

**May 1811-March 1813**

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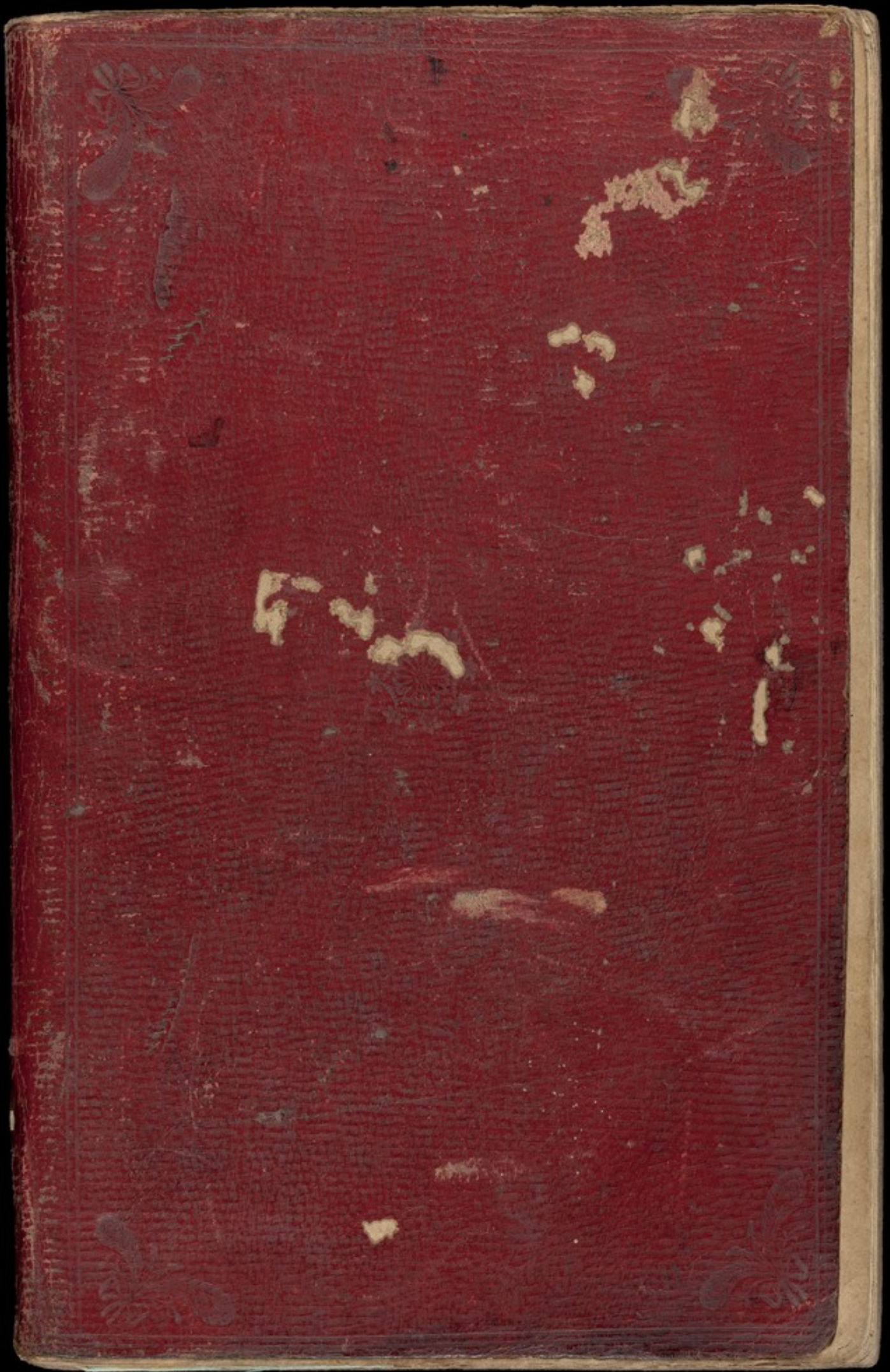
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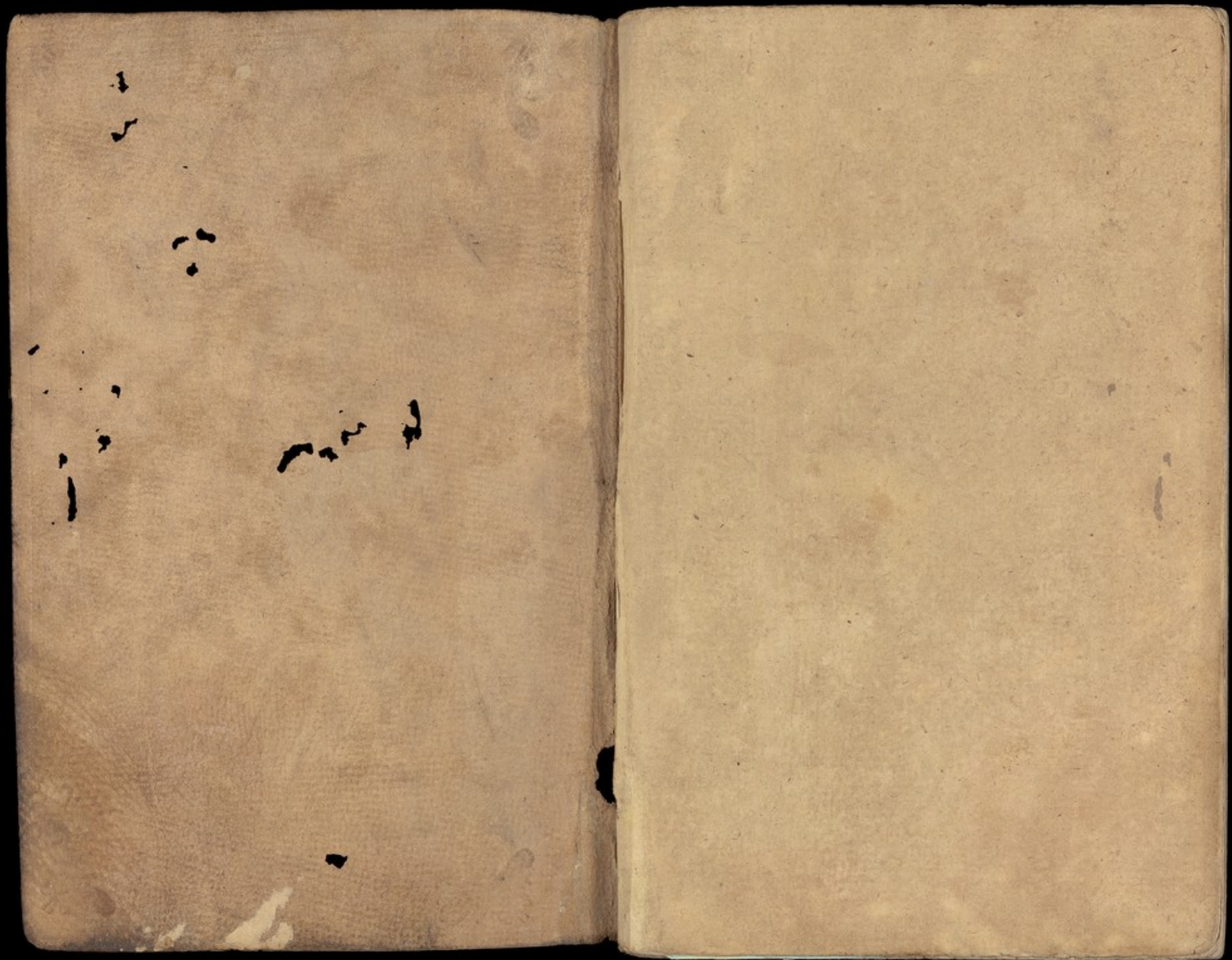
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1811. 12. 13

(4)



1811 -

May 11<sup>th</sup> Last night the Enemy made  
their escape from Almeida and blew up  
a large portion of the works, spiked their  
Cannon &c - and crossed the Aguada at  
Barba de Puro to San Felices; but lost  
very severely during the night - in prisoners  
and killed; this affair caused much  
talk in the Army on the 6<sup>th</sup> Division.  
The Regiment was ordered to Vila Verde de  
Sida 13. I was directed to remain at  
Villa Formosa to do duty at the General  
Hospital. 12<sup>th</sup> Massena advanced with  
two Divisions to reconnoitre but retired  
again immediately - 13<sup>th</sup> Capt Cameron  
79<sup>th</sup> died - his wound was similar to  
Capt Wards the <sup>vertebrae</sup> ~~vertebrae~~ Vertebrae.  
16<sup>th</sup> went to Almeida, the Enemy left many  
pieces of Field Artillery, 13/ Carriage in the  
Garrison. 19<sup>th</sup> went to Aldea de Doute for  
money from Beaton 3 Leagues. 20<sup>th</sup> returned  
to Breakfast at Villa Formosa - 22<sup>nd</sup> left  
Villa Formosa with wounded, crossed the  
Sea at Castelo Bom, halted at Truchas 23.  
23<sup>rd</sup> to Alorna the Truchas 4 L. -

1814.

