

BLUCHER, Field-Marshal Lebrecht von, *blu'-ker*, a distinguished Prussian general, whose bravery and boldness procured him the sobriquet of "Marshal Forward." In his fourteenth year he entered the Swedish service as an ensign, and fought against the Prussians in the Seven Years' War. He was made a prisoner, when he was persuaded to enter the Prussian service, in which he was afterwards to become so distinguished. He soon rose to a senior captaincy, but, taking disgust at the system which promoted an inferior officer to merit over him, he requested permission to retire, which was granted by his eccentric sovereign, Frederick the Great. He now became a farmer in Silesia, where, by industry, he accumulated a good estate, upon which he seemed likely to settle for life, as he had already passed fifteen years in getting it together. In 1786, however, Frederick-William succeeded to the throne of Prussia, when Blucher was courteously recalled to the army, invested with the rank of major in his old regiment of Black Hussars, and began to serve against the French. In 1789 he received the order of Merit; and, in 1793-4, fought at the battles of Orehies, Luxembourg, Oppenheim, Frankenstein, Kirchweiler, and Edesheim. In 1802 he possessed himself of Erfurt and Muhlhausen; and, in the same year, after the battle of Jena, made a successful retreat before Soult, Murat, and Bernadotte, and although ultimately forced to capitulate, only did so in consequence, as stated in writing, of being "without ammunition and provisions." Being now a prisoner to the French, he was exchanged for General Victor; and, in 1813, was again in the field, at the head of a combined force of Prussians and Russians. At the battles of Lutzen, Bautzen, and Haynau, he greatly distinguished himself, and received, in acknowledg-

ment, the order of St. George from the emperor Alexander of Russia. In 1813 he held the undivided command of 60,000 men, with whom he defeated Marshals Ney, Macdonald, Sebastiani, and Lauriston, and contributed greatly to the victorious results of the battle of Leipzig. In 1814 he took possession of Nancy; and, at Brienne, withstood a determined attack from Napoleon I. In the same year he entered Paris, and would have taken a dreadful revenge upon its inhabitants, had he not been restrained by Wellington and the other generals. He now wore on his breast the insignia of all the illustrious orders of Europe, and the king of Prussia created a new one in his especial honour. Its symbol was a cross of iron, as the sign of his invincible courage. At this time Blucher visited England, where he had the academical degree of D.C.L. conferred on him by the University of Oxford. After this he returned to his country, and retired to his Silesian estate. In 1815, however, the escape of Napoleon from Elba summoned him once more to the battlefield, and he took command of the Prussian army in Belgium. He was defeated, with great loss, at Ligny, on the 16th of June, where his horse was shot under him, and he himself lay, covered by the animal, until several regiments of French cuirassiers had passed over him. He was reported dead to Napoleon; but *le vieux diable*, ("the old devil,") Napoleon's name for him, appeared at the close of the battle of Waterloo, and inflicted a terrific slaughter upon the flying French. After this crowning triumph, he once more retired to his château in Silesia, where his sovereign visited him in his latest moments. "I know I shall die," said the veteran; "I am not sorry for it, seeing that I am now no longer of any use." B. at Rostock, on the Baltic, 1742; d. at Kriblowitz, Silesia, 1819. 102.124.3

BLÜCHER, Gebhard Lebrecht von, prince of Wahlstatt, Prussian field-marshal, termed "Marshal Forwards," from his celerity; b. 16 Dec. 1742; defeated Ney on the Katzbach, 26 Aug. 1813; visited London with his sovereign, June 1814; supported Wellington at Waterloo, 18 June 1815; entered Paris, 3 July 1815; d. 12 Sept. 1819. 102.142.2



