CHAPTER III
CAMPAIGN OF 1806-1807

2. First operations. Formation of the 9th Corps, under the command of Prince Jerome.
   --Siege and taking of Breslau. --Taking Breslau. --Siege of Kossel. --Combats of Wartha and Königswalde.
   --Combats of Kanth and Freyburg. --Removal of the entrenched camp of Glatz.
   --Siege of Silberberg.
5. In Swedish Pomerania.

I. -- The Confederation of the Rhine.

After the last campaign against Austria and the glorious treaty that ended there, Napoleon thought the time had come
to finally realize the plan he had been meditating for a long time, by giving a new political organization to the
southern states of Germany and creating a "Confederation of the Rhine"; he was going to bring in his German
protégés, and to increase their territories with all those of the little counts, dukes or independent princes, with all the
knightly lands of the Empire, which he condemned to disappear, to the benefit of the States rallied to his system.

Dalberg, Archbishop of Mainz, submitted to him proposals on the basis of which Talleyrand dealt separately in Paris
with the envoys of the princes who the Emperor had decided to enter his confederation. The treaty, concluded on 12
July 1806, was ratified on the 19th.

Fifteen sovereigns contracted the new alliance and recognized the protection of France: Maximilian Joseph, King of
Bavaria; Frederick, King of Württemberg; Charles of Dalberg, Elector and Arch Chancellor of the Empire, who
became Grand Duke of Frankfurt and Prince Primate; Charles Augustus, Elector of Baden, made Grand Duke, as
well as Joachim Murat, Duke of Cleve and Berg, and Louis, Landgrave of Hesse-Darmstadt; the two princes of
Nassau-Usingen and Nassau-Weilburg; the two princes of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen and Salm-Kyrburg; Prince of
Isenburg-Birstein; finally, the Count von der Leyen, become prince by the grace of Napoleon.

It was the Marquis von Cetto, "Knight of the Lion, Councilor of State and Minister Plenipotentiary" of Max-Joseph
who signed the Treaty for Bavaria.

The new states of the "Rheinbund" proclaimed themselves permanently separated from the Germanic Empire, and
operated between them such exchanges of territories as they deemed necessary for the rectification of their frontiers.
All the German principalities, whose possessions were drowned in the eleven Confederated States, lost their
sovereignty and became the mediatized subjects of their former neighbors and equals. Bavaria annexed "the free
city of Nuremberg, two commands of the Teutonic Order, twelve or thirteen other principalities: thus the princes of
Oettingen, the princes of Schwarzenberg who commanded the armies of Austria, disappeared. Tour-and-Taxis which had created a vast administration of posts for all Germany.\(^1\)

After political affairs, military questions were settled in turn. The Confederate princes could only take service in the states of the Confederation, or in those of its allies; any continental war which one of the contracting parties would have to support became immediately common to all the others; and as there was an alliance stipulated between the Confederation and the French Empire, every quarrel in Germany was thus supported by the 200,000 bayonets which Napoleon was to furnish; the federal contingent of Bavaria was fixed at 30,000 men; that of the other confederates united amounted to 33,000 soldiers. Lastly, the mobilization of these contingents was effected only on the invitation of the Emperor of the French addressed to each of the Confederate princes.

"This revolution of 1806 completed that of 1803: the Germanic Recession had attacked especially the ecclesiastical principalities and the free cities, the act of Rheinbund destroyed the counts, the dukes, the little princes and the chivalry of the Empire... In 1803 the Empire was overthrown, and in 1806 its very name disappeared...\(^2\)

The establishment of the new state of things provoked the greatest enthusiasm in Southern Germany: the people felt that they ceased to be a "dusting of subjects" and that they belong henceforth to a true nation; the soldiers, en masse, were returning to service, already fascinated by French glory; as for the writers, their lyricism exceeded all limits: one of them explained "that the Bavarians as descendants of the Celts-Boyens (Boyer-Bayern) were not Germans but Gauls, and that they had the same strain common as the French"; another wrote that the French descended from the Franks, had fought together under Charlemagne, and that thus the French were real Germans, just as Charlemagne was the predecessor of Napoleon!...

Napoleon also wanted his new allies attached to him by blood ties: Stephanie de Beauharnais married the heir to the throne of Baden: Eugene, Princess Augusta of Bavaria; Jerome would receive the hand of Catharine of Württemberg: the Emperor thus ensured the solidity of his Germanic clients.

Indeed, Prussia, as compensation for the abandonment of the principalities of Anspach and Neuchatel, the Duchy of Juliers and the fortress of Wesel, had got hold of Hanover despite the protests of England: this one replied to this occupation by the blockade of the coasts of Prussia and the mouths of the Ems, Wester, Elbe, and Trave; at the same time, the Swedes, allies of the English, blockaded those of the Vistula and the Oder. The commerce of Prussia suffered considerably from these measures, which were soon completed by the seizure by the English fleet of several hundred Prussian merchantmen.

On the other hand, the irritation of the Prussian government was brought to its bosom by the creation of the Kingdom of Holland given by Napoleon to his brother Louis, and especially by the conclusion of the act of "Rheinbund"; Frederick William then directed his policy against France; he began arming considerably, and approached England, who immediately raised the blockade of the North Sea coast, and concluded an alliance with her, with Russia and with Sweden. Austria, still bruised and healing her wounds, refused to join this new coalition (September 1806).

So it was war, and the coming war: Napoleon and the Confederation of the Rhine prepared themselves without delay. In Bavaria, during these last events, a mutiny of the 12\(^{th}\) Infantry Regiment "Lowenstein" brought about the dissolution of this corps, the number of which remained vacant and which was immediately replaced by a new 14\(^{th}\) Regiment formation; the corps of volunteer jäger, founded in 1805 by Count Oberndorf for the duration of the campaign, was maintained on foot, although reduced in number; the cavalry regiments were all raised to 600 horses; finally, the defense works of Passau, Kufstein and Rothenberg had received strong reinforcements.

The Confederation of the Rhine being constituted "under the protection of France", it was necessary to think of respecting its territory like that of France itself. Prince de Talleyrand, Minister for Foreign Affairs, prepared for the princes of the Confederacy a circular intended "to inform them of the state of affairs which was to affect the independence of Saxony."\(^3\)

\(^1\)Rambaud, Germany under Napoleon I\(^{st}\), page 22.  
\(^2\)Rambaud, Germany under Napoleon I\(^{st}\), page 26.
As early as 26 August, the Emperor advised the King of Bavaria "to place a good corps of troops in Nuremberg and surroundings"; and when the leaders of Prussia worsen, he wrote from Saint-Cloud to the Chief of Staff, on the 15th of September:

"As soon as M. de Laforest 3 has left Berlin, start marshals Ney, Davout and Augereau on Bamberg ... 6,000 Bavarians will reinforce Marshal Bernadotte's corps. The 24,000 other Bavarians will meet in front of Munich."

"The 6,000 Bavarians could meet at Ingolstadt: 4 regiments of line, 2 battalions of light infantry, 3 regiments of cavalry, all with 15 to 16 pieces of cannon, would make a good division of 6,000 men."

"Let the King gather the same thing in Munich to be able to send it wherever circumstances demand it, and the rest be placed to guard the outlets of the Tyrol and form the garrisons of Kufstein and Passau."

"This is how I wanted the Bavarian divisions to be formed:"

Division of Marshal Bernadotte's corps:

men.
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4 line infantry regiments that I suppose, present under arms, at... 4,500
2 battalions of light infantry... 1,000
3 cavalry regiments... 1,200
Artillery... 500

In total, about... 7,000

Division to be placed between the Isar and the Inn:

5 infantry regiments of line... 6,000
2 battalions of light infantry... 1,000
3 cavalry regiments... 1,200
Either with the artillery, about 9,000 to 10,000 men.

"This division could be increased by all the recruits and all means of Bavaria."

Troops placed in the Tyrol:

1 regiment of line
2 battalions of light infantry of 1,200 men.

In Passau:

1 infantry regiment of line, etc.

"That would make about twenty thousand men, and the strength, with the depots, about 25,000 men. If there were more it would be good. I wish to have a state in order of these divisions."

As a result of these indications, the division of Wrede was concentrated near Eichstätt, the Deroy Division between the Inn and the Isar; the Bavarian 8th Infantry Regiment occupied the Oberhaus Fortress near Passau and the Braunau Bridgehead; the 9th Regiment, with a battery, observed the outlets of the Tyrol.

With the French army coming together, the 6,000 soldiers of Wrede were ordered to be ready to leave on 2 October.

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3 Chargé d'affaires of France in Prussia.
To receive again the command of the Bavarians so little thrilled Bernadotte that he wrote on 19 September to the Chief of Staff:

Anspach.