2

21<sup>th</sup> May, thro' Baragol to Celvico 3 L. 25<sup>th</sup> bought  
an ass 8 Dollars. 27<sup>th</sup> left Celvico with 160 wounded  
wheels for Coimbra halted at Sampaio 3 L.  
28<sup>th</sup> to Macina 3 L. 29<sup>th</sup> to Galiz 4 L. 30<sup>th</sup> to  
Fainha de Podre. 31<sup>st</sup> to Riva 1 L. on the Monday  
where we embarked for Coimbra and arrived  
there at 5 P.M. rejoined Secto at the Collegia  
Nova. Coimbra is a fine City, has many handsome  
Churches, Colleges an observatory and Museum  
of Natural History. Libary as the French had not  
much time to destroy, & on the different  
Churches. it has a good bridge over the  
Mondego two arches of which had been  
destroyed by Genl Franks who occupied the City  
during the retreat. Sat. St. David Staff Surgeon.  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> left Coimbra for St. Andre. passed Cavallos  
went the whole way on the South side of the  
Mondego, a much longer rout. 8<sup>th</sup> to Sparta  
4 L. Guarded the ~~Mondego~~ Alva at Ponte de  
Murcella which was destroyed by the enemy  
on their retreat. 9<sup>th</sup> Villa Dauco 4 L. - 10<sup>th</sup> to  
St. Jojo near Macina 4 L. 11<sup>th</sup> St. David passed  
Cas. 5<sup>th</sup> Celvico. here I found the Division had  
marched towards the Alentejo, sent Redmond.  
13<sup>th</sup> ordered again to Coimbra with Secto. went  
to Sampaio - 14<sup>th</sup> Macina. 15<sup>th</sup> Galiz. 16<sup>th</sup>  
Fainha de Podre. 17<sup>th</sup> to Coimbra by Riva 6 L.  
great rain and severe storm - during this



1011. June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1801. Lt. Col. Drane 30<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>. was attached  
to the Convoy - he died in a few days from the  
effects of the exposure to the storm on of that  
night. got a rout through Abrantes for Portugal.  
Directed my baggage to march with the 1<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>.  
for Abrantes, having made up my mind to visit  
Lisbon - at Riva my servant was taken with  
ague and just as I was stepping into the boat  
a Portuguese Boy asked me if I was in want  
of a Crado. and I immediately accepted him.  
21<sup>st</sup> I thought Londonia to Paris L.L. 22<sup>nd</sup> To  
Lisboa L.L. the enemy had nearly ruined this  
fine city having burnt the Palace of the Bishop  
and a great part of the grand square - 23<sup>rd</sup>  
to Rio Major L.L. 24<sup>th</sup> to Villa Franca  
L.L. the road from Coimbra to Lisboa is very  
very excellent as also as far as Rio Major  
but between this town & Villa Franca  
the country is very sandy and the roads  
heavy. Met Woodcock R.M.C. and dined  
with him. 25<sup>th</sup> embarked and after a very  
quick passage arrived in Lisbon. put up  
at Malins Quarters - went on board the  
vessel for my baggage and got out  
different articles 26<sup>th</sup> at 3 P.M. embarked  
for Villa Franca, the wind was foul  
and we could get no higher than  
Saccaven.



after the battle of Fuentes D'onor  
and the escape of the Garrison  
of Almeida. Massena left the  
French Army & Marmont took  
the Command, cantoning his  
troops near Salamanca. The works  
of Almeida were ordered to be  
repaired. The news of the advance  
of Soult in the front of Marshal  
Benoist who was near Badajoz  
induced Lord W. to start instantly  
for the South - he arrived at <sup>Badajoz</sup> ~~Algarve~~  
on the 19<sup>th</sup> May, and ordered two  
Divisions to follow him - He  
commenced the Siege of Badajoz  
by attacking Fort St. Christoval on  
the right bank of the Guadiana &  
but after two assaults failed -  
Marmont came south to join Soult  
& Wellington raised the siege & Soult  
being joined Marmont & Drouot advanced  
& Soult took up the position of the Tagus  
having Camps Major on the left & Alcazar on the right

1811

4

June 27<sup>th</sup> Embarked and at 7 A.M. arrived  
at Villa Franca and breakfasted with  
Woodruff after breakfast started for Santarum  
my horse which I had left at the Obalage  
was taken good care of. I arrived at Santarum  
at 3 P.M. - passed my old quarters at Cortado -  
20<sup>th</sup> to Pombete. 7<sup>th</sup> L. - 29<sup>th</sup> arrived at  
Alentejo at 10 A.M. 2 L. - heard my horse was  
stolen at Thomar - here I met Steph. Powell  
& Anderson 24<sup>th</sup> - July 2<sup>nd</sup> Crossed the Tagus  
for Gavião a small town 4 L. 3<sup>rd</sup> Gaffete 4 L.  
a small town. 4<sup>th</sup> Portalegre 4 L. - a large  
and fine City with an excellent shops and  
beautiful Cathedral - 5<sup>th</sup> through Alentejo  
to Aronches 4 L. 6<sup>th</sup> to the camp near St.  
Olava when I rejoined my Regt. 17<sup>th</sup> L.  
Alentejo a large and strongly fortified City  
a fine Aqueduct, large churches &  
fountains &c. Fort S. Lope which  
commands the Town is supposed to be  
a complete specimen of Fortification  
23<sup>rd</sup> the Army broke up and moved Northward  
marched and encamped at Alentejo 3 L.  
24<sup>th</sup> to Beja. 31<sup>st</sup> The Division marched  
for Castle Branco - halted at Alpalhao 3 L.



In Marmont's marching South  
to Brent Spencer who Wellington left  
near Almadá in command  
marched also and crossed the Tago  
the 24<sup>th</sup> was in front the 1<sup>st</sup> Division  
early in June.

Sabugal has an old castle indeed. There  
country abounds in remains of these  
hill forts, as Solanha near Penamanga  
to be near villages. The inhabitants  
formerly carried on a perpetual war  
with the Spaniards

1811- 5  
August 1<sup>st</sup> to Mira 2 L. 2<sup>nd</sup> crossed the  
Tagus at Villa Velha. halted half a league  
beyond in a wood 2 L. 3<sup>rd</sup> passed Sarnadas  
halted near a small village Benquerencia  
2 L. 4<sup>th</sup> to Castello Branco 3 L. 5<sup>th</sup> marched  
through Escallos en Lima and encamped  
1 mile beyond Loza. 6<sup>th</sup> the Division halted,  
in the evening went to Escallos en Lima  
with Major Balnearia and returned -  
7<sup>th</sup> took charge of sick for Castello Branco,  
dined with Baker 10<sup>th</sup> and returned to  
Escallos en Lima. 8<sup>th</sup> through  
St. Miguel joined the Regt. one league beyond  
at a small village called Aldea -  
9<sup>th</sup> leaving Penamacor on the right halted  
near a small village Benquerencia. 10<sup>th</sup> halted  
at this village the 79<sup>th</sup> remained and from its  
unhealthy situation were reduced greatly  
by sickness. 11<sup>th</sup> to Castilheiros 1 L. here  
the regt. halted for some time, went to Carial  
St. Estava and Sotelha - 20<sup>th</sup> the Division  
marched to Sabugal 2 L. 29<sup>th</sup> to Ravina 2 L.  
31 to Soita through Naba 2 L. Sep. 1<sup>st</sup>  
passed Alfaiates and Aldea de fronte to  
Milhada de Loida 3 1/2 L. 8<sup>th</sup> Gen. Drummond  
of our Regt. died.

