SOJ 5(23)
AnXI System (1803-07)

Stephen Summerfield of Loughborough University

The post of First Inspector of Artillery was reinstated by the First Consul in 1800. Napoleon Instructed Eblé to cast 6-pdrs in Turin. Napoleon considered the French artillery required a considerable revision so set up the AnXI Committee in 1803 and the AnXI System gradually introduced.[332]

On **2 March**: M1801 Allix guns formerly introduced into the army.[333]

On **29 April**:

AnXI Field Guns[334]

AnXI Short 12-pdr field guns on AnXI carriage and AnXI Ammunition Limber

- There are 36 AnXI and 11 Italian AnXI 12pdrs in the Kremlin, Moscow.
- Model of AnXI 12-pdr on M1803 carriage and AnXI limber.[335]
- AnXI 12-pdr on M1803 carriage in Musée de l'Armée.[336]

AnXI Short 6-pdr field guns, on AnXI carriage and AnXI Ammunition Limber

- Model of AnXI 6-pdr on M1803 carriage and AnXI limber.[337]
- An example of an AnXI 6-pdr on M1803 carriage at the Musée de l'Armée.
- *LE MARS* cast in Metz on 29 Mar 1813 is 165.8cm long and 392kg.[338]
- *LE CIGNE* cast in Metz on 14 July 1813 is 167.6cm long and 391kg.[339]
- *L'AMERIQUE* cast in Metz on 24 September 1813 weighs 387kg.[340]
- *LE GUEBRE* cast in Metz on 1 Oct 1813 is 165.8cm long and 390kg.[341]
- *LE SUFFISANTE* cast in Douai in 1813 is 165.8cm long and 392kg.[342]
- Three AnXI 6-pdrs cast in the Hague in 1813 are 167.6cm long and 379kg.[343]
- AnXI 6-pdr named *LA BALIENE* cast by Berenger at Douai.[344]

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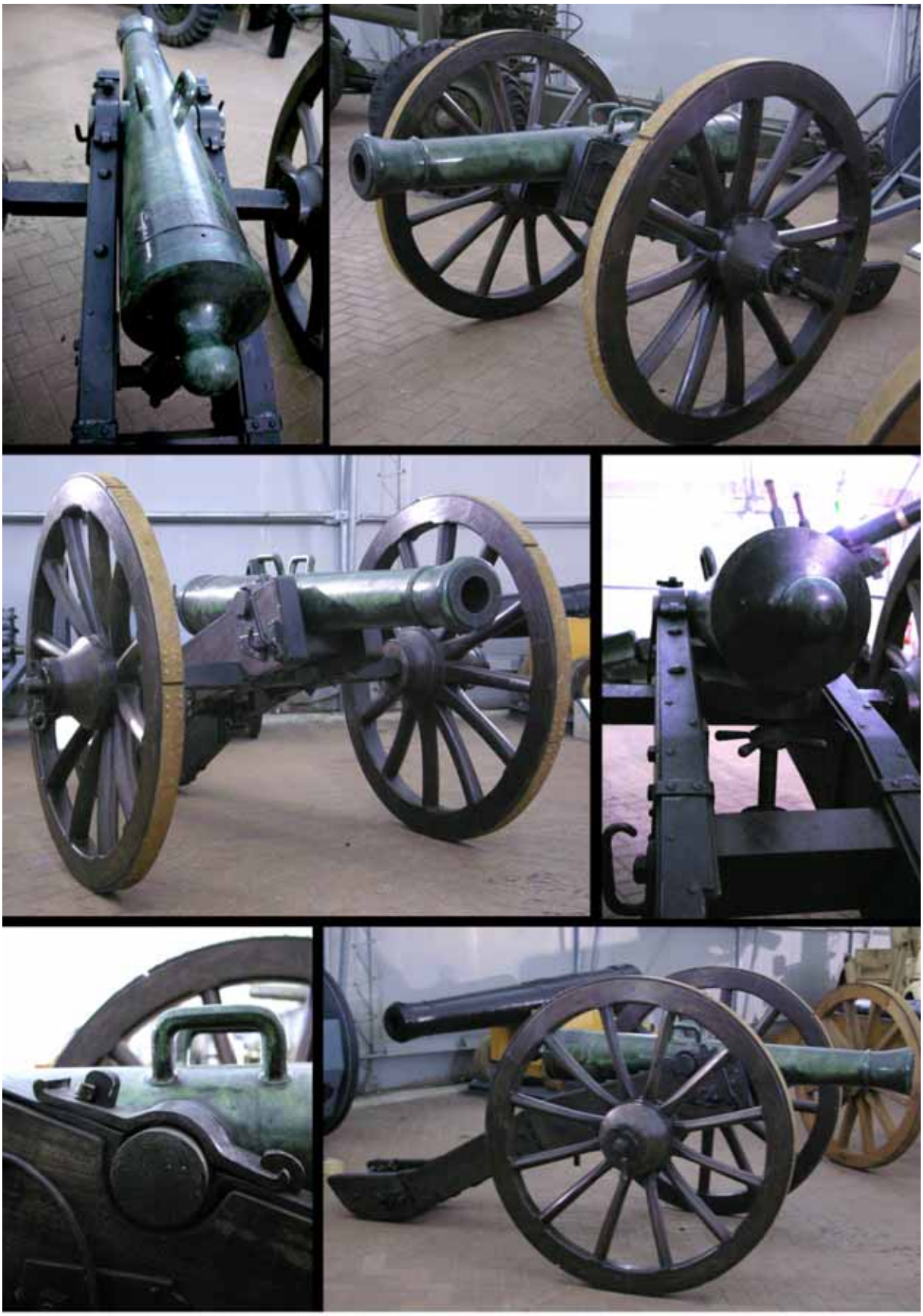
332 See Summerfield (Nov 2009) "French AnXI Ordnance 1803-15," *NGA Ordnance*, 1-04
333 Decree of 2 March 1803
334 Law of 17 June 1803
335 Decker (1989) p80
336 See Dawson et al (2007) p69
337 Decker (1989) p80
338 Royal Armouries XIX-157 [Blackmore (1976) 126-7]
339 Royal Armouries XIX-63 [Blackmore (1976) 126-7]
340 Royal Armouries XIX-66 [Blackmore (1976) 126-7]
341 Royal Armouries XIX-65 [Blackmore (1976) 126-7]
342 Royal Armouries XIX-64 [Blackmore (1976) 126-7]
343 Royal Armouries XIX-67 to XIX-69 [Blackmore (1976) 54
344 Brussels Army Museum X-79



