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THE PORTUGUESE INFANTARY BRIGADES, 1809-1814

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While order of battle of the British formations at any given time during the Peninsular War is to be fairly accurately ascertained from the appendices to Oman's *History* and C. T. Atkinson's list at the end of Oman's *Wellington's Army*, the brigading of the Portuguese regiments on the other hand is often no more than summary, the brigades being referred to merely as "Stubb's Portuguese" or "Bradford's Brigade", "the Portuguese Brigade", &c. This gives the impression that, once attached to the British divisions, the Portuguese infantry brigades remained substantially the same throughout, the brigade commanders alone undergoing alteration. In fact this is far from the truth, as a close study both of the movements of the Army in Murray's Papers and of the Portuguese *Ordens do Dia* will show. They changed not merely in composition but also in command and attachment. The Portuguese recognised these brigades, not from the names of the brigadiers, but by the seniority of the senior line regiment in each; and although the numbering, from 1 to 10, was not officially adopted in *Orders* until 13th August 1813, the practice evidently dated from a much earlier period.

A greater degree of degree of accuracy on all these points is not possible from works published since 1912, but also desirable for several reasons. First, the brigades accounted for 20 line regiments, and since the Portuguese regular army consisted of 24 line regiments, 12 cavalry regiments, 12 cavalry regiments and 6 battalions of Caçadores (or light infantry),¹ they absorbed the bulk

¹ Six battalions of Caçadores were raised by Order of 14th October 1808. A further six battalions, numbered 7th to 12th, were raised in 1811, the only new levies to take place during the war. The 7th and 8th were raised from the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Loyal Lusitanian Legion in the Legion's dissolution, 4th May 1811, and the 9th from supernumeraries. Nos. 10, 11 e 12 were raised by the same General Order; 10th and 11th from Partido of Oporto, the 12th from the Province of the Minho.

of the infantry force of the country. Second, since most of Wellington's divisions had one Portuguese brigade attached, and each brigade consisted of a pair of two-battalion line regiments, each on an establishment of 1,550 men, as well as a Caçador battalion on an establishment of 628 (*i.e.*, a total of 3,728 men), the Portuguese supplied sometimes almost one-half of the total divisional strength. Moreover, by the end of the war they were experienced and reliable troops, of whom it was considered a matter for comment if in action did not behave as well as the British. Early in the final advance in to Spain in 1813 Larpent remarked that the Portuguese infantry looked "at least equal to ours and better than some", and at the time of the battles in the Pyrenees in July Wellington called them the "fighting cocks of the Army."²

The Brigades really date from an Order of 29th September 1809, and it is unwise to trace a continuous history from before that date. It is possible, however, to identify nine brigades that took part in the operations of 1809, of which at least four survived in their original form after the reorganisation Beresford carried out in the autumn of that year. These are: *Blunt's Brigade* (4th³ and 19th Line, later the 7th and 18th), from 25th March 1809; *W. H. Campbell's Brigade* (3rd and 15th Line, to which the 13th Line was added on 1st May), from 12th April; *Antonio Marcelino da Victoria's Brigade* (1st and 13th Line), from 12th April to 1st day; *José Lopes de Sousa's Brigade* (2nd and 14th Line), from 16th April (usually known as the Algarve Brigade because the regiments were recruited at Lagos and Tavira respectively); *Bacelar's Brigade* (1st/9th and 2nd/11th Line), from 11th May until about 18th June; *Silveira's⁴ Brigade* (12th and 24th Line), from 11th May; *Sir Robert Wilson's Brigade* (3rd and 4th and 6th Caçadores and 2 companies H.M.'s 5th/60th), from 11th May to about 18th June; *C. F. Lecor's Brigade* (9th Line and 3rd and 4th Caçadores), from about 18th June; and *R. H. McLeroth's Brigade* (11th and 23rd Line), from 2nd August. Four of these took part in the Douro Campaign in the column under Beresford's command, which crossed the Douro at Régua and headed north up the valley of the Tâmega; Lopes de Sousa's, Bacelar's, Silveira's and Wilson's. A further two regiments, the 10th and 16th Line, formed an integral part of Wellington's Army, being distributed over five British Brigades during those five weeks. In the Talavera Campaign four brigades, Lecor's, W. H. Campbell's, Blunt's and McLeroth's, formed the bulk

² *The private journal of Judge-Advocate Larpent...* (1854), p. 139; Disp., 6, p. 628 (25th July 1813).