1811.

6  
Sept. 23<sup>d</sup> - Marched through Nas'daves  
and encamped one mile beyond in a  
wood - our baggage sent to the rear over  
the Coa. we understood Marmont was  
advancing in great force to throw supplies  
into Ciudad Rodrigo. 23<sup>th</sup> - Capt. L. Mesurier  
and 80 volunteers joined 26<sup>th</sup> at 11 A.M. -  
marched to the rear of Nas'daves 1 League and  
encamped - 27<sup>th</sup> at 4 A.M. marched to  
Bismula. since the 23<sup>d</sup> we have been  
continually on the alert at 1/2 past 9 P.M.  
we were roused by a sudden order to march,  
marched all night, halted at day break  
at Runda 1 League from Sabugal. this  
was to have been our position, had the  
enemy advanced, our Division the left of  
the Army flanked by the Coa. had another  
20<sup>th</sup> marched at Day-break - the Division halted  
and General orders issued by Gen Graham, who  
complimented the troops on their conduct and  
informing them that the enemy had abandoned  
their idea of attack, and had retreated,  
and that we were to be sent into  
Cantonments, crossed the Coa at Rapula  
de Coa, encamped near Gasa, 3 L; our  
baggage joined -



Guarda is built on one of the Estrelas mountains the Mondego takes its rise near this. Guarda is surrounded with a stone wall and has an old castle

1811

7  
Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> Marched through Sobralde  
Sera to Barasal 5 L. October 1<sup>st</sup> The Regt.  
moved to Minhocal with Gen<sup>l</sup> Stopford  
one mile. 8<sup>th</sup> The Regt. went with Buxton  
to Francosa a large town in a most  
hilly country - from its walls you can  
see Guarda, Pluhel & Almeida 16<sup>th</sup>  
went to Guarda with Buxton 3 L. an  
ancient & fine city the view is very grand  
it is supposed to be built on higher  
ground than any city in Europe. The  
road up the mountain is very steep  
but well made. November 3<sup>rd</sup> The  
Regt. received orders to march to Guarda  
had no sooner left the town when we  
received counter orders and returned.  
Heard that Count Dorsenne had relieved  
Luidad Rodrigo by forced marches; heard  
of Gen<sup>l</sup> Hill's affair of Arago de Molinos  
24<sup>th</sup> The Brigade received a report not well  
understood the Regt. did not march till  
4 P.M. ordered to remain with the sick  
of the Regiment in its cantonment  
25<sup>th</sup> Removed my sick to Barasal where  
myself and Cap<sup>t</sup> Leffer remained in a mess

1811

December 14<sup>th</sup> Duping arrived from the Regt. on his way to Lisbon brought me 20 Dollars. and a letter from Brumby with orders to leave my waist case at the General Hospital Lelico - 15<sup>th</sup> Capt. Tudor arrived - 17<sup>th</sup> Tudor and Pell went to the rear, sent my sick to Lelico by Divisional Order.

18<sup>th</sup> Marched with Convalescents to Souras - 19<sup>th</sup> 3 Leagues. 19<sup>th</sup> to Dinhel 12: a large City with good Plaza and many excellent houses belonging to nobility - the Bishops Palace is a very handsome modern building the country round is mountainous and barren - the river Dinhel falls into the Douro. 20<sup>th</sup> Marched Dinhel 15: to Val Verde 28: a village nearly destroyed - 21<sup>st</sup> crossed the Coa at Ponte de Almada which was repaired. visited Almada, saw the water in forward rap, passed on by Val de Mulo, Fort Conception 15: which Lord W: destroyed on the advance of the enemy. thence Aldea de Bispo to Barbada de Passico 15: where I rejoined the Regt.

25<sup>th</sup> Mas-day the officers dined together.

31<sup>st</sup> ordered to Vermosa to attend the sick of the 26<sup>th</sup>. 79<sup>th</sup> Regt. arrived at O. P. M. Countee - ordered dined and returned to Barbada Pass.



A small rivulet divides Spain  
from Portugal close to which is  
San. Concepcion now in ruins -  
The Coa appears the natural  
boundary of the Countries, but King  
D. Joze awarded to Portugal this tract  
called Tabas de Coa.

1812.

Wyldes 9

Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> Dined with Cap<sup>t</sup>. Lepper. 2<sup>nd</sup> went  
to San. Felices crossed the Aguada by  
the bridge of Barba de Duro the pass  
the Garrison of Almeida took. the descent  
to the river on both banks is very great  
and quite impassable for any kind of  
carriage. 4<sup>th</sup> a sudden rout to Val de  
Mula. bad quarters. 5<sup>th</sup> went to Almeida  
bought a cloak. returned by Val de Mula  
Almeida to Barquilha. 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Halted.  
8<sup>th</sup> marched to Gallegos, understood we were  
immediately to commence the siege of  
Ciudad. Rodrigo. this night the Light  
Division took by storm a small fort  
commanding the city. a severe firing from  
the Garrison all night. 9<sup>th</sup> at 1/2 before  
6. M. the Brigade marched for Ciudad Rodrigo  
passed the Aguada over a well constructed  
wooden bridge built by the Royal Staff  
Corps. our Brigade was not in the trenches  
but guarded the Salamanca road, this  
night we lay out without any  
cover and suffered severely from the  
cold which was equal to any thing I  
ever felt in England.

1812 January

10.

The Siege of Ciudad Rodrigo was  
carried on by the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Light  
Divisions. I was not ordered to the works  
any more but directed to take charge of  
the Hospitals at Gallyos during the  
progress of the affair I frequently rode  
to a height which commanded a view  
of the whole - on the 12<sup>th</sup> the battery  
train passed - on the 19<sup>th</sup> two breaches  
being practicable the city was carried  
by assault - in the storming Gen<sup>l</sup> Crawford  
was mortally wounded and Gen<sup>l</sup>  
Mathison blown up - 20<sup>th</sup> I was  
ordered with sick to G. H. Castanhera<sup>28</sup>  
halted late this night at Villa Somosierra<sup>28</sup>  
my servants did not join me till the  
morn<sup>g</sup> having lost their way. 21<sup>st</sup> by  
Castilla Bona to Castilla Munda 2<sup>d</sup> L -  
this took me the whole day the pass  
being very difficult for the Spanish  
Waggons. I procured good quarters for  
myself and convey 22<sup>nd</sup> to Castanhera  
2<sup>d</sup> L. Here I delivered up my charge, having  
an order from Mr Bolton not to be  
detained much to the annoyance of  
Stobinson Insile -



1812. January -

11

at Castinhera Idem with Lt. Manners  
9<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Returned to Castell Mendon  
24<sup>th</sup> crossed the ford under the town to  
Frenada, this is a good passage of the  
Loa in fine weather. joined my Regt.  
at Villa Tomosa. the town was occupied  
by our Regt and Marshal Beresford and  
his Staff; 25<sup>th</sup> we had orders to be in  
readiness to move at a moments notice,  
in a day or two these orders were counter-  
manded. Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> I went to Alameda 2 L;  
9<sup>th</sup> The Regt. received orders to march by land  
to Sardoal near Alcantara. 10<sup>th</sup> The Regt. marched  
for Aldea de Ponte, just as we were marching  
off Capt. Strawbridge burst a blood vessel  
and I remained behind with him. I went  
to Frenada. 12<sup>th</sup> Started with Capt. Strawbridge  
for Dinkel. crossed the loa at Bridge of Alameda  
where Gen. Crauford's affair took place. halted  
that night at Pueru. 4 L. 13<sup>th</sup> to Dinkel  
1 L. here I met Burroughs who was doing  
Hospital duty. went to his quarters where  
we were very snug. and had much  
amusement with our Nation and  
his Family.