"... I ask for your friendship to join me in obtaining the Emperor's kindnesses that I do not command Bavarians... I still have with me the sorrows, the anxieties that the command of the Bavarian army caused me during the last campaign... I did not speak to you of the disgust given me by their irregularity in the marches, their inaccuracy in the execution of the orders... Allow me to tell you that, of all the marshals I'm the least fit to command Bavarians."

And Berthier then reported to the Emperor.

Munich, 20 September 1806.

"...I have talked with the King of Bavaria about the formation which you wish him to give to his troops, I realized that he would have seen with pleasure that the division of his army was with any other marshal than with Marshal Bernadotte, and I also know that the latter would prefer your Majesty to give one more regiment of infantry to each of his two divisions, than to give him the Bavarian division, I only speak to you of this because I must tell you everything ..."

The conclusion was that the Emperor kept the Bavarians under his direct orders, while waiting to give them to his brother Jerome.

On the 21 September, Napoleon officially requisitioned their contingents from all the Confederate princes, "since it was known to everyone that Prussia was arming against France and the Confederation."

The right wing of the French army, formed by the corps of Soult and Ney, marched on Bayreuth: behind it, the division of Wrede went from Eichstätt to Nuremberg: but from Wrede, ill --or saying to be, returned to Munich (3 October); he was replaced in his command by Mezanelli, who had 8,000 infantrymen, 1,200 horses and 18 pieces of cannon. "This division" -- writes Ney, 5 October, -- "has barely a good pair of shoes per man ...", it was to go on Nuremberg, part on both banks of the Pegnitz.

4 Order of battle of the Bavarian 2nd Division:

Commander of the Division, General Baron von Wrede (sick, replaced by General Mézanelli).
Chief of Staff, Adjutant-Commander von Epplen.
Commander Artillery, Lieutenant-Colonel Baron von Colonge.

1st Brigade, General Count von Mézanelli.

2nd Infantry Regiment "Kronprinz", Colonel von Lessel.
13th Infantry Regiment, Lieutenant Colonel von Schlossberg.
3rd Light Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel von Preysing.

2nd Brigade, General Franz Minucci.

7th "Löwenstein" Infantry Regiment, Colonel Stengel.
4th Light Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel von Larosee.

Cavalry: 2nd Dragoons "Taxis", Colonel von Seydewitz.
-- 2nd Light Horse "King's", Colonel Count von Papenheim.
-- 3rd Light Horse "von Leiningen", Colonel Baron von Zandt.

Artillery: 2 light batteries, captains Caspers and van Douwe.
-- 1 battery of 12, Captain Tausch.
2. -- First operations. Formation of the 9th Corps.

The proclamation of the Emperor, launched on the 6th of October, at Bamberg, was the response of France to the insolent letter of the King of Prussia, who declared war on him:

"If it is no longer Paris which the Prussians want to burn," writes Napoleon, "it is their flags, which they boast of planting in the capitals of our allies, it is Saxony that they want to force to renounce its independence... Soldiers! ... Will we have conquered Europe several times coalition against us, to return today in our homeland as defectors, after having abandoned our allies. Let us march then, and let them learn that if it is easy to acquire an increase of domains and power with the friendship of the Great People, its enmity is more terrible than the anger of the Ocean!"

The French army arrived on the Saale in three columns, the Bavarians always following the one on the right, by Amberg, Nuremberg, Bayreuth, and Hoff. An order of the 8th of October gave the supreme command of the Bavarians to Prince Jerome; Mezanelli's division, which arrived at Bayreuth on the 9th, was commissioned to encircle Fort Kulmbach, named Plassenburg; on that date, Mezanelli reported that he sent a light battalion, two squadrons with a piece of cannon and a howitzer under the command of the Lieutenant-colonel von Cologne, in the night, to surround Plassenburg where he would be "with all his division"; Jerome immediately informed him to leave in front of this place only the 13th Infantry Regiment "corps of 1,100 men composed almost entirely of recruits and not dressed, which will thus have the time to organize," and to gather his division on 11 October at 11 o'clock in the morning, near the road from Kulmbach to Kronach, to be able to start immediately; he held a review that day, finds the troops beautiful, well kept, well disposed; and his Chief of Staff, General d'Hedouville, knowing that "the Emperor knew everything," did not forget to write to Berthier, addressing to him the situation of the Bavarian division:

"... These troops are happy to be commanded by S. A. I. (Prince Jerome), whose activity and glance amaze them ..."

1806-1807. -- THE PRINCE JEROME.
Commander the 9th Corps.

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<Letter from Jerome to the Emperor, Steinvinnen, 11 October 1806, 6:30 in the evening.>
Mezanelli, arrived on the 11th at Kronach, the 12th was at Steinwiesen, the 13th at Lobenstein; on the 14th, his division arrived at Schleiz, while Napoleon won at Jena and Davout at Auerstaedt.

From Schleiz, the Bavarian division was sent to Plauen by an order of the 16th of October; it reached this point on the 18th and was distinguished by the looting of neighboring villages; the exasperated peasants fell upon the Bavarians, wounded or assailed an officer and 24 men of the 3rd Infantry Regiment; in retaliation, the whole village of Kindersdorf was given to the flames... Called to Dresden on the 21st, Mezanelli entered the city on 25 October, having crossed Zwickau, Chemnitz and Freyburg.

During this time, the observation corps of General Deroy (Bavarian 1st Division) placed near Ingolstadt gave an account of its situation: it contained, on 16 October, 7,000 infantrymen, 800 horsemen, 12 pieces of cannon.6 "The most pleasant thing for me," wrote Deroy to the Chief as Staff, "as well as for the whole corps under my command, would be to join the army and take part in its victorious actions."

This desire was to be promptly satisfied, for an order from the Emperor (Halle, 20 October) ordered the Bavarian 1st Division to also go to Dresden; it went there without delay, in two columns, by Bayreuth and Wunsiedel.

The squadron commander de Thiard, commanding the town of Dresden, reported to Berthier, as soon as they arrived in the city, the deplorable behavior of the Bavarians; these thinking it a conquered country, committed many excesses, speaking of requisitions...:

"The Bavarian Division (Mezanelli) committed much disorder. It is difficult for me to remedy because this spirit goes to the top and when I got very well-founded complaints, I can not send to check them as the Bavarians always think the bourgeoisie are wrong, while I often have the certainty of the opposite... I would like your Highness to let me know if I can declare to the Bavarian Division that Saxony has been considered by Him a neutral country, destined to become soon allied, and not as an enemy country. The generals wanted to seize the arsenal, and if I had arrived twelve hours later, the city would have been treated as the country that they had traveled through... I would like the Bavarian Division to know in a positive way that it has won neither the battle of Austerlitz nor that of Jena..."

6 Battle order of the Bavarian 1st Division:

Commander of the Division, Lieutenant General von Deroy.
Chief of Staff, Colonel von Ribeauripierre.
Commander Artillery, Major Count von Spretti.

1st Brigade, Major General Raglowich.

1st "Life Guard" Infantry Regiment, Colonel von Rechberg.
10th Infantry Regiment "Junker", Colonel Weimbach.
6th Light Battalion, Lieutenant-Colonel Count von Taxis.
2 companies of foot jäger.

2nd Brigade, Major-General Sibein.

4th Infantry Regiment, Colonel Pierron
5th Infantry Regiment, "Preysing", Colonel von Bieringen.
- 1st "Minucci" Dragoons, Colonel von Vieregg.
Artillery: 3 batteries, Captains von Peters, Goeschl, Koppelt.
But the Emperor was anxious to spare his allies, in spite of the complaints that were pouring in, despite the fact that General Mezanelli had, in two circumstances, removed the treasuries from the small towns where he had passed, in spite of the disorder, the looting, the abuses of which was reported. He had Berthier answer to poor Thiard "who did not have a gendarme for police and in his antechamber two drunken Bavarian orderlies":

"His Majesty is not satisfied that we make the Allies feel that they have not fought in this campaign... He wants to share our glory with them, because that is how we acquire their friendship and, above all, their confidence. His Majesty is very sorry that you have not had shoes distributed to the Bavarians, have them distributed as gifts... In general, the Emperor wants the Bavarians to be treated like the French..."

The French generals, however, did not ask to be treated as well as the Bavarian general who demanded at Dresden for his table, 50 bottles of Burgundy wine at each meal. Thiard was obliged to enact a regulation for the food for the Bavarians by the inhabitants; these last supplied by day and by soldier in quarters with them:

in the morning: soup (or a white bread) and a glass of brandy;

at dinner: three quarters of a pound of meat, soup, vegetables and a bottle of beer;

in the evening: vegetables.

The Bavarians did not die in Dresden either of hunger or thirst.

Finally, on the 30th of October, Mezanelli was ordered to leave Dresden without delay, and to go by way of Schwepnitz (30 October) and Hoyerswerda (1 November) to Crossen, where he was to stay while waiting for a new destination; his cavalry, however, would continue to march towards the Oder to bind himself to that of Marshal Davout.

As for the Deroy Division, it followed the same route as soon as it arrived in Dresden (3 November).

