

cover our retreat should such an evolution be necessary, and we immediately pushed forward with the Main Body towards the Church, on our March we had frequent views of the Enemy's reconnoitring parties, and when within a Mile and a half of Farnham the Strimishers discovered part of his Force drawn up across the Road, which is narrow, and on each side closely Wooded; on a little Hill ~~to~~ in the rear of his Troops he had stationed his Field Pieces, and from them he fired several ineffectual Shot.

The Enemy conceived himself ~~to~~ so secure in his position, that he frequently hailed us to advance, saying, they were more than a match for our numbers.

Captain Hamilton of the Havannah and Col^l Malcolm agreeing with me on the method of attack, the Light Division was directed to amuse the Enemy in front and on his right, while the Main Body penetrated the Wood on his left, with intent to gain the Rear, so thick was the Wood that we were frequently obliged to crawl through it, at length after much difficulty; we gained an open Field on the Enemy left under a Hill, which partly obscured us till we were formed, when we advanced to Charge the Enemy, who on discovering this movement of the Main Body, called in his advance and altering his line formed on the cross road near the Church protected by some Houses; his Artillery was ill served, but his Troops appeared determined to defend their Post, as they allowed us to approach within Musquet range without firing a Shot, in this situation we were stopped for a few minutes by a deep Ditch and staked Hedge; meantime the Light Troops gallantly advanced on the

(cont.)