

among other prisoners, the French General Carriér; and I desired the Honourable Lieutenant-General Cole to attack, with Major-General William Anson's and Brigadier-General Harvey's brigades of infantry (the latter under the command of Colonel Stubbs), the enemy's infantry which were supporting their cavalry. He immediately attacked and defeated them with the 27th and 40th regiments, which advanced to the charge with bayonets, Colonel Stubbs' Portuguese brigade supporting, and the enemy gave way; many were killed and wounded; and Major-General Alten's brigade of cavalry having pursued the fugitives, two hundred and forty prisoners were taken.

In these affairs Lieutenant-General the Hon. G. L. Cole, Major-General V. Alten, Major-General William Anson, Lieutenant-Colonel Arentschildt of the 1st hussars, and Hervey, of the 14th light dragoons, Lieutenant-Colonel Maclean of the 27th, and Major-Archdall of the 40th, Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, commanding the 11th, and Major de Azeredo, commanding the 23d Portuguese regiment, distinguished themselves.

The enemy did not make any further attempt on our left; but having reinforced their troops on that side, and withdrawn those which had moved to their left, I brought back ours from Vallesa.

On the 19th in the afternoon the enemy withdrew all the troops from their right, and marched to their left by Tarragona, apparently with an intention of turning our right. I crossed the Upper Guarena at Vallesa and El Olmo with the whole of the allied army in the course of that evening and night; and every preparation was made for the action, which was expected on the plain of Vallesa on the morning of the 20th.

But shortly after day-light the enemy made another movement in several columns to his left, along the heights of the Guarena, which river he crossed below Santa la Piedra, and encamped last night at Babilafuente and Villamela; and the allied army made a correspondent movement to its right by Cantalpino, and encamped last night at Cabeza Velloso, the 5th division, and Major-General Alten's brigade of cavalry being upon the Tormes at Aldea Lengua.

During these movements there have been occasional cannonades, but without loss on our side.

I have this morning moved the left of the army to the Tormes, where the whole are now concentrated; and I observe that the enemy have also moved towards the same river, near Huerta.

The enemy's object hitherto has been, to cut off my communication with Salamanca and Ciudad Rodrigo.

The enemy abandoned and destroyed the fort of Mirabete, on the Tagus, on the 11th instant; and the garrison marched to Madrid, to form part of the army of the centre. They were reduced to five days provisions.

I inclose a return of the killed and wounded on the 18th instant.

*Flores de Avila, July 24, 1812.*

MY Aide-de-Camp, Captain Lord Clinton, will present to your Lordship this account of a victory which the allied troops under my command gained

in a general action fought near Salamanca on the evening of the 22d inst: which I have been under the necessity of delaying to send till now, having been engaged ever since the action in the pursuit of the enemy's flying troops.

In my letter of the 21st I informed your Lordship, that both armies were near the Tormes; and the enemy crossed that river with the greatest part of his troops in the afternoon by the fords between Alba de Tormes and Huerta, and moved by their left towards the roads leading to Ciudad Rodrigo.

The allied army, with the exception of the 3d division and General D'Urban's cavalry, likewise crossed the Tormes in the evening by the bridge of Salamanca, and the fords in the neighbourhood; and I placed the troops in a position of which the right was upon one of the two heights called Dos Arapiles, and the left on the Tormes below the ford of Santa Martha.

The 3d division and Brigadier-General D'Urban's cavalry were left at Cabrenizos, on the right of the Tormes, as the enemy had still a large corps on the heights above Babilafuente, on the same side of the river; and I considered it not improbable, that, finding our army prepared for them in the morning, on the left of the Tormes, they would alter their plan, and manœuvre by the other bank.

In the course of the night of the 21st I received intelligence, of the truth of which I could not doubt, that General Chauvel had arrived at Pollos on the 20th, with the cavalry and horse artillery of the army of the north, to join Marshal Marmont; and I was quite certain that these troops would join him on the 22d or 23d at the latest.

During the night of the 21st the enemy had taken possession of the village of Calvarosa de Ariba, and of the height near it called Nuestra Senora de la Pena, our cavalry being in possession of Calvarosa de Abaxo; and shortly after daylight detachments from both armies attempted to obtain possession of the more distant from our right of the two hills called Dos Arapiles.

The enemy however succeeded, their detachment being the strongest, and having been concealed in the woods nearer the hill than we were, by which success they strengthened materially their own position, and had in their power increased means of annoying ours.

In the morning, the light troops of the 7th division, and the 4th Cacadores belonging to General Pack's brigade, were engaged with the enemy on the height called Nuestra Senora de la Pena; on which height they maintained themselves with the enemy throughout the day. The possession, by the enemy, however, of the more distant of the Arapiles, rendered it necessary for me to extend the right of the army in Potence to the heights behind the village of Arapiles, and to occupy that village with light infantry; and here I placed the 4th division, under the command of the Honourable Lieutenant-General Cole; and although, from the variety of the enemy's movements, it was difficult to form a satisfactory judgment of his intentions, I considered that, upon the whole, his objects were upon the left of the Tormes, I therefore ordered the Honourable Major-General Pakenham, who commanded the 3d division, in the absence of Lieutenant-General Picton, on account of ill