

SUPPLEMENT TO THE ROYAL GAZETTE.

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SAINT JOHN, MONDAY, JUNE 8, 1812.

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Through the politeness of a gentleman, we have been favored with the London Packet of the 27th of APRIL, containing Lord WELLINGTON'S Official account of the taking of BADAJOS by Storm; which we hastily lay before our readers in a SUPPLEMENT—The GAZETTE will be published To-Morrow.

LONDON GAZETTE EXTRAORDINARY. WAR DEPARTMENT.

DOWNING-STREET, APRIL 24.

Capt. Canning, Aid-de-camp to General the Earl of Wellington, arrived last night at this Office, bringing Despatches, addressed by his Lordship to the Earl of Liverpool; of which the following are Extracts or Copies:—

Extract of a Despatch from the Earl of WELLINGTON, dated Camp before Badajoz, April 3.

We opened our fire on the 31st of March from 26 pieces of cannon, in the second parallel, to breach the face of the bastion at the south east angle of the fort called La Trinidad; and the flank of the bastion by which the face is defended called Santa Maria. The fire upon these has continued since with great effect.

The enemy made a sortie upon the night of the 29th, upon the troops of General Hamilton's division, which invest the place on the right of the Guadiana, but were immediately driven in with loss. We lost no men on this occasion.

The movements of Lieut. General Sir T. Graham and of Lieut. Gen. Sir R. Hill have obliged the enemy to retire by the different roads towards Cordora, with the exception of a small body of infantry and cavalry, which remained at Zalamea de la Serena, in front of Belalcázar.

Marshal Soult broke up in front of Cadiz on the 23d and 24th, and has marched upon Seville with all the troops which were there, with the exception of 4000 men. I understood that he was to march from Seville again on the 30th or 31st.

I have not heard from Castile since the 30th ult.—One division of the Army of Portugal, which had been in the Province of Avilla, had on that day arrived at Guadapero, within two leagues of Ciudad Rodrigo; and it was supposed that Marshal Marmont was on his march with other troops from the side of Salamanca.

The River Agueda was not fordable for troops on the 30th.

Camp before Badajoz, April 7.

MY LORD—My despatch of the 3d inst. will have apprised your Lordship of the state of the operations against Badajoz to that date, which were brought to a close on the night of the 6th, by the capture of the place by storm.

The fire continued during the 4th and 5th against the face of the bastion of La Trinidad, and the flank of the bastion of Santa Maria; and on the 4th, in the morning, we opened another battery of six guns, in the second parallel, against the shoulder of the ravelin of St. Roque, and the wall in its gorge.

Practicable breaches were effected in the bastions above mentioned, in the evening of the 5th; but as I had observed that the enemy had entrenched the bastion of La Trinidad, and the most formidable preparations were making for the defence, as well of the breach in that bastion, as of that in the bastion of Santa Maria, I determined to delay the attack for another day, and to turn all the guns in the batteries in the second parallel on the curtain of La Trinidad, in hopes that by effecting a third breach, the troops would be enabled to turn the enemy's works for the defence of the other two, the attack of which would besides be connected by the troops destined to attack the breach in the curtain.

This breach was effected in the evening of the 6th, and the fire of the face of the bastion of Santa Maria and of the flank of the bastion of La Trinidad being overcome, I determined to attack the place that night.

I had kept in reserve, in the neighbourhood of this camp, the 5th division under Lieut. Gen. Leith, which had left Castile only in the middle of March, and had but lately arrived in this part of the country, and I brought them up on that evening.

The plan for the attack was, that Lieut. Gen. Picton should attack the Castle of Badajoz by escalade with the 3d division; and a detachment from the guard in the trenches, furnished that evening by the 4th division, under Major Wilson, of the 48th regiment, should attack the ravelin of St. Roque upon his left; while the 4th division, under the Hon. Major-General Colville, and the light division, under Lieut. Col. Barnard, should attack the breaches in the bastions of La Trinidad and of Santa Maria, and in the curtain by which they are connected. The 5th division were to occupy the ground which the 4th and light divisions had occupied during the siege, and Lieut. Gen. Leith was to make a false attack upon the outwork called Pardelelas, and another on the works of the fort towards the Guadiana, with the left brigade of the division, under Major-General Walker, which he was to turn into a real attack, if circumstances should prove favourable; and Brigadier-Gen. Power, who invested the place with the Portuguese brigade on the right of the Guadiana, was directed to make false attacks on the tete-du-pont, the fort St. Christoval, and the new redoubt called Mon-coeur.

The attack was accordingly made at ten at night; Lieut. Gen. Picton preceding, by a few minutes, the attack by the remainder of the troops.

