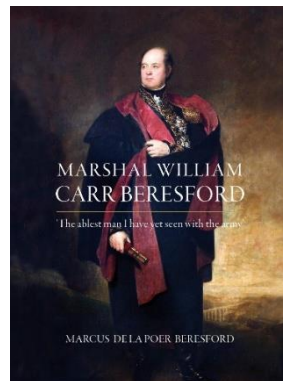




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MARSHAL WILLIAM CARR BERESFORD

Marcus de la Poer Beresford

The Duke of Wellington referred to William Carr Beresford as ‘*the ablest man I have yet seen in the army*’, and Beresford is certainly one of the most celebrated Irish soldiers ever to fight in overseas service. The child of the 1st Marquis of Waterford, Beresford was not only a loyal colleague of the Duke of Wellington, but also a close and trusted confidant, and he was widely considered Wellington’s ‘strong right arm’. Remarkably, unlike the rest of Wellington’s generals, there has never been a biography of Beresford, but now this book tells the story of an outstanding military career of lasting influence.

Beresford joined the British army in 1785, serving in the Mediterranean, Egypt, South Africa and South America, before further distinguishing himself – and winning Wellington’s considerable esteem – as Marshal of the Portuguese forces during the Peninsular War. Dispatched to Portugal to rebuild its army in the fight against Napoleon, Beresford was so successful that Wellington integrated the Portuguese and British armed forces in that struggle.

Marshal William Carr Beresford is the long overdue biography of a celebrated and distinguished Irishman, honoured and decorated by the governments of Great Britain, Portugal and Spain, who served as Commander in Chief of the Portuguese army for eleven years. This handsome hardback book, complete with numerous illustrations and maps, follows the trajectory of Beresford’s extensive military career and reveals a relationship with Wellington that was to endure for the rest of their lives. Available now in all good bookshops, online, and at www.iap.ie (HB RRP €35/£30).

About the Author: **Marcus de la Poer Beresford** read history at Trinity College Dublin, before qualifying as a lawyer. Marcus retired from legal practice in 2010 after three decades as a partner in the Dublin firm of A & L Goodbody in order to return to his first love, history. His earlier research and postgraduate thesis focused on Ireland in the eighteenth century, and the Irish diaspora following the Treaty of Limerick in 1691. He is a distant relative of William Carr Beresford.

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