

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1806.

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mercial friend, whose favour is duly esteemed and
acknowledged.

THIRTIETH OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE GRAND ARMY.

AUSTERLITZ, 12th Frimaire, year 14.

On the sixth of Frimaire, the emperor on receiving the communication of full power from M. de Wadron and de Guilay, offered previously an armistice, to spare blood, if they had a desire effectually to settle, and to come to a definitive arrangement.

But it was easy for the emperor to perceive, that they had other objects; and as the hope of success could come only from the Russian army, he immediately conjectured that the second and third armies had arrived, or were near Olmutz, and that the negotiations were but afloat to lull asleep his vigilance.

On the seventh, at nine in the morning, a crowd of caçacks, furnished by the Russian cavalry, made the advanced posts of prince Olturak give way, surrounded the camp, and took there upon the first regiment of dragoons. During the day the emperor of Russia came to Bischau, and the whole Russian army posted themselves behind that city.

The emperor sent his aid-de-camp, general Savery, to compliment the emperor of Russia, as soon as he knew he was arrived with his army. General Savery returned at the moment in which the emperor recognized the fire of the enemy's guard posted at Bischau. He was much pleased with his kind reception, with the attentions and personal sentiments of the emperor of Russia, and also of the grand duke Constantine, who shewed him every sort of attention; but it was easy for him to discover by the conversations which, during three days he had with a number of those who surrounded the emperor of Russia, that presumption, impudence and inconsideration, reigned in the decisions of the military cabinet, as they had presided in the political cabinet.

An army thus managed, could not delay the commission of faults. The emperor's plan was from this moment to watch the moment to profit by them. He gave orders for the army to retreat; retired in the night, as if he had experienced a defeat, took a good position 3 leagues back, and paid all attention to fortify it, and there to establish batteries.

He proposed an interview with the emperor of Russia, who sent him his aid-de-camp, prince Dolgorouly; this aid-de-camp remarked that reserve and timidity were manifested in the countenances of the French army. The situation of the large guards, the fortifications which they were making in great haste, all exhibited to the Russian officer an army half beaten.

Contrary to the custom of the emperor, who never received the reports from his officer with so much concern, he himself visited the advanced posts. After the first compliments, the Russian officer wished to enter upon political questions. He spoke upon every thing with inconceivable impertinence; he was most profoundly ignorant of the interests of Europe, and of the situation of the continent. He was, in one word, a young English trumpeter. He spoke to the emperor, as he spoke to the Russian officers, whom for a long time he had incited by his haughtiness, and his ill-behaviour. The emperor concealed his indignation, and this young man who has a real influence upon the emperor Alexander, returned full of the idea that the French army was on the eve of destruction. We may suppose what the emperor suffered, when we know that towards the conclusion of the conversation, he proposed to him to yield up the Netherlands, and to place the crown upon the head of one of the most implacable enemies of France. All these different proceedings increased the effect. The young heads who direct the Russian affairs, gave themselves up to their natural presumption. There was no question about beating the French army, but how to turn and capture it; it had achieved nothing but through the cowardice of the Austrians. They said that many of the old Austrian generals who had fought against the emperor, advised them, that they should not with so much confidence march against an army which contained so many old soldiers, and officers of the first merit. They said that they had seen the emperor reduced to a point in circumstances the most difficult, regain the victory by operations the most rapid and unthought of, and destroy the most numerous armies; that yet there was no advantage gained; that on the contrary, all the affairs of the rear guard of the first Russian army had been in favour of the French army, but, so this these presump-

tuous youths opposed the bravery of 80,000 Russians, the enthusiasm with which the presence of their emperor inspired them, the choice body of the Russian imperial guard and that which can hardly be said, their astonishment that the Austrians would not acknowledge their power.

On the 10th, the emperor, from his guard, perceived, with indelible joy, the Russian army commencing in two stations of their advanced posts, a movement of their flank to turn his right. He then saw to what a pitch, presumption and ignorance of the art of war, had led astray the councils of that brave army. He said many times—"Before to-morrow night that army is mine." Nevertheless the sentiments of the enemy were different: they presented themselves before our large guards within pistol shot; they defiled by a flank march in a file of four leagues, prolonging the French army, which appeared not to dare to move from its position; they had but one fear left the French army should escape them. Every thing was done to confirm them in this idea.—Prince Murat ordered a small corps of cavalry to advance into the plain; but all at once he appeared astonished at the immense force of the enemy, and returned in haste. Thus every thing tended to confirm the Russian general in the badly calculated operation upon which he had determined. The emperor prepared the proclamation to be read in the evening he wished to visit on foot, and incognito, all the extraordinary guards; but he had gone a few steps only, when he was recognized. It would be impossible to paint the enthusiasm of the soldiers when they saw him. Eighty thousand men presented themselves before the emperor, saluting him with acclamations; some to celebrate the anniversary of his coronation; others saying that the army would, to-morrow, give a nosegay to their emperor. One of the oldest grenadiers approached him saying, "Sire, you have no need to expose yourself, I promise you in the name of the grenadiers of the army, that you shall fight but with your eyes, and we will bring you to-morrow the colours and artillery of the Russian army to celebrate the anniversary of your coronation."

The emperor laid upon entering his night guard, which consisted of a vile cabin of straw, without a roof, which his grenadiers had made for him, "this is the finest night of all my life, but I regret to think that I shall lose a number of brave men. I feel that they are truly my children, and in truth, I reproach myself sometimes for this sentiment, for I fear it will render me unable to make war." If the enemy could have beheld this sight, they would have been terrified. But the stupid army continued its movements, and ran speedily to destruction.

