

NOVEMBER 17

Under date of the 19th ult. from St. Petersburg, they write, that some late communications of the French Ambassador to the Russian Government indicated the strong dissatisfaction of the latter Government with the conduct of the Committee carried on by Russia with us. It is also reported from St. Petersburg,—but all of these statements must be greeted with the greatest distrust,—that the French troops had been actually ordered to leave the city of Bagdad, and that before Bagdad was evacuated, the French Government had intended that they would proceed to Dabab, and there wait the final answer of the Emperor Alexander to a note which was sent him this morning. But in conformity with the constitutional system of France, which forbids the Emperor to be engaged in war, unless he has been attempted to be engaged into Russia, had been seized; and would, it was thought, be discontinued. They write from Gottenburg, that an express had arrived from Stockholm, and that the Russian Government had proposed that at the end of the year, to be devoted to England, and the sale, without any consideration of the country to which the property might belong.

n article from Koningsberg contradicts the reports that had been afloat on the coast of Batavia, of permission being granted to import colonial produce and manufactured goods. The prevalence of such rumours shows clearly the wishes of the people, or at least of the affluent classes, and their abhorrence of the restrictions under which their commerce is plac-

[illegible]

THE COURIER, SEPT. 18.

Mr. Foster, besides presenting some acrimonious representations on the subject of the treaty with the Little Belt, also undertook to demand categorically, that the United States should repeal without delay the non-importation law; and that they should also demand of

Such is the state of affairs with Great Britain. The President, before his departure, is said to have given directions to have every vessel belonging to the United States put in a state of complete equipment; and that all literary works on the sea board be completed without delay.

[FROM THE LISBON GAZETTE.]
LISBON, JULY 6.

Done in virtue of a Resolution of an extraordinary Meeting, held the 27th of April, in which Lord Viscount Wellington was chosen honorary Member of the Academy.

the whole Nation and all Europe being en-
tire of the immortal services which Marshal
Saldanha has rendered to his Country, and his Na-
tional Compatriots in Arms; he has, in
doing so, to the Army, to his Country, his
Sovereign, to his Country, and to the whole human
race, promising ourselves, from the glorious
examples set by him, by Marshal Sir
William Carr Beresford, and the other
Generals of the Allied Armies, the most fortunate
out of the obstinate conflict in which we are en-
gaged with the common enemy, that he will
be able to do the same for his Country, and to
ability, in perpetuating the memory of his
valiant exploits, not only in testimony of the
affection of a people towards their benefactor,
but to the end that our posterity may receive
from his actions the same inspiration and
courage as we have received from the
valiant Warriors who triumphed under his
most glorious examples of the most un-
derstandable valor, military skill, courage,
prudence, and the most stainless in defending
the rights of the allied Nations, and in
these considerations, the above mentioned
highly-deserving Portuguese promises the
award of a gold medal, of the value of 50,000
Reals, and an Austrian Treaty, upon the
basis of the most honorable and

In regard to the army's real strength, it was necessary that I should see their army.

I have had no reports from the north since I addressed your Lordship last, nor from the south of Spain.

General Girard had collected at Merida, a small body of troops, but I imagine that he will break up this collection again, as soon as you will hear that General Hill is at Portoferra.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) WELLINGTON.

I enclose a return of the killed and wounded, on the 25th and 26th instant.

Return of the Army of the Exzellenz General Lord Viscount Wellington, &c. on the 25th and 26th instant.

Enemy on the 25th of September, 1811, on the Heights of St. Sebastian.

Total British Loss—1 Captain, 26 Rank and File, 37 Horses, Killed; 1 Lieutenant Colonel, 3 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Quarter Master, 10 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, 90 Rank and File, 40 Horses, Wounded; 1 Sergeant, 2 Drummers, 27 Rank and File, 3 Horses, Missing.

N.B. The 14th and 16th Light Dragoons engaged near Espia, on the left of the army.

(Signed) CHARLES STEWART.

1 Sergeant, 1 Drummer, 21 Rank and File, 1 Horse missing.

Total Portuguese Loss—1 rank and file, killed; 5 rank and file wounded; 1 drummer, 1 rank and file missing.

