Coimbra April the 3rd, 1809.

Sir!

I have the honor to report to you, Excellency, that the Moment John de Corro, Pinto de Castro, who was made Prisoner at the Battery of St. Anthony on the 29th of March and who made his Escape on Friday the 31st at one o'clock p.m. reported himself to me and stated that the whole of the French Army in Porto are 15,000 strong. Amongst them are 2,000 to 3,000 cavalry consisting of Chasseurs and Dragoons. They have 14 pieces of Horse Artillery. A great many Italians compose this Army.

When they entered Porto they particularly enquired for the English. A Lieutenant of the Nile frigate being sent on shore to make the necessary arrangements for the December ration of Arms is unfortunately taken prisoner and, according to the Description given to me, both Delyvies of pots, they are
are treated with civility and confined in the Hotel of Van Stone. A sentry is placed for their door. The enemy plundered amongst other houses those particularly from which a fire was directed on them, and they destroyed all the arms that were in the possession of the inhabitants. The above mentioned officers saw many wounded carried to the hospital.

The French made some enquiries for General Pereira and told the prisoners especially those belonging to the Legion that they were rejoiced I was killed. They were very anxious to tell the inhabitants that the Portuguese soldiers destroyed General Silveira’s proclamation have been made by the French in which they begged the Portuguese to return to their homes promising that every French soldier who entered them should suffer death. They also said that they wished to live in friendship and good understanding with all the inhabitants.

The enemy states that the Bishop and the English missionary in Porto were misleading the Portuguese and were the sole origin of their ruin. These proclamations were signed by Marshall Count Diocese de Dalmatica as Governor of Portugal.
The Marshal I am sorry to say has many Portuguese with him, who serve as interpreters. Their names I have not been enabled to learn.

General Querner (a German) is appointed Governor of Porto and Lissabon Corregidor More.

The headquater of the Marshal are at the Palace of Carancas. His advanced Guard is at Serra da Feira. 5 leagues from Porto. A constant of about 400.

On the constant of Groco 3 leagues from Porto are about 1000 cavalry.

They have not manned the former Batteries but have 6 or 8 light pieces at the Bridge leading to Vila Nova. They were very inquisitive respecting the Magazine, particularly those containing powder. General Alcina I understand by the Report of this officer is also killed by his own men. They interrogate very strictly any countrymen who visit the town there. They have seen or heard anything of the British Army approaching.

I feel it my duty to report to Your Excellency that they have now collected near 200 men of the 2nd Division of the Legion.
Legion. But amongst them are many volunteers of different regiments of the line and militia who wish only to serve under my command. This request was also made by officers as well as men.

I will not fail to remind Your Excellency the names of those officers who wish to be employed and whom I informed Your Excellency alone could appoint. I am in want of every thing to enable my men once more to face the enemy. I have only 100 stand of arms and no money to pay the troops. They are even in want of money for subsistence and other necessaries. Colonel Grant has afforded one every assistance in his power. To-day I demanded a supply of cash for the officers and men of the Legion and I received in account the sum 312 do. [reer].

Your excellency will kindly permit an observation of mine that with this small corps without arms, clothing and necessaries, nothing can be done at present with effect. To-morrow I intend to move from here towards Cork, where I shall wait for your excellency further orders.

I have the honor, to be with high respect, Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant,

Frederick Barca, Major Commandant