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Nota di contenuto	Title page -- Preparatory Notice -- CHAPTER I. -- Birth and Parentage-Enters the Militia-Volunteers into the Line-Join the Army destined for Holland-The Troops embark at Deal-- Land at the Helder-Laxity of discipline-March for Schagen-Detachment under Sir Ralph Abercromby sent to surprise Hoorne-Hoorne surrenders. -- CHAPTER II. -- The Russian Allies carry Bergen-Allow themselves to be surprised, and the whole Army forced to retire to their former position-Skirmishing in the vicinity of Old Patten-The Russians endeavour to force their way back to Bergen-The Russian and British ForceReturn to England. -- CHAPTER III. -- Arrive in England-The Pompadours embark for 1reland-Arrive at Kinsale-Privations in 1reland in 1800-Peace concluded-Our Author resolves to return home, but ultimately volunteers into the Rifle Corps or 95th-Embarks for England, and joins his Regiment at SIs promoted. -- CHAPTER IV. -- Made Pay-sergeant-Moral Reflections-Wreck of a Dutch East 1ndiaman-Reduced Officers-War with France in 1803-Encampment at Thorncliffe under the command of General Sir John Moore -Encampment broke up, November, 1804-Embark for Germany, October, 1805-VicissThe Rifle Corps, or 94th, land at Yarmouth. -- CHAPTER IV. -- Our Author made Quartermaster-Sergeant of the 2d battalion, which he joins at Feversham, Kent-Expedition to Denmark-Embark at Deal-Land at Vedbeck, Zealand-Partial Engagements-Siege

of Copenhagen-A Division under Sir Arthur Wellesley advance to Kioge-CopeLand at Deal. -- CHAPTER V. -- Our Author marries-The Battalion to which he belongs ordered to join the Expedition fitting out for Corunna- Movements of the Army in Spain Return to England. -- CHAPTER VI. Volunteering-Farther Promotion-Embarks for Portugal, with two Companies of the Second Battalion-Debarck at Cadiz-Advance to the Ida-The French occupy all the adjacent Towns, except Cadiz and the Isla-Cannonading-Spanish Army-Detachment of the Allied Army sThe Enemy repulsed with great Loss, but, from the apathy and misconduct of General La Pena, and the Spaniards under his command, the French are allowed to retain their Works in the vicinity of Cadiz. -- CHAPTER VII. -- The 2d Battalion of the Pompadours ordered to proceed to Portugal- Our Author visits England--Returns to Portugal, and joins his regiment at Rodrigo-The Army move toward, Badajos--Siege Badajos-Badajos surrenders-Insubordination among the troops -Quelled by the prompt measures of Lord Wellington. -- CHAPTER VIII. -- The army leave Badajos on the 11th of April, and move into quarters near the river Agueda, where they remain till the 11th of June-Advance towards Salamanca, which, with the exception of three forts, the enemy had evacuated-The forts invested-The main bodMovements of the army. -- CHAPTER IX. -- Preparations for the Field-Amusements in winter quarters-Grand Review-Advance of the Army in pursuit of the Enemy-Come up with their rearguard in the vicinity of Horning de Camino-Skirmishing-Encounter with the 1st brigade of the Enemy, who are beaten, anRemarks. -- CHAPTER X. -- Advance in pursuit of the Enemy-Our Forces retreat, in order to counteract Soult's movements for the succour of Pamplona-Total defeat of Soult in the several Actions near Pamplona-Our Forces again advance-Come up with the retreating Enemy at the Bridge atA considerable body of the Enemy attacked at the Pass of Eschallar, and forced to retreat. -- CHAPTER XI. The Author, from a mistake, loses his Servants for a few days-A Feast of Death-A Feast of Life-Fighting near St Sebastian-Singular instance of Spanish Bravery-St Sebastian is captured, but no Details given, the Author not baying been present-Attack of the Pass of Vera. -- CHAPTER XII. -- The British Army advance farther into France-Pass the Nive-Soult's Plans baffled-Two or three battalions of the Nassau and Frankfort regiments come over from the French-French Politesse -Threatened Attack by the French-Battle of the Nive-Account of the Basques. -- CHAPTER XIII. -- The Author's Battalion quartered in Aurantz on 3d January, 1814-The Cantonments at Aurantz broke up on 16th February, and the Campaign of 1814 commenced-Farther Advance into France-Skirmishing with the Enemy-Military Manoeuvres-Battle of Orthez-Defeat andThe Enemy retire towards Toulouse. -- CHAPTER XIV. -- The British Army cross the Garonne-Advance on Toulouse-Prepare for the Attack-The Attack-Spaniards driven back-Battle very hot-French completely defeated-Soult evacuates Toulouse, and tardily adheres to the Bourbons. -- CHAPTER XV. -- Author's happy state during 1813 and 1814-Character of the veritable French-British distributed over the Country-Civility of the Inhabitants of Grissolles-Amusements in quarters-The British prepare to quit France. -- CHAPTER XVI. -- Author's Battalion embark for England-Land at Plymouth-Expect to be again ordered on Foreign Service-Order received-Embark, with other troops, for America-Land at Pine 1sland. -- CHAPTER XVII. -- Proceed to attack the Enemy, and capture one of their picquets-Advance in search of a Bivouack-Alarmed by shots in front-Fired on by an American schooner-Captain Hallett severely attacked-Manoeuvres on both sides-Ruse of the Enemy-Fighting

continues-EnemyActivity of the Enemy. -- CHAPTER XVIII.

British Army told off into Brigades-Advance, and are hotly received-Heroism of a young Artillery Officer-We take up a fresh position-The Enemy work incessantly in raising an extensive breastwork-Two Batteries erected, from which our heavy Ship Artillery aPreparations for a grand attack on the Enemy's lines, which entirely fails, and the British are repulsed with great loss. -- CHAPTER XIX. -- Bravery and Success of Colonel Thornton-Negotiation for leave to transport the Wounded across the River-Insult offered to the British-They retreat-Our Army embark, and determine to make an Attack upon Mobile-Proceed in the direction of Mobile Bay-A BrigadCessation of Hostilities. -- CHAPTER XX -- Ratification of the Treaty of Peace-Exchange of Prisoners-Our Troops embark for England-When off the coast of Ireland, receive intelligence of Bonaparte's escape from Elba-The Author and his Battalion reach the Downs, and proceed to Thorncliffe-Embark forReturns home in consequence, takes advantage of Lord Palmerston's Bill, and retires on full pay. -- APPENDIX.

Sommario/riassunto

A thoughtful account from the ranks of the Rifle Brigade, by a former enlisted man who raised himself to the rank of quarter-master and served throughout the Peninsular War and the expedition to America which met with a disastrous end at New Orleans. Surtees' account of his service with the famed 95th rifles is littered with vivid descriptions of the battles and actions that he was engaged including, the battles of Barossa (perhaps the best first-hand account of the battle in which the British captured the eagle of the 8th de Ligne) , Vittoria, Orthez and Toulouse. He was also present at the siege of Badajoz and terrible retreat under Sir John Moore. He also casts a thoughtful eye on the lot of the average ranker in the army, and the severe discipline that they served under; having seen the sack of Badajoz and court-martials he recorded that; "An English army is perhaps, generally speaking, under stricter discipline than any other in the world; but in proportion as they are held tight while they are in hand, if circumstances occur to give them liberty, I know of no army more difficult to restrain when once broke loose. "A fine memoir of a hard-campaigning soldier. Author - William Surtees (4th August 1781 - 28th May 1830)