General Lord—1 Sergeant, 27 rank and file, 37 Horses, Killed; 1 Lieutenant Colonel, 3 Captains, 2 Lieutenants, 1 Quarter Master, 10 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, 90 rank and file, 40 Horses, Wounded; 1 Sergeant, 2 Drummers, 27 rank and file, 3 Horses, Missing.

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ment in attacking me before the ill-becomed operation for raising the siege could be carried into effect, an operation which lasted a number of days, I took that measure which was due to Spanish honour, to my character, to my personal reputation; and resolved to die fighting, rather than that of an surrenderer.

I say before the two consequences which my resistance would infallibly produce: the confusion, the defeat, the flight of either the enemy, if it was victorious; or, if I failed, and the enemy penetrated into the place, a horrible carnage of my soldiers and the inhabitants.

But in presenting all this, in determining to receive and to repel the French upon the breach, I again consulted, whether my force was capable of that enterprise, one of the most heroic which the war presents, and to which few men know how to make up their minds.

In reality I knew that I had 8000 of the best and most warlike troops of Spain, who had immortalized themselves in the defence of Tarragona, and to whom only this last effort was wanting for the completion of their work.

Resolved, then, to resist the assaults of the enemy, I placed, in the face of the breach, two battalions of provincial grenadiers and the regiment of Almeida, with orders not to fire a single musket, and to throw themselves upon the breach as soon as the French should appear there, in order to drive back their column at the point of the bayonet (for it was thus that this terrible operation was to be executed) and on compelling them to retire, such a terrible carnage was to be made among them, that they should not dare to return a second time.

I distributed among the soldiers, wine, brandy and tobacco. I spoke to them myself as to inflame their courage; and I took all the precautions which were proper to be taken under such circumstances. Our troops received the French with a firmness worthy of admiration, but they did not altogether follow my instructions, which were to attack the assailing column in its advance; and the regiment of Almeida soon yielded the ground which it occupied for the purpose of supporting the grenadiers, and acting as a reinforcement and a reserve.

At last 1500 of the enemy's Grenadiers, supported by 5 or 6000 men, without reckoning the bulk of an army of Suchet which surrounded the place on all sides, entered the town. Our troops began to retire in disorder from the walls, and although all the officers and myself made every effort to stop them, and prevail upon them to charge the enemy anew, and defend themselves in the streets, this was impossible; the soldiers thinking to find safety in flight, threw themselves down on the side towards the sea, leaped over the walls and palisades, and attempted to escape; but they were taken by the enemy's troops, who invested us on the Barcelona side of the place.

In proportion as our troops gave way the enemy occupied the ramparts of the old and new town, and entered the streets, where all were killed or wounded without distinction of class, age or sex. This tragedy was only less cruel, because the French officers, full of generosity, saved all they could, and even expressed themselves to become the victims of their own soldiers, who, burning with the thirst of carnage, thought only of slaughtering.

At this moment, running myself to the gate of San Miquel, to collect there, if possible, some soldiers in order to charge the enemy, to save them during the night, or to attempt to break through, I was wounded in the belly by the stroke of a bayonet, and made prisoner by an enemy's detachment. The report then spread, that I was killed; and the general disorder increased to such a degree, that the soldiers might be seen throwing away their arms, taking to flight, and thus falling into the hands of their enemies, who made them all prisoners.

Tarragona, in fine, after one of the most obstinate sieges, during which I left untold numbers of those measures which are dictated by the art of defence, and the smallness of my force and the means permitted—Tarragona fell, amidst the horrors drawn on by a garrison which shut its ears to all proposals for capitulation, on the 29th of June, a day that will be memorable in future times for the tragic end of this ancient capital of Spain, which has been consumed by its temples and edifices destroyed, during the siege, by more than 4000 bombs or grenades, and an innumerable number of bullets and of balls, which filled with terror the piles of Majorca and Minorca, and the coasts of the Mediterranean, the hospitals of which are filled with its wounded defenders—which, in short, has seen in the last moment of its existence so many victims slaughtered.

