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wounded. I immediately proceeded to the right, where the 27th regiment was posted, and desired some of my party to follow me. I had scarcely joined them, when I was informed that the enemy were turning our right flank; I occasioned this to be reinforced, but it was in vain they attempted to withstand any longer, the enemy continuing to gain ground. At the same moment I saw the Spanish brigade on our left retiring; there was not a moment to be lost, and I ordered the 27th regiment to retire. We gained the main road, for the purpose of arriving at a hill, in rear of the first position, before the enemy could get possession of it: in this we succeeded. We continued our retreat, keeping close to the right of the main road, during the whole night, meeting at several times parties of the enemy on all sides. I was in hopes that by daylight, the progress of the latter would be stopped, and offer me the means of joining some of our troops; but being disappointed in this, I gained by that time the higher part of the woods, and was not discovered by the enemy till I had gained the village of Bonneoles, but his attempt to prevent our retreat was fruitless.

Our march was of the most fatiguing nature that can be imagined; many men, worn out by fatigue, remained behind, so that the party with which I joined the first division (by about two o'clock in the afternoon), consisted only of about seventy men; but I can assert, that a great number are still in the woods, and will be able to join.

I have omitted to say, that the artillery under Captain Arabin had been ordered to retire about half an hour before the position was forced, and previous to my succeeding to the command. The guns have been overtaken by the enemy's cavalry near Venta de Ordal.

I am, &c.

(Signed) N. MULLER, Capt. De Roll's.

Lieutenant-Colonel Carey, commanding
Catalanese Free Corps.

SIR, Tarragona, September 15, 1813.

ON the night of the 12th instant, about twelve o'clock, the enemy, in great force, attacked the position of the 2d battalion 27th regiment at Ordal; and shortly after, Lieutenant-Colonel Reeves and Captain Mills being wounded, the command of the battalion devolved upon me. At this time the fire from the enemy's sharpshooters was extremely heavy, as well as that of his artillery, under cover of which heavy columns of infantry were advancing upon my front and upon my right flank. Notwithstanding the inferiority of my force, and the loss already sustained, I was determined to keep my ground as long as possible, more especially when I witnessed the gallant, brave, and determined conduct of the Spanish troops on my left, who charged with the bayonet three times, and forced the enemy to retire with great loss.

I continued to maintain the positions for an hour and three quarters, exposed to an incessant fire along my front, the enemy's light troops on my right flank, and even in rear of it. I did not shrink from the propriety of halting the troops, by of falling back, until I saw the gallant Spanish troops overpowered by numbers and almost destroyed.

My left being thus uncovered, I conceived it my duty to save as many as I could collect of the battalion, and accordingly I retired, with five officers, eight serjeants, and sixty-six rank and file, under a heavy fire, and followed by the enemy's cavalry.

I beg leave to state, that nothing could exceed the brave determined conduct of the officers and men of the 2d battalion 27th regiment; and I feel it justice to mention the good conduct of Lieutenant Felix, of the royal marines, attached to the battalion.

I have the satisfaction to add, that many of the brave men, who were unavoidably dispersed during the action, have since joined; and I trust our loss altogether will not exceed two hundred men.

I am, &c.

(Signed) J. WALDRON,
Captain 2d Batt. 27th Reg.

Lieutenant-Colonel Carey, commanding
Catalanese Corps.

SIR, Tarragona, September 17, 1813.

AS the official reports made to the Commander of the Forces, by the different officers upon whom the command of the advance devolved, at the attack of the heights of Ordal, on the night of the 12th instant, cannot, owing to the circumstances in which the troops were placed after the heights were carried by the enemy, detail the particulars attending the loss of the brigade of guns under my command, I feel it necessary to state them to you, in order that you may be enabled to form a more favourable impression from being apprised of the head-quarters of our corps, which could only occur in consequence of the circumstances not being rightly understood.

I feel confident that the Commander of the Forces, as well as every officer in this army, are convinced of the impracticability of bringing off the guns, and will do me justice in their own minds; nevertheless should you deem it necessary to show this letter to his Excellency (to whom I have already had the honour of reporting the business verbally), you are at liberty to do so. Shortly after the action commenced Colonel Adam was severely wounded and obliged to quit the field, the command then devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Reeves, who perceiving that the enemy was gaining ground on all sides, gave me orders to retire with the guns: I accordingly withdrew them about one hundred yards, when perceiving that the Spanish troops who had given way on the left of the road, had rallied and returned to the charge, I halted the guns, being fearful of the effect their retreat might have on the minds of the soldiers.

Previous to this period, Lieutenant-Colonel Reeves had gone to the rear, severely wounded; Lieutenant-Colonel Carey (the next in command) was posted so far to the left, that I could receive no orders from him; all the other officers who were senior to me, were either wounded, or at so great a distance, that it was obliged to act entirely from my own judgment; but I was supported in my opinion of the propriety of halting the guns, by Major Holmes and Captain Waldron, of the 27th regiment, who agreed with me in thinking