



# The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

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WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, August 16, 1813.

**H**IS Serene Highness the Hereditary Prince of Orange, has arrived at this office with dispatches addressed to Earl Bathurst, by Field-Marshal the Marquess of Wellington, of which the following are copies.

MY LORD, *San Estevan, August 1, 1813.*

**T**WO practicable breaches having been effected at San Sebastian on the 24th of July, orders were given that they should be attacked on the morning of the 25th. I am concerned to have to report, that this attempt to obtain possession of the place failed, and that our loss was very considerable.

Marshal Soult had been appointed *Lieutenant de l'Empereur* and Commander in Chief of the French Armies in Spain and the Southern Provinces of France, by a *Decret Imperial* on the 1st of July, and he joined and took the command of the army on the 13th of July, which having been joined nearly about the same time by the corps which had been in Spain under the command of General Clauzel, and by other reinforcements, was called the Army of Spain, and re-formed into nine divisions of infantry, forming the right, centre, and left, under the command of General Reille, Comte d'Erlon, and General Clauzel, as Lieutenant-Generals, and a reserve under General Villatte; and two divisions of dragoons and one of light cavalry, the two former under the command of Generals Treillard and Tilly, and the latter under the command of General Pierre Soult. There was besides allotted to the army a large proportion of artillery, and a considerable number of guns had already joined.

The allied army was posted, as I have already informed your Lordship, in the passes of the

mountains. Major-General Byng's brigade of British infantry, and General Morillo's division of Spanish infantry, were on the right in the pass of Roncesvalles. Lieutenant-General Sir Lowry Cole was posted at Viscarret, to support those troops; and Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Picton, with the third division, at Olaque in reserve.

Lieutenant-General Sir Rowland Hill occupied the valley of Bastan with the remainder of the second division, and the Portuguese division, under the Conde de Amarante, detaching General Campbell's Portuguese brigade to Los Alduides, within the French territory. The light and seventh divisions occupied the heights of Santa Barbara, and the town of Vera, and the Puerto de Echalar, and kept the communication with the valley of Bastan; and the sixth division was in reserve at San Estevan. General Longa's division kept the communication between the troops at Vera and those under Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham, and Mariscal del Campo Giron, on the great road.

The Conde del Abisbal blockaded Pampeluna.

On the 24th, Marshal Soult collected the right and left wings of his army, with one division of his centre, and two divisions of cavalry, at St. Jean de Pied de Port, and on the 25th attacked, with between thirty and forty thousand men, General Byng's post at Roncesvalles. Lieutenant-General Sir Lowry Cole moved up to his support with the fourth division, and these officers were enabled to maintain their post throughout the day. But the enemy turned it in the afternoon; and Lieutenant-General Sir Lowry Cole considered it to be necessary to withdraw in the night; and he marched to the neighbourhood of Zubiri.

In the actions which took place on this day, the 20th regiment distinguished themselves.

Two divisions of the centre of the enemy's army attacked Sir Rowland Hill's position in the Puerto