

THE LATEST CARLIST VICTORY.

PARTICULARS OF THE ROUTE OF THE REPUBLICAN GUNS—HOW CONCHA FELL.

Estella, Navarre, June 30.—I am able now to give the Carlist version of their latest victory. Before I begin this task I should say that before I left the Republican headquarters I ascertained that the Republican army in the three days battle were but little exaggerated by me when I stated them at 4,000 men. There were more than 3,500 men killed, wounded and prisoners, and a very large number of muskets and rifles were captured by the Carlists. The losses of the latter did not exceed 400 men; and this disproportion was due to the fact that the Carlists fought behind intrenchments. It is not true that Marshal Concha was killed while leading a charge, as some of his officers have said. He had been standing while the last charge was made, behind a stone fence about fifty yards in front of the village. As he saw his men for the last time driven helter skelter down the hill, the Carlists pursuing them, he mounted his horse and rode after them. A ball struck him in the chest, he fell and was carried to a cottage where, two hours afterwards, he died. I visited the cottage yesterday and saw the little room where he expired. The cottage is almost the only one left in the village which his troops, the same morning, had given to the flames in pure wantonness. They not only burned Abarzuza, but all the other villages which they had occupied the night before, and it was these outrages and others still worse which led to a terrible scene this morning. Among the prisoners were 192 men who were captured at or near Abarzuza on the night of the 27th. The people of the village declared that these men were those who had burned their houses, robbed them, murdered some old men, and ravished the unfortunate women who fell into their hands. A court-martial was held to examine into the truth of these awful charges, and they were found to be true. They were condemned to be shot as incendiaries and assassins, and the sentence was sent to Dorregaray for approval. Now Dorregaray, on the 16th June, had issued a proclamation, copies of which were sent to the republican army, warning them that at the first act of barbarity they committed he should give them no quarter. Here was an ample opportunity for carrying out his threat; but even Dorregaray shrank from ordering the execution of 192 men. At the last moment, when the prisoners were being confessed by the priests, and when all of them expected to be shot in a few moments, an officer arrived with an order from Dorregaray to spare the lives of all except a captain, a sergeant-major, two corporals, and nine privates. These men were picked out from their comrades and marched off together, while the rescued men were sent back under guard to their prison. They had been more guilty than their comrades, but all but two of them met their death bravely. The thirteen men were marched a short distance, and made to kneel in front of a stone wall. A firing party were drawn up there was a sharp volley, followed by two or three separate shots, and all was over.

The Carlists accounts of the great battle differ in some particulars from those received from the Republican officers. Estella itself lies in a hollow of the mountains. It has no fortifications of its own, but on the heights which circumvent it the Carlists had constructed numerous intrenchments, extending along a length of five leagues. It

was necessary for the republicans to carry these works in order to even come near enough to Estella to throw a shell into it. On the 25th and 26th Concha advanced towards this long line of entrenchments, the Carlists falling back from the villages and taking up their positions behind their works. On the morning of the 27th Concha opened fire with all his artillery along his whole line. For hours the valleys echoed the roar of more than seventy guns and the rattle of more than 30,000 rifles. As the day wore on Concha concentrated a part of his artillery upon the Carlist positions at Esaul, Echavarri, and Murregarren, and at 3 p.m. the division of General Echaque made its first attempt to carry these works by storm. They advanced gallantly enough in columns, the Carlists reserved their fire until the enemy had approached within 150 yards, and then they let them have it. The officers tell that the heaps of the enemy's columns literally melted away beneath the fire, and it was here that the Republicans suffered their greatest losses. They advanced again and again, as fast as one brigade was used up another was pushed forward to take its place. The Carlists fired with great precision and coolness, and many of the Republican officers fell. This murderous work continued until six o'clock. Occasionally the Republican infantry rested, while the artillery pounded away at the entrenchments, and then they would make another charge. You must understand that this went on at three different points, and that it lasted for three long hours. The ground in front of the intrenchments became slippery with blood, and strewn with the dead and wounded. Finally after a longer rest than usual, the columns were reformed and reinforced by the reserves, and then the supreme effort was made. It failed, as all the others had failed, and the men, at last disheartened, fairly turned their backs and began to run. The Carlists saw that the day was theirs. Giving a yell that rose above all the din of the conflict they leaped over their intrenchments and with fixed bayonets fell upon their flying foe. It was then that Concha was shot, and it was more by an accident than by skill that he did not fall into the hands of the victors. The cavalry of the republicans now was brought into requisition, but all that they could do was to cover the retreat of the infantry. By eight o'clock the republicans had been driven from all the positions which they had held in the morning. That night they occupied in retreating by their left through Villatuerto to Oteiza, and thence on to Larraga, Lerin, and Sifala. They left all their dead except Marshal Concha and 400 of their wounded. The Carlists hung upon their flank all the next day, continually harassing them. The victory was a complete one. Had the Carlists possessed a few squadrons of cavalry they would have captured the whole of the republican army artillery and all.

