

London Gazette Extraordinary.

THURSDAY, MAY 25.

DOWNING-STREET, MAY 24.

A dispatch, of which the following is a copy, was received this evening from Lieut. General the Right Hon. Sir Arthur Wellesley, by Viscount Castlereagh, one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State.

Oporto, May 12.

My Lord, I had the honour to apprise your Lordship, on the 7th inst. that I intended that the army should march on the 9th from Coimbra, to dispossess the enemy of Oporto.

The advanced guard and the cavalry had marched on the 7th, and the whole halted on the 8th, to afford time for Marshal Beresford with his corps to arrive upon the Upper Douro.

The infantry of the army was formed into three divisions for this expedition, of which two, the advanced guard, consisting of the Hanoverian Legion and Brigadier General R. Stewart's brigade, with a brigade of six-pounders, and a brigade of three-pounders under Lieutenant-General Paget, and the cavalry under Lieutenant-General Payne, and the brigade of Guards; Brigadier General Campbell's and Brigadier General ——— brigades of Infantry, with a brigade of six-pounders, under Lieutenant-General Sherbrooke, moved by the high road from Coimbra to Oporto, and one composed of Major-General Hill's and Brigadier General Cameron's brigade of infantry, and a brigade of six-pounders, under the command of Major-General Hill, by the road from Coimbra to Aveiro.

On the 10th in the morning, before day-light, the cavalry and advanced guard crossed the Vouga with the intention to surprise and cut off four regiments of French cavalry, and a battalion of infantry and artillery, cantoned in Albergaria Nova and the neighbouring villages, about eight miles from that river, in the last of which we failed; but the superiority of the British cavalry was evident throughout the day; we took some prisoners and their cannon from them; and the advanced guard took up the position of Oliveira.

On the same day Major-General Hill, who had embarked at Aveiro on the evening of the 9th, arrived at Ovar in the rear of the enemy's right; and the head of Lieutenant-General Sherbrooke's division passed the Vouga on the same evening.

On the 11th, the advanced guard and cavalry continued to move on the high road towards Oporto, with Major-General Hill's division, in a parallel road which leads to Oporto from Ovar.

On the arrival of the advanced guard at Vendas Novas, between Santo Redondo and Grijon, they fell in with the out posts of the enemy's advanced guard, consisting of about four thousand infantry, and some squadrons of cavalry, strongly posted on the heights above Grijon, their front being covered by woods and broken ground. The enemy's left flank was turned by a movement well executed by Major-General Murray, with Brigadier General Langworth's brigade of the Hanoverian Legion; whilst the 16th Portuguese regiment of Brigadier General Richard Stewart's brigade attacked their right, and the riflemen of the 95th, and the flank companies of the 20th, 43d, and 52d, of the same brigade, under Major Way, attacked the infantry in the woods and villages in the centre.

These attacks soon obliged the enemy to give way; and the Hon. Brigadier-General Charles Stewart led two squadrons of the 16th and 20th Dragoons, under the command of Major Blake, in pursuit of the enemy, and destroyed many and took many prisoners.

On the night of the 11th the enemy crossed the Douro, and destroyed the bridge over that river.

It was important, with a view to the operations of Marshal Beresford, that I should cross the Douro immediately; and I had sent Major-General Murray in the morning with a battalion of the Hanoverian Legion, a squadron of cavalry, and two six-pounders, to endeavor to collect boats, and, if possible, to cross the river at Ovinas about four miles above Oporto; and I had as many boats as could be collected and brought to the Ferry, immediately above the towns of Oporto and Villa Nova.

The ground on the right bank of the river at this Ferry is protected and commanded by the fire of cannon, placed on the height of the Sierra Convent at Villa Nova, and there appeared to be a good position for our troops on the opposite side of the river, till they should be collected in sufficient numbers.

The enemy took no notice of our collection of boats, or of the embarkation of the troops, till after the first battalion (the Buffs) were landed, and had taken up their position under the command of Lieutenant-General Paget, on the opposite side of the river.

