

vanced Line, was the Battalion of Light Infantry commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Kempt, consisting of the Light Companies of the 20th, 27th, 35th, 58th, 61st, 81st. and Watteville's, together with One Hundred and Fifty chosen Battalion Men of the 35th Regiment, under Major Robinson. Directly opposed to them, was the favourite French Regiment the 1^{re} Légère. The Two Corps at the distance of about One Hundred Yards fired reciprocally a few Rounds, when, as if by mutual Agreement, the Firing was suspended, and in close compact Order and awful Silence, they advanced towards each other, until their Bayonets began to cross. At this momentous Crisis the Enemy became appalled. They broke, and endeavoured to fly, but it was too late; they were overtaken with the most dreadful Slaughter.

Brigadier-General Ackland, whose Brigade was immediately on the Left of the Light Infantry, with great Spirit availed himself of this favorable Moment to press instantly forward upon the Corps in his Front; the brave 78th Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Macleod, and the 81st Regiment, under Major Plenderleath, both distinguished themselves on this Occasion. The Enemy fled with Dismay and Disorder before them, leaving the Plain covered with their dead and wounded.

The Enemy being thus completely discomfited on their Left, began to make a new Effort with their Right, in the Hopes of recovering the Day. They were resisted most gallantly by the Brigade under Brigadier-General Cole. Nothing could shake the undaunted Firmness of the Grenadiers under Lieutenant-Colonel O'Callaghan, and of the 27th Regiment under Lieutenant-Colonel Smith. The Cavalry, successively repelled from before their Front, made an Effort to turn their Left, when Lieutenant-Colonel Ross, who had that Morning landed from Messina with the 20th Regiment, and was coming up to the Army during the Action, having observed the Movement, threw his Regiment opportunely into a small Cover upon their Flank, and by a heavy and well directed Fire, entirely disconcerted this Attempt.

This was the last feeble Struggle of the Enemy, who now, astonished and dismayed by the Intrepidity with which they were assailed, began precipitately to retire, leaving the Field covered with Carnage. Above Seven Hundred Bodies of their Dead have been buried upon the Ground.—The Wounded and Prisoners already in our Hands (among which are General Compère, and an Aid-de Camp, the Lieutenant Colonel of the Swiss Regiment, and a long List of Officers of different Ranks) amount to above One Thousand. There are also above One Thousand Men left in Monteleone and the different Posts between this and Reggio, who have mostly notified their Readiness to surrender, whenever a British Force shall be sent to receive their Submission, and to protect them from the Fury of the People.—The Peasantry are hourly bringing in Fugitives, who dispersed in the Woods and Mountains after the Battle. In short, never has the Pride of our presumptuous Enemy been more severely humbled, nor the Superiority of the British Troops more gloriously proved, than in the Events of this memorable Day.

His Majesty may, perhaps, still deign to appreciate more highly the Achievements of this little

Army, when it is known that the Second Division which the Enemy were said to be expecting had all joined them the Night before the Action; no Statement that I have heard of their Numbers places them at a less Calculation than Seven Thousand Men.

Our victorious Infantry continued the Pursuit of the routed Enemy so long as they were able; but as the latter dispersed in every Direction, and we were under the Necessity of preserving our Order, the Trial of Speed became unequal.

The total Loss occasioned to the Enemy by this Conflict cannot be less than Four Thousand Men. When I oppose to the above our own small comparative Loss, as underneath detailed, His Majesty will, I hope, discern in the Fact, the happy Effects of that established Discipline to which we owe the Triumphs by which our Army has been latterly so highly distinguished.

I am now beginning my March Southward preparatory to my return to Sicily, for which Station I shall re-embark with the Army, as soon as His Sicilian Majesty shall have arranged a Disposition of his own Forces to secure those Advantages which have been gained by the present Expedition.

There seldom has happened an Action in which the Zeal and Personal Exertions of Individuals were so imperiously called for as in the present; seldom an Occasion where a General had a fairer Opportunity of observing them.

The General Officers, and those who commanded Regiments, will feel a stronger Test of their Merits in the Circumstances that have been detailed of their Conduct, than in any Eulogium I could presume to pass upon them.

The 58th and Watteville's Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonels Johnston and Watteville, which formed the Reserve, under Colonel Oswald, were ably directed in their Application to that essential Duty.

The Judgment and Effect with which our Artillery was directed by Major Lemoine, was, in our Dearth of Cavalry, of most essential Use; and I have a Pleasure in reporting the effective Services of that valuable and distinguished Corps.

To the several Departments of the Army, every Acknowledgement is due; but to no Officer, am I bound to express them so fully, on my Part, as to Lieutenant-Colonel Bunbury, the Deputy Quarter-Master-General, to whose Zeal and Activity, and able Arrangements in the important Branch of Service which he directs, the Army as well as myself are under every marked Obligation.

From Captain Tomlin the acting Head of the Adjutant-General's Department, and from the Officers of my own Family, I have received much active Assistance. Among the latter I am to mention Lieutenant-Colonel Moore of the 23d Light Dragoons, who being in Sicily for his Health at the Time of our Departure, solicited Permission to accompany me on this Expedition; he was wounded in the Execution of my Orders.

From the Medical Department under the Direction of Mr. Grieves, the Deputy Inspector, I am to acknowledge much professional Attention, the more so as their Labours have been greatly accumulated by the Number of wounded Prisoners who have become equally with our own, the Subject of their Care.

The Scene of Action was too far from the Sea to

