

scoured the country to Rhynberg and Wesel; and other detachments took possession of Rees and Emmerick. The 30th, the hereditary prince himself came before Wesel, and by the 3d of october, it was completely invested; the same day Cleves surrendered to another of his detachments, the garrison of 500 men being made prisoners of war.

His serene highness pushed on the siege of Wesel with as much briskness as possible; marshal Broglio thought it an object of such importance, that he resolved to raise the siege; for this end, he detached M. de Castries, with a strong corps towards the lower Rhine, which, when it had joined the straggling detachments in the country, amounted to 30 battalions, and 38 squadrons: by forced marches he arrived at Rhynberg the 14th. The hereditary prince had a party at that place, who were obliged to retire, on being attacked by the french, although the prince himself was at their head; the enemy advanced and encamped behind the convent of Campen: his serene highness formed the design of surprising M. de Castries in the night: accordingly he began his march at ten o'clock, but before he could reach the french camp, he found it necessary to overpower that corps that occupied the convent, about half a league in the front of it; in this attack the firing alarmed M. de Castries, who immediately put his troops hastily under arms. He was however attacked and drove back twice. A most terrible and well supported fire of musketry ensued; which lasted from five in the morning till about nine at night, without ceasing. At length his serene highness seeing, that it would be to no purpose to persist in the attempt of driving the enemy out of the wood, of which they had possessed themselves, and his infantry having spent all their ammunition, ordered a retreat; which was executed without a brisk pursuit from the enemy. The loss of the allies in killed, wounded, and prisoners,