

i441.1144

off, not 100 sleigh-loads, but " several barrels," of provisions ; and that colonel Scott, on " hearing of the approach of the American troops, retreated in great confusion."\* Had the American troops travelled somewhat more slowly, a second opportunity would have been afforded them, of trying their boasted " hardihood and resolution" before a small corps of British ; and the signal for battle would have at once dispelled from the minds of the latter all thoughts of desertion. But the American commander reserved his men, perhaps, to carry into effect some ulterior plan of annoyance, less subject to " hard blows" in its progress, or to " chance" in its result, than any of the numerous plans he had already been projecting.

\* Sketches of the War, p. 256.

## APPENDIX.

### No. 1.

*From captain Roberts to the adjutant-general.*

Sin, A. Fort-Michilimaeinac, July 17, 18124

ON the 15th instiA I received letteriS, by express, from major.general Brock, viit'h" 6theiet to adtiPt' the most prudent measures either for offence or defence, which circumstances might point out ; and having received intelligence from the best information, that large reinforcements were expected to be thrown into this garrison, with the thorough conviction that my situation at St. Joseph's was totally indefensible, I determined to lose no time in mating the meditated attack on this fort.

On the 16th, at Id O'eltic'k in the morning, embarked my few men, with about 180 Canadians, and two iron 6-pounders. The boats arrived without the smallest accident at the port of rendezvous, at three o'clock the following morning ; by the exertions of the Canadians, one of the guns was brought up a height commanding the garrison, "and ready to act **about 10** o'clock. A summons was then sent in ; a copy **of the capita'** lation which followed I have the honorAO ericloseti At 12 o'clock the American colours were hauled down, **and those** his majesty were hoisted. A committee has been appOinted to examine into the state of the public stores.

Enclosed also are the returns of the ordnance and military stores found in the fort, and the 'strength of the garrison. The greatest prai e is duo to every individual employed in the

expedition ; to my own officers I am indebted, in particular, for their active assistance in carrying all my orders into effect.

I have the honor to be, &c.

CHAS. ROBERTS, Capt. Coin.

The adjutant-gen. &c. &c. &c.

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## No. 2.

### *American capitulation.*

Heights above Fort-Michilimacinac, July 17, 18124

Capitulation agreed upon between captain Charles Roberts, commanding his Britannic majesty's forces, on the one part, and lieutenant Hanks, commanding the forces of the United States of America, on the other.

Article I. The fort of Michilimacinac shall immediately be surrendered to the British forces.

Art. II. The garrison shall march out with the honors of war, lay down their arms, and become prisoners of war, and shall be sent to the United States of America by his Britannic majesty, not to serve this war until regularly exchanged ; and for the due performance of this article the officers pledge their word and honor.

Art. III. All the merchant vessels in the harbor, with their respective cargoes, shall be in possession of their respective **Owners.**

Art. IV. Private property shall be held sacred as far as in my power.

Art. **V.** All citizens of the United States, who shall not take the oath of allegiance to his Britannic majesty, shall depart with their property from the island, in one month from the date hereof.

CHARLES ROBERTS, captain, commanding  
his Britannic majesty's troops.

Lieut. HANKS, commanding the forces of the  
United States at Fort-Miehilimacinae.

Return of the garrison of Fort-Michilimacinac.

Two first-lieutenants, one surgeon's mate, three serjeants, four corporals, five musicians, six artificers, 39 privates, one private sick.—Total 61.

Return of ordnance taken in Fort-Michilimacinac.

Two brass 51 inch howitzers, two brass 6-pounders on garrison carriages, one brass 3-pounder on a garrison carriage, two iron 9-pounders on garrison carriages.

With a considerable proportion of ammunition and ordnance stores.

ALEX. PILMOUR, military conductor of stores.

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## No 3.

**r** *From lieutenant Hanks to general Hull,*

Sin,

Detroit, August 14th, 1812

I take the earliest opportunity to acquaint your excellency, of the surrender of the garrison of Michilimacinac under my command, to his Britannic majesty's forces under the command of captain Charles Roberts, on the 17th ultimo. On the 16th I was informed that several nations of Indians then at St. Joseph's, and a British detachment, distant 45 miles, intended to make an immediate attack on Michilimacinac; I accordingly despatched captain Daurman to St. Joseph's to watch the Indians ; he embarked about sun-set and met the British forces within 10 or 15 miles of the island, by whom he was made prisoner, and put on his parole of honor. He was landed on the island at day-break, with positive orders to give no intelligence whatever ; he was also instructed to take the inhabitants' of the village, indiscriminately, to a place on the west side of the island, where their persons and property would be protected by a British guard ; but, should they go to the fort, they would

A A 2

be subject to a general massacre by the savages, which would be inevitable if the garrison fired a gun. This information I received from Dr. Day, who was passing through the village, when every person was flying for refuge to the enemy. Immediately on being informed of the approach of the enemy, I placed ammunition, &c. in the block-houses, 7Irdred every gun to be charged, and every preparation for action. About nine o'clock, I could discover that the enemy were in possession of the heights that commanded the fort, and one Ode of artillery directed to the most defenceless part of the garrison. The Indians at this time were to be seen at the edge of the woods. At half-past 11 o'clock, the enemy sent in a flag of truce, demanding a surrender of the fort and island to his Britannic majesty's forces: - This, sir, was the first information I had of the declaration of war ; I had however anticipated it, and was as well prepared to meet such an event, as I possibly could have been with the force under my command, amounting to 57 effective men, including officers.

Gen. Hull.

I have the honor to be, &c.

HANKS.

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NO. 4.

*General Hull's proclamation.*

By William Hull, brigadier-general and commander of the North-western army of the United States;

A rnocLAmATior.

Inhabitants of Canada,

After 30 years of peace and prosperity, the United States have been driven to arms; The injuries and aggressions, the insults and indignities of Great Britain, have once more left them no alternative but' manly resistance, or unconditional submission. The army under my command has invaded your

country ; the standard of the United States now waves over the territory of Canada. To the peaceable unoffending inhabitants, it brings neither danger nor difficulty. I come to find enemies, not to make them. I come to protect, not to injure you.

Separated by an immense ocean, and an extensive wilderness, from Great Britain, you have no participation in her councils, no interest in her conduct.

You have felt her tyranny ; you have seen her injustice ; but I do not ask you to avenge the one, or to redress the other. The United States are sufficiently powerful to afford every security, consistent with their rights and your expectations. I tender you the invaluable blessing of civil, political, and religious liberty, and their necessary result, individual and general prosperity ; that liberty which gave decision to our councils, and energy to our conduct, in a struggle for independence, which conducted us safely and triumphantly through the stormy period of the revolution—the liberty which has raised us to an elevated rank among the nations of the world, and which afforded us a greater measure of peace and security, of wealth and improvement than ever fell to the lot of any people. In the name of my country, and the authority of government, I promise you protection to you persons, property, and rights : remain at your homes ; pursue your peaceful and customary avocations ; raise not your hands against your brethren. Many of your fathers fought for the freedom and independence we now enjoy.,,Lieing children, therefore, of the same family with us, and heirs of the same heritage, the arrival of an army of friends must be hailed by you with a cordial welcome. You will be emancipated from tyranny and oppression, and restored to the dignified station of, freedom. Had I any doubt of eventual success, I might ask your assistance ; but I do not. I come prepared for every contingency—I hal e a force which will break down all opposition, and that force is but the vanguard of a much greater. If contrary to your own interests, and the just expectations of my country, you should take part in the approaching contest, you will be considered and treated

as enemies ; and the horrors and calamities of war will stalk before you. If the barbarous and savage policy of Great Britain be pursued, and the savages are let loose to murder our citizens, and butcher our women and children, this war will be a war of extermination. The first stroke of the tomahawk—the first attempt with the scalping-knife, will be the signal of one indiscriminate scene of desolation. No white man found fighting by the side of an indian, will be taken prisoner— instant death will be his lot. If the dictates of reason, duty, justice, and humanity, cannot prevent the employment of a force which respects no rights, and knows no wrong, it will be prevented by a severe and relentless system of retaliation. I doubt not your courage and firmness—I will not doubt your attachment to liberty. If you tender your services voluntarily, they will be accepted readily. The United States offer you peace, liberty, and security. Your choice lies between these and war, slavery and destruction. Choose then ; but choose isely ; and may he who knows the justice of our cause, and who holds in his hand the fate of nations, guide you to a result the most compatible with your rights and interests, your peace and happiness.

*By the general,*

A. P. HULL.

Captain of the 3d *United* States' regiment of infantry, and  
Aide de camp. Ithead-quarters, Sandwich, July 12, 1812.

WILLIAM HULL,

*new · o · roworreeoe,*

No. 5.

*Alajor-general Broke's proclamation, in answer.*

The unprovoked declaration of war by the United States of America, against the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and its dependencies, has been followed by the actual

invasion of this province, in a remote frontier of the western districts, by a detachment of the United States.

The officer commanding that detachment has thought proier to invite his majesty's subjects, not merely to a quiet and unre-sisting submission, but insults them with a call to seek volun-tarily the protection of his government.

Without condescending to repeat the illiberal epithets lac-stowed, in this appeal of the American commander to the people of Upper Canada, on the administration of his majesty, every inhabitant of the province is desired to seek the confutation of such indecent slander in the review of his own particular cir-cumstances. Where is the Canadian subject who can truly affirm to himself, that he has been injured by the government, in his person, his property, or his liberty ? Where is to be found, in any part of the world, a growth so rapid in pros-perity and wealth, as this colony exhibits ? Settled, not 30 years, by a band of veterans, exiled from their former posses-sions on account of their loyalty, not a descendant of these brave people is to be found, who, under the fostering liberality of their sovereign, has not acquired a property and means of enjoyment superior to what were possessed by their ancestors.

This unequalled prosperity would not have been attained by the utmost liberality of the government, or the persevering industry of the people, had not the maritime power of the mother country secured' to its colonists a safe access to every market, where the produce of their labour was in request.

The unavoidable and immediate consequences of a separation from Great Britain must be the loss of this inestimable advan-tage ; and what is offered you in exchange ? To become a territory of the United States, and share with them that exclu-sion from the ocean which the policy of their government enforces ; you are not even flattered with a participation of their boasted independence; and it is but too obvious that, once estranged from the powerful protection of the United King-dam, you must be re.annexed to the dominion of France, from

which the provinces of Canada were wrested by the arms of Great Britain, at a vast expense of blood and treasure, from no other motive than to relieve her ungrateful children from the oppression of a cruel neighbour. This restitution of Canada to the empire of France, was the stipulated reward for the aid afforded to the revolted colonies, now the United States; the debt is still due, and there can be no doubt but the pledge has been renewed as a consideration for commercial advantages, or rather for an expected relaxation in the tyranny of France over the commercial world. Are you prepared, inhabitants of Canada, to become willing subjects, or rather slaves, to the despot who rules the nations of Europe with a rod of iron? If not, arise in a body, exert your energies, co-operate cordially with the king's regular force to repel the invader, and do not give cause to your children, when groaning under the oppression of a foreign master, to reproach you with having so easily parted with the richest inheritance of this earth—a participation in the name, character, and freedom, of Britons; the same spirit of justice, which will make every reasonable allowance for the unsuccessful efforts of zeal and loyalty, will not fail to punish the defalcation of principle. Every Canadian freeholder is, by deliberate choice, bound by the most solemn oaths to defend the monarchy, as well as his own property; to shrink from that engagement is a treason not to be forgiven. Let no man suppose that if, in this unexpected struggle, his majesty's arms should be compelled to yield to an overwhelming force, that the province will be eventually abandoned; the endeared relation of its first settlers, the intrinsic value of its commerce, and the pretensions of its powerful rival to repossess the Canadas, are pledges that no peace will be established between the United States and Great Britain and Ireland, of which the restoration of those provinces does not make the most prominent condition.

Be not dismayed at the unjustifiable threat of the commander of the enemy's forces, to refuse quarter, should an Indian

appear in the ranks. The brave bands of natives which inhabit this colony, were, like his majesty's subjects, punished for their zeal and fidelity, by the loss of their possessions in the late colonies, and rewarded by his majesty with lands of superior value in this province.

The faith of the British government has never yet been violated—they feel that the soil they inherit is to them and their posterity protected from the base arts, so frequently devised to over-reach their sympathy. By what new principle are they to be prohibited from defending their property? If their warfare, from being different to that of the white people, is more terrific to the enemy, let him retrace his steps. They seek him not; and cannot expect to find women and children in an invading army. But they are men, and have equal rights with all other men to defend themselves and their property when invaded, more especially when they find in the enemy's camp a ferocious and mortal foe, using the same warfare which the American commander affects to reprobate.

This inconsistent and unjustifiable threat of refusing quarter, for such a cause as being found in arms with a brother-sufferer, in defence of invaded rights, must be exercised with the certain assurance of retaliation, not only in the limited operations of war in this part of the king's dominions, but in every quarter of the globe; for the national character of Britain is not less distinguished for humanity than retributive justice, which will consider the execution of the threat as deliberate murder, for which every subject of the offending power shall make expiation.

ISAAC BROCK, major.gen. and president.

Head quarters, Fort. George, July 22, 1812.

By order of his honor the president,

J. A. GLEGG, captain and aide de camp.

## No. 6.

*From major-general Brock to sir George Prevost.*

San,

H. Q. Detroit, Aug. 17.

I have had the honor of informing your excellency, that the enemy effected his passage across the Detroit river on the 12th ult. without opposition ; and that, after establishing himself at Sandwich, he had ravaged the country as far as the Moravian town. Some skirmishes occurred between the troops under lieut.-col. St. George and the enemy, upon the river Canard, which uniformly terminated in his being repulsed with loss. I judged it proper to detach a force down the river Thames, capable of acting in conjunction with the garrison of Amherstburg offensively, but captain Chambers, whom I had appointed to direct this detachment, experienced difficulties that frustrated my intentions. The intelligence received from that quarter admitting of no delay, colonel Proctor was directed to assume the command, and his force was soon after increased, with sixty rank and file of the -tist regiment.

In the mean time, the most strenuous measures were adopted to counteract the machinations of the evil-disposed, and I soon experienced the gratification of receiving voluntary offers of service from that portion of the embodied militia the most easily collected. In the attainment of this important point, gentlemen of the first character and influence sheaved an example highly creditable to them ; and I cannot, on this occasion, avoid mentioning the essential assistance I derived from John M'Donell, esq. his majesty's attorney-general, who, from the beginning of the war, has honored me with his services as my provincial aide de camp. A sufficiency of boats being collected at Long Point for the conveyance of 300 men, the embarkation took place on the 8th instant, and in five days we arrived in safety at Amherstburg.

I found that the judicious arrangement which had been adopted immediately upon the arrival of colonel Proctor, had

compelled **the enemy to retreat, and take shelter under the** guns of his fort, : that officer commenced **operations, by sending** strong detachments across **the river, with a view of cutting** off the enemy's communication with his service.

This produced two smart skirmishes on the **5th and 9th inst.** in which the enemy's loss was considerable, whilst ours **amounted** to three killed, and 13 wounded ; amongst the latter, I **have** particularly to regret captain Muir and lieutenant Sutherland, of the 41st regiment : the former an officer of great experience, and both ardent in his majesty's service. Batteries had likewise been commenced opposite Fort-Detroit, for one 18-pounder, two 12, and two 51 inch mortars ; all of which opened on the evening of the 15th, (having previously summoned brigadier-gen. Hull to surrender,) and although opposed by a well-directed fire from seven 24-pounders, such was their construction, under the able direction of captain Dixon, of the royal engineers, that no injury was sustained from its effect.

The force at my disposal being collected in the course of the 15th in the neighbourhood of Sandwich, the embarkation took place a little after day-light on the following morning, and the able arrangements of lieutenant Dewar, of the quarter-master-general's department, the whole was, in a short time, landed without the smallest confusion at Spring Well, a good position, three miles west of Detroit. The Indians, who had in the mean time effected their landing two miles below, moved forward and occupied the woods, about a mile and a half on our left.

The force, which I instantly directed to march against the enemy, consisted of 30 royal artillery, 250 41st regiment, 50 royal Newfoundland regiment, 400 militia, and about 600 Indians, to which were attached three 6-pounders and two 3-pounders. The service of lieutenant Troughton, commanding the royal artillery, an active and intelligent officer, being required in the field, the direction of the batteries was intrusted to captain Hall, and the marine department, and I cannot withhold my entire approbation of their conduct on this occasion.

I crossed the river, with an intention of waiting in a strong position the effect of our force upon the enemy's camp, and in hopes of compelling him to meet us in the field ; but receiving information upon landing, that colonel M 'Arthur, an officer of high reputation, had joined the garrison three days before with a detachment of 500 men, and hearing, soon afterwards, that his cavalry had been seen that morning three miles in our rear, I decided on an immediate attack. Accordingly, the troops advanced to within one mile of the fort, and having ascertained that the enemy had taken little or no precaution towards the land-side, I resolved on an assault, whilst the Indians penetrated his camp. Brigadier-gen. Hull, however, prevented this movement, by proposing a cessation of hostilities, for the purpose of preparing terms of capitulation. Lieutenant-col. John M'Donell and captain Clegg were accordingly deputed by me on this mission, and returned within an hour with the conditions, which I have the honor herewith to transmit. Certain considerations afterwards induced me to agree to the two supplementary articles.

The force thus surrendered to his majesty's arms, cannot be estimated at less than 2500 men. In this estimate, colonel M 'Arthur's detachment is included, as he surrendered, agreeably to the terms of capitulation, in the course of the evening, (with the exception of 200 Men, whom he left escorting a valuable convoy at some little distance in his rear ; but there can be no doubt the commanding officer will consider himself equally bound by the capitulation.

The enemy's aggregate force was divided into two troops of cavalry ; one company of artillery engineers ; the 4th United States' regiment ; detachments of the 1st and 3d United States' regiments, volunteers ; three regiments of the Ohio militia ; one regiment of the Michigan territory.

Thirty-three pieces of brass and iron ordnance have already been secured.

When this contest commenced, many of the Indian nations were engaged in the active warfare with the United States, not

withstanding the constant endurance of this government to dissuade them from it. Some of the principal chiefs happened to be at Amherstburgh, trying to procure a supply of arms and ammunition, which for years had been withheld, agreeably to the instructions received from sir James Craig, and since repeated by your excellency.

From that moment they took a most active part, and appeared foremost on every occasion ; they were led yesterday by colonel Elliot and captain M'Kie, and nothing could exceed their order and steadiness. A few prisoners were taken by them, during the advance, whom they treated with every humanity ; and it affords me much pleasure in assuring your excellency, that such was their forbearance and attention to what was required of them, that the enemy sustained no other loss in men than what was occasioned by the fire of our batteries.

The high sense I entertain of the abilities of the judgment of lieutenant-col. Myers, induced me to appoint him to the important command at Niagara ; \*as with reluctance I deprived myself of his assistance, but had no other expedient ; his duties, as head of the quarter-master-general's department, were performed to my satisfaction by lieutenant-colonel Nichol, quarter-master-general of the militia.

Captain Glegg, my aide-de-camp, will have the honor of delivering this despatch to your excellency ; he is charged with the colours taken at the capture of Fort-Detroit, and those of the 4th United States' regiment.

Captain Glegg is capable of giving your excellency every information respecting the state of this province, and I shall esteem myself highly indebted to your excellency to afford him that protection, to which his merit and length of service give him a powerful claim.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ISAAC BROCK, major-general.

P. S. I have the honor to enclose a copy of a Proclamation which I issued immediately on taking possession of this country.

I should have mentioned in the body of my despatch the capture of the Adams ; she is a fine vessel, and recently repaired, but without arms.

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### No. 7.

#### *Capitulation of Fort-Detroit.*

Camp at Detroit, Aug. 16, 1812.

Capitulation for the surrende4 of Fort-Detroit,' entered into between maj.-gen. Brock, commanding his Britannic majesty's forces, on the one part, and brigadier-gen. Hull, commanding the north-western army of the United States on the other part.

Article I. Fort-Detroit, with all the troops, regulars as well as militia, will be immediately surrendered to the British forces under the command of maj.-gen. Brock, and will be considered as prisoners of war, with the exception of such of the militia of the Michigan territory, who have not joined the army.

Art. II. All public stores, arms, and all public documents, including every thing else of a public nature, will be immediately given up.

Art. III. Private persons, and property of every description will be respected.

Art. IV. His excellency, brigadier-general Hull, having expressed a desire that a detachment from the state of Ohio, on its way to join his army, as well as one sent from Fort-Detroit, under the command of colonel M 'Arthur, should be included in the capitulation, it is accordingly agreed to. It is, however, to be understood, that such part of the Ohio militia as have not joined the army, will be permitted to return to their homes, on condition that they will not serve during the war ; their arms will be delivered up, if belonging to the public.

Art. V. The garrison will march out at the hour of 12 this

day, and the British forces will take immediate possession of the fort.

J. MACDONELL, lieut..col. militia, P. A. D. C.

J. B. GLEGG, major, A. D. C.

JAMES MIETER, lieut.-col. 5th U. S. infantry.

E. BRUSH, col. commanding 1st regiment of Michigan militia.

Approved—W. HULL, brig.-gen. commanding the N. W. army.

Approved—ISAAC BROCK, major-general.

An article supplementary to the articles of capitulation, concluded at Detroit, the 16th of August, 1812.

It is agreed that the officers and soldiers of Ohio militia and volunteers shall be permitted to proceed to their respective homes, on this condition, that they do not serve during the present war, unless they are exchanged.

W. HULL, brig.-gen. commanding U.S. N. W. army.

ISAAC BROCK, maj. gen.

An article in addition to the supplementary article of capitulation, concluded at Detroit, the 16th August, 1812.

It is further agreed that the officers and soldiers of the Michigan militia and volunteers, under the command of major Weatherall, shall be placed on the same principles as the Ohio militia and volunteers are placed by the supplementary article,

of the 16th instant. W. HULL, brig.-gen. commanding the N. W. army U. S.

ISAAC BROCK, maj.-gen.

Return of the ordnance taken in the fort and batteries at Detroit, August 16th, 1812.

Iron Ordnance—nine 24-pounders, eight 12-pounders, five 9-pounders. Brass ordnance—three 6-pounders, two 4-poun-



ders, ohe 3-iioundir, ONE 8Linch howitzer, o't'e 3l-inch ditto.--  
Total of ordnance taken-33.

Etrx TRouGnTot iiiuef. byal artillery.

N. B. No time to take an inventory of ordnance stores,  
&c. and no return could be procured from the American  
officer.

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No. 8. ;)II

*Procittmation 4y Isaac Brock, Esq. tnajor-gueral command-  
ing his majesty's forces in "the province of Upper  
Canada, 4c.*

Whereas the territory of Michigan was this day, by capitula-  
tion, ceded to the arms of his Britannic majesty, without any  
other condition than the protection of private property, and  
wishing to give an early proof of the moderation and justice of  
his. majesty's government, I do hereby announce to all the  
inhabitants of the said territory, that the taws heretofore in  
existence shall continue in force until his majesty's pleasure be  
known, or so long as the peace and safety of the said territory  
will admit thereof; and I do hereby also declare and make  
known to the said inhabitantS, that they shall be protected in  
the full exercise and employment of their religion, -of which all  
persons both civil and military will take notice, and govern  
'themselves accordingly.

