

commander, Brigadier-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty, possessed himself of the post, taking thirty-two pieces of cannon, an immense quantity of ammunition, and six hundred prisoners. The 5th regiment meeting with but little opposition, proceeded to the river, and took possession of the church and convent of St. Catalina. The 36th and 88th regiments, under Brigadier-General Lumley, moving in the appointed order, were soon opposed by a heavy and continued fire of musketry from the tops and windows of the houses; the doors of which were barricaded in so strong a manner, as to render them almost impossible to force. The streets were intersected by deep ditches, in the inside of which were planted cannon, pouring showers of grape on the advancing columns. In defiance, however, of this opposition, the 36th regiment, headed by the gallant General, reached its final destination; but the 88th being nearer to the fort and principal defences of the enemy, were so weakened by his fire as to be totally overpowered and taken. The flank of the 36th being thus exposed, this regiment, together with the 5th, retired upon Sir Samuel Auchmuty's post at the Plaza de Toros; not, however, before Lieutenant-Colonel Burne, and the grenadier company of the 36th regiment, had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves, by charging about eight hundred of the enemy, and taking and spiking two guns. The two six-pounders moving up the central streets meeting with a very superior fire, the four troops of the carabineers, led on by Lieutenant-Colonel Kingston, advanced to take the battery opposed to them; but this gallant officer being unfortunately wounded, as well as Captain Burrell, next in command, and the fire both from the battery and houses proving very destructive, they retreated to a short distance, but continued to occupy a position in front of the enemy's principal defences, and considerably in advance of that which they had taken in the morning.

The left division of Brigadier-General Craufurd's brigade, under Lieutenant-Colonel Pack, pressed on nearly to the river, and turning to the left, approached the great square with the intention of possessing itself of the Jesuit's College, a situation which commanded the enemy's principal line of defence. But from the very destructive nature of his fire, this was found impracticable, and after sustaining a heavy loss, one part of the division throwing itself into a house which was afterwards not found tenable, was shortly obliged to surrender, whilst the remaining part, after enduring a dreadful fire with the greatest intrepidity, Lieutenant-Colonel Pack its commander being wounded, retired upon the right division commanded by Brigadier-General Craufurd himself. This division having passed quite through to the river Plata, turned also to the left to approach the great square and fort from the north-east bastion, of which it was distant about four hundred yards, when Brigadier-General Craufurd, leaving the fate of his left division, thought it most advisable to take possession of the Convent of St. Domingo, near which he then was, intending to proceed onwards to the Franciscan Church, which lay still nearer the fort, if the attack or success of any other of our columns should free him in some measure from the host of enemies which surrounded him. The 45th regiment being further from the enemy's centre, had gained the Residencia without much opposition, and Lieutenant-Colonel Guard having it in pos-

session of his battalion companies, moved down with the grenadier company towards the centre of the town, and joined Brigadier-General Craufurd.

The enemy, who now surrounded the convent on all sides, attempting to take a three-pounder which lay in the street, the Lieutenant-Colonel with his company, and a few light infantry under Major Trotter, charged them with great spirit. In an instant the greater part of his company and Major Trotter (an officer of great merit) were killed, but the gun was saved. The Brigadier-General was now obliged to confine himself to the defence of the convent, from which the riflemen kept up a well-directed fire upon such of the enemy as approached the post; but the quantity of round shot, grape, and musketry to which they were exposed, at last obliged them to quit the top of the building, and the enemy, to the number of six thousand, bringing up cannon to force the wooden gates which fronted the fort, the Brigadier-General having no communication with any other columns, and judging from the cessation of firing that those next him had not been successful, surrendered at four o'clock in the afternoon.

The result of this day's action had left me in possession of the Plaza de Toros, a strong post on the enemy's right, and the Residencia, another strong post on his left, whilst I occupied an advanced position opposite his centre; but these advantages had cost about two thousand five hundred men in killed, wounded, and prisoners. The nature of the fire, to which the troops was exposed, was violent in the extreme. Grape shot at the corners of all the streets, musketry, hand grenades, bricks, and stones from the tops of all the houses, every householder with his negroes defended his dwelling, each of which was in itself a fortress, and it is not, perhaps, too much to say, that the whole male population of Buenos Ayres was employed in its defence.

