the command of Lieut. Col. Benckendorf, have advanced within a mile of Bremen; in this advance they took about 50 prisoners, three of whom are officers. The cavalry of the Hanseatic Legion has had an honorable share in various skirmishes.

The head-quarters of the Imperial Russian

army were expected to be in Dresden on the 22d. Yesterday Lieut. Gen. Count Wallmoden Gimmern arrived here from the head-quarters of his Majesty the Emperor, and soon after departed. His Excellency had been appointed to the command of the Northern Army by his Imperial Majesty.

Ten thousand stands of arms, accoutrements and ammunition, have been landed for the Hanoverians, who expect the Duke of Cambridge, their former Governor.

## GREAT-BRITAIN.

LONDON, April 24.

### Extract from a Government Bulletin.

Government have despatches from Hamburg to the 17th, and from Cuxhaven to the 19th, which announce the arrival on the Elbe of a General with the Van Guard of the Swedish Army. This body will be immediately followed by the principal corps of the army, commanded by Bernadotte. Preparations are making at Lubeck to receive him.

Detachments of allied troops have penetrated within 10 miles of Zell, and to the neighborhood of Verden. The inhabitants voluntarily furnish them with provisions.

A part of Davoust's Fr. Corps was at Zell and Brunswick.

It was believed at Hamburg, that Gen. Kest had taken Wittenberg.

At Dorn the Russians have taken a considerable quantity of Munitions destined for Magdeburgh.

The Emperor of Russia has assured the Senate of Hamburg, that he should employ all his regular forces for the re-establishment of the independence of Germany, confiding the defence of his own frontiers to his militia.

On the 1st day of May there will be 300,000 Russian troops in Germany.

LONDON, April 25.

Bonaparte has by this time arrived at the first head-quarters of the French Army of Germany.

In the mean time whilst the French Emperor is thus on his way, the brave Russian General, Count Wittgenstein, has anticipated his arrival by an important victory over Beauharnois; who, being the Commander in Chief of the French Army before the arrival of his Master, the victory over them may be very fairly considered as having been obtained over the Grand Army itself. The French force in this engagement is estimated by Wittgenstein at four divisions—that is to say, at a 24,000; of these Wittgenstein states himself to have killed and wounded 2,000, among whom were two Generals, Grenier and Grandier, 27 Officers, and 900 men made prisoners. So much appears indubitable, that the French were defeated and compelled to retire into Magdeburgh.

It appears, moreover, by the official statement, that it was one effect of this victory to prevent an important attempt of the enemy, Beauharnois, not knowing the actual strength of the Russians, was on his march for Berlin with the intention of seizing that capital. The victory of Wittgenstein prevented the execution of this purpose.

The Danish Ambassador, Count Bernstorff, and suite, have arrived in town. It is understood that he is empowered by his Danish Majesty to conclude a Treaty of Alliance with this country.—It was conjectured at Copenhagen, that Great Britain is to subsidize 25,000 Danish troops, and to pay the value of the fleet taken at Copenhagen.

Letters from Malta, of the 16th inst. mention a report of the forts of Fiume, Trieste, and Dalmatia, having been abandoned by the French troops, preparatory to their surrender to the Emperor of Austria.

With respect to the Swedes, the alliance with them has undoubtedly added a great strength, and therein a great advantage, to the allied cause. The Swedish army may be estimated, in a very moderate way of computation, at about thirty five thousand men, effective for external operations; and if this number, and troops of the known hardihood and courage of the Swedes, be employed either as a diversion or in union with the Russians, it is certainly not too much to expect that they will arrest the progressive march of the French. It is likewise another very important addition to the advantageous consideration of this force, that it will be administered, and most probably commanded, by Bernadotte. This General was at one time one of the favorites of Bonaparte, and is considered as one of the most honorable and able of the French Marshals.

With respect to the Danes—Denmark, we believe, in the way of annoyance, can be expected to do very little, but it is an undoubted accession to the allied strength to have procured her cooperation. The French Emperor reckoned upon the fidelity of Denmark even to his latest public speech; and it is a matter of astonishment to us how he could be so egregiously deceived. Denmark, however, certainly has no army, though we believe a very brave militia, and may thereby be enabled to defend itself.

### American Frigate Essex.

FALMOUTH, April 23.

By the Fox Packet, Tilly, with mails from the Brazils, 88 days from Bahia, and 66 from Rio de Janeiro; on the 14th of February H. M. S. Racoon and Cherub sailed from Rio in quest of the Essex American frigate, having information that she was off St. Sebastian.