The emperor immediately made his dispositions for battle. He sent away in great haste marshal Davoust to secure the convent of Raygem; he restrained both of his divisions, and a division of dragoons, the left wing of the enemy, until the moment appointed, it was entirely enveloped: he gave the command of the left to marshal Lannes, of the right to marshal Sonet, of the centre to marshal Bernadotte, and of all the cavalry, which he assembled in one point, to Prince Murat.

The left of marshal Lannes was supported by Santon, a superb position which the emperor had fortified, and in which he had placed 18 pieces of cannon.—From the watch time, he had confided the defence of this beautiful position to the 17th regiment of light infantry, and it could not have been guarded by better troops. The division of gen. Sauchet formed the left of marshal Lannes; that of gen. Casarelli formed his right; which was strengthened by gen. Murat's cavalry. This had before it the hussars and chassieurs under the orders of gen. Kellerman; and the divisions of dragoons under Valther and Beaumont, and in reserve the divisions of horsemen under Nansouty and D'Haufrout, with 24 pieces of light artillery.

Marshal Bernadotte, that is, the centre, had upon its left the division of gen. Rivaud, supported on the right by prince Murat, and on the left the division of gen. Drouot.

Marshal Soult, who commanded the right of the army, had on his left the division of gen. Vandaurme, in the centre the division of gen. St. Hilaire, at its right the division of gen. Legrand.

Marshal Davoust, was detached upon the right of gen. Leyraud, who defended the ponds and villages of Spolnitz and Celnitz. He had with him the division of Friants and the dragoons of gen. Bourcier. The division of gen. Gudin early in the morning marched to Nicolzburg to oppose the corps of the enemy which joined to the right.

The emperor, with his faithful companion in war, marshal Berthier, his first aid-de-camp, col. gen. Junot, and all his general officers, were in reserve with ten battalions of his guard, and ten battalions of grenadiers under gen. Oudinot, of whom gen. Duroc commanded a part.

This reserve was ranged in two lines in columns by battalions, at muster distance, having in the intervals 40 pieces of cannon served by the artillerymen of the guard. With this reserve the emperor intended to hasten where he might be necessary. This reserve alone was worth a whole army.

At one o'clock in the morning, the emperor mounted his horse to visit the posts, to reconnoitre the fire of the enemy's advanced guard; and by the large guards to understand the movements of the Russians. He found that they had passed the night in drunkenness and tumultuous noise, and that a corps of Russian infantry had reached the village of Sokolnitz, occupied by a regiment of the division of gen. Legrand, who received orders to reinforce it.

The 11th Frimaire at length appeared. The sun rose radiant; and this anniversary of the coronation of the emperor, on which occurred one of the greatest battles of the age, was one of the finest days of the autumn.

This battle, which the soldiers call the day of "the Three Emperors," which others call the anniversary, and which the emperor named the battle of Austerlitz, will be for ever memorable among the national feasts.

The emperor, encompassed by all his marshals, waited to give his last orders, when the horizon began to clear. At the first rays of the sun the orders were given, and each marshal rejoined his corps full gallop.

The emperor said when passing the front of many of the regiments "soldiers, we must finish this campaign by a thunder clap which shall confound the pride of our enemies," and immediately the hats on the end of the bayonets, and cries of "live the emperor," were the true signal of battle. Immediately after the cannonading was heard at the extremity on the right, upon which the enemy's advanced guard had already bordered; but the unexpected meeting with marshal Davoust, suddenly stopped the enemy, and the combat commenced.

Marshal Soult made a movement at the same instant, directed himself to the heights of the village of Pratzen, with the divisions of generals Vandamme and H. Hilaire, and cut off entirely the enemy's right, whose movements became irregular. Surprised by a flanked march, whilst it believed itself attacking, and seeing itself attacked, it considered itself half beaten.

Prince Murat moved with his cavalry. The left commanded by marshal Lannes, marched in steps by regiments, as if at exercise. A dreadful cannonading fell upon all its line; 200 pieces of cannon and nearly 200,000 men made a hideous noise; it was the battle of giants. Not one hour after the battle began, and the enemy's left was cut off. His right arrived at Austerlitz, the head-quarters of the two emperors, who immediately marched away the emperor of Russia's guard, to endeavour to re-establish the communication between the centre and the left. A battalion of the fourth of the line was charged by the Russian imperial guard, and overthrown; but the emperor was not far off, he perceived this movement; he ordered marshal Bessieres to help the right with his invincibles, and soon the two guards were engaged.

Success could not be doubtful; in a moment the Russian guard was routed, the colonel, artillery, and standards were all taken. The regiment of the grand duke Constantine was ruined. He himself owed his own safety to the swiftness of his horse.

On the heights of Austerlitz, the two emperors saw the defeat of all the Russian Guard. At the same moment the centre of the army commanded by marshal Bernadotte, advanced; three of his regiments supported a very heavy charge of cavalry. The left, commanded by marshal Lannes, charged many times; all the charges were victorious. The division of gen. Casarelli was distinguished. The division of Cuira-siers gained possession of the batteries of the enemy. At one o'clock the victory was decided; it had not been doubtful for a moment, not a man in the reserve was necessary, not one took any part in the battle. The cannonading was sustained only upon our right. The enemy's corps which had been surrounded, and driven from all the heights, found themselves in a hollow, and were driven to the lake. The emperor went with 20 pieces of cannon. This corps was driven from position to position, and a direful sight was exhibited, such as was seen at Aboukir, 20,000 men casting themselves into the water and drowned in the lakes.

Two columns, each of 4000 Russians, laid down their arms and delivered themselves prisoners; all the enemy's baggage is taken. The result of this day is 40 Russian standards, among which are the standards of the imperial guard; a considerable number of prisoners, the number as yet unascertained, but accounts have been received of 20,000—twelve or fifteen generals, and at least 15,000 Russians killed upon the field of battle.—It is easy to judge, though