

The Napoleon Series

The Germans under the French Eagles: Volume IV The Regiment of the Saxon Duchies – Chapter Three Part III

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THE
REGIMENT OF THE SAXON DUCHIES

THIRD CHAPTER

WAR AGAINST AUSTRIA (1809)

III. -- A new Roncesvalles. -- The Ober-Au fights.

The regiment of the Saxon Duchies had arrived from Passau at Salzburg on the 26th of July; on the same day it was inspected by Lefebvre, in front of the palace of the Archbishopric, where the marshal lodged; after the march, the Marshal summoned the officers of the regiment and addressed them in a German language strongly influenced by Alsatian patois:

"We are about to enter the Tyrol," said he, "and it is the regiment of the Duchies, in proof of my confidence, which will form the vanguard."

Then, turning to the officers of the Weimar-Hildburghausen light battalion, in whose ranks there were 200 men armed with good carbines, he added:

"It is you who will march in the lead with your battalion of good shooters; I trust that you will take it upon yourself to fulfill this mission to my honor as well as to yours, and that the fine discipline which you have shown until here will continue to be scrupulously observed. "

The Marshal then made several recommendations or observations, among others, that of preventing the soldiers from drinking snow-water during the great heat.

The regiment left the next day for Reichenhall at the head of the main body entrusted to the Marshal. This column included:

Rouyer Division: 4th Regiment of the Rhine (Duchies of Saxony);
5th Regiment of the Rhine (Anhalt-Lippe);
6th Regiment of the Rhine (Waldeck-Reuss battalion).
(The battalion of Schwarzburg remained in garrison at Salzburg.)

1st Bavarian Division, General Raglovich:
4 regiments of infantry;
1 battalion of jäger;
2 light horse regiments;
30 pieces of artillery.

On 24 July, the 3rd Bavarian Division, under General Deroy, had left Salzburg by the Lug Pass for Saint-Johann and Zell.



Salzbourg.

Salzburg.

The luggage had remained in the citadel of Salzburg, and only the medical carriages remained with the troops who carried bread and fodder for four days, meat for two days and fifteen days' pay.

The column was marching on the Strub Pass: all the sappers of its different corps, united under the command of the Bavarian Captain of the Engineer Becker, were traveling with the advanced guard for the clearing of the road and the reconstruction of the bridges.

The Weimar battalion, forming the vanguard, arrived after thirteen hours' march before the Strub Pass occupied by the Tyrolean insurgents in great numbers; they sent to the Marshal three parliamentarians, whose tone was softened at the sight of the bulk of the column and the artillery which followed the light Saxon battalion. The Marshal replied to the deputies that he would grant a quarter of an hour to the peasants to lay down their arms and abandon their position, failing which he would immediately assault. The quarter of an hour elapsed, the battalion of Weimar took the battle formation, followed by the two other battalions of the regiment and the Bavarian battery of Captain Vandouve. The whole line was advanced, and the formidable position of the Tyrolean was evacuated; the latter disappeared into the mountains, abandoning a few out of service fusils on the ground encumbered by enormous rocks; the Duchies regiment painfully cleared the way to the column which passed without danger this dangerous passage.

On the 28th, the march on Saint-Johann was continued without encountering the enemy; all the hamlets were evacuated by the inhabitants; the rain made the stage tiring and the bivouac painful, in the evening, near the village of Söll.

Marshal Lefebvre, arriving on the 29th at Wörgl, learned that Rattenberg was occupied by the Austrian troops which have just raised the blockade of Kufstein, as well as by a few thousand insurgents commanded by Speckbacher. He

moved to this point, on the same day, the three regiments of the Rouyer division and joined them with a Bavarian battery and a light horse squadron. The enemy had already retired to Innsbruck and the Bavarian gunners could only salute the Austrian rear-guard, made up of Tyrolean jäger, by a few cannon shots. The insurgents partially destroyed the bridge over the Inn by retiring; the regiment of the Duchies passed through Rattenberg, and settled at the bivouac, a league beyond; the rest of the column remained around Rattenberg.