All persons having in their possession, or having any know-  
sedge of, any public property, shall forthwith deliver in the  
same, or give,..notice thereof to the officer commanding, or  
lieutenant'colonel Nichol, who are duly authorised to receive  
and give proper -receipts for the same.

Officers of militia will be held responsible, that all arms in .  
the possession of militie.men be immediately given up, and all

individuals whatever who have in their possession arms of any  
kind, will give them up without delay.

Given under my hand at Detroit, this 16th day of August,  
1812, and in the 52d year of his majesty's reign.

ISAAC BROCK, maj. -gen.

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No. 9.

*From brigadier-general Hull to the American secretary at  
war.*

Fort-George, August 26, 1812.

Sin,

Enclosed are the articles of capitulation, by which the fort  
of Detroit has been surrendered to major-general Brock,  
commanding his Britannic majesty's forces in Upper Canada,  
and by which the troops have become prisoners of war. My  
situation at present forbids me from detailing the particular  
causes which have led to this unfortunate event. **I will**,  
however, generally observe, that after the surrender of  
Michilimackinac, almost every tribe and nation of Indians,  
excepting a part of the Miainis and Delawares, north from  
beyond Lake Superior, west from beyond the Mississippi, south  
from the Ohio and Wabash, and east from every part of Upper  
Canada, and from all the intermediate country, joined in open  
hostility, under the British standard, against the army I  
commanded, contrary to the most solemn assurances of a  
large portion of them to remain neutral: even the Ottawa  
chiefs from Arbecrotch, who formed the delegation to Washing-  
ton the last summer, in whose friends } p I know you had great  
confidence, are among the hostile tribes, and several of them  
distinguished leaders. Among the vast number of chiefs who  
led the hostile bands, Tecumseh, Marpot, Logan, Walk-in-  
the-water, Split-log, &c. are considered the principals. This

tittnOfons assemblage of savages, under the entire influence and direction of the British commander, enabled him totally to obstruct the only communication which I had with my country. This communication had been opened from the settlements in the state of Ohio, 200 miles through a wilderness, by the fatigues of the army, which I had marched to the frontier on the river Detroit. The body of the lake being commanded by the British armed ships, and the shores and rivers by gun-boats, the army was totally deprived of all communication by water. On this extensive road it depended for transportation of provisions, military stores, medicine, cloathing, and every other supply, on pack horses—all its operations were successful until its arrival at Detroit, and in a few days it passed into the enemy's country, and all opposition seemed to fall before it.—One month it remained in possession of this country, and was fed from its resources. In different directions, detachments penetrated 60 miles in the settled part of the province, and the inhabitants seemed satisfied with the change of situation which appeared to be taking place. The militia from Amherstburg were daily deserting, and the whole country, then under the control of the army, asked for protection. The Indians generally, in the first instance, appeared to be neutralized, and determined to take no part in the contest. The fort of Amherstburg was 18 miles below my encampment. Not a single cannon or mortar was on wheels suitable to carry before that place. I consulted my officers whether it was expedient to make an attempt on it with the bayonet alone, without cannon to make a break in the first instance. The council I called was of the opinion it was not. The greatest industry was exerted in making preparation, and it was not until the 7th of August that two 24-pounders, and three howitzers, were prepared. It was then my intention to have proceeded on the enterprise. While the operations of the army were delayed by these preparations, the clouds of adversity had been for some time. and seemed still thickly to be, gathering around me. The surrender of Michilimacinac opened the northern hive of

Indians, and they were swarming down in every direction. Reinforcements from Niagara had arrived at Amherstburg, under the command of colonel Proctor. The desertion of the militia ceased. Besides the reinforcements that came by water, I received information of a very considerable force under the command of major Chambers, on the river Le Trench, with four field-pieces ; and collecting the militia on his route, evidently destined for Amherstburg. And, in addition to this combination and increase of force, contrary to all my expectations, the Wyandotes, Chippeways, Ottawas, Pottawatamies, Munsees, Delawares, &c. with whom I had the most friendly intercourse, at once passed over to Amherstburg, and accepted the tomahawk and scalping-knife. There being now a vast number of Indians at the British post, they were sent to the river Huron, Brownstown, and Maguago to intercept my communication.—To open this communication, I detached major Vanhorn, of the Ohio volunteers, with 200 men, to proceed as far as the river Raisin, under an expectation he would meet captain Brush, with 150 men, volunteers from the state of Ohio, and a quantity of provision for the army. An ambuscade was formed at Brownstown, and major Vanhorn's detachment defeated, and returned to camp, without effecting the object of the expedition.

In my letter of the 7th instant, you have the particulars of that transaction with a return of the killed and wounded. Under this sudden and unexpected change of things, and having received an express from general Hall, commanding opposite the British shore on the Niagara-river, by which it appeared that there was no prospect of any co-operation from that quarter, and the two senior officers of the artillery having stated to me an opinion that it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to pass Turkey-river, and river Aux Canards, with 24-pounders, and that they could not be transported by water, as the Queen Charlotte, which carried 18 24-pounders, lay in the river Detroit, above the mouth of the river Aux Canards; and that it appeared indispensably necessary to open the

communication to the river Raisin and the Miami, I found myself compelled to suspend the operation against Amherstburg, and concentrate the main force of the army at Detroit. Fully intending at that time, after the communication was opened, to re-cross the river, and pursue the object at Amherstburg, and strongly desirous of continuing protection to a very large number of inhabitants of Upper Canada, who had voluntarily accepted it under my proclamation, I established a fortress on the banks of the river, a little below Detroit, calculated for a garrison of 300 men. On the evening of the 7th, and morning of the 8th instant, the army, excepting the garrison of 250 infantry, and a corps of artilleryists, all under the command of major Denny of the Ohio volunteers, re-crossed the river and encamped at Detroit. In pursuance of the object of opening the communication, on which I considered the existence of the army depending, a detachment of 600 men, under the command of lieutenant-colonel Miller, was immediately ordered. For a particular account of the proceedings of this detachment, and the memorable battle which was fought at Magnago which reflects the highest honor on the American arms, I refer you to my letter of the 31st August instant, a duplicate of which is enclosed, marked G. Nothing, however, but honor was acquired by this victory ; and, it is a painful consideration, that the blood of 75 gallant men, could only open the communication as far as the points of their bayonets extended. The *necessary* care of the sick and wounded, and a very severe storm of rain, rendered their return to camp indispensibly necessary for their own comfort. Captain Brush with his small detachment, and the provisions being still at the river Raisin, a situation to be destroyed by the savages, on the 13th instant, in the evening, I permitted colonels McArthur and Cass to select from their regiment 400 of their most effective men, and proceed by an upper route through the woods, which I had sent an express to captain Brush to take, and had directed the militia of the river Raisin to accompany him as a reinforcement.

• Not published.

The force of the enemy continually increasing, and the necessity of opening the communication, and acting on the defensive, becoming more apparent, I had, previous to detaching colonels McArthur and Cass on the 11th instant, evacuated and destroyed the fort on the opposite bank. On the 13th, in the evening, general Brock arrived at Amherstburg, about the hour colonels McArthur and Cass marched, of which at that time I had received no information. On the 15th I received a summons from him to surrender Fort-Detroit, of which the paper marked A is a copy. \* My answer is marked 13 \* At this time I received no information from colonels McArthur and Cass. An express was immediately sent, strongly escorted, with orders for them to return. On the 15th, as soon as general Brock received my letter, his batteries opened on the town and fort, and continued until evening. In the evening, all the British ships of war came nearly as far up the river as Sandwich, three miles below Detroit. At day-light, on the 16th, (at which time I had received no information from colonels McArthur and Cass, my expresses, sent the evening before, and in the night, having been prevented from passing by numerous bodies of Indians,) the cannonade re-commenced, and in a short time I received information, that the British army, and Indians, were landing below the Spring wells, under the cover of their ships of war.

At this time the whole effective force at my disposal at Detroit did not exceed 800 men. Being new troops, and unaccustomed to a camp life ; having performed a laborious march ; having been engaged in a number of battles and skirmishes, in -which many had fallen, and more had received wounds, in addition to which a large number being sick, and unprovided with medicine, and the comforts necessary for their situation, are the general causes by which the strength of the army was thus reduced. The fort at this time was filled with women, children, and the old and decrepit people of the town and country; they were unsafe in the town, as it was entirely

\* Not published.

open and exposed to the enemy's batteries. Back of the fort, above or below it, there was no safety for them on account of the Indians. In the first instance, the enemy's fire was principally directed against our batteries, towards the close, it was directed against the fort alone, and almost every shot and shell had their effect.

It now became necessary either to fight the enemy in the field ; Collect the whole force in the fort ; or propose terms of capitulation. I could not have carried into the field more than 600 men, and left an adequate force in the fort. There were landed at that time of the enemy a regular force of much more than that number, and twice the number of Indians. Considering this great inequality of force, I did not think it expedient to adopt the first measure : the second must have been attended with a great sacrifice of blood, and no possible advantage, because the contest could not have been sustained more than a day for want of powder, and but a very few days for the want of provisions. In addition to this, colonels McArthur and Cass would have been in a most hazardous situation. I feared nothing but the last alternative—I have dared to adopt it—I well know the high responsibility of the measure, and I take the whole of it on myself—it was dictated by a sense of duty, and a full conviction of its expediency. The bands of savages which had then joined the British force, were numerous beyond any former example. Their numbers have since increased, and the history of the barbarians of the north of Europe does not furnish examples of more greedy violence than these savages have exhibited. A large portion of the brave and gallant officers and men I command, would cheerfully have contested until the last cartridge had been expended, and the bayonets worn to the sockets. I could not consent to the useless sacrifice of such brave men, when I knew it was impossible for me to sustain my situation. It was impossible, in the nature of things, that an army could have been furnished with the necessary supplies of provisions, military stores, cloathing and comfort for the

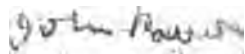
sick, on pack.horses, through a wilderness of 200 miles, filled with hostile savages. It was impossible, sir, that this little army, worn down by fatigue, by sickness, by wounds, and deaths, could have supported itself not only against the collected force of all the northern nations of Indians; but against the united strength of Upper Canada, whose population consists of more than 20 times the number contained in the territory of Michigan, aided by the principal part of the regular forces of the province, and the wealth and influence of the north-west and other trading establishments among the Indians, which have in their employment and under their entire control more than 2000 white men. Before I close this despatch, it is a duty I owe my respectable associates in command, colonels McArthur, Findley, Cass, and lieutenant-colonel Miller, to express my obligations to them for the prompt and judicious manner they have performed their respective duties. If aught has taken place during the campaign, which is honorable to the army, these officers are entitled to a large share of it. If the last act should be disapproved, no part of the censure belongs to them. I have likewise to express my obligation to general Taylor, who has performed the duty of quarter-master-general, for his great exertions in procuring every thing in his department, which it was possible to furnish, for the convenience of the army ; likewise to brigade-major Jessop, for the correct and punctual manner in which he has discharged his duty ; and to the army generally for their exertion and the zeal they have manifested for the public interest. The death of Dr. Foster soon after he arrived at Detroit, was a severe misfortune to the army; it was increased by the capture of the Chichaga packet, by which the medicine and hospital stores were lost. He was commencing the best arrangements in the department of which he was the principal, with the very small means he possessed. I was likewise deprived of the necessary services of captain Partridge by sickness, the only officer of the corps of engineers attached to the army. All the officers and men have gone to their respective homes, excepting the 4th United States' regiment, and

a small part of the 1st," and captain Dyson's company of artillery. Captain Dyson's company was left at Amherstburg, and the others are with me prisoners ; they amount to about 310. I have only to solicit an investigation of my conduct, as early as my situation and the nature of things will admit ; and to add the further request that the government will not be unmindful of my associates in captivity, and of the families of those brave men who have fallen in the contest. I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. HULL, Brig.-Gen.

Commanding the north-western army of the United States.

Hon. W. Eustis, secretary of  
the department of war.



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### No. 10.

*From major-general Sheaffe to sir G. Prevost.* , &

SIR,

Fort-George, Oct. 13, 1812.

I have the honor of informing your excellency, that the enemy made an attack, with considerable force, this morning, before day-light, on the position of Queenstown. On receiving intelligence of it, major-general Brock immediately proceeded to that post ; and, I am excessively grieved in having to add, that he fell whilst gallantly cheering his troops to an exertion for maintaining it. With him the position was lost : but the enemy was not allowed to retain it long, reinforcements having been sent up from this post, composed of regular troops, militia, and Indians, a movement made to turn his left, while some artillery, under the able direction of captain Ifolcroft, supported by a body of infantry, engaged his attention in front. This operation was aided too by the judicious position which Norton, and the Indians with him, had taken on the woody brow of the high ground above Queenstown. A

communication being thus opened with Chippeway, a junction was formed with succours that had been ordered from that post. The enemy was then attacked, and after a short but spirited conflict, was completely defeated. I had the satisfaction of receiving the sword of their commander, brigadier-general Wadsworth, on the field of battle, and many officers, with 900 men, were made prisoners, and more may yet be expected. A stand of colours, and one 6-pounder, were also taken. The action did not terminate till nearly three o'clock in the afternoon, and their loss, in killed and wounded, must have been considerable. Ours, I believe to have been comparatively small in numbers : no officer was killed besides major-general Brock, one of the most gallant and zealous officers in his majesty's service, whose loss cannot be too much deplored, and lieutenant-colonel Macdonnell, provincial aide de camp, whose gallantry and merit render him worthy of his chief.

Captains Dennis and Williams, commanding the flank-companies of the 49th regiment, who were stationed at Queenstown, were wounded, bravely contending at the head of their men against superior numbers ; but I am glad to have it in my power to add, that captain Dennis fortunately was able to keep the field, though it was with pail and difficulty ; and captain Williams's wound is not likely long to deprive me of his services.

I am particularly indebted to captain Holcroft of the royal artillery, for his judicious and skilful co-operation with the guns and howitzers under his immediate superintendence; their well-directed fire contributed materially to the fortunate result of the day.

Captain Derenzy of the 41st regiment, brought up the reinforcement of that corps from Fort-George, and captain Bullock led that of the same regiment from Chippeway; and under their commands those detachments acquitted themselves in such a manner, as to sustain the reputation which the 41st regiment had already acquired in the vicinity of Detroit.

Major-general Brock, soon after his arrival at Queenstown,

had sent down orders for battering the American Fort-Niagara. Brigade-major Evans, who was left in charge of Fort-George, directed the operations against it with so much effect, as to silence its fires, and to force the troops to abandon it ; and by his prudent precautions, he prevented mischief of a most serious nature, which otherwise might have been effected, the enemy having used heated shot in firing at Fort-George. In these services he was most effectually aided by colonel Claus, (w ho remained in the fort at my desire,) and by captain Vigorcaux, of the royal engineers. Brigade-major Evans also mentions the conduct of captains Powell and Cameron, of the militia-artillery, in terms of commendation.

Lieutenant Crowther, of the 41st regiment, had charge of two 3-pounders that had accompanied the movement of our little corps, and they were employed with good effect.

Captain Glegg, of the 49th regiment, aide-de-camp to our lamented friend and general, afforded me most essential assistance; and I found the services of lieutenant Fowler of the 41st regiment, assistant-deputy-quarter-master-general, very useful. I derived much aid, too, from the activity and intelligence of lieutenant Kerr, of the Glengarry feucibles, whom I employed in communicating with the Indians and other flanking parties.

I was unfortunately deprived of the aid of the experience and ability of lieutenant-colonel Myers, deputy quarter-master-general, who had been sent up to Fort-Erie a few days before on duty, which detained him there.

Lieutenant-colonels Butler and Clark of the militia ; and captains Hatt, Durand, Rowe, Applegarth, James, Crooks, Cooper, Robert Hamilton, M'Ewen, and Duncan Cameron; and lieutenants Richardson and Thomas Butler, commanding flank-companies of the Lincoln and York militia, led their men into action with great spirit. Major Merritt, commanding the Niagara dragoons, accompanied me, and gave much assistance, with part of his corps. Captain A. Hamilton, belonging to it was disabled from riding, and attached himself to the guns

under captain Holcroft, who speaks highly of his activity and usefulness. I beg leave to add, that volunteers Shaw, Thomson and Jarvis, attached to the flank companies of the 49th regiment, conducted themselves with great spirit ; the first having been wounded, and the last having been taken prisoner. I beg leave to recommend these young men to your excellency's notice. Norton is wounded, but not badly ; he and the Indians particularly distinguished themselves, and I have very great satisfaction in assuring your excellency, that the spirit and good conduct of his majesty's troops, of the militia, and of the other provincial corps, were eminently conspicuous on this occasion.

I have not been able to ascertain yet the number of troops, or of those of the enemy engaged ; ours, I believe, did not exceed the number of the prisoners we have taken : and their advance, which effected a landing, probably amounted to 13 or 1400 men.

I shall do myself the honor of transmitting to your excellency further details, when I shall have received the several reports of the occurrences which did not pass under my own observation, with the return of the casualties, and those of the killed and wounded, and of the ordnance taken.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) R. H. SHEAFFE. maj.-gen.

To his excellency sir George Prevost, bart. &c.

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*No. 11.*

*From general Van Rensselaer, to the American secretary of war.*

Head-quarters, Lewistown, October 14th, 181'2.

**SIR,**

As the movements of this army under my command, since I had last the honor to address you on the 8th, have been of <sup>a</sup>

very important character, producing consequences serious to many individuals ; establishing facts actually connected with the interest of the service and the safety of the army ; and as I stand prominently responsible for some of these consequences, I beg leave to explain to you, sir, and through you to my country, the situation and circumstances in which I have had to act, and the reasons and motives which governed me; and if the result is not all that might have been wished, it is such that, when the whole ground shall be viewed, I shall cheerfully submit myself to the judgment of my country.

In my letter of the 8th instant, I apprised you that the crisis in this campaign was rapidly advancing; and that (to repeat the same) <sup>4</sup> the blow must be soon struck, or all the toil and expense of the campaign will go for nothing, for the whole will be tinged with dishonor."

Under such impressions, I had, on the 5th instant, written to brigadier-general Smyth, of the United States forces; requesting an interview with him, major-general Hall, and the commandants of regiments, for the purpose of conferring upon the subject of future operations. I wrote major-general Hall to the same purport. On the 11th had received no answer from general Smyth : but in a note to me of the 10th, general Hall mentioned that general Smyth had not yet then agreed upon any day for the consultation.

In the mean time, the partial success of lieutenant Elliott at Black Rock (of which, however, I have received no official information) began to excite a strong disposition in the troops to act. This was expressed to me through various channels, in the shape of an alternative ; that they must have orders to act, or at all hazards they would go home. I forbear here commenting upon the obvious consequences, to me personally, of longer withholding my orders under such circumstances.

I had a conference with —, as to the possibility of getting some person to pass over into Canada, and obtain correct information. On the morning of the 4th, he wrote to me that he had procured the man, who bore his letter to go over.

Instructions were given him : he passed over, and obtained such information as warranted an immediate attack. This was confidently communicated to several of my first officers, and produced great zeal to act ; more especially as it might have a controlling effect upon the movement at Detroit, where it was supposed that general Brock had gone with all the force he dared to spare from the Niagara frontier. The best preparations in my power, were therefore made to dislodge the enemy from the heights of Queenstown, and possess ourselves of the village; where the troops might be sheltered from the distressing inclemency of the weather.

Lieutenant-colonel Fleming's flying artillery, and a detachment of regular troops under his command, were ordered to be up in season from Fort-Niagara. Orders were also sent general Smyth, to send down from Buffaloe, such detachment of his brigade as existing circumstances in that vicinity might warrant. The attack was to be made at 3 o'clock, on the morning of the 11th, by crossing over in boats from the old ferry opposite the heights. To avoid any embarrassment in crossing the river, (which is here a sheet of violent eddies,) experienced boatmen were procured, to take the boats, from the landing below to the place of embarkation. Lieutenant Sim was considered the man of the greatest skill for this service ; he went a-head, and, in the extreme darkness, passed the intended place far up the river ; and there, in a most extraordinary manner, fastened his boat to the shore, and abandoned the detachment. In this front boat he had carried nearly all the oars, which were prepared for the boats. In this agonizing dilemma stood officers and men, whose ardor had not been cooled by exposure, through the night, to one of the most tremendous north-east storms, which continued unabated for 28 hours, and deluged the whole camp. Colonel Van Rensselaer was to have commanded the detachment.

After this result, I had hoped that the patience of the troops would have continued, until I could submit the plan suggested in my letter of the 8th, that I might act under, and in-con-

formity to, the opinion which might be then expressed. But my hope was idle; the previously excited ardor seemed to have gained new heat from the late miscarriage ; the brave men were mortified to stop short of their object, and the timid thought laurels half won by the attempt.

On the morning of the 12th, such was the pressure upon me from all quarters, that I became satisfied that my refusal to act might involve me in suspicion, and the service in disgrace. 4

Lieutenant-colonel Christie, who had just arrived at the Four-mile Creek, and had, late in the night of the 1st, contemplated an attack, gallantly offered me his own and his men's services: but he got my permission too late. He now again came forward, had a conference with colonel Van Rensselaer, and begged that he might have the honor of a command in the expedition. The arrangement was made. Colonel Van Rensselaer was to command one column of 300 militia ; and lieutenant-colonel Christie a column of the same number of regular troops.

Every precaution was now adopted as to boats, and the most confidential and experienced men to manage them. At an early hour in the night, lieutenant-colonel Christie marched his detachment by the rear road from Niagara to the camp. At 7 in the evening, lieutenant-colonel Stranahan's regiment moved from Niagara falls : at 8 o'clock, Mead's, and at 9, lieutenant-colonel Bland's regiment marched from the same place. All were in camp in good season. Agreeably to my orders issued upon this occasion, the two columns were to pass over together ; as soon as the heights should be carried, lieutenant-colonel Fenwick's flying artillery was to pass over ; then major Mullany's detachment of regulars ; and the other troops to follow in order.

Colonel Vawitensselaer, with great presence of mind, ordered his officers to proceed with rapidity, and storm the fort. This service was gallantly performed, and the enemy driven down the hill in every direction. Soon after this, both parties were considerably re-embodied, and the conflict was renewed in vari-

ous places. Many of the enemy took shelter behind a stone guardhouse, where a piece of ordnance was now briskly served: I ordered the fire of our battery to be directed upon the guardhouse ; and it was so effectually done, that with eight or ten shot the fire was silenced. The enemy then retreated behind a large stone house ; but in a short time the route became general, and the enemy's fire was silenced, except from a one-gun battery, so far down the river as to be out of the reach of our heavy ordnance ; and our light pieces could not silence it. A number of boats now passed over unannoyed, except by the one unsilenced gun. For sometime after I passed over, the victory appeared complete : but in expectation of further attacks, I was taking measures for fortifying my camp immediately ; the direction of this service I committed to lieutenant Totten, of the engineers. But very soon the enemy were reinforced, by a detachment of several hundred Indians from Chippeway ; they commenced a furious attack ; but were promptly met and routed by the rifle and bayonet. By this time I perceived my troops were embarking very slowly. I passed immediately over to accelerate their movements ; but, to my utter astonishment, I found that, at the very moment when complete victory was in our hands, the ardor of the unengaged troops had entirely subsided. I rode in all directions ; urged the men by every consideration to pass over, but in vain. Lieutenant-col. Bloom, who had been wounded in action, returned, mounted his horse, and rode through the camp; as did also judge Peck, who happened to be here, exhorting the companies to proceed—but all in vain.

