Communiqué, 11 April, 2012

Correspondance générale de Napoléon Bonaparte
Publication of volume XII:
« La campagne de Russie. 1812 »

The twelfth volume of the Correspondance générale de Napoléon published for the Fondation Napoléon by Editions Fayard went on sale on 11 April, 2012.

Volume twelve, « La campagne de Russie. 1812 », covers the year 1812. It contains 2,551 annotated letters, 2 studies, 6 maps, a detailed timeline and two indices.


This project to publish Napoleon’s correspondence has been spearheaded by the Fondation since 2001 and is supported by the Archives de France, the Service historique de la défense, the Fondation La Poste and the Centre national du Livre. The project committee is headed by Victor-André Masséna, President of the Fondation Napoléon, and the project itself has mobilised some of the best specialists in Napoleonic history (namely, Jean Tulard, Jean-Claude Casanova, Jacques-Olivier Boudon, Thierry Lentz, Jacques Jourquin, André Palluel, Michel Kerautéret, etc.), many of the world’s principal archival institutions, not to mention nearly two hundred volunteers, all keen connoisseurs of the history of the Revolution and the Empire.

This volume benefited from the financial support of Patrick de Pauw.

Since 2004, nine volumes have been published by Editions Fayard, representing 22,512 letters, more than 40% of which were not included in the Correspondence published during the Second Empire and 33% of which can be considered as never before published.

Fourteen volumes are planned by Editions Fayard, the last appearing in 2017. In total, more than 41,000 letters by Napoleon (more than a third of which never before seen) will be published.

Napoléon Bonaparte, Correspondance générale. XII. La campagne de Russie. 1812, preface by Marie-Pierre Rey, professor at the Université Paris I, director of the CRHS. Volume edited by Thierry Lentz, assisted by François Houdecek and Marie Baudouin. Editions Fayard, 2012, 1,530 pages, 54.90 euros (RRP).