The Austrian General von Buol had at last received notice of the armistice and the conditions imposed upon him. He left his head-quarters at Brixen, and ordered all the Austrian troops to retreat to Villach and Klagenfurt; the peasants, indignant and desperate, wanted to oppose by force the departure of the Imperialists. But it was too late to defend their capital, Innsbruck, threatened by General Lefebvre's march; they decided, however, not to lay down their arms in spite of the departure of the Austrian troops, and to unite in the valley of the Eisack, to fight against the invaders.

On the 30th of July, the corps of Lefebvre ascended the Inn and arrived at Schwaz; the Marshal, in person, pushed as far as Innsbruck with the Bavarian cavalry; he immediately summoned the division of Rouyer to the news of important gatherings of insurgents on the Bergisel. The division, forcing its march, arrived at the Tyrolean capital at ten o'clock in the evening, after a stage rendered terrible by the heat, during which several men perished with insolation (sun exposure) and fatigue; it only crossed the town and bivouacked at Vill, at the foot of the Bergisel. The next day Innsbruck was occupied by the whole corps of Lefebvre, and while the Marshal, with the Bavarians, was ascending the valley of the Inn towards Landeck and Finstermuzz, General Rouyer, reinforced by the Bavarian battery of Vandouve and the 4th Light Horse Regiment "von Bubenhofen", took the direction of the Brenner Pass, and reached Matrei as far as Steinach, where the German division established its bivouacs.

At dawn, on 2 August, Rouyer resumed his march towards the terrible Brenner Pass: to the surprise of all, the latter was found unoccupied; the Germans began to descend the course of the Eisack and reached Sterzing without resistance. But on all the neighboring mountains one saw armed peasants, whose numbers seemed to increase rapidly: these were the men of Hofer, those led by Capuchin Haspinger, those of Speckbacher, Martin Schenck, Peter Mayer, Kamenater; they were faithful to the appointment given them by the "Sandwirth" and organized the defense of the valley: destroyed bridges, cut road, avalanches of rocks ready to roll from the summits of the mountain ... Everyone has his designated post, mission, his role; neither the powder nor the bullets are wanting, and while the Austrians did not wish act with them, the Tyrolean mountaineers would do it on their own: the Bavarians already knew the accuracy of their carbines; these Germans they brought with them would soon also know how a people who wants to live free is defended ...

The point of Sterzing being important to guard on the line of communication with Innsbruck, General Rouyer left there the two companies of grenadiers of Gotha with Major Knauth as commanding officer of the town; and the rest of the division would bivouac more to the south, in a meadow, on the banks of the Brixen road; in the middle of the night, the water suddenly invaded the bivouacs... It was the peasants who prepared this flood; fortunately there were no fatal accidents; the troops are somewhat displaced and a 24-hour stay brought them a highly appreciated relief.

The Brenner Pass had just been occupied, on the orders of the Marshal, by a regiment of light horse and a battalion of Bavarian jäger; in this way communication with the Germans was assured, and this important passage maintained by a troop of this force could no longer be intercepted by the insurgents.

While the division was resting near Sterzing on 3 August, a reconnaissance consisting of 60 men from the Weimar light battalion with the lieutenants von Crayen and Honning, and 40 men of the Bavarian 4th Light Horse was dispatched about noon on Mauls and Mittewald in the direction to be followed the next day by the column. Welcomed between these two villages, near Sack, by the fire of about 200 Tyroleans stationed behind the rocks and in the woods bordering the road, the detachment had to retreat and regain with difficulty, and not without loss, the village of Sterzing at nightfall: it had encountered the outposts of the insurgents. The latter had in fact put in a state of defense the narrow defile followed by the road to Brixen, between Mittewald and Unter-Au. Captain Haspinger "Red Beard", who had left the monastery of Klausen, where he had retired after the bloody fighting in May around Innsbruck, had brought the mountain-dwellers from Klausen and Villanders to the famous Eisack bridge in the splendor of the Tyrol; the destruction of this passage was prepared, and its surroundings fortified; the bands of Peter Mayer and Kamenater, established on the two flanks of the defile of Ober-Au and Unter-Au, pushed forward their posts in the direction of Mauls; on the evening of the 3rd of August, the Curé of Weithenthal brought the peasants of

his parish with those of Schöneegg and Rodeneck again, finally, Speckbacher, after having given each one his part, had had the road between Sack and Mittewald obliterated.