PARIS, April 19.

The Sicilians, fatigued with the English yoke, have revolted. The sedition was for the moment

quelled by force; many persons of distinction, suspected of having excited the people against the English, have been arrested.

In circumstances so difficult, Queen Caroline who had retired to Castelvitano, received orders to hold herself in readiness to depart for Cagliari or Trieste; she refused to obey; she caused the doors of the prisons in the place of her exile to be opened; she armed the prisoners, and called to her assistance the discontented Barons. Lord Benlican has marched 3000 men against Castelvitano.

## SPAIN AND PORTUGAL.

Since our last, we have received Lisbon Papers to the 17th ult.

The campaign in the N. W. of Spain had not commenced; but preparations were actively making for it; and the first battles are expected to be in the vicinity of the Douro.

CADIZ, May 2.

The enemy lost more than 4000 in the battles in Valencia on the 11th 12th and 13th ult. The English lost about 900 men killed and wounded, among whom were several officers.

CADIZ, Mar 6.

Our troops of the 2d army, and the French troops under Suchet, remained in nearly the same positions as at the last date. The English occupy the port of Alcala. Suchet is gone to the city of Valencia.

The Duke of Parque is appointed Ambassador to London—Count Fernan Nunes, to Sweden.

PRENADA, May 6.

It is believed we shall open the campaign with about 100,000 troops.

The French have about 60,000 men opposed to Lord Wellington.

Lord WELLINGTON, in a letter dated May 3, mentions his receiving intelligence of the battle in the Province of Valencia, but not the official account. He attributes his not having the details to the allied army being in pursuit of Suchet.

A treaty of alliance has been concluded between the Spanish Regency and Sweden.

## ADMIRALTY-OFFICE.

LONDON, April 20.

Letters of which the following are copies and extracts, have been transmitted to this office by Lieut. Chasels, late first lieutenant of his majesty's ship Java.

United States Frigate Constitution, off St. Salvador, Dec. 31, 1812.

Sir—It is with deep regret that I write you that his majesty's ship Java is no more, after sustaining an action on the 29th inst. for several hours, with the American frigate Constitution, which resulted in the capture & ultimate destruction of his majesty's ship. Capt. Lambert being dangerously wounded in the height of the action, the melancholy task of writing the detail devolves on me.

On the 29th inst. at eight A. M. off St. Salvador (coast of Brazil) the wind at N. E. we perceived a strange sail; made all sail in chase, and soon made her out to be a large frigate; at noon prepared for action, the chase not answering our private signals and tacking towards us under easy sail; when about four miles distant she made a signal, and immediately tacked and made all sail away upon the wind. We soon found we had the advantage of her in sailing; and came up with her fast, when she hoisted American colours, she then bore about three points on our fore-bow. At fifty minutes past one P. M. the enemy shortened sail, upon which we bore down upon her, and at ten minutes past two, when about half a mile distant, she opened her fire by giving us her larboard broadside, which was not returned till we were close on her weather bow. Both ships now manœuvred to obtain advantageous positions, our opponent evidently seeking close action, and firing high to disable our masts, in which she succeeded too well, having shot away the head of our bowsprit with the jib-boom, and our running rigging so much cut as to prevent our preserving the weather gauge.

At five minutes past three, finding the enemy's raking fire extremely heavy, Capt. Lambert ordered the ship to be laid on board, in which we should have succeeded, had not our fore-mast been shot away at this moment, the remains of our bowsprit passing over his taffrail; shortly after this the maintop mast went, leaving the ship totally unmanageable, with most of our larboard guns rendered useless from the wreck lying over them.

At half past three our gallant captain received a dangerous wound in the breast, and was carried below; from this time we could not fire more than two or three guns until a quarter past four, when our main-mast was shot away; then I J. off a little, and brought many of our stoutest guns to bear; the enemy's rigging was so much cut that he could not avoid shooting ahead, which brought us fairly broadside and broadside. Our mainyard now went in the slings, both ships continued engaged in this manner till thirty-three minutes past four, we frequently on fire in consequence of the wreck lying on the side engaged. Our opponent now made sail ahead out of gunshot, where he remained an hour repairing his damages, leaving us an unmanageable wreck, with only the main-mast left, and that tottering. Every exertion was made by us during the interval to place the ship in a state to renew the action. We succeeded in clearing the wreck, and