1012 13<sup>th</sup> February

12

This same evening the bleeding from the lungs returned and Straubenzee died - 14<sup>th</sup> I buried Straubenzee in the Convent Yard.

17<sup>th</sup> I left Michel with Straubenzee's baggage to join my Regt - halted that night at Barasal 4 L. 18<sup>th</sup> I arrived at Leirico and dined with Lewis 19<sup>th</sup> to Thavais 23 L. on the left of the high road, as I understood St. Sampayo was occupied by the 11<sup>th</sup> Regt - 20<sup>th</sup>

To Duhancos 2 1/2 L. 21<sup>st</sup> to Sampayo de Gumanos 3 L. this village is on the right of the road, one mile from Olevaria de Hospital - 22<sup>nd</sup> through Galozes where I drew rations, then to Salco to Cavagozela a small village on the right of the high road but little visited by troops and most things in statu quo near Coimbra and As Paris. 23<sup>rd</sup> through Moita, St. Martinha e Sobria to Musalato 3 L. passed

this day the 11<sup>th</sup> Regt. on their route to Coimbra. 24<sup>th</sup> To Fos d'Bronce 3 L. 1/2. from Musalato crossed the Alva at Ponte de Muscella which was repaired passed St. Miguel and before entering Fos d'Bronce crossed the Licia the bridge of which is also repaired this was the spot where the enemy suffered so much in the retreat last Spring



1812. February -

13

From Moita to Dos Arroyos there is another road by Bombena and the bridge of Val de Espirito last frequented by troops - 25<sup>th</sup> - passed the ground where the action took place in March last. through Corvo to Espinhal S. E. - the last day or two was bad weather, I therefore halted on the 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> through Venda de Siguas to Qualar 28. this is situated 1/2 mile on the left of the high road - 28<sup>th</sup> through Cabacos 28. to Varille total 38. this is on the Serra Road to Thomar - the other road passed Coas on 29<sup>th</sup> through Venda de Serra to Thomar, two long leagues. to St. Esteta 38. this village has a large Monastery is situated on the Abrantes road just after the division of the Goleira road to Thomar. March 1<sup>st</sup> crossed the Zuzueiro do boat ~~the Pontoon bridge~~ ~~completed~~ through Penhete and leaving the hill of Abrantes on the right passed up the valley to Sardoal 41/2 S. this is a very good town situated in a mountainous country having but one road to it passable for cars by Abrantes - the enemy occupied it but a few hours so it suffered but little.

1812

14

March 2<sup>nd</sup> To Abrantes breakfasted with  
 Capt<sup>l</sup> Moacham 2<sup>nd</sup> Com<sup>dr</sup> and rejoined  
 my Reg<sup>t</sup> at Pegu 2<sup>d</sup>: found Wythe was  
 united to the 5<sup>th</sup> Dragoon Guards during our  
 stay here we lived well. 17<sup>th</sup> The Reg<sup>t</sup> moved  
 to Gavião. 18<sup>th</sup> to Toloza 4<sup>d</sup>: this is 1/2<sup>d</sup>.  
 West of Gaffete 19<sup>th</sup> through Flor de Rosa  
 Crato to Alter de Chão 20<sup>th</sup> by Sabacos de  
 Vidua to Veiros 4<sup>d</sup>: we found on our arrival  
 that the Brigada had moved, the whole of  
 these towns, from Gaffete, were very good,  
 extremely clean, differing much from the  
 Province of Beira. we remained for orders.  
 22<sup>nd</sup> The Reg<sup>t</sup> received a route to S. Martha. 23<sup>rd</sup>  
 we marched to Barbacina 3<sup>d</sup>. 24<sup>th</sup> to Ploas 2<sup>d</sup>.  
 the bridge of the Guadiana being carried away  
 it was impossible to pass to Martha, the  
 Reg<sup>t</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> a route to Campo Mayor to cross the  
 Guadiana at Merida. I was directed to remain  
 and do duty at S. Clara Hospital. 25<sup>th</sup>  
 The Reg<sup>t</sup> marched for Campo Mayor, this morn<sup>g</sup>  
 the Batteries opened against Badajoz. 27<sup>th</sup>  
 heard of the death of Cap<sup>t</sup> Wythe 27<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>.  
 April 5<sup>th</sup> at 3 P.M. Received orders to proceed to  
 the camp in front of Badajoz the assault  
 being expected this night.



1812. ~~March~~ April 15  
Crossed the Guadiana by a Pontoon Bridge  
and arrived at Camp late at night with  
Staff Surgeon Burnall. 6<sup>th</sup> early in the morn  
reported myself to S<sup>r</sup> Major, & received orders  
to attach myself to Mr Blunhall and take  
the advance with the Light & 4<sup>th</sup> Division; at  
10 P.M. the attack began, most tremendous  
firing, the two divisions after a most severe  
affair were repulsed, but the castle was  
taken by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division, at 3 A.M. the town  
was ours, at 5 A.M. I entered the ditch and  
breach a most awful sight, all the day we  
were employed in removing the wounded,  
Thursday I had my horse and kit stolen.  
I was directed to remain in Badajoz in  
charge of wounded. The city was pillaged  
to a great extent. even the persons of the  
inhabitants were not respected. I remained  
doing duty at the Convent of S<sup>t</sup> Andre.  
10<sup>th</sup> left Badajoz for Elvas obliged to make  
a detour by Campo Mayor on account of  
the River, which was much swollen.  
19<sup>th</sup> Halted at Elvas. 20<sup>th</sup> Proceeded to join  
my reg<sup>t</sup>. Marched to St. Clara 2 L. this morn  
I visited Gov<sup>t</sup> Lelippe. 21<sup>st</sup> A Jesumar  
3 L. here I had my horse & mules shoes removed  
both of whom had been pricked.

1812

16

April 22 to Portalegre 3 L: 23<sup>rd</sup> to Alpalhao  
 3 L: 24<sup>th</sup> to Niza 2 L: 25 to Gavios 3 a  
 watched village in a league beyond Villa Velha  
 on the left of the road - this day joined Barker  
 40<sup>th</sup> on the rout - stole a sack of corn.  
 26<sup>th</sup> through Sarnadas to Beinguereño 3 L:  
 27<sup>th</sup> to Castello Branco 2 L: understanding the  
 Army were on their return. Marmont having  
 retreated, made up my mind to go no further,  
 so took up my quarters with Barker at  
 a real Quinta de Jepsa half a mile from  
 the city, here ourselves and horses were  
 really in clover. 29<sup>th</sup> the Reg<sup>t</sup> marched through  
 to a village one mile on the Villa Velha  
 road. 30<sup>th</sup> rejoined the reg<sup>t</sup> at Lebolais en  
 Lima 2 L: May 1<sup>st</sup> to Niza 5 L: 2<sup>nd</sup> to  
 Alpalhao 2 L: received an order to march  
 to Abrantes for our clothing 12<sup>th</sup> to Gavios  
 5 L: 13<sup>th</sup> ~~to Gavios~~ to St. Miguel one league  
 beyond Abrantes south of the Tagus. 14<sup>th</sup>  
 through Abrantes to Dumbre, here we used  
 our clothing - 19<sup>th</sup> to Abrantes. 20<sup>th</sup> Gavios  
 21<sup>st</sup> Gaffete found the Brigade had marched  
 22<sup>nd</sup> to Alpalhao understood the Brigade had  
 not proceeded further than Castello de Vida.