The soldiers of the 4th Regiment of the Rhine were to be measured against these resolute and formidable opponents. On 4 August, at dawn, General Rouyer departed Sterzing, where he left Major Knauth with the 2nd company of fusiliers the Gotha battalion, preceded by a point of 50 Weimar sharpshooters under the orders of the lieutenant of Goldacker, the battalion of Weimar formed the advanced guard, and in the rear proceeded the column in the following order;

- the two line battalions of the Duchies regiment (about 2,190 men);
- 2 squadrons of the Bavarian 4th Light Horse Regiment;
- 1 6-pound cannon and 1 howitzer of the Vandouve Battery;
- the 5th Regiment of the Rhine (Anhalt-Lippe);
- the 6th regiment of the Rhine, reduced to the battalion of Waldeck-Reuss;
- the rest of the Vandouve Battery;
- the rest of the 4th Light Horse Regiment.

The march took place without incident until the village of Mauls had been reached. When the vanguard arrived half an hour beyond this point, it received the first shots from the outposts of Speckbacher. Tyroleans fell back fighting, and at about 7 o'clock in the morning the advanced guard finally reached the hamlet of Sack, tightened between steep mountains to the left and the bustling Eisack to the right of the road. From there the vanguard pushed again to Mittewald, and ran up against abatis, established by the insurgents, which crowned all heights, and whose fire became more and more violent. Major von Germar, followed by his aide-de-camp Lieutenant von Beulwitz, immediately went to the point: the first was met by a gunshot to his head, the second had his horse wounded... Finally, the sappers set aside the abatis and the advanced guard resumed its march. But now mines exploded on top of the steep cliffs that dominate the road to the left Enormous blocks of rocks fell down, whole trees fell and rolled over the unfortunate Weimar battalion compressed on the narrow road, crushing, destroying everything in their path and hurling the dead and the wounded into the torrent. The rifles of the insurgents echoed in the midst of all this fracas, and their assured shots further increased the losses of the Saxons.

Of the 50 men at the point, more than 20 fell, dead or wounded; the Weimar Light Battalion, amidst the explosions and avalanches of rocks, under the hail of Tyrolean bullets, pushes forward, and follows the two battalions of line and the rest of the division, arriving near Mittewald: a church and seven houses occupied by the insurgents and organized for the defense; the two Bavarian pieces brought to the head of the column were put into battery, their bullets and shells chase the defenders from their shelters, and the light battalion took the village. Immediately, the two companies of Coburg voltigeurs having crossed the Eisack on the Mittewald bridge were detached on the right bank of the torrent, to flank the march of the column on this side: they had the mission of marching by the mountain on Riot and Unter-Au and there prevent the destruction of the bridge. The two companies of Meiningen (Captains von Buttiar and Donop) were left at Mittewald, to hold the bridge and, if necessary, to support the retreat of the Coburg voltigeurs.

In such a defile the cavalry was more troublesome than useful; one of the two light-horse squadrons was ordered to dismount; it began to shoot at the insurgents on the banks of the torrent.