Major-Gen. Kempt led this attack, which went out from the right of the first parallel; he was unfortunately wounded in crossing the river Rivellas below the inundation; but notwithstanding this circumstance, and the obstinate resistance of the enemy, the castle was carried by escalade, and the 3d division established in it at about half-past eleven.

While this was going on, Major Wilson, of the 48th regiment, carried the ravelin of St. Roque by the gorge, with a detachment of 200 men of the guard in the trenches, and, with the assistance of Major Squire, of the Engineers, established himself within that work.

The 4th and light divisions moved to the attack from the camp along the left of the river Rivellas and of the inundation. They were not perceived by the enemy till they reached the covered way, and the advanced guards of the two divisions descended, without difficulty, into the ditch, protected by the fire of the parties stationed on the glacis for that purpose; and they advanced to the assault of the breaches, led by their gallant Officers, with the utmost intrepidity; but such was the nature of the obstacles prepared by the enemy at the top and behind the breaches, and so determined their resistance, that our troops could not establish themselves within the place. Many brave Officers and soldiers were killed or wounded by explosions at the top of the breaches; others who succeeded to them were obliged to give way, having found it impossible to penetrate the obstacles which the enemy had prepared to impede their progress. These attempts were repeated till after twelve at night, when, finding that success was not to be attained, and that Lieut. Gen. Picton was established in the castle, I ordered that the 4th and light divisions might retire to the ground on which they had first assembled for the attack.

In the mean time Major Gen. Leith had pushed forward Major Gen. Walker's brigade on the left, supported by the 38th regiment under Lieut. Col. Nugent, and the 15th Portuguese regiment under Lieut. Col. De Regoa; and he made a false attack upon the Pardelelas with the 8th Cacadores under Major Hill. Major Gen. Walker forced the barrier on the road of Olivenca, and entered the covered way on the left of the bastion of St. Vincente, close to the Guadiana. He there descended into the ditch, and escaladed the face of the bastion of St. Vincente.

Lieut. Gen. Leith supported this attack by the 38th regiment and the 15th Portuguese regiment; and our troops being thus established in the castle, which commands all the works of the town, and in the town; and the 4th and light divisions being formed again for the attack of the breaches, all resistance ceased; and at day-light in the morning, the Governor, Gen. Phillipon, who had retired to fort St. Christoval, surrendered, together with Gen. Veilande, and all the staff and the whole garrison.

I have not got accurate reports of the strength of the garrison, or of the number of the prisoners; but Gen. Phillipon has informed me, that it consisted of 5000 men at the commencement of the siege, of which 1200 were killed or wounded during the operations, besides those lost in the assault of the place. There were five French battalions, besides two of the regiment of Hesse D'Armstadt, and the artillery, engineers, &c. and I understand there are 4000 prisoners.

It is impossible that any expressions of mine can convey to your Lordship the sense which I entertain of the gallantry of the officers and troops upon this occasion.

The list of killed and wounded will show that the General Officers, the Staff attached to them, the Commanding, and other Officers of regiments, put themselves at the head of the attacks which they severally directed, and set the example of gallantry which was so well followed by their men.

Marshal Sir W. Beresford, assisted me in conducting the details of this siege, and I am much indebted to him for the cordial assistance I received from him, as well during its progress, as in the last operation, which brought it to a termination.

The duties in the trenches were conducted successively by the Hon. Major Gen. Colville, Major Gen. Bowes, and Major-Gen. Kempt, under the superintendance of Lieut. Gen. Picton. I have had occasion to mention all these officers during the course of the operations, and they all distinguished themselves and were all wounded in the assault. I am particularly obliged to Lieut. Gen. Picton, for the manner in which he arranged the attack of the castle, and for that in which he supported the attack, and established his troops in that important post.

Lieut. Gen. Leith's arrangements for the false attack upon the Pardelelas, and that under Major Gen. Walker, were likewise most judicious; and he availed himself of the circumstances of the moment, to push forward and support the attack under Major General Walker, in a manner highly creditable to him. The gallantry and conduct of Major Gen. Walker who was also wounded, and that of the officers and troops under his command, were highly conspicuous.

The arrangements made by Lieut. Gen. Colville for the attack by the 4th division, were very judicious, and he led them to the attack in the most gallant manner.

In consequence of the absence, on account of sickness, of Major Gen. Vandeleur and Col. Beckwith, Lieut. Col. Barnard commanded the light division in the assault, and distinguished himself, not less by the manner in which he made the arrangements for that

operation, than by his personal gallantry in its execution.

I have also to mention Major-Gen. Harvey, of the Portuguese service, commanding a brigade in the 4th division, and Brig. Gen. Champlémond, commanding the Portuguese brigade in the 3d division as highly distinguished; Brig. Gen. Harvey was wounded in the storm.

