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WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, August 16, 1812.

LORD CLINTON, Aid de Camp to the Earl of Wellington, arrived this morning at the War Department with Dispatches addressed by his Lordship to Earl Bathurst, dated the 21st, 24th, and 28th ultimo, of which the following are extracts :

Cabrerizos, near Salamanca, July 21st, 1812.

IN the course of the 15th and 16th, the enemy moved all their troops to the right of their position on the Douro, and their army was concentrated between Toro and San Roman.

A considerable body passed the Douro at Toro on the evening of the 16th, and I moved the allied army to their left on that night, with an intention to concentrate on the Guarena.

It was totally out of my power to prevent the enemy from passing the Douro at any point at which he might think it expedient, as he had in his possession all the bridges over that river, and many of the fords ; but he recrossed that river at Toro, in the night of the 16th, moved his whole army to Tordesillas, where he again crossed the Douro on the morning of the 17th ; and assembled his army on that day at La Nava del Rey, having marched not less than ten leagues in the course of the 17th.

The 4th and light divisions of infantry, and Major-General Anson's brigades of cavalry, had marched to Castrejon on the night of the 16th, with a view to the assembly of the army on the Guarena, and were at Castrejon under the orders of Lieutenant-General Sir Stapleton Cotton, on the 17th, not having been ordered to proceed further, in consequence of my knowledge that the enemy had not passed the Douro at Toro ; and there was

not time to call them in between the hour at which I received the intelligence of the whole of the enemy's army being at La Nava, and daylight of the morning of the 18th. I therefore took measures to provide for their retreat and junction, by moving the 5th division to Tordesillas de la Orden, and Major-General Le Marchant's, Major-General Alten's, and Major-General Bock's brigades of cavalry to Alaejos.

The enemy attacked the troops at Castrejon, at the dawn of day of the 18th, and Sir Stapleton Cotton maintained the post, without suffering any loss, till the cavalry had joined him. Nearly about the same time the enemy turned by Alaejos the left flank of our position at Castrejon.

The troops retired in admirable order to Tordesillas de la Orden, having the enemy's whole army on their flank or in their rear ; and thence to the Guarena, which river they passed under the same circumstances, and effected their junction with the army.

The Guarena, which runs into the Douro, is formed by four streams, which unite about a league below Canizal, and the enemy took a strong position on the heights on the right of that river, and I placed the 5th, 4th, and light divisions, on the opposite heights, and had directed the remainder of the army to cross the Upper Guarena at Vallesa, in consequence of the appearance of the enemy's intention to turn our right.

Shortly after his arrival, however, the enemy crossed the Guarena at Cartello, below the junction of the streams, and manifested an intention to press upon our left, and to enter the valley of Canizal. Major-General Alten's brigade of cavalry, supported by the 3d dragoons, were already engaged with the enemy's cavalry, and had taken,