

CONTENTS.

xiii

	Page		Page
Earl St. Vincent . . . . .	573	False hopes held out to the people	
Lord Grenville . . . . .	574	by the Central Junta . . . . .	602
Honourable Mr. Ward . . . . .	575	Instructions to Alburquerque . . . . .	ib.
Mr. Ponsonby . . . . .	ib.	Insurrection at Seville against the	
Mr. Whitbread . . . . .	576	Central Junta . . . . .	604
Mr. Perceval . . . . .	577	Saavedra takes upon himself the	
Vote of thanks to Lord Wellington		temporary authority . . . . .	605
opposed by the Earl of Suffolk	578	The French enter Seville . . . . .	ib.
Earl Grosvenor . . . . .	ib.	They overrun Andalusia . . . . .	606
Earl Grey . . . . .	ib.	They push for Cadiz . . . . .	607
Marquis Wellesley . . . . .	579	Alburquerque's movements . . . . .	ib.
Lord Grenville . . . . .	580	Cadiz saved by Alburquerque . . . . .	609
General Tarleton . . . . .	581	He is appointed governor of Cadiz	
Mr. Whitbread . . . . .	ib.	by the people . . . . .	ib.
Pension voted for Lord Wellington	582	A Junta elected at Cadiz . . . . .	610
Opposed by Sir Francis Burdett . . . . .	ib.	Resignation of the Central Junta . . . . .	611
Mr. Whitbread . . . . .	583	A Regency appointed . . . . .	612
Mr. Wilberforce . . . . .	ib.	Last address of the Central Junta . . . . .	613
Mr. Canning . . . . .	584	The Regents . . . . .	617
The Common Council petition against		Their injustice toward the members	
the pension . . . . .	ib.	of the Central Junta . . . . .	618
Marquis of Lansdown . . . . .	586	Proclamation of the Intruder . . . . .	620
Lord Holland . . . . .	587	Language of the despondents in	
Marquis Wellesley . . . . .	588	England . . . . .	621
		The Isle of Leon . . . . .	623
<b>CHAPTER XXVIII.</b>		Victor summons the Junta of Cadiz . . . . .	625
Supineness of the Central Junta . . . . .	594	Ill will of the Junta towards Albur-	
Romana refuses the command . . . . .	595	querque . . . . .	626
Montijo and D. Francisco Palafox		The troops neglected . . . . .	627
imprisoned . . . . .	596	Alburquerque applies to the Re-	
Attempts to produce a false con-		gency in their behalf . . . . .	628
fidence . . . . .	597	The Junta publish an attack against	
Scheme of Count Tilly . . . . .	ib.	Alburquerque . . . . .	629
The Junta announce their intention		He resigns the command, and is	
to remove . . . . .	598	sent ambassador to England . . . . .	630
Murmurs at Seville . . . . .	600	<b>CHAPTER XXIX.</b>	
Invasion of Andalusia . . . . .	ib.	The Regency . . . . .	631
The French pass the Sierra Morena	601	Schemes for delivering Ferdinand . . . . .	632



