

# THE RALEIGH MINERVA.

THREE DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

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

[HALF OF WHICH IN ADVANCE.]

VOL. 18.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1813.

No. 905.

## Foreign.

### VERY IMPORTANT!

From French papers received by the arrival last evening of the schooner Bayner, Forbes, 30 days from Bordeaux.

### OFFICIAL NEWS FROM THE GRAND ARMY.

PARIS, May 29, 1813.

H. M. the Empress, Queen and Regent, has received the following accounts of the events which have happened at the army on the 19th, 20th, 21st and 22d, and of the positions of the army on the 23d.

The Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia attributed the loss of the battle of Lutzen to errors committed in the direction of the combined force, and above all to the difficulties attendant on the operations of from 150 to 180,000 men, acting on the offensive. They resolved to take up the position of Bautzen and Hochkirch already celebrated in the history of the seven years war; to concentrate there all the reinforcements expected from the Vistula and other points in the rear; to strengthen this position by every means which art could furnish, and there to encounter the risk of another battle, of which all the probabilities appeared to be in their favor.

The Duke of Tarentum (Macdonald) commanding the 11th corps, departed from Bischofswerden on the 15th; and, in the evening of that day, was within cannon shot of Bautzen; there he reconnoitred the enemy's army. He took up a position.

From this moment the different corps of the French army were marched upon the camp of Bautzen.

The Emperor left Dresden on the 18th; he slept at Haata; and on the 19th, he arrived at ten o'clock in the morning before Bautzen. He employed the whole of the day in reconnoitering the enemy's positions.

We learnt that the Russian corps under Barclay de Tolly, de Laugeron and de Sass, and the Prussian corps of Kleist, had formed a junction with the combined army, and that its force might be estimated at from 150 to 160 thousand men.

On the evening of the 19th, the enemy's position was as follows: their left rested upon mountains covered with woods, and perpendicular to the course of the Spree, about a league from Bautzen. Bautzen sustained their centre. This town had been entrenched around, and covered with redoubts. The right of the enemy rested upon some little fortified hills which defended the openings of the Spree. This very strong position was but a first position.

We perceived distinctly at 3000 toises in the rear, earth freshly thrown up, and works which designated the second position. The left again rested on the same mountains, at 2000 toises in the rear of those of the first position, and considerably advanced in front of the village of Hochkirch. The centre rested upon three entrenched villages, where so many works had been thrown up that they might be considered as strong places. A marshy and difficult ground covered three fourths of the centre. Lastly, their right rested behind the first position, upon villages and little hills entrenched in the same manner.

The front of the enemy's army, in the first and second position, stretched a league and a half long.

After this reconnoissance, it was easy to conceive how, notwithstanding the loss of a battle like that of Lutzen, and after eight days of retreating, the enemy might still have hopes from the chances of fortune. According to the expression of a Russian officer, who, when asked what they intended to do, replied: *We neither intend to advance, nor to draw back*—to which a French officer answered: *At present you have it in your power to do the first, in a few days events will show whether you are masters of the latter.* The head quarters of the two allied sovereigns was at the village of Natchen.

On the 19th, the position of the French army was as follows:

Upon the right was the Duke of Reggio (Victor) resting upon the mountains on the left bank of the Spree, and separated from the enemy's left by the valley. The Duke of Tarentum (Macdonald) was in front of Bautzen, on the road from Dresden. The Duke of Ragusa (Marmont) was on the left of Bautzen, opposite to the village of Niemenschatz. General Bertrand was upon the left of the Duke of Ragusa, supported by a windmill and a wood, and threatening to *debouche* from Jaselitz upon the right of the enemy.

The Prince of Moskwa (Nev) Gen. Lauriston, and Gen. Regnier, were at Hoyerswerda, upon the Berlin road, out of the line and behind our left.

The enemy being informed that a considerable corps had arrived by the way of Hoyerswerda, doubted whether the Emperor's intention was not to turn the position of the right, to change the field of battle, and to cause to fall all these entrenchments raised with so much labour, and the object of so many hopes. Being only aware of Gen. Lauriston's arrival, the enemy did not suppose this column consisted of more than 18 or 20,000 men—He, therefore, detached against it, at four in the morning, Gen. York with 12,000 Prussians; and General Barclay de Tolly with 18,000 Russians posted themselves at the village of Klix, and the Prussians at Weissig.

