

On the following morning, the 16th, at day-break, I put the troops in motion. The enemy had occupied the heights in front of Gorde, on the Dannenberg road. I posted my troops in the valley, with the view of concealing my numbers from the enemy, as well as there to await his attack.

Towards mid-day, I received intelligence that he had but partially occupied Gorde, and that the main part of his force was between the villages of Oldendorf and Eichsdorf, a quarter of a German mile in rear of Gorde. No time was now to be lost in making the attack.

I caused the Hanoverian infantry, with two batteries, to march, under the command of Major-General Lyon, upon the great road leading to His Majesty's Castle of Gorde, in order to attack the enemy in front; General Tettenborn, forming the advance guard, with three regiments of Cossacks. I directed at the same time six battalions of infantry, one battery, and a regiment of hussars of the Russian German Legion, to move under General Arentschildt, by the forest of Gorde, to turn the enemy's right flank; and I detached General Dornberg upon the enemy's left, towards Dnbbelwald, at the head of the 3d hussars of the King's German Legion, the hussars of Estorf, one battery of horse artillery, and the half of the rocket brigade.

The enemy's outposts, in the wood, making little or no resistance, retired to the extremity of the forest, where, having pursued them, I found the enemy's corps very advantageously posted on a height in front of the Dannenberg road.

At four o'clock in the afternoon our two columns were seen advancing out of the forest, and the enemy returned but feebly the fire of our artillery with eight or ten pieces of cannon.

Surprised at seeing a large body of infantry, while he imagined he had merely light troops to encounter, the enemy began to make a disposition for retiring, at the moment that our battalions were forming for the attack. It is very probable he would have earlier determined upon retreating, but that General Pecheux, the Commandant of this corps, was actually with the advanced posts in the forest, at a distance from his position, where he had only time to arrive just when our troops were preparing to form against him. The enemy's left began to fall back—the right stood fast to cover its retreat. This flank was formed upon the height in three columns of battalions, and made the most astonishing resistance, when at half past five o'clock our infantry attacked two of these columns on all sides.

The first and second battalions of the Russian German Legion commenced a very heavy fire, at the distance of ninety paces.

At the same time, the column of the Russian German Legion arrived at one side, and General Dornberg, with the third hussars of the King's German Legion, appeared on the other. The First Regiment of Hussars of the Russian German Legion charging the enemy, broke one of his squares. The Third Hussars of the King's German Legion charged with two squadrons another of these squares, which at a little distance was advancing at the *pas de charge*. These hussars broke its ranks, while they in their turn were assailed, in flank and rear, by the enemy's artillery and infantry, posted in rear at some small distance. Forced to draw back a little, this regiment, with two more squadrons, made a second charge, and soon after a third, with an intrepidity not to be surpassed.

Meantime the light infantry of the battalion of Bremen, had on its first onset lost its commandant Major Devaux, and four officers, and instantly ordered a charge with the bayonet. The battalions of Langrehr and Benigsen, under the command of

intrepidity, forcing the enemy to retreat, who seeing no other resource now remain, but that of the most desperate resistance, formed anew in retiring, and resumed a fire. The artillery in the interim, of the King's German Legion, under Major Bruckman, arrived on our right, and opened a well directed cannonade, seconded by the rocket brigade, whose commandant had taken up his ground close under the fire of the enemy's infantry.

At this period, the greater part of the enemy's squares, terrified and broken on all sides, began to give way, and fled in all directions to the neighbouring heights, where the general disorder soon communicated itself to those who had been placed there to cover the retreat.

The attack and pursuit having been pushed as far as Nahrendorf, the enemy saw himself cut off from the road to Dahlenburg, and retired upon Bleckede, and the ensuing morning re-passed the Elbe near Zollenspicker. General Pecheux having lost his horses and baggage, was forced to betake himself to flight on foot.

Towards half-past seven in the evening, I committed the pursuit of the flying enemy to the Cossacks, and assembled the troops, to whom the darkness of the night and the unfavourable nature of the ground, rendered the following of the fugitives quite impossible.

I had besides received information that the enemy was advancing on the right bank of the river, in order to dislodge my detachment at Boitzenburg, and to approach Domitz and the bridge at the other side.

The corps of the enemy, over which the troops under my orders have had so signally a success, was from five to six thousand strong, including six hundred cavalry, and ten pieces of artillery. Their loss is from fifteen hundred to two thousand killed and wounded. The number of prisoners taken amounts to fifteen hundred, among whom is General Mielozinsky, two Aides de Camp of General Pecheux, Colonel Fitz-James, and several other Officers.

We have taken eight pieces of artillery and twelve ammunition waggons.

After the action, General Tettenborn, with his advanced guard, occupied Bleckede and Luneburg.

I am entirely satisfied with the bravery of the troops, and I am particularly indebted to Major-General Lyon, who has shewn upon this occasion, the activity and intrepidity so well acknowledged in him; as also to Brigadiers Halket and Martin, and to Major Bruckman.

The battalions of Langrehr and Benigsen distinguished themselves highly.

General Dornberg led on the cavalry with all the spirit and vivacity so characteristic of that officer.

I cannot sufficiently commend the bravery of the 3d Regiment of Hussars of the King's German Legion, so conspicuous in their repeated charges, headed by their Commander Major Kuper; as likewise that of the 1st Hussars of the Russian German Legion on the enemy's squares. I lament that the glory which the first of these regiments has gained is acquired with so considerable a loss. I should be glad that the attention of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent should be drawn upon the conduct of Major Kuper, in command of this regiment, at the head of which his gallantry was so very conspicuous.

I cannot omit to mention the services I have on this occasion received from my Adjutant-General, Lieutenant-Colonel De Berger, and my Quarter-Master-General, Lieutenant-Colonel De Clanschwitz. I have also experienced the greatest assistance from my personal staff. Captain de Grabbee, an officer of the Russian Legion, and