³ Unless "4th" in the *Ordens do Dia* is a misprint for "7th".

⁴ Properly General Francisco da Silveira Pinto, 1st Conde de Amarante.

of Beresford's force which concentrating at Almeida, marched south through the Puerto de Perales on Moraleja as Wellington's Army fell back from Talavera.⁵ The only Portuguese troops to take part in the Talavera operations themselves were the two battalions of the Loyal Lusitanian Legion and the 5th Caçadores. Under Sir Robert Wilson, they formed a quasi-independent command which advanced into Spain on Wellington's left front to Escalona and then had to run for it through the mountains back into Portugal.

This organisation, bearing all the characteristics of hasty improvisation to meet a succession of emergencies, gave way to a more thorough reorganisation in the autumn, when the formation of the following twelve brigades was announced in the Order of 29th September 1809. Eight of these remained in existence until 1814; the other four enjoyed but a short or nominal life.

A (the future *1st Brigade*). It consisted of the 1st and 16th Line to which the 4th Caçadores were added on 5th August 1810. It was commanded by the senior officer until taken over by Brigadier Denis Pack (H.M.'s 71st) on 7th July 1810. Pack commanded until reverting to the British service, 19th July 1813, when he was succeeded by John Wilson (H.M.'s Royal York Rangers), who commanded until wounded at the Nivelle, 10th November 1813. Archibald Campbell (H.M.'s 71st), from the 4th Brigade (*inf.*) commanded from 23rd November. The Brigade was never attached to a division and acted independently throughout.

B (the future *2nd Brigade*, the Algarve Brigade, formerly under Lopes de Sousa). It consisted of the 2nd and 14th Line (no Caçadores were added). Lopes having failed to give satisfaction, Brigadier Agostinho Luiz da Fonseca was app. in his place, 16th August 1809. He commanded until about June 1811, when António Hipólito Costa⁶ (14th Line) took over as senior officer for the remainder of the war. Teles Meneses commanded temporarily during the summer of 1811, and John Buchan (H.M.'s 4th West India Regiment) temporarily during the autumn of 1813 until 20th November, when Costa returned. From the formation of the Portuguese Division on 16th December 1809 this brigade and the 4th composed it. (The Division, which always acted with the 2nd British Division under the command of Hill, was commanded by John Hamilton (formerly East India Company's service and H.M.'s 61st) until 22nd March 1813. Silveira, as Conde de Amarante, commanded until he "abdicated"

⁵ *The Peninsular Journal of Major-General Sir Benjamin D'Urban*. 1808-1817 (ed. I. J. Rousseau, Longman's, 1930), pp. 50-71.

⁶ Both Luiz da Fonseca and Costa are usually referred to as "Fonseca" and "da Costa" in English documents and histories, but the surnames are properly "Luiz" and "Costa".



1 Lieutenant Colonel of Engineers, 1809
 2 Corporal, Atiradore Company, 4th Battalion of Caçadores, 1809
 3 Captain, Atiradore Company, 2nd Battalion of Caçadores, 1809

on 3rd September 1813, when Campbell, of 4th Brigade, took over temporarily. Hamilton was in command at the time of the Nivelles, 10th November, but Lecor took over from him on 3rd December for the remainder of the war.

