

GENERAL ORDER.

Office of the Adjutant Gen. Department.
MONTREAL, June 4, 1813.

The Major-General Commanding has received a report from Major Taylor, of the 100th regiment, giving an account of a gallant affair which took place yesterday, between the gun-boats and detachments from the garrison of Isle aux Noix and the enemy's armed vessels, Growler and Eagle, from Lake Champlain, having each 11 guns, with four officers and forty-five men on board; and which ended in the capture of both these vessels, after a well contested action of three hours and one half.

Major Taylor speaks in high terms of the gallantry of all the officers and soldiers employed on this occasion; particularly Lieut. Lowe, of the Marine Department, ensigns Dawson, Gibbon and Humphreys, and Acting Quarter Master Pilkington, of the 100th regiment, with their crews; and reports the material assistance which he received from Capt. Gordon, of the Royal Artillery, Lieut. Williams, of the 100th regiment with parties on shore, who contributed greatly to the capture of the enemy.—The garrison had three men wounded—the enemy one man killed and eight severely wounded.—The Major General Commanding will have much satisfaction in reporting to His Excellency the Commander of the Forces this action, which does high credit to the arrangements of Major Taylor, and the conduct and bravery of all concerned.

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Extract of a General Order, dated Head-Quarters, Kingston, 6th June, 1813:

"Major-General DE ROTTEBURG will deliver over the Command of the Troops and Civil Administration of the Province of Lower Canada to Major-General GLASGOW, and is to arrive at Kingston on the 20th instant.

"Major General Sir ROGER HALE SHAFFEE will meet Major-General DE ROTTEBURG at Cornwall on the 15th, and from thence proceed to Montreal, to assume the Command of the Troops in that District."

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The following Proclamation was printed at Kingston and circulated throughout Upper Canada:

By His Excellency Lieutenant General Sir GEORGE PREVOST, Baronet, Governor General and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's North American Provinces, and Commander of the Forces in the said Provinces, &c. &c. &c.

A PROCLAMATION.

HIS EXCELLENCY the COMMANDER of the forces having seen a Public Declaration made by Lieutenant Col. P. Preston, of the 12th Regiment of the United States Infantry, dated at Fort Erie, the 30th of May last, in which he professes to hold out the protection of the United States to all those who shall come forward and voluntarily enrol their names with him, and threatening with rigorous and disastrous consequences those who shall have the spirit and loyalty to pursue a different course of conduct. His Excellency deems it necessary to caution His Majesty's Subjects in this Province against listening to the insidious offer of the Enemy, or trusting to their assurances of protection, which subsequent events have clearly proved they are so little able to afford to themselves. With the bare possession of a narrow strip of our frontier Territory, not obtained by them without a severe contest and corresponding loss, with an unconquered and unbroken Army in their front, at an inconsiderable distance from them, and ready to dispute every inch of ground over which they should attempt to advance into the Country, it was hardly to be expected that the Enemy's presumption would have led them to consider themselves as in the possession of this Province, or have induced them, contrary to the established usages of civilized warfare, to treat its peaceable inhabitants as a conquered people.

The brilliant result of the action of the 6th instant, the rout and complete dispersion of a large division of the Enemy's Forces on that day, attended with the capture of their Artillery and of their ablest Generals, their subsequent retreat and flight, with the loss of the whole of their baggage, provisions, and Tent equipage, before the victorious Army of Brigadier General Vincent, daily increasing in strength from the powerful reinforcements reaching it, and assisted by the Squadron under Sir James Yeo, now in undisturbed possession of the Lake: all these events which followed in rapid succession within a very few days after Lieutenant-Colonel Preston's declaration, shew more strongly than any language can possibly describe, the futility of the offers held out by it, and produce the strongest incentive to His Majesty's Subjects to hold fast that allegiance from which the Enemy would insidiously withdraw them.

His Excellency therefore confidently calls upon all the Loyal and well disposed in this Province, who are not under the immediate controul, or within the power of the Enemy, to use every possible effort in repelling the Foe, and driving him from our soil, assuring them that they will be powerfully aided by the reinforcements daily arriving at this Post, and pres-

ing on to their support.—To those of His Majesty's Subjects who are unfortunately situated within that inconsiderable portion of the territory occupied by the Enemy, His Excellency recommends a quiet and peaceable conduct, such as shall neither afford a just cause to the Enemy for treating them with the severity and rigour they have threatened, or incompatible with their allegiance to the best of Sovereigns. His Excellency at the same time declares that he shall be compelled, however, reluctantly, instantly to retaliate upon the American prisoners in his possession, every violation of the persons or property of any of His Majesty's Subjects so peaceably demeaning themselves; and hereby publicly protests against such treatment as equally unfashioned by the usages of War, or by the example afforded by His Majesty's Forces with regard to any of the American prisoners in their possession.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms at Kingston, this fourteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen.