At this time a large reinforcement from Fort-George was discovered coming up the river. As the battery on the hill was considered an important check against their ascending the heights, measures were immediately taken to send them a fresh supply of ammunition, as I learnt there were only left 20 shot for the 18-pounders. The reinforcements, however, obliqued to the right from the road, and formed a junction with the Indians, in the rear of the heights. Finding, to my infinite mor-



titation, that no reinforcement would pass over ; seeing that another severe conflict must soon commence ; and knowing that the brave men at the heights were quite exhausted, and nearly out of ammunition ; all I could do, was to send them a fresh supply of cartridges. At this critical moment I despatched a note to general Wadsworth, acquainting him with our situation : leaving the course to be pursued much to his own judgment ; with assurance that if he thought best to retreat, I would endeavour to send as many boats as I could command, and cover his retreat by every fire I could safely make. But the boats were dispersed ; many of the boatmen had fled, panic struck ; and but few got off. My note, however, could but little more than have reached general W. about 4 o'clock, when a most severe and obstinate conflict commenced, and continued for about half an hour, with a tremendous fire of cannon, flying artillery, and musketry. The enemy succeeded in re-possessing their battery, and gaining advantage on every side ; the brave men who had gained the victory, being exhausted of strength and ammunition, and grieved at the unpardonable neglect of their fellow soldiers, gave up the conflict..

I can only add, that the victory was really won ; but lost for the want of a small reinforcement; one-third part of the idle men might have saved all.

I have Om honor to be, &c.

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STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER.,

**Hen.** William Eustis, secretary of war.

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## No. 12.

*From captain Wool to colonel Van Rensselaer.*

DEAR SIR,

Buffaloe, Oct.'23, 1 81R.

I have the honour to communicate to you the circumstances attending the storming of Queenstown battery, on the 13th inst.;

with those which happened previously **you are already** well acquainted.

In pursuance of your order, we proceeded round the point and ascended the rocks, which brought us partly in rear of the battery. We took it without much resistance. I immediately **a** formed the troops in rear of the battery, and fronting the village, when I observed general Brock with his troops formed, consisting of four companies of the 49th regiment, and a few militia, marching for our left flank. I immediately detached a party of 150 men, to take possession of the heights above Queenstown battery, and to hold general Brock in check ; but in consequence of his superior force they retreated. I sent a reinforcement ; notwithstanding which, the enemy drove us to the edge of the hank : when, with the greatest exertions, we brought the troops to a stand, and ordered the officers to bring their men to **a** charge as soon as the ammunition was expended, which was executed with some confusion, and in a few moments the enemy retreated. We pursued them to the edge of the heights, when colonel M'Donald had his horse shot from under him, and himself was mortally wounded. In the interim, general Brock, in attempting to rally his forces, was killed, when the enemy dispersed in every direction. As soon as it was practicable, I formed the troops in a line on the heights fronting the village, and immediately detached flanking parties, which consisted of captain I lachesney of the 6th regiment, lieutenant Smith, and ensign Grosvenor, with a small detachment of riflemen, who had that moment arrived ; at the same time, I ordered lieutenant Ganesvoort and lieutenant Randolph, with a detachment of artillery, to drill out an 18-pounder which had been previously spiked, and if possible to bring it to bear upon the village. The wounded and prisoners I ordered to be collected, and sent to the guard-house. About this time, which was about three or four o'clock in the afternoon, lieutenant-col. Christie arrived, and took the command. I-le ordered **me** across the river to get my wounds dressed. I remained a short *i*me. Our flanking parties had been driven in by the Indians ;



the enemy had likewise landed their troops, opposite to this place.

Lieutenant Bartley attacked the enemy, consisting of about 50 men, and kept up a fire upon the boats for about 15 or 20 minutes, when he observed a party coming towards him, which he took to be our militia ; but, finding them to be a party of the enemy, and a number of his men being killed, wounded, or missing, he retired, Crossing Frenchman's Creek at the mill ; a little above which he joined major Ormsby, having only 16 or 17 men left. Major Ormsby, whose detachment continued their march to Frenchman's creek, was fired on from a house above the bridge by a party of the enemy ; and having returned their fire with two or three rounds from his detachment, he succeeded in passing the bridge, although partly destroyed by the enemy. He here halted, to ascertain the force opposed to him ; but as it still continued very dark, he could neither see the enemy, nor discover his movements. He then proceeded about a mile further on the road downward, where he was joined by lieutenant M'Intyre, of the light infantry, 41st regiment, and remained there until day-light ; when I arrived, and immediately advanced with the whole of the force here concentrated under major Ormsby, and major Hatt of the 5th Lincoln militia, having under his command the different companies of militia on this line, consisting of about 300 men, towards this place, with a light 6-pounder, where we took captain King, of the United States' infantry, and about 30 rank and file, prisoners. The enemy, at this time, were crossing the river with a considerable number of boats, having about 30 men in each, making towards the land. I ordered the 6-pounder to open upon them, which was ably directed by bombardier Jackson, of the royal artillery, and acted with much execution. I formed the line on the bank, major Ormsby and the 49th being on the right. After a few rounds from our musketry the enemy retired to the American shore, behind Squaw Island, having sustained considerable loss. The Indian warriors, under major Given, having heard the report of our

fire, immediately joined us : I then marched with the light company of the 41st to ascertain the number and position of the enemy in our front, in which movement I received the greatest assistance from major Given, and the Indians under his command. The enemy had dismounted the guns, and left the batteries : I ordered the line to advance, and took up a position in their rear, waiting his further operations. I had been joined by lieutenant-col. Clark, and his detachment, from Chippeway. Captain Whelan still continued in Fort-Erie, and had not been attacked during the absence of major Ormsby and his detachment. The enemy kept up a strong fire on our lines from their batteries till one o'clock ; when a flag of truce came over to summon Fort-Erie, and to demand the surrender of that fort to the American army. A copy of general Smyth's letter accompanies this despatch. I sent captain Fitzgerald of the 49th regiment with my answer, which was---' that the troops under my command being sufficient to repulse any attack from the enemy ; and having received reinforcements from below, I should not agree to his request.' The 6-pounder taken by the enemy in the morning, as likewise the 3-pounders, were found without having sustained the least injury. Great credit is due to captain Kerby and his artillery, for their exertions in getting up the guns on the batteries ; which, by the morning of the 30th, we succeeded in, and have been ever since in expectation of an attack, but which the enemy do not think proper to make. To captain Kerby, lieutenants Bryson and Hall of the militia-artillery, and bombardier Jackson of the royal artillery, the greatest credit is due ; as well as to lieutenant-col. Nichol, quarter-master-general of militia, and lieutenant Bernard, acting staff adjutant. I have also derived the greatest assistance from lieutenant-col. Clark, commanding the militia ; major Ormsby, commanding a detachment of the 49th regiment ; and major Hatt, of the 5th Lincoln militia, and all officers in command of corps and companies under my orders. The Norfolk militia, under captain Bostwick, gave a strong proof of the valor which has uniformly distinguished the militia of this country

when called into action. X must likewise mention the names of captain Whelan, of the Newfoundland regiment; captains Chambers and Saunders, of the 41st; captain Fitzgerald, 49th; and captain Hamilton, of the 2d Lincoln militia, who first apprized me of the enemy's movement.

I enclose a list of the killed, wounded, and missing. I have not been able to ascertain the loss of the enemy; but, from the numbers left on the field, and the boats that were sunk, it must have been very great.

I have the honor, to be,  
CZCIL AISSHOEA, lieutenant-col. commanding.

Return killed, wounded, and missing, of the following corps of the division of the army serving in Upper Canada, under the command of major-general Sheaffe, in an affair with the enemy on the 21st and 28th Nov.

21st November.—Royal artillery;—1 rank and file, wounded.  
49th foot; 1 rank and file,

28th November.—Royal artillery;—1 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant, 1 rank and file, wounded.

49th foot;—12 rank and file, killed; lieutenant, 3 serjeants, 22 rank and file, wounded; 3 drummers, 21 rank and file, missing.

Militia artillery;—1 serjeant, wounded.

1st regiment, Norfolk militia;—1 serjeant, killed; 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 8 rank and file, wounded; 2 rank and file, missing.

2d regiment, Norfolk militia;—1 rank and file, killed; 7 rank and file wounded; 4 rank and file missing.

Total loss;—14 rank and file, (line,) 1 serjeant, 1 rank and file, (militia,) killed; 2 lieutenants, 3 serjeants, 24 rank and file, (line,) 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 15 rank and file, (militia,) wounded; 3 drummers, 21 rank and file, (line,) 11 rank and file, (militia,) missing.'

General total; 1 serjeant, 16 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 3 lieutenants, 4 serjeants, 39 rank and file, wounded; 3 drummers, 32 rank and file, missing.

of Officers, wounded, 1043./11

Royal artillery—Lieutenant King, severely, and taken prisoner.

49th foot—Lieutenant Lamont, severely.

1st Norfolk militia—Captain Bostwick, slightly; lieutenant

Byerson, severely. THOMAS EVANS, major of brigade.

To major-general Sheaffe,

&c. &c. &c.

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No. 14.

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General Smyth's Proclamation. -13 'to sue to ;Al

T9 the men of New York.

For many years you have seen your country oppressed with numerous wrongs. Your government, although above all others, devoted to peace, have been forced to draw the sword, and rely for redress of injuries on the valor of the American people.

That valor has been conspicuous. But the nation has been unfortunate in the selection of some of those who directed it. One army has been disgracefully surrendered and lost. Another has been sacrificed by a precipitate attempt to pass it over at the strongest point of the enemy's lines, with most incompetent means. The cause of these miscarriages is apparent. The commanders were popular men, " destitute alike of theory and experience" in the art of war.

In a few days the troops under my command will plant the American standard in Canada. They are men accustomed to obedience, silence, and steadiness. They will conquer or they will die.

Will you stand with your arms folded, and look on this

interesting struggle ? Are you not related to the men who fought at Bennington and Saratoga ? Has the race degenerated ? Or have you, under the baneful influence of contending factions, forgotten your country? Must I turn from you, and ask the men of the six nations to support the government of the United States ? Shall I imitate the officers of the British king, and suffer our ungathered laurels to be tarnished with ruthless deeds ? Shame, where is thy blush ! No. Where I command, the vanquished and the peaceful man, the child, the maid, and the matron shall be secure from wrong. If we conquer, we will " conquer but to save."

Men of New York!

The present is the hour of renown. Have you not a wish for fame ? Would you not choose in future times to be named as one of those, who, imitating the heroes whom Montgomery led, have, in spite of the seasons, visited the tomb of the chief, and conquered the country where he lies ? Yes. You desire your share of fame. Then seize the present moment : if you do not, you will regret it ; and say, " the valiant have bled in vain ; the friends of my country fell—and I was not there."

Advance, then, to our aid. I will wait for you a few days. I cannot give you the day of my departure. But come on. Come in companies, half companies, pairs, or singly. I will organize you for a short tour. Ride to this place, if the distance is far, and send back your horses. But remember, that every man who accompanies us, places himself under my command, and shall submit to the salutary restraints of discipline.

ALEX. SMYTH, brig—gen.

Camp, near Buffaloe, Nov. 10, 1812.

No. 15.

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*From brigadier-general Smyth, to lieutenant-colonel Bisshopp.*

Sru,

As you have seen a part of the hourly increasing force under my command, I propose to you the surrender of Fort-Erie, to spare the effusion of blood. I take the opportunity to assure you, that the devastation you have witnessed has been committed by sailors not under my authority, and against my will.

Very respectfully,

Your most obedient,

ALEXANDER SMYTH, brig.-gen.

Colonel Bisshopp, commanding the  
British army at Fort-Erie.

November 5th, 1811.

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No. 16.

*from major Macdonnell, to sir G. Prevost.*

Prescott, February 23, 1813

I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of his excellency the commander of the forces, that, in consequence of the commands of his excellency to retaliate, under favorable circumstances, upon the enemy, for his late wanton aggressions on this frontier, I this morning, about 7 o'clock, crossed the river St. Lawrence upon the ice, and attacked and carried, after a little more than an hour's action, his position in and near the opposite town of Ogdensburg, taking eleven pieces of cannon, and all his ordnance, marine, commissariat, and quarter-master-general's stores, four officers and 70 prisoners, and

burning two armed schooners, and two large gun-boats, and both his barracks.

My force consisted of about 480 regulars and militia, and was divided into two columns : the right commanded by captain Jenkins, of the Glengarry light infantry fencibles, was composed of his own flank company, and about 70 militia; and, from the state of the ice, and the enemy's position in the old French fort, was directed to check his left, and interrupt his retreat, whilst I moved on „with the left column, consisting of 120 of the king's regiment, 40 of the royal Newfoundland corps, and about 200 militia, towards his position in the town, where he had posted his heavy field artillery. The depth of the snow in some degree retarded the advance of both columns, and exposed them, particularly the right, to a heavy cross fire from the batteries of the enemy, for a longer period than I had expected; but pushing on rapidly after the batteries began to open upon us, the left column soon gained the right bank of the river, under the direct fire of his artillery and line of musketry, posted on an eminence near the shore ; moving on rapidly, my advance, consisting of the royal Newfoundland and some select militia, I turned his right with the detachment of the king's regiment, and after a few discharges from his artillery, took them with the bayonet, and drove his infantry through the town ; some escaping across the Black river into the fort, but the majority fled to the woods, or sought refuge in the houses, from whence they kept such a galling fire, that it was necessary to dislodge them with our field-pieces, which now came up from the bank of the river, where they had stuck, on landing, in the deep snow.

Having gained the high ground on the brink of the Black river, opposite the fort, I prepared to carry it by storm ; but the men being quite exhausted; I procured time for them to recover breath, by sending in a summons, requiring an unconditional surrender., During these transactions, captain Jenkins had gallantly led on his column, and had been exposed to a heavy fire of seven guns, which he bravely attempted to take

with the bayonet, though covered with 200 of the enemy's. best troops : advancing as rapidly as the deep snow, and the exhausted state (in consequence) of his men, would admit, he ordered a charge, and had not proceeded many paces, when his left arm was broken to pieces by a grape-shot ; but still undauntedly running on with his men, he almost immediately afterwards was deprived of the use of his right arm, by a discharge of case-shot ; still heroically disregarding all personal consideration, he nobly ran on, cheering his men, to the assault, till, exhausted by pain and loss of blood, he became unable to move ; his company gallantly continued the charge under lieutenant VI Auley ; but the reserve of the militia not being able to keep up with them, they were compelled, by the great superiority of the enemy, to give way, leaving a few on a commanding position, and a few of the most advanced, in the enemy's possession, nearly about the time that I gained the height above mentioned. The enemy hesitating to surrender, I instantly carried his eastern battery, and by it silenced another, which now opened again ; and ordering on the advance the detachment of the king's, and the Highland company of militia, under captain Eustace, of the ,king's regiment, he gallantly rushed into the fort ; but the enemy retreating by the opposite entrance, escaped into the woods, which I should have effectually prevented, if my Indian warriors had returned sooner from a detached service, on which they had that morning been employed.

- I cannot close this statement without expressing my admiration of the gallantry and self-devotion of captain Jenkins, who had lost one arm, and is in danger of losing the other. I must also report the intrepidity of captain Lefievre, of the Newfound. land regiment, who had the immediate charge of the militia under colonel Fraser ; of captain Eustace, and the other officers of the king's regiment ; and particularly of lieutenant Ridge, of that corps, who very gallantly led on the advance ; 'and of lieutenant M'Auley, and ensign M'Donuell, of the Glengarry regiment ; as also lieutenant Gangueben, of the royal engineers ;

and of ensign M'Kay, of the Glengarry light-infantry ; and of ensign Kerr, of the militia, each of whom had charge of a field-piece ; and of lieutenant Impey, of the militia, who has lost a leg. I was also well supported by colonel Fraser and the other officers and men of the militia, who emulated the conspicuous bravery of all the troops of the line. I inclose a list of killed and wounded. The enemy had 500 men under arms, and most have sustained a considerable loss.

I have the honor to be, &c.

G. MACDONNELL, major, Glengarry light-infantry, lieutenant-colonel, commanding in the eastern district of Upper Canada.

Sir G. Prevost, &c.

Return of the killed and wounded in the action of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, 1813.

*Royal artillery* i — 2 rank and file, killed.

*8th; (or king's regiment;)* — 1 serjeant, killed ; 1 subaltern, 12 rank and file, wounded.

*Glengarry light-infantry* ; — 2 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain, 1 subaltern, 3 serjeants, 9 rank and file, wounded.

Total loss ; -1 serjeant, 7 rank and file, killed ; 1 field-officer, 2 captains, 5 subalterns, 4 serjeants, 40 rank and file, wounded.

Names of officers wounded.

*8th; (or king's regiment;)* — Ensign Powell.

*Glengarry regiment;*—Lieutenant-colonel Macdonnell, captain Jenkins, and ensign

*Militia* ;— Captain M<sup>c</sup>Donnell, and lieutenants Impey, M<sup>c</sup>Lcan, and INT'Dound.

EDWARD BAYNES,  
Adjutant-general, North America.

## No. 17.

*From major-general Sheaffe to sir G. Prevost.*

SIR,

Kingston, May 5th, 1813.

I did myself the honor of writing to your excellency, on my route from York, to communicate the mortifying intelligence that the enemy had obtained possession of that place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of April. I shall now give your excellency a further detail of that event.

In the evening of the 26<sup>th</sup>, information was received that many vessels had been seen to the eastward. Very early the *next* morning, they were discovered lying-to, not far from the harbor : after some time had elapsed, they made sail, and to the number of 16, of various descriptions, anchored off the shore, some distance to the westward. Boats full of troops were immediately seen assembling near their commodore's ship, under cover of whose fire, and that of other vessels, and aided by the wind, they soon effected a landing, in spite of a spirited opposition from major Givens, and about 40 Indians. A company of Glengarry light-infantry, which had been ordered to support them, was, by some mistake, (not in the smallest degree imputable to its commander,) led in another direction, and came late into action. -The other troops, consisting of two companies of the 8<sup>th</sup>, (or king's regiment,) and about a company of the royal Newfoundland regiment, with some militia, encountered the enemy in a thick wood. Captain M'Neal, of the king's regiment, was killed while gallantly leading his company, which suffered severely. The troops, at length, fell back ; they rallied several times, but could not maintain the contest against the greatly superior and increasing numbers of the enemy. They retired under cover of our batteries, which were engaged with some of the enemy's vessels that had moved nigher to the harbor. - By some unfortunate accident the magazine at the western battery, blew up, and killed and wounded a considerable number of men, and crippled

the battery. It became too evident that our numbers and meant of defence were inadequate to the task of maintaining possession of York against the vast superiority of force brought against it. The troops were withdrawn towards the town, and were finally ordered to retreat on the road to Kingston; the powder magazine was blown up, and the new ship and the naval-stores destroyed. Lieutenant-colonel Chervett and major Allan, of the militia, residents in the town, were instructed to treat with the American commanders for terms: a statement of those agreed on with major-general Dearborn and commodore Chauncey, is transmitted to your excellency, with returns of the killed and wounded, &c. The accounts of the number of the enemy vary from 1890 to 3000. We had about 600, including militia and dock-yardmen. The quality of these troops was of so superior a description, and their general disposition so good, that under less unfavorable circumstances, I should have felt confident of success, in spite of the disparity of numbers. As it was, the contest, which commenced between six and seven o'clock, was maintained for nearly eight hours.

When we had proceeded some miles from York, we met the light-company of the king's regiment, on its route for Fort. George: it retired with us and covered the retreat, which was effected without molestation from the enemy.

I have the honor to be; 8M.

R. H. SHAEFFE, major-general,  
His excellency sir George Prevost, &c.

Return of killed, wounded, prisoners, and missing, of the troops engaged at York, under the command of sir Roger Hall Sheaffe, on the 27th ultimo.

..II.

Kingston, May 10th, 1813.

*Royal artillery*; — 3 gunners, killed; 1 driver, wounded and prisoner; 1 bombardier, 3 gunners, prisoners; 1 gunner, missing.

tith; (*or king's regiment*); — 1 captain, 1 serjeant-major, 3

serjeants, 40 rank and file, killed; 2 serjeants, 21 rank and file, wounded; 1 serjeant, 25 rank and file, wounded and prisoners; 2 rank and file, prisoners; 1 rank and file, missing.

*Newfoundland regiment*; — 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 10 rank and file, killed; 1 drummer, 6 rank and file, wounded; 1 lieutenant, 3 serjeants, 1 drummer, 8 rank and file, wounded and prisoners; 1 rank and file, prisoners; 2 rank and file, missing.

*Glengarry light infantry*; — 2 rank and file, killed; 1 ensign, 3 rank and file, wounded; 3 rank and file, missing.

*49th regiment*; — 3 rank and file, wounded and prisoners; rank and file prisoners (these two men were in the hospital at the time of the action).

Total; — 1 captain, 1 serjeant-major, 4 serjeants, 1 drummer, 52 rank and file, 3 gunners, killed; 1 ensign, 2 serjeants, 1 drummer, 30 rank and file, wounded; 1 lieutenant 4 serjeants, 1 drummer, 36 rank and file, 1 driver, wounded and prisoners; 6 rank and file, 1 bombardier, 3 gunners, prisoners; 6 rank and file, 1 gunner, missing.

Names of officers killed and wounded.

*Killed*; — *8th (or king's regiment)*; captain M'Neal; — Volunteer D. Maclean, eldest son of the house of assembly.

*Wounded*; — *Royal Newfoundland regiment* Lieutenant D. Koven, prisoner.

*Glengarry light infantry*; — Ensign Robins, slightly.

*General staff*; — Captain Loring, 104th regiment, slightly.

*Incorporated militia*; — Captain Jarvis, volunteer; — Hartney, barrack-master.

RICHARD LEONARD,

r".

**Acting** deputy-assistant-adjutant-general.

EDWD. BAYNES.

Adjutant-general., North America.



## No. 18.

*Capitulation of York.*

I Terms of the capitulation entered into on the 27th of Apr; 1813, for the surrender of the town of York, in Upper Canada, to the army and navy of the United States, under the command of major-gen. Dearborn and commodore Chauncey.

That the troops, regular and militia, at this post, and the naval officers and seamen, shall be surrendered prisoners of war ; the troops, regular and militia, to ground their arms immediately on the parade, and the naval officers and seamen be immediately surrendered on the parade.

That all public stores, naval and military, shall be immediately given up to the commanding officers of the army and navy of the United States.

That all private property shall be guaranteed to the citizen of the town of York.

That the papers belonging to the civil officers shall be retained by them.

That such surgeons as may be procured to attend the wounded of the British regular and Canadian militia, shall not be considered as prisoners of war.

