

foot of the french troops, were cantoned at Zierenberg, and being very near their grand army, thought themselves in perfect security; he formed a design to surprize them. Accordingly, his serene highness gave orders for six battalions and eight squadrons, to take different roads, and post themselves at the avenues to the town, which being performed in great order, it was completely surrounded before the enemy had the least intimation of their danger. Part of the grenadiers marching in profound silence towards one of the gates, were discovered by their trampling over the gardens, and fired upon by the garrison; whereupon, they rushed on, pushed the piquets, and having killed the guard at the gate, poured into the town, and drove every thing before them, at about two o'clock in the morning. Never was a more complete surprize. The expedition concluded with the carrying off M. de Norman, brigadier, who commanded the volunteers of Dauphine, and M. de Comeiras, colonel of those of Clermont, with about 40 more officers, and 400 private men; the number of killed and wounded was also very considerable, from an ill judged resistance of those that were in the houses; the party was obliged to retire with these advantages when day came on, as they might have been cut off by the french at Warbourg.

Prince Ferdinand to finish the campaign as advantageously as possible, by extending his quarters in the winter, and opening a communication with such countries on the lower Rhine, as might serve to furnish his army with forage, &c. and possibly to compass another end, which will be explained hereafter, detached the hereditary prince towards the end of september, into the duchy of Cleves, to clear that and the neighbouring countries of the french troops, and to besiege Wesel. The 29th, part of his serene highness's corps passed the Rhine at Roeroort, and scoured