	Page		Page
Baron de Kolli's attempt . . . . .	633	Hostalrich . . . . .	674
Overtures for peace . . . . .	637	Commencement of the siege . . . . .	675
Buonaparte's intention of establish- ing a Western Empire . . . . .	638	First success of O'Donnell . . . . .	ib.
Money voted for the Portugueze army . . . . .	640	Desertion from the French army . . . . .	676
Debates upon this subject . . . . .	ib.	Want of concert between the pro- vincs . . . . .	ib.
Marquis Wellesley . . . . .	641	Negligence of the Valencian govern- ment . . . . .	678
Lord Grenville . . . . .	642	The force on the Valencian frontier dispersed . . . . .	679
Lord Liverpool . . . . .	645	Suchet advances against Valencia . . . . .	ib.
Earl Moira . . . . .	646	He retreats . . . . .	681
Lord Sidmouth . . . . .	ib.	Conspiracy discovered in that city . . . . .	682
Marquis of Lansdown . . . . .	647	The French boast of success . . . . .	ib.
Lord Erskine . . . . .	ib.	O'Donnell's successful operations . . . . .	683
Lord Holland . . . . .	ib.	Siege of Hostalrich . . . . .	686
Mr. Perceval . . . . .	649	Retreat of the garrison . . . . .	688
Sir John Newport . . . . .	650	Las Medas and Lerida surrendered . . . . .	690
Mr. Villiers . . . . .	ib.	Augereau superseded by Marshal Macdonald . . . . .	692
Mr. Curwen . . . . .	651	Fort Matagorda taken by the French . . . . .	693
Mr. Leslie Foster . . . . .	ib.	Storm at Cadiz . . . . .	694
General Ferguson . . . . .	657	Cruel usage of the French prisoners in the bay . . . . .	695
Mr. Fitzgerald . . . . .	658	Escape of the prison ships . . . . .	696
Lord Milton . . . . .	ib.	Insurrection and massacre of the pri- soners at Majorca . . . . .	697
Mr. Banks . . . . .	ib.	Prisoners sent to Cabrera . . . . .	698
Mr. Jacob . . . . .	659	Their inhuman treatment there . . . . .	ib.
Mr. Whitbread . . . . .	660	Marshal Soult's edict . . . . .	699
Mr. Huskisson . . . . .	661	Counter edict of the Regency . . . . .	700
Mr. Bathurst . . . . .	ib.		
Reform in the Portugueze army . . . . .	662		
<b>CHAPTER XXX.</b>			
O'Donnell appointed to the com- mand in Catalonia . . . . .	671	<b>CHAPTER XXXI.</b>	
Garcia Conde made governor of Le- rida . . . . .	ib.	Inactivity before Cadiz . . . . .	701
Rapid promotion in the Spanish armies . . . . .	672	The Regents send for Cuesta . . . . .	ib.
Conduct of the people of Villadrau . . . . .	673	Badajoz secured by Romana . . . . .	702
		The British take a position on the frontiers of Beira . . . . .	ib.



CONTENTS.

XV

	Page		Page
Astorga summoned by the French	703	The Portugueze ordered to retire	
Siege of Astorga . . . . .	704	before the enemy . . . . .	735
Its surrender . . . . .	705	Siege of Almeida . . . . .	736
Affair at Barba del Puerco . . . . .	706	Surrender of the place . . . . .	737
Massena appointed to the army of		The Portugueze prisoners enlist and	
Portugal . . . . .	707	desert . . . . .	738
Ciudad Rodrigo . . . . .	708	Condemnation of their conduct . . . . .	739
The French besiege it . . . . .	ib.	Militia forced into the French service . . . . .	ib.
D. Julian Sanchez . . . . .	709	They escape, and rejoin the allies . . . . .	740
Marshal Ney summons the place . . . . .	ib.	Changes in the Portugueze Regency . . . . .	741
Situation of Lord Wellington . . . . .	710	Conduct of the Portugueze govern-	
Spirit of the inhabitants . . . . .	711	ment . . . . .	742
Nunnery of S. Cruz attacked . . . . .	ib.	Arbitrary arrests at Lisbon . . . . .	743
Convent of S. Domingo recovered . . . . .	712	Apprehensions of the British go-	
Julian Sanchez effects his escape		vernment . . . . .	745
from the city . . . . .	713	Movements of Regnier's corps, and	
State of the British army . . . . .	714	of General Hill . . . . .	747
A practicable breach made . . . . .	715	Massena advances into Portugal . . . . .	748
The place capitulates . . . . .	716	Ney and Regnier join him at Ce-	
Conduct of the French . . . . .	717	lorico . . . . .	749
Speculations upon the campaign . . . . .	719	The French army collected at Viseu . . . . .	750
La Puebla de Sanabria occupied by		Lord Wellington crosses to the Serra	
the French . . . . .	721	de Busaco . . . . .	751
The Portugueze retake it . . . . .	722	Busaco . . . . .	752
		Battle of Busaco . . . . .	753
		Behaviour of the Portugueze troops . . . . .	756
		Massena marches into the Porto road . . . . .	758
		Colonel Trant's movements . . . . .	759
		The allies withdraw from Busaco . . . . .	760
		Trant retreats to the Vouga . . . . .	ib.
		The allies cross the Mondego . . . . .	761
		Flight of the inhabitants from Co-	
		imbra . . . . .	762
		The French enter Coimbra . . . . .	763
		The Portugueze people fly before	
		the enemy . . . . .	764
		Hopes and expectations of the French . . . . .	765
		Confusion at Condeixa . . . . .	766
		Leiria forsaken . . . . .	767
		Alcobaça forsaken by the monks . . . . .	ib.