Commandant de Thiard wrote to the Emperor immediately after the departure of the Bavarian 2nd Division:

Dresden, 31 October 1806.

"General Mezanelli left with 1 day of bread that I delivered to him (though he had 2 days worth) and sold almost all of it in the city, and with 4 horses from the stables of the Elector of Saxony... That gives me little hope of seeing again the 200 requisitioned horses that I have given him... Tomorrow he will leave for Wittenberg in a second convoy made up of more than 500 carriages, and I answer, --if the Bavarians do not plunder it on the way, --that it will arrive in its entirety..."

According to Prince Jerome himself, the Bavarians, "find looting a natural thing, and the lower officers, when they are detached or prevent it, raise contributions and only conceive to defend them, the spirit of the Bavarian army, and especially of the officers."

Reunited at Crossen, where they arrive respectively on November 4 and 7, the Mezanelli and Deroy divisions were joined to the Württemberg division of Seekendorff to form the 9th Corps of the Grand Army, under the orders of Prince Jerome; the cavalry of the 3 divisions was organized in 3 brigades under the General Mezanelli (which left to General Minucci the command of the Bavarian 2nd Division) and the French generals Montbrun and Lefebvre-Desnouettes.

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7 Letter from Jerome to his Chief of Staff General d'Hedouville, 19 October 1806.
8 Rambaud, *Germany under Napoleon I*, page 167.
9 Composition of the three brigades:
   Mézanelli: 1st Dragoons and Bavarian 2nd Light Horse;
   Montbrun: Württemberg 1st and 2nd Light Horse;
   Lefebvre-Desnouettes: 2nd Dragoons and Bavarian 3rd Light Horse, Württemberg 3rd Mounted Jäger.
The Bavarian 1st Division (Deroy) had a strength of 7,358 men and the 2nd Division (Minucci) 6,299 men; in all, more than 13,000 infantrymen.

Bavaria also had the garrisons of the Tyrol under arms with General Kinkel; the 6th Regiment of Infantry (of which a battalion had relieved in front of Plassenburg the 13th Regiment returned to the division of Deroy and whose other battalion occupied Ingolstadt); the 8th Regiment at Braunau and Passau; the 11th Regiment, Munich; finally, the 4th Light Horse, in Munich and on the Inn.

The mission of the 9th Corps, whose total strength was about 23,000 men, was to lay siege to the Prussian towns of the Silesia, and at the same time to observe the Oder and Wartha, to flank the right of the Great Army that was on the Vistula.

This task was difficult; Silesia, a mountainous province devoted to Prussia, was bristling with eight fortresses: Glogau, Breslau, Brieg, Schweidnitz, Kossel, Neisse, Glatz, Silberberg, whose garrisons amounted to about 35,000 men. "This Bavarian army, which had never been able to prevent a single invasion of Bavaria," these former contingents of the circles of the Empire were going to fight the army of Frederick the Great... But they were at the side of the French, and led by Napoleon: "Would they be worthy," said Rambaud, "of such an enemy, such allies, of such a general?"

3. -- War of Siege in Silesia. -- Siege and surrender of Glogau.

Upon the arrival of the Mezanelli Division at Crossen, Prince Jerome sent the Bavarian cavalry to Glogau (2nd Dragoons "Taxis", 2nd and 3rd Light Horses "of the King" and "Leiningen") under the command of Lefebvre-Desnouettes; the Bavarian squadrons jostled the Prussian cavalry they met, throwing it back on the 7th of November to the glacis of the town, which they insulted at pistol-shot, while Captain Casper's battery opened fire on the town; they mask the fortress until November 10, the day Deroy's division began the siege: on the left bank of the Oder, Raglowich settled with a company of jäger, two companies of the 6th Light Battalion "Taxis", a battalion of the 1st "Life Guard" Infantry Regiment, the entire 10th Regiment and a half-battery; Sibein crossed onto the right bank with the other battalion of the 1st Regiment, the 4th and 5th infantry and a battery and a half. When the Württembergers arrived in front of the town, Lefebvre-Desnouettes was sent to Breslau with the "Taxis" Dragoons, "Leiningen" Light-Horse, the Caspers light battery and a Württemberg cavalry regiment: the talk was more saber, but by canon, in front of the besieged place.

1806.-1807. -- Prussian fortresses of Silesia.
Glogau, defended by the Prussian General Reinhard, had a garrison of 2,400 men, 200 pieces of cannon on its ramparts and an immense quantity of ammunition. On the 13th of November, six Bavarian batteries opened fire, but the first summons was rejected by the defenders; two days later, the fire started again, igniting two fires which were extinguished with difficulty, the supply canals of the city were able to be cut by the besiegers. Nevertheless, the Bavarian field pieces had no great effect against the Prussian works, and a whole siege artillery park had to be brought from Custrin.

Jerome wanted to assault the night of November 16 to 17: but Deroy, not being confident in the boldness of his troops, the Prince renounced this abrupt attack: the following correspondence is evidence of the lack of strength of our allies:

*Jerome to the Emperor.*

Headquarters Ziebern, a league from Glogau,
16 November 1806, 8 o'clock in the evening.

"Sire, after bombarding Glogau town for three days... I had decided to storm the place, the assault was to take place that night, and at the time of the execution, General von Deroy has just told me that, after having thought it over, he could not rely entirely on his troops for such vigorous action, that, unaccustomed to bold attacks, they might lack in this one boldness and energy necessary for success. Your Majesty will understand how painful it is to me, having counted for three days on this operation, to see it fail at the last moment, and not to be able to inspire my army with the ardor and zeal of my burning for the service to Your Majesty..."

*The same at the same.*

19 November 1806.

"...General von Deroy, constantly reports to me that his soldiers are almost all recruited and not capable of such a task, which besides, if it did not succeed, would disgust them. Your Majesty may judge what I had to think of such a speech, I think, Sire, that the Allies would need some French regiments to give them an example... The day before yesterday, believing that I wished to assault, 80 men have deserted..."

It was not the Bavarians who were to take the city: called on 24 November in Kalisch in Poland, where there was fear of a movement of the Russians, they let the Württembergers continue the siege with General Vandamme. The heavy artillery arrived, was arranged by the Bavarian Lieutenant-colonel von Colonge and the officers of the Württemberg artillery; the bombardment began on 30 November, and the besieged capitulated on 2 December, delivering a town whose works were intact and whose considerable supplies of food and ammunition were neither used nor destroyed.10

**CAPITULATION OF Plassenburg.**

Meanwhile, Fort Plassenburg, in front of Kulmbach, had fallen into the hands of the Bavarians on 25 November: we saw that the 6th Regiment "Duke William", commanded by Colonel Beckers, had relieved in front of this place the 13th Regiment recalled to its division at Dresden, then to Silesia. Colonel Beckers set up artillery on Rehberg and Buchberg 800 and 300 paces from the fort: at the thirteenth cannon shot, the Prussian General Uttenhoffen gave up the town with 629 men and 68 guns.11

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10 Weapons and ammunition handed over by the Prussians at the capture of Glogau: Canons, 208, fusils and carbines, 63,270; cartridges, 610,000; bullets, 101,000; bombs and shells, 6,523; musket balls 2,300.00; powder, 3,200 quintals (Rösler, *Tagebücher aus Zehn Feldzügen*).

11 See Appendix II, at the end of the volume, for the text of the capitulation of Plassenburg. See also, in the *Memoirs* of Colonel de Comeau, the very curious chapter which he devotes to the capitulation of this little town, which he would have taken away on his own...
After destroying the fort, the 6th Regiment moved to Berlin (21 January 1807); it was directed from there to Breslau, where it met the Bavarian troops.

The 14th Line (of new formation) and the 5th Light Battalion, coming from Nuremberg, received the same destination; lastly, the conscripts of the Bavarian contingent, united according to the orders of the Emperor; were ready to be distributed into their regiments.

SIEGE AND CAPTURE OF BRESLAU.

As early as 14 November, Lefebvre-Desnouettes, soon followed by General Montbrun's Württemberg cavalry brigade, had been sent to Breslau to prepare the investment. On the 16th, a squadron of Bavarian dragoons of "Taxis" sabered and threw back into this town 80 cavalry of the garrison; on the 18th, a reconnaissance commanded by the Captain von Lozberg, of the same regiment, pushed up to Ohlau (Oława), falling on 40 Prussian hussars, charged them, taking 13 men from them, and then rejoined its brigade. While the cavalry covered the approaches of the town, Vandamme directed the work of the headquarters. But the anxiety which had caused Prince Jerome to be sent to Kalisch with the two Bavarian divisions having dissipated, the Emperor sent back to Breslau the Bavarian 2nd Division with General Minucci; then, estimating a little later that this division, with the Württembergers, was not sufficient to carry out the operations of the siege, he placed the Deroy Division at the disposal of his brother Jerome. Mezanelli, with his cavalry brigade, scoured the countryside in the direction of Brieg where large Prussian assemblies were formed.