Continuing its success, the Weimar battalion advanced as far as Ober-Au, strongly defended by the Capuchin monk "Red Beard": the bridge over the Eisack was cut, and the torrent swollen by the rains was impassable; at this point the valley is not more than 250 paces wide, it was barred by new abatis, and again avalanches of stones and rocks swept the road. The cross fire of the Tyroleans made victims at every moment in the ranks of the light battalion; the battle becoming more and more lively, the two battalions of the line came to the rescue of the battalion of Weimar. The mountain to the left of the road was taken by assault by the first battalion, part of the second, and the two companies of voltigeurs of Cobourg, who had crossed over the left bank; during this time the light battalion crossed the Eisack on a narrow footbridge to drive out the insurgents stationed on the right bank; the second company of the grenadiers of Gotha (Lieutenant von Seebach) took a fortified house near the bridge, from which the Tyroleans covered the troops on the road with fire. These combined efforts drove back the mountaineers. The two cannons, placed near Ober-Au, fire on the last shelters of the mountaineers stationed near the burning bridge; the Tyroleans gradually retired to Brixen, pursued in their retreat by the Bavarian projectiles.

The lack of materials and the depth of the water prevented the rebuilding of the bridge for artillery and cavalry. Major von Germar bivouacked at Unter-Au in the evening with the light battalion, covering most of the division; the two line battalions of the Duchies Regiment (except the two companies of Meiningen remained in Mittewald), the Bavarian artillery and the rest of the division spent the night in Ober-Au and to the south of this village with the Lippe battalion detached to Riot.

Victory therefore remained with the Germans; but it cost them as much as a defeat; the Weimar Light Battalion had lost four officers: the two Schierbrandt brothers and the two Honning brothers, one of them crushed by a rock; two other officers of the battalion were seriously wounded; in the battalions of the line, Colonel von Henning and two officers were wounded. The Duchies Regiment had about 100 killed and 140 wounded, more than half of them in the light battalion. General Rouyer, himself struck by a slight wound, had seen the Commissary of War of the division killed at his side.

At 9 o'clock in the evening Colonel Egloffstein personally executed a reconnaissance in the direction of Brixen, with a detachment of 70 men from Weimar and 20 men from Hildburghausen; an Austrian jäger deserter served as his guide and he was able to verify the accuracy of the information he had received concerning the palisade barrier established by the Tyroleans on the road between Unter-Au and Brixen, divided by the insurgents whose fires crowned the mountains on all sides.

General Rouyer found himself in a most difficult position; the only bridge over the Eisack, by which he was to continue his march, was completely burned down by the enemy downstream of Ober-Au, and very difficult to repair; the losses sustained by his division on the 4th of August were considerable, and his wounded remained almost helpless; the provisions were completely wanting, and even the retreat seemed to be perilous. What was the right thing to do? An aide-de-camp of Marshal Lefebvre arrived in the night, bringing the news of the retrograde march of Marshal on Innsbruck; General Rouyer resolved accordingly to make his own retreat on Sterzing without delay.

But not wishing to abandon the conquered position, General Rouyer decided on a half measure; he ordered Colonel Egloffstein to remain at Ober-Au and Unter-Au with the regiment of the Duchies, and to hold in these two villages until he had sent him means of transport for his wounded, for the supplies, for the ammunition and new orders: that is to say at least until the next day around 8 or 9 o'clock in the morning. In vain did the colonel assert to the general the gravity of his position: the latter assured him that he had every confidence in the regiment of the Duchies and in his chief, and departed for Sterzing on 5 August at 3 o'clock in the morning, leaving, however, to the Saxons of Ober-Au a cannon and a Bavarian howitzer, as well as ten light horse for the service of couriers.

On the 5th of August, at 6 o'clock in the morning, a black flag waved on the mountain by a Tyrolean on horseback giving the insurgents the signal for the attack: the light battalion on the right bank of the Eisack was soon overrun with the enemy threatening his line of retreat; Colonel von Egloffstein sent it an order to retire on Ober Au, and to return to the left bank of the torrent; this movement was carried out under the heavy fire of the enemy, who pressed the soldiers of Weimar on three sides, and rolled avalanches of rocks upon them. The defense of Ober-Au was organized as follows: Major von Arnswald, with the 5th Light Battalion Company and detachments of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th Companies, covered the left-hand side of the position as far as the mountain; the Weimar company, with the rest of the light battalion -- 180 men at the most -- and the two companies of voltigeurs of Coburg, defended the inn of Ober Au under the direction of Major von Germar; the majors von Bunau and Bose occupied with the two companies of grenadiers of Gotha and the 1st, 3rd and 4th Companies of the 1st Line Battalion the two other houses of the village and the orchards which surround them; finally, the 3rd and 4th Companies of the 2nd Battalion, in support of the two Bavarian pieces, were placed in a small wood behind Ober Au.