They then commenced an attack upon them, with a large body of cavalry, infantry, and artillery, under the command of Marshal Soult, which that corps most gallantly sustained, till supported, successively by the 48th and 66th regiments, belonging to Major-Gen. Hill's Brigade, and a Portuguese battalion, and afterwards by the first battalion of detachments belonging to Brigadier General Richard Stewart's Brigade.

Lieut. Gen. Paget was unfortunately wounded soon after the attack commenced, when the command of these gallant troops devolved upon Major-General Hill.

Although the French made repeated attacks upon them, they made no impression, and at last Major-Gen. Murray having appeared on the enemy's left flank on his march from Ovinas, where he had crossed, and Lieut. General Sherbrooke, who by this time had availed himself of the enemy's weakness in the town of Oporto, and had crossed the Douro at the ferry, between the towns of Villa Nova and Oporto, having appeared upon the right with the brigade of Guards, and the 29th regiment, the whole retired in the utmost confusion towards Amarante, leaving behind them five pieces of cannon, eight ammunition tumbrils, and many prisoners. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded in this action has been very large, and they have left behind them in Oporto 700 sick and wounded.

Brigadier Gen. the Hon. Charles Stewart then directed a charge by a squadron of the 14th dragoons, under the

command of Major Hervey, who made a successful attack on the enemy's rear guard.

In the different actions with the enemy, of which I have above given your Lordship an account, we have lost some, and the immediate services of other valuable officers and soldiers.

In Lieut. Gen. Paget, among the latter, I have lost the assistance of a friend, who had been most useful to me in the few days which had elapsed since he had joined the army. He had rendered a most important service at the moment he received his wound in taking up the position which the troops afterwards maintained, and in bearing the first brunt of the enemy's attack.

Major Hervey also distinguished himself at the moment he received his wound in the charge of the cavalry on this day.

I cannot say too much in favor of the officers and troops. They have marched in four days over eighty miles of most difficult country, have gained many important positions, and have engaged and defeated three different bodies of the enemy's troops.

I beg particularly to draw your Lordship's attention to the conduct of Lieut. Gen. Paget, Major-Gen. Murray, Major-Gen. Hill, Lieut. Gen. Sherbrooke, Brig. Gen. the Hon. Charles Stewart, Lieut. Col. Delancey, Deputy-Quarter-Master-General, and Capt. Mellish, Assist. Adj. General, for the assistance they respectively rendered Gen. Stewart in the charge of the cavalry this day and on the 11th, Major Colin Campbell, Assist. Adj. General, for the assistance he rendered Major-Gen. Hill in defence of his post, and Brig. Gen. Stewart in the charge of the cavalry this day, and Brigade-Major Fordyce, Capt. Corry, and Capt. Hill, for the assistance they rendered Gen. Hill.

I have also to request your Lordship's attention to the conduct of the riflemen, and of the flank companies of the 20th, 43d, and 52d regiments, under the command of Major Way of the 29th, and that of the 16th Portuguese regiment commanded by Col. Machado, of which Lieut. Col. Doyle is Lieut. Colonel; and that of the Brigade of the Hanoverian Legion, under the command of Brigadier-General Langworth; and that of the two squadrons of the 16th and 20th light dragoons under the command of Major Blake of the 20th, in the action of the 11th; and the conduct of the Buffs, commanded by Lieut. Col. Drummond; the 48th, commanded by Col. Duckworth, and 66th commanded by Major Murray, who was wounded; and of the squadron of the 14th dragoons, under the command of Major Hervey, in the action of this day.

I have received the greatest assistance from the Adjutant-General and Quarter-Master-General, Colonel Murray, and from all the officers belonging to those departments respectively throughout the service, as well as from Lieut. Colonel Bathurst and the officers of my personal Staff, and I have every reason to be satisfied with the artillery and officers of engineers.

I send this dispatch by Capt. Stanhope, whom I beg to recommend to your Lordship's protection: his brother, the Hon. Major Stanhope, was unfortunately wounded by a sabre whilst leading a charge of the 16th light dragoons on the 10th instant. I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) ARTHUR WELLESLEY.

