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Intro -- ERRATA -- CHAPTER I. -- The Author's motives.-His entrance to military life.-Sketches of officers.-Lieutenant Colonel Stewart.- Lieutenant Colonel White.-A harassing march.-Changes of name in the 50th Regiment.-Arrival at Portsmouth.-The Embarkation. -- CHAPTER II. -- The expedition under sail.-Rough Weather in the Bay of Biscay.- Christmas festivities prevented.-The expedition is compelled to put back.-The troops are relanded.-The expedition sails again.-Its arrival at Gibraltar.-Motley population of the place.-The libVisit to Cadiz. -- CHAPTER III. -- Campaign in Portugal.-Arrival at Mondego Bay.-A cool disembarkation.-Bustle of encamping.-Skirmish at Obidos.-Action at Rolica.-Death of Colonel Lake.-March of the army towards Vimeiro.- Junot's contempt of the British.-Battle of Vimeiro.-The British troopConvention of Cintra. -- CHAPTER IV. -- March to Lisbon.- Enthusiastic reception of the English army.-Danger of night rambles.- Encampment at Monte Santo.-The army marches towards the frontier.- Santarem-A domestic occupation.-Bad quarters.-Pleasant life of a soldier.-Description of troops on theiFriendly conduct of the inhabitants. -- CHAPTER V. -- March to Salamanca.-Sir David Baird.- Passage of the Esla.-Merit of the camp females.-Halt at Lugo.-Short commons.-Suffering from want of sleep.-Lieutenant McCarthy.- Inclemency of the weather.-Exertions of Sir David Baird.-Distribution of shoes.-Odd fits.-Coruna in sight. -- CHAPTER VI. -- The troops at Coruna.-Alarming explosion of a powder magazine.-The brigade takes up a position near Coruna.-Admirable conduct of Sir John Moore.- Positions of the hostile armies.-French clamours in the field.-The outposts are attacked.-Bravery of Major NapDeparture from Spain. -- CHAPTER VII. Quarters at Braborne Lees.-Removal to Ashford.-Character of the 55th and 68th regiments.-Quarters at Ashford.-Hauteur of the Ashfordians. -Quarters at Reading Street.-Officers ordered to the Isle of Wight.- Ludicrous journey thither.-The troops embark for WQuarters at East Bourne -- CHAPTER VIII. -- The 1st battalion is ordered to Portugal.- Lord Balgonie.-Arrival at Lisbon.-March to Abrantes.-Bad quarters at Abrantes.-Halt at Garvao.-A family at Gafete.-Bugs left as a legacy by the French.-Situation of Portalegre.-The grand Cathedral.-Seclusion of thThe crabbed Donna Elvira and her gloomy abode -- CHAPTER IX. -- General Hill is despatched to surprise General Girard's corps.-The heights of Alegrete.-The division encounters a furious storm.-Halt at Codideira.-Kindness of the musters.-Superciliousness of the dragoon officers.-Offensive and absurd superiority assumedQuarters at Campo Mayor. -- CHAPTER X. -- Quarters at Albuquerque and Portalegre.- House in which the Author was quartered.-March to Don Benito.-Family of Don Diego Ramirez.-Style of living.-The second division sent to the neighbourhood of Badajoz.-The author visits Badajoz.-Difficulty of approachBravery of Lieut. McCarthy. -- CHAPTER XI. -- Arrival at Truxillo.-A force detached to reduce the forts of Almaraz.-Solitariness of the march.-Arrangements for the attack.-Hot fire from the enemy.- Obstinate defence of Fort Napoleon.-Death of Captain Robert Candler.- The Fort is carried by storm.-BraveRepast after the success. -- CHAPTER XII. -- The troops return to Truxillo.-Description of Truxillo.- The Pizarro palace.-A paltry bull-fight.-March to Fuentes du Maestro.- Quarters at Don Benito.-Kindness of the inhabitants.-Wedding at Don Benito.-The bride and bridegroom described.-Assemblies in theGardens and groves of the place. -- CHAPTER XIII. Excursion to Madrid with a brother officer.-The travelers lose their way.- A surly Don refuses admission.-They arrive at Villa Conejo.-The inhabitants of the valleys are often robbers.-Sinister countenances of some of the villagers.-The travelers at last oDifficulty of obtaining