The situation was precarious: it was four hours' march from Sterzing, the only point from which relief could arrive; and the ammunition was wanting, and the supplies had been lacking since the day before... 2,000 new Tyroleans had come in the night to reinforce the 3,000 men of the Capuchin Haspinger; Speckbacher had ascended the Eisack and occupied both sides of the mountains to the height of Mauls. The defenders of Ober-Au, who had been posted in the gardens, had to abandon them soon, the shooting of the enemy leaving the two slopes of the valley no longer allowing them to use any shelter. The officers, armed with guns taken from the dead or wounded, gave the example of the most courageous resistance; Lieutenant von Seebach, at the head of twenty volunteers, wanted to flush out the Tyroleans placed behind a wall from whence they directed a murderous fire on the Saxons; he fell wounded by a

shot to the hip and his soldiers had to carry him inside the houses. The three houses of the village were full of wounded; fatigue became extreme, the forces wore out and the lack of water added another suffering to those already borne by the unfortunate regiment of the Duchies: for the peasants had cut off the conduit that fed the fountain of Ober Au and any soldier who dares to draw water from the torrent fell infallibly under the bullets of the Tyroleans.

It was noon; none of the Bavarian light-horse successively sent to Sterzing to announce to General Rouyer the attack of the insurgents, and to inform him of the progress of the combat, had returned; all have fallen, dead or taken prisoner, into the hands of the men of Speckbacher who held the whole valley. The artillery had no more ammunition; the mountaineers, no longer hearing the cannon, grew bolder and closer. Colonel von Egloffstein losing all hope of succor; resolved to save at least a part of his regiment; rallied the detachment of Major von Arnswald, a few companies of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, the isolated and the wounded able to march, he left with the two pieces of Bavarian cannon entrusted to his regiment and went to Mittewald, where he found the two Meiningen companies left the day before to guard the bridge: he took them with him and, after destroying the bridge, continued on Sterzing, fighting all the way with the Haspinger bands who followed and harassed him. The women themselves fired beside their sons and husbands; the bullets of the Tyrolean carbines and the avalanches of stones killed or forced fall into the Eisack a large number of Saxon soldiers; Colonel von Egloffstein himself was struck with a burst of rock which injures him in the chest and shoulder. A barrel of wine, found in a house, was smashed on the road, and the soldiers drew from it in passing: by leaning over this barrel to fill his can (bidon), a small drummer was killed with a bullet in the head. He remained dead, leaning over the wine he had just fetched, and to which he mixed his blood, while the soldiers of the column continued, in passing, to take their ration from the barrel.

When the regiment arrived at Sterzing on the evening of 5 August, it numbered about 1,200 men, including the two companies from Meiningen brought back from Mittewald and the company that remained in Sterzing: as it had 2,190 men in the rank from this point in the morning, therefore, more than 900 men were missing, killed, or left at Ober-Au.

General Rouyer had reached Sterzing at seven o'clock in the morning; hearing the sound of the battle, he had sent a Bavarian squadron and the battalion of Anhalt Lippe with two cannon on the road to Ober-Au. This detachment attacked the Tyroleans, seized the castle of Sprechenstein and pursued the enemy, to Mauls; then it returned to Sterzing. As for the Major Knauth, left as we saw at Sterzing with a company, on the morning of 5 August he sent a carriage of provisions on Ober-Au; but the heights above the road were occupied by the insurgents, and he had observed that communications were absolutely cut off between him and the regiment.