CHAPTER XXXII.

Massena's proclamation to the Por-	
tugueze . . . . .	725
The French invest Almeida . . . . .	726
Almeida . . . . .	727
Fort Conception abandoned . . . . .	728
Affair on the Coa . . . . .	729
Desponding letters from the army . . . . .	731
Apprehensions expressed in Eng-	
land . . . . .	732
Ney summons the governor of Al-	
meida . . . . .	733
Portugueze officers in Massena's	
army . . . . .	734



	Page		Page
Surprise at Alcoentre . . . . .	768	Lord Wellington advances to Santarem . . . . .	786
The French discover the lines . . . . .	769	Both armies go into cantonments . . . . .	ib.
Feelings of the British army . . . . .	ib.	The King's illness . . . . .	788
Lines of Torres Vedras . . . . .	770	Proceedings concerning a Regency . . . . .	789
Romana joins the allies . . . . .	773	Mr. Perceval . . . . .	790
Trant surprises the French in Coimbra . . . . .	774	Troops sent to Portugal . . . . .	793
He escorts his prisoners to Porto . . . . .	776	Issues of money required . . . . .	ib.
Difficulties of Massena's situation . . . . .	777	Conduct of Lord Grenville as Auditor of the Exchequer . . . . .	794
His demonstrations in front of the lines . . . . .	778	State of the opposition . . . . .	797
Montbrun sent against Abrantes . . . . .	779	Their expectations . . . . .	798
The French army subsists by plunder . . . . .	780	Language of the anarchists . . . . .	799
Deserters form themselves into a corps of plunderers . . . . .	781	Mr. Perceval popular at this time . . . . .	801
State of Lisbon . . . . .	782	Schemes for a new ministry . . . . .	803
Opinions of the opposition in England . . . . .	ib.	The King's opinion during an interval of amendment . . . . .	804
General La Croix killed . . . . .	784	The Prince Regent announces his intention of making no change . . . . .	ib.
Massena retreats from the lines . . . . .	785	Mr. Perceval's reply . . . . .	805



# HISTORY

OF THE

## PENINSULAR WAR.

### CHAPTER XVI.

TREATY BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND SPAIN. SURRENDER  
OF CORUNA AND FERROL. SITUATION OF ROMANA'S ARMY.  
BUONAPARTE RETURNS TO FRANCE. PROCEEDINGS AT MA-  
DRID. OPERATIONS IN CATALONIA.

HAPPILY for the interests of Great Britain, and for its honour, which is paramount to all interests, the British Government entertained more generous hopes than its General had done, and acted upon wiser views. At the very time when the Spaniards had sustained the heaviest losses, and our own army was known to be in full retreat, a treaty was signed at London between Great Britain and the Spanish nation acting in the name of Ferdinand. It proclaimed a christian, stable, and inviolable peace between the two countries, perpetual and sincere amity, and strict alliance during the war with France; and it pronounced an entire and lasting oblivion of all acts of hostility done on either side in the course of the late wars wherein they had been engaged against each other. His Britannic Majesty

CHAP.  
XVI.

1809.

January.

