

fire of these guns obliged the enemy to evacuate, and they blew up the blockhouse, and burnt the bridge.

Sir Thomas Graham reports, that in all these affairs the Spanish troops have conducted themselves remarkably well.

The garrison at Passages, consisting of one hundred and fifty men, surrendered on the 30th, to the troops under Colonel Longa.

The enemy, on seeing some of our ships off Deba, evacuated the town and fort of Guetaria on the 1st instant; and the garrison went, by sea, to St. Sebastian. This place is blockaded by land by a detachment of Spanish troops.

They have likewise evacuated Castro, and the garrison have gone by sea to Santona.

In my former reports, I have made your Lordship acquainted with the progress of the army of reserve of Andalusia, under General the Conde del Abisbal, to join the army, and he arrived at Burgos on the 25th and 26th instant.

When the enemy retired across the Ebro, previous to the battle of Vittoria, they left a garrison of about seven hundred men in the castle of Pancorbo, by which they commanded and rendered it impossible for us to use the great communication from Vittoria to Burgos; I therefore requested the Conde del Abisbal, on his march to Miranda, to make himself master of the town and lower works, and to blockade the place as closely as he could. I have not received the report of his first operations; but, I understand, he carried the town and lower fort by assault on the 28th; and I have now the pleasure to enclose his report of the final success of this operation, and the copy of the capitulation, by which the garrison have surrendered.

The decision and dispatch with which this place has been subdued, are highly creditable to the Conde del Abisbal, and the officers and troops under his command.

I am concerned to inform your Lordship, that Lieutenant-General Sir J. Murray raised the siege of Tarragona, I cannot say on what day, and embarked his troops. A great proportion of the artillery and stores were left in the batteries. It appears that Marshal Suchet, with a considerable body of troops, had moved from Valencia by Tortosa, and General Maurice Mathieu, with another corps, from the neighbourhood of Barcelona, for the purpose of impeding Sir J. Murray's operations, which he did not think himself sufficiently strong to continue. I have not yet received from Sir J. Murray the detailed account of these transactions: Lieutenant-General Lord William Bentinck, however, who had joined and had taken the command of the army at the Col de Balaguer, on the 17th, had brought it back to Alicant, where he arrived himself on the 23d, and was proceeding to carry into execution my instructions.

When Marshal Suchet marched into Catalonia, the Duque del Parque had advanced, and established his head-quarters at San Felipe de Xativa, and his troops on the Xucar, where he still was on the 24th.

MY LORD, *Tolosa, June 26, 1813.*

It was so late on the 23d when I received the order to march by the Puerto St. Adrian on Villa

Franca, and the weather and the road were so extremely bad, that but a small part of the column could get over the mountain that day: and it was not till late on the 24th that I could move from Segura on Villa Franca, with Major-General Anson's brigade of light dragoons, the light battalions of the King's German legion, and the two Portuguese brigades; the rest of the troops not being yet come up.

The rear of the enemy's column was then just passing on the great road from Villa Real to Villa Franca, and he occupied, in considerable force, some very strong ground on the right of the great road, and of the river Oriá, in front of the village of Olaverria, and about a mile and a half from Villa Franca.

Major-General Bradford's brigade marched by Olaverria, and was employed to dislodge the enemy on the right, while the remainder of the troops advanced by the Chaussée, defended by the enemy's tirailleurs on the heights, and a strong body at the village of Veasayn.

As the enemy reinforced the troops on his left, it became necessary to push on by the Chaussée, which was done by the light battalion, under Colonel Halkett, assisted and flanked by some companies of Major-General Pack's Portuguese brigade, and this service was performed, in the most gallant style, by these brave troops, who drove the enemy from the village of Veasayn.

The enemy having troops ready, posted on the succession of strong heights on each side of the deep valley, at the bottom of which the road runs, a considerable time became necessary to turn his flanks, during which he evacuated Villa Franca, without further dispute.

The Portuguese brigades on the right and left of the valley, pushed on their advance to Yehasurido, and the troops assembled at Villa Franca. Here likewise the head of General Giron's corps and all Colonel Longa's, arrived in the course of the evening.

The next morning (the 25th) the enemy evacuated Celequia; and, as he had taken up a very strong position between that and Tolosa, covering the Pampeluna road, the Spanish corps of Colonel Longa was marched by Alzo towards Lizarga, to turn his left, while Lieut.-General Mendizadel was requested to dispatch some battalions from Aspeytia to turn his right, appuyed on a high mountain, with an inaccessible ravine in front.

The enemy was driven from the summit of an important hill, lying between the Pampeluna and Vittoria roads, by a very skilful attack of Lieutenant-Colonel Williams, with two companies of the Grenadiers of the 1st regiment, and three of the 4th Caçadores, belonging to General Pack's brigade.

The conduct of Lieutenant Queiros, and of Ensign Vasconcelles, of the 4th Caçadores, was distinguished on this occasion. The latter officer lost an eye by a musquet shot.

This hill was immediately occupied by Major-General Bradford's brigade, supported by the three line battalions of the King's German Legion.

The rest of the day was chiefly spent in skirmishing with the enemy's tirailleurs, to give time for the Spanish corps arriving at their destination.