

60th Foot—Lieutenant Kiety, slightly wounded; Ensign Dawes, slightly wounded; Adjutant De Gilso, slightly wounded.

95th Foot—Capt. Creagh, slightly wounded; Lieutenants Hill, and Cortman, slightly wounded.

Abstract of the above Return.

4 Officers killed, 20 Officers wounded, 4 Officers missing, 3 Non-commissioned Officers and Drummers killed, 20 Non-commissioned Officers and Drummers wounded, 2 Non-commissioned Officers and Drummers missing, 63 rank and file killed, 295 rank and file wounded, 68 rank and file missing; 1 horse killed, 2 horses wounded.

Total Officers, Non-commissioned Officers, rank and file, and horses, killed, wounded, and missing, 482.

G. B. TUCKER, Dep. Adj. Gen.

Head-Quarters at Lourinha, August 18, 1808.

MY LORD—Since I wrote to you last night, I have heard from Brigadier-General Anstruther, that he is on the coast of Pinche, with the fleet of victualers and store-ships, in charge of Capt. Bligh of the Alfred, with a part of the force detached from England under Brigadier-General Ackland, in consequence of the receipt of Orders which I had left at Mondego-Bay for General Ackland, which he had opened. I have ordered Brigadier-General Anstruther to land immediately, and I have moved to this place, in order to protect his landing, and facilitate his junction.

General Loison joined General Laborde in the course of last night at Torres Vedras; and I understand that both began their march towards Lisbon this morning. I also hear that General Junot has arrived this day at Torres Vedras, with a small corps from Lisbon; and I conclude that the whole of the French army will be assembled between Torres Vedras and the Capital, in the course of a few days.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR WELLESLEY.
To the Right Hon. Lord Castlereagh, &c. &c.

Head-Quarters Maceira, August 21, 1808.

MY LORD—The report which I have the honor to inclose to your Lordship, made at my request by Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wellesley, conveys information which cannot but prove highly gratifying to his Majesty.

On my landing this morning, I found that the enemy's attack had already commenced, and I was fortunate enough to reach the field of action in time to witness and approve of every disposition that had been, and was afterwards made by Sir Arthur Wellesley, his comprehensive mind furnishing a ready resource in every emergency, and rendering it quite unnecessary to direct any alteration.

I am happy on this occasion to bear testimony to the great spirit and good conduct displayed by all the troops composing this gallant army in this well contended action.

I send this dispatch by Capt. Campbell, Aid-de-Camp to Sir Arthur Wellesley, no person being better qualified to give your Lordship information.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) HARRY BURRARD, Lieut. Gen.
To the Right Hon. Lord Castlereagh, &c. &c.

Vimiera, August 21, 1808.

SIR—I have the honor to report to you, that the enemy attacked us in our position at Vimiera this morning.

The village of Vimiera stands in a valley, through which runs the river Maceira; at the back, and to the westward and northward of this village, is a mountain, the western point of which touches the sea, and the eastern is separated by a deep ravine from the heights, over which passes the road which leads from Lourinha and the Northward, to Vimiera.—The greater part of the infantry, the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, and 8th Brigades were posted on this mountain, with eight pieces of artillery; Major-General Hill's Brigade being on the right, Major-General Ferguson's on the left, having one Battalion on the heights, separated from the mountain.—On the eastern and southern side of the town is a hill, which is entirely commanded, particularly on its right by the mountain to the westward of the town, and commanding all the ground in the neighbourhood to the southward and eastward, on which Brigadier-General Fane was posted with his Riflemen and the 50th Regiment, and Brigadier-General Anstruther with his Brigade, with half a Brigade of six-pounders, and half a Brigade of nine-pounders, which had been ordered to the position in the course of last night. The ground over which passes the road from Lourinha commanded the left of this height, and it had not been occupied, excepting by a piquet, as the camp had been taken up only for one night, and there was no water in the neighbourhood of this height.

The cavalry and the reserve of artillery were in the valley, between the hills on which the infantry stood both flanking and supporting Brigadier-General Fane's advanced guard.

