

front, or the detour by Mastarell, if coming by that road, would give me ample time to retreat in security.

On the 12th, however, at midnight the enemy attacked the pass of Ordal, and carried it, after an obstinate resistance, by great superiority in numbers. The corps were obliged to save themselves in the mountains, and two six pounders with two mountain guns, unfortunately fell into the enemy's hands. The only consolation I have to offer, is the bravery both of British and Spaniards; of the steadiness and gallantry of the latter, every British officer present speaks in terms of the highest admiration. I am sorry to say that Colonel Adam has been severely wounded, as well as Lieutenant-Colonel Reeves, and several other valuable officers of the 2d battalion of the 27th regiment. The Calabrese did not suffer materially. I can give no exact return of our loss, but I hope it will eventually not be considerable; I have heard of two thousand men having joined Colonel Manzo, near San Sadurni, among whom are two hundred of our own troops, and great numbers have already joined from different parts of the coast, and are hourly coming in. I immediately put the army in retreat; the enemy's dragoons and cuirassiers pressed closely upon us, but they were so gallantly charged, though in very superior numbers, by our own cavalry, that about mid-day they gave up the pursuit.

I am much indebted to Colonel Lord Frederick Pentinck, for the judgement and spirit with which he directed the operations of his brigade. The 20th dragoons, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Mackay; the Brunswick Hussars, by Lieutenant-Colonel Schraeter, and the Sicilian cavalry, by Captain Stangoré, very much distinguished themselves. The army made their retreat without any loss to Vendrells, from whence it marched again the same night to Altiella, and yesterday evening took up its ground in front of this town.

September 17th.—I enclose the reports of the different officers commanding corps, and the artillery of the affair of Ordal, for your Lordship's information.

September 17th, Nine P. M.—I have just received intelligence, that the enemy left Villa Franca this morning, and have returned to Molino de Rey on the Llobregat. I enclose a list of the killed and wounded.

My Lord, Tarragona, September 15, 1813.

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that about eleven o'clock on the evening of the 12th, the enemy attacked the picquets, posted in front of the position of Ordal. The Calabrian free corps had been previously moved from the hill, on the left of the position, to occupy the ground more to its right, on which is the ruin of an old fort. At twelve the enemy attempted to force the pass; the time of night made it impossible to ascertain precisely what were the enemy's intentions, or to discover the extent of his force; the attack on the left of the road was resisted with great gallantry, and the enemy were repeatedly driven back by the Spanish troops, which had occupied the ground between the road and the place on which I was

posted; the principal force of the enemy were directed against the right of the position. About two o'clock Captain Baron Guarnis reported to me, that Colonel Adam and Lieutenant-Colonel Reeves were both wounded, that the enemy were gaining ground and overpowering the troops on the right. I advanced with the Calabrians and attacked the left of the enemy's column. The enemy had already succeeded in turning the right of the position, and the troops that had defended that flank, were obliged to retire; I therefore determined to fall back, keeping the hills on the left of the road.

At daylight I sent a patrol into the valley of San Sadurni, and in consequence of the information that the town of San Sadurni was occupied by Spanish troops, I marched with the intention of rejoining the army by the road leading from thence to Villa Franca; after crossing the river which was in front of the town, I was attacked by a considerable column of the enemy, both infantry and cavalry, and forced back towards the Barcelona road. I succeeded in crossing the main road unperceived by the enemy, and from thence proceeded in the direction of Sedes, in the hope that the enemy had not occupied that place, and that I should be able to embark the corps there, or at Villa Nueva, which I have the satisfaction to report was effected at the former place, during the night of the 13th.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship, the reports of the attack on the right of the position, which I have received from Captain Müller, commanding De Roll's rifle company; and from Captain Waldron, who commanded the 2d battalion of the 27th regiment, after Lieutenant-Colonel Reeves and Captain Mills had been wounded.

I am, &c.
(Signed) J. CAREY, Com. C. F. C.
Lieutenant-General Lord William Pentinck, &c. &c. &c.

SIR, Tarragona, September 15, 1813.

AGREEABLY to your directions, I beg leave to report to you the following occurrences, which took place on the night of the 12th instant.

The enemy attacked the position of Ordal at about midnight. I defended an old work, which commanded the main road, with the rifle companies of De Roll's regiment and that of the 4th battalion King's German legion, besides two companies of the 27th regiment. We resisted a considerable time the repeated attacks of the enemy, but our ranks being at last much thinned, whilst the attacks of the enemy became more and more impetuous, we were at last driven from the old redoubt. I rallied the troops about sixty paces in rear of it, behind some old ruins, from which place we succeeded twice to retake the higher part of our old position, attacking, in conjunction with the Spanish brigade, which was close on our left; and which fought and charged with the greatest impetuosity.

We had fought for about an hour and half on these spots, when Baron Guarnis came up, and informed me that it was to give directions to our troops there, as Colonels Adam and Reeves were