On the following day, General Count Suchet caused me to be conveyed on a litter to

his head-quarters at Constant, where I found General Comter, Cabrer, Brigadier Medina, and other Chiefs, who had been made prisoners, with 7,500 men, of whom 500 were officers, who have been conducted to France. The General said to me, and in presence of the principal officers of his army, openly told me, that I was the cause of all the horrors his troops had committed in Tarragona, because I had defended myself beyond the limits prescribed by the laws of war; and that they have authorized him to punish me even with death, for not having demanded a capitulation as soon as the breach was practicable; that on entering by assault, he had a right to do every thing to fire and sword; and that, by consequence, the besieged ought to have hung out the white flag, as soon as the breach was opened.

I replied, that if it was true, that the laws of war prescribed, that if the assailant enter, he may deliver up a town and its inhabitants to plunder, flames, and the sword; and that they in consequence indicate, that the moment when the assault is about to take place is the time to capitulate; these same laws, however, do not prohibit the garrison to defend itself, and endeavour to repel the assailants; that I had resisted because I had a force sufficient to repel his, which would doubtless have been the case, had my dispositions been obeyed in the way that I ordered them; that, besides, I expected succours on the day following, both from Campoverde, and from the sea, &c.; that having resisted until the breach was practicable, I should have passed for a coward, had I not dared to defend it; and, in short, that no law forbade me to repel the assault.

General Suchet, convinced by the powerful reasons which I gave him, treated me at last, as well as the other general and private officers, with all the distinction which we had merited by our resistance.

The garrison behaved heroically in the defence up to the moment of assault; it then showed some weakness; the soldier gave way and was intimidated. The officers, on the contrary, always behaved perfectly well, and sabre in hand, made the greatest efforts to keep the soldiers to their duty, and to collect them in order that they might resist and attack the French, who were pursuing and cutting them down in the streets. But their terror increased every moment, and they let themselves be taken even by us, without even then resolving to surrender the Ciudadela.

Every thing has conspired against this poor garrison. Campoverde, on leaving it, himself promised to come speedily to its relief and deliverance, and never did so, though he daily renewed his promises, as may be seen from a great number of letters which I have preserved, and of which I send copies subjoined. The Kingdom of Valencia sent to the aid of the place, General Miranda, with a division of the troops of that kingdom, who landed at Tarragona, and the following day re-embarked, and was to join the army of Campoverde. An English division made its appearance on the 26th. Colonel Skerret, who commanded it came on shore to confer with me. On the 27th the English engineers came to reconnoitre the front of attack; and convinced that the place was incapable of resistance, they returned to their ships; so that they all kept aloof from the place though they had come to relieve it. This abandonment on the part of those who came in order to save it was the worst of all; it made such an impression on the spirits of the soldiers, that they began to foresee that they were lost; they were cast down; they only continued their resistance in consequence of my continual exhortations, because they saw my coolness, and the confidence which I felt, that if they executed my orders the French would never effect an entrance. Thus, after having resisted for a weight for a few hours, the idea of seeing themselves abandoned soon laid hold of their minds, and completely subdued them.

The English Commandant came on the evening of the 29th, and asked me what I wished he should do with his troops? I replied, that if he would dis-embark, and enter the place, he should be received with joy, and treated as he deserved; that he had only to choose the point which he wished to defend, and that I should immediately consent to it.

If the Marquis of Campoverde had not promised to come to our relief, without keeping his promise; if General Miranda had not shown himself in the place with his division, only to appear and disappear, like a flash of lightning; if the English division had never come in sight; if the garrison in short, had not been told every day and hour of its last extremity, that it was about to be relieved; continued, then that it had to depend only on its own strength, it would have done a great deal

more; but the assemblage of circumstances, so good and so evil, in appearance, but most to fulfil, good or evil, because they relied on and have been the cause of that fatality, which it lost all the means which it had acquired up to the moment of assault.