GEORGE PREVOST, Commander of the Forces.

By His Excellency's Command,
E. B. BRENTON.

[On the foothold gained by the Americans at Fort-Erie, was published the following]:
ADDRESS TO THE CANADIANS.

The commandant of Fort Erie, finding the people in its vicinity anxious to obtain special protection, deems it necessary to make a public declaration, that all those who may come forward and enrol their names with him and claim the protection of the United States, shall have their property and persons secured to them inviolate. He invites all who mean to pursue this course to take it immediately, that they may be distinguished from the enemy; and while he assures them that their interests and happiness will be regarded by the Government of the United States; he solemnly warns those who may obstinately continue inimical, that they are bringing on themselves, the most rigorous and disastrous consequences; as they will be pursued and treated with that spirit of retaliation which the treatment of the American prisoners in the hands of the British justly inspires.

JAMES P. PRESTON, Lt. Col. 12th Regt. Inf'y Com'g at Ft. Erie, Black Rock, and Buffalo.
May 30th, 1813.

MONTREAL, JUNE 19.

By letters received from the forty mile Creek, dated 10th June, it is said, "that the advance of our army under Major Evans, took possession of General Lewis' Camp, baggage and stores, &c.—and took up his position in the quarters from which the General had just flown; the General's horse was taken, and the enemy was pursued close to the Niagara line, which he has or will cross before to-morrow.—We have taken about 70 prisoners and 20 bateaux laden with supplies. Scott, Christie and King, and a hundred others, are acting with their army although prisoners on parole. Information is just received that there are 6000 of the enemy at Fort George, where sickness, discontent and famine prevail. In their flight they have burnt Fort Erie and abandoned every thing."

By an express which arrived here yesterday, from Kingston, it is said that Gen. Vincent was within 12 miles of Fort George; that Sir J. Yeo has taken, in camp equipage, arms and ammunition, nearly or quite double to the quantity lost at Fort George; that the Americans have been driven from Fort Erie, Chippawa and Queenstown: that an Indian had informed General Vincent; that Fort George and the town was in flames. The express left York 12th instant, 7 P. M. and Kingston the 14th, early in the morning.

By letters of the 12th, from York, it is said, that "Nothing has yet been done by Gen. Proctor against Fort Meigs"—and adds, "Dickson is close at hand with 3000 Indians."

A letter from Kingston of the 14th inst. reports, that the enemy had evacuated Fort George. We place no reliance on this information. It is added, Sir J. L. Yeo scours the Lake.

The two vessels taken on Lake Champlain, we understand, are refitted and ready for service.

On Thursday last Eight American Officers, that were taken prisoners at the head of Lake Ontario, on the 6th instant, arrived here.—Among them is Gens. Winder and Chandler.

QUEBEC, JUNE 22.

The late favorable turn given to the war in Upper Canada, continues to be of the most cheering aspect; and, from the number of ship carpenters going up, a decided and perpetuated superiority on the lakes, on the part of the British, may in future, be looked to, with confidence. On this the security of U. Canada will depend; and may be considered as no longer doubtful. The Americans, we are persuaded, have, before this time, crossed over to their own side of the river Niagara, with a considerable diminution of men, stores and reputation. That they have done some injury on the Canadian side of

the river and lake, it would be a folly to deny; but the damage is more than counterbalanced by their own losses in their expeditions, double the quantity of stores, ammunition and provisions being taken from them to what we lost at Fort George. At 40 mile creek they left 500 tents standing, ready for our troops to enter and lie down in. The pleasing prospect of security, in future, cannot but be consolatory for any past suffering, previous to the arrival of the necessary succours for the defence of such a length of coast as the shores of Upper Canada.