*Treaty be-  
tween Great  
Britain and  
Spain.*



CHAP. engaged to assist the Spaniards to the utmost of his power, and  
 XVI. not to acknowledge any other King of Spain, and of the Indies  
 1809. thereunto appertaining, than Ferdinand VII., his heirs, or such  
January. lawful successor as the Spanish nation should acknowledge; and  
 the Spanish government engaged, on behalf of Ferdinand, never  
 to cede to France any portion of the territories or possessions  
 of the Spanish monarchy in any part of the world. The con-  
 tracting parties bound themselves to make common cause against  
 France, and not to make peace except by common consent. It  
 was agreed by an additional article, that as the existing cir-  
 cumstances did not admit of the regular negotiation of a treaty  
 of commerce with all the care and consideration due to so im-  
 portant a subject, such a negotiation should be effected as soon  
 as it was practicable; and meantime mutual facilities afforded  
 to the commerce of both countries, by temporary regulations,  
 founded on reciprocal utility. Another separate article pro-  
 vided that the Spanish government should take the most effectual  
 measures for preventing the Spanish squadrons, in all their ports,  
 from falling into the power of France. Before the treaty could  
 reach Spain, the mischief against which this latter article was  
 intended to provide had been done in the ports of Galicia.

*Surrender  
 of Coruña,*

There were Englishmen at Coruña, who when Sir John Moore was preparing to embark, doubted whether the inhabitants would protect his embarkation. In the bitterness of grief and shame they said, "should the Galicians tell us that we came into their country and by the imposing display of our well-equipped army prevented them from defending their native mountains; that they entrusted their passes to us and we abandoned them to the enemy; that disregarding any service which seemed immaterial to our own safety, we let the French occupy the approaches to their city; . . . should the volunteers of Coruña tell us this (they said), and throw down their arms when they see us



flying to our ships, . . . we should have little right to complain of desertion or abandonment!" But the Spaniards are a more generous people than these doubts implied. Astonished indeed they were at the manner in which an army that had excited by its proud appearance the highest hopes as well as the highest admiration, had retreated through one of the strongest and most defensible countries in Europe; but severely as these hopes were disappointed, and cruelly as they suffered in consequence, they were not betrayed into one unworthy act or expression of resentment. The Governor of Coruña, D. Antonio de Alcedo, had made vigorous preparations as soon as it seemed likely that the enemy might enter Galicia. His name will be remembered as the author of a Geographical Dictionary of Spanish America, much more accurate and copious than any former work relating to those countries. It would be well for him could it be forgotten in the history of his own. While he expected that the British army would make a stand, and maintain Coruña and Ferrol at least, even if they abandoned the field, he held brave language, calling upon the inhabitants to supply stakes, beams, fascines and butts for additional works, and exhorting the women to busy themselves in providing sacks to be filled with earth. "If the French come," said he in his proclamation, "I will take such measures that Coruña shall be not less gloriously distinguished than Gerona, Valencia, and Zaragoza. But should fortune prove adverse to us, as a chastisement from God for our sins, I will bury myself in the ruins of this fortress rather than surrender it to the enemy: thus finishing my days with honour, and trusting that all will follow my example." Wherever in Spain a Governor was found willing to set such an example, the resolution to follow it was not wanting.

Coruña is a regular fortress, and might long have held out against any means which Marshal Soult could have brought

CHAP.  
XVI.  
1809.  
January.



CHAP.  
XVI.

1809.

January.

Jan. 19.

against it. But when an English army with the sea open to them for succours did not think of maintaining it, it is not surprising that the inhabitants should have despaired of making a successful resistance. Their Governor was prepared to play the traitor ; he had still however honour enough left not to propose a capitulation till the last transport was beyond the enemy's power. Terms were then easily agreed on, the one party asking only what the other would have imposed. Alcedo stipulated for a general amnesty ; that all persons in office should retain their appointments on taking an oath to the Intruder ; and that the military who took that oath might either continue in the service or receive their dismissal at their own option, such as refused the oath becoming prisoners of war. He himself set the example of swearing allegiance to Joseph Buonaparte ; and soon in his own person properly experienced with what fidelity the French kept their engagements, for they presently dismissed him from his government and sent him into France.

