

*Names of Officers killed, wounded, and missing, in the Position on the Heights of Villares.*

*Killed.*

23d Foot, 1st Batt.—Lieutenant Lenoard.

*Wounded.*

68th Foot—Captain Hawkins, slightly; Captain Mackry, dangerously.

Brunswick Light Infantry—Lieutenant Schwarzenberg, slightly.

51st Foot—Captain Smellie, slightly.

Chasseurs Britanniques—Lieutenant-Colonel Eustace, slightly.

2d Light Batt. King's German Legion—Captain Winecke, severely; Lieutenants Lemmers and M'Glashon, severely.

Brunswick Oels—Captain Reicke, severely.

*Missing.*

68th Foot—Lieutenant M'Donald.

(Signed)

JOHN WATEZS,

Lieut. Col. and A. A. Gen.

*Fuente la Pena, June 30, 1812.*

THE ammunition to enable us to carry on the attack of the forts having arrived at Salamanca in the afternoon of the 26th, the fire was immediately recommenced upon the gorge of the redoubt of St. Cayetano, in which a practicable breach was effected at about ten o'clock on the morning of the 27th, and we had succeeded nearly about the same time in setting fire to the buildings in the large fort of St. Vincente, by the fire from which the approach to St. Cayetano by its gorge was defended.

Being at Salamanca at this moment, I gave directions that the forts of St. Cayetano and La Merced should be stormed; but some little delay occurred, in consequence of the commanding officers of those forts in the first instance, and afterwards the Commanding Officer of St. Vincente having expressed a desire to capitulate after the lapse of a certain number of hours. As it was obvious that these propositions were made in order to gain time; till the fire of St. Vincente should be extinguished, I refused to listen to any terms, unless the forts should be instantly surrendered; and having found that the Commanding Officer of St. Cayetano, who was the first to offer to surrender, was entirely dependant upon the Governor of St. Vincente, and could not venture to carry into execution the capitulation which he had offered to make, I gave directions that this fort and that of La Merced might be stormed forthwith.

These operations were effected in the most gallant manner by detachments of the 6th division, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Davies of the 36th regiment, under the direction of Major-General Clinton. The troops entered the fort of

St. Cayetano by the gorge; and escaped that of La Merced; and I am happy to add that our loss was but trifling.

The Governor of St. Vincente then sent out a flag to notify the surrender of that fort on the terms I had offered him; viz. the garrison to march out with the honours of war; to be prisoners of war; and the officers to retain their personal military baggage and the soldiers their knapsacks; and notwithstanding that the 9th regiment of Caçadores had actually stormed one of the outworks of St. Vincente, and were in possession of it, I deemed it expedient to accept the fort by capitulation on those terms, and to stop the attack.

I have already informed your Lordship that Major-General Clinton commanded the attack against these forts, which was carried on with great vigour and ability; and he mentions in strong terms of commendation the conduct of the general officers; officers, and troops employed under his command, particularly Colonel Hinde of the 32d, Lieutenant-Colonel Davies of the 36th, Captain Owen of the 61st, Brigade-Major Hobart, and Ensign Newton of the 32d regiment, who distinguished himself in the attack of the night of the 23d instant, and volunteered to lead the advanced party in the attack of the 27th.

He likewise mentions in strong terms Lieutenant-Colonel May, who commanded the artillery under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Framingham, and the officers and soldiers of the royal and Portuguese artillery under his command; Lieutenant-Colonel Burgoyne, Lieutenant Reid, and the officers of the royal engineers; and Major Thompson of the 74th regiment, who acted as an engineer during these operations.

The enemy had been employed for nearly three years in constructing these works, but with increased activity for the last eight or nine months.

A large expence had been incurred; and these works sufficiently garrisoned by about eight hundred men, and armed with thirty pieces of artillery, were of a nature to render it quite impossible to take them, excepting by a regular attack; and it was obvious that the enemy relied upon their strength, and upon their being sufficiently garrisoned and armed, as they had left in St. Vincente large depôts of clothing and military stores of every description.

I was mistaken in my estimate of the extent of the means which would be necessary to subdue these forts; and I was obliged to send to the rear