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Downing-Street, September 7, 1809.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are Copies and Extracts, were this Day received at the Office of Viscount Castlereagh, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieutenant-General Viscount Wellington, K. B.

My LORD, Truxillo, August 20, 1809.

I WROTE some Days ago a Letter to the French Commander in Chief, which I sent to him by Lieutenant-Colonel Walters, to request his Care and Attention to the wounded Officers and Soldiers of the British Army, who had fallen into his Hands, in return for the Care and Attention which I had paid to the French Officers and Soldiers, who had fallen into my Hands at different Times; and that he would allow Money to be sent to the Officers; and that Officers, who should not be deemed Prisoners of War, might be sent to superintend and take care of the Soldiers, till they should recover from their Wounds, when the Officers should be sent to join the British Army.

I received a very civil Answer from Marshal Mortier, promising that every Care should be taken, and every Attention paid to the British Officers and Soldiers who were wounded; but stating, that he could not answer upon the other Demands contained in my Letter, having been obliged to refer them to the Commander in Chief.

Since the Receipt of this Letter, Mr. Dillon the Assistant Commissary has arrived from Talavera, having been taken Prisoner near Cevolla on the 27th of July, previous to the Action, and having been allowed to come away.

He reports that the British Officers and Soldiers who are wounded, are doing remarkably well; and are well fed and taken Care of; indeed he says preferably to the French Troops.

I propose to send Colonel Walters with another Flag of Truce, To-morrow Morning, and a Letter to the Commander in Chief of the French Army, requesting that a Sum of Money which I shall send may be given to the Officers; and I shall endeavour to establish a Cartel of Exchange, as soon as possible.

I have the Honour to be, &c.

ARTHUR WELLESLEY,

Lord Viscount Castlereagh, &c. &c. &c.

My LORD, Truxillo, August 21, 1809.

WHEN I marched from Talavera on the 3d Instant, with a view to oppose the French Corps which we had heard had passed through the Puerte de Banos, and had arrived at Plasencia, Sir Robert Wilson was detached upon the Left of the Army, towards Escalona; and before I marched on that Morning, I put him in Communication with the Spanish General Cuesta, who it had been settled was to remain at Talavera. I understood that General Cuesta put Sir Robert in Communication with his advanced Guard, which retired from Talavera on the Night of the 4th.

Sir Robert Wilson, however, did not arrive at Valada till the Night of the 4th, having made a long March through the Mountains: and as he was then Six Leagues from the Bridge of Arzo Bispo, and had to cross the High Road from Oropesa to Talavera, of which the Enemy was in Possession, he conceived that he was too late to retire to Arzo Bispo, and he determined to move by Venta St. Julien and Centinello towards the Tietar, and across that River towards the Mountains which separate Castille from Estremadura.

Some of Sir Robert Wilson's Dispatches having missed me, I am not aware by which of the Passes he went through the Mountains; but I believe by Tornavacas. He arrived, however, at Banos on the 11th, and on the 12th was attacked and defeated by the French Corps of Marshal Ney, which, with that of Soult, returned to Plasencia on the 9th, 10th, and 11th, that of Ney having since gone on towards Salamanca.

I enclose Sir Robert Wilson's Account of the Action. He has been very active, intelligent, and useful in the Command of the Portuguese and Spanish Corps with which he was detached from this Army.

Before the Battle of the 28th of July, he has pushed his Parties almost to the Gates of Madrid, with which City he was in Communication; and he would have been in Madrid, if I had not thought it proper to call him in, in Expectation of that general Action which took place on the 28th of July. He afterwards alarmed the Enemy on the Right of his Army; and throughout the Service, shewed himself to be an active and intelligent Partizan, well acquainted with the Country in which he was