*Situation  
and strength  
of Ferrol.*

Coruña and Ferrol are situated on the opposite sides of a spacious bay which receives in four deep inlets the rivers Mero, Mandeu, Eume and Juvia. Ferrol is placed in the deepest and most capacious of these inlets, and nothing which skill and expense could effect had been spared during the last half century for improving the natural advantages of the harbour, and rendering it impregnable. It had thus been rendered one of the strongest naval establishments in the world, being also one of the most commodious. To force the passage is impossible, ships having for the distance of a league to file one by one along a shore defended by forts. Equal care had been taken to protect it on the land side. There were at this time eight ships of the line in the harbour, of which three were of the largest size, . . . three frigates, and a considerable number of smaller vessels. From Betanzos to Ferrol was but a march of fourteen



miles farther than from Betanzos to Coruña; and it was a topic of exultation for the French, that the English in the precipitance of their flight had not marched upon Ferrol instead of Coruña, where they might have occupied a fortress strong enough to be called impregnable, and have secured the squadron. It was still fresh in remembrance that when Sir James Pulteney had landed on the coast there with a part of that army by which the French were afterwards expelled from Egypt, he deemed it more prudent to re-embark his troops without attempting any thing, than to hazard an attack against so formidable a place. It is indeed almost impossible to lay regular siege to it: the nature of the ground being such that trenches cannot be opened there.

CHAP.  
XVI.  
1809.  
January.

Marshal Soult found in Coruña a battering train sufficient for making a feint of besieging Ferrol; that it would not be in his power to take it he well knew; . . . but he reckoned upon the pusillanimity and treason of the commanders, and upon the fortune of Buonaparte. The population was estimated at 8000, double the number in Coruña; but the peasantry from the adjacent country had flocked thither, and there were 8000 men within its walls, burning with hatred and indignation against the French, and requiring only a leader in whom they could confide. The persons in authority they suspected, and with too much reason. One of these, the admiral D. Pedro Obregon, they displaced and threw into prison; it was only removing one traitor to make room for another. D. Francisco Melgarejo, who succeeded to the command of the squadron, opened a correspondence with the enemy by water; and the military commanders, equally ready to betray their country and their trust, sent messengers round by land at the same time. Accordingly General Mermet had no sooner made a demonstration of investing the town, than the Castles of La Palma and San Martin

*Surrender  
of Ferrol.*



CHAP.  
XVI.

1809.

Jan. 26.

were abandoned to him ; and as the disposition of the people was of no avail against the vile purposes of their chiefs civil and military, the town was delivered up, upon the same terms as Coruña ; a few additional articles being added, stipulating for the arrears of pay, as also that if resistance were made in any part of Galicia, no inhabitant of Ferrol should be compelled to serve against his countrymen. Obregon was then released from prison, and placed by the French at the head of the arsenal ; he and the comrades of his treason took the oath of allegiance to the Intruder ; and those persons who had been most active in arresting him and in promoting the national cause were seized and reserved for punishment.

*Exultation  
of the ene-  
my.*

If the Central Junta had at one time dissembled the danger of the country (or rather partaken too much of that unreasoning confidence which was one characteristic of the Spaniards), they never attempted to conceal its disasters, nor to extenuate them. On such occasions their language was frank and dignified, becoming the nation which they represented. In announcing the loss of Coruña and Ferrol, they pronounced the surrender of those strong places to have been cowardly and scandalous, and promised to condemn the persons who had thus betrayed their duty, to condign punishment. The enemy meantime failed not to blazon forth their triumphs in this Galician campaign : to represent the battle of Coruña as a victory on their part was a falsehood, which all circumstances, except those of the action itself, tended to confirm ; . . . and the results of the campaign had been so rapid, and apparently so complete, as to excite their own wonder. Three British regiments, they said, the 42d, 50th, and 52d, had been entirely destroyed in the action, and Sir John Moore killed in attempting to charge at their head, with the vain hope of restoring the fortune of the day. The English had lost every thing which constitutes an army, artillery, horses, baggage,