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Downing-Street, June 15, 1811.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is an Extract, has been this Day received at Lord Liverpool's Office, addressed to His Lordship by Lord Wellington, dated Quinta de Gramicha, 20th May 1811.

WE invested Badajoz, on the 25th Instant, on the Right of the Guadiana; and the Ordnance and Stores for the Siege having been brought forward, we broke Ground last Night.

The Enemy have retired their Main Body upon Llerena, and hold the Advanced Posts of their Cavalry at Usagre. I enclose the Copy of the Report of Major-General the Honourable William Lumley of a very gallant Affair of the Cavalry near that Place on the 25th. The Major-General has reported that he received very great Assistance, upon this Occasion, from Major Holmes of the 3d Dragoon Guards, who was acting in the Department of the Adjutant-General, and from Lieutenant Heathcote of the Royal Dragoons, who was acting in the Department of the Quarter-Master-General, as well as from the Officers mentioned in his Report."

*Camp near Usagre, Two A. M.,
May 26, 1811.*

SIR,

AS will have been stated to you Yesterday verbally by the Officer I sent for that Purpose, I have the Honour to acquaint you, that having, as I before reported, driven the Enemy's Rear-Guard from Usagre, I occupied that Post on the Night of the 24th, by placing the Spanish Troops in Front of the Town, with their Tiradores well in advance towards the Enemy, and the Portuguese and British Cavalry with the Four Six-Pounders, in Rear of the Place; a small Brook, hollow and deep Ravine, and narrow Ditch being on this Side of the Town. About Six o'Clock Yesterday Morning it was reported to me that the Enemy's Cavalry were advancing in Force, and that there was Reason to believe they were accompanied by Artillery and Infantry; conceiving Reports might exaggerate the Fact, and not wishing to yield the Post to inferior Numbers, the 13th Light Dragoons and Colonel Otway's Portuguese Brigade of Cavalry were ordered across the Ravine to the Left of the Town,

through the narrow Fords and Passes which had been previously reconnoitred, and Brigadier General Madden's Brigade of Portuguese Cavalry in like Manner to the Right, with Orders to retire by the same Passes if necessary. The heavy Brigade of British with the Guns being still in Reserve behind the Town.

Upon the nearer Approach of the Enemy, it was evident they were advancing with the whole of their Cavalry, and Five or Six heavy Guns (Eight Pounders): This being ascertained, and upon opening their first Gun, the Line was ordered to retire, which they did slowly, in excellent Order, and without Loss; the Spanish Troops filing on the main Road, through the Town which had been left open for them. A smart Cannonade now commenced from the opposite Heights, the Superiority of Numbers and Weight of Metal decidedly in Favour of the Enemy; but the superior Skill and well-directed Aim of Captain Lefevre and his Corps, with only Four Six-Pounders, was most pre-eminently conspicuous. The Enemy now committed a most daring Attempt, or rather an Error, for which they were severely punished. In spite of Two of our Guns, which bore directly for a few Paces on the Road, three of their chosen Regiments, 4th, 20th, and 26th, dashed through the Town and formed rapidly on the Flank of the 3d Dragoon Guards, which Corps, concealed by a small Hill, I verily believe they did not see, and in Front of the 4th Dragoons; themselves presenting two Fronts. A Charge of the 3d Dragoon Guards was at this Moment ordered on the Right, and a simultaneous Movement of the 4th Dragoons, directed most judiciously by Brigadier-General Long at the same Moment on the Left, where I had requested him to remain, decided the Point.

The Enemy wavered before our Cavalry reached them; but almost in the same Instant they were overturned, and apparently annihilated. The Affair took place so near the Brook and Bridge which immediately leads into the Town, and which I had forbid the Cavalry to enter, that it was impossible for them to pursue; it is difficult therefore to decide upon the Enemy's Loss; many severely wounded escaped through the Town, others threw themselves off their Horses, and escaped over the Brook and through the Gardens, but besides Seventy-eight Prisoners,