The *Daily Telegraph* Paris correspondent says he has reliable authority for stating that the secret convention was concluded three months ago between the Emperor and Marshal Serrano, by which Germany agreed, if necessary, to aid in the suppression of the Carlist insurrection, either with money or by means of armed intervention, and undertake to secure the recognition of the Spanish Republic by her allies. Serrano in return, pledged Spain to an alliance, offensive and defensive, with Germany. In the event of a war with France, Italy was to form the third party to the alliance.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

London, Aug. 7.—Parliament was prorogued to-day by a message from the Queen, which was read by Royal Commission.

Her Majesty thanks both Houses for voting the annual grant to Prince Leopold.

She states that the relations with all foreign powers are friendly. She explains that England is represented in the Brussels conference, but has stipulated that there shall be no change in the recognized rules of international law, and that no restrictions shall be placed upon the conduct of naval operations, and reserves the right to accept or reject the recommendations of the Conference.

The message further says negotiations have been undertaken for the renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty formerly existing between Canada and the United States. Negotiations were commenced by the desire and in the interest of Canada. They have been temporarily suspended by the adjournment of the American Senate, they will be revived soon and I hope will lead to an increase of commercial intercourse between the two countries.

I deeply lament the condition of Spain and whilst earnestly desiring the restoration of order in that country I consider non-interference as most conducive thereto.

A treaty has been concluded with the Sultan of Zanzibar providing for the gradual stopping of the slave traffic.

I am thankful that the famine in India has not been attended with much mortality which is due to the timely and precautionary measures taken by my Government.

The Gold Coast is being gradually pacified and re-organized, and the King of Ashantee is discharging his obligations.

The message proceeds to congratulate Parliament upon its work, and expresses pleasure because of the reduction in taxation; at the passage of the Factory Act by which the health of women and children will be promoted; at the passage of the Act referring to Church Patronage in Scotland, which will conduce to the religious welfare of the people, because it removes the cause of controversy; and at the passage of the Public Worship Regulation Bill, which will settle the form of worship of the Established Church.

The message concludes with the invocation of the divine blessing.

It has been found, at the English War Office, so desirable to guard against publicity in the various experiments that are now being carried on by the Torpedo Committee, that the Secretary of State for War has resolved to have a specially trained body of Royal Engineer workmen, with a private workshop at the School of Military Engineering, to construct all that is thought necessary to keep secret, as well as generally to learn to construct these future fearful engines of war throughout. At present, nearly everything that is required is given to private firms, and the consequence of this is, that some delicate piece of mechanism, that embodied what almost amounted to an important invention, has been openly exhibited at a museum on the Continent, to the no small chagrin of the author.

Mr. Spurgeon celebrated his arrival at the age of forty years, at his tabernacle, the other day, in the presence of a congregation of nearly 6,000 devoted admirers.