C (the future *3rd Brigade*). It consisted of the 3rd and 15th Line. The 6th Caçadores were added from 23rd October to 20th December 1810. The 8th Caçadores (formerly the 2nd Loyal Lusitanian Legion) were substituted from 14th March 1811 onwards. Commanded from 12th April 1809 by Brigadier W. H. Campbell (H.M.'s 31st), it was taken over by Charles Miller on 29th September 1809 until the end of January 1810,⁷ when Thomas McMahon (15th Line, formerly h.p., H.M.'s 15th) succeeded as senior officer. When McMahon was app. Governor of Valença, 11th July 1810, he was succeeded by W. F. Spry (H.M.'s 77th), 16th August 1810, who commanded until about October 1813, when Colonel Luiz do Rego Barreto (15th Line) took over as senior officer for the remainder of the war. The Brigade was attached to the 4th Division from 28th April to 7th May 1810, and to the 5th Division from its formation on 6th October 1810 thereafter.

D (the future *4th Brigade*). It consisted of the 4th and 10th Line, to which the 10th Caçadores were added on 8th April 1812. It was first brigaded under the senior officer, Archibald Campbell (H.M.'s 71st), commanding the 4th Line. Promoted brigadier, 8th May 1811, he continued to command until 3rd September 1813, when he took over the Portuguese Division *pro tem.* and then was transferred to the 1st Brigade. He was succeeded on 23rd November 1813 by John Buchan (H.M.'s 4th West India Regiment). With the 2nd (Algarve) Brigade it composed the Portuguese Division from 16th December 1809 until the end of the war.

E, consisting of the 5th and 17th Line, both Elvas regiments, was brigaded at Elvas under António Marcelino da Victoria and remained in garrison at Elvas. Such existence as it had ended on 5th January 1811, when the 5th Line (at Vila-Viçosa) was detached to Almeirim to be under the command of Luiz in Hamilton's Portuguese Division, all of which by that time stood on the south bank of the Tagus. The 17th was detached to a new brigade under Manley Power, 12th August 1811 (*v. inf., sb. Q*) after having been temporarily attached (24th May 1811) to the 7th Division under Houstoun during Beresford's operations in Estremadura in May and June 1811.

⁷ Charles Miller, appointed to command the Militia of Beira Alta, died at Vizeu in January 1811. He is not to be confused with James Miller (*v. inf., sb. J*), and is probably to be identified with the Charles Miller who was sometime major, 1st West India Regiment. His name does not appear in Captain L. S. Challis's List (JOURNAL 27 (1949), pp. 50-60.)

F (the future *5th Brigade*). It consisted of the 6th and 18th Line, to which the 6th Caçadores were added, 5th August to 23rd October 1810, and again, permanently from 20th December 1810. It was first brigaded, 29th September 1809, under W. H. Campbell (H.M.'s 31st), who commanded until his death at Turcifal, in the Lines, 2nd January 1811, when Manuel Pamplona Rangel (18th Line) took his place for the time being. Charles Ashworth (H.M.'s 6th West India Regiment), from the 6th Line, commanded from 14th March 1811 until wounded at the Nive, 13th December 1813, when Henry Hardinge, the Deputy-Q.M.G. of the Portuguese Army, took over. After a long period of independence the Brigade was attached to the 7th Division on its formation, 5th March 1811, joining it in fact at Carapinha on 20th March. To supply the losses of Albuera, it was attached, 8th June 1811, to the 2nd Division, which up to then had been entirely composed of British brigades, and acted with it thereafter.

G (the future *6th Brigade*). It consisted of the 7th and 19th Line, to which the 2nd Caçadores were added on 21st September 1810. First brigaded in July 1809 under Richard Blunt (H.M.'s 3rd), it remained under his command until his promotion as Major-General, 7th July 1810, when it was taken over by Francis Colman (sometime 1st Guards and now Serjeant-at-Arms). Temporarily under Lecor, March 1811, and Luiz Inácio Palmeirim (19th Line), May to 12th August 1811, it was resumed by Colman until shortly before his death in Lisbon, 12th December 1811. After being temporarily commanded by José Cardoso de Meneses Souto-Maior (of 7th Line), it came under the command of Colonel Richard Collins (H.M.'s 83rd) from 27th February 1812 until his death at Gouveia, 17th February 1813. Lecor commanded from March 1813 until app. to command the 7th Division when Lord Dalhousie returned home after the Bidassoa, October 1813. John Milley Doyle (of 19th Line) succeeded and commanded thereafter. After a long period of independence the Brigade was attached to the 7th Division on its formation, 5th March 1811, such units of the Division as had arrived assembling around it at Pombal on 14th March (the 12th Line (v. N inf.) marched with it from Alcoentre). It was temporarily attached to the 3rd Division from 13th December 1811, when the 8th Brigade went to Coimbra to be re clothed,⁸ until about February 1812 (in any case after the storm of Ciudad Rodrigo), but it reverted to the 7th Division for the remainder of the war.