That one lieutenant-colonel, one major, 13 captains, nine lieutenants, 11 ensigns, one quarter-master, and one deputy adjutant-general of the militia ; viz.

Lieutenant-col. Chervet; major Wm. Allan ; captains, John Willson, John Button, Peter Robinson, John Arnold, James Fenwick, James Mustard, Duncan Cameron, David Thomson, John Robinson, Samuel Ridout, Thomas flamilton, John Burn, Wm. Jarvie, Lieutenants John Shultz, George Mustard, Barnet Vanderhugh, Robert Stanton, Gorge Ridout, William Jarvis, Edward M'Mahon, J. Mahon, J. Wilson, E. Playter ; ensigns Andrew Thompson, A. Smalley, Donald M'Arthur, William Smith, Andrew Mercer,

James Cheveet, George Kuck, Edward Thompson, Charles Dennison, George Dennison, D'Arcy Boulton ; quarter-master Charles Baynes ; 19 serjeants ; four corporals ; 204 rank and file; of the field-train department, William Dunbar ; of the provincial army, one captain, one lieutenant, two midshipmen, one clerk ; viz.

Captain Francis Grauvreau ; lieutenant Green ; John Ridout, John Paupre, midshipmen ; James Longsdon, clerk ; one boatswain ; 15 naval artificers ; of his majesty's regular troops, one lieutenant ; viz. lieutenant De Koven ; one serjeant-major ; and of the royal artillery, one bombardier and three gunners, shall be surrendered prisoners of war, and accounted for in the exchange of prisoners between the United States and Great Britain.

G. C. MITCHELL, lieut.-col. 3d artillery, U. S. A.  
SAM. S. CONNER, major, and A. D. C. to  
major-gen. Dearborn.

WM. KING-, major U. S. infantry.

JESSE D. ELLIOTT, lieutenant U. S. navy.

WM. CHERVET, lieutenant-col. 3d. regiment  
York militia.

WM. ALLAN, major 3d regiment York militia.

F. GAUVRAU, lieut. marine department.

York, April 28, 1813.

The foregoing agreement, or terms of capitulation, is approved by us,

WILLIAM DEARBORN, major-gen,  
ISAAC CHAUNCEY, commodore.

## NO. 19.

*From* *ingjor-gen. Dearborn to the American secretary of war*

SIR, Head-quarters, York, capital of Upper Canada,  
April 28, 1813.

After a detention of some days by adverse winds, we arrived at this place yesterday morning, and at 8 o'clock commenced landing the troops about three miles westward from the town, and one and a half from the enemy's works. The wind was high, and in an unfavorable direction for the boats, which prevented the landing of the troops at a clear field, the site of the ancient French fort, Toronto. It prevented, also, many of the armed vessels from taking positions which would have most effectually covered our landing ; but every thing that could be done was effected.

The riflemen under major Forsythe first landed, under a heavy fire from the Indians, and other troops. General Sheaffe commanded in person. He had collected his whole force in the woods, near the point where the wind compelled our troops to land. His force consisted of 700 regulars and militia, and 100 Indians. Major Forsythe was supported as promptly as possible ; but the contest was sharp and severe for near half an hour, and the enemy were repulsed by a number far inferior to theirs. As soon as general Pike landed with 7 or 800 men, and the remainder of the troops were pushing for the shore, the enemy retreated to their works. Our troops were now formed on the ground originally intended for their landing, marched through a thick wood, and after carrying one battery by assault, moving in columns towards the main work ; when within <sup>were</sup> 60 rods of this, a tremendous explosion took place, from a magazine previously prepared, and which blew out such an immense quantity of stone, as most seriously to injure our troops. I have not yet been able to collect <sup>a</sup> return of the killed *and*

and wounded ; but our loss will, I fear, exceed 100, and among these I have to lament the loss of that brave and excellent officer, Brigadier-gen. Pike, who received a contusion from a large stone, which terminated his valuable life in a few hours. His loss will be severely felt.

Previously to this explosion, the enemy had retired into the town, excepting a party of regulars, to the number of 40, who did not escape the effects of the shock, and were destroyed.

General Sheaffe moved off with the regular troops, and left directions with the commanding-officer of the militia to make the best terms he could. In the mean time, all further resistance on the part of the enemy ceased, and the outlines of *a* capitulation were agreed on.

As soon as I learned that general Pike had been wounded, I went on shore. To the general I had been induced to confide the immediate attack, from a knowledge that it was his wish, and that he would have felt mortified had it not been given to him.

Every movement was under my view. The troops acted with great firmness, and deserve much applause, particularly those first engaged, and under circumstances which would have tried the steadiness of veterans. •

Our loss in the morning, and in carrying the first battery, was not great, perhaps 40 or 50 killed and wounded, and of them a full proportion of officers.

Notwithstanding the enemy's advantage% position and numbers in the commencement of the action, their loss was greater than ours, especially in officers. It was with great exertion that the small vessels of the fleet could work into the harbour against a gale of wind ; but as soon as they got a proper position, a tremendous cannonade opened upon the enemy's batteries, and was kept up against them until they were carried or blown up, and had no doubt, a powerful effect upon the enemy.

I am under the greatest obligations to oommodore Chauncey, for his able and indefatigable exertions *in* every poossible manner

which could give facility and effect to the expedition. He is equally estimable for sound judgment, bravery, and industry. The government could not have made a more fortunate selection.

Unfortunately, the enemy's armed ship prince Regent left this place for Kingston a few days before we arrived. A large ship on the stocks, and nearly planked up, and much naval stores, were set fire to by the enemy soon after the explosion of the magazine. A considerable quantity of military stores and provisions remain, but no vessel fit for use.

We have not the means of transporting prisoners, and must of course leave them on parole.

I hope we shall so far complete what is necessary to be done here, as to be able to sail to-morrow for Niagara, whither send this by a small vessel, with notice to general Lewis of our approach.

I have the honor *to be*, &c.

HENRY DEARBORN.

Hon. gen. J. Armstrong, secretary  
of war, Washington.

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No. 20.

*From commodore Chauncey to the American secretary of the navy.*

U. S. ship Madison, at anchor off York,  
SIR, April 28th, 1813.

Agreeably to your instructions and arrangements made with major-gen. Dearborn, I took on board the squadron under my command, the general and suite, and about 1700 troops, and left Sackett's Harbor on the 25th instant for this place. We arrived here yesterday morning, and took a position about one mile to the southward and westward of the enemy's principal mill fort, and as near the shore as we could with safety to the vessel.

The place fixed upon by the major-general and myself, for landing the troops, was the site of the old French fort Toronto.

The debarkation commenced about 8 o'clock A.M. and was completed about 10. The wind blowing heavy from the eastward, the boats fell to leeward of the position fixed upon, and were, in consequence, exposed to a galling fire from the enemy, who had taken a position in a thick wood, near where the first troops landed; however, the cool intrepidity of the officers and men overcame every obstacle. Their attack upon the enemy was so vigorous that he tied in every direction, leaving a great many of his killed and wounded upon the field. As soon as the troops were landed, I directed the schooners to take a position near the fort, in order that the attack upon the enemy by the army and navy might be simultaneous. The schooners were obliged to beat up to their position, which they did in a very handsome order, under a very heavy fire from the enemy's batteries, and took a position within about 600 yards of their principal fort, and opened a heavy cannonade upon the enemy, which did great execution, and very much contributed to their final destruction; the troops, as soon as landed, were formed under the immediate orders of brigadier-general Pike, who led in a most gallant manner the attack upon the forts, and after having carried two redoubts on his approach to the principal work, the enemy (having previously laid a train) blew up his magazine, which, in its effects upon our troops, were dreadful, having killed and wounded a great many; and among the former, the ever to be lamented brigadier-general Pike, who fell at the head of his column, by a contusion received by a heavy stone from the magazine. His death at this time is much to be regretted, as he had the perfect confidence of the major-general; and his known activity, zeal, and experience, makes his loss a national one.

In consequence of the fall of general Pike, the command of the troops for a time devolved upon colonel Pierce, who soon after took possession of the town. At about 2 P.M. the American flag was substituted for the British, and at 4, our

troops were in quiet possession of the town. As soon as general Dearborn learnt the situation of general Pike, he landed, and assumed the command. I have the honor of enclosing a copy of the capitulation that was entered into and approved of by general Dearborn and myself.

The enemy set fire to some of his principal stores, containing large quantities of naval and military stores, as well as a large ship on the stocks, nearly finished. The only vessel found here, was the Duke of Gloucester undergoing repairs. The Prince Regent left here on the 24th for Kingston. We have not yet had a return made of the naval and military stores ; consequently cannot form a correct idea of the quantity, but have made arrangements to have all taken on board that we can receive; the rest will be destroyed.

I have to regret the ;death of midshipmen Thompson and Hatfield, and of several seamen killed—the exact number I do not know, as the returns from the different vessels have not yet been received.

From the judicious arrangements made by general Dearborn, I presume that the public stores will be disposed of, so that the troops will be ready to re-embark to-morrow, and proceed to execute other objects of the expedition the first fair wind.

I cannot speak in too much praise of the cool intrepidity of the officers and men generally, under my command ; and I feel myself particularly indebted to the officers commanding vessels, for their zeal in seconding my views. rj !

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

ISAAC CHAUNCEY.

To the hon. the secretary of the navy.

(Terms of capitulation as before.)

## No. 2L

*From brigadier-general Vincent to sir G. Prevost.*

Sin,

Forty-mile Creek, May 28, 1813.

I have the honor to inform your excellency, that yesterday morning, about day-break, the enemy again opened his batteries upon Fort-George : the fire not being immediately returned, it ceased for some time. About 4 o'clock A.M. a combination of circumstances led to a belief that an invasion was meditated. The morning being exceedingly hazy, neither his means nor his intention could be ascertained, until, the mist clearing away at intervals, the enemy's fleet, consisting of 14 or 15 vessels, was discovered under way, standing towards the light-house, in an extended line of more than two miles, covering from 90 to 100 large boats and scow s, each containing an average of 50 or 60 men. Though at this time no doubt could be entered of the enemy's intention, his points of attack could only be conjectured. Having again commenced a heavy fire from his fort, line of batteries, and shipping, it became necessary to withdraw all the guards and piquets stationed along the coast, between the fort and light-house, and a landing was effected at the Two-mile Creek, about half a mile below the latter-place. The party of troops and Indians stationed at this point, after opposing the enemy, and annoying him as long as possible, were obliged to fall back, and the fire from the shipping so completely enfiladed and scowred the plains, that it became impossible to approach the beach. As the day dawned, the enemy's plan was clearly developed, and every effort to oppose his landing having failed, I lost not a moment in concentrating *my* force between the town of Fort-George and the enemy, there awaiting his approach. This movement was admirably covered by the Glengarry light infantry, joined by a detachment of the royal Newfoundland regiment and militia, which com-

enced skirmishing with the enemy's riflemen, who were advancing through the brushwood. The enemy having perfect command of the beach, he quickly landed from 3 to 4000 men, with several pieces of artillery, and this force was instantly seen advancing in three solid columns, along the lake bank, his right covered by a large body of riflemen, and his left and front by the fire of the shipping, and batteries in their fort. As our light troops fell back upon the main body, which was moved forwards to their support, they were gallantly sustained by the 8th (king's) regiment, commanded by major Ogilvie, the whole being under the immediate direction of colonel Myers, acting quarter-master-general, who had charge of the right wing. In the execution of this important duty, gallantry, zeal, and decision, were eminently conspicuous ; and I lament to report that I was deprived of the services of colonel Myers, who, having received three wounds, was obliged to quit the field. Lieutenant-colonel Harvey, the deputy adjutant-general, whose activity and gallantry had been displayed the whole morning, succeeded colonel Myers, and brought up the right division, consisting of the 49th regiment, and some militia.

The light artillery under major Holcroft were already in position, awaiting the enemy's advance on the plain. At this moment the very inferior force under my command, had experienced a severe loss in officers and men ; yet nothing could exceed the ardor and gallantry of the troops, who shewed the most marked devotion in the service of their king and country, and appeared regardless of the consequence of the unequal contest. Being on the spot, and seeing that the force under my command was opposed with ten-fold numbers, who were rapidly advancing under cover of their shipping and batteries, from which our positions were immediately seen, and exposed to a tremendous fire of shot and shells, I decided on retiring my little force to a position which I hoped might be less assailable by the heavy ordnance of the enemy, and from which a retreat would be left open, in the event of that measure becoming necessary. Here, after awaiting the approach of the

enemy for about half an hour, I received authentic information, that his force, consisting of from 4 to 5000 men, had re-formed his columns, and was making an effort to turn my right flank. At this critical juncture not a moment was to be lost, and sensible that every effort had been made, by the officers and men under my command, to maintain the post of Fort-George, I could not consider myself justified in continuing so unequal a contest, the issue of which promised no advantage to the interests of his majesty's service. Having given orders for the fort to be evacuated, the guns to be spiked, and the ammunition destroyed, the troops under my command were put in motion, and marched across the country in a line parallel to the Niagara river, towards the position near the Beaver Dam, beyond Queenstown Mountain, at which place I had the honor of reporting to your excellency that a depot of provisions and ammunition had been formed some time since. The rear-guard of the army reached that position during the night, and we were soon afterwards joined by lieutenant-colonel Bisshopp, with all the detachment from Chippeway to Fort-Erie. The light, and one battalion company of the 8th, (king's,) joined us about the same time, as did captain Barclay, with a detachment of the royal navy.

Having assembled my whole force the following morning, which did not exceed 1600 men, I continued my march towards the head of the lake, where it is my intention to take up a position, and shall endeavour to maintain it, until I may be honored with your excellency's instructions, which I shall feel most anxious to receive. I beg leave to suggest the great importance that exists for a communication being opened with me, through the medium of the fleet. The anchorage under Mrs. Brandt's house is perfectly good and very safe. I believe your excellency need not be informed, that in the event of it becoming necessary that I should fall back upon York, the assistance of shipping would be requisite for the transport of my artillery. I cannot conclude this long communication, without expressing a well-merited tribute of approbation to the

gallantry and assiduity of every officer of the staff, and indeed of every individual composing my little army ;—every one most zealously discharged the duties of his respective station. The struggle on the 27th continued from three to four hours ; and, I lament to add, it was attended with very severe loss.

I have the honor to enclose a list of the killed, wounded, and missing, with as much accuracy as the nature of existing circumstances will admit. Many of *the* missing, I hope, will be found to be only stragglers, and will soon rejoin their corps. I shall reach the head of the lake to-morrow evening. Hitherto the enemy has not attempted to interrupt my movements. Information reached me this morning, through an authentic channel, that he has pushed on 3000 infantry, and a considerable body of cavalry, towards Queenstown. His whole force is stated to amount to nearly 10000 men.

I send this despatch by Mr. Mathison, who acted as a volunteer on the 27th; and I am happy to inform your excellency, that his conduct was very honorable to his character, and merits my marked approbation. Ammunition will be wanting by the first vessel. Captain Manes has been kind enough to remain with me until my next despatch.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN VINCENT, brig.-gen.

His excellency lieutenant-general  
sir George Prevost, &c. &c. &c.

Return of killed, wounded, and missing, of his majesty's troops in action with the enemy at Fort-George, May the 27th, 1813.

*General staff* ; — 1 wounded.

*Royal artillery* ; — 1 rank and file killed; 1 rank and file wounded.

*8th ; (or king's regiment;) — 1* lieutenant killed ; 1 major, 3 lieutenants, 1 ensign, wounded ; 11 serjeants, 4 drummers, 181 rank and file, *Allissing*.

*41st regiment;—3* rank and file wounded and missing.

*49th regiment* ; — 2 rank and file killed ; 2 rank and file wounded ; 4 drummers, 28 rank and file, wounded and missing.

Left in hospitals, and wounded on former occasions, 16 rank and file, not included.

*Glengarry regiment* ; — 1 captain, 1 ensign, 1 serjeant, 24 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 3 serjeants, 20 rank and file, wounded ; 1 lieutenant, 2 serjeants, 13 rank and file, wounded and missing.

*Royal Newfoundland regiment* ; — 21 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 6 rank and file, wounded ; 5 rank and file wounded and missing.

Total ; — 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 ensign, 1 serjeant, 48 rank and file; killed ; 1 general-staff, 1 major, 2 captains, 5 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 4 serjeants, 29 rank and file, wounded ; 1 lieutenant, 13 serjeants, 8 drummers, 240 rank and file, wounded and missing.

Names of officers killed and wounded.

*Killed* ; — *8th ; (or king's regiment;)* — *Lieutenant James* Drummie ;

*Glengarry regiment* ; — *Captain* Liddle, ensign M<sup>o</sup>Lean.

*Wounded*; — *Colonel* Myers, acting quarter-master-general, severely, not dangerously.

*8th regiment ;—Major* Edward Cotton, lieutenant I. W. Lloyd, severely, and prisoner ; lieutenants Mortimer, M'Mahon, and Horace Noel ; ensign Richard Nicholson, severely, and prisoner.

*Glengarry regiment* ; — *Captain* Roxburgh, lieutenant Kerr, ensign Kerr.

*Royal Newfoundland regiment*; — *Captain* Winter, lieutenant Stewart.

EDWARD BAYNES,  
Adjutant-general, North America.

## No. 22.

*From major-general Dearborn to the American secretary at war.*

SIR,

Head-quarters, Fort-George,  
Upper Canada, May 27.

The light-troops under the command of colonel Scott and major Forsythe, landed this morning, at nine o'clock. Major-general Lewis's division, with colonel Porter's command of light-artillery, supported them. General Boyd's brigade landed immediately after the light troops, and generals Chandler and Winder followed it in quick succession. The landing was warmly and obstinately disputed by the British forces ; but the coolness and intrepidity of our troops soon compelled them to give ground in every direction. General Chandler, with the reserve, (composed of his brigade and colonel Macomb's artillery,) covered the whole. Commodore Chauncey had made the most judicious arrangement for silencing the enemy's batteries near the point of landing. The army is under the greatest obligations to that able naval commander for his co-operation in all its important movements, and especially in its operations this day. Our batteries succeeded in rendering Fort-George untenable; and when the enemy had been beaten from his positions, and I found it necessary to re-enter it, after firing a few guns, and setting fire to the magazines, which soon exploded, he moved off rapidly by different routes. Our light troops pursued them several miles. The troops having been *under* arms from one o'clock in the morning, were too much exhausted for any further pursuit. We are now in possession of Fort-George and its immediate dependencies ; to-morrow we shall proceed on. The behaviour of our troops, both officers and men, entitles them to the highest praise; and the difference of our loss with that of the enemy, when we consider the advantages his position afforded him, is astonishing. We had 17

killed, and 45 wounded. The enemy had 90 killed, and 160 wounded, of the regular troops. We have taken 100 prisoners, exclusive of the wounded. Colonel Myers, of the 49th, was wounded, and taken prisoner. Of ours only one commissioned officer was killed, lieutenant Hobart, of the light-artillery.

I have the honor to be, sir,

With great consideration and respect,

Your most obedient servant,

H. DEARBORN.

lion. gen. John Armstrong,  
secretary at war.

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## No. 23.

*From adjutant-general Bajjnes to sir G. Prevost.*

SIR,

Kingston, May 30th, 1813.

I have the honor to report to your excellency, that in conformity to an arranged plan of operations with commodore sir James Yet), the fleet of boats assembled a-stern of his ship, at 10 o'clock on the night of the 28th instant, with the troops placed under my command, and led by a gun-boat, under the direction of captain Mulcaster, royal navy, proceeded towards Sackett's Harbor, in the order prescribed to the troops, in case the detachment was obliged to march in column ; viz. the grenadier company, 100th, with one section of the royal Scots, two companies of the 8th, (or king's,) four of the 104th, two of the Canadian voltigeurs, two 6-pounders, with their gunners, and a company of Glengarry light-infantry, were embarked on board a light schooner, which was proposed to be towed, under the direction of officers of the navy, so as to insure the guns being landed in time to support the advance of the troops. Although the night was dark, with rain, the boats assembled in the vicinity of Sackett's Harbor, by one o'clock, in compact and regular order ; and in this

position it was intended to remain until the day broke, in the hope of effecting a landing before the enemy could be prepared to line the woods with troops, which surround the coast; but, unfortunately, a strong current drifted the boats considerably, while the darkness of the night, and ignorance of the coast, prevented them from recovering their proper station until the day dawned, when the whole pulled for the point of debarkation.

It was my intention to have landed in the cove formed by Horse Island, but, on approaching it, we discovered that the enemy were fully prepared, by a very heavy fire of musketry from the surrounding woods, which were filled with infantry supported by a field-piece. I directed the boats to pull round to the other side of the island, where a landing was effected in good order and with little loss, although executed in the face of a corps, formed with a field-piece in the wood, and under the enfilade of a heavy gun of the enemy's principal battery. The advance was led by the grenadiers of the 100th regiment, with undaunted gallantry, which no obstacle could arrest. A narrow causeway, in many places under water, not more than four feet wide, and about 400 paces in length, which connected the island with the main land, was occupied by the enemy, in great force, with a 6-pounder.; It was forced, and carried in the most spirited manner, and the gun taken before a second discharge could be made from it ; a tumbril, with a few rounds of ammunition, was found.; .bot, unfortunately, the artillerymen were still behind, the schooner not having been able to get up in time, and the troops were exposed to so heavy and galling a fire from a numerous, but almost invisible foe, as to render it impossible to halt for the artillery to come up. At this spot two paths led in opposite directions round the hill ; I directed colonel Young, of the king's regiment, with:half of the detachment, to penetrate by the left ; and major Drummond, of the 104th, to force the path by the right, which proved to be more open, and was less occupied by the enemy. On the left the wood was very thick, and was most obstinately main. Wiled by the enemy.

The gun-boats which had covered our landing, afforded material aid, by firing into the woods ; but the. American soldier, secure behind a tree, was only to be dislodged by the bayonet. The spirited advance of a section produced the flight of hundreds. From this observation all firing was directed to cease, and the detachment being formed in as regular order as the nature of the ground would admit, pushed forward through the wood upon the enemy, who, although greatly superior in numbers, and supported by field-pieces, and a heavy fire from their fort, fled with precipitation to their block-house and fort, abandoning one of their guns. The division under colonel Young was joined in the charge, by that under major Drummond, which was executed with such spirit and promptness, that many of the enemy fell in their enclosed barracks, which were set on fire by our troops ;—at this point the further energies of the troops became unavailing. Their block-house and stockaded battery could not be carried by assault, nor reduced by field-pieces, had we been provided with them; the fire of the gun-boats proved inefficient to attain that. end : light and adverse winds continued, and our larger vessels were still far off. The enemy turned the heavy ordnance of the battery to the interior defence of his post. He had set fire to the store-houses in the vicinity of the fort.