admission into the houses in Madrid -- CHAPTER XIV. -- The travelers return to Aranjuez.-March of the army towards Madrid.-Halt at the Escurial.-Situation of the Palace.-Enormous magnitude of the building.-The army proceeds on its march.-Description of the pass of Guadarama.-Sculpture in the pass.-The army haDescription of the Belem Rangers -- CHAPTER XV. -- March of the regiment to Monte Hermosa.-Banditti in the neighbourhood.-Journey to Placentia Description of the party.-Forest of Carcabosa.-The author arrives at Placentia.-He is quartered at the house of Francisco Barona.-His host's wife and her lover.-ReInharmonious music and heavy dancing. -- CHAPTER XVI. -- March from Villa Hermosa.-Bridge at Gihon.-Halt at La Sacita.-The author is quartered at the house of Bernado Lopez.-Hospitality of his host.-The march resumed.-Puerto de Banos.-Arrival at Bejar.-Warm reception given to the troops.-Fears entertained of thGratitude of the inhabitants of Bejar -- CHAPTER XVII. -- The regiment quits Bejar.-March through the Valley of the Ebro.-Halt at La Puebla.-Orders given to prepare for action.-Battle of Vittoria.-Hungry condition of the British troops.-Colonel Cadogan is killed.-His character.-Birds'-eye view of the battle-fielNight bivouac. -- CHAPTER XVIII. -- March to Pampeluna.-A storm in the Pyrenees.-Lieut. Masterman killed by lightning.-Movements on the enemy's Hanks.-Beauty of the Vale of Bastan.-halt of the army near Elisonda.-Marshal Soult resolves to regain his lost ground.-Another storm in the PyreneesThe battle terminates in favour of the British. -- CHAPTER XIX. The Author is wounded in the battle of the Pyrenees.-He is sent to the hospital station at Vittoria.-Motley group of the wounded.-The Author is quartered on a partisan of the French.-Lieutenant Pattison.-Captain Gough.-Vittoria and its vicinity.-MelancholHe lands at Plymouth. -- CHAPTER XX. -- Exploits of the 50th regiment subsequent to the Author's leaving Spain: Action at Aire.-Death of Lieutenant D. McDonald.-Good fortune of Lieutenant Colonel Harrison.-Officers killed and wounded in the campaign of 1914.-Estimate of the relative merit of thCharacters of Captain Philip Blassiere. -- CHAPTER XXI. -- The 50th regiment in quarters at Aughnacloy.-It removes to Enniskillen.-Recruiting quarters at Londonderry.-Still hunting.-Disgusting nature of that service.-Stratagems of the illicit distillers.-Pursuit of outlaws and robbers.-Magennis, a noted villain.-The informer is murdered -- CHAPTER XXII. -- The Author is ordered to join the regiment in the Nest Indies.-He embarks at Cove.-Uncomfortable state of the sleeping berths.-Pleasant society on hoard.-The pilot is charged with numerous farewells.-Sea sickness.-No compassion felt for its victims.-AmusiPrying visitors from the shore -- CHAPTER XXIII. -- Visit to Port Royal.-Tavern there.-Description of Port Royal.-The Author lands at Kingston.-He proceeds to Up-Park Camp.-Terrible mortality among the troops.-Death of Colonel Hill.-His character.-Picturesque situation of Up-Park Camp.-Its extreme insalubrUnhealthiness of Spanish Town -- CHAPTER XXIV. -- The author embarks for England.-Course of the vessel.-Sharks not palatable food.-A visit from a Buenos Ayres privateer.-Rough weather.-A northwester hurricane.-Its terrific appearance and effects.-Misery below deck.-Meritorious conduct of Mr. -Grant, the MThe Author lands at Deal.

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Sommario/riassunto

This book, originally published in 1837, recounts the experiences and adventures of Captain John Patterson and the 50th, or Queen's Own Regiment, during the Napoleonic Wars from 1807 to 1821. The narrative offers detailed accounts of military campaigns, battles, and the daily life of soldiers. It highlights key events such as the expedition to Cadiz, the battle at Vimeiro, and operations in Spain and Portugal. The author's purpose is to document the regiment's service and valor,

with a dedication to Queen Victoria. The book is primarily intended for readers interested in military history and the personal experiences of soldiers in the early 19th century.

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