The Prince of Anhalt-Plœss (Anhalt-Pless), governor of Silesia, an active and enterprising man, had gathered many bands of armed peasants, escaped from Jena, deserters, with cadres of capitulated officers who broke their word not to serve against France. Supported by the towns of Brieg, Neisse, Schweidnitz and Glatz, he wanted to try to lift the blockade of Breslau.

The siege corps began the approaches against this town; on 10 December its batteries opened fire and were soon reinforced by mortars brought from Glogau. General Thiele, Prussian governor of the city, has already rejected two summons; also, the French Colonel Blein of the engineers, assisted by the Bavarian Lieutenant Hazzi, of the Corps of Engineers, opened new works directed against the suburb of Nicolai: batteries in the second parallel, redans for the light artillery, rifle pits for skirmishers; the resumption of fire took place on 15 December, with 32 pieces, without bringing any result. The Prussian officers, paroled prisoners, refugees in the town and used for his defense, were obliged, however, to leave at the summons of Prince Jerome. The Württembergers occupied the left bank of the Oder, and the Bavarians the right bank; Deroy's artillery reinforced the batteries, where a forge to heat cannon balls had been built. The shooting resumed from 19 to 22 December: an assault was decided for midnight, on the night of the 22 to 23. While General Sibein guarded the trenches with the 10th Regiment and a battalion of the 1st, two battalions of Württemberg light infantry and two companies of the Bavarian Light Battalion "Preysing" attacked the Ohlau gate, opening the road to General Minucci who led the regiments "Crown Prince", "Prince Charles", "Lowenstein"; two Württemberg brigades were in reserve; at the same time, another column was demonstrating against the Schweidnitz Gate. The attackers entered the drum of the Ohlau gate, demolish it in part and proceeded to cross the ditch... But the rising moon allowed the besieged to insure their aim, to decimate the attacking column and to finally force it to retire.

A few days before (11 December), the Lieutenant von Deux-Ponts, of the 2nd Light Horse "The King's", sent with 6 horsemen to requisition horses in Namslau (Namyslow), was surprised in this village by a party of 31 Prussian cuirassiers. Assaulted in his quarters, he disposed of two first adversaries with the aid of a shotgun which he found at hand, and then responded with pistols to the summons addressed to him by the Prussians; these, unable to force him, abandon Namslau; as soon as the enemy had disappeared, Deux-Ponts sent one of his men to seek reinforcements and barricaded himself in the village while waiting for the Bavarian detachment who came to deliver him three days later.

Lefebvre-Desnouettes had taken an observation position in front of Schweidnitz, with his two regiments of Bavarian cavalry. On 17 December, the dragoons of "Taxis" captured a convoy that wanted to enter this town, made 60

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12 The Bavarian 1st Light Horse remained with the Grande Armée; it entered the Wathier Brigade, Lasalle Division, in the cavalry reserve commanded by Murat.

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prisoners and seized 3,000 écu; on the 21st it was Major Herscher who, with 130 light cavalry of the 3rd Regiment "Leiningen", cut off 32 horses and 36 oxen, which sought to penetrate into Schweidnitz; he brought his booty back to Breslau, where General D'Hédouville, as a mark of satisfaction, left to the Regiment "Leiningen" the horses captured in this affair.

Lieutenant von Deux-Ponts, of the Bavarian 2nd Light Horse, at Namslau (11 December 1806).

(After the Feats of the French Nation.)

The Prince of Anhalt-Pless, resolved to throw reinforcements in Breslau, called to him on the 23 December at Straelen all the detachments he could dispose of. But Montbrun, who oversaw his movements, gave the alarm to Breslau where Vandamme immediately sent for forced marches to support General Minucci with three Bavarian battalions, then Colonel Lessel with three other Bavarian battalions of the same nation. The vanguard squadron of Montbrun, which was struck in Straelen on the 24th, by 200 Prussian cavalry, was obliged to retire on the road to Brieg, shot by the enemy infantry established in the mansions; in the meantime Montbrun saw a strong enemy column arrive from Schweidnitz; at the same time, it was reported from Glatz another column of 2,000 men, 600 riders and 6 cannons... This was the rally ordered by the Count of Pless for the lifting of the blockade of Breslau... Montbrun stood up to the enemy with his 300 Württemberg cavalrymen on the road to Breslau, by which General Minucci hastened; arriving, the collected Montbrun attacked with him the Prussians, without waiting for the column of Lessel which was two hours behind: the Bavarian 3rd Regiment "Prince Charles", the reserve squadron of the 2nd Light Horse "King's Own" and the 7th Regiment "Lowenstein" stood out. The competing enemy left on the battlefield 100 killed, 200 prisoners, 1 cannon; the Württemberg and Bavarian squadrons continued to take away from them during the pursuit the rest of his artillery, 600 men and 300 horses.

In consequence of this combat, which deprived him of the hope of being rescued, General von Thiele asked on 27 December for an armistice and an honorable capitulation; but he recanted his word the next day, on the advice of a new and next attempt of the Prince von Pless. The firing started again. A bomb fell in the trench, among the Bavarian officers... Corporal Nichtern of the 3rd Regiment seized it and threw it out, before it burst...
The second expedition of the Prince von Pless was no more happy than the first. Masking his march by a detachment which Montbrun defeated at Ohlau, and avoiding the Minucci Division, which was moved to meet him, the Prince attacked the trenches of the Bavarians at Breslau with 10,000 men; the Bavarian 13th Line, by chance arrived the evening before, coming from Plessenburg; with a battalion of this regiment, the 3rd Infantry "Prince Charles", the Light-Horse "Leiningen" and the Caspers' light battery, Vandamme stood up to the furious attack of the Prussians; Captain Vincent, his aide-de-camp, who had gone from the beginning of the fight to bring back Minucci and Montbrun, was fortunate enough to pass through the enemy battalions and to fulfill his mission; the arrival of Minucci on the line of retirement of the Prince von Pless settled the flight of the Prussians, who left us 1,800 prisoners, 13 pieces of cannon and 1,000 horses (December 29 and 30).

Furious at first against the Bavarians, who guarded themselves so badly that they had almost allowed the trenches to be surprised, Vandamme nevertheless congratulated them on the brave courage with which all had been saved.

*Plan of the Day of Vandamme.*

31 December 1806.

"The general of division testified his discontent to the officers who commanded the Bavarian infantry pickets, on the days of December 29 and 30... Their lack of surveillance had greatly compromised the safety of the siege troops. But the value and the good conduct of those commanded by Colonel Bercheim and composed of the regiment of Duke Charles (3rd Line), a battalion of the 13th Regiment, Light Horse of Leiningen... repaired everything."

"...General Minucci's troops having executed long and difficult marches; those of General Sibein had to endure a very hard service, having alone to provide trench guard. The Bavarian 7th Line Regiment showed the composure of a troop as brave as it was warlike. Major Guédoni, who commanded it, responds well to the trust and reputation he enjoys..."

"Mr. Caspers, Bavarian light artillery captain, also served very well in those days."

"...Under the liveliest fire from the town, and 150 toises away, the brothers Colonge, lieutenant-colonel and major of the Bavarian artillery... brought out of the trench 4 field pieces of 12 and 2 howitzers, in spite of the loss of some men and some horses, in spite of the explosions of a limber. This expedition was executed in an admirable manner. The General takes this opportunity to express his special satisfaction to those brave and indefatigable officers worthy in all respects of the general esteem and the kindness of their sovereign."

This new disaster of the relief troops was destroying the last hopes of the besieged; thus, on 2 January 1807, the negotiations were resumed and the town of Breslau capitulated the 3rd, with more than 5,000 men; the gates were occupied on the 6th, and the garrison, issuing through the Nicolai Gate, laid down its arms on the glacis in the presence of the siege corps. The 13th Regiment was charged with the escort of prisoners, and General Minucci, beside Prince Jerome, made a pompous entry into the city at the head of his Bavarians.

After the surrender of the town, Jerome addressed his soldiers the following order of the day:

Breslau, 9 January 1807.

"His Imperial Highness testifies his satisfaction to the allied troops of the constancy and bravery by which they have just given proof... The Bavarian and Württemberg cavalries were singularly distinguished."

"His Imperial Highness will, in a few days, issue at Breslau, each soldier, a coat or an overcoat and a pair of shoes; to each cavalryman, a coat or a cloak and a pair of boots... When the soldiers and cavalry have received this reward, each officer will receive five ells of cloth for his dress..."

Signed: HÉDOUVILLE.

Finally, the Emperor Napoleon himself bestowed compliments on the Bavarians in the Bulletins of the Grand Army:
"...The Bavarian troops (in front of Breslau) deserved the eloquence of Prince Jerome and the esteem of the French army."

(48th Bulletin, Warsaw, 3 January 1807.)