This was the situation of the army on the morning of the 6th instant, when General Liniers addressed a letter to me, offering to give up all his prisoners taken in the late affair, together with the 71st regiment and others, taken with Brigadier-General Beresford, if I desisted from any further attack on the town, and withdrew his Majesty's forces from the river Plata, intimating at the same time, from the exasperated state of the populace, he could not answer for the safety of the prisoners, if I persisted in offensive measures. Influenced by this consideration, (which I knew from better authority to be founded in fact,) and reflecting of how little advantage would be the possession of a country, the inhabitants of which were so absolutely hostile, I resolved to forego the advantages which the bravery of the troops had obtained, and acceded to the annexed treaty, which I trust will meet the approbation of his Majesty.

I have nothing further to add, except to mention, in terms of the highest praise, the conduct of Rear-Admiral Murray, whose cordial co-operation has never been wanting whenever the army could be benefited by his exertions. Captain Rowley, of the Royal Navy, commanding the seamen on shore, Captain Bayntum, of his Majesty's ship Africa, who superintended the disembarkation, and Captain Thompson of the Fly, who had the direction of the gun-boats, and had previously rendered me much service by reconnoitring the river, are all entitled to my best thanks.

As his character already stands so high, it is

almost unnecessary to state that from my second in command. Major-General Leveson Gower, I have experienced every zealous and useful assistance: my thanks are likewise due to Brigadiers-General Sir Samuel Auchmuty and Lumley, and to Colonel Mahon and Brigadier-General Craufurd, commanding brigades. I cannot sufficiently bring to notice the uncommon exertions of Captain Fraser, commanding the Royal Artillery, the fertility of whose mind, zeal, and animation in all cases left difficulties behind. Captain Squires of the Royal Engineers is also entitled to my best thanks; nor should I omit the gallant conduct of Major Nicholls of the 45th regiment, who, on the morning of the 6th instant, being pressed by the enemy near the Residencia, charged them with great spirit, and took two howitzers and many prisoners. Lieutenant-Colonel Bradford, Deputy Adjutant-General, has likewise a great claim to my approbation as a gallant and promising officer.

The officers of my personal staff, Lieutenant-Colonel Torrens, military secretary, Captains Brawn, Foster, Douglas, and Whittingham, aides du-camp, must also be mentioned by me in terms of just regard: the knowledge which the latter possesses of the Spanish language has been eminently useful to me.

This dispatch will be delivered to you by Lieutenant-Colonel Bourke, deputy quartermaster-general, who has afforded me that assistance which might be looked for from an officer of his military talents and attachment to the service; to whom I beg to refer you for any further particulars respecting the military operations in this part of the world.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. WHITELOCKE, Lieut. Gen.

The Right Honourable William Windham.

Return of killed, wounded, and missing of the troops under the command of Lieutenant-General Whitelocke, between the 23rd of June, the day of the landing at Ensenada, to the 4th of July 1807 inclusive.

Light Batt.—1 Lieutenant, wounded.
87th Reg.—5 rank and file, killed.
88th Reg.—8 rank and file, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 8 rank and file, wounded.
95th Reg.—1 sergeant, 1 rank and file, killed; 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Ensign, 2 sergeants, 10 rank and file, wounded.

Total—1 sergeant, 14 rank and file, killed; 1 Captain, 3 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 2 sergeants, 18 rank and file, wounded.

Officers of the light Battalion severely wounded.—87th Reg.—Lieutenant Crowe. 88th Reg.—Lieutenant Thomson. 95th Reg.—Captain Elder; Lieutenants Noble and Coane.

(Signed) THOMAS BRADFORD,
Dep. Adj. Gen.

Return of the killed, wounded, and missing on the attack of the city of Buenos Ayres, the 5th of July 1807.

Royal Navy—1 Lieutenant, wounded; 2 seamen, missing.

Royal Horse Artillery—3 rank and file, killed; 1 sergeant, 1 drummer, 6 rank and file, wounded; 3 rank and file, missing.

Royal Foot Artillery—1 Lieutenant, 2 rank and file, wounded.

Gunner Drivers—3 rank and file, killed.

6th Dragoon Guards—1 Captain, 1 sergeant, 13 rank and file, killed; 1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 1 sergeant, 19 rank and file, wounded; 1 Quarter-Master, 2 rank and file, missing.

9th Light Dragoons—1 Staff, 3 rank and file, killed; 1 Lieutenant, 2 sergeants, 1 drummer, 13 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file, missing.

Light Batt.—1 Major, 1 Lieutenant, 2 sergeants, 24 rank and file, killed; 2 Lieutenant-Colonels, 2 Captains, 5 Lieutenants, 4 sergeants, 1 drummer, 57 rank and file, wounded; 62 rank and file, missing.

5th Reg.—1 sergeant, 1 drummer, 12 rank and file, killed; 1 Major, 1 sergeant, 2 drummers, 43 rank and