

and ensure our success. The Seamen have served with the Artillery in the batteries, and have upon every occasion manifested that spirit which is characteristic of the British Navy.

I cannot sufficiently applaud the conduct of Mariscal de Campo Don Manuel Freyre, the Commander in Chief of the 4th Spanish army, who, whilst he made every disposition which was proper for the troops under his command, set them an example of gallantry, which having been followed by the General Officers, Chiefs, and other Officers of the regiments, ensured the success of the day. In his report, in which I concur, the General expresses the difficulty which he finds of selecting particular instances of gallantry, in a case in which all have conducted themselves so well; but he has particularly mentioned General Mendizabel, who volunteered his assistance, and commanded on the Height of San Marcial; Mariscal de Campo Losado, who commanded in the centre, and was wounded; Mariscal de Campo Jose Garcia de Paredes, the commanding officer of the artillery; Brigadiers Don Juan Diaz Porlier, Don Jose Maria Espoleta, Don Stanislas Sanchez Salvador, the Chief of the Staff of the Fourth Army, and Don Antonio Roselly; and Colonels Fuentes Pita, the commanding Engineer, Don Juan Loarte, of the Regiment de la Constitution, and Don Juan Uarte Mendia.

Major-General Inglis, and the regiments in his brigade of the seventh division, conducted themselves remarkably well. The 51st regiment, under Colonel Mitchell, and the 68th, under Lieutenant-Colonel Hawkins, covered the change of position by the troops from the heights between the Bidassoa and Lezaca, to those of San Antonio; and these corps were distinguished.

Throughout these operations I have received every assistance from the Adjutant-General Major-General Pakenham, and the Quarter-Master-General Major-General Murray, and all the officers of the staff, and of my own family.

I transmit this despatch by Major Hare, Acting Assistant-Adjutant-General with this army, attached to Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham, whom I beg leave to recommend to your Lordship's protection.

I have the honour to be, &c.

WELLINGTON.

P. S. I inclose a return of the killed and wounded in the operations of the 31st ult. and 1st instant; and returns of the loss before San Sebastian from the 28th July to the 31st of August.

MY LORD, Oyarzun, Sept. 1, 1813.

IN obedience to your Lordship's orders of the preceding day, to attack and form a lodgment on the breach of St. Sebastian, which now extended to the left, so as to embrace the outermost tower, the end and front of the curtain immediately over the left bastion, as well as the faces of the bastion itself, the assault took place at eleven o'clock, a. m. yesterday, and I have the honour to report to your Lordship, that the heroic perseverance of all the troops concerned was at last crowned with success.

The column of attack was formed of the second

brigade of the fifth division, commanded by Major-General Robinson, with an immediate support of detachments as per margin,* and having in reserve the remainder of the fifth division, consisting of Major-General Sprye's Portuguese brigade, and the first brigade under Major-General Hay, as also the fifth battalion of Caçadores of General Bradford's brigade, under Major Hill; the whole under the direction of Lieutenant-General Sir James Leith, commanding the fifth division.

Having arranged every thing with Sir J. Leith, I crossed the Urumia to the batteries of the right attack, where every thing could be most distinctly seen, and from whence the orders for the fire of the batteries, according to circumstances, could be immediately given.

The column in filing out of the right of the trenches, was as before exposed to a heavy fire of shells and grape shot, and a mine was exploded in the left angle of the Counterscarp of the Horn-work, which did great damage, but did not check the ardour of the troops in advancing to the attack. There never was any thing so fallacious as the external appearance of the breach; without some description, the almost insuperable difficulties of the breach cannot be estimated. Notwithstanding its great extent, there was but one point where it was possible to enter, and there by single files. All the inside of the wall to the right of the Curtain formed a perpendicular scarp of at least 20 feet to the level of the streets.—So that the narrow ridge of the Curtain itself, formed by the breaching of its end and front, was the only accessible point. During the suspension of the operations of the siege, from want of ammunition, the enemy had prepared every means of defence which art could devise, so that great numbers of men were covered by intrenchments and traverses, in the horn-work, on the ramparts of the curtain, and inside of the town opposite to the breach, and ready to pour a most destructive fire of musquetry on both flanks of the approach to the top of the narrow ridge of the curtain.

Every thing that the most determined bravery could attempt was repeatedly tried in vain by the troops, who were brought forward from the trenches in succession.—No man outlived the attempt to gain the ridge: and though the slope of the breach afforded shelter from the enemy's musquetry, yet still the nature of the stone-rubbish prevented the great exertions of the Engineers and working parties from being able to form a lodgment for the troops, exposed to the shells and grape from the batteries of the Castle, as was particularly directed, in obedience to your Lordship's instructions; and, at all events, a secure lodgment could never have been obtained without occupying a part of the curtain.

In this almost desperate state of the attack, after consulting with Colonel Dickson, commanding the

* One hundred and fifty volunteers of the light division, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Hunt, of the 52d regiment; four hundred of the first division (consisting of two hundred of the brigades of Guards, under Lieut.-Colonel Cooke; of one hundred of the light battalion, and one hundred of the line battalions of the King's German Legion), under Major Robertson; and two hundred volunteers of the fourth division, under Major Rose, of the 20th foot.