"...On 8 January, the garrison of Breslau, with 5,500 men, marched before Prince Jerome... The Bavarians distinguished themselves by their intelligence and their bravery... His Majesty ordered to testify his satisfaction to the Bavarian troops..."

(50th Bulletin, Warsaw, 13 January 1807.)

While all munitions of war and mouth found in the city were sent to the Grand Army, Vandamme with the Württembergers would besiege Schweidnitz which, invested on 10 January, would capitulate on 7 February after three days of bombing; Deroy, with the Bavarian 1st Division, was in front of Brieg.

Jerome kept in Breslau the Minucci Division (2nd, 3rd, 7th, 13th Line, 3rd Light Battalion) forming 5,800 men, 44 horse jäger for the service of his staff, the reserve squadron of the 3rd Light Horse (96 cavalrymen), the 700 cavalrymen of the brigade Lefebvre-Desnouettes (2nd Dragoons, 3rd Light Horse) reinforced by the 4th Light Battalion (500 men) and a battery, finally, three batteries, one of reserve. It was, in all, a corps of 6,000 bayonets, 800 sabers and 26 cannons, ready to be carried at the first signal on the necessary point.

TAKING OF BRIEG.

Deroy therefore left Breslau to seize Brieg; covered in his march by the brigade of General Mézanelli's cavalry (1st Dragoons and 2nd Light Horse) which advanced on the right bank of the Oder followed by the 6th Light Battalion, a company of jäger and the 4th Regiment of infantry, he moved on the left bank with the rest of its division (1st, 5th, 10th Regiments, Light Battalion "Braun", reserve squadron of the 1st Dragoons and five batteries, one of reserve). He had, in all, 6,000 infantry, 800 cavalrymen, 600 artillerymen, as well as some French miners and sappers.

The town was immediately blockaded on both banks of the Oder; Mezanelli sent a detachment of a squadron of light horse to Namslau; Captain Kraus, who commanded it, fell on a Prussian battalion en route from Brieg to Oppeln with two cannons, and took 60 men and two pieces of artillery. To cover the siege corps, Mezanelli was sent to Grottkau (Grodków), which he found occupied by 450 Prussian horsemen; Major Fleuret, of the 2nd Light Horse, launched on the village, Lieutenant von Deux-Ponts with 12 horsemen; these penetrated among the Prussians, stupefied by such audacity; but they paid dearly for their temerity, and already Deux-Ponts, wounded, was on the point of falling into the hands of the enemy, when the Dragoons of "Taxis" came to the rescue, freed him and drove back the Prussian horsemen who left Grottkau; these retired to Neiss leaving to the Bavarian squadrons 80 hussars prisoners --almost all wounded-- an officer and 89 horses.

The siege equipment arrived in front of Brieg on 13 January; it included 2 pieces of 12, 2 mortars and 4 large howitzers. The bridgehead of the right bank, abandoned by the Prussians, had been occupied; bridges now connected the positions of the besiegers on both banks, batteries were built at 700 and 800 paces from the ramparts, under the fire of the town, despite the snow and the icy wind of winter. On the 16th of January, after three days of a bombardment under the direction of Major Spretti's artillery, the commandant of the place, General Cornerut, surrendered; the garrison and 1,450 men prisoners paraded before Prince Jerome who had just arrived, and the Bavarians immediately occupied the city where they found 73 guns, 74,800 pounds of powder, 60,000 projectiles of all kinds and important supplies of food and in fodder.

Leaving Colonel Pierron with a battalion of the 4th Regiment to occupy the place, Deroy immediately went to Kosel to invest this fortress and begin the regular siege.

SIEGE OF KOSEL.

The town of Kosel, on the upper Oder, was provided with solid works, large moats, excellent casemates, and was commanded by the Prussian Colonel Neumann. The Bavarians arrived in front of the city on 25 January: Sibein settled with the 1st Infantry Regiment on the right bank; Raglowich was on the left bank with the 4th, 5th, 10th
Regiments. The Mezanelli Brigade (6 squadrons, 1 light battalion, 1 battery) was placed in observation on the direction of Neisse, towards Ober-Glogau; Lefebvre-Desnoyettes was employed to cover the siege of Schweidnitz.

To reduce the town, more than the four Bavarian field batteries were needed: so, siege artillery was sent from Breslau and two mortars of 50 pounds, along with thirty French sappers. The besieged declared that he did not want to hear any proposals and made vigorous sorties: on 26 January, in particular, he almost took the lines of the Bavarian 1st Regiment. The arrival of the siege pieces brought by the French engineer General Blein made it possible to begin the bombardment on 4 February; the Prussians answered with vivacity, and on the 6th, one of their shells killed the Bavarian Major von Spretti, commanding the artillery of the division, while he was directing the fire of an incendiary battery. Jerome made the following plan of the day on this occasion:

"Major Count Spretti, commander of the artillery of the Bavarian 1st Division and that of the siege of Kosel, was killed in front of this town, yesterday the 6th, with a burst of shells, at the battery No. 3. His Majesty the King of Bavaria lost in him an officer who was as distinguished by his talents as by his devotion and activity, a loss no less felt by the Frenchman who served with him than by the Bavarians (7 February 1807)."

On the same date, Prussian Lieutenant-colonel Haack gave up to Vandamme the place of Schweidnitz, which had not withstood three days of bombardment: it had a 6,000 garrison men, and during the Seven Years' War it was defended more than two months against the Great Frederick... Haack capitulated, provided that the town would not be occupied before 16 February.

COMBATS OF WARTHA AND KONIGSWALD.

During these operations the Prince of Anhalt-Pless did not remain idle. Lefebvre-Desnoyettes, to disperse a rally which was reported to him at Wartha, left Straelen and marched against the Prince: he reinforced himself with the Bavarian 6th and 14th Regiments, the 3rd Light Battalion, the Württemberg brigade of Colonel Reibel coming from Schweidnitz, and attacked the Prussians on 8 February. Reibel went to the left of the enemy, whom Colonel Beckers, with the Bavarian 6th Regiment, threatened on his right: in the center, Lefèvre placed his artillery, the 4th Light Battalion "Zoller" and his squadrons. A general assault on the Prussian position was crowned with the most complete success; the Lieutenant-colonel de Bouillé pursued the fugitives with the 3rd Light-Horse and the Dragoons of "Taxis"; the Prince of Pless lost a hundred dead or wounded, 300 prisoners, and fell back to Glatz where he was closely followed by Lefèvre who installed himself skillfully under the guns of the town, with the 2nd Dragoons and the Light Battalion "Preysing ".

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On 14 February, a new battle at Königswalde, where Lieutenant-Colonel Bouillé with 2 squadrons of "Leiningen" was attacked by 1,000 Prussian infantrymen and 200 horsemen: he held up for two and a half hours, allowing the 4th Light Battalion and the Bavarian 6th Regiment to run and cut the line of retreat of the enemy, who, in order not to be destroyed, took refuge after seven hours of struggle in Austrian territory; the Prussians left in the hands of Bavarians 2 cannons and 400 prisoners.

The siege of Kosel was drawn out; winter stopped the work, all the plain was flooded, the trenches filled with water: the shooting had to be suspended and the batteries dismantled. When the bad season began to pass, Deroy repaired and rearmed the siege batteries; on 24 February, 30 pieces began again the fire: the town answered with 70 guns... In front of this overwhelming inferiority, after 19 useless bombardments of the corps of town and 4 of the fort Frederick-William, the siege was transformed into a blockade on 4 March while waiting for new artillery equipment, they seemed to serve only regretfully, disgusted by the painful service of the trenches, the cold, the rain and the snow... Although the ditches were caught by the ice, Deroy did not think himself safe enough to risk an assault; the Emperor was very displeased.

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13 LEFEBVRE-DESNOUETTES (Charles, Count). -- Born in Paris in 1773, enlisted in 1792 in the Legion of the Allobroges, was second lieutenant of dragoons in 1793, captain and aide-de-camp of the First Consul at Marengo, colonel of cavalry in 1804, general of brigade in 1806, general of division in 1808. Made prisoner in Spain in 1809 and driven to England, he escaped and returned to France where he received the command of the Chasseurs à Cheval of the Imperial Guard. He made the Russian campaign, that of 1813, during which he distinguished himself at Bautzen, but was defeated at Altenburg by Thielmann and Platov. Wounded in Brienne in 1814, it was distinguished at Rothière and at Vauclamps. On his return from Elba Island he raised his regiment which he led to the Emperor. Condemned to death in absentia after Waterloo, he went to live in America until 1822, the year he died in a shipwreck on the coast of Ireland, returning to France.
The departure of the entire Minucci Division, destined to join the 5th Corps of the Grand Army in Poland, considerably weakened the troops engaged in Silesia. The 1st Line and the 2nd Light Horse would be garrisoned at Breslau, the 10th Regiment at Schweidnitz, the 6th at Brieg. The 4th Line, the Light Battalion "Braun" of the Deroy Division left with Minucci: there only remained to General Deroy before Kosel the Bavarian 5th Infantry and the Light Battalion "Lamotte" (2,000 infantrymen) 250 horses of the 1st Dragoons with the reserve squadron of this regiment, and the artillery of the division.