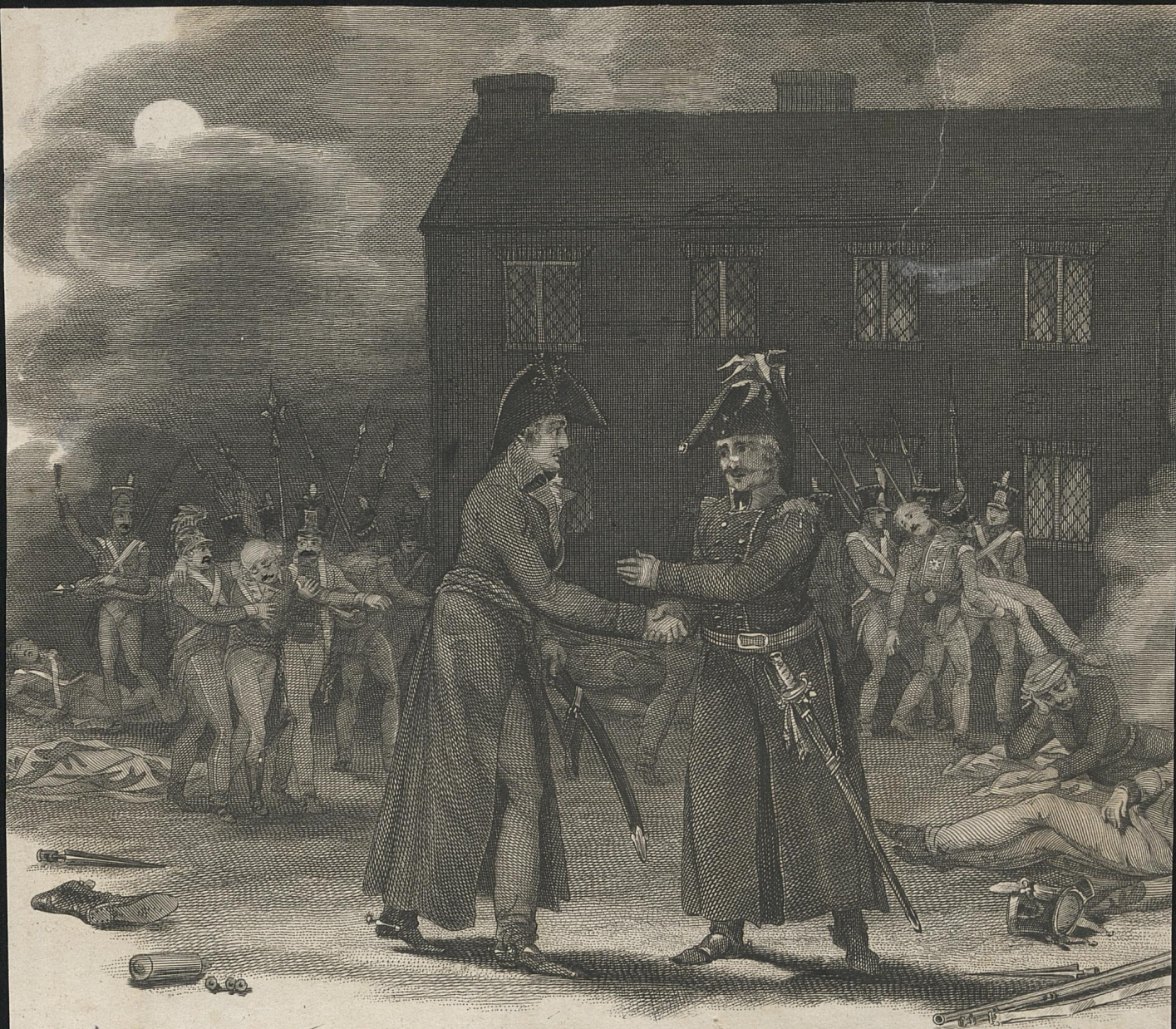


*Field-Marshal G. L. Von Blücher*

*London - Engraved by J. Arpino, 32, Cornhill, 1<sup>st</sup> May, 1814.*

1814





page 14 The unexpected meeting of Lord Wellington & Blücher at La Belle Alliance



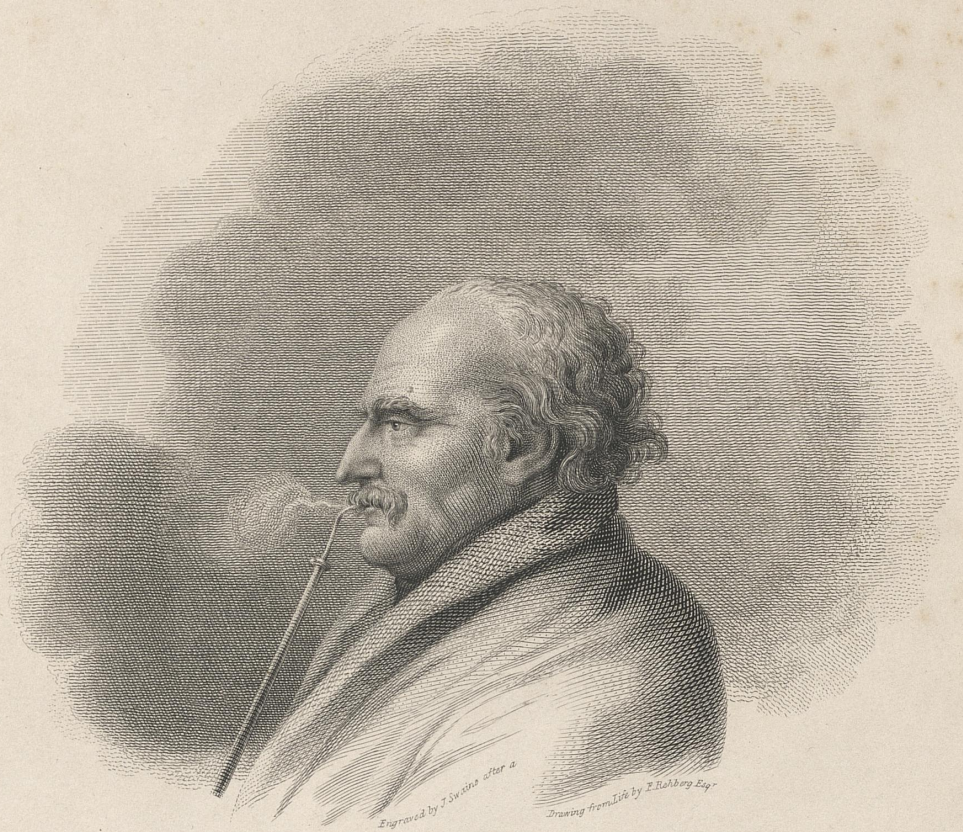


MARSHAL BLÜCHER .

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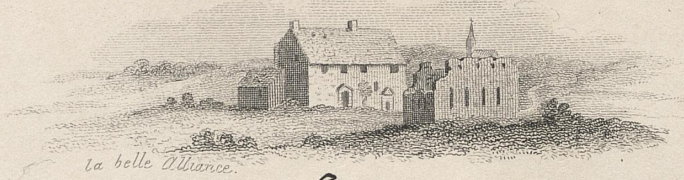




*Engraved by J. Swaine after a Drawing from Life by F. Robbins Esq.*

**Blücher**  
*Born at ROSTOCK Dec<sup>r</sup>. 16<sup>th</sup>. 1742.*  
DECIDED THE **eventful Battle of Waterloo, JUNE 18<sup>th</sup> 1815**  
*and Died Sept<sup>r</sup>. 10<sup>th</sup>. 1819.*  
**HIS MARTIAL GLORY FILLED THE WORLD.**

EMORI NESCIT DOMUIT FERUM QUI NAPPOLEONTA .



*la belle Alliance.*

*Blücher*

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