In the meantime Count Bertrand had sent General Perry with the Italian division to Hoyerswerda, in order to maintain our communica-

tions with the detached corps. Arriving at midnight, general Perry made bad arrangements; he did not cause the neighbouring forest to be scoured. He posted his men badly, and at four o'clock, he was assailed by a horrid which threw several battalions into confusion. He lost 600 men, among whom was the general of brigade Balathier, wounded; two pieces of cannon, and three caissons; but the division having taken arms, rested upon the wood, and faced the enemy.

The count of Falury (Kellerman) having arrived with cavalry, put himself at the head of the Italian division, and retook the village of Konigs-wartha. At the same moment the corps of Count Lauriston, which marched ahead of that of the Prince of Moskwa, in order to turn the enemy's position, departing from Hoyerswerda, arrived near Weissig. The action began, and the corps of York would have been destroyed, had it not been for a defile, which was to be passed and by which means our troops only arrived successively. After three hours of fighting, the village of Weissig was carried, and the corps of York overthrown, was forced on the other side of the Spree.

The action of Weissig is of itself a very important event. A detailed report of it will be given.

On the 19th slept at the post of Weissig; the Prince of Moskwa at Munkersdorf; and Count Regnier a league in the rear. The right of the enemy's position was evidently uncovered.

On the 20th, at 8 o'clock in the morning the Emperor proceeded to the height behind Bautzen. He ordered the Duke of Reggio to pass the Spree, and to attack the mountains which supported the enemy's left; he directed the Duke of Tarentum to throw a bridge over the Spree in the bottom which this river forms upon the left at half a league from Bautzen; the Duke of Dalmatia (Soult) to whom H. M. had given the supreme command of the centre, to pass the Spree in order to harass the enemy's right; lastly he commanded the Prince of Moskwa, under whose orders was the 3d corps, Count Lauriston and Gen. Regnier to approach Klix, pass the Spree, turn the enemy's right, and to march upon his head quarters at Wurtchen, and from thence upon Wessenburg.

At noon the cannonade began; the Duke of Tarentum found it unnecessary to throw over his bridge; he found before him a stone bridge; of which he forced the passage. The Duke of Ragusa threw over a bridge; his whole corps d'armee passed on the other side of the Spree. After six hours of smart cannonading and several charges which the enemy made without success, General Pompan occupied Bautzen, General Boenet occupied the village of Niedkavn and carried at quick step, a plain which rendered him master of the whole centre of the enemy's position; the Duke of Reggio possessed himself of the heights, and at seven o'clock in the evening, the enemy was thrown back upon his second position. Gen. Bertrand passed one of the arms of the Spree; but the enemy preserved the height, which supported his right, and by this means maintained himself between the corps of the Prince of Moskwa and our army.

The Emperor entered Bautzen at 8 o'clock in the evening, and was received by the inhabitants and the authorities with those sentiments that allies ought to feel, who have the happiness to be delivered from Stein, from Kotzebue, and from Cossacks. This day, which were it confected with another, might be called the battle of Bautzen, was only the prelude to the battle of Wurtchen.

In the mean time, the enemy began to realize the possibility of being forced from his positions; his hopes were no longer the same, and he must from this moment have felt the pressure of his defeat. Already were all his positions changed. The fate of the battle was no longer to be decided behind his entrenchments. His immense labors and his three hundred redoubts became useless. The right of his position, which was opposed to the 4th corps, became his centre, and he was obliged to throw his right, which formed a great part of his army, in order to oppose the Prince of Moskwa, into a place which he had not studied, and which he believed out of his position.

The 21st, at 5 in the morning, the Emperor proceeded to the heights, three quarters of a league in front of Bautzen.

The Duke of Reggio sustained a brisk firing of musketry upon the heights which defended the enemy's left. The Russians, who felt the importance of this position, had placed there a strong division of the army, in order that their left might not be turned. The Emperor ordered the Dukes of Reggio and Tarentum to sustain this action with the view of preventing the enemy's left from uncovering itself, and to mask from him the true attack, and of which the result would not make itself felt before 12 or 1 o'clock.

At 11, the Duke of Reggio marched 1000 toises in front of his position, and commenced a frightful cannonading before the redoubts and entrenchments of the enemy.

The guards, and the reserve of the army, infantry and cavalry, thus masked, had openings from which they might easily advance forward to the right or left, according to the vicissitudes of the day. The enemy was thus held in a state of uncertainty as to the true point of attack.