So the garrison of Kosel, in spite of the desertion which decimated it (500 Prussians have already deserted since the beginning of the siege until the middle of February), redoubled it of activity vis-à-vis the besiegers whose number were so reduced; on the 10th of April, it executed a sortie, which the battalion "de Lamotte" repulsed with great difficulty, with the help of the 5th Regiment; new sorties were still going on without much success in the month of May. Colonel Neumann, commander of the town, died and was replaced by energetic Colonel Puttkammer. It was only when the garrison felt hopelessly abandoned that its leader decided, on 18 June, to a conditional capitulation: he would give up the place on 16 July and will leave with honors of the war "if he is not rescued before"; the armistice was to save this heroic little garrison.

**COMBAT IN SILESIA.**

Vandamme, with half of his Württemberg Division, was occupied at the siege of Neisse when the Count von Goerzen succeeded the Prince of Anhalt-Pless as governor of Prussian Silesia; Count von Goerzen organized a corps of volunteers in the county of Glatz, consisting of eight squadrons, one battalion of grenadiers and eight to ten companies of jäger; supported by the garrisons of Upper Silesia still in the hands of the Prussians, he multiplied his expeditions against the detachments of the 9th Corps, hoping to find an opportunity to take over one of the lost fortresses. On 19 March, 3 squadrons of the "King's Own" light cavalry were attacked at Johannesdorf (Janová), near Glatz, by 1,200 Prussians who had left the fortress: Lefebvre-Desnouettes and Lieutenant Colonel Girard, Jerome's aide-de-Camp at the head of these three squadrons, saberred and crushed the enemy, taking 100 men and two pieces of cannon. The affair was settled when the light battalion "Taxis" arrived to support the Bavarian cavalry.

Lefebvre-Desnouettes, established in observation at Frankenstein, was attacked on the 17th of April at daybreak by 2,000 men and six cannons from Glatz, which were attended by 800 Prussians from Silberberg. At the first shot, Prince Jerome left Munsterberg and arrived at Frankenstein at 10 o'clock in the morning. The enemy, beaten and pursued as far as the covered paths of Glatz, left us 600 prisoners and three pieces of artillery; it had 300 killed, and a detachment of 400 men lost in the woods also fell into our hands.

"Colonel Beckers, commander of the Bavarian 6th Line, and Colonel Scharfenstein, troops of Württemberg, did prodigies of valor: the first, although wounded in the shoulder, did not wish to leave the field of battle; he moved everywhere with his battalion, and everywhere committed prodigies. The Emperor has granted each of these officers the Eagle of the Legion of Honor."16

Another day, on 10 May, Goerzen thought he could surprise Breslau, knowing their very few troops; he sent the majors Losthin and Ruggendorf, with 4,000 men, from Silberberg to Breslau, which they approach at six o'clock; but Jerome was warned of the movement of the enemy. Lefebvre-Desnouettes reconnoitered them with a detachment, after which he left himself on 12 May with 2 battalions of the Bavarian 1st Regiment (Lieutenant-colonel Valdkirch), 300 Saxon infantrymen from the regiment of "Niesemeuschel", a squadron of the 2nd Light "King's Own" and 2 Bavarian pieces (Captain Regnier). His vanguard, commanded by the Lieutenant von Zandt, Light Horse, engaged the Prussians on the evening of the 14th towards Kanth; the next day, at 4 o'clock in the morning, Lefebvre-Desnouettes attacked and captured Kanth, making 120 prisoners, taking a cannon and crossing

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14 The 6th Light Battalion "Taxis" was split, and formed the new battalion "Braun"; to each of these battalions was attached one of the two companies of jäger.
15 Neisse surrendered on 16 June, with 350 pieces of guns and a garrison fallen from 12,000 to 5,000 men.
16 72nd Bulletin of the Grand Army, Finkenstein, 23 April 1807.
the stream of Schweidnitz which places under the guard the bridge by the 300 Saxons placed under the orders of the Major Smitt of the Bavarian 10th Regiment.

The Prussians, pursued, cut off from Breslau and thrown back on the brook, profited from the scattering of the Bavarians: they rushed on the bridge with Major Losthin; Smit was killed, his Saxons taking flight; victory escaped Lefebvre, who, in order to see another day, threw himself into the stream swollen by the rains and managed to cross it; the two Bavarian pieces of Captain Regnier were drowned in it so as not to be left to the enemy, and the Bavarian Cadet Ehlingensberg, to save the flag of his battalion, removed it from its staff, wrapped it around his body and fell into the river... Waldkirch gathered the troops on the other side of the river and began the retreat, taking the cannon and the prisoners captured from the Prussians at the beginning of the battle on the road to Schweidnitz; Bavarians had 53 killed or wounded, 123 missing or prisoners.

Lefebvre-Desnouettes, with his clothes still dripping, galloped to Schweidnitz, took with him 100 French soldiers whom he found there, as well as 400 Polish lancers; he also had a Prussian gun hitched and went to Fürstenstein on the 15th, where he ordered his own troops to concentrate: the company of grenadiers and that of skirmishers of the Bavarian 1st Regiment were transported in wagons, the 2nd Battalion of this regiment and the French followed as quickly as possible.

Guessing that Losthin wanted to put his catch in safety would probably march on Silberberg or Glatz, that is to say towards the mountain, Lefebvre-Desnouettes surprises him at Freyburg on the road from Hohenfriedberg to Waldenburg and attacked him immediately with his two Bavarian elite companies who abandon their wagons to start the fight: the squadron of Lieutenant Zandt supported them. The Prussians stopped, deploying their artillery: Captain Regnier recognized the sound of his own cannon abandoned the day before in the waters of the brook of Schweidnitz where the Prussians removed them while addressing the Bavarian horse-light: "Brothers, will you let the enemy strafe us with our own cannon! Come, follow us boldly, brave Bavarians!" And he rushed with Lefebvre's cavalrmen on the enemy artillery which was captured. Zandt completed the rout with the help of Polish lancers; Losthin was taken with 15 officers, 350 men and his last two guns: but the Bavarian prisoners taken the day before and their flag found in the bed of the stream had already been taken to Glatz... Lefebvre-Desnouettes returned to Breslau on 17 May, well avenged for his failure at Kanth.¹⁷

On the 16th of May, a new engagement at Wartha:

Prince Jerome to Vandamme.

Frankenstein, 16 May 1807.

"General D'Hédouville, whom I sent this morning to Wartha at three o'clock, and who was escorted by twenty-five light cavalry of the King, was met by a squadron of Prussian hussars from Glatz; the light horses charged them and brought them back under the walls of the fortress... The Bavarian officer who commanded the picket received two bullets, a light horse was killed..."

On the same day, 16 May 16, the Count von Goertzen, still ignorant of the failure of Losthin, made sortie from Glatz the Prussian Major von Götz with 2,000 men and cannon against General Sibein stationed at Wartha. The latter had only seven companies of the Bavarian 6th Regiment and a Württemberg company: the Prussians were nevertheless driven back to their fortress.

RAISING OF ENTRENCHED CAMP FROM GLATZ.

Renouncing the breaking of the blockade of the remaining Prussian troops, Goertzen had assembled his troops -- about 12,000 men-- in a camp that was terribly entrenched under Glatz's cannon. This city extended between the citadel and the fortress of Schäferberg, separated by the Neisse; to remove the place it was first necessary to seize the city, and it was covered by the entrenched camp and its ten redoubts.

¹⁷ Volderndorf, Volume I, page 150.
Prince Jerome resolved to assault the last asylum of the Prussians in Silesia. He had with him Lefebvre-Desnouettes and some French detachments: instructors for our German allies, whom the successes of this war of siege had already hardened and who were now advancing decisively against the Prussians.

Deroy brought to Glatz, 10 June, five Bavarian battalions (1st, 6th and 10th Regiments), the 1st “Minucci” Dragoons, a French cavalry regiment and two batteries. Vandamme arrived on his side the next day with his Württembergers and the Bavarian 2nd Light Horse. The post of Niederhannsdorf was taken on 23 June by the Württemberg battalion von Scharfenstein, two companies of the 10th Regiment and a Bavarian squadron.

It was a sudden attack that would be attempted against the Prussian position, and Jerome decided that it would take place immediately, on the night of 23 to 24 June. All arrangements were made in the utmost silence; Vandamme would attack the camp from behind, and Sibein would force the right of the enemy position with the 1st Infantry Regiment, the Bavarian dragoons and light-horse, while a strong reserve would watch the fortress of Glatz. The assault took place before daylight, and the Bavarian infantry approached enemy redoubts with bayonets; the surprise of the Prussians was complete; their cavalry, which wanted to cover the retreat, was broken by the Bavarian squadrons; all that was not killed was taken prisoner, and this superb success did not cost the Bavarians, as their impetus was great, but an officer and 10 soldiers killed, and 5 officers and 90 men wounded...