Seeing no object within our reach to attain, that could compensate for the loss we were momentarily sustaining from the heavy fire of the enemy's cannon, I directed the troops to take up the position on the crest of the hill we had charged from. From this position we were ordered to re-embark, which was performed at .our leisure, and in perfect order, the enemy not presuming to skew a single soldier without the limits of his fortress. Youy excellency having been a witness of the zeal and ardent courage of every soldier in the field, it is unnecessary in me to assure your excellency, that but one sentiment animated every breast, that of discharging to the utmost of their power their duty to their king and country.--But one sentiment of regret and mortification prevailed, on being obliged



to quit a beaten enemy, whom a small band of British soldiers had driven before them for three hours, through a country abounding in strong positions of defence, but not offering a single spot of cleared ground favorable for the operations of disciplined troops, without having fully accomplished the duty we were ordered to perform.

The two divisions of the detachment were ably commanded by colonel Young, of the king's, and major Drummond, of the 104th. The detachment of the king's under major Evans, nobly sustained the high and established character of that distinguished corps; and captain Burke availed himself of the ample field afforded him in leading the advance, to display the intrepidity of British grenadiers.

The detachment of the 104th regiment, under major Moodie, captain M'Pherson's company of Glengarry light-infantry, and two companies of Canadian voltigeurs, commanded by major Hammot, all of them levies of the British provinces of North America, evinced most striking proofs of their loyalty, steadiness, and courage. The detachment of the royal Newfoundland regiment behaved with great gallantry. Your excellency will lament the loss of that active and intelligent officer, captain Gray, acting deputy-quarter-master-general, who fell close to the enemy's work, while reconnoitring it, in the hope to discover some opening to favor an assault. Commodore sir James Yeo conducted the fleet of boats in the attack, and, accompanying the advance of the troops, directed the co-operation of the gun-boats. I feel most grateful for your excellency's kind consideration, in allowing your aides de camp majors Coote and Fulton, to accompany me in the field, and to these officers for the able assistance they afforded me.

I have the honor to be, &c.

EDWARD BAYNES,

Col. Glengarry light-infantry, commanding.  
To his excellency lieutenant-general  
sir George Prevost, Bart. &c. &c. &c.

Return of the killed, wounded, and missing, in an attack on Sackett's Harbor, on the 29th of May, 1813:

*General staff* ; -1 killed.

*Royal artillery* ; -2 gunners, wounded;

*Royal Scots* rank and file, killed; 1 rank and file, wounded and missing; 4 rank and file, wounded.

*8th; (or king's regiment;)* - 5 rank and file, killed; 2 captains, 1 ensign, 7 rank and file, wounded and missing; 1 major, 2 lieutenants, 3 serjeants, 60 rank and file, wounded.

*100th regiment* ; - 1 serjeant, 5 rank and file, killed; 3 rank and file, wounded and missing; 1 drummer, 10 rank and file, wounded.

*101th regiment* ; - 2 serjeant, 20 rank and file, killed; 1 rank and file, wounded and missing; 2 majors, 2 captains, 3 lieutenants, 3 serjeants, 1 drummer, 57 rank and file, wounded.

*Royal Newfoundland regiment* ; - 1 rank and file, killed; 1 rank and file, wounded and missing; 13 rank and file, wounded.

*Glengarry light infantry* ; - 6 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 1 ensign, 1 serjeant, 17 rank and file, wounded.

*Canadian voltigeurs* ; - 2 rank and file, killed; 2 rank and file, wounded.

Total ; -1 general staff, 3 serjeants, 44 rank and file, killed; 3 majors, 3 captains, 5 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 7 serjeants, 2 drummers, 172 rank and file, 2 gunners, wounded; 2 captains, 1 ensign, 13 rank and file, wounded and missing. - -

Names of officers killed and wounded.

*Killed*; - *Captain A.* Gray, acting deputy-quarter-master-general.

*Wounded 8th; (or king's regiment;)* - *Major* Evans, slightly; *captain* Blackmore, dangerously; *captain* Tythe, severely; *lieutenant* Nutall; (since dead;) *lieutenant* Lowry; *ensign* Greig, **prirper**.

104th *regiment* ;—*majors* Drummond and Moody, slightly ; captain Leonard, severely ; captain Shore, slightly ; lieutenants Rainford, Moore, and Delancey.

*Glengarry light infantry* ;—*Captain* M'Pherson, severely ; ensign Mathewson, slightly.

EDWARD BAYNES,  
Adj. Gen. North America.

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No. 24.

*From colonel Proctor to major-general Shea(j'e.*

Sin, Sandwich, January 25th, 1813.

In my last despatch I acquainted you, that the enemy was in the Michigan territory, marching upon Detroit, and that I therefore deemed it necessary that he should be attacked without delay, with all and every description of *force* within my reach. Early in the morning, on the 19th, I was informed of his being in possession of Frenchtown, on the river Raisin, 26 miles from Detroit, after experiencing every resistance that major Reynolds, of the Essex militia, had it in his power to make, with a 3-pounder, well served and directed by bombardier Kitson, of the royal artillery, and the militia, three of whom he had well trained to the use of it. The retreat of the gun was covered by a brave band of Indians, who made the enemy pay dear for what he obtained. This party, composed of militia and Indians, with the gun, fell back, 18 miles to Brown's town, the settlement of the brave Wyandots, where I directed my force to assemble. On the 21st instant, I advanced 12 miles to Swan Creek, from whence we marched to the enemy, and attacked him at break of day, on the 22d instant; and after suffering, for our numbers, a considerable loss, the enemy's force posted in houses and enclosures, and which, from dread of falling into the hands of the Indians, they most obstinately defendd, at length surrendered at discretion ; the other part of their force, in attempting to retreat by the way they came,

were, I believe, all, or with very few exceptions, killed by the Indians. Brigadier-general Winchester was taken in the pursuit, by the Wyandot chief Roundhead, who afterwards surrendered him to me. -

You will perceive that I have lost no time ; indeed, it was necessary to be prompt in my movements, as the enemy would have been joined by major-general Harrison in a few days. The troops, the marine, and the militia, displayed great bravery, and behaved uncommonly well. Where so much zeal and spirit were manifested, it would be unjust to attempt to particularize any : I cannot, however, refrain from mentioning lieutenant-colonel St. George, who received four wounds in a gallant attempt to occupy a building which was favorably situated for annoying the enemy ; together with ensign Keu., of the Newfoendland regiment, fearis'riery dangerously wounded. The zeal and courage of the Indian department were never more conspicuous than on this occasion, and the Indian warriors fought with their usual bravery. I am much indebted to the different departments, the troops having been well and timely supplied with every requisite the district could afford.

I have fortunately not been deprived of the services of lieutenant Troughton, of the royal artillery, and acting in the quarter-master-general's department, although he was wounded, to whose zealous and unwearied exertions I am greatly indebted, as well as to the whole of the royal artillery for their conduct in this affair.

I enclose a list of the killed and wounded, and cannot but lament that there are so many of both ; but of the latter, I am happy to say, a large proportion of them will return to their duty, and most of them in a short time; I Op. enclose a return of the arms and ammunition which have been taken, as well as of the prisoners, whom you will perceive O be equal to my utmost force, exclusive of the Indians.

It is reported that a party, consisting of 100 men, bringing 500 hogs to general Winchester's force, has been' completely

cut off by the Indians, and the convoy taken. Lieutenant M'Lean, my acting brigade-major, whose gallantry and exertions were conspicuous on the 22d instant, is the bearer of this despatch, and will be able to afford you every information respecting our situation.

I have the honor to be, &c.

HENRY PROCTOR, colonel.

To major-general Sheaffe, Ste. &c. &c.

Fort-George.

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 tl:kizl f No. 25•

*Return of prisoners taken after the action at Riviere au Raisin, on the 22d day of January, 1813.*

1 brigadier-general; 1 colonel; 1 major ; 9 captains; 6 lieutenants ; 10 ensigns ; 1 brigade-major ; 1 adjutant ; 1 quarter-master ; 2 surgeons ; 27 serjeants ; 435 rank and file. Total-495.

N. B. The Indians have brought in and delivered up several prisoners since the above return was taken ; they continue to do so this morning, so that this return is not perfectly correct, nor can a correct one be procured until they arrive at Sandwich.

FELIX TROUGHTON, R. A.

Act. dep. assist. quarter-master-gen.

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No. 26.

*Return of the killed and wounded in the action at Riviere au Raisin, 22d January, 1813.*

*Royal artillery ;*-1 serjeant, 1 gunner, killed ; 1 lieutenant, 1 corporal, 1 bombardier, 5 gunners, wounded.

*10th royal veteran battalion ;*-2 privates, wounded.

*41st foot ;*-15 privates, killed; 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 3 serjeants, 1 corporal, 91 privates, wounded.

*Royal Newfoundland regiment ;*-1 private, killed; 1 ensign, 1 serjeant, 3 corporals, 13 privates, wounded.

*Marine department ;*-1 seaman, killed ; 2 lieutenants, 1 midshipman, 1 gunner, 12 seamen, wounded.

*1st Essex militia ;*-2 privates, killed ; 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 2 serjeants, 7 privates, wounded.

*2d Essex militia ;*-3 privates, killed; 1 ensign, 3 privates, wounded.

*Staff ;*-1 lieutenant-colonel, wounded.

Total ;-1 serjeant, 1 gunner, 21 privates, 1 seaman, killed ; 1 lieutenant-colonel, 2 captains, 6 lieutenants, 2 ensigns, 1 midshipman, 6 serjeants, 5 corporals, 1 bombardier, 6 gunners, 116 privates, 12 seamen, wounded.

General Total ;-24 killed; 158 wounded.

Names of the officers wounded.

*Royal artillery ;*-Lieutenant Troughton.

*41st foot ;*-Captain Tallon and lieutenant Clemow.

*Royal Newfoundland regiment ;*-Ensign Kerr.

*Marine department ;*- Lieutenants Rolette and Irvine, and midshipman Richardson.

*1st Essex militia ;*-Captain Mills, and lieutenants. M'Cov-mic and Gordon.

*2d ditto ;*-Claude Garvin.

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*Staff*-Colones St. George.

FELIX TROUGHTON, Lt. R. A.

Act. dep. asst. quarter-master-gen.

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## No. 27.

*From brigadier-general Winchester to the American secretary of war.*

SIR,

Malden, January 28th, 1813.

A detachment from the left wing of the north-western Army under my command, at Frenchtown, on...the river Raisin, was attacked on the 23d instant, by a force greatly superior in numbers, aided by several pieces of artillery. The action commenced at the dawn of day : the piquet-guards were driven in, and a heavy fire opened upon the whole line, by which part thereof was thrown into disorder ; and being ordered to form on more advantageous ground, I found the enemy doubling our left flank with force and rapidity.

A destructive fire was sustained for some time; at length, borne down by numbers, the few of us that remained with the party retired from the lines, submitted. " The remainder of our force, in number about 400, continued to defend themselves with great gallantry, in' an unequal contest against small-arms and 'artillery, until **in as a prisoner to that part** of the field occupied by the enemy.

At this latter place, I 'understood *ihit* our troops were defending themselves in a state of desperation ; and I was informed by the commanding-officer, Of the enemy, that he would afford thprn an opportunity surrendering themselves prisoners of 'tet')Whicli T acceded. 'I was the more ready to make the surrender, from being assured, that unless done quickly, the buildings adjacent would be immediately set on fire, and that no responsibility would be taken for the conduct of the savages, who were then assembled in great numbers.

In this critical situation, being desirous to preserve the lives Of a number of our brave fellows who still held out, I sent a flag to them, and agreed with the commanding-officer of the 'Oil enemy, that they should be surrendered prisoners of war, on

condition of their being protected from the savages, and being allowed to retain their private property, and having their side-arms returned to them. It is impossible for me to ascertain, with certainty, the loss we have sustained in this action, from the impracticability of knowing the number who have made their escape.

Thirty-five officers, and about 487 non-commissioned officers, and privates, are prisoners of war. A list of the names of officers is herewith enclosed to you. Our loss in killed is considerable.

However unfortunate may seem the affair of yesterday, I am flattered by the belief, that no material error is chargeable upon myself, and that still less censure deserved by the troops I had the honor of commanding.

With the exception of that portion of our force which was thrown into disorder, no troops have ever behaved with more determined intrepidity.

I have the honor to be, with high respect,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES WINCHESTER,

Hun. secretary at war.

Brig.-gen. U. S. army.

Here follows a list of the officers taken :

General Winchester ; colonel Lewis; major Madison ; captains Overton, Hightower, Ballard, Cholier, James Kelly, Hamilton, Williams, Sabrie, and Bledfoe; lieutenants Gerard, M'Cella ; adjutant Keen ; Q. M. Holden, Rule M'Guire, Ganard, Moore, and Higgins; ensigns Comstock, Butler, T. Chin, Flarron, Nash, Botts, Monday, Berson, Nash ; Mooring, Fleet, and Caldwell; surgeon Todd.—, Total, 36.

The Indians have still a few prisoners in their possession, which I have reason to hope will be given up to colonel Proctor, at Sandwich.

JAMES WINCHESTER, brig.-gen.

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No. 2E4.

*From major-general Harrison, to governor Shelby.*

,Camp on Carrying Rock, 15 miles from  
the Rapids, January 24, 18,13,

MY DEAR SIR,

I send colonel Wells to you, to communicate the particulars (as far as we are acquainted with them) of an event that will overwhelm your mind with grief, and fill your whole state with mourning.

The greater part of colonel Wells's regiment, United States' infantry, and the 1st and 5th regiments Kentucky infantry, and Allen's rifle regiment, under the immediate orders of general Winchester have been cut to pieces by the enemy, or taken prisoners. Great as the calamity is, I still hope that, as far as it relates to the objects of the campaign, it is not irreparable. As soon as I was informed of the attack upon general Winchester, about 12 o'clock on the 22d instant, I set out, to overtake the detachment of Kentucky's troops, that I had sent that morning to reinforce him, and I directed the only regiment that I had with me to follow. I overtook major Robb's detachment at the distance of 6 miles but before the troops in the rear could get up, certain information was received of general Winchester's total defeat.

• A council of war was tailed, and it was the unanimous opinion of the generals Payne and Perkins, and all the field officers, that there was no motive that could authorize an advance but that of attacking the enemy, and that success was not to be expected after a forced march of 40 miles against an enemy superior in number, and welt provided with artillery. Strong detachments of the most active men were, however, sent forward on all the roads, to assist and bring in such of our men as had escaped. The whole number that reached our camp

does not exceed 30, amongst whom were major M'Clannahan and captain Claves.

Raving a large train of heavy artillery, and stores coming on this road from W. Sandusky, under an escort of four companies, it was thought advisable to fall back to this place, for the purpose of securing them. A part of it arrived last evening, and the rest is within 30 miles. As soon as it arrives, and a reinforcement of three regiments from the Virginia and Pennsylvania brigades, I shall again advance, and give the enemy an opportunity of measuring their strength with us once more.

Colonel Wells will communicate some circumstances, which, while they afflict and surprise, will convince you that Kentucky has lost none of her reputation for valor, for which she is famed. The detachment to the river Raisin was made without my knowledge or consent, and in direct opposition to my plans. Having been made, however, I did every thing in my power to reinforce them, and a force exceeding by 300 men that which general Winchester deemed necessary, was on its way to join him, and a fine battalion within 14 miles of its destination.

After the success of colonel Lewis, I was in great hopes that the post could be maintained. Colonel Wells will communicate my future views to you, much better than I can do in writing at this time.

I am, dear Sir, &c.

W. H. HARRISON.

His excellency governor Shelby.

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No 29.

*From brigadier-general Proctor to sir G. Prevost.*

Sea,

Sandwich, May 14th, 1813.

From the circumstances of the war, I have judged it expedient to make a direct report to your excellency of the operations and present state in this district.

In the expectation of being able to reach the enemy, who had taken post near the foot of the Rapids of the Miami, before the reinforcements and supplies could arrive, for which only he waited to commence active operations against us, I determined to attack him without delay, and with every means in my power ; but from the necessary preparations, and some untoward circumstances, it was not in my power to reach him within three weeks of the period I had proposed, and at which he might have been captured or destroyed. From the incessant and heavy rains we experienced, and during which our batteries were constructed, it was not until the morning of the 1st instant, the fifth day after our arrival at the mouth of the river, 12 miles from the enemy, that our batteries could be opened.

The enemy, who occupied several acres of commanding ground, strongly defended by block-houses, and the batteries well furnished with ordnance, had, during our approach, so completely entrenched and covered himself, as to render unavailing every effort of our artillery, though well served, and in batteries most judiciously placed and constructed, under the able direction of captain Dixon, of the royal engineers, of whose ability and unwearied zeal, shewn particularly on this occasion, I cannot speak too highly.

Though the attack has not answered fully the purpose intended, I have the satisfaction to inform your excellency of the fortunate result of an attack of the enemy, aided by a sally of most of their garrison, made on the morning of the 5th instant, by a reinforcement; which descended the river a considerable distance in a very short time, consisting of two corps, Dudley's and Roswell's, amounting to 1300 men, under the command of brigadier-general Green Clay. The attack was very sudden, and on both sides of the river. The enemy were for a few minutes in the possession of our batteries, and took some prisoners. After a severe contest, though not of long continuance, the enemy gave way ; and, except the body of those who sallied from the fort, must have been mostly killed or taken.

In this decisive affair, the officers and men of the 41st regiment, who charged and routed the enemy near the batteries, well maintained the long established reputation of the corps. Where all deserve praise, it is difficult to distinguish. Captain Muir, an old officer, who had seen much service, had the good fortune to be in the immediate command of these brave men. Besides my obligations to captain Chambers, for his unwearied exertions preparatory to, and on the expedition, as deputy-assistant quartermaster-general, I have to notice his gallant conduct in attacking the enemy near the batteries, at the point of the bayonet ; a service in which he was well supported by lieutenants Bullock and Clements of the 41st, and lieutenant Le Breton, of the Royal Newfoundland regiment. The courage and activity displayed through the whole scene of action by the Indian chiefs and warriors, contributed largely to our success. I have not been able to ascertain the amount of prisoners in the possession of the Indians. I have sent off, agreeable to agreement, nearly 500 prisoners to the river Huron, near Sandusky.

I have proposed an exchange, which is referred to the American government.

I could not ascertain the amount of the enemy's loss in killed, from the extent of the scene of action, and mostly in the woods. I conceive his loss in killed and prisoners to have been between 1000 and 1200 men. These unfortunate people were not volunteers, and complete Kentucky's quota. If the enemy had been permitted to receive his reinforcements and supplies undisturbed, I should have had, at this critical juncture, to contend with him for Detroit, or perhaps on this shore.

I had not the option of retaining my situation on the Miami. Half of the militia had left us. I received a deputation from the chiefs, counselling me to return, as they could not prevent their people, as was their custom after any battle of consequence, returning to their villages with their wounded, their prisoners and plunder, of which they had taken a considerable quantity in the boats of the enemy.

Before the ordinance could be drawn from the batteries, I was left with Tecumseh, and less than 20 chiefs and warriors; a circumstance which strongly proves that, under present circumstances at least, our Indian force is not a disposable one, or permanent, though occasionally a most powerful aid. I have, however, brought off all the ordnance; and, indeed, have not left any thing behind; part of the ordnance is embarked under the fire of the enemy.

The service on which we were employed has been, though short a very severe one; and too much praise cannot be given to both officers and men, for the cheerfulness with which, on every occasion, they met the service. To lieutenant-col. Warburton I feel many obligations, for the aid he zealously afforded me on every occasion. From my brigade-major, lieutenant McLean, I received the same zealous assistance as on former occasions. To captain Mockler, royal Newfoundland regiment, who acted as my aide-de-camp, I am much indebted for the assistance afforded me.

Lieutenant Le Breton, of the Newfoundland regiment, assistant-engineer, by his unwearied exertions, rendered essential service; as did lieutenant Gardiner, of the 41st regiment, from his science in artillery. The royal artillery, in the laborious duties they performed, displayed their usual unwearied zeal, and were well assisted by the royal Newfoundland, (under lieutenant Garden,) as additional gunners. The laborious duties which the marine, under commodore Hall, have performed, have been most cheerfully met, and the most essential service rendered.

I have the honor to send an embarkation return of the force that served under my command at the Miami, exclusive of the Indians, who may be stated at 1200.

I also enclose a return of our killed, wounded, and prisoners, who have, however, been exchanged.

I had taken upon me to give the rank of major to the six captains of the line, as militia were employed on the same service with them; some of them are old officers; all of them desert.

lag; any mark of your excellency's approbation of them would be extremely grateful to me.

I beg leave to mention the four volunteers of the 41st regt. Wilkinson, Richardson, Laing, and Proctor, as worthy of promotion.

--I have the honor to be, &c.

HENRY PROCTOR,

Brigadier-general commanding.

I beg to acknowledge the indefatigable exertions of the commissariat.

HENRY PROCTOR.

To his excellency, lieutenant-general

Sir G. Prevost, Bart. &c. &c.

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*Embarkation-return of the western army Commanded by  
brigadier-gen. Proctor, on an expedition to the Miami's.*

Amherstburg, April 23d, 1813.

*General staff;--1 general, 1 lieutenant-col. 1 deputy assistant-quarter-master-general, 1 brigade-major, 1 staff-adjutant.*

*Royal artillery;--1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 1 surgeon, 27 rank and file.*

*Royal engineers;--1 captain.*

*10th veteran battalion;--5.*

*41st regiment;--3 captains, 7 lieutenants, 1 assistant-surgeon, 22 serjeants, 6 drummers and bugles, 374 rank and file.*

*Royal Newfoundland regiment;--1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 3 serjeants, / drummers, 55 rank and file.*

*Commissariat;--1 deputy-assistant-commissary-general, 1 assistant to ditto, 1 issuer.*

*Field train;--1 clerk of stores, 1 conductor.*

*Militia*;—1 major, 12 captains, 11 lieutenants, 8 ensigns, 1 adjutant, 22 serjeants, 406 rank and file.

PETER L. CHAMBERS, major,  
captain 41st regt. D. A. Q. master-general.

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## No. 31.

*Return of killed, wounded, missing, and prisoners, of the army under the command of brigadier-general Proctor at the battle fought at the Miami\*, May 5th, 1813.*

*Royal artillery*;—1 serjeant, 1 rank and file, wounded; 2 rank and file, prisoners.

41st regiment;—11 rank and file, killed; 1 lieutenant, 3 serjeants, 35 rank and file, wounded; 2 lieutenants, 1 serjeant, 1 drummer, 33 rank and file, prisoners.

*Royal Newfoundland regiment*;—1 drummer, 2 rank and file, killed; 1 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file, prisoner.

*Militia*;—1 captain, 4 rank and file, wounded; 1 rank and file, prisoner.

Total;—1 drummer, 13 rank and file, killed, 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 4 serjeants, 41 rank and file, wounded; 2 lieutenants, 1 serjeant, 37 rank and file, prisoners.

Names of officers wounded and prisoners.

41st regiment;—Lieutenant Bullock, wounded on the 3d ult.; lieutenants M'Intire and Hales, prisoners.

*Militia*;—Captain Bandy, since deceased—

PETER CHAMBERS, major,  
captain 41st regt. D. A. Q. M.-gen.

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## No. 32.

*Return of officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, taken prisoners from the enemy on the 5th of May, 1813, at the battle fought at the Miami.*

*United States' regulars*;—1 captain, 21 rank and file. 10th and 13th detached Kentucky militia;—2 majors, 1 brigade-inspector, 8 captains, 9 lieutenants, 6 ensigns, 1 adjutant, 1 pay-master, 1 surgeon, 26 serjeants, 3 drummers, 373 rank and file.