⁸ "As to the Portuguese Infantry Brigade which has just joined this Division from the 7th, it is nearly in as miserable a state with respect to clothing as that under B. G. Palmeirim" (Picton to Murray, Albergueria, 13th December 1811, *Murray Papers*, 37, ff. 223-225).

H, consisting of the 8th and 22nd Line under the command of Baron Eben, Loyal Lusitanian Legion. This Brigade seems never to have been more than a paper creation. The 8th was at Fundão, the 22nd at Setubal. The 22nd was never afterwards brigaded. The 8th, later moved to Coimbra and then Tomar, formed part of Leith's Corps during the summer of 1810 and was finally allotted to the 7th Brigade (v. N inf.).

I (the future *8th Brigade*). It consisted of the 9th and 21st Line. The 12th Caçadores were added to it from 8th April 1812 to about April 1813, when the 11th Caçadores were substituted for it. At first under the senior officer, Colonel José Joaquim Champalimaud⁹ (21st Line) until he was wounded at Buçaco, 27th September 1810, it was then commanded by Colonel Charles Sutton (H.M.'s 23rd), from the 9th Line, until the return of Champalimaud. From early in May 1811 Palmeirim and Sutton were alternately in temporary command, but Champalimaud returned in 1812 until, after the siege of Badajoz, where he was wounded, he was app. Governor of Valença, 19th June 1812. Brigadier Manley Power (H.M.'s 32nd) took command at some date before 11th July 1812 and continued to exercise it until about July 1813, when Charles Sutton (9th Line) succeeded. The Brigade was attached to the 3rd Division, 22nd February 1810, joining it in the first day of April. It was sent to the rear to be re clothed, 9th December 1811, but rejoined the 3rd Division in about February 1812 and served with it thereafter.

J (the future *9th Brigade*). It consisted of the 11th and 23rd Line, to which the 7th Caçadores (or 1st Loyal Lusitanian Legion, v. sup., p. 103) were added, 14th March 1811. Formerly under McLeroth (v. sup.) until he was dismissed, 3rd November 1809,¹⁰ it was reassembled under Francis Colman's command but effectively disciplined by Brigadier William Munday Harvey (H.M.'s 70th), who assumed command from 12th January 1810 and exercised it until wounded at Badajoz, 6th April 1812. For a short while under Manuel Pamplona Rangel, it was commanded by Colonel Thomas William Stubbs (sometime H.M.'s 50th), of the 23rd Line, from about June 1812 until late August 1813. Colonel James Miller (H.M.'s 74th), of the 23rd Line, succeeded him until November 1813, when Colonel José de Vasconcelos e Sá (23rd Line) took over

⁹ Properly so spelt, he is the "Champlemond" of English sources.

¹⁰ Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Hugh McLeroth (not in Captain Challis's List) was a retired officer of the 63rd who came out to Portugal with a high character from Sir John Hope and others. But he "did not settle his mind to the business" and departed without leave in October 1809 (*Suppl. Disp* 6, p. 346; *Disp*, 3, p. 560). He died at Bury St. Edmunds, 14th June 1840.

to the end of the war. The Brigade was attached to the 4th Division in substitution for the 3rd Brigade, 17th May 1810, and remained attached to it thereafter.