1812

17

May 26<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>o</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> a route of Castle de  
Vida, situated in a small village  
half a league beyond, Escosa. 2<sup>nd</sup> L =  
Castle de Vida is an ancient good town  
and was formerly very strong. Surrounded  
by walls and a ditch and mounted cannon,  
but as present cannot be defended, against  
regular attacks. 2<sup>nd</sup> went to Marvão  
3<sup>rd</sup> L = this is naturally the strongest  
place I ever saw. the ascent to it  
is very great even by its road, more  
than three parts of the sides are  
direct precipices, it is regularly  
fortified and garrisoned - 28<sup>th</sup> we  
returned to Alpalhão - 31<sup>st</sup> to Moza  
2<sup>d</sup> L = June 1<sup>st</sup> crossed the Tagus to  
Cobalães em Barão 5<sup>th</sup> L = 2<sup>nd</sup> Castle Branco  
3<sup>rd</sup> the' Ladoizã to Solleira 4<sup>th</sup> L =  
4<sup>th</sup> the' Altalaya to Caspinheira 4<sup>th</sup> L =  
5<sup>th</sup> to Valverde 2<sup>d</sup> L = passed within sight of  
the large town of Loulhaõ - 6<sup>th</sup> the' Castelleiros  
Aguas Bellas to Lumbal de Espinalis  
3<sup>d</sup> L = 7 crossed the Coa near Punda  
where the whole Division encamped -

1812

18

June 8<sup>th</sup> this Rovina, Bismuela  
 to Cavalado 2/3 of Hallid. 10<sup>th</sup> this Aldea  
 de Rubio where we crossed the Rio Mayor  
 a branch of the Coa - by Almadilla to  
 Puebla Azava, in this days march we  
 crossed the line dividing Spain and  
 Portugal 1/2 L. 11<sup>th</sup> this Elbadon where  
 the action of Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> last was fought -  
 encamped on the Aguada two miles  
 in front of Pastores, half a league on  
 the right of Ciudad Rodrigo - 13<sup>th</sup> -  
 Forged the Aguada and encamped near  
 Tenebron 2 L. 14<sup>th</sup> by Muros Verdes and  
 encamped 1/2 L. beyond Tamames 2 L.  
 15<sup>th</sup> encamped near Villa Alva 2 L.  
 16<sup>th</sup> encamped half a league from Salamanca  
 1/2 L. 17<sup>th</sup> Marched at 5 A.M. at 6 A.M. came  
 in sight of the city of Salamanca, a fine  
 appearance was produced by the enemy  
 setting fire to a number of houses that  
 covered our approaches to their Forts.  
 we fired the Tomines 1 mile above the city,  
 at St. Martha the enemy had retired leaving  
 a garrison in the Forts.



Every Spanish Town of any consequence  
has its Plaza Mayor forming a  
square of more or less extent.  
This is certainly one of the finest  
& largest - there is usually as here  
a covered piazza leading to the  
principal shops ~~off~~ <sup>off</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~side~~ <sup>side</sup> &  
the front of this Piazza has numerous  
arches supporting three stories, each  
having a balcony - and surmounted by  
a balustrade that hides the roof  
a rare occurrence in Spain when  
generally the rough roof is seen  
over each column supporting the  
arches are medallions of different  
kinds. &

1812 June

14

I went to the city greatly pleased  
with the beauty of its buildings which  
are of stone. The Churches are beautiful  
specimens of the richest Architecture.  
The Grand Square is the handsomest I  
ever saw. 20<sup>th</sup> we received news that  
Marmont was advancing in order to  
raise the siege of the Ports which had  
commenced, the 6<sup>th</sup> Division being  
quartered in the city for the purpose of  
carrying it on - we marched to the  
point and took up a position beyond  
from the city - some cannonading, we  
all expected to be engaged - the lines  
were formed and the troops slept by  
their arms - 21<sup>st</sup> we remained in the same  
situation expecting every hour an action  
22<sup>nd</sup> The Enemy having possession of a  
<sup>height</sup> ~~height~~ on our right they were attacked  
and driven off by the 7<sup>th</sup> Division -  
23<sup>rd</sup> the Enemy retreated last night  
from our front and in the day we  
returned to our old ~~positions~~ <sup>positions</sup> & my ground  
near the Torrens

1812

20

June 25<sup>th</sup> reported that the enemy had crossed the Tormes higher up, we forded at St. Martha. marched and counter-marched all day. but the enemy not advancing we returned to our old station and again forded the river. This night the Fort was assaulted. but after a severe attack the Storming Party were repulsed Gen<sup>l</sup> Bowes was killed. 26<sup>th</sup> in the Even<sup>g</sup>. the Convent in the Fort was on fire by red hot shot. 27<sup>th</sup> the Convent was completely on fire. at noon it was assaulted and immediately surrendered 600 prisoners marched out and 150 were in the Hospitals. our loss was at least 300. 29<sup>th</sup> marched and encamped near Orvidas A.L. on the Toro Road - 30<sup>th</sup> to Sarrizal 2 L. July 1<sup>st</sup> passed Alaijos and encamped one league beyond 3 L. This day I found my pony in the 4<sup>th</sup> Division - 2<sup>nd</sup> Div<sup>ion</sup>. This Villa Verde encamped near Madena de Campo 2 L. This is a large town built wholly with piazzas, it has the remains of an old castle, and an



1812 July.

21

excellent Barrack which the French had destroyed. 4<sup>th</sup> moved to the Valladolid side of the city during our stay here the inhabitants visited us every even<sup>g</sup> and gave balls &c. 12<sup>th</sup> marched by a sudden rout at 4 P.M. to Villa Verde. the weather was now very hot. the hoops were placed in the day time in the Towns but at night we bivouac'd. 14<sup>th</sup> To Campillo 1 L. marched at night for a league to our bivouac 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 P.M. returned to Campillo for the day and in the even<sup>g</sup> as before. Marched to our bivouac on our arrival we received a rout to Nava del Rio 1 L. quite dark at the time we arrived at our ground near the town - 16<sup>th</sup> in the Morn we were marched into the town it was very full having Head Quarters & the 5<sup>th</sup> Division. in the Even<sup>g</sup> as usual marched out - we had no sooner arrived at the place of encampment than we rec<sup>d</sup> orders to march to Carrizal - we commenced our march at 9 P.M. and did not arrive at our old encampment

1812 July.

near Carnizal till 10 a.m. on the 17<sup>th</sup> 92  
having marched all night without a halt.  
on our rout we passed Alajos - S. E.

Nava del Rio is a very excellent town with  
many handsome wide streets and seems  
to possess wealthy inhabitants. The cause  
of this sudden and long march we  
understood to be Warrmont's having  
passed the Duero, and advancing towards  
Salamanca. 18<sup>th</sup> in the forenoon a  
heavy cannonading in front; at noon we  
were marched one league to the rear, and  
at 4 P.M. received orders to return by a  
circuitous rout to Carnizal; in the  
Even the firing was renewed.

19<sup>th</sup> at 2 P.M. we were marched to a  
plain on our right S. E. the whole  
Army was united, the enemy was  
at a short distance only, and all  
expected a general action in the  
Morn - 20<sup>th</sup> a fine morn. the Division  
formed in lines, and advanced. soon  
we perceived the French Army marching  
on a ridge of hills on our right, and  
orders were given to retreat.



