

themselves of the Advantage of the Ground, disputed every Inch.

From Strada to Ramifs the First Column and the Detachments were obliged to climb the most impracticable Mountains, fighting at the same Time in order to drive the Enemy from several advantageous Positions.

Towards Twelve o'Clock this Column arrived before Ramifs; the Enemy was driven from the Heights which command the Valley of Ramifs, from the Village itself, as far as the Entrenched Position behind Ramifs.

This Position, naturally very advantageous, was rendered still more so by the Works which the Enemy had raised on the Front and Right Flank.

The most decisive Attack against this Entrenched Position was made upon its Left Wing, on the Side of Manas.

Field-Marshal-Lieutenant Bellegarde had ordered a particular Column to penetrate from Isyl and Spils by the Mountains as far as Schlcims and Manas, and afterwards to pass the Rivulet of Ramifs above Manas. This Column had, from the Place at which it was formed, already made some extremely painful Marches over the steepest Mountains; so that in advancing from Manas by the Valley, full of Ravines, the Soldiers had almost exhausted their Strength.

On that Side the Enemy had secured themselves by Three Entrenchments, placed one before the other, which could only be reached by a very narrow Path. That Column however, in spite of the exhausted State of the Soldiers, carried Two of those Entrenchments; but by the obstinate Resistance of the Enemy and their own extreme Fatigue, they could not reach the Third.

It was the Intention of Field-Marshal Bellegarde, that an Attack should be made upon the Entrenchments on the Enemy's Right Flank as soon as this Column had reached his Left.

The Troops destined for this Assault advanced to the Entrenchment thick set with Palisadoes, and in spite of a very brisk Fire of Artillery and Musquetry, climbed up the steep Height upon which the Entrenchment was made. They forced the Palisadoes, but their Fatigue did not suffer them to penetrate as far as the Entrenchment. In the constant Hope of being able to drive the Enemy out of this Entrenchment, who had already several Times given way, but who with Forces repeatedly renewed, defended themselves behind their Parapet with Obstinacy, the Attacking Division sustained

itself for a long Time at a few Paces from the Ditch, without either Side losing an Inch of Ground.

Night came on, and Field-Marshal Bellegarde was obliged to defer till the next Day the Assault of the Camp.

During that Time, Field-Marshal Haddick had succeeded in penetrating with his Column over the Top of the Scharl, and into the Valley as far as the Bridge near Schlus. Count Bellegarde had relied upon this Success. The Enemy could no longer maintain themselves in their Position behind the Rivulet of Ramifs, and the less so, as the Column of Field-Marshal Bellegarde had got beyond their Right Wing.

The Column of Count Haddick, from its Point of Formation until that of the Attack, had to make a very difficult Stage of Ten Hours over the steepest Mountains covered with Snow; he made his Troops take some Hours Repose upon the Summit of One of them, but only being able to allow a few Fires, they necessarily suffered from the extreme Cold.

About Four o'Clock in the Morning the Advanced Guard, commanded by Colonel Rousseau, attacked the Advanced Posts of the Enemy. They were immediately driven away. The Troop of Reserve of the Enemy maintained themselves in their Post near the Village Scharl; they did not yield till after an obstinate Battle of an Hour, during which we took several Prisoners.

The Column pushed before them the defeated Divisions of the Enemy under a continual Fire till Half past One o'Clock. But the Advanced Guard found themselves unexpectedly before a Position which was strongly fortified both by Nature and Art, the Front of which could only be reached by a narrow Path; and all the Attempts of Colonel Rousseau to penetrate to it were rendered fruitless by the vigorous Resistance of the Enemy.

At length the Colonel detached some Companies under the Command of the First Lieutenant Givchak, which by taking a very long Bye-Road through an Abatis got beyond the Entrenchments of the Left Flank of the Enemy, and as they could from the Top of a Hill distress the Right Flank, more Energy could be employed in attacking the Front: in this Manner the Enemy was soon forced to abandon this Position with a considerable Loss. The Column pushed forward, but met with an almost insurmountable Obstacle. The only Way by which it could pass was a narrow hollow Path on the Declivity of a Rock, which was entirely