The enemy first appeared at eight o'clock in the morning, in large bodies of cavalry on our left upon the heights on the road to Lourinha; and it was soon obvious that the attack would be made upon our advanced guard, and the left of our position; and Major-General Ferguson's Brigade was immediately moved across the Ravine to the heights, on the road to Lourinha, with three pieces of cannon; he was followed successively by Brigadier-General Nightingale with his Brigade, and three pieces of cannon; Brigadier-General Ackland with his Brigade, and Brigadier-General Bowes with his Brigade. These troops were formed (Major-General Ferguson's Brigade in the first line; Brigadier-General Nightingale in the second; and Brigadier-General Bowes and Ackland's, in columns in the rear) on those heights, with their right upon the valley which leads into Vimiera; and their left upon the other Ravine, which separates these heights from the range which terminates at the landing place at Maceira. On these last-mentioned heights, the Portuguese troops which had been in the bottom near Vimiera, were posted in the first instance, and they were supported by Brigadier-General Craufurd's Brigade.

The troops of the advanced guard on the height to the southward and eastward of the town were deemed sufficient for its defence, and Major-General Hill was moved to the centre of the mountain on which the great body of the in-

fantry had been posted, as a support to these troops, and as a reserve to the whole army. In addition to this support, these troops had that of the cavalry in the rear of their right.

The enemy's attack began in several columns upon the whole of the troops on this height: on the left they advanced, notwithstanding the fire of the riflemen, close to the 50th Regiment, and were checked and driven back only by the bayonets of that corps. The 2d battalion, 43d Regiment, was likewise closely engaged with them in the road which leads into Vimiera; a part of that corps having been ordered into the church-yard to prevent them from penetrating into the town. On the right of the position they were repulsed by the bayonets of the 97th Regiment, which corps was successfully supported by the 2d battalion 52d Regiment, which, by an advance in column, took the enemy in flank.

Besides this opposition given to the attack of the enemy on our advanced guard by their own exertions, they were attacked in flank by Brigadier-General Ackland's brigade in its advance to its position on the heights on the left, and a cannonade was kept up on the flank of the enemy's columns by the artillery on those heights.

At length, after a most desperate contest, the enemy was driven back in confusion from this attack with the loss of seven pieces of cannon, many prisoners, and a great number of officers and soldiers killed and wounded. He was pursued by the detachment of the 20th light dragoons, but the enemy's cavalry were so much superior in numbers that this detachment has suffered much, and Lieutenant-Colonel Taylor was unfortunately killed.

Nearly at the same time the enemy's attack commenced upon the heights on the road to Lourinha. This attack was supported by a large body of cavalry, and was made by the usual impetuosity of the French troops. It was received with steadiness by Major-General Ferguson's brigade, consisting of the 36th, 40th, and 71st regiments; and these corps charged as soon as the enemy approached them; who gave way, and they continued to advance upon him supported by the 82d, one of the corps of Brigadier-General Nightingale's brigade, which, as the ground extended, afterwards formed a part of the first line, by the 29th regiment, and by Brigadier-General Bowes's and Ackland's brigades, while Brigadier-General Craufurd's brigade, and the Portuguese troops, in two lines, advanced along the height on the left. In the advance of Major-General Ferguson's brigade six pieces of cannon were taken from the enemy, with many prisoners, and vast numbers were killed and wounded.

The enemy afterwards made an attempt to recover a part of his artillery by attacking the 71st and 82d regiments, which were halted in a valley in which it had been taken. These regiments retired from the low grounds in the valley to the heights, where they halted, faced about, fired, and advanced upon the enemy, who had by that time arrived in the low ground, and they thus obliged him again to retire with great loss.

In this action, in which the whole of the French force in Portugal was employed, under the command of the Duke D'Abrantes in person, in which the enemy was certainly superior in cavalry and artillery, and in which not more than half of the British army was actually engaged, he has sustained a signal defeat, and has lost thirteen pieces of cannon, twenty-three ammunition waggons, with powders, shells, stores of all descriptions, and twenty thousand rounds of musket ammunition. One general officer (Beniere) has been wounded and taken prisoner, and a great many officers and soldiers have been killed, wounded and taken.