Whilst this passed, the Prince of Moskwa overthrew the enemy at Klix, passed the Spree, and drove all before him to the village of Preilitz. At 10 o'clock he carried the village; but the reserve of the enemy having advanced to cover his head quarters, the Prince of Moskwa was driven

back and left the village of Preilitz. The Duke of Dalmatia began to *debouche* at 1 in the afternoon. The enemy comprehending the danger with which he was threatened by the turn the battle had taken, felt that the only means of sustaining with advantage the action against the Prince of Moskwa, was to prevent us from *debouching*. They wished to oppose the attack of the Duke of Dalmatia. The moment for deciding the battle was precisely indicated.—The Emperor, by a movement on the left, passed in 20 minutes with the guards, the 4 divisions of Gen. Latour Maubourg, and a great quantity of artillery, upon the flank of the right of the enemy's position, which had become the centre of the Russian army.

The division of Morand and the Wurtemberg division carried the hillock which the enemy had made his point of support.

Gen. Devaux established a battery, and directed its fire upon the masses which sought to resume their position. The Generals Dulauloy and Drout, with 60 pieces of cannon, advanced in front. Lastly, the duke of Treviso, (Mortier) with 2 divisions of the younger guards, marched upon the Inn of Klic Baschwitz, cutting off the road from Wurtchen to Bautzen.

The enemy was obliged to uncover his right in order to parry this new attack. The Prince of Moskwa took advantage of this and marched forward. He took the village of Preisig, and advanced, having pushed the enemy's quarters upon Wurtchen. It was 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and whilst the army was in the greatest uncertainty as to its success, the Emperor announced that the battle was won.

The enemy seeing his right turned commenced his retreat, and this retreat soon became a flight.

At 7 in the evening, the Prince of Moskwa and Gen. Lauriston arrived at Wurtchen. The Duke of Ragusa then received orders to make a movement the reverse of that which the guards had just made. He occupied all the entrenched villages, and all the redoubts which the enemy was obliged to evacuate, advanced in the direction of Hochkirch, and then outflanked the enemy's left, which then fled in the greatest disorder. The Duke of Tarentum, on his side, assailed violently the enemy and did him much injury.

The Emperor slept upon the road in the midst of his guards at the Inn of Klem-Baschwitz. Thus the enemy forced from all his positions, left in our power the field of battle covered with his dead and wounded, and several thousand prisoners.

On the 22d, at 4 o'clock in the morning, the French army put itself into motion. The enemy had fled the whole night by all the roads and in every direction. His first posts were encountered beyond Weissenburg, he did not make any resistance until we had reached the heights behind Reichenbach. The enemy had not yet seen our cavalry.

General Lebrune Desnouettes, at the head of 1500 horse, Polish lancers; and the red lancers of the guards, charged in the plain of Reichenbach the enemy's cavalry, and overthrew it. The enemy, believing that they were alone, caused a division of cavalry to advance, and many divisions engaged successively. General Latour Maubourg, with his 14,000 horse, and the French and Saxon cuirassiers, came to their succor, and many charges of cavalry took place.—The enemy, quite astonished to find before them 15 or 16,000, when they believed we were entirely destitute of it, retired in disorder. The red lancers of the guard were composed chiefly of volunteers from Paris and its environs. General Lebrune Desnouettes, and general Colbert, their colonel, bestowed on them the greatest praise. In this affair of cavalry, general Bruyere, an officer of the light cavalry of the highest distinction, had his leg carried away by a ball.

General Regnier repaired with the Saxon corps to the heights beyond Reichenbach, and pursued the enemy quite to the village of Hottendorf—night found us a league from Guerlitz. Although the day had been very long, since we found ourselves 8 leagues from the field of battle, and the troops had experienced so much fatigue, the French army might have slept at Guerlitz; but the enemy had a body of their rear guard upon a height in front of this town, and an hour of day light would have been necessary to have turned it by the left. The emperor therefore ordered that we should take up our quarters;

In the battles of the 20th and 21st, the Wurtemberg general Eraquemont and General Lorenz were wounded. Our loss on those days may be estimated at 11 or 12,000 killed or wounded. The evening of the 22nd, at 7 o'clock, the grand Marshal, Duke of Frioul (Duroc) being upon a small eminence, conversing with the Duke of Treviso and general Kirgener, all three being on foot, and sufficiently distant from the fire, one of the last cannon balls of the enemy passed near the Duke of Treviso, struck the grand marshal, and killed outright general Kirgener. The Duke of Frioul perceived that he was mortally wounded. He expired 12 hours afterwards. The moment the posts were placed and the army had taken up its quarters, the Emperor went to see the Duke of Frioul. He found him in perfect possession of his mind, and exhibiting the greatest composure. The Duke pressed the hand of the Emperor and carried it to his lips. All my life, said he, has been devoted to your service, and I only regret, it on account of the utility which it still might have been to you. Duroc!

said the Emperor to him, there is another life! It is there you shall go to await me, and there we shall one day meet again. Yes, sire, but it shall be in thirty years, when you shall have triumphed over your enemies, and realised all the hopes of our country. I have lived an honest man.