*Prisoners since delivered up by the Indians*;—1 ensign, 1 assistant-surgeon, 12 rank and file.—Grand total, 467.

N. B. There are a number of prisoners not yet come in, who are in the possession of the Indians, but they are bringing them in daily.

PETER L. CHAMBERS, major,  
captain 41st regiment D. A. Q. M.-gen.

sir;

May 17;—Since the above return, 28 prisoners have been given up by the Indians.

A. H. M'LEAN.

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## No. 33.

*From brigadier-general Vincent to Sir G. Prevost.*

Burlington heights, head of Lake-Ontario,  
June 6th, 1813.

SIR,

Having yesterday received information of the enemy having advanced from the Forty-mile Creek, with a force consisting of 3500 men, eight or nine field-pieces, and 250 cavalry, for the avowed purpose of attacking the division under my command in



this position ; and having soon afterwards received a report that he had passed the swamp, and driven in my advanced posts from Stony Creek and Brady's, lieutenant-col. Harvey, deputy-adjutant-general immediately went forward with the light companies of the king's, and 49th regiments ; and having advanced close to, and accurately ascertained, the enemy's position, sent back to propose to me a night-attack on the camp.

The enemy's camp was distant about seven miles. About half past eleven I moved forward with five companies of the 8th, (or king's), and the 49th regiments, amounting together to only 704 firelocks ; lieutenant-colonel Harvey, who conducted it with great regularity and judgment, gallantly led on the attack. The enemy was completely surprised, and driven from his camp, after having repeatedly formed in different bodies, and been as often charged by our brave troops, whose conduct, throughout this brilliant enterprise, was above all praise. The action terminated before day light, when three guns and one brass howitzer, with three tumbrils ; two brigadier-generals, Chandler and Winder, first and second in command, and upwards of 100 officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, remained in our hands.

Not conceiving it prudent to expose our small force to the view of the enemy, who, though routed, and dispersed, was still formidable as to numbers and position, he having fled to the surrounding heights, and having still four or five guns, the troops were put in motion at day-break and marched back to their cantonments. After we had retired, and it had become broad day, the enemy ventured to re-occupy his camp, only, however, for the purpose of destroying his incumbrances, such as blankets, carriages, provisions, spare arms, ammunition, &c. ; after which, he commenced a precipitate retreat towards the Forty-mile Creek, where he effected a junction with a body of 2000 men, who were on their march from Niagara to reinforce him.

I cannot conclude this despatch without calling your excellency's attention to the following officers : —

To lieutenant-col. Harvey, the deputy-adjutant-general, my obligations are particularly due. From the first moment the enemy's approach was known, he watched his movements, and afforded me the earliest information. To him, indeed, I am indebted for the suggestion and plan of operations ; nothing could be more clear than his arrangements, nor more completely successful in the result. The conduct of major Plenderleath, who commanded the 49th regt., was very conspicuous. By his decision and prompt efforts, the surprize of the enemy's camp was completed, and, altho' his efforts to make a stand were rendered ineffectual by the bayonet, which overthrew all opposition. A party of the 49th, with major Plenderleath at their head, gallantly charged some of the enemy's field-pieces, and brought off two 6-pounded

Major Ogilvie led on, in the most gallant manner, the five companies of the king's regiment ; and whilst one half of that highly disciplined and distinguished corps supported the 49th regiment, the other part moved to the right, and attacked the enemy's left flank, which decided our midnight contest.

I have also received the greatest assistance from major Glcgg, brigade-major to the forces, and beg leave to mention the names of captains M'Dowal and Milnes, your excellency's aides-de-camp, who accompanied me to the attack, and upon all occasions have volunteered their services, likewise to acknowledge the assistance of captain 'Chambers, of the 41st regiment, who had arrived some days before from Amherstburg ; and Mr. Brook, pay-master of the 49th, who assisted me as acting aide-de-camp.

To Mr. Hackett, acting-staff-surgeon to this army, I feel particularly indebted, for his judicious arrangements, by which the wounded have received every attention, and are most, of them likely to be restored to the service.

It would be an act of injustice, were I to attempt assuring your excellency, that gallantry and discipline were never more conspicuous than during our late short service ; and I feel the greatest satisfaction in assuring you, that, every officer and

individual seemed anxious to rival each other in his efforts to support the honor of his majesty's arms, and to maintain the high character of British troops.

I beg leave to refer your excellency to the inclosed reports for particulars respecting our loss, which, I regret, has been very severe.

I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN VINCENT,

Brigadier-general.

His excellency sir Geo. Prevost, Bart. &c.

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### No. 34.

*General return of killed, wounded, and missing, in action with the enemy near the head of Lake-Ontario, June 6th, 1813.*

*Staff ; -1* forhmajor, wounded. sr

*8th ; (or king's regiment) ; -1* lieutenant, 2 serjeants, 7 rank and file, killed ; 1 major, 2 captains, 2 lieutenants, 4 serjeants, 51 rank and file, wounded ; 13 rank and file missing.

*49th regiment ; -1* serjeant, 12 rank and file, killed ; 1 major, 3 captains, 1 ensign, 1 adjutant, 5 serjeants, 2 drummers, 62 rank and file, wounded ; 3 serjeants, 39 rank and file, missing.

Total ; -1 lieutenant, 3 serjeants, 19 rank and file, killed ; 2 majors, 5 captains, 2 lieutenants, 1 ensign, 1 adjutant, 1 fort-major, 9 serjeants, / drummers, 113 rank and file, wounded ; 3 serjeants, 52 rank and file, missing.

List of officers killed and wounded.

*Killed ; -8th ; (or king's regiment) ; -Lieut.* Hooper.

*Wounded ; -Staff ; -Fort-major* Taylor, severely.

*81k ; (or king's regiment) ; -Major* Ogilvie and captain

Munday, severely, not dangerously ; captain Goldrick, and lieutenants Weyland and Boyd, slightly.

*49th regiment ; -Major* Plenderleath, severely, not dangerously ; brigade-major Clark, dangerously ; brigade-major Dennis, and captain Manners, slightly ; ensign Davy, dangerously ; adjutant Stean, slightly.

J. HARVEY, deputy-adj.-gen.

EDWARD BAYNES, adj.-gen.

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### No. 35.

*Return of American prisoners of war, captured near Stony Creek, in the action of the 6th instant.*

Two brigadier-generals, 1 major, 5 captains, 1 lieutenant, 116 non-commissioned officers and privates.

J. HARVEY, deputy-adj.-gen.

EDWARD BAYNES, adj.-gen.

Return of ordnance, &c. &c. captured from the Americans by a division of the troops under the command of brigadier-general Vincent, in action on the 6th of June, 1813, at the head of Lake-Ontario.

*Ordnance ; -3* iron 6-pounders, 1 brass 51 inch howitzer.

*Carriages ; -1* limber 6-pounder, 1 tumbril, with 6-pounder ammunition, complete.

*Harness ; -4* sets thill, 4 sets trace.

*Horses ; -9* artillery.

**WILLIAM HOLCROFT**, major,  
commanding royal artillery.

N. B. Two of the above 6-pounders were spiked and left on the ground, in consequence of the impossibility of removing them.

## No. 36.

*Major-general Dearborn to the American secretary at war.*

SIR, Head-quarters, Fort-George, June 6th.

I have received an express from the head of the Lake this evening, with intelligence that our troops, commanded by brigadier-general Chandler, were attacked at 2 o'clock this morning, by the whole of the British and Indian forces; and by some strange fatality, though our loss was but small, (not exceeding 30,) and the enemy completely routed and driven from the field, both brigadier Chandler and Winder were taken prisoners. They had advanced to ascertain the situation of a company of artillery when the attack commenced. General Vincent is reported to be among the killed of the enemy. Col. Clark was mortally wounded, and fell into our hands, with 60 prisoners of the 49th British regiment. The whole loss of the enemy is 250. They sent in a flag, with a request to bury their dead. General Lewis, accompanied by brigadier-general Boyd, goes on to take the command of the advanced troops.

I have the honor to be, &c.

HENRY DEARBORN.

Hon. general John Armstrong,  
secretary at war.

## No. 37.

*From lieutenant Fitzgibbon to major De Haren.*

SIR, township of Louth, June 24th, 1813.

At De Coris, this morning, about 7 o'clock, I received information that about 1000 of the enemy, with two guns, were advancing towards me, from St.: David's.. I soon after heard a firing of cannon and musketry, and in consequence rode in

advance two miles **on'thd St.** David's road. I discovered, by the firing, that the enemy was moving for the road on the mountain. I sent off cornet M'Kenney, to order out my detachment of the 49th, consisting of a subaltern and 46 rank and file, and closed upon the enemy, to reconnoitre. I discovered him on the mountain road, and took a position on an eminence to the right of it. My men arrived, and pushed on in front, to cut off his retreat, under a fire from his guns, which, however, did no execution. After examining his position, I was informed **he** expected reinforcements; I therefore decided upon summoning him to surrender. After the exchange of several positions, between lieutenant-colonel Bcerstler and myself, in the name of lieutenant-colonel De Ibsen, lieutenant-colonel Bcerstler agreed to surrender on the terms stated in the articles of capitulation. On my return to my men to send an officer to superintend the details of a surrender you returned.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. FITZGIBBON, lieut. 49th foot.

To major De Haren, Stc. fcc.

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## No. 38.

*Capitulation of Colonel Bcerstler and 541 Americans. \*FT*

June 24th, 1813.

Particulars of the capitulation made between captain M'Dowell, on the part of lieutenant-colonel Bcerstler, of **the** United States' army, and major De Haren, of his Britannic majesty's Canadian regiment, on the part of lieutenant-colonel Bisshopp, commanding the advance of **the** British, respecting the force under the command of lieutenant-colonel Beerstler.

Article I. That lieutenant-colonel Beerstler, and the force under his command, shall surrender prisoners **of** war.

Art. II. That the officers shall retain their arms, horses, and baggage.

Art. III. That the non-commissioned officers and soldiers shall lay down their arms at the head of the British column, and shall become prisoners of war.

Art. IV. That the militia and volunteers, with lieutenant-colonel Bcerstler, shall be permitted to return to the United States on parole.

ANDREW M'DOWELL,

Captain United States' light artillery.

Acceded to and signed,

P. G. BCERSTLER,

lieutenant-colonel,

commanding detachment

United States' army.

P. V. DE HAREN, major,

Canadian regiment.

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No. 39.

*Return of prisoners taken near Fort-George, June 24th, 1813.*

*Light dragoons* ; -1 cornet, 1 serjeant, 19 rank and file.

*Light artillery* captain, 1 lieutenant, 2 serjeants, 31 rank and file.

*6th regiment of infantry* ; -1 captain, 1 lieutenant, 3 serjeants, 54 rank and file.

*14th ditto* ; -1 lieutenant-colonel, 3 captains, 11 lieutenants, surgeon, 15 serjeants, 301 rank and file.

*20th ditto* ; -1 major.

*23d ditto* ; -1 captain, 4 serjeants, 2 drummers, 57 rank and file.

Total-1 lieutenant colonel, 1 major, 6 captains, 13 lieutenants, 1 cornet, 1 surgeon, 25 serjeants, 2 drummers, 462 rank and file.

Thirty militia released on parole not included in this return.

Officers names and rank

*Light dragoons* ; - *Comet* Bud.

*Light artillery* ; - Captain M'Dowell ; lieutenant Morris.

*6th regiment infantry* ; - Captain M'Kenney ; lieutenant

Shell.

*14th ditto* . - *Lieutenant-colonel* Bcerstler ; Captains MtKenzie, Cumings, and Flemming ; lieutenants Saunders, Amdell, Kerney, Marshall, Waring, Mudd, Murdock, Goodwin, Clarke, Robinson, and Bundall ; surgeon Young.

*20th ditto* ; - *Major* Taylor.

*23d ditto* ; - *Captain* Roach.

Return of ordnance, &c. taken.

One 12-pounder, 1 6-pounder, 2 cars, stand of colours of the 14th United States' regiment.

EDWARD BAYNES, adj.- gen.

The loss of the enemy supposed to be about 100 in killed and wounded.

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No. 40.

*From major-general Dearborn to the American secretary at war.*

Head-quarters, Fort-George, June 28, 1813.

SIR,  
I have the mortification of informing you of an unfortunate and unaccountable event which occurred yesterday. On the 23d, at evening, lieutenant-colonel Bcerstler, with 570 men, infantry, artillery, cavalry, and riflemen, in due proportion, was ordered to march by way of Queenstown, to a place called the Beaver Dams, on the high ground, about eight or nine miles from Queenstown, to attack and disperse a body of the enemy, collected there for the purpose of procuring provisions,

and harassing those inhabitants who are considered friendly to the United States.

Their force was, from the most direct information, composed of one company of the 104th regiment, above 80 strong; from 150 to 200 militia, and from 50 to 60 Indians. At eight o'clock yesterday morning, when within about two miles of Beaver Dam, our detachment was attacked from an ambuscade, but soon drove the enemy some distance into the woods, and then retired to a clear field, and sent an express for a reinforcement, saying he would maintain his position until reinforced. A reinforcement of 300 men marched immediately, under the command of colonel Christie; but, on arriving at Queenstown, colonel Christie received authentic information that lieutenant-colonel Beerstler, with his command, had surrendered to the enemy, and the reinforcement returned to the camp.

A man who belonged to a small corps of mounted volunteer riflemen, came in this morning, who states that the enemy surrounded our detachment in the woods, and towards 12 o'clock commenced a general attack—that our troops fought more than two hours, until the artillery had expended the whole of its ammunition, and then surrendered; and at the time of the surrender, the informant made his escape.

Why should it have been deemed proper to remain several hours in a position surrounded with woods, without either risking a decisive action, or \*Ong a retreat, remains to be accounted for, as well as the project of waiting for a reinforcement from a distance of 15 or 16 miles. —

No information has been received of the killed or wounded. The enemy's fleet has again arrived near our neighbourhood.

With respect and esteem,

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I am, sir, your's, &c.

HENRY DEARBORN:

Official: John Armstrong, secretary at war.

William has the honor

with the honor

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No. 41.

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*From lieutenant-colonel Clark to lieutenant-colonel Harvey,  
Chippeway, July 12, 1813.*

I have the honor to report to you, for the information of major-general de Rottenburg, that the detachment under the command of lieutenant-colonel Bisshopp, consisting of a detachment of royal artillery, under lieutenant Armstrong, 40 of the king's regiment, under lieutenant Barstow, 100 of the 41st, under captain Saunders, 40 of the 49th, under lieutenant Fitz-Gibbons, and about 40 of the 2nd and 3rd Lincoln militia, embarked at two o'clock on the morning of the 11th instant, to attack the enemy's batteries at Black Rock. -

The detachment landed half an hour before day-light, without being perceived, and immediately proceeded to attack the batteries, which they carried with little opposition; the enemy heard the firing at their advanced posts, and immediately retreated with great precipitation to Buffaloe.

The block-houses, barracks, and navy-yard, with one large schooner, were burnt; and such of the public stores as could be got off were taken possession of, and carried across the river by the troops. Before the whole of the stores were taken away, the enemy advanced, having been reinforced by a considerable body of Indians, whom they posted in the woods on their flanks and in their advance; they were gallantly opposed by the whole of the troops; but finding the Indians could not be driven from the adjoining woods without our sustaining a very great loss, it was deemed prudent to retreat to the boats, and the troops re-crossed the river under a very heavy fire.

I am extremely sorry to add, lieutenant-colonel Bisshopp fell, severely wounded, on our retreat to the boats; fortunately the detachment did not suffer by it, every thing, having been arranged and completed previous to his receiving his wounds.

Inclosed are the returns of the killed, wounded, and missing,

with the exception of those of the 49th regiment and militia, which have not yet been received.

I have also inclosed the returns of the ordnance, and other stores captured.

I have the honor to be, &c.

THOMAS CLARK,

Lieut.-col. 2d Lincoln militia.

To lieutenant-col. Harvey,

deputy adjutant-gen.

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No. 42.

*Return of killed, wounded, and missing, on the morning of the 11th instant.*

July 13, 1813.

*Staff*;—1 inspecting field-officer, wounded.

*8th regiment* ;—3 privates, killed ; 1 captain 1 ensign, 1 serjeant, 10 privates, wounded ; 4 privates, missing.

*49th regiment* ;—4 privates, killed ; 3 privates, wounded ; 2 privates, missing.

*Militia* ;—1 lieutenant-colonel, wounded.

Total:—13 privates killed; 1 inspecting field-officer, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 1 captain, 1 ensign, 1 serjeant, 1 corporal, 19 privates, wounded ; 6 privates missing.

Names of officers wounded.

*Staff*;—*Lieutenant-colonel* Bisshopp, inspecting field-officer, severely (not dangerously).

*2d Lincoln militia* ;—*Lieutenant-colonel* Clark, slightly.

*41st regiment* ;—*Captain* Saunders, severely, and prisoner; ensign Mompesson, slightly.

J. HARVEY, lieut.-col. D. A. gen.

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No. 43.

*Return of ordnance destroyed and captured from the enemy at Black Rock, July 12, 1813.*

One iron 12-pounder, with garrison carriage; 1 iron

6-pounder, with garrison carriage; 1 brass 6-pounder, with travelling carriage; 1 brass 6-pounder, without travelling carriage.

Total—4 ; 177 English and French muskets, 1 3-pounder travelling carriage, 6 ammunition kegs, a small quantity of round and case shot, (quantity not yet known).

Taken and destroyed.

Two iron 12-pounders, 2 iron 9-pounders.

R. S. ARMSTRONG,

lieut.-col. royal artil.

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No. 44.

*Return of stores, 4 c. Sfc. captured at, and brought from, Black Rock, on the 14th July, 1813.*

One hundred and twenty-three barrels of salt, 46 barrels of whiskey, 11 barrels of flour, 1 barrel of molasses, 1 barrel of tar, 2 large bales of blankets, (about 200,) 70 large blankets loose, 5 large casks of clothing ; 3 cases, containing 396 soldiers' caps, 16 bars of iron, 1 bar of steel, 1 side of sole leather, 7 sides of upper leather, (some of them marked serjeant Fitzgerald, 41st regiment, and taken from Fort Erie, to be returned to the 41st regiment,) 7 large batteaux, 1 large scow.

THOMAS CLARK,

lieut.-col. 2d Lincoln militia.

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No. 45.

*From sir G. Prevost to earl Bathurst.*

Head-quarters, Kingston,

Upper Canada, August 8th, 1813.

MY LORD,

I have the honor to acquaint your lordship, that the enemy's fleet, of 12 *sail*, made its appearance off York. on the 31st

**ultimo.** The three square-rigged vessels, the Pike, Madison, and Oneida, came to anchor in the offing ; but the schooners passed up the harbor, and landed several boats full of troops at the former garrison, and proceeded from thence to the town, of which they took possession. They opened the goal, liberated the prisoners, and took away three soldiers confined for felony : they then went to the hospitals, and parolled the few men that could not be removed. They next entered the store-houses of some of the inhabitants, seized their contents, chiefly flour, and the same being private property. Between 11 and 12 o'clock that night they returned on board their vessels. The next morning, Sunday, the 1st instant, the enemy again landed, and sent three armed boats up the river Don, in search of public stores, of which being disappointed, by sun-set both soldiers and sailors had evacuated the town, the small barrack wood-yard, and store-house, on Gibraltar Point, having been first set on fire by them ; and at day-light the following morning the enemy's fleet sailed.

The plunder obtained by the enemy upon this predatory expedition has been indeed trifling, and the loss has altogether fallen upon individuals ; the public stores of every description having been removed; and the only prisoners taken by them there being confined to felons and invalids in the hospital.

The troops which were landed were acting as marines, and appeared to be about 250 men T; they were under the command of commodore Chauncey and lieutenant-colonel Scott, an unexchanged prisoner of war on his parole, both of whom landed with the troops. The town, upon the arrival of the enemy, was totally defenceless; the militia were still on their parole ; and the principal gentlemen had retired, from an apprehension of being treated with the same severity used towards several of the inhabitants near Fort-George, who had been made prisoners, and sent to the United States. Lieutenant-colonel Battersby, of the Glengarry fencibles, with the detachment of light troops under his command, who had been stationed at York, was, upon the appearance 'of the enemy's

Elect off that place, on the 29th ult. ordered with his detachment and light artillery to proceed for the protection of the depots formed on Burlington Heights, where he had joined major Maule's detachment of the 104th regiment, and concentrated his force on the following evening. The enemy had during the course of that day, landed from the fleet <sup>500.</sup> men, near Brandt's house, with an intention of storming 'the heights ; but finding major Maule well prepared to receive them, and being informed of lieutenant-colonel Battersby's march, they re-embarked, and stood away for York.

My last accounts from major-general De Rottenburg are to the 3d instant, when the enemy's fleet had anchored off Niagara.. I have received no tidings of our squadron under sir James Yeo, since its sailing from hence on the 31st ultimo.

I have the honor to be, &c.

GEORGE PREVOST.

Earl Bathurst, &c. &c. &c.

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No. 46.

*From major Taylor to major-general Storer).*

**Sir,**

Isle aux Noix, June 3d, 1813.

In the absence of lieutenant-colonel Hamilton, I have the honor to acquaint you, that one of the enemy's armed vessels.. was discerned from the garrison, at half-past four o'clock this morning, when I judged it expedient to order the three gun-boats, under weigh ; and before they reached the, point above the garrison, another vessel appeared in sight, when the gun-boata commenced firing. Observing the vessels to, be near enough to the shore for musketry, I ordered the crews of two batteaux and row-boats ( which I took with me from the garrison to act according to circumstances) to land on each side of the river, and take a position to rake the vessels ; the firing was brislclly kept up on both sides; the enemy with small-arms-and grape-shot occasiqn-

ally. Near the close of the action, an express came off to me in a canoe, with intelligence, that more armed vessels were approaching, and about 3000 men from the enemy's lines, by land. On this information, I returned to put the garrison in the best order for their reception, leaving directions with the gun-boats and parties, not to suffer their retreat to be cut off from it ; and before I reached the garrison, the enemy's vessels struck their colours, after a well contested action of three hours and a half. They proved to be the United States' armed vessels Growler and Eagle, burthen from 90 to 100 tons, and carrying 11 guns each ; between them, 12, 18, and 16-pounder carronades ; completely equipped under the orders of the senior officer, of the Growler, captain Sidney Smith, with a complement of 50 men each. They had one man killed and eight wounded : we had only three men wounded, one of them severely from the enemy's grape-shot on the parties on shore. The alacrity of the garrison, on this occasion, calls forth my warmest approbation. Ensigns Dawson, Gibbons, and Humphreys, and acting quarter-master Pilkington, and <sup>crews, of</sup> the 100th (prince regent's) regiment, and lieutenant Lowe, of the marine department, with three gunners of the artillery to each boat, behaved with the greatest gallantry : I am particularly indebted to captain Gordon, of the royal artillery, and lieutenant Williams, with the parties of the 100th regiment, on shore, who materially contributed to the surrender of the enemy. The Growler is arrived at the garrison in good order, and is apparently a fine vessel, and the boats are employed in getting off the Eagle, which was run a-ground to prevent her sinking. I have hopes she will be saved, but in the meantime have had her dismantled, and her guns and stores brought to the garrison. Ensign Dawson, of the 100th regiment, a most intelligent officer, will have the honor of delivering you this.