On the morning of the 6th of August, Marshal Lefebvre, informed of the retreat of the Rouyer Division, left at Innsbruck the Bavarian 3rd Division and arrived at Sterzing with the 1st Division. He received Colonel von Egloffstein with open arms, and immediately inspected the regiment of the Duchies; then he addressed in German a speech to the troop:

"I thought you were all lost," he said; "but you have justified the high opinion I had of you: you have fought like brave soldiers, and I will report to the Emperor. Now I put myself at your head to avenge you and deliver your comrades!"

These words were greeted by an immense "vivat!" For the Marshal had soon acquired the affection of the German soldiers; he recommended to Colonel Egloffstein not to speak of the flags of the 1st and 2nd Battalions left at Ober-Au in his report to the Duchies' sovereigns, for he had the hope of delivering them at the same time as the rest of the regiment .

Meanwhile, the troops stranded at Ober-Au continued a desperate defense, always waiting for the succor which would save them. The three houses which made up the village were defended until evening; they are crowded with wounded. At eight o'clock the mountaineers approached with flammable substances to burn them; the cartridges of the dead and the wounded were exhausted in the two houses occupied by the majors von Bunau and Bose; they understood that a hand-to-hand combat was impossible for their exhausted and hungry soldiers, and they tried to parley with the Tyroleans; but the thing was impossible: the mountaineers, with a trumpet's signal, rushed to the houses, certain of no longer finding resistance; they overwhelmed and despoiled the officers who advanced as parliamentarians, invaded the houses, submerged, crushing the remains of the regiment; their losses having excited

their fury, they did not even spare the wounded: Colonel von Henning, stretched out bloody on a bed, was stripped and thrown down: the drum-master of the 1st Battalion, taken by the peasants for a high-ranking officer because of the gold braid of his coat, was badly hurt. The flags of the 1st and 2nd Battalions fell into the hands of the enemy

Major von Germar was still in the last house at Ober-Au, the inn, with about 230 men from Weimar and Coburg. The Tyroleans, with a white flag, approached and summoned him to capitulate to stop the outpouring of the blood: the Major advanced to parley, when he was struck with two bayonets: he defended himself with his saber, from two peasants while his soldiers, firing, covered his retreat Finally capitulation imposed itself before the threat of fire. The defense of Ober-Au had lasted thirteen hours.

The losses of the regiment of the Saxon Duchies during the combats of the 4th and 5th of August had been as follows:

	OFFICIERS.			TROUPE.
	TUÉS.	BLESSÉS.	PRI- SONNIERS.	TUÉS, BLESSÉS, PRISONNIERS.
Contingent de Gotha	1	6	10	349
— de Meiningen	"	"	3	101
— de Cobourg	1	"	6	90
— de Weimar	4	7	3	343
— d'Hildburghausen	1	1	2	60
	7	14	21	946

On the same night Saxon prisoners were separated from their troops and taken by the peasants to the castle of Rodeneck in the Pusterthal. They were then divided between Botzen (Bolzano), Meran (Merano), and Innsbruck. The wounded were transported the following day to Brixen, where Colonel Henning died of his wounds on 18 August. As for the prisoners, the conquerors scattered them in the neighboring valleys. The captivity of the Saxons did not cease till the 8th of November, when the French General Baraguey d'Hilliers, arrived by Carinthia, occupied Brixen, while the Bavarians descended into the Tyrol from the north. The soldiers of the regiments of the Duchies, then directed upon Salzburg, returned from thence to their garrisons; of the contingent of Gotha, 280 men returned; 70 had perished in the fighting on 4 and 5 August, or had died from their wounds.

The repercussions of this affair were considerable throughout the Tyrol, and the name of the "Defile of the Saxons" remained at the tragic valley of Ober-Au.

