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AN

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

## CAMPAIGN OF 1815,

ILLUSTRATED BY

PLANS OF THE OPERATIONS

AND OF THE

BATTLES OF QUATRE BRAS, LIGNY,

AND

WATERLOO.

## BY CAPTAIN BATTY,

OF THE FIRST OR GRENADIER GUARDS; MEMBER OF THE IMPERIAL RUSSIAN ORDER OF ST. ANNE.

"I Romani dubitando meno dei pericoli per gli ordini loro buoni, non diffidando della vittoria, fermi ed ostinati combattevano col medesimo animo e con la medesima virtù nel fine, che nel principio."

Machiavelli, Discorsi, Libro Terzo, Cap. xxvi.

SECOND EDITION, CONSIDERABLY ENLARGED.

1040+

#### LONDON:

PRINTED FOR RODWELL AND MARTIN, AND W. CLARKE, NEW BOND-STREET; AND T. EGERTON, WHITEHALL.

1820.

## LONDON:

#### HIS EXCELLENCY

## COUNT MICHEL WORONZOW,

Lieutenant-General of the Imperial Russian Army; Aide-de-camp to H. M.
the Emperor of all the Russias; Knight of the Order of St. Alexander
of the First Class, of the Order of St. George of the Second Class,
of St. Wladimir of the First Class, of St. Anne of the First
Class; Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath,
of the Order of St. Louis of the First Class, of the
Swedish Order of the Sword, of the Prussian
Order of the Red Eagle, of the Imperial
Austrian Order of Maria Theresa,

THIS

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

#### CAMPAIGN OF 1815

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

as a small tribute to his distinguished talents, and great private worth; and as an expression of the gratification and instruction derived by the author, whilst attached to his personal staff, during the period he commanded the Russian army of occupation in France; also, as a mark of the pride he feels in being honoured by his friendship, and as a testimonial of grateful remembrance of the many great obligations conferred by him, on

his most devoted servant,

ROBERT BATTY.

London, April 15, 1820.

## PREFACE.

During the interval which has elapsed since the campaign of 1815, the author, whilst attached to the staff of His Excellency Lieutenant-General Count Woronzow, had frequent opportunities of making inquiries, and collecting information respecting its different occurrences: this he has done with the desire of gaining professional knowledge, aware that a single military operation well examined and understood, would afford more useful information than the study of theoretical works. He has had the good fortune to become acquainted with officers of high merit in both contending armies, whose observations

have been carefully stored, and he has subsequently employed his leisure moments in arranging these materials, and incorporating them with the account of the campaign he had already published in 1815.

In all military narratives much detail about positions and corps is almost inevitable, for without this, only a very imperfect notion can be attained of the contests to which they refer, and the author is aware of the difficulty he encounters in publishing this narrative, which is unusually replete with them. But on the other hand, he feels confident, that there are many, especially military men, who will consider them as vouchers for the accuracy of his account, and he has therefore not hesitated to embody them in the work, throughout which the strictest attention has been paid to placing the several events in as fair and impartial a light as possible.

The Plans originally published were made from sketches taken on the spot, and from memoranda made during the actions. Plans of the invasions of Italy and France, and of the battle of Ligny, have been added; and although they are far from being as complete as could be wished, they will assist, in some degree, the intelligence of the operations: but it is requested that it may be borne in mind, that all the plans are intended to convey an idea of the chief character, and not to give the minute detail of the various events of each battle.

#### ERRATA.

Page 38, line 19, for bridge, read bridges.

48, 15, for Vinche, read Vincke.

48, 19, for Kemp, read Kempt.

61, 5, for Girard, read Gérard.

67, 10, for Belgium, read Belgian.

74, 5, for making, read masking.

80, 20, for Dowzelot, read Donzelot.

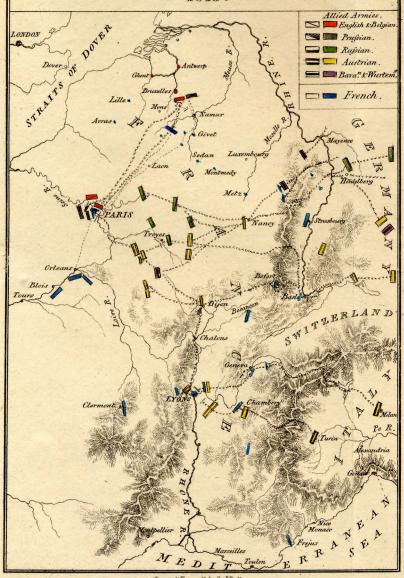
93, 23, for Dowzelot, read Donzelot.

94, 15, for charges, read changes.

95, 11, for Dowzelot, read Donzelot.

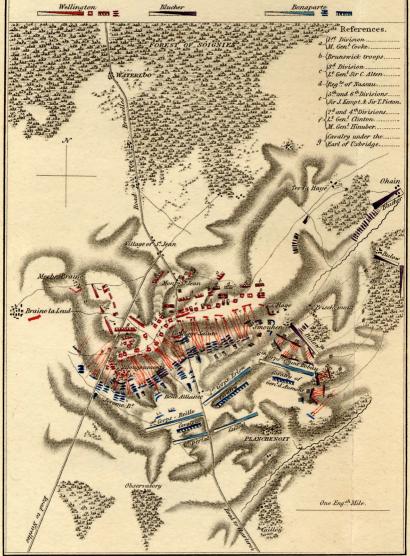
116, 16, for halt, read march.

# INVASION of FRANCE by the ALLIES. 1815.



Drawn & Engrav'd by Cap, Batty .