I reproach myself with nothing. I leave a daughter; your majesty will be to her a father.

The Emperor pressing with his right hand the Marshal, remained a quarter of an hour with his head supported in his left hand with the most profound silence. *Ah, sire, retire, this night distresses you.* The Emperor leaning upon the Duke of Dalmatia and the grand Squire, left the Duke of Frioul, without being able to utter any thing but these words: *Farewell, then, my friend!* His majesty entered his tent and received no one during the night.

The 23d, at 9 o'clock in the morning, general Regnier entered Guerlitz. Bridges were thrown over the Neiss, and the army passed this river.

On the 23d, in the evening, the Duke of Belluno was upon Batzeburg; Count Lauriston had his head quarters at Hochkirch; Count Regnier in front of Trotskendorf upon the road of Lauban, and Count Bertrand in the rear of the same villages. The Duke of Tarentum was upon Schoerburg. The Emperor was at Guerlitz. A flag of truce sent by the enemy brought letters which it is believed treated of a proposition for an armistice.

The enemy retired by Branslau and Labau into Silesia. All Saxony is delivered from its enemies, and on the morning of the 24th, the French army will be in Silesia.

The enemy has burnt much of his baggage; blown up many parks of artillery, and scattered in the village a great number of wounded.—Those which they were able to carry off in their waggons had not their wounds dressed. The inhabitants estimated the number at more than 18,000. More than 10,000 wounded remain in our power.

The town of Guerlitz, which contains from 8 to 10,000 inhabitants, received the French as their deliverers.

The city of Dresden and the Saxon ministry have used the greatest activity, in providing for the army, which has never enjoyed greater abundance.

Although a great quantity of munitions has been consumed, the workshops of Torgau and Dresden, and the convoys which arrive by the care of general Sobier, keep our artillery well furnished.

There is news from Glogau, Custrin and Stettin. All these places were in a good state.

This account of the battle of Wurtchen can only be considered as a sketch. The chief major-general will correct the reports, which shall make known the officers, soldiers and corps who have distinguished themselves.

In the battle of the 22d, at Reichenbach, we have ascertained the certainty that our young cavalry is, with equal numbers, superior to that of the enemy. We have not been able to take any colours; the enemy always withdraw them from the field of battle. We have only taken 19 cannon—the enemy blew up their parks and caissons. Besides, the Emperor keeps his cavalry in reserve and wishes to spare it until it is sufficiently numerous.

PARIS, June 10.

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following account of the situation of the army on the 8d June.

The suspension of arms still subsists. The respective plenipotentiaries continue their negotiations for the Armistice.

General Lauriston has seized on the Oder more than 60 vessels loaded with flour, wine, and warlike ammunitions, which were intended for the army besieging Glogare.

Our advanced posts reached half way to Breig. General Hogendorp has been appointed Governor of Breslau.

The greatest order prevails in that city. The inhabitants appear much displeased, and even indignant at the dispositions relative to the Landsturm; which are attributed to Gen. Scharnhorst, who is thought to be an anarchist Jacobin. He was wounded in the battle of Lutzen.

The Prussian Princesses, who had retired in great haste from Berlin, to take refuge at Breslau, have departed from the latter city to take refuge farther.

The Duke of Bassano repaired to Dresden, where he will receive Count de Kass, the minister from Denmark.

Her Majesty the Empress, Queen and Regent, has received the following account of the situation of the army on the 4th, in the evening.

The Armistice was signed on the 4th, at two o'clock, P. M. The articles are herewith annexed.

His Majesty the Emperor sets off on the 5th at day break for Leignitz. It is believed that during the Armistice his Majesty will remain part of the time at Glogau, and the greatest part at Dresden, in order to be nearest his states. Glogau is provisioned for one year.

### ARMISTICE.

This 4th of June (23d May) the plenipotentiaries appointed by the belligerent powers; the Duke of Vicence, Grand Equerry of France, general of Division, Senator, grand Eagle of the Legion of Honour, Grand Cross of the orders of St. Andrew of Russia, Saint Leopold of Austria, &c fourth page.