French AnXI 6-pdr cast in 1813 in Metz on a reproduction Gribeauval 4-pdr carriage.
[Courtesy of the Trustees of the Royal Armouries]

AnXI Mountain Guns

AnXI Short 6-pdr field gun on AnXI gun sledge carriage and AnXI *limoniere.*

- This was a full sized AnXI 6-pdr on a gun sledge carriage.

AnXI 24-pdr Howitzer AnXI gun sledge carriage and AnXI *limonière.*

- This was a full sized AnXI field howitzer on a gun sledge carriage.

AnXI Light 3-pdrs on AnXI Chevrette carriage and AnXI *limonière*

- This was based upon the Piedmont M1786 3-pdr Mountain Gun that was used by the French during the Italian Campaign and subsequently by the Kingdom of Italy.

AnXI Siege/Garrison Guns

These had a unique design for the time permitting the same carriage to be used in sieges and in garrison.

AnXI Long 24-pdr, M1803 siege/garrison carriage and M1792 8-pdr Limber

- AnXI Long 24-pdr named *VICTOIRE* cast by Paul Capon (1757-1838) in Avignon on 9 March 1806 of 147mm calibre and 254cm long.[345]

Table 16: Dimensions of French AnXI field and siege guns.[346]

	AnXI 24-pdr	AnXI 12-dr	AnXI 6-pdr	AnXI 24-pdr how
Calibre	151mm	121.2mm	95.9mm	151.5mm
Shot diameter	148.5mm	119mm	94mm	146mm
Windage	2.5mm	2.2mm	1.9mm	5.5mm
Weight of shot	12kg	6.1kg	4.0kg	1.8kg
Tube length	279cm 16 cal	210cm 17.3 cal	166cm 17.3 cal	101cm 6.7 cal
Weight	1400kg	760kg	390kg	300kg
Weight ratio	117:1	125:1	130:1	45:1

AnXI Long 12-pdr, M1803 siege/garrison carriage and M1792 8-pdr Limber

AnXI Long 6-pdr, M1803 siege/garrison carriage and M1792 8-pdr Limber

AnXI 24-pdr Howitzer on M1803 siege/garrison carriage and M1792 8-pdr Limber

- A model and limber is at the Musee de L'Armee in Paris.[347]

AnXI Short 24-pdr on M1773 16-pdr carriage and M1792 8-pdr Limber

22 June: *It was ordered that all 4- and 8-pdrs in the 27th–28th Districts and Italy to be melted down and cast into AnXI 6- and 12-pdrs.*

22 July*: It was ordered that 100 AnXI Short 24-pdrs and 200 AnXI Long 24-pdrs were to be cast at Douai, Metz and Strasbourg with the redundant calibres were withdrawn.*

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345. Royal Armouries XIX-62 – Blackmore (1976) pp123-4.
346 Gassendi (1809) *Aide-Memoire*, Paris, Volume II, pp520-521
347 Decker (1989) p79

Bronze AnXI Long 24-pdr named "Victoire" dated 1806 and cast in Avignon.
Captured from one of Napoleon's transport barges in 1811.
[XIX.62: Courtesy of the Trustees of the Royal Armouries]

1806 Gassendi's Report

26 February: Gassendi writes his report on the artillery.

22 April: Production of the AnXI 12-pdr carriage was halted.

1 June: 4- and 8-pdr withdrawn from the field army to make up for the lack of garrison guns.

The Manson M1786 Iron guns were modified.
M1806 (Manson) Iron 36-pdr on naval truck carriage

- Cast in 1809 is 292cm long and 3520kg.[348]

M1806 (Manson) Iron 12-pdr on naval truck carriage

- Cast in 1812 is 244cm long and 1500kg.[349]

[348] Dutch War Museum, Delft.
[349] Dutch War Museum, Delft.