1812. July -

23

An allowance of Spirit had in the  
Morn been given to each soldier and  
as there was no water near our  
bivouac they drank it raw, the con-  
sequence was the whole Brigade was  
nearly drunk - we marched in Columns  
of Brigades to Val Verde Lk. to the  
River. Passed on our march Hornillos  
As we had a complete Steppe march  
it proved very tiresome and laborious,  
the whole Army halted near this  
village. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3 AM we marched passed  
the villages that the enemy occupied & missed,  
during the time he was in our front  
and we covering the steps of the Fort of  
Salamanca & halted on our old ground  
on the Tormes near Salamanca - at  
6 P. M. we forded the Tormes at P.  
Nactha - we had perceived the enemy  
crossing in the Morn higher up - it was  
the general opinion that we were  
now on full retreat for Ciudad Rodrigo  
as we understood the Hospital Stores  
had been ordered from Salamanca  
backwards, as well as the civil  
Departments of the Army -

1812 July -

24

We were rather surprised on being ordered to bring up our right shoulders and after marching a short distance in this direction we took up our ground for bivouac. Shortly after halting a most tremendous storm of thunder lightning rain and wind took place the claps of thunder were so near and loud that it frightened the cavalry & artillery horses and numbers broke loose ~~amongst~~ amongst the infantry the flashes of lightning were so vivid as to deprive every one of their sight for some seconds. The storm subsided and never did a more glorious morn usher in a more glorious day, than the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July. The whole morning the enemy attempted still to turn our right, threatening our communications, at 4 P.M. the action commenced by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division under General Dackenham attacking the left of the enemy - before sun set every Frenchman was in full retreat - as the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Light Divisions were on the left of the storm they were not engaged. I had therefore an opportunity of seeing the action, but myself and



throughout by the worst possible

**OLD LEATHER BREECHES.**

Rattling apostate, parasite, what art thou?  
Mussulman, Hebrew, Protestant, or Papist,  
Royalist, Roundhead, Radical, or Tory,  
Old Leather Breeches?

Oft hast thou chang'd in politics thy party,  
And could't as easily change thy religion;  
But thou hast never, it is stated, chang'd thy  
Old Leather Breeches.

Tell me for how much thou did'st sell thy conscience?  
Was it not promis'd thou should't have a Peerage?  
Now thou art laugh'd at, for what wilt thou sell thy  
Old Leather Breeches?

Is there no borough sufficiently rotten?  
Are there no voters vile enough to choose thee?  
Is there no seat so dirty as to suit thy  
Old Leather Breeches?

Thy county gave thee a proud seat of honor,  
But by thy party thou art justly kick'd out;  
Thy seat of honor is now only in thy  
Old Leather Breeches.

Live then degraded, for all parties shun thee,  
Whigs will not trust, and honest Tories hate thee,  
Wishing they never may again behold thy  
Old Leather Breeches.

Age.

CON-

... would be the first to lament an act so contrary to their own wishes.

"I am compelled, therefore, Gentlemen, to yield to circumstances, and to declare that I most unwillingly feel myself obliged to decline your flattering invitation. I beg to add, that no personal inconvenience has induced me to come to this resolution, and that if my services should be considered hereafter as tending in any way to promote the interests and prosperity of the city of Dublin, you may freely command them."

Loud cries of "No, no," and expressions of regret followed the reading of this document.

Mr. Latouche, Mr. Crosthwaite, Mr. Vance, and other Gentlemen, urged Mr. Dawson to withdraw his refusal to be nominated, until it could be ascertained what was the number of unpledged voters.

Alderman ABBOTT said, that he was certain of Mr. Dawson's return, and proposed that a Committee should be appointed to carry his election.

Mr. LATOUCHE seconded the resolution.

A Gentleman suggested that it should be ascertained whether Mr. Dawson would allow himself to be put in nomination.

Before the...



1012 July

25

My friend Bunnings had nearly paid  
dear for our curiosity - we commenced  
the Pursuit immediately, halted at 10<sup>th</sup>  
at Calboas in barho L. 23<sup>d</sup> we marched  
at Daybreak forded the River - the heavy  
brigade of German Horse in our front at  
10 A.M. the Dragoons overtook and charged  
the rear-guard of the enemy in a most  
gallant manner near Lora and made  
many prisoners - we halted near Lora  
L. from Salamanca. in the action  
of Salamanca and this Days retreat  
the enemy were supposed to lose  
22,000 men and their General in  
Chief Wagram badly wounded as  
well as the second in command.

24<sup>th</sup> we marched to Zamora L. a  
large well built town the people  
testified the greatest joy at our arrival  
and described the terror of the flying  
enemy to be great, and the disorder of  
their army immense. On this days  
March Lord W. publicly addressed  
Gen<sup>l</sup> Campbell - Baron Low - and  
Gen<sup>l</sup> Wootley on the immense straggling  
of the Potatoes of the Division -

1812 July

26

25<sup>th</sup> we halted to day for the purpose of collecting the stragglers as expressed in General Orders. 26<sup>th</sup> through Flores de Avilla to Cabeza del Raza L.L. we passed many dead French on the road. 27<sup>th</sup> through Fuente de Anna. Villavieva aldea Secu to Brevola L.L. a large town situated on the river Adaja which bifurcates and surrounds it. 28<sup>th</sup> to Puente de Raunel 3L. 29<sup>th</sup> crossed the Adaja at Puente de Raunel near Almado (to which I rode and the visited my old Landlord a priest). Crossed the River Presma by the bridge of Mediana to Hojados encamped 1/2 L. beyond Hojados on the River Gija L.L. 30<sup>th</sup> forded the Gija passed Guercillo and encamped near the Puerto the rear guard of the enemy passed this morn our dragoons occupied Valladob. L.L. from where we halted. 31<sup>st</sup> Halted. August 1<sup>st</sup> marched on the Segovia Road passed Aldea Mayor to Arzobispado de Portillo a village situated under the immense rock on which Portillo stands



1812 August

27

2<sup>nd</sup> Marched in the even and encamped  
near Cogeces 1<sup>st</sup>: did not arrive before  
11 o'clock P.M.: our encampment was on  
the Ceja 6<sup>th</sup> to Remondo on the Pison  
1<sup>st</sup>: L. went to Iscar 7<sup>th</sup> to Mediana  
3<sup>rd</sup>: L. encamped on the Pison 1/2 beyond  
the village - 8<sup>th</sup> thro' Carbinero 1<sup>st</sup>:  
Vargas 1<sup>st</sup>: to Los Huertos 3<sup>rd</sup>: L. encamped  
on the Elisma - 9<sup>th</sup> thro' Malverde 1<sup>st</sup>:  
Madrona 1<sup>st</sup>: L. encamped in the woods of  
the Palace of Rio Frio 3<sup>rd</sup>: rode to  
Segovia 2<sup>nd</sup>: saw the Cathedral, very  
fine, the castle a very singular  
building - they show the room supposed  
to be occupied by Gil Blas - King  
Joseph left this 8 Days past for Madrid  
they spiked 800 pieces of Artillery and  
destroyed some cars they could not  
remove - 10<sup>th</sup> thro' La Loza - Ortigosa  
the village where I halted where  
marched prisoners from Madrid on  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> Day - some of the inhabitants  
mentioned the circumstance of the  
wretchedness of the situation we  
were in.

August - 1812

encamped near Ottero 2 L: 11<sup>th</sup> entered the  
high road from Segovia to Madrid passed  
Fundao de S<sup>t</sup>. Basilio crossed the pass of the  
Guardaramma and halted near the village  
of Guardaramma - 4<sup>th</sup> L: 12 the Division  
halted, went to the Escorial - a most grand  
and extensive building consisting of a  
Palace - Monastery & Church. The latter  
contains a most beautiful Pantheon the  
burial place of the Kings of Spain is entirely  
of polished Marble. The paintings in the  
Church are very fine, and those of the  
grand-stair case representing the battle of  
S<sup>t</sup>. Quintin, in honor of which this palace  
was built - the gardens and walks are  
pretty, a small banqueting house in the  
lower garden is very fine - The gates of  
Church are of real Bronze - This mag-  
nificent building is situated close under  
the Guardaramma Mountains, in a most  
bleak and dreary spot - from the rooms  
you have a view of Madrid: there are  
two villages that take their names from  
the palace (upper & lower) the former is  
one of the neatest and best built villages  
in Spain, built of stone -



1812

29

August 13<sup>th</sup> Marched from the camp at  
 Gua. Daramma thro' Galapagos halted  
 on the River Gua. Daramma By this days  
 march through the most barren country  
 I ever passed - 11<sup>th</sup> thro' Bogas (where the  
 Portuguese Cavalry behaved so ill a few  
 days previous, by which the 2<sup>d</sup> Battalion  
 lost three guns) to Madrid the Division  
 encamped in the gardens under the palace  
 called El Campo. These gardens are well  
 laid out having fine basins of water  
 small banqueting houses well furnished,  
 with beautiful paintings & went to  
 the City the French Garrison 2000 retired  
 from the Retiro to Fort La China and  
 in the Evening surrendered prisoners of  
 war - saw them march out with musket  
 fixed the Colonel and Adjutant at their  
 head - I visited and showed some of  
 my brother officers the dungeon I was  
 confined in - dined at an Estalaje and  
 went to the Theatre admittance to the  
 boxes one Shilling English - The Inhabitants  
 expressed the most unbounded joy &c.  
 our arrival the whole City was decorated  
 with tapestry and silks hung from the windows  
 and at night well illuminated, the women  
 appeared overjoyed saluting the officers  
 continually - Vivas resounded on all sides.