## BATTLE of the 18. JUNE, 1815.

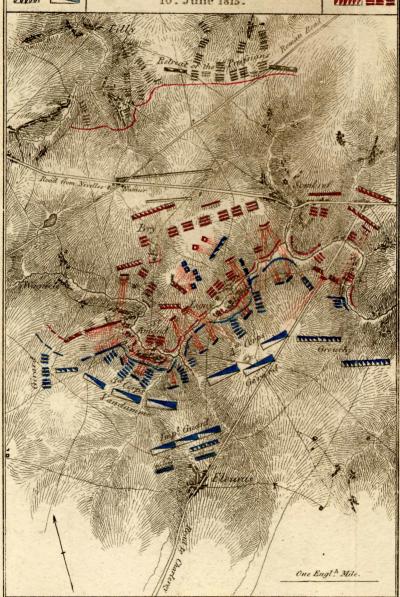


Drawn by Capt" Batty, 1st or Grenadier Reg. Guards.

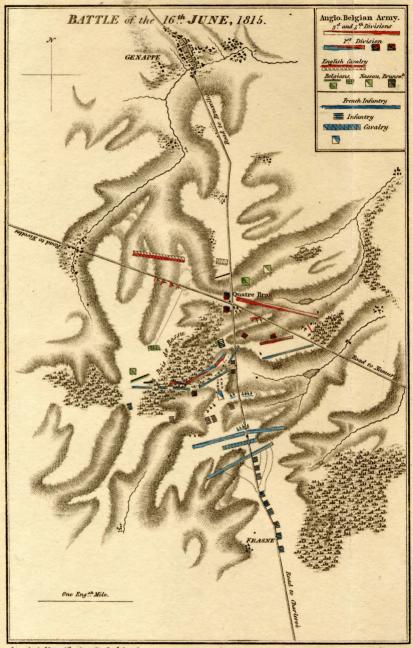
French Army.
Cav. Inf.

# BATTLE of LIGNY.

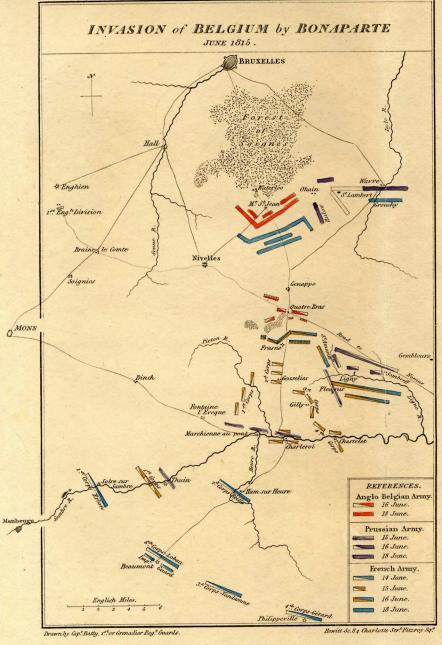
Prussian Army.
Cav. Inf."



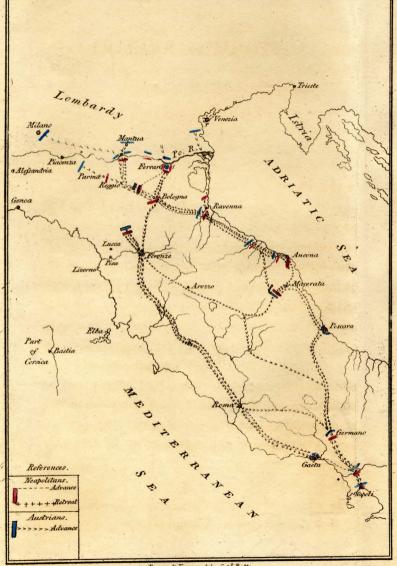
Drawn & Engraved by Cap, Batty .



Drawn by Cap. Batty, Ist or Grenadier Reg! Guards.



## INVASION OF ITALY by MURAT. May 1815.



Drawn & Engraved by Cap, Batty.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

#### CAMPAIGN OF 1815.

THE treaty of Paris, in 1814, had traced the outline of the political relationship of the European States, but the claims of the several powers were yet to be discussed in the congress of Vienna, which, after long and anxious expectation, was opened in the month of October, 1814. The various interests of the different cabinets were so difficult to adjust, that nearly six months elapsed from that period, without any important result being announced: the armies of the several states had been retained upon a war establishment, and the probability of a durable peace seemed nearly as far removed as at the commencement of the discussions.

It was at this period that Napoleon, aware of the discussions at Vienna, and of the poli-

tical and discontented state of France, assembled his faithful followers on the 25th of Feb. 1815, and announcing his intended return to France, immediately embarked and set sail. His arrival in the Gulf of Juan, and landing on the 1st of March, with his triumphant progress to the capital, which he reached on the 20th of the same month, are too well known to require a fresh detail. The news of this event spread with the utmost rapidity over all Europe, and the alarm which it occasioned in the congress of Vienna contributed materially to shorten its deliberations. The allied sovereigns deemed the maintenance of peace, and of the independence of their states impossible, whilst the dynasty of Napoleon possessed the throne of France. His overthrow was therefore determined on, and a declaration\* to this effect was made public soon after the news of his landing had reached Vienna.

France, again menaced with invasion, left no means untried to maintain peace, but every offer was rejected; war therefore was inevitable, and much as she had been weakened by her former campaigns, the eagerness with

Little to Antonias as a driver

<sup>\*</sup> See Appendix, No. I.