K, consisting of the 12th and 24th Line (both in garrison at Almeida) under the senior officer, William Cox (H.M.'s 61st), of the 24th Line, Governor of Almeida. This Brigade can have existed for only a short time,¹¹ as the 12th was detached from Almeida to Fundão in March 1810. The 24th was in garrison when the fortress fell, 28th August 1810, but was later re-formed (*v. inf., sb. P*).

L, consisting of the 13th and 20th Line, under the senior officer. This Brigade can also have enjoyed but a nominal existence, as the 20th was sent to Cadiz, 11th February 1810, where it remained until the siege was raised in the summer of 1812. The 13th later formed with the 12th a brigade under Lecor in Hill's Corps (*v. inf., sb. M*).

It will be seen that at the time these brigades were first constituted each consisted of no more than a pair of line regiments. The Caçador battalions were not added until much later. Nor was there any intention then of attaching the Brigades to the British divisions. Even the 2nd and 4th Brigades, making up the Portuguese Division of Hamilton, did not march from the rear to join Hill's Corps at Portalegre until 19th and 20th February 1810. The first of the Brigades to be attached to a British formation was Champalimaud's (8th) Brigade, which joined Picton's (3rd) Division at Pinhel in the first days of April 1810, whilst the remainder were still in the rear in and around Coimbra. They did not march towards the frontier until the end of April. As for the Caçador battalions, they had been since 16th December at least nominally organised in three brigades the 1st and 2nd under Baron Eben; the 3rd and 5th; and the 4th and 6th under Lecor. In fact the 1st and 2nd were attached (without Eben) to the Light Division from mid-March 1810; the 5th was in the Alentejo under Hill; and the 3rd, 4th and 6th remained near Coimbra. In May the 3rd joined the Light Division in the place of the 2nd, to become, with the 1st, an integral part of the Division. Only the Brigade of the 4th and 6th (at Celorico by 4th May) endured into the summer of 1810. These two battalions were added to the 1st and 5th Brigades respectively on 5th August 1810. The 2nd, relegated to Coimbra, was added to the 6th Brigade (Colman's) just before Buçaco on 21st September. It cannot therefore be said that the Portuguese infantry brigades were given the appearance which was characteristic of their later days until the very eve of that battle.

¹¹ For this and the Brigade lettered H *sup.*, *v. Beresford to Wellington, Tomar 6th December 1809 (Suppl. Disp., 6, pp. 443-446)*.

The organisation was taken further while the Army lay in the Lines. The 5th British Division was formed on 6th October (really not until the 8th) out of Leith's Corps, which had occupied a reserve position near Tomar all the summer until moved north to Buçaco. The 6th Division was formed on the same date. The 7th, formed by Order of 5th March 1811, was really forming all through the march of the Army in pursuit of Masséna and was still two-thirds Portuguese when it fought its first action at Fuentes de Onoro two months later.

The Portuguese infantry brigades formed during the later period were the following:

M, consisting of the 12th and 13th Line, first brigaded under Lecor at Castelo-Branco in August 1810. With the militia of Covilhã, Idanha-a-Nova and Castelo-Branco, it formed a division within Hill's Corps under Lecor, who led it when it was posted on the Serra de Atalhada during the battle of Buçaco and in the Lines at Alhandra from October 1810 to March 1811. The 13th Line was detached to Abrantes, 6th October 1810, but the 12th, with the rest of Lecor's command, remained in the Lines at Alhandra from October 1810 to March 1811, when it was added to the 7th Brigade on formation.