Marshal Lefebvre left Sterzing on 7 August with the Bavarian 1st Division to take control of the road to Brixen, and to attempt to succeed where General Rouyer had failed with his Germans. He found the valley barred by the bands of the Capuchin Haspinger, and the mountains on both banks of the Eisack strongly defended by Speckbacher, to whom Andreas Hofer had sent numerous reinforcements, and in particular detachments of Austrian Tyrolean jäger who had reunited with the insurgents at the news of their victory. The efforts of the Marshal were useless, and after considerable loss he had to fall back to Sterzing. The next day, the Bavarian 1st Division (Raglovich) again gave the mountain men a violent struggle towards Mauls; Lefebvre resumed his journey to the Brenner, where he arrived on the night of the 10th to the 11th of August.

The regiment of the Duchies, on leaving Sterzing on 6 August, had been directed on the Brenner Pass to occupy this important spot during the operations of the Marshal in the Eisack valley; it remained there five days, during which Colonel von Egloffstein proceeded to a new formation of the regiment, rendered necessary by the voids which had so unfortunately occurred in its ranks. The two battalions of the line were merged into one under the command of Major Knauth (of Gotha), and Major von Arnswald (of Weimar) took command of the remains of the light battalion, which numbered only 463 men. The eight companies of Gotha were reduced to four, one of them grenadiers. The total strength of the regiment was only 10 officers and 1,300 men.



Innsbruck.

Innsbruck.

The arrival of the Bavarian corps of Colonel von Arco at the Brenner Pass, on the 8th of August, enabled the Saxons to wait without danger for the return of Marshal Lefebvre, who was beating a retreat on Innsbruck; the Bavarians followed him, and the Rouyer division, which formed the rear-guard: then the Germans took the road of Hall, flanking the column of the Bavarians on the right and without battle, which passed through the Schönberg, where they were pressed by the Tyroleans, losing more than 600 men. Arriving on the evening of August 12th in Hall, where it stayed for two days, the Rouyer Division communicated with Rattenberg of the two Bavarian divisions of the Marshal. On 13 and 14 August it delivered a battle on Bergisel, a decisive battle for the Tyroleans: on the 15th of August, Andreas Hofer entered the Innsbruck triumphantly for the third time: without the support of the Austrians at all with his mountaineers he had reconquered the Tyrol. Lefebvre retired to Schwaz, where he found the 15th Rouyer Division; then the whole corps descended the course of the Inn. On 18 August the Bavarian division of Derooy left for Kufstein, while the Marshal, with the rest of his army, took the road to Saint-Johann. The Strub Pass was fortunately not defended by the insurgents. On the 20th of August, Lefebvre reaches Salzburg, where his division made cantonments.

In this short campaign of the Tyrol, the Duchies regiment had lost its two flags (the light battalion had none) and nearly half its strength; but it had acquired a real reputation for bravery. If fortune had not smiled at its efforts, it might be said that it had failed where a few days later a marshal of France, reputed to be the bravest, was not happier, with infinitely superior forces.

Let us briefly recall how the insurrection ended. The Emperor, greatly dissatisfied with the operations of Marshal Lefebvre, entrusted Prince Eugène with the pacification of the Tyrol, immediately after the signing of peace at Vienna.

He gave him the direction of the seven divisions charged with occupying the country, and disarming the mountaineers. General Drouet, with three Bavarian divisions, entered the valley of the Inn by Salzburg and

Innsbruck; Baraguey d'Hilliers, with the divisions of Broussier, Barbou, and Severoli, arrived by Willach, La Drave, Lienz, Brunecken, and Brixen; General Vial brought 7,000 men by the Adige, while General Perry ascended by the Piave. Faced with this invasion by all directions, Andreas Hofer wished to make a last effort, and once more called upon his faithful Tyroleans to arms. but many had already accepted the armistice offered by Prince Eugène, and the general uprising aborted. After a partial success of Haspinger on 25 November in Sankt Leonhard in Passeier (San Leonardo in Passira), the country submitted. Hofer, betrayed, was taken, conducted to Verona, and shot.

And the Tyrol fell again under Bavarian rule.

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