



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1812.

Foreign-Office, December 30, 1812.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been received by Viscount Castlereagh, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, from General Viscount Cathcart, K. T. His Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Emperor of Russia, dated the 30th November, and 6th and 7th instant.

My Lord, St. Petersburg, Nov. 30, 1812.

IN my dispatch of the 25th instant, I had the honour to state to your Lordship the important and brilliant success of His Imperial Majesty's arms in the affairs of the 17th and 18th, in the former of which Marshal Davoust's division was defeated and dispersed with great loss, Buonaparte and the Marshal flying from the field of battle; and in the latter Marshal Ney's division, near the same place, said to have consisted of eighteen thousand men, appears to have been completely accounted for by the numbers killed and wounded, in addition to those who afterwards laid down their arms. I also stated the general distribution of the armies as they stood at that time.

I have now the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that General Field-Marshal Prince Kutusoff Smolenski, reports, on the 23d November, from Laniky Farm, that Buonaparte, with his guards, left Orcha on the 20th November, and marched on the road to Kochanoff; and that, on the 21st the remaining troops of the enemy marched out of the former place, leaving twenty-six guns, and some hospitals, in which were upwards of fifty wounded French officers.

General Count Platoff is ordered to follow the army marching on Cochonoff.

A detachment under Major-General Ermaloff, consisting of fourteen battalions of infantry, some cavalry, and two companies of artillery, is directed to move by Orsha to reinforce Count Platoff.

The advanced guard of the main army, under the command of General Millaradovitch, consisting of the 2d and 7th divisions of infantry, and the 2d division of cavalry, was to cross the Dnieper on the 23d, at Kopy's, and was to direct its march upon Tolotchina to join General Ermaloff's detachment.

The main army will cross the Dnieper, at Kopy's, on the 24th, and march by Starasel to Tsetzershoff, from whence it may be directed according to circumstances, either upon Bobra or Berezinoff.

General Wittgenstein reports on the 24th November, from the village of Cherai, that Admiral Tchichagoff was at Borisoff on the 24th instant, whence General Langeron informed the Count, by letters of the 22d instant, that General Count Lambert was at Borisoff on the 21st, where he defeated the whole corps of Dembroffski, taking six cannon, two colours, and three thousand prisoners, driving them on upon the road to Orsha; that Count Lambert had also taken at Kaidanoff two guns, and from two to three thousand prisoners, and that, including the hospitals at Minsk, in the last eight days upwards of eleven thousand prisoners, and twenty-four guns had been taken.

Victor and Oudinot have retired from before Count Wittgenstein upon Borisoff; the latter is marching in pursuit of them, and on the 23d took eight hundred prisoners and many carriages.

Count Wittgenstein reports, that General Platoff is marching against the great body of the enemy's corps upon Toulochinow, by which it appears the enemy is enclosed on three sides—General Platoff in his rear, Admiral Tchichagoff in their front, and Count Wittgenstein on their flank.

A report was received yesterday of another general officer, whose name I have not heard, having been taken prisoner; and I have also understood that accounts are received, that General Ertle was arrived at Egoumen.

The detachment under General Sacken is understood to be fully adequate to keep Prince Schwartzenberg in check.

The attempt to blow up the cathedral of Smolensko failed, the match having gone out before it reached the mine.

The fate of Marshal Ney has not been ascertained.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) CATHCART.

My Lord, St. Petersburg, Dec. 6, 1812.

IHAVE the honour to transmit the report of the defeat of Victor's corps by General Count Wittgenstein, on the 27th November.

It would seem that this corps had altered its direction from Borisoff, and was proceeding up the left bank of the Berezina, when it was charged by Count Wittgenstein. On the 16th, at daybreak, the Count pursued Buonaparte on a road which leads to Vilna, still upon the left bank of the Berezina.