I have the honor to be, &c.

GEORGE TAYLOR,

major of the 100th regt.

Major-general Stovin,  
commanding at Chambly.

Number of men killed, wounded, and prisoners on board the United States' armed vessels the Growler and Eagle, June 3d, 1813.

1 killed; 8 severely wounded ; 91 prisoners.—Total 100.

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### No. 47.

*Return of ordnance, ammunition, and ordnance-stores, taken on board the United States' armed vessels Eagle and Growler, on the morning of the 3d of June, 1813.*

*Iron ordnance;* —2 short 18-pounders, 10 6-pounders, 10 18-pounder carronades.

*Carrriages,* with breeching and tackles complete ; —2 18-pounders, 10 6-pounders, 10 18-pounder carronades.

*Tompions ;* —8 18-pounders ; —12 6-pounders.

8 beds and cots, 69 muskets, 60 bayonets, 12 pistols, 43 cutlasses, 31 boarding-axes, 23 boarding-pikes, 61 pouches and belts, 20 side-belts.

*Sponges and rammers ;* -9 18-pounder, 10 6-pounder.

*Wadhooks and ladles ;* -7 18-pounder, and 8 6-pounder, 12 lint-stocks, 4 port-fire sticks, 3 handspikes, 166 18-pounder, 72 6-pounder fixed case-shot.

*Empty cartridges;* -100 18-pounder, 40 6-pounder.

*Cartridges;* -230 musket-balls.

1 whole barrel of powder.

*Shot ;* -129 round 18-pounder, 180 round 6-pounder, 28 round 3-pounder, 20 case 18-pounder, 72 case 6-pounder, 83 grape 18-pounder, 3 grape 6-pounders.

*Iron pintails for grape-shot ;* -36 18-pounder, 41 6-pounder.

14 *tin* tubes, 4 port-fires, 121bs. slow-match, 9 powder-horns, 3 copper lanthorns, 12 tin lanthorns, 10 crow-bars, 1 pair of scissars, 1 claw-hammer.

FRED. GORDON, capt. **R. A.**

**To** major Taylor, commanding Isle aux Noix.

N. B. The ammunition and stores on board the armed vessel Eagle, being under water, no account has yet been taken *of* them.



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NO. 48.

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*From lieutenant-colonel Murray to major-general Shearg.*

SIR,

*Isle aux Noix, August 3d, 1813.*

The land forces of the expedition that left the province on the 29th July, on an enterprise on Lake Champlain, returned this day, after having fully accomplished the objects proposed, and having carried every order into execution.

The enemy's arsenal and block-house, commissary-buildings, and stores at the position of Plattsburg, together with the extensive barracks at Saranac, capable of containing 4000 troops, were destroyed; sonic stores were brought off, particularly a quantity of naval-stores, shot, and equipments for a large number of batteaux. The barracks and stores at the position at Swanton, on iVlissisquei Bay, together with several batteaux at the landing place, were destroyed.

A detachment has been sent to destroy the public buildings, barracks, block-houses, &c. at Champlaintown. Every assistance was rendered by the co-operation of **captains Everard** and Pring, royal navy, commanding his majesty's sloops of war Broke and Shannon.

I experienced very great benefit from the military knowledge of lieutenant-colonel <sup>e1</sup> Williams (13th regiment, second in command) have to report, in the highest terms of approbation, the discipline, regularity, and cheerful conduct of the whole of the troops, and feel fully confident that, had an opportunity offered, their courage would have been equally conspicuous.

General Hampton has concentrated the whole of the regular **forces** in the vicinity of Lake Champlain, at Burlington, front the best information, said to be about 4500 regular troops, and **a** large body of militia. The militia force assembled for the defence of Plattsburg, disbanded on the appearance of **the** armament. The naval part of the expedition is still **cruising on the lake.1.** For any further information, **I beg leave to Wet**

n.

you **to your aide de camp, captain Loring, the bearer of this despatch.**

have, &c.

J. MURRAY, lieut.-col.

To major-general sir R. **II.** Sheaffe,  
Bart. &c. &c. &c.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

No. 49.

*From captain Everard to sir George Prevost.*

His majesty's sloop Broke, Lake  
Champlain, August 3d, **1813.**

Sir,

Major-general Glasgow has apprised your excellency of my repairing, with a party of officers and seamen, to man the sloops and gun-boats at Isle aux Noix, in consequence of your letter of the 4th ultimo, addressed to the senior officer of his majesty's ship at Quebec, stating it to be of great importance to the public service, that an attempt should be made to alarm the enemy on the Montreal-frontier, &c. ; and agreeably to your wish that **I** should communicate any thing interesting that might occur, I have the honor to acquaint you, that the object for which the corps under the command of lieutenant-colonel Murray had been detached, having been fully accomplished, by the destruction of the enemy's block-house, arsenal, barracks, and public store-houses remaining on the west side of the lake beyond Plattsburg, **I** stood over to Burlington with the Shannon and one gun-boat, **to übseive** the state of the enemy's force there, and to afford hiM **an** opportunity of deciding the naval superiority of the lake. We were close in, on the forenoon of the 2d, and found two sloops of about 100 tons burthen, one armed with 11 guns, the other 13, ready for sea, a third sloop, (somewhat larger,) fitting out, with guns on board, and two gun-schooners, lying under the protectio of 10 gnus,

mounted on a bank of 100 feet high, without a breast-work, two scows, mounting one gun each, as floating batteries, and several field-pieces on the shore. Having captured and destroyed four vessels, without any attempt on the part of the enemy's armed vessels to prevent it, and seeing no prospect of inducing him to quit his position, where it was impossible for us to attack him, I am now returning to execute my original orders.

I have the honor to be, &c.

THOMAS EVERARD,

commander of his majesty's sloop Wasp.

Lieut. \_gen. sir G. Prevost, Bart.

&c. Sze, &c.

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NO. 50.

*From commodore Macdonough to the American secretary of the navy.*

United States' sloop President, near  
Plattsburg, Sept. 9, 1813.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you, that I arrived here yesterday from near the lines, having sailed from Burlington on the 6th instant, with an intention to fall in with the enemy, who were then near this place. Having proceeded to within a short distance of the lines, I received information that they were at anchor ; soon after, they weighed and stood to the northward out of the lake—thus, if not acknowledging our ascendancy on the lake, evincing an unwillingness (although they had the advantage of situation, owing to the narrowness of the channel in which their galleys could work, when we should want room) to determine it.

I have the honor to be &c.

THOS. MACDONOUGH.

non. W. Jones, secretary of the navy.

No. 51.

*From sir George Prevost to earl Bathurst.*

Head-quarters, Montreal,

Oct 30th, 1813.

MY LORD,

Since I had the honor of addressing your lordship in my despatch of the 22d of September last, I have received the enclosed communication from major-general Proctor. I have, however, been informed from the other quarters, that he commenced his retreat from Sandwich on the 24th of that month, having previously dismantled the posts of Amherstburg and Detroit, and totally destroyed the public buildings and stores of every description. That, on the 5th of October following, when within a few miles of a strong position, which it was his intention to take up at the Moravian village on the river Thames, he was attacked by so overwhelming a force, under major-gen. Harrison, that the small numbers he had with him, consisting of not more than 450 regular troops, were unable to withstand it, and consequently compelled to disperse ; that he had afterwards rallied the remains of his division, and retired upon Ancaster, on the grand river, without being pursued by the enemy, and where he had collected the scattered remains of his force, amounting to about 200 men, and had with it subsequently reached Burlington-heights, the head quarters of major-general Vincent. Tecumseh, at the head of 1200 Indian warriors, accompanied our little army on its rear from Sandwich : and the prophet, as well as his brother Tecumseh were of the most essential service, in arresting the further progress of the Americans ; but, as to the extent of our loss on this occasion, or the particulars of this disastrous affair, I am as yet ignorant ; major-general Proctor having signified to major-general De Rottenburg, commanding in the upper province, that he had sent a flag of truce to general Harrison, to ascertain the fate of the officers and soldiers who were missing, and requesting his

indulgence for a few days until its return, in order to make his official report.

I also understand, that the enemy, so far from attempting to improve the advantage they had gained, by pursuing our troops on their retreat to the Grand river, had retired to Sandwich, followed by Tecumseh and his warriors, who had much harassed them on their march. Five or 600 Indians, belonging to the right division, are reported to have joined the centre.

I regret to say, that I am still without any official account of captain Barclay's action on Lake-Erie, the result of which has led to our relinquishment of the Michigan territory, excepting Michilimacinac, and our abandonment of the post in Upper Canada beyond the Grand river.

I have the honor to be, &c.

GEORGE PREVOST.

Earl Bathurst, &c. &c.

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No. 52.

*From major.gen. Harrison to the American secretary at war.*

SIR,                      Head-quarters, Detroit, Oct. 9th, 1813.

In my letter from Sandwich of the 30th ultimo, I did myself the honor to inform you, that I was preparing to pursue the enemy the following day. From various causes, however, I was unable to put the troops in motion until the morning of the 22nd inst., and then to take with me only about 140 of the regular troops—Johnson's mounted regiment, and such of governor Selby's volunteers as were fit for a rapid march, the whole amounting to about 3500 men. To general M'Arthur, (with about 700 effectives,) the protecting of this place and the sick was committed; general Cass's brigade, and the corps of lieutenant col. Ball were left at Sandwich, with orders to

follow me as soon as the men received their knapsacks and blankets, which had been left on an island in Lake Erie.

The unavoidable delay at Sandwich was attended with no disadvantage to us. General Proctor had posted himself at Dalson's, on the right side of the Thames, (or Trench.) 56 miles from this place, which I was informed he intended to fortify, and wait to receive me. He must have believed, however, that I had no disposition to follow him, or that he had secured my continuance here, by the reports that were circulated that the Indians would attack and destroy this place upon the advance of the army, as he neglected the breaking up the bridges until the night of the 21st instant. On that night our army reached the river, which is 25 miles from Sandwich, and is one of four streams crossing our route, over all of which are bridges; and they being deep and muddy, are rendered unfordable for a considerable distance into the country. The bridge here was found entire; and in the morning I proceeded with Johnson's regiment to save, if possible, the others. At the second bridge, over a branch of the river Thames, we were fortunate enough to capture a lieutenant of dragoons and 11 privates, who had been sent by general Proctor to destroy them. From the prisoners, I learned that the third bridge was broken up, and that the enemy had no certain information of our advance. The bridge having been imperfectly destroyed, was soon repaired, and the army encamped at Drake's Farm, four miles below Dalson's.

The river Thames, along the banks of which our route lay, is a fine deep stream, navigable for vessels of a considerable burthen, after the passage of the bar at its mouth, over which there is six and a half feet water.

The baggage of the army was brought from Detroit in boats, protected by three gun-boats, which commodore Perry had furnished for the purpose, as well as to cover the passage of the army over the Thames, or the mouths of its tributary streams; the bank being low and the country generally open (Fringes) as far as Dalson's, these vessels were well calculated

for that **purpose**. Above Dalson's, however, the character of the river and adjacent country is considerably changed. The former, though still deep, is very narrow, and its banks high and woody. The commodore and myself, therefore, agreed upon the propriety of leaving the boats under the guard of 150 infantry ; and I determined to trust to fortune and the bravery of my troops to effect the passage of the river. Below a place called Chatham, and four miles above Dalson's, is the third unfordable branch of the Thames ; the bridge over its mouth had been taken up by the Indians, as well as that at M'Gregor's Mills, one mile above. Several hundred of the Indians remained to dispute our passage ; and upon the arrival of the advanced guard, commenced a heavy fire from the opposite bank of the creek, as well as that of the river. Believing that the whole force of the enemy was there, I halted the army, formed in order of battle, and brought up our two 6-pounders to cover the party that were ordered to cover the bridge. A few shot from those pieces soon drove off the Indians, and enabled us in two hours to repair the bridge and cross the troops. Colonel Johnson's mounted regiment, being upon the right of the army, had seized the remains of the bridge at the mills under a heavy fire from the Indians. Our loss upon this occasion was two killed, and three or four wounded ; that of the enemy was ascertained to be considerably greater. A house near the bridge, containing a very considerable number of muskets had been set on fire ; but it was extinguished by our troops, and the arms saved. At the first farm above the bridge, we found one of the enemy's vessels on fire, loaded with arms, ordnance, and other valuable stores ; and learned that they were a few miles a-head of us, still on the right bank of the river, with a great body of Indians. At Bow les' Farm, four miles from the bridge, we halted for the night, found two other vessels and a large distillery filled with ordnance, and other valuable stores, to an immense amount, in flames ; it was impossible to put out the fire ; two 24-pounders, with their carriages, were taken, and a large quantity of ball and shells of various sizes. The army

was put in motion early on the morning of the 5th. I pushed on in advance with the mounted regiment, and requested governor Shelby to follow as expeditiously as possible with the infantry ; the governor's zeal, and that of his men, enabled them to keep up with the cavalry, and by 9 o'clock we were at Arnold's mills, having taken, in the course of the morning two gun-boats and several batteaux, loaded with provisions and ammunition.

A rapid stream of the river at Arnold's mills, affords the only fording to be met with for a considerable distance ; but upon examination, it was found too deep for the infantry. Having, however, fortunately taken two or three boats, and some Indian canoes, on the spot, and obliging the horsemen to take a footman behind each, the whole were safely crossed by 12 o'clock. Eight miles from the crossing we passed a farm, where a part of the British troops had encamped the night before, under the command of colonel Warburton. The detachment with general Proctor was stationed near to, and fronting, the Moravian town, four miles higher up. Being now certainly near the enemy, I directed the advance of Johnson's regiment to accelerate their march for the purpose of procuring intelligence. The officer commanding it, in a short time, sent to inform me, that his progress was stopped by the enemy, who were formed across our line of march. One of the enemy's waggons being also taken prisoner, from the information received from him, and my own observation, assisted by some of my officers, I soon ascertained enough of their position and order of battle, to determine that which it was proper for me to adopt.

I have the honour herewith **to** enclose you my general order of the 27th ult. prescribing the order of march and of battle, when the whole of the army should act together. But as the number and description of the troops had been essentially changed, since the issuing of the order, it became necessary to make a corresponding alteration in their disposition. From the place where our army was last halted, to the Moravian town, a distance of about three miles and **a** half, the road

passes through a beach forest without any clearing, and for the first two miles near to the river. At from 2 to 300 yards from the river, a swamp extends parallel to it, throughout the whole distance. The intermediate ground is dry, and although the trees are tolerably, thick, it is **in** many places clear of underbrush. Across this strip of land, their left *appu,yed* upon the river, supported by artillery placed in the wood, their right in the swamp, covered by the whole of their Indian force, the British troops were drawn up.

The troops at my disposal consisted of about 120 regulars, of the 27th regiment, five brigades of Kentucky volunteer militia-infantry, under his excellency governor Shelby, averaging less than 500 men, and colonel Johnson's regiment of mounted infantry, making, in the whole, an aggregate something above 3000. No disposition of an army opposed to an Indian force can be safe, unless it is secured on the flanks, and in the rear. I had therefore no difficulty in arranging the infantry conformably to my general order of battle. General Trotter's brigade of 500 men formed the front line, his right upon the road, and his left upon the swamp. General King's brigade as a second line, 150 yards in the rear of Trotter's ; and Child's brigade, as *a* corps of reserve, in the rear of it. These three brigades formed the command of major-general Henry ; the whole of general Desha's division, consisting of two brigades, were formed *en potence* upon the left of Trotter.

Whilst I was engaged in forming the infantry, I had *directed* colonel Johnson's regiment, which was still in front, to form in two lines opposite to that of the enemy ; and upon the advance of the infantry, to take ground to, the left; and, forming upon that flank, to endeavor to turn the right of the Indians. A moment's reflection, however, convinced me, that from the thickness of the wood, and swampness of the ground, they would be unable to do any thing on horseback, and that there was no time to dismount them, and place their horses in semirity ; **I** therefore determined to refuse **my** left to the Indians,

**and** to break the British line, at once, by a charge of the mounted infantry : the measure was not sanctioned by any thing that I had seen or heard of, but I was, fully convinced that it would succeed. The American back-woodsmen ride better in the woods than any other people. A musket or rifle is no impediment, they being accustomed to carry them on horseback from their earliest youth. I was persuaded, too, that the enemy would be quite unprepared for the shock, and that they could not resist it. Conformably to this idea, I directed the regiment to be drawn up in close column, with its right at the distance of 50 yards from the road, (that it might be in some measure protected by the trees from the artillery,) its left upon the swamp, and to charge at full speed as soon as the enemy delivered their fire. The few regular troops, under their colonel, (Paul,) occupied, in column of sections of four, the small space between the road and the river, for the purpose of seizing the enemy's artillery ; and some 10 or 12 friendly Indians were directed to move under the bank. The crotchet formed by the front line and general Desha's division, was an important point. At that place the venerable governor of Kentucky was posted, who, at the age of 66, preserves all the vigor of youth, the ardent zeal which distinguished him in the revolutionary war, and the undaunted bravery which he maintained at King's Mountain. With my aide decamp the acting-assistant adjutant-general, captain Butler,;my gallant friend commodore Perry, who did me the honor to serve as my volunteer aide de camp, and brigadier-general Cass, who having **no** command, tendered me his assistance, I placed myself at the head of the front line of infantry, to direct the movements of the cavalry, and to give them the necessary support. The army had moved un in this order but a short distance, when the mounted men received the fire of the British line, and were ordered to charge; the horses in the front of the column recoiled from the fire; another was/given by the enemy, and our column at length getting into motion, broke through the enemy with an irresistible force. **In one** minute the contest in

front was over, the British officers seeing no hopes of reducing their disordered ranks to order, and our mounted men wheeling upon them, and pouring in a destructive fire, immediately surrendered. It is certain that three only of our troops were wounded in the charge. Upon the left, however, the contest was more severe with the Indians. Colonel Johnson, who commanded on the flank of his regiment, received a most galling fire from them, which was returned with great effect. The Indians still further to the right advanced, and fell in with our front line of infantry, near its junction with Desha's division, and for a moment made some impression on it. His excellency governor Shelby, however, brought up a regiment to its support, and the enemy received a severe fire in front, and a part of Johnson's, regiment having gained their rear, they retreated with precipitation. Their loss was very considerable in the action, and many were killed in their retreat.

I can give no satisfactory information of the number of Indians that were in action ; but there must have been considerably upwards of 1000. From the documents in my possession, general Proctor's official letters, (all of which were taken,) and from the information of respectable inhabitants of this territory, the Indians kept in pay by the British were much more numerous than has been generally supposed. In a letter to general De Rottenburg, of the 27th ult. general Proctor speaks of having prevailed upon most of the Indians to accompany him. Of these it is certain that 50 or 60 Wyandot warriors abandoned him.\*

The number of our troops was certainly greater than that of the enemy ; but when it is recollected that they had chosen a position, that effectually secured their flank, which it was impossible for us to turn, and that we could not present to them a line more extended than their own, it will not be con-

\* A British officer of high rank assured one of my aides de camp, that on the day of our landing, general Proctor had at his disposal upwards of 3000 Indian warriors, but asserted that the greater part had left him previous to the action.

sidered arrogant to claim; or my troops the palm of superior bravery.

(Here follows an encomium upon the officers generally. \*)

Major Wood; of the engineers, already distinguished at Fort Meigs, attended the army with two 6-pounders. Having no use for them in action, he joined in the pursuit of the enemy, and with major Payne, of the mounted regiment, two of my aides de camp, Todd and Chambers, and three privates, continued it for several miles after the rest of the troops had halted, and made many prisoners.

I left the army before an official return of the prisoners, or that of the killed and wounded was made out. It was, however, ascertained that the former amounted to 601 regulars, including 25 officers. Our loss is 7 killed, and 22 wounded, 5 of whom have since died. Of the British troops, 12 were killed, and 22 wounded. The Indians suffered most, 33 of them having been found upon the ground, besides those killed on the retreat.

On the day of the action, six pieces of brass artillery were taken, and two iron 24-pounders the day before. Several others were discovered in the river, and can be easily procured. Of the brass pieces, three are the trophies of our revolutionary war ; they were taken at Saratoga and York, and surrendered by general Hull. The number of small arms taken by us and destroyed by the enemy, must amount to upwards of 5000; most of them had been ours, and had been taken by the enemy at the surrender of Detroit, at the river Raisin, and colonel Dudley's defeat. I believe the enemy retain no other military trophy of their victories than the standard of the 4th regiment. They were not magnanimous enough to bring that of the 41st regiment into the field, or it would have been taken.

You have been informed, sir, of the conduct of the troops under my command in action. It gives me great pleasure to inform

\* It is thus stated in the published account from which this was copied.

you, that they merit also the approbation of their country for their conduct, in submitting to the greatest privation with the utmost cheerfulness.

The infantry were entirely without tents, and for several days the whole army subsisted upon fresh beef, without either bread or salt.

I have the honor to be, &c.

W. H. HARRISON.

General John Armstrong,  
secretary of War.

P. S. General Proctor escaped by the fleetness of his horses, escorted by 90 dragoons, and a number of mounted Indians.

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## No. 53.

List of convicts confined in the same penitentiary at Frankfort, Kentucky, with the tirilish officers taken prisoners 515044. 1813, with a statement of their crimes, and the punishment sentenced them.

NAMES.	CRIMES.	SENTENCES.	
		Years.	
Samuel Moops,	A rape on a child, (castrated himself, )		17
George Williams,	A rape,		10
Daniel Caine,	A rape and murder,		6
William Coleman,	Murder, (called manslaughter,)		7
Newbury Man,	Ditto ditto,		6
John Cox,	Ditto ditto,		5
Preto Sharp,	Ditto ditto,		5
Samuel Hogan,	Ditto, (shooting his wife),		4
Thomas Pegget,	Ditto,		31
Samuel Danby,	Ditto,		31-
James Moore,	Forgery,		4
William Mitchell,	Ditto and coining,		4
Samuel Smith,	Ditto,		4
William Whiteside,	Ditto,		2
James Long,	Ditto,		2
John Lee,	House-breaking and robbery,		2
John Rower,	Ditto,		2
David Ferguson,	Stealing 3 negroes and 3 horses,		4i
Joseph Jones,	Ditto 1 ditto ditto,		2
William Taylor,	Ditto 1 ditto ditto,		2i
James Hanson,	Ditto 1 ditto ditto,		6
William Hannoy,	Ditto 1 negress,		2
George Fieldie,	Horse-stealing,		6
Alexander White,	Ditto,		10
Thomas Lofton,	Ditto,		
Daniel Dougherty,	Ditto,		42
James Porter,	Ditto,		4
William Harding,	Ditto,		4
Ephraim Nowling,	Ditto,		4
John Oder,	Ditto,		4
John Brown,	Ditto,		4
Burgess Irvin,	Ditto,		4
Booth Sitrons,	Ditto,		4
Levi Dunn,	Ditto,		3
John M' Vey,	Ditto,		2
John Kelly,	Ditto,		2
Wm. H. Steer,	Stealing a bolt of cloth,		2
John Allwright,	Stealing clothes which were made up,		2
Jesse Burton,	Stealing a saddle,		2
Philip Jones,	Stealing a beef skin,		2

## No. 54.

*From sir George Prevost to earl Bathurst.*

Head-quarters, Montreal, Oct. 30 1813.