Abstract of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing of the Army under Lieut. General Sir Arthur Wellesley, in action with the advanced posts of the French army, at Albergaria Nova, the 10th May, 1809.

None killed: 1 Major, 2 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file, missing.—Total 4.

Name of officer wounded.—Hon. Major Lincoln Stanhope, of the 16th dragoons, slightly wounded in the shoulder.

Abstract of Killed, Wounded, and Missing, in the Army under the command of Lieutenant General Sir Arthur Wellesley, in the action on the Heights of Grijon, on the 11th May, 1809.

19 killed, 63 wounded, 14 missing.—Total 96.

Names of Officers killed and wounded.

16th Light Dragoons, Captain Sweatman, wounded slightly; Lieut. Tomkinson, severely.

1st Batt. detachments, Capt. Owens, 38th foot, wounded; Lieut. Woodgate, 52d foot, severely wounded.

1st Batt. King's German Legion, Capt. Delauring, killed.

2d do. Capt. Langrelin, severely wounded.

Rifle corps King's German Legion, Lieutenant Ladders, wounded.

Abstract of Killed, Wounded, and Missing in the Army under Lieut. General Sir Arthur Wellesley, in action with the French army under the command of Marshal Soult, in the Passage of the Douro, on the 12th May.

23 rank and file killed; 2 General and Staff Officers, 3 Majors, 2 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 1 Serjeant, 35 rank and file, wounded; 2 rank and file, missing.

Total—23 killed, 96 wounded, 2 missing—121.

Names of Officers Killed and Wounded.

Lieut. Gen. Paget lost his arm, but doing well.

Capt. Hill, Aid-de-Camp to Gen. Hill, slightly.

14th Light Dragoons—Major Hervey, lost his right arm, but doing well; Capt. Hawker, and Lieutenant Knipe, slightly wounded.

3d Foot, Lieut. Monaghan, slightly.

48th Foot, 2d bat. Major Erskine, slightly.

66th Foot, 2d bat. Major Murray, severely in the arm; Capt. Binning, slightly.

Royal Engineers, First Lieutenant Hamilton, severely.

Oporto, May 13, 1809.

Return of Ordnance, Ammunition, and Carriages, and Ordnance Stores, &c. &c. taken in the Arsenal of Quartieri, St. Ovidio, on the 12th May, 1809.

Brass guns, French, the carriages broken to pieces—10 twelve-pounders, 12 eighteen-pounders, 18 four-pounders, 16 three-pounders; brass howitzers, French, one carriage good—2 eight inch, 1 six inch; French Caissons 4 unserviceable, 36 unserviceable; 3000 barrels of English gunpowder; 300,000 English musket cartridges; round shot—2000 nine-pounders, 256 eighteen-pounders, 508 twelve-pounders, 656 eight-pounders, 508 four-pounders, 200 three-pounders; shells—100 six inch; 600 flannel cartridges; case shot—120 six inch howitzers; wheels good—8 guns, 30 howitzers, 18 carts; 60

handspikes, 12 tarpaulins; 3000 French flints; 10 slow matches; 100 sponges; 90 copper ladles.

G. HOWARTH, Br. Gen. Roy. Horse Artillery.

From the Extraordinary Gazette we derive expectations of another and perhaps more decisive battle; for Soult, we find fights as he retreats, and may give us an opportunity of engaging him in a pitched battle.—The activity and promptitude of Sir Arthur Wellesley are a sufficient guarantee to us that he will lose no time in pursuing him.

On the night after the last action, when our parties were sent out to trace the course of the enemy, they were blowing up their tumbrils, and destroying their ammunition; Marshal Beresford took the road to Chaves, and Sir A. Wellesley to Braga, to cut off their retreat.

Whilst these events are passing in Portugal, the aspect of affairs in Spain becomes brighter daily.—Letters of the 9th from Seville, are extremely favorable.—Victor's army had not attempted to advance, and was diminishing daily by sickness and other causes.—Cuevas, on the contrary, was rather augmenting.—In the North-Well, Romana pursues his victorious career.—A great change must have taken place in the temper of the people since our army was there, when they were described to be so take-warm and indifferent; for Romana has been able to gain great advantages, and to have even wrested Ferrol, if we may believe the reports in circulation from the hands of the enemy.