Your Lordship will see, in the list of killed and wounded, a list of the commanding officers of regiments. In Lieut. Col. McLeod of the 43d reg. who was killed in the breach, His Majesty has sustained the loss of an officer who was an ornament to his profession, and was capable of rendering the most important services to his country. I must likewise mention Lieut. Col. Gibbs, of the 52d reg. who was wounded, and Major O'Hara, of the 95th, unfortunately killed in the breach; Lieut. Col. Elder, of the 3d, and Major Algeo, of the 1st Cacadores; Lieut. Col. Harcourt, of the 40th, likewise wounded, was highly distinguished; and Lieut. Col. Blackeney, of the Royal Fusiliers, Knight of the 27th, Erskine of the 48th and Capt. Lecky, who commanded the 23d reg. Lieut. Col. Ellis having been wounded during the previous operations of the siege.

In the 5th division I must mention Major Hill of the 8th Cacadores, who directed the false attack upon the fort Pardelelas. It was impossible for any men to behave better than they did. I must likewise mention Lieut. Col. Brook of the 4th reg. the Hon. Lieut. Col. Carlton of the 44th, and Lieut. Col. Grey of the 30th, who was unfortunately killed. The 2d battalion 38th, under Lieut. Col. Nugent, and the 15th Portuguese reg. under Col. De Regoa, likewise performed their part in a very exemplary manner.

The officers and troops in the 3d division have distinguished themselves as usual in these operations, Lieut. Gen. Picton has reported to me particularly the conduct of Lieut. Col. Williams, of the 60th, Lieut. Col. Ridge, of the 5th, who was unfortunately killed in the assault of the castle, Lieut. Col. Forbes, of the 45th reg. Lieut. Col. Fitzgerald, of the 60th, Lieut. Cols. Trench and Manners, of the 74th reg. Major Carr, of the 83d, and the Hon. Major Pakenham, Assistant Adj. Gen. to the 3d division.

He has likewise particularly reported the good conduct of Col. Campbell, of the 94th, commanding the Hon. Major-General Colville's brigade during his absence in command of the 4th division, whose conduct I have so frequently had occasion to report to your Lordship. The officers and men of the corps of engineers and artillery, were equally distinguished during the operations of the siege, and in its close. Lieut. Col. Fletcher continued to direct the works (notwithstanding that he was wounded in the sortie made by the enemy on the 19th of March), which were carried on by Major Squire and Major Burgoyne, under his directions. The former established the detachments, under Major Wilson, in the ravelin of St. Roque, on the night of the storm; the latter attended the attack of the 3d division of the castle. I have likewise to report the good conduct of Major Jones, Capt. Nicholas and Capt. Williams, of the royal engineers.

Major Dickson conducted the details of the artillery service during the siege, as well as upon former occasions, under the general superintendance of Lieut. Col. Framingham, who, since the absence of Major-General Borthwick, has commanded the Artillery with this army. I cannot sufficiently applaud the officers and soldiers of the British and Portuguese artillery during this siege, particularly Lieut. Col. Robe, who opened the breaching batteries, Majors May and Holcombe, Capt. Gardiner and Lieut. Boucher, of the Royal Artil.; Capt. de Rettberg, of the King's German Artil.; and Major Tulloch, of the Portuguese.

Adverting to the extent of the details of the ordnance department during this siege, to the difficulty of weather, &c. with which Major Dickson had to contend, I must mention him most particularly to your Lordship.

The officers of the Adjutant and Quarter-Master-General's Departments rendered me every assistance on this occasion, as well as those of my personal Staff; and I have to add that I have received reports from the General Officers commanding divisions, of the assistance they received from the officers of those Departments attached to them, the greatest number of whom, and of their personal staff are wounded.

In a former Despatch I reported to your Lordship the difficulties with which I had to contend, in consequence of the failure of the Civil Authorities of the province of Alentejo to perform their duty, and supply the Army with means of transport; these difficulties have continued to exist; but I must do General Victoria, the Governor of Elvas, the justice to report, that he, and the troops under his command, have made every exertion, and have done every thing in their power to contribute to our success.

Marshal Soult left Seville on the 1st inst. with all the troops which he could collect in Andalusia; and he was in communication with the troops which had retired from Estremadura, under Gen. Drouet, on the 3d, and he arrived at Llerena on the 4th. I had intended to collect the army in proportion as Marshal Soult should advance; and I requested Lieut. Gen. Sir T. Graham to retire gradually, while Lieut. Gen. Sir R. Hill should do the same from Don Benito and the upper parts of the Guadiana.

I do not think it certain that Marshal Soult has made any decided movement from Llerena since the 4th, although he has patrolled forward with small detachments of cavalry, and the advanced guard of his infantry