It was the end of the conquest of Silesia; the Count von Goertzen had learned of the capitulation of Danzig, the victory of Friedland. He accepted a suspension of arms, went to Prince Jerome on the 25th of June at Wartha, and agreed that the town of Glatz would capitulate on the 26th of July if it was not rescued by then.

Vandamme remained under observation before Glatz, and Deroy was directed to Silberberg with the mission of making the siege.

SIEGE OF SILBERBERG.

This town, commanded by the Prussian Colonel von Schwerin, had for garrison only 2 battalions, 1 company of jäger and 40 horsemen; it was surrounded on the 27th of June, on the plain side, by the Bavarian 6th Regiment, the 2nd Light Horse and a battery; on the side of the mountain, by another battery, the 1st Dragoons and the 10th Infantry Regiment.

From the first days of the siege, the 6th Regiment distinguished itself by capturing the position of Schönwald and spiking two Prussian batteries. The armistice, fortunately for the besieged, came to suspend the hostilities and to prevent the fall of the town which had already begun negotiations for its capitulation.

In eight months, the 9th Corps had taken six strongholds, 1,500 pieces of cannon and made 20,000 prisoners.

Numerous combats, almost all happy, had formed and tempered our Bavarian allies; this painful campaign of sieges prepared them for the great operations of war in which the Emperor was soon to employ them.

4. -- Bavarian operations in Poland.

Since January the Bavarian 1st Light Horse had entered the Wathier Brigade (Lasalle Light Cavalry Division) in Poland and was part of the cavalry reserve under Murat’s command.

First cantoned near Ostrolenka, the regiment took part, on the 1st of February, in the movement of the French army on Allenstein (Olsztyn) to separate the Russian army from the last Prussian wreckage; on the 2nd and 3rd, it was engaged under the cannon of Allenstein with the vanguard of the Russians; on the 4th, the battle becomes general; the Lasalle Division first jostled the Cossacks, then precipitated on the Russian infantry; in this charge, the thick snow and a very deep ditch parallel to the opponent's fore front prevented the light horses from reaching their goal; they were decimated by the fire of the enemy infantry, and Colonel Count von Pappenheim was felled dead by two bullets after this attack, while he tried to rally the regiment; Major Bourscheidt then took command.
Continuing its march on Königsberg, the Lasalle Division which had just passed under the command of Ney (6th Corps) tumbled the Prussians at Gerlachen and Domnau but did not take part in the battle of Eylau, occupied as it was to pursue, the sword to the kidneys, in the Prussians retreat. The Bavarian light horse were not spared themselves in this winter campaign: on 8 February, Major von Bourscheidt realized that his squadrons "could only put on line 18 to 20 files each".

The army then settled in cantonments on the Alle and the Passarge; the 6th Corps was at Allenstein, Guttstadt and Heilsberg.

1807. -- THE MARSEchal MasseNA
Commandant le 5e corps de la Grande Armée (1).
(D'après le portrait de Gros.)

1807. -- THE MARSECHAL MASSENA
Commander the 5th Corps of the Grand Army. 18
(According to the portrait of Gros.)

18 MASSENA (Duke of Rivoli), Prince of Essling, Marshal of France, born in Nice in 1756, died in Paris in 1817. Enlisted in 1775 in "Royal Italian", released as adjutant in 1789. Resumed of service in 1791 as Adjutant-Major at the 3rd Battalion des Volontaires du Var; colonel in 1792, general of division in 1793. Decided the success at Rivoli in 1797 and earns from Bonaparte the nickname of "Darling Child of Victory." Beat the Russians in Zurich in 1799; defended Genoa in 1800. Marshal of France in 1804, Duke of Rivoli in 1807. Commander of the 4th Corps of the Grand Army in 1809; winner at Eckmühl, was covered with glory at Essling and Wagram; named Prince of Essling. Failed in Portugal in front of Wellington at Torres-Vedras in 1811. Deprived of employment for two years; governor of Toulon in 1813. Rallied with the Bourbons and governor of Paris after Waterloo.
To reinforce the weakened force of the Grand Army, the Emperor, at the end of February, ordered Jerome to direct 10,000 men of Bavarian troops to Warsaw: it was more than half of the Bavarians present in the 9th Corps. The Minucci Division left Breslau on 22 February, crossed Wartenburg, Kempen, Sokolnicki, Petrikau, and arrived on 3 March in Warsaw, where it passed under the orders of the Crown Prince of Bavaria, who had just arrived at the army, accompanied by General von Wrede, finally cured; they entered the 5th Corps, commanded by Marshal Massena, and formed the 4th Division of this corps.

As the fall of the strongholds of Silesia and the weakening of the Prussians in this province allowed stripping it by borrowing new troops to the 9th Corps, five battalions of the Deroy Division were also called to Poland and came to swell the division of the Crown Prince of Bavaria: the "Braun" Light Battalion, the 4th and 14th Infantry Regiments and the Vandouve battery. The Bavarians now numbered 13,366 men and 2,172 horses at the Grande Armée.

Massena charged with the 5th Corps to cover Warsaw, was established on the Omulew and the Narew, opposite the 24,000 men of the Russian General Tuchkov. He had placed the Gazan and Suchet Divisions at Villenberg, Zawady, and Rozan, --the light cavalry under Montbrun at Mrzemieczne, --the dragoon division of Becker at Chorzellen, and the Crown Prince of Bavaria at Pultusk. The Bavarians were distributed as follows:


2nd Brigade: Colonel Lessel (7th, 13th Regiments, 3rd Light Battalion, Vandouve and Tausch batteries) at Pultusk, Serock and Szernice.

3rd Brigade: Colonel Pierron (4th and 14th Regiments, Light Battalion "Braun") in Warsaw and Nieporęt.

Cavalry Brigade: General Mezanelli (2nd Dragoons, 3rd Light Horse, 1 battery of 6) in Chrostowna, Gouski and Wienzbowo.

After a long period of inaction, operations would resume on the Narew. General Le Marois crossed the Bug on 10 May with the Bavarian brigade of Colonel Pierron and a Polish regiment to allow the construction of bridgeheads at Serock and Pultusk; he burned all the rafts built by the Russians for six weeks. General Tuchkov retaliated, on the 13th, with an attack on the whole line of the Bavarians along the Omulew: 6,000 Russians try to remove the bridgehead of Serock, but were stopped by the shooting of the 4th Regiment and the Light Battalion "Palm"; the Bavarians had 2 officers and 30 men killed, 8 officers and 65 wounded soldiers; among the dead, unfortunately, was Colonel Pierron. "The colonel of the Bavarian 4th Line, a brave soldier, was killed and is generally regretted."20

On 14 May, the Crown Prince assembled the 3rd Light Battalion, 5 battalions taken from the 3rd, 7th, and 13th Regiments, the Leiningen battery, Captain Tausch's battery of 12, and 2 squadrons of the 3rd Light Horse. He crossed the Narew at Pultusk, leaving his artillery on the island of Narew, marching on Psari and Poplawy, driving the Russians back and taking their luggage. The next day, the enemy returned in number; the Leiningen battery was placed in the bridgehead works, and the battery of 12 on the height bordering the right bank of the Narew.

**COMBAT OF PULTUSK.**

The night of the 15th is under arms. On the 16th, Tuchkov advanced with 1 regiment of grenadiers, 1 regiment of eiger, 3 regiments of infantry, 1 pulk of Cossacks and the brown hussars. Faced with the superiority of the enemy, the six Bavarian battalions commanded by the Crown Prince and Von Wrede retreated slowly, and folded in squares on the bridgehead; Colonel Berchem had a horse killed under him, Major Laroche was wounded, a battalion of the

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19 The division included the 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 13th Line, 3rd and 4th Light Battalion, the 2nd Dragoons "Taxis" and 2 light batteries: to approach the figure of 10,000 men claimed by Napoleon, Prince Jerome added to these troops the Light Horse "Leiningen" and the reserve battery of the division of Deroy.

20 74th Bulletin of the Grand Army, Finkenstein, 16 May 1807.
13th Regiment had to open the road with bayonet to pierce the Russian masses; but the fires of the bridgehead (Leiningen battery) and those of the height (Tausch battery) stopped three attacks from the enemy who lost more than 300 men and retired after four hours of struggle. "What makes the affair more beautiful is that the Bavarians were less than 4,000 men."\(^\text{21}\)

They had 15 killed, 196 wounded and 90 prisoners.

Marshal Massena had written to the King of Bavaria, after this success, to compliment him on the worthy conduct of the Crown Prince and the troops under his command under these circumstances; he received the following answer:

Munich, 5 June 1807.