The valor and discipline of his Majesty's troops have been conspicuous upon this occasion, as you, who witnessed the greatest part of the action, must have observed; but it is a justice to the following corps to draw your notice to them in a particular manner, viz.—the Royal Artillery, commanded by Lieut. Col. Robe; the 20th Dragoons, which had been commanded by Lieut. Col. Taylor; the 50th regiment, commanded by Colonel Walker; the 2d battalion 95th foot, commanded by Major Travers; the 5th battalion, 60th regiment, commanded by Major Davy; the 2d battalion, 43d, commanded by Major Hull; the 2d battalion, 52d, commanded by Lieut. Col. Ross; the 97th regiment, commanded by Lieut. Col. Lyon; the 36th regiment, commanded by Col. Burne; the 40th, commanded by Col. Kemmis; the 71st, commanded by Lieut. Col. Pack; and the 82d Regiment, commanded by Major Eyre.

In mentioning Col. Burne, and the 36th Regiment to you upon this occasion, I cannot avoid to add, that the regular and orderly conduct of this corps throughout this service, and their gallantry and discipline in action, have been conspicuous.

I must take this opportunity of acknowledging my obligations to the general and staff officers of the army. I was much indebted to Major-General Spencer's judgment and experience, in the decision which I formed with respect to the number of troops allotted to each point of defence, and for his advice and assistance throughout the action. In the position taken up by Major-General Ferguson's brigade, and in its advance upon the enemy, that officer showed equal bravery and judgment; and much praise is due to Brigadier-General Fane, and Brigadier-General Anstruther, for their gallant defence of their position in front of Vimiera, and to Brigadier-General Nightingale, for the manner in which he supported the attack upon the enemy, made by Major-General Ferguson.

Lieut. Col. G. Tucker, and Lieut. Col. Bathurst, and the officers in the departments of the Adjutant and Quarter-Master-General, and Lieut. Col. Torrens, and the officers of my personal Staff, rendered me the greatest assistance throughout the action.

I have the honor to inclose herewith a return of the killed, wounded, and missing.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR WELLESLEY.
N. B. Since writing the above, I have been informed that a French General Officer, supposed to be General Thebaud, the Chief of the Staff, has been found dead upon the field of battle.

A. W.
Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing, of the Army under the Command of Lieutenant-General The Right Hon. Sir Arthur Wellesley, K. B. on the 21st of August, 1808.

Head-Quarters, Vimiera.

General Staff—1 Captain, wounded.

Royal Artillery—2 rank and file, killed; 2 rank and file, 2 horses, wounded.

Royal Engineers—1 Lieutenant, missing.

20th Light Dragoons—1 Lieut. Col. 19 rank and file, 30 horses, killed; 2 Sergeants, 22 rank and file, 10 horses, wounded; 1 Captain, 1 Drummer, 9 rank and file, 1 horse, missing.

1st Brigade—Major-General Hill.

5th Foot—None killed or wounded.

9th Foot—None killed or wounded.

38th Foot—None killed or wounded.

2d Brigade—Major-General Ferguson.

36th Foot—7 rank and file, killed; 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 1 Staff, 1 Sergeant, 1 Drummer, 34 rank and file, wounded; 1 Serjt. 1 rank and file, missing.

40th Foot—6 rank and file, killed; 1 Captain, 1 Lieut. 2 Sergeants, 28 rank and file, wounded; 6 rank and file, missing.

71st Foot—12 rank and file, killed; 2 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 1 Staff, 6 Sergeants, 86 rank and file, wounded.

3d Brigade—Brigadier-General Nightingale.

29th Foot—2 rank and file, killed; 1 Capt. 1 Sergeant, 10 rank and file, wounded.

82d Foot—1 Lieut. 7 rank and file, killed; 2 Sergeants, 51 rank and file, wounded.

4th Brigade—Brigadier-General Bowes.

6th Foot—None killed or wounded.

32d Foot—None killed or wounded.

5th Brigade—Brigadier-General Craufurd.

45th Foot—None killed or wounded.

91st Foot—None killed or wounded.

6th Brigade—Brigadier-General Fane.

50th Foot—1 Capt. 1 Sergeant, 18 rank and file, killed; 1 Major, 3 Lieutenants, 1 Sergeant, 1 Drummer, 61 rank and file, wounded; 2 rank and file, missing.

5th Batt. 60th Foot—14 rank and file, killed; 2 Lieutenants, 1 Sergeant, 21 rank and file, wounded; 10 rank and file, missing.