N (the future *7th Brigade*). It consisted, as first brigaded under Eben at Leiria on 4th October 1810, of the 8th Line and the 1st and 2nd L.L.L., lately under Leith near Tomar. The 1st and 2nd L.L.L. were detached on 14th March 1811 to the 9th and 3rd Brigades respectively (where they became the 7th and 8th Caçadores). Their place was taken by the 12th Line, lately at Alhandra under Lecor (*v. M sup.*), which marched on 9th March for Alcoentre, where the 7th Division was beginning to assemble. Thence it marched with the 7th Division until joining the rest of the Brigade at Ponte-da-Mucela on 18th March. The 9th Caçadores were added to the 8th and 12th Line on 10th April 1812. Eben continued in command until 30th April 1812, when he was succeeded by the Conde de Rezende D. Luiz. George Allen Madden (sometime major, 12th Light Dragoons) took it over from 4th October 1812 and commanded until late August 1813, when he handed over to the senior officer, Colonel James Douglas (H.M.'s 45th), of the 8th Line, who was wounded at the Bidassoa, 7th October 1813. John Buchan (H.M.'s 4th West India Regiment) commanded it for three days until Douglas's return, 23rd November 1813. The Brigade was attached to the 6th Division from its formation on 6th October 1810, but in fact it was still under Leith's command (as it had been throughout the summer and at Buçaco) on the 8th, and it did not effectively come under General Alexander Campbell until all the constituent units of the 6th Division moved to Ribaldeira, in the Lines, on 8th October 1810.

O, a brigade formed at Elvas on 23rd March 1811 consisting of the 5th Line and the 5th Caçadores (lately attached to Hamilton's Division) under Richard Collins (H.M.'s 83rd). Collins, who lost a leg at Albuera, was succeeded by Sousa Pereira (of the 5th Line) until the Brigade was broken up, 17th June 1811. It had acted as a third brigade in the Portuguese Division during Bereford's operations in Estremadura in May 1811.

P (the future *10th Brigade*). As originally brigaded at Souzel on 29th July 1811, it consisted of the 13th Line (formerly of Abrantes garrison) and the 5th Caçadores (v. *O sup.*). It marched north from the Alentejo in company with the 4th Division but was detached on 17th August, and by Order of 22nd August the 24th Line (re-formed after the surrender of Almeida (v. *sup.*, sb. K), 28th August 1810) was added to it. The 24th joined it from Vizeu at Pinhel on 29th August 1811.¹² Thomas McMahan was placed in command, 12th August 1811, William McBean (H.M.'s 60th) from 24th Line acting temporarily for him during his absence, September to 3rd October 1811. Thomas Bradford (H.M.'s 87th) succeeded McMahan, 20th January 1812, and commanded for the remainder of the war, though McBean commanded temporarily during September 1813. After 17th August 1811 the Brigade was never attached to a division and acted independently thereafter.

Q, as originally brigaded under Manley Power at Elvas on 12th August 1811, consisted of the 5th Line and 17th Line, both in garrison at Elvas. The 11th Caçadores were added on 8th April 1812. Manley Power (H.M.'s 32nd) was removed to the command of the 8th Brigade at some date between 19th June and 11th July 1812, presumably leaving the Brigade to the senior officer, Sousa Pereira of the 5th Line. The Brigade was still in existence on 8th October 1812 but it cannot have lasted beyond February 1813, when the 17th Line was detached to become part of the Light Division. The 11th Caçadores were transferred at about the same time to take the place of the 12th Caçadores in the 8th Brigade. The 5th Line remained in Elvas for the remainder of the war. The Brigade does not appear to have stirred far from the fortress. When brought forward to assist in the third siege of Badajoz, March/April 1812, it was so posted as to invest the place on the right bank of the Guadiana, and after the storm it was sent into the town to restore order.¹³

¹²The note on this brigade in Oman, *Wellington's Army*, p. 358, needs correction.

¹³ Oman (*History*, 5, p. 264), quite correctly, notes that "Power's Portuguese Brigade" performed this service, leaving it to be, incorrectly, assumed that this was the same brigade as the much better known brigade of which he took command in 3rd Division.

