



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1812.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, January 28, 1812.

CAPTAIN O'DONOGHUE, Acting Aide-de-Camp to Colonel Skerrett, has arrived this morning at Lord Liverpool's Office with dispatches from Major-General Cooke, of which the following are copies.

MY LORD,

I BEG to congratulate your Lordship upon the complete failure of the enemy's expedition against Tarifa, and to refer you to the inclosed copy of my letter to General Lord Wellington, conveying Colonel Skerrett's reports of the French having been repulsed with great loss in assaulting the breach which they had effected in the wall, and of their having retreated on the night of the 4th, leaving their heavy artillery, and a quantity of stores on the ground.

Your Lordship will see that Colonel Skerrett, and the brave troops under his command, have thoroughly done their duty.—He has expressed his sense of the effectual co-operation of the Spanish troops under General Copons, who in his report, gives his full approbation of the conduct of Colonel Skerrett, and the British troops under his orders, upon this, as he has done upon former occasions, during the last three months.

Captain O'Donoghue, of the 47th Regiment, acting Aide-de-Camp to Colonel Skerrett, has charge of this dispatch, and will give your Lordship any details relative to the late events at Tarifa.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) **GEORGE COOKE**, Maj. Gen.
The Earl of Liverpool, &c. &c. &c.

MY LORD,

Cadiz, Jan. 10, 1812.

I LAST night received a dispatch from Colonel Skerrett, dated the 1st instant, of which I have the honour to transmit a copy, reporting the defeat of a strong column of the enemy on the day before, in an assault of the breach, which they had made in the wall of Tarifa.

I received at the same time intelligence from Lieutenant General Campbell, that the French had broke up from before the place in the night of the 4th, leaving their artillery, &c. and retiring by a pass of La Pena, under the fire of the navy.

I have this morning received Colonel Skerrett's report of that most satisfactory event, by his Aide-de-Camp, Captain O'Donoghue, and I beg leave to refer your Lordship to the copies of them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) **GEORGE COOKE**, Maj. Gen.
General Lord Viscount Wellington, &c. &c. &c.

SIR,

Tarifa, January 1, 1812.

IN my last I had the honour to state that the enemy commenced to batter in breach on the 29th December, since which period until yesterday he kept up a heavy fire of cannon on the breach, and of shells on the town, causeway, and island. At eight o'clock on the morning of the 31st December, a strong column was seen rapidly advancing to the breach;—our musquetry several times checked the enemy; and the firm front and intrepid behaviour of the troops, in less than an hour, gained a complete victory. The most bold of the enemy fell near the foot of the breach, and the mass of the column made a precipitate retreat.

The situation of the enemy's wounded, with which the ground was covered between his battery

