



The London Gazette

EXTRAORDINARY.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1813.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-street, Sept. 14, 1813.

MAJOR Hare 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, *Lezaca, September 2, 1813.*

THE fire against the fort of San Sebastian was opened on the 26th of August, and directed against the towers which flanked the curtain on the eastern face, against the deny bastion on the south eastern angle, and the termination of the curtain of the southern face:

Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham had directed that an establishment should be formed on the island of Santa Clara, which was effected on the night of the 26th; and the enemy's detachment on that island were made prisoners. Captain Cameron, of the 9th, had the command of the detachment which effected this operation, and Sir Thomas Graham particularly applauds his conduct, and that of Captain Henderson, of the royal engineers.

The conduct of Lieutenant the Honourable James Arbuthnot, of the royal navy, who commanded the boats, was highly meritorious, as likewise that of Lieutenant Bell, of the royal marines.

All that it was deemed practicable to carry into execution, in order to facilitate the approach to the breaches before made in the wall of the town, having been effected on the 30th of August, and another breach having been made at the termination of the curtain, the place was stormed at eleven o'clock in the day on the 31st, and carried. The loss on our side has been severe. Lieutenant-General Sir James Leith, who had joined the army only two days before, and Major-Generals Os-

wald and Robinson were unfortunately wounded in the breach; and Colonel Sir Richard Fletcher, of the Royal Engineers, was killed by a musket-ball at the mouth of the trenches. In this officer, and in Lieutenant-Colonel Crawford, of the 9th regiment, His Majesty's service has sustained a serious loss.

I have the honour to enclose Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Graham's report of this operation, in which your Lordship will observe, with pleasure, another distinguished instance of the gallantry and perseverance of His Majesty's officers and troops, under the most trying difficulties.

All reports concur in praise of the conduct of the detachment from the 10th Portuguese brigade, under Major Snodgrass, which crossed the River Urumea, and stormed the breach on the right, under all the fire which could be directed upon them from the castle and town.

The garrison retired to the castle, leaving about two hundred and seventy prisoners in our hands; and I hope that I shall soon have the pleasure to inform your Lordship that we have possession of that post.

Since the fire against St. Sebastian had been recommenced, the enemy had drawn the greatest part of their force to the camp of Urogne, and there was every reason to believe, that they would make an attempt to relieve the place.

Three divisions of the 4th Spanish army, commanded by General Don Manuel Freyre, occupied the heights of San Marcial, and the town of Irun, by which the approach to San Sebastian by the high road, was covered and protected, and they were supported by the 1st division of British infantry, under Major-Gen. Howard, and Major-Gen. Lord Aylmer's brigade, on their left, and in the rear of Irun; and by General Longa's division encamped near the Sierra de Aya, in rear of their right. In