In the House of Commons last night Lord Henry Perceval put a question to Mr. Canning upon the subject of the correspondence between Mr. Erskine and the American Government.—Mr. Canning replied, that the agreement, purporting to be entered into by our Ministers and the American Government, was not made in conformity with the wishes of his Majesty nor such as his Majesty could approve of. It was neither founded on the instructions sent to our Minister, nor consistent with them. Yet, as it was possible, that, under the faith of that agreement, various speculations in trade might be entered into by American merchants, it became necessary, to prevent any inconvenience or detriment to them, to issue some order, by which they might be secured of indemnity in their speculations, at least till the sentiments of his Majesty could be conveyed to America. An Order of Council would speedily be published to the above-mentioned effect.—It will appear in Saturday night's Gazette. Previously, however, to the meeting of the House of Commons yesterday, Mr. Sanborn, the chairman of the committee of merchants trading to the United States of America, received a note from Earl Bathurst, the President of the Board of Trade, requesting his attendance, with such other Gentlemen of the Committee as might be inclined to accompany him, at the Board.—The Chairman and several Members of the Committee repaired at one o'clock to the Treasury Chamber, and on their being introduced to the Board of Trade, were informed by Earl Bathurst, that the recent arrangements made by our Ambassador, Mr. Erskine, with the government of the United States, through its Secretary, Mr. Smith, were unauthorised by his Majesty's Ministers, and that he had sent for the Committee, for the express purpose of communicating the fact to them with the view that the same might, without loss of time, be made known to the Merchants trading to the United States. His Lordship at the same time informed the committee, that no advantage would be taken or any impediment thrown in the way of those who had already, and in consequence of this unauthorised arrangement, sent consignments to any of his Britannic Majesty's subjects; but that American ships and cargoes, under such circumstances, would be allowed to proceed to their destined ports in security.

Dutch papers of the 23d arrived late last night, and have brought an account of the French having entered Vienna.

The intelligence was published at Rastibon on the 12th in a short Bulletin which stated that on the 9th Bonaparte entered the Austrian capital. There must be some mistake with respect to the day, for, by the 6th Bulletin of the French Army, Bonaparte was on the 9th at St. Polten, at least 40 miles from Vienna; his advanced guards under Montebello, was at Sienkarisgerchen, above 20 miles.—However we see no reason to doubt the fact of the enemy having entered the Austrian capital; though the Dutch papers in the articles from Vienna state that the Archduke Maximilian had published a Proclamation to the inhabitants, exhorting them to defend the City, and that 15,000 men had been at work, daily upon the intrenchments. We had hoped that Vienna would have made some resistance.—It has a good ditch, and the works are strong, though to have defended the city it would have been necessary to have destroyed the suburbs.—Not that the resistance could have been efficacious or long,—but if it had lasted a fortnight it would have allowed time for the Archdukes Charles and Ferdinand, and the other officers, to have collected a large force on the Hungarian frontier. The Emperor of Austria is said to have solicited peace, an assertion which we do not believe. The Archduke Charles accepted the chief command under the express stipulation, that no peace should be made without his consent, and he has declared that nothing but the annihilation of the Austrian armies, and the impossibility of opposing any further resistance, should make him consent to that last of degradation and miseries, submission to the will of Bonaparte.

Schill's bold enterprize continues to give the greatest alarm to the enemy in the North of Germany. He has taken Bremen, and his band, rapidly increasing to an army, is spreading itself through Brunswick and Hanover, the inhabitants of which are to a man in his favor. Jerome Bonaparte has no army capable of opposing him, and confines himself to Proclamations offering rewards for his apprehension. One article states that the King of Prussia, so far from approving of his conduct, has sent an army of 30,000 men against him.—The necessity which is here confessed of sending so large a force against him proves the formidable nature of the insurrection which he has brought about.—But we do not believe the King of Prussia has sent any force against him, and we remember having read in the Leyden Gazette the other day some reflections against his Prussian Majesty upon the subject of Schill's enterprize.