The Calle d'Alcala is a noble  
 street, has several magnificent  
 palaces & ornaments on both sides.  
 at its lower extremity the Prado  
 & its fountains are seen

The Palace of the Escorial is worthy  
 by its architecture & location, but  
 yet is on a considerable elevation.

The Figures of Philip 4 and  
 Charles 2. His Son as he  
 was born on in the Church.

Among the Palaces of the Escorial  
 there are said to be a great number  
 of the bones of the King & Queen

1812 August.

These expressions of joy continued for three days  
 visited the Museum of Natural History. it contains  
 besides the general specimens, a most extensive  
 collection from Spanish America and China,  
 a fine collection of the different Spanish  
 Minerals, a gallery of Statues and Paintings  
 but most copious a fine model of the Amphitheatre  
 of Saguntum. The city itself is  
 undoubtedly very fine indeed, well built  
 the streets wide, the houses grand and  
 lofty. the Public Buildings noble, the  
 Palace is very grand, supposed superior  
 to any thing of the kind as to its  
 commanding situation - the rooms are  
 most magnificent - the hall of audience  
 is unique. the city is well watered  
 and boasts of what few continental cities  
 possess canals, sewers, by which all filth and  
 dirt is removed. The Public Prado has  
 some fine fountains. The Day houses are  
 small and neat. There is a botanical  
 garden situated near the Prado.  
 on the 10<sup>th</sup> at 3 AM we marched and  
 encamped near the old ground on the  
 Guadaramma river. 3<sup>rd</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> to the  
 Palace of the Escorial. the whole of  
 the 1<sup>st</sup> Division were quartered in the  
 Palace - Genl Weatley died - of Typhus



The Mausoleum of the Spanish Royal Family in the Palace of the Escorial is most magnificent - on opening the Doors of this abode of death - the eye is really dazzled with the splendor of the Flambeaux from the polished Marble Slabs and walls of highly polished Jasper that lead to a rich bronze portal that opens to a circular Chamber about 35 feet in diameter. The Sarcophagi rich in every ornament are ranged in compact - rows on either side. nothing can surpass the splendour of this magnificent Saloon of Death. The Remains of the Queens & Infantes are placed in a separate Apartment near -

1812 August

31

30<sup>th</sup> we marched to Guadaramama 17 L.  
31<sup>st</sup> crossed the Pass of Guadaramama left the Sigüenza Road on our right at Puñados de St Raphael marched on the direct Valladolid road. passed Navas. Puente de Castin. to Villa Castin 5 L. 1<sup>st</sup> this Sabajo - Rio Botaya P. San Chiriquian to Danero 4 L. here we inclined to the left from the high road. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Espinosa to Revola 3 L. 3<sup>rd</sup> encamped from Revola 1 L. on the Adaja. 4<sup>th</sup> halted near Almado on the Adaja 4 L. 5<sup>th</sup> Marched thro Honillas encamped in a deep wood on the opposite bank of the Presma 6<sup>th</sup> crossed the Ceja by the bridge of Majados marched in the direction of Guicillo ~~passed~~ ~~forded~~ ~~forded~~ the Deuro under our old encampment advanced and found the enemy in a very strong position one league from the River - at 5 P.M. we were ordered into a wood on our left for the night expectations of a general action in the Morn. this days march was 4 L.  
7<sup>th</sup> In the night the enemy quitted their position and retired across the Disuerga at Valladolid distant in the bridge. encamped in a garden near the City - old Don Sebastian Ribas my former landlord, dead - Visited D. Casacion North College.

1812

32

Sept: 10<sup>th</sup> Fordeed the river half a L.  
 from Sabazon passed Segales halted  
 at Coicas <sup>2<sup>2</sup> L.</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> Passed Doenas encamped  
 on the bank of the canal opposite the  
 Convent of San Lidro 3 L. 12<sup>th</sup> followed  
 the course of the Canal to Villa Muriel 12  
 here we crossed the canal it appears finished  
 no farther than this, here we also crossed the  
 Cañon by a handsome bridge and the high  
 road to Valencia we were within sight of  
 the City which appeared large it is reckoned  
 on league from this village, we halted  
 at Nagat<sup>2<sup>2</sup> L.</sup> on Disunguá - & encamped bad  
 weather. 13<sup>th</sup> To Torquemada and encamped  
 2 L. this village appears quite as wretched as  
 when I last past it. 14<sup>th</sup> crossed the Disunguá  
 at Padavilla-real and encamped on the  
 Alencón near Quinta de Puente, very bad day.  
 2 L. a fine bridge is here over the Alencón  
 15 entered again the high road which we left  
 at Doenas marched to Villa Ordeigo 2 L. and  
 encamped - 16<sup>th</sup> to Damplyga 2 L. near this  
 the enemy had taken up a position very  
 strong - here the Spanish Army whose delay  
 in coming up had caused the late slow  
 movement made their appearance under  
 Gen. Castanos dispositions were made to  
 attack the enemy the following morning &



1812

33

September 17<sup>th</sup> our Brigade having the post of honor marched soon after midnight passed Villa Nueva and its position as soon as day appeared it was found the enemy had again retreated continued the pursuit immediately we passed Colada one league beyond which the enemy had taken a position but were soon obliged to leave it. Don Julian's Corps of Dragoons behaved well in sight of the whole Army skirmishing with the enemy we occupied the position the enemy had just left for the night 18<sup>th</sup> advanced towards Puyos halted p. l. from the enemy had retired beyond it leaving a garrison of 3000 men in the Castle. Lord W and Staff consulting the whole day reported in the opinion of the Engineers that the Castle cannot be carried by assault. 19<sup>th</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> Division and Dicks crossed the Andes. This even at 8 the light companies of the brigade and the 12<sup>th</sup> Regt. stormed the rock of San Michael which commanded the approaches to the castle and carried it. we commenced the works of the Siege of the Castle of Puyos, 20<sup>th</sup> October French joined. I was ordered to take charge of the Hospital at Villa Toro for receiving the wounded from the works here I continued the whole time, very severe duty - Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> B D

1812.

34

October 24<sup>th</sup> - My Reg<sup>t</sup>. stormed the out-ward works of the Castle of Burgos at 5 O'Clock in sight of every one they were much commended for their gallantry and for this affair Capt<sup>n</sup> Hodder with got his rank and Lieut<sup>ts</sup> Holmes and Fraser Companies - during the siege Lt. Walton of my Reg<sup>t</sup> was killed. Capt<sup>n</sup> & Coote wounded - the operations against the fort were continued till the 26<sup>th</sup> of the month in the morning of the 27<sup>th</sup> His Lordship's orders were issued in advance one league. My surprise was very great when in the evening at 10 o'clock I was directed to send off every man that could be moved and clear the village of the wounded officers a short time after Mr Hodges D. P. arrived and informed me of Lord W's orders that I was to remain in charge of the Hospital as the Army would retreat this night; D. McJuged called on me and informed me that Marquis Wellington assured me of promotion in consequence of my being ordered to remain in charge of the wounded.





