

**SPECIAL CAMPAIGN SERIES
NO. 17. FROM BOULOGNE TO
AUSTERLITZ, NAPOLEON'S
CAMPAIGN OF 1805**

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Special Campaign Series No. 17. From Boulogne to Austerlitz, Napoleon's Campaign of 1805 by
R. G. Burton

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R. G. BURTON

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FROM BOULOGNE TO AUSTERLITZ

1805

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By
LIEUT.-COLONEL R. G. BURTON
Indian Army

WITH EIGHT MAPS AND PLANS

"All great nations learned their truth of words and strength of thought in war ; they were nourished in war and wasted by peace ; taught by war and deceived by peace ; trained by war and betrayed by peace ; in a word, they are born in war and expired in peace."

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

	PAGE
EUROPE IN 1804-5	I
The Peace of Amiens—The Invasion of England—German Views on Invasion—The Third Coalition—Villeneuve's Failure—Sea Power and Preparation for War—Patriotic Spirit	

CHAPTER II

CHARACTER OF THE OPPOSING FORCES	10
The Grand Army—Infantry—Cavalry—Artillery—Characteristics of the French—The French in Attack—French Leaders—Napoleon—Youth of French Generals—Napoleon's System of Work—The Austrian Army—The Russians—Theatre of Operations—Comments	

CHAPTER III

THE ADVANCE TO THE RHINE	23
Napoleon's Plans—Plans of the Allies—Napoleon's Preparations—Reconnaissance—Austrian Preparations—The March to the Rhine—Proclamation to the Grand Army—Passage of the Rhine—Comments	

CHAPTER IV

FROM THE RHINE TO ULM	36
Orders of 28th September—Diary of Events—Passage of the Danube—Action in Wertingen—Action at Haslach—The Enemy destroyed by Marches—The Circle completed—Surrender of Mack—Comments	

CHAPTER V		PAGE
FROM ULM TO AUSTERLITZ		51
Violation of Prussian Territory—Trafalgar—Napoleon's Plans—Supply Arrangements—The Valley of the Danube—French Movements—Situation of the Allies—Russian Retreat—French Advance—Destruction of an Austrian Column—The Russians cross the Danube—Battle of Durrenstein—Entry into Vienna—General Situation—Napoleon's Dispositions—Murat's Pursuit—Battle of Hollabrunn—Advance to Brunn—Comments		
CHAPTER VI		
OPERATIONS IN ITALY AND THE TYROL		72
Operations in Italy—Battle of Caldiero—Operations in the Tyrol—Comments		
CHAPTER VII		
THE BATTLE OF AUSTERLITZ		77
General Situation—The Field of Austerlitz—Movements of the Allies—French Position—Napoleon's Orders—Plans of the Allies—The Morning of 2d December—Attack on the French Right—Napoleon's Counter-stroke—Action on the French Left—Repulse of Bagration—Destruction of the Allied Left—The Battle ends—Pursuit—The Fruits of Victory—Comments		
CHAPTER VIII		
THE CAUSES OF SUCCESS		99
MAPS AND PLANS		
IN POCKET—		
From the Rhine to Ulm—From Ulm to Austerlitz—Northern Italy and the Tyrol—Country round Austerlitz—Battle of Caldiero—Battle of Austerlitz		
IN TEXT—		
From Boulogne to the Rhine		25
Country round Ulm		53

Napoleon's Campaign of 1805

CHAPTER I

EUROPE IN 1804-1805

The Peace of Amiens—The Invasion of England—German Views on Invasion—The Third Coalition—Villeneuve's Failure—Sea Power and Preparation for War—Patriotic Spirit

IN sketching the events which led up to the campaign of Austerlitz, in 1805, it is necessary to go back to May 1803, when the Peace of Amiens came to an end. That peace could probably in no case have remained lasting. The continued occupation of Malta and Alexandria by England; the toleration of a scurrilous press, directed against the First Consul, in London; the British naval preparations—all these were calculated to arouse the hostility of Napoleon, while territorial acquisitions by France in Genoa and Piedmont, and the character of the First Consul himself, were not factors which made for the maintenance of peace.

The renewal of hostilities with England marked the initiation of Napoleon's project for the invasion of that country; for this purpose the Grand Army was assembled on the shores of the Channel, and a corps under Bernadotte was stationed in Holland. In July 1803 the First Consul established his famous "Continental System" for the exclusion of British trade from the continent of Europe; in March 1804 the seizure and execution of the Duc d'Enghien aroused the