A great number of officers fled from Tarragona to avoid the hardships and suffering it upon prisoners that were far from honourable, others feigning sickness, others, in short, committing acts of baseness, others ceasing their persecutions, and these not without distinction, but ought to be punished, otherwise they will still have the impudence to appear with their decorations, and as if they were at the siege.

The greater part of the corps were commanded by Captains from the want of the Commandants who had departed. These Captains ought to be Colonel, and those who were gone off, did have been among themselves at Villanueva and elsewhere, should have been in the service; otherwise, as I have said, it is done; and it is necessary that justice should be done.

As to myself, I have never asked a thing, and I wish nothing else as present to be exchanged if possible. I anxiously wish to re-enter the field, and in the mean time give a part of my pay, a thing however, as I should not ask, if my property was not in power of the enemy.

Before the fall of the place, I wrote, declared openly, that upon the system which operations were carried on, or not to speak more properly, mediated, the stress, the garrison, and the army, would fallably be lost.

The Superior Junta of the province can inform you of this, because I always care to acquaint them with what was passed on their side, they did all that they could order that the operation of raising the might be attempted, the only operation it was necessary to be employed about, an execute without delay, and in concert with whatever were the numbers and nature of enemy's force which we had to combat. It was in all vain, and every day till the less thought of at head quarters, as will appear from the letter of General Campoverde which he ordered me to send, when 3000 men, sent from the Ciudadela, who were embarked in the night of the 27th, and orders of Colonel O'Hanlon, who came to for that purpose at eleven at night. I orders that he should embark with the force of Almeida; but this arrangement of take place, and no one has seen O'Hanlon gain.

From the same letter may be seen the fusion which reigned at head-quarters, the Marquis of Campoverde believed a division of 5000 English had arrived in place, and the English Commandant sent me that he had only 1000 men, who he said on the 9th of June. The Marquis wished that the troops which he demanded should be embarked the same night; he could not but know that this was impossible; I had no other means but those which English lent me, and the latter had those that were disposable.

Sir Francis Burdett has brought a appeal against the decisions in his two—the one against the Speaker of the House of Commons, and the other against the House of Commons; and the questions will again be discussed before the Court of Exchequer. Sir Francis, which has paramount jurisdiction over separate Courts of Westminster. This is a very serious matter, and the Judges, all sit together, and hear all advocates of sides, and afterwards pronounce their most serious; from whose decision on an other appeal, but to the House of which is made, in the first instance, by on; but then it is a petition of right.

The 5th and 38th, both very fine ships and composed of 1,100 men each, were at Cork forth with for Portugal. It stated, that the 1st detachment of the 6th, and the 20th foot, stationed at Kinsale, are to embark for the same point.

Within the last few days the following and military stores have been sent to be shipped for the 1st and 2nd, 15,000 and of arms, 3,000,000 balls, 3,000 barrels of powder, 50 tons of 1 ship-load of rockets, 2,000 sabres, and of brass ordnance, 2,000 sabres, and pickets.

THE TIMES, SEPTEMBER 30.

Literal Translation of a report of the siege of Tarragona, which Gen. Dontrons, ex-Governor of that place, addressed to the Council of Regency.

On the 26th instant, at day-break, the enemy opened his fire to batter in breach the curtain in front of St. John, at the angle which it forms with the left flank of the bastion of Saint Paul. Our artillery and our militia behaved heroically; they several times succeeded in silencing their fire, and retarding an operation which threatened us with an assault.

The situation of Tarragona was at this moment most critical—for, from the want of shipping, of time and opportunity, I found it impossible for me to save my garrison by sea; as little could I do so by land, because the enemy surrounded me with his army, and awaited my rallying out to drive me back.

To speak of capitulation was unworthy of the heroic defence which the place had made. The Marquis of Campoverde had promised to present himself with an army for my relief; but the English had arrived two days before with another division of troops for my support, but they did not resolve upon disembarking when they saw the danger in which the place was of being invested; and thus, in spite of the aid of our troops, and the presence of our allies, I saw myself reduced to my own soldiers.

In this state of things, knowing the activity of the enemy, who would not lose a mo-