The composition of the surviving brigades may be summarised as they stood on 13th August 1813, when they officially received their numbers, as follows:

<i>1st Brigade:</i>	
1st Regiment, 16th Regiment, 4th Caçadores	independent
<i>2nd Brigade:</i>	
2nd Regiment, 14th Regiment	Portuguese Division
<i>3rd Brigade:</i>	
3rd Regiment, 15th Regiment, 8th Caçadores	5th Division
<i>4th Brigade:</i>	
4th Regiment, 10th Regiment, 10th Caçadores	Portuguese Division
<i>5th Brigade:</i>	
6th Regiment, 18th Regiment, 6th Caçadores	2nd Division
<i>6th Brigade:</i>	
7th Regiment, 19th Regiment, 2nd Caçadores	7th Division
<i>7th Brigade:</i>	
8th Regiment, 12th Regiment, 9th Caçadores	6th Division
<i>8th Brigade:</i>	
9th Regiment, 21st Regiment, 11th Caçadores	3rd Division
<i>9th Brigade:</i>	
11th Regiment, 23rd Regiment, 7th Caçadores	4th Division
<i>10th Brigade:</i>	
13th Regiment, 24th Regiment, 5th Caçadores	independent
<i>17th Regiment:</i>	
1st Caçadores, 3rd Caçadores	} Light Division

Thus of the Portuguese regular infantry only the 5th, 20th and 22nd Line and the 12th Caçadores remained in the country and did not march across Spain into France. The 20th Line had accompanied the garrison of Cadiz, relieved in the summer of 1812, when it marched under the command of Skerrett across Andalusia to Madrid in September 1812. On 17th October it was posted to Beckwith's Brigade of the Light Division, and it retreated with that Division the following month. It was still in the Light Division on 13th December¹⁴ but it was evidently exchanged for the 17th Line shortly after. Altogether, twenty-

¹⁴ "I heard at Headquarters that the 51st and 68th are to come to our Division for which the 20th Portuguese, which we got from Cadiz, is to be removed to another division" (Captain George Baring, A.D.C. to Charles Alten, commanding the Light Division, to Lieutenant Colonel Robert Mercer, La Alameda, 13th December 1812 (Scot Register House, *Fordell Mss.*, Bundle 14).

one line regiments and eleven Caçador battalions, representing nine-tenths of the regular infantry of the country, accompanied Wellington's Army in the last campaign of the war.

It will be noticed that the 1st Division never had a Portuguese Brigade; the 2nd Brigade never contained a battalion of Caçadores; and that the Portuguese battalions in the Light Division were not just attached but formed an integral part of that remarkable formation. Otherwise it seems to have become standard practice to form a brigade out of two line regiments and a battalion of Caçadores and attach it to a British division. Those attached in this manner were supplied by the Commissariat of the British Army; those not so attached, including those of the Portuguese Division, continued to be supplied by the Portuguese Commissary-General.

It remains only to speak of the dissolution of the Divisions and the return of the Brigades to Portugal at the end of the war. The three infantry Brigades in the Corps of the Army commanded by Sir John Hope which was blockading Bayonne, the 10th, 1st and 3rd, left Biarritz for Oyarzún on 20th, 22nd and 23rd June 1814 respectively. The Brigades in the divisions which had fought their way to Toulouse and beyond marched with their divisions, en route for embarkation at Bordeaux, as far as Bazas, where they parted from their British companions-in-arms amidst demonstrations of heartfelt regret on various dates between the 2nd and 14th June. The Light Division parted from their Portuguese at Bazas on 11th June:

“These soldiers had been in the Light Division for several years and were brave fellows,” says George Simmons of the Rifle Brigade. “The 52nd and 1st/95th were drawn up on each side of the market-place and at 2 o'clock presented arms and gave three cheers to the regiments as they filed through us, which mark of attention highly flattered the Portuguese.”

The last to go was the 6th Brigade, with the 7th Division, which had been sent up to Bordeaux after Orthez. They left Bordeaux on 28th June. The last Portuguese regiment to pass down the main road through Langon for Saint-Jean-de-Luz was the 19th.

“This Army,” wrote D'Urban, the Q.M.G., from Lisbon when the movement was completed, “made its march here from France with a discipline and good order which I have scarcely ever seen equalled by any troops of any nation. Not a man was left behind in Spain and the united sick of both the columns did not amount to fifty.”

¹⁵ D'Urban to Murray, Lisbon, 4th October 1814 (*Murray Papers*, 50, ff. 167-168).