2d Batt. 95th Foot—1 Sergeant, 5 rank and file, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, 13 rank and file, wounded; 3 rank and file, missing.

7th Brigade—Brigadier-General Anstruther.

2d Batt. 9th Foot—3 rank and file, killed; 1 Sergeant, 14 rank and file, wounded.

2d Batt. 43d Foot—1 Sergeant, 26 rank and file, killed; 1 Major, 2 Lieutenants, 5 Sergeants, 2 Drummers, 68 rank and file, wounded; 1 Drummer, 12 rank and file, missing.

2d Batt. 52d Foot—3 rank and file, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 2 Sergeants, 31 rank and file, wounded; 2 rank and file, missing.

97th Foot—4 rank and file, killed; 1 Major, 1 Lieut. 2 Sergeants, 14 rank and file, wounded.

8th Brigade—Brigadier-General Ackland.

2d or Queens—1 Sergeant, 6 rank and file, wounded.

20th Foot—1 Lieut. killed; 1 Lieut. 5 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file, missing.

Royal Staff Corps—None killed or wounded.

Total—1 Lieut. Col. 1 Capt. 2 Lieutenants, 3 Sergeants, 128 rank and file, 30 horses, killed; 3 Majors, 10 Captains, 19 Lieutenants, 3 Ensigns, 2 Staff, 27 Sergeants, 4 Drummers, 466 rank and file, 12 horses, wounded; 1 Captain, 1 Lieut. 1 Sergeant, 2 Drummers, 46 rank and file, 1 horse, missing.

Names of Officers Killed, Wounded, and Missing on the 21st of August, 1808.

General Staff—Capt. Hardinge, of the 57th Foot, Deputy Assistant Quarter-Master-General, wounded.

Royal Engineers—First Lieutenant Wells, missing.

20th Light Dragoons—Lieut. Col. Taylor, killed; Capt. Eustace, missing.

20th Foot—Lieut. Brooke, killed; Lieut. Hogg, wounded.

29th Foot—Brigadier-General A. Creagh, wounded.

36th Foot—Capt. Herbert, slightly wounded; Lieutenants Hart, Lought, and Edwards, slightly wounded; Ensign Bosell, slightly wounded; Lieut. and Adjutant Powah, severely wounded.

40th Foot—Capt. Smith, slightly wounded; Lieutenant Frankley, slightly wounded.

43d Foot—Major Hearne, wounded; Captains Ferguson, Brock, and Haverfield, wounded; Lieutenant Madden, wounded; Ensign Wilson, wounded.

50th Foot—Captain A. G. Cook, killed; Major Charles Hill, wounded; Lieutenants John Kent, John Wilson, and Robert Way, wounded.

52d Foot—Capt. Fawcett, wounded; Lieut. Bell, wounded.

60th Foot—Lieutenant Charles Kirk, wounded; Lewis Raith, wounded.

71st—Capt. A. Jones, slightly wounded; Major Mackenzie, slightly wounded; Lieut. F. D. Pratt, severely wounded; Lieutenants William Hartley, R. Dudgeon, and A. S. McIntyre, slightly wounded; Ensign W. Campbell, slightly wounded; Acting Adjutant R. M'Alpine, severely wounded.

82d—Lieutenant R. Donkin, killed.

95th—Lieut. Pratt, wounded; Ensign W. Cox, wounded.

97th—Major J. Wilson, wounded; Lieutenant E. Kettlewell, wounded.

Abstract of the above Return.

4 Officers killed; 37 Officers wounded; 2 Officers missing; 3 Non-commissioned Officers and Drummers killed; 31 Non-commissioned Officers and Drummers, wounded; 3 Non-commissioned Officers and Drummers missing; 128 rank and file, killed; 466 rank and file, wounded; 46 rank and file, missing; 43 horses killed, wounded, and missing.

Total Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Drummers, rank and file, and horses, killed, wounded, and missing, 783.

G. B. TUCKER, Dep. Adj. Gen.

Return of Ordnance and Ammunition taken in the Action of the 21st instant.

1 Six-pounder, 4 four-pounders, 2 three-pounders, five 1/2 inch howitzers.