**MY LORD,**

On the 8th instant, I had the honor to report to your lordship that major-general Hampton had occupied, with a considerable force of regulars and militia, a position on the Chateau-gully river, near the settlement of the Four Corners. Early on the 21st the American army crossed the line of separation between Lower Canada and the United States, surprised a small party of Indian warriors, and drove in a piquet of sedentary militia, posted at the junction of the Outard and Chateauguay- rivers, where it encamped, and proceeded in establishing a road of communication with its last position, for the purpose of bringing forward its artillery. Major-general Hampton, having completed his arrangements on the 24th, commenced, on the following day, his operations against my advanced posts : at about 11 o'clock in the forenoon of the 26th, his cavalry and light troops were discovered advancing on both banks of the Chateauguay, by a detachment covering a working party of *habitans* employed in felling timber, for the purpose of constructing abattis. Lieutenant-colonel De Saluberry who had the command of the advanced piquets, composed of the light infantry company of the Canadian fencibles, and two companies of voltigeurs, on the north side of the river, made so excellent a disposition of his little band, that he checked the advance of the enemy's principal column, led by major-general Hampton in person, and accompanied by brigadier-general Izard ; whilst the American light brigade, under colonel M'Carty, was in like manner repulsed in its progress on the south side of the river, by the spirited advance of the right flank-company of the third battalion of the embodied militia, under captain Daly, supported by captain Bruyers' company

of Chateauguay chasseurs ; captains Daly and Bruyers' being both wounded, and their companies having sustained some loss, their position was immediately taken up by a flank-company of the first battalion of embodied militia ; the enemy rallied and repeatedly returned to the attack, which terminated only with the day, in his complete disgrace and defeat ; being foiled at all points by a handful of men, who by their determined bravery maintained their position, and screened from insult the working parties, who continued their labours unconcerned. Having fortunately arrived at the scene of action shortly after its commencement, I witnessed the conduct of the troops on this glorious occasion, and it was a great satisfaction to me to render on the spot that praise which had become so justly their due. I thanked major-general *De* Watteville for the wise measures taken by him for the defence of his position, the advance, and lieutenant-colonel De Saluberry, for the judgment displayed by him in the choice of his ground, and the bravery and skill with which he maintained it ; I acknowledged the highest praise to belong to the officers and men engaged that morning, for their gallantry and steadiness, and I called upon all the troops in advance, as well for a continuance of that zeal, steadiness, and discipline, as for that patient endurance of hardships and privations which they have hitherto evinced ; and I particularly noticed the able support lieutenant-colonel De Salt'berry received from captain Fergusson, in command of the light company of the Canadian fencibles, and from captain J. B. Duchesnay and captain J. Duchesnay, and adjutant Heberder, of the voltigeurs, and also from adjutant O'Sullivan, of the sedentary militia, and from captain La Motto, belonging to the Indian warriors. Almost the whole of the British troops being pushed forward for the defence of Upper Canada, that of the lower province must depend, in a great degree, on the valor and continued exertions of its incorporated battalions and its sedentary militia, until the 70th regiment and the two battalions of marines, daily expected, arrive. It is, therefore, highly satisfactory to state to your lordship, that there appears



a determination among all classes of his majesty's Canadian subjects, to persevere in a loyal and honorable line of conduct. By the report of prisoners taken from the enemy in the affair on the Chateauguay, the American force is stated at 7000 infantry, and 200 cavalry, with 10 field-pieces. The British advanced force, actually engaged, did not exceed 300. The enemy suffered severely from our fire, and from their own ; some detached corps in the woods fired upon each other.

I have the honor to transmit to your lordship, a return of the killed and wounded on the 26th. I avail myself of this opportunity humbly to solicit from his royal highness the prince regent, as a mark of his gracious approbation of the conduct of the embodied battalion of the Canadian militia, five pairs of colours for the 1st, 2d, 11, 4th, and 5th battalions.

I have the honor to bp, 8.:c.

GEORGE PREVOST.

Return of killed, wounded, and missing, of his majesty's forces, in the action with the enemy, in advance of Chateau guay, on the 26th Oct. 1813.

*Canadian fencible infantry, light company* ; — 3 rank and file, killed ; 1 serjeant, 3 rank and file, wounded.

*3d battalion embodied militia, flank company* ; — 2 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 6 rank and file, wounded ; 4 rank and file, missing.

*Chateauguay Chasseurs* ;--1 captain, wounded.

Total ;--5 rank and file, killed ; 2 captains, 1 serjeant, 13 rank and file, wounded ; 4 rank and file, missing.

Names of officers wounded.

*3d battalion embodied militia* ; — *Captain* Daly, twice wounded, severely.

*Chateauguay chasseurs* ; — *Captain* Bruyere, slightly.

EDWARD BAYNES, adjutant-general.

Right Hon. earl Bathurst,

8te. &c. &c.

No. 55.

*From lieutenant-colonel Morrison to major-general  
De Rottenburg.*

Williamsburg, Upper Canada, Nov. 11, 1813.

SIR,

I have the honor to inclose a copy of the agreement entered into by captain Mulcaster, of the royal navy, and myself, with two of the principal inhabitants of Hamilton, in the state of New York. Having understood, when passing that place, that public property was deposited there, and being informed by lieutenant-colonel Pearson, that his excellency the commander of the forces had directed a small force to act against that village, we considered it our duty, as we possessed the means, to fulfil the intentions of his excellency ; but not having sufficient conveyance, or time, to bring the property away, and as it appeared that it principally belonged to merchants at Kingston, we deemed the inclosed terms best to propose. I also inclose herewith a copy of major-general Wilkinson's proclamation.

J. W. MORRISON, lieut.-colonel,

89th, commanding corps of observation.

Major-general De Rottcnburg.

.....

No. 561

*American agreement to deliver up captured property.*

We do hereby promise, on our respective words and honor, to deliver on the opposite side of the river, at the house of Jacob Wager, if a flag should be permitted to land, all the public property of the United States, if any should be found

here ; also all property belonging to his Britannic majesty's government, and the individuals thereof, now deposited in the house of Charles Richards. It being expressly understood that the property and persons of the inhabitants of the village have been spared in consideration of the preceeding arrangement. And we do hereby further pledge our honors, that the boats shall also be delivered, which belong either to the government of the United States, or to his Britannic majesty's government. And we do further admit, that on the non-compliance with these conditions, the village be subject to be destroyed.

DAVID A. OGDEN.

ALEX. RICHARDS.

W. H. MULCASTER,

Captain royal navy, commanding flotilla.

J. W. MORRISON,

Lieut.-colonel, 89th regt. commanding  
corps of observation.

Hamilton, Nov. 10, 1813.

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### NO. 57.

*Proclamation of James Wilkinson, major-general and commander-in-chief of an expedition against the Canaclas, to the inhabitants thereof.*

The army of the United States, which I have the honor to command, invaded this province to conquer, and not to destroy, to subdue the forces of his Britannic majesty, not to war against his unoffending subject's. Those, therefore, among you who remain quiet at home, should victory incline to the American standard, shall be protected in their persons and property ; but those who are found in arms must necessarily be treated as avowed enemies. To menace is unmanly—to seduce dishonorable—yet it is just and humane to place these alternatives before you.

Done at the head-quarters of the army of the United States, this 6th day of November, 1813, near Ogdensburg, on the river St. Lawrence.

JAS. WILKINSON.

By the general's command, W. Pinkney,  
major and aide de camp.

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### NO. 58.

*From lieutenant-colonel Morrison to major-general  
De Rottenburg.*

Chrystler's, Williamsburg, Upper Canada,  
Nov. 12, 1813.

Stu,

I have the heartfelt gratification to report the brilliant and gallant conduct of the detachment from the centre-division of the army, as yesterday displayed in repulsing and defeating <sup>a</sup> a division of the enemy's force, consisting of two brigades of infantry and a regiment of cavalry, amounting to between 3 and 4000 men, who moved forward, about two o'clock in the afternoon, from Chrystler's-point, and attacked our advance, which gradually fell back to the position selected for the detachment to occupy ; the right resting on the river, and the left on a pine-wood, exhibiting a front of about 700 yards. The ground being open, the troops were thus disposed : the flank companies of the 49th regiment, the detachment of the Canadian fencibles, with one field-piece, under lieutenant-colonel Pearson, on the right, a little advanced on the road ; three companies of the 89th regiment, under captain Barnes, with a gun, formed in echelon, with the advance on its left supporting it. The 49th and 89th, thrown more to the rear, with a gun, formed the main body and reserve, extending to the woods on the *left*, which were occupied by the voltigeurs, under major Illecriot, and the Indians under lieutenant Anderson. At about half past two the action became general, when the enemy endea.

voured, by moving forward a brigade from his right, to turn our left, but was repulsed by the 89th, forming *en potence* with the 49th, and both corps moving forward, occasionally firing by platoons. His efforts were next directed against our right, and to repulse this movement the 49th took ground in that direction in echelon, followed by the 89th ; when within half-musket-shot the line was formed, under a heavy but irregular fire from the enemy. The 49th was then directed to charge the gun posted opposite to ours ; but it became necessary, when within a short distance of it, to check the forward movement, in consequence of a charge from their cavalry on the right, lest they should wheel about, and fall upon their rear ; but they were received in so gallant a manner by the companies of the 89th, under captain Barnes, alid the well-directed fire of the artillery, that they quickly retreated, and by an immediate charge from those companies one gun was gained. The enemy immediately concentrated their force to check our advance, but such was the steady countenance, and well-directed fire of the troops and artillery, that at about half past four they gave way at all points from an exceeding strong position, endeavouring by their light infantry to cover their retreat, who were soon driven away by a judicious movement made by lieutenant-colonel Pearson. The detachment for the night occupied the ground from which the enemy had been driven, and are now moving in pursuit.

I regret to find our loss in killed and wounded has been so considerable ; but trust a most essential service has been rendered to the country, as the whole of the enemy's infantry, after the action, precipitately retired to their own shores. It is now my grateful duty to point out to your honor the benefit the service has received from the ability, judgment, and active exertions of lieutenant-colonel Harvey, the deputy-adjutant-general, for sparing whom to accompany the detachment, I must again publicly express my acknowledgments. To the cordial co-operation and exertions of lieutenant-colonel Pearson, commanding the detachment from Prescott, lieutenant-colonel Plenderleath,

of the 49th, major Clifford, of the 89th, major Herriott, of the voltigeurs, and captain Jackson, of the royal artillery, combined with the gallantry of the troops, our great success may be attributed. Every man did his duty, and I believe I cannot more strongly speak their merits than in mentioning, that our small force did not exceed 800 rank and file. To captains Davis and Skinner, of the quarter-master-general's department, I am under the greatest obligations for the assistance I have received from them ; their zeal and activity has been unremitting. Lieutenant Hagerman, of the militia, has also, for his services, deserved my public acknowledgements, as has also lieutenant Anderson, of the Indian department. As the prisoners are hourly bringing in, I am unable to furnish your honor with a correct return of them, but upwards of 100 are in our possession ; neither of the ordnance stores taken, as the whole have not yet been collected.

I have the honor to be, &c.

J. W. MORRISON,

lieut.-col. 89th, commanding  
corps of observation.

To major-general de Rottenburg,  
&c. &c. &c.

Return of killed, wounded, and missing.

*Royal artillery* ; - 2 rank and file, wounded.

*Royal artillery drivers* ; - 1 rank and file, wounded.

*49th foot* ; - 1 captain, 1 drummer, 5 rank and file, killed ;  
ra subalterns, 3 serjeantg, 31 rank and tile, wounded.

*89th foot* ; - 1 drummer, 4 rank and file, killed ; 1 captain,  
1 subaltern, 3 serjeants, 57 rank and file, wounded.

*49th foot, flank company* ; - 2 rank and file, killed ; 1 sub-  
altern, 11 rank and file, wounded ; 6 rank and file, *missing*.

*Canadian fencibles* ; - 4 rank and file, killed ; 2 subalterns,  
14 rank and file, wounded.

*Canadian voltigeurs* ; - 4 rank and file, killed ; 9 rank and  
tile, wounded ; 3 rank and file, missing.

*Militia artillery* ; - 1 rank and tile, wounded.

*Militia dragoons* ; — 1 rank and file, wounded.

*Indians* ; — 1 warrior, wounded ; 3 warriors, missing.

Total-1 captain, 2 drummers, 19 rank and file, killed; 1 captain, 9 subalterns, 6 serjeants, 131 rank and file, wounded; 12 rank and file, missing.

Names of officers killed and wounded.

*Killed*;—49th foot;—*Captain* Nairne.

*Wounded* ;—49th foot ;—*Lieutenant* Jones, dangerously; lieutenant Bartley, severely, not dangerously ; lieutenant Claus, left leg amputated ; lieutenant Morton, severely, not dangerously; lieutenant Richmond, slightly.

*89th foot*;—*Captain* Browne, severely, not dangerously; ensign Leaden, slightly.

*49th foot* :—*Flank company*;—*Lieutenant* Holland, severely.

*Canadian fencibles* ;—*Lieutenant* Delorimiere, dangerously, since dead ; ensign Armstrong, dangerously.

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## No. 59.

*From major-general Wilkinson to the American secretary at war,*

Head-quarters, French Mills, adjoining the province of Lower Canada, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 1813.

I beg leave to refer you to the journal which accompanies this letter, for the particulars of the movements <sup>of</sup> the corps under my command, down to the St. Lawrence, and will endeavor to exert my enfeebled mind to detail to you the more striking and important incidents which have ensued since my departure from Grenadier island, at the foot of Lake-Ontario, on the 3d instant.

The corps of the enemy which followed me from Kingston, being on my rear, and in concert with a heavy galley and a few gun-boats, seemed determined to retard my progress. I was

tempted to halt, turn about, and put an end to his teasing but alas ! I was confined to my bed. Major-general Lewis was too ill for any active exertions ; and above all, I did not dare to suffer myself to be diverted a single day from the prosecution of the views of government. I had written major-general Hampton on the 6th instant, by adjutant-general-colonel King, and had ordered him to form a junction with me on the St. Lawrence, which I expected would take place on the 9th or 10th. It would have been unpardonable, had I lost sight of this object an instant. I deemed it of vital importance to the issue of the campaign.

The enemy deserve credit for their zeal and intelligence, which the active universal hostility of the male inhabitants of the country enabled them to employ to the greatest advantage.

Thus, while menaced by a respectable force in the rear, the coast was lined with musketry in front, and at every critical pass of the river, which obliged me to march a detachment, and this impeded my progress.

On the evening of the 9th, the army halted a few miles from the head of Longue Saut. On the morning of the 10th, the enclosed order was issued. General Browne marched, agreeably to order, and at noon we were apprised, by the reports of his artillery, that he was engaged some distance below us. At the same time the enemy were observed in our rear, and their galley and gun-boats approached our flotilla, and opened a fire upon us, which obliged me to order a battery of 18-pounders to be planted, and a shot from it compelled the enemy's vessels to retire, together with their troops, after some firing between the advanced parties. By this time, in consequence of his disembarking and re-embarking the heavy guns, the day was so far spent, that our pilots did not dare to enter the Sant, (eight miles a continued rapid,) and therefore we fell down about two Miff, and came to anchor for the night.

Early the next morning every thing was in readiness for motion, but having received no intelligence from general Brown, I was still delayed, as sound precaution required

should learn the result of his affair, before I committed the flotilla to the Saut.

At half past 10, A. M. an officer of dragoons arrived with a letter, in which the general informed me he had forced the enemy, and would reach the foot of the Saut early in the day. Orders were immediately given for the flotilla to sail, at which instant the enemy's gun-boats appeared, and began to throw shot among us. Information was at the same time brought me from brigadier-general Boyd, that the enemy's troops were advancing in column. I immediately gave orders to him to attack them. This report was soon contradicted. Their gun-boats, however, continued to scratch and a variety of reports of their movements and counter-movements were brought me in succession, which convinced me of their determination to hazard an attack, when it could be done to the greatest advantage; and I therefore resolved to anticipate them. Directions were accordingly sent by that distinguished officer colonel Swift, of the engineers, to brigadier-general Boyd, to throw down the detachments of his command, assigned to him in the order of the preceding day, and composed of men of his own; Covington's, and Swartwout's brigades, into three columns, to march upon the enemy, outflank them if possible, and take their artillery.

The action soon after commenced with the advanced body of the enemy, and became extremely sharp and galling; and lasted, with occasional pauses, not sustained with great vivacity, in open space, and fair combat, for upwards of two hours and a half, the adverse lines alternately yielding and advancing. It is impossible to say with accuracy what was our number on the field, because it consisted of indefinite detachments, taken from the boats, to render safe the passage of the Saut.

General Covington and Swartwout voluntarily took part of the action, at the head of the detachments from their respective brigades, and exhibited the same courage that was displayed by brigadier-general Boyd, who happened to be the senior officer on the ground. Our force engaged might have reached 16 or

1760 men, but actually did not exceed 1500. That of the enemy was estimated from 1200 to 2000, but did not probably amount to more than 1500 or 1600; consisting, as I am informed, of detachments from the 49th, 84th, and 104th regiments of the line, with three companies of the Voltigeur and Glengarry corps, and the militia of the country, who are not included in the estimate.

It would be presumptuous in me to attempt to give you a detailed account of this affair, which certainly reflects high honor on the valor of the American soldiers, as no example can be produced of undisciplined men with inexperienced officers, of braving a fire of two hours and a half, without quitting the field; or yielding to their antagonists. But, Sir, the information I now give you is derived from officers in my confidence, who took active parts in the conflict; for, although I was enabled to order the attack, it was my hard fortune not to be able to lead the troops I commanded.

The disease with which I was assailed on the 2d of September, on my journey to Fort-George, having, with a few short intervals of convalescence, preyed on me ever since; and at the moment of this action I was confined to my bed, unable to sit on a horse, and to move ten paces without assistance. I must, however, be pardoned for trespassing on your time a few remarks in relation to this affair. The objects of the British and the American commanders were precisely opposed, the first being bound by the instructions of his government, and the most solemn obligations of duty, to precipitate his descent of the St. Lawrence by every practicable means, because this being effected, one of the greatest difficulties opposed to the American army would be surmounted; and the former, by duties equally imperious, to retard it, and if possible to prevent such a descent. He is to be accounted victorious who effected this purpose. The British commander having failed to gain either of the objects, can lay no claims to the honors of the day. The battle fluctuated, and the victory seemed at different times inclined to the contending corps. The front of the

enemy was at first forced back more than a mile, and though they never regained the ground they lost, their stand was permanent, and their charges resolute. Amidst these charges, and **near** the close of the contest, we lost a fieldpiece by the fall of the officer who WES serving it with the same coolness as if he had been at parade, or at a review. This was lieutenant Smith, of the light artillery, who in point of merit stood conspicuous. The enemy having halted, and our troops having again formed in battalia, front to front, and the fire having ceased on both sides, we resumed our position on the bank of the river, and the infantry being much fatigued, the whole were re-embarked, and proceeded down the river without further annoyance from the enemy or their gun-boats, while the dragoons with five pieces of light artillery marched down the Canada shore without molestation.

It is due to his rank, merit, and services, that I should make particular mention of brigadier. general Covington, who received a mortal wound directly through his body, while animating his men, and leading them to the charge. He fell where he fought, at the head of his men, and survived but two days.

The next day the flotilla passed through the Saut, and joined that excellent officer, brigadier-gen. Brown, at Barnhart's, near Cornwall, where he had been instructed to take post and wait ray arrival, and where I confidently expected to hear of major-general Hampton's arrival on the opposite shore.

But immediately after **1** had halted, col. Atkinson, inspector-general of the division under major-general Hampton, waited on me with a letter from that officer, in which, to my unspeakable mortification and surprize, he declined the junction ordered, —and informed me he was marching to Lake Champlain, by way of co-operation in the proposed attack upon Montreal. This letter, together with a copy of that to which it is in answer, were immediately submitted to a council of war, composed of many general officers, and the colonel commanding the elite, the chief engineer, and adjutant-general, who immediately gave it as their opinion, that the attack on the Montreal should

be abandoned for the present season, and the army near Cornwall be immediately crossed to the American shore, for taking up winter quarters, and that this place afforded an eligible position for such quarters. I acquiesced in this opinion, not from the shortness of the stock of provisions, (which had been reduced by the acts of God), because our meat had been:increased five days, and our bread had been reduced only **two** days ; and because we could, in case of extremity, have lived on the enemy, but because the loss of the division under major-general Hampton weakened my force too sensibly to justify **the** attempt.

In all my measures and movements of consequence I have taken the opinion of my general officers, which have been accordant with my own.

I remained on the Canadian shore till the next day, without seeing or hearing from the powerful force of the enemy in our neighbourhood, and the same day reached this position with the artillery and infantry.

The dragoons have been ordered to Utica and its vicinity, and I expect are 50 or 60 miles on the march, You have, under cover, a summary abstract of the killed and wounded in the affair of the 11th instant, which will soon be followed by a particular return ; in which, a first regard will be paid to individual merit. **The dead rest in honor, and the wounded bleed for their country, and deserve its gratitude. With respect,**

I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAS, WILKINSON.

•

Here follows a statement of the killed and wounded ;—  
*Killed*, 102.— *Wounded*, "237.

Hon. J. Armstrong, &c. &c.

## No. 60.

*From general Wilkinson to the American secretary at war.*

Head-quarters, French Mills, Nov. 18, 1813.

I beg this may be considered as an appendage to my official communication respecting the action of the 11th instant.

I last evening received the enclosed information, the result of the examination of sundry prisoners taken on the field of battle, which justifies the opinion of the general officers who were in the engagement. This goes to prove, that although the imperious obligations of duty did not allow me sufficient time to rout the enemy, they were beaten ; the accidental loss of one field-piece notwithstanding, after it had been discharged 15 or 20 times. I have also learned, from what has been considered good authority, but I will not vouch for the correctness of it, that the enemy's loss exceeded 500 killed and wounded.

The enclosed report will correct an error in my former communication, as it appears it was the 89th, and not the 84th, British regiment, which was engaged on the 11th. I beg leave to mention, in the action of the 11th, what, from my severe *in-*disposition, I have omitted.

Having received information, late in the day, that the contest had become somewhat dubious, I ordered up a reserve of 600 men, whom I had ordered to stand by their arms, under lieutenant-col. Upham, who gallantly led them into action, which terminated a few minutes after their arrival on the ground. With great consideration and respect, I have the honor to be, &c. — JAMES WILKINSON.

Hon. John Armstrong, secretary at war.

Here follows a statement of the strength of the British forces, engaged in action of the 11th of Nov.-1800 regulars, 300 militia, 40 Indians.-7Total, 2170 ; upwards of 1500 more than they were.