Marshal Massena,

"The honorable testimony you give to my son, the Crown Royal, about his first trial in the profession of war, was received with all the joy of a father tenderly attached to a son whom he has all the subjects to love and who has just acquired a new title to his friendship."

"It is very flattering for him to have been able to win, at the start, something of the esteem of the defender of Genoa."

"It will be even more useful to him to enjoy the rare advantage of learning the trade of war under a great master. My most ardent wish is that he should take advantage of the great examples before him, and constantly answer, in all his military career, the favorable judgment that your indulgence grants to his beginning."

"It is with these sentiments so just, so natural, and certainly unalterable, that I pray to God that he has you, Monsieur Marshal, in his holy and worthy guard."

MAX-JOSEPH.

Following this brilliant affair, Massena concentrated his troops at Nogate (25 May) and sent the Bavarian 14\textsuperscript{th} Regiment to Pultusk. The Crown Prince then marched on Virchow with 5 battalions, 3 squadrons of the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Light Horse and 3 cannons; Colonel Stengel remains in the custody of the entrenchments; Rechberg --who had just been appointed general-- made detachments in Klodoczyn, Grabowo, Zatory and Popowo from where the Russians withdrew. All of these moves were away from the Russians on the left bank of the Narew and gave the army valuable resources of livestock and fodder.

On 5 June, the main army of the Russians, commanded by Bennigsen, went forward on the Passarge: Ney was attacked by Bagration in Guttstadt, Soult and Bernadotte are attacked in Lomitten and Spanden by Doctorow.

The Emperor concentrated, crossed the Passarge on 8 June and beat the 10\textsuperscript{th} the Russian army at Heilsberg. In this case, the Bavarian 1\textsuperscript{st} Light Horse Regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Bourscheidt arrived on the battlefield "after an uninterrupted trot of four hours": he immediately charged a regiment of Russian hussars, then Cossacks and finally a square of enemy infantry: it lost during this day a considerable number of men and horses. The rearguard of Bagration was pursued by Latour-Maubourg and the light brigades of Durosnel and Wathier; all the French cavalry marched on Königsberg with the corps of Davout.

After the victory of Friedland and the retreat of Bennigsen behind the Pregl (15 June) and then on the Niemen, an armistice was concluded on 21 June. Massena had gone forward; the Bavarians, leaving Pultusk, marched on Susk, following the Russian General Tolstoy, who was retiring on Bialystok; they reunited on the 24\textsuperscript{th} with the division of Suchet at Straszyn. Ostrolenka and Różan were then occupied by the 5\textsuperscript{th} Corps which delivered on 26 June at

\(^{21}\) 76\textsuperscript{th} Bulletin of the Grand Army, Finkenstein, 20 May 1807.
Zambrów a last fight where the Dragoons of "Taxis" were distinguished: the announcement of the armistice stopped these operations. Massena was at Wisna, von Wrede at Ciechanowice. The Crown Prince of Bavaria, on the invitation of the Emperor, was invited to the surrender at Tilsit, where peace was concluded on 8 July with Prussia and on the 12th with Russia.

22MORTIER (Edward-Adolphe-Casimir-Joseph), Duke of Trévise. --Born at Cateau in 1768, died in Paris in 1835. Elected captain to the 1st Battalion of the Volontaires du Nord, fought at Jemmapes, Hondschoote, Wattignies,
The division of Wrede then returned by Warsaw to Silesia, where it passed under the orders of Marshal Mortier; it returned to Bavaria in the middle of December. As to Deroy's division, raising the siege of Silberberg on the July 11, it had been directed at Breslau, then to Berlin (August 31st), and its cavalry to Stettin and Neumark; it returned to Bavaria in the month of November.

The 1st Light Horse had just made the brilliant Polish campaign in the Wathier brigade and had lost two thirds of its strength: it was sent to Swedish Pomerania to join the corps of Marshal Brune who was going to resume hostilities against the Swedish; alone, with England, Sweden was still at war with France.

5. -- In Swedish Pomerania.

At the beginning of June, a Bavarian brigade under the orders of General Vincenti had reached Pomerania by way of Leipzig, Brunswick, Lunenburg, and Anklam, and united with the French troops, who with Marshal Brune were operating against the Swedes; this brigade consisted of the 1st Light Battalion "Habermann", the 9th Infantry Regiment and a detachment of the 4th Light Horse "Bubenhofen". Brune cleared the Peene at Damgarten on the night of 12-13 July, pursuing the Swedes to Stralsund; the Vincenti Brigade seized Greifswald.

On 15 August, Stralsund was besieged; but the Swedish General Toll dealt with the French: he abandoned the town as well as the island of Rugen that the French 1st Line Regiment and the Bavarian brigade soon reinforced by the Bavarian 8th Regiment would occupy; these troops remained on the island, in good cantonments, until peace with Sweden. On 20 November, the Vincenti Brigade left for Bavaria, where it returned in the middle of December.

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23BRUNE (Guillaume-Marie-Anne). -- Born in 1763 in Brives-la-Gaillarde, typographer, journalist, linked with Danton, and appointed general. Victor over the English at Bergen, with the Army of Holland (1799), he forced the Duke of York to capitulate; he then pacified the Vendée and then commanded in Italy in 1801. Marshal in 1804, he
6. -- The military education of the Bavarians.

The Bavarian contingents of the Rheinbund gloriously ended this campaign, but the French generals who commanded them had not ceased to complain of their lack of education and military spirit. Without going back on the evidence of notorious indiscipline which marked the passage in Saxony of the Bavarian divisions, it was necessary to note that the observation of the military regiments was difficult to require of our allies. It could not be obtained that they would be well guarded or enlightened; the service of the outposts and the guards was done in a deplorable way by the Bavarians: the two following orders of the day of Prince Jerome make it possible to note this:

Order of 8 November 1806.

"Yesterday the Bavarian infantry and cavalry detachments which had left Crossen on the road to Glogau, and which were to cover the headquarters of His Imperial Highness, were found without an external post, and in the condition of troops in garrison. The guard who was at the gate of the city did not even recognize a patrol that showed up. The commanders of these detachments and that of the guard of the gate will be arrested until further notice..."

Order of 10 November.

"Despite the order of the 8th, on the night of the 9th to the 10th, the outposts placed for the guard of the headquarters fell into the same fault. The vedettes do not ask the rallying word, the guard does not take up arms to recognize, the officer does not ask the password. The men remain in the guardroom and do not make the slightest movement when they see foreign officers. The two officers who commanded these two grand guards will be arrested until further notice, and in the future the officers will be sent to the rear of the army and deprived of the honor of campaigning. Troops will be punished with all the rigor of the military laws..."

These severe warnings did not prevent a post of 22 Bavarian soldiers, with their officer, from being taken nine days later by a Prussian detachment.

However, poorly disciplined as they were, the Bavarian troops were often brave enough: if the strikes offended them at first, if the work of undermining discouraged them in this long series of sieges and blockades, we must recognize that the presence of the French generals and the support of the miners and sappers of the imperial army, who were added to them, rendered them more mordant and more resolute. Emulation took them, in contact with these Württembergers, from those Saxons of the Confederation, who fought at their side, and whose Emperor so skillfully displayed the prowess and the splendid deeds: at the siege of Breslau, it is a battle of fearlessness between the Württemberg jäger and the Bavarian light battalions, "posted in the trenches at half a pistol range of the enemy." It is the Württemberg cavalry of Montbrun competing with the squadrons of Lefebvre-Desnouettes, the dragoons of "Taxis" or light-horse of "Leiningen" giving the impetus to the attacking columns, in Kanth, by the Polish spearmen and the French infantrymen hastening from Schweidnitz ...

So, at the end of the campaign, in Silesia as in Poland, against the Russians as against the Prussians, we see the Bavarian cavalry launching the attack without counting its adversaries, at Wartha, at Allenstein, at Heilsberg, and the infantry approaching the enemy entrenchments of Glatz with bayonet without firing a fusil shot, or bravely defending and without hesitation its own positions at Pultusk against infinitely superior forces.

If the Prussians did not hide their contempt for the Bavarians, they displayed, in return, a burning hatred:

Prince Jerome to the Chief of Staff.

At the camp in front of Glogau, 14 November 1806.
4 o'clock in the afternoon

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operated in Pomerania and took Stralsund from the Swedes in 1807. In the Hundred Days, he was in the army of the Var and fought against the Austrians and the Duke of Angouleme. Murdered by the populace of Avignon, during the White Terror: his murderers were not even pursued...
"...The enemy soldiers say in Glogau that to surrender to French would not be a disgrace, but to Bavarians that it is one. The Bavarians know it, and are enraged against them..."

The blood shed in common cemented our alliance with the Confederation of the Rhine: the Bavarian lion and the French eagle went for six years to harvest common laurels until the necessities of a new idea still divides, for a time, the interests of the two nations.

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