1812 October

36

24<sup>th</sup> Having waited till 11 AM with the greatest impatience and no acct from Burgos I went to the City of L<sup>a</sup> waited on the Commandant de la Place he said he had no advice of my being there and hoped the Company would send for us this Even. he did not wish me to return to Villa Rica but I got last night a permission - he told me as Margens had detained the French Surgeons taken at Coimbra he supposed I should be sent to France. I returned to Villa Rica in bad spirits and bad health 25<sup>th</sup> No Cars have arrived, nor any communication with the City, no rations, purchased bread, Chocolate &c for the wounded 26<sup>th</sup> No Cars - in the Even I again went to Burgos. saw General Don Bourbon in the Street and immediately told him of my situation - he appeared much displeas'd that we had not been removed before, and assur'd me that this next Morn<sup>g</sup> it should be done. I call'd on Capt<sup>n</sup> Georges Lt<sup>nd</sup> James <sup>him</sup> 60 Dollars on his receipt.



1813 October

37

24<sup>th</sup> at 1/2 past 3 P.M. - some cars arrived but not sufficient to take off the whole of the Mice. They were to return again this Even. they had a strong escort of Cavalry and Infantry with them. The Intendant of the French Hospitals wished to borrow my horse, and appeared greatly enraged at my refusing him - he wished me to proceed immediately to Burgos, but that I would not do as all my men were not gone. 25<sup>th</sup> In the Morn I again went to Burgos to report I had still four or five men to remove the Comandant told me the cars would be off immediately for them - he desired me to call in the Queen to sign my parole as Prisoner of War, this was a death blow to me, I went immediately to Capt. Minnie's 22<sup>nd</sup> to ask his advice as to escaping. He advised me not as my health was so bad he conceived I could not go through the fatigue - some officers of the German Legion were of a contrary opinion -

October - 1812

38

Having the cars ready to start I had no time to lose. I bought a bottle of Brandy and two pounds of meat and left the city for Villa Tera - the bay of the guard wished to detain me but I showed him my passport of the 25<sup>th</sup> and he let me go. Immediately on my returning I got my horse and mule ready and now seeing the cars and convoy near the village I took a good dose of Brandy and started with my bay on the mule at a gallop. A German soldier however came with me and my coats, but falling in with a French officer I was obliged to leave them behind and make the best of my way, having passed a small river and a long flat of plow'd land I came in sight of a village at the foot of some high mountains. I crossed the plain about 2 leagues and arrived at the village of Ubierna the peasants told me I was <sup>now</sup> three leagues from Burgos, and that they did not think the French would follow me as far as the mountains. I ascended the mountains, a straight steep road, at the top I halted, and



1712. October

39

was greatly astonished to see the  
Enemy's Cavalry in the village I had  
just left they were about an English  
mile behind me, I immediately struck  
off the high road and took to the  
mountains and judging as well as  
possible my safest direction, I continued  
amongst them till dark when I found  
myself near a village <sup>Massé</sup>. I went to it  
having learnt by an inhabitant that  
no French were there. The priest gave  
me a good supper, I procured forage for  
my beasts, and having rested till 12 o'clock  
the moon being up, I proceeded on my  
route, according to the priest's direction,  
I had left the high road near two  
leagues on the left, I continued the  
march about day light I discovered  
the high road, but not choosing to risk  
travelling on it I still kept to the left  
till 2 o'clock, having continually a view  
of many things that passed, at noon I  
entered the road half a league from  
Basconsillias here I halted and  
procured some dried mutton, and corn  
for my cattle - not however

1612 October

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liking much the manners of my  
host I again started and by 5 P. M.  
on the 29<sup>th</sup> I arrived at Aguillan de  
Campo. here I found some Spanish  
Troops & procured a good billet. The  
country from Bayos to Ubirona is flat  
abounding in corn. the whole way to  
Aguillan is very barren of wood. near  
Aguillan the mountains are lofty they  
have much pasture and breed large  
herds of cattle - it is a good city, near  
the River Disuerga which is here but  
small, it is 16 leagues from Bayos.  
30. To Reynosa a Page town 5 long leagues  
the whole road is paved. the country is  
mountainous and woody having little  
w<sup>o</sup> corn, some small quantity of the  
Indian corn is planted in the grounds  
near the villages - it appeared very populous  
and by the number of cars I met on the  
days journey appears to have some trade,  
being destitute of corn or wine they  
must of course receive their supplies  
from other parts of the country - the  
country seemed tolerably stocked with  
cattle - passed the R. Rio here a small stream



1812 October

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At Reynosa I took coffee with the Spanish  
General Renovales. It is a most  
romantic and mountainous country  
to Barcena 3 Long Leagues here I halted  
and enjoyed the luxury of a Spanish  
Posada, the food and drink of which  
~~was~~ would not be credited by English.  
November the 1<sup>st</sup> through a country nearly  
the same as what I travelled yesterday  
but rather better towards the end to  
Torre Leveja 5 L. Leagues, here ~~is~~  
great quantities of Indian Corn grown  
the country is well stocked with cattle  
2<sup>nd</sup> To St. Andres 6 L. Leagues. the  
whole road from Aguillar is paved. near  
Torre Leveja the prospect is rather open  
but you have to pass some high mountains  
La Puente de Arce is fine large bridge,  
2 Leagues from St. Andres, you come in  
sight of the sea on the top of a high  
hill 1/2 L. from the city, but you may  
hear it long before - as I approached  
I discovered some British Gun of War  
at length - overtook some English sailors  
who informed me Sir John Popham

1819 November

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was in the City I made the best of my way to Sr. H's quarters and having put him in possession of the whole of the facts I was acquainted with relative to raising the siege. I asked him for a passage to England - he immediately consented. I told him my horse & Mule for 25 Pounds. Sr. H. introduced me to Capt. Seymour of the Fortunate Frigate of whom I requested a passage for me. Capt. Seymour informed me he should not sail before the morn. I dined with the Royal Marine M<sup>rs</sup> -  
St. Andrew is a pretty good sea port town has a good market. The Posada was very fair. 3<sup>rd</sup> by Day break I embarked on board the Fortunate and at 2 P<sup>m</sup> we sailed in chase of a schooner which the next day we lost. after a pleasant passage we anchored on the 6<sup>th</sup> at 9 P<sup>m</sup>. my second Physician the 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 P<sup>m</sup>. landed went to the Capes Head at 11 A<sup>m</sup>. started with my boy in the Coach for Exeter arrived there at 6 P<sup>m</sup>. at 7 P<sup>m</sup> taken ill



10th 2. November -

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10<sup>th</sup> Started in the Mail for Bath in violent pain the whole way arrived at Bath at 4 P.M. found my Mother was in London - went to Haverly - sent after Sloper went to the warm Bath. Next morn not being able to proceed reported myself to the Adjutant General

13<sup>th</sup> the Adjutant Gen. apply - 14<sup>th</sup> left Bath for Trow - arrived late on the 15<sup>th</sup> as not to be able to call at Adj. Gen. Office

16<sup>th</sup> waited on the Adj. Gen. and was by him sent to Lord Bathurst Secretary of State, to whom I related what I knew of the retreat - Marquis W. - 3 dispatches were rec<sup>d</sup> this day.

21<sup>st</sup> Got sick leave till 26<sup>th</sup> December -  
Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> went to Maldon  
27<sup>th</sup> went to Bath put up at the White Lion.

Dec 24<sup>th</sup> Issued the Depot at Maldon Essex, four companies of the Regt having been ordered from Portugal - Colonel Chamberlain Commanded.

1813

The Barracks at Maldon goods  
received a good deal of attention  
from Mr. Sapping & by the  
Rt. Hon. Matthews &c.

Memorised for promotion, this  
the Commanding Officer - the Duke  
of York, this Memorial being  
referred to the Medical Board  
I received a very satisfactory  
order. I had previously sent  
a letter to ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~Director~~ <sup>Director</sup> General of Hospitals  
in Portugal and reminding him  
of the promise of promotion  
that I had received from  
the Major Wellington.

March 14<sup>th</sup> I was agreeably awoken  
this morn with the intelligence  
that I was promoted to the 30<sup>th</sup>  
Regt. of Foot. remained a  
few days at Maldon and  
received an order to join the four  
Companies of the 30<sup>th</sup> Regt at Berwick.

on June 2.

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