The dishonorable conduct of the American officers, who have taken up arms, notwithstanding their being prisoners on parole, is a proof of the absence of all sense of what appertains to the profession of arms; a profession formerly maintained by that chivalric spirit, which preserved it without a stain; but which late revolutionary characters have levelled, sunk and disgraced, by acts wholly derogatory to that nice feeling of honor, which caused the parole of an officer to be considered of the most sacred purity; but which is now, unfortunately no more to be relied on than the word of a prostitute; at least the conduct of Frenchmen and Americans, have lately reduced it to this very low standard. Frenchmen, who for military purity of character, in this point, prior to the Revolution were an example to other European nations; but now, alas! how changed!

We refer our readers to the two Proclamations in our columns; the one by an American officer, and the other by His Excellency Sir George Prevost. A comparison of the two will point out the distinction between revolutionary warfare, and that of an officer bred to the profession of arms, governed by those ancient honorable principles, of which we have made mention above.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of the first respectability, dated Kingston, 17th inst.:

"Sir JAMES YEO and his Squadron have returned off the harbour, having taken four small vessels and a great quantity of provisions and stores, amongst them are from 3 to 400 barrels of pork; and destroyed much more.—Sir James is taking in his biscuit, and is to be off again immediately."

INVASION OF VIRGINIA.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 25.

LETTERS.

From Commodore Cassin to the Secretary of the Navy.

Navy Yard, Gosport, June 21.

SIR—On Saturday, at 11, P. M. Capt. TARBELL, moved with the flotilla under his command, consisting of 15 gun-boats, in two divisions, Lieut. JOHN MCGARNER 1st division, and Lieut. ROBERT HENLEY the 2d, manned from the frigate and 50 musketeers Gen. TAYLOR ordered from Craney Island, and proceeded down the river; but adverse winds and squalls prevented his approaching the enemy until Sunday morning at 4 P. M. when the flotilla commenced a heavy galling fire on a frigate, at about three quarters of a mile distance, lying well up the roads, two other frigates lying in light. At half past four a breeze sprung up from E. N. E. which enabled the two frigates to get under way, one razee or very heavy ship, and the other a frigate, to come nearer into action. The boats, in consequence of their approach hauled off, though keeping up a well directed fire on the razee and other ship, which gave us several broad sides. The frigate first engaged, supposed to be the *Junon*, was certainly very severely handled—had the calm continued one half hour that frigate must have fallen into our hands or been destroyed. She must have slipped her moorings so as to drop nearer the razee, who had all sails set coming up to her with the other frigate.—The action continued one hour and a half with the three ships. Shortly after the action the razee got alone side of the ship, and had her upon a deep carcen in a little time, with a number of boats and stages round her. I am satisfied considerable damage was done to her, for she was silenced some time, until the razee opened her fire, when she commenced again. Our loss is very trifling. Mr. ALLISON, master's mate on board No. 139, was killed early in the action by an 18 pound ball, which passed through him and lodged in the mast. No. 154 had a shot between wind and water. No. 67 had her Franklin shot away, and several of them had some of their sweeps, as well as their stantions shot away, but two men slightly injured by the splinters from the sweeps; on the flood tide several ships of the line and frigates came into the roads and we did expect an attack last night.—There are now in the roads 13 ships of the line and frigates, one brig, and several tenders.

I cannot say too much for the officers and crew on this occasion; for every man appeared to go into action with so much cheerfulness, apparently to do their duty, resolved to conquer. I had a better opportunity of discovering their actions than any one else, being in my boat the whole of the action. I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN CASSIN.

Navy Yard, Gosport, June 23.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you that on the 20th, the enemy got under way, in all 13 sail, and dropped up to the mouth of James River, one ship bearing a flag at the mizen. At 5 P. M. were discovered making great preparation with troops for landing, having a number of boats for the purpose. Finding Craney Island rather weakly manned Capt. TARBELL directed Lieuts. NEALE, SHURRICK and SANDERS, with 100 seamen, on shore, at 11 P. M. to a small battery on the N. W. point of the Island. Tuesday the 22d at the dawn, the enemy were discovered landing round the point of Nansemond River, said to be 4000 troops; and, at 8, A. M. the barges attempt to land in front of the Island, out of the reach of the shot from the gun-boats; when Lieuts. NEALE, SHURRICK and SANDERS, with the Sailors, and Lieut. BRECKENRIDGE, with the marines, of the Constellation, 150 in number, opened their fire, which was so well directed that the enemy were glad to get off, after sinking three of their largest boats. One of them, called the *Centipede*, Admiral WARREN's boat, 50 feet in length, carried 75 men, the greater part of whom were lost by her sinking. Twenty soldiers and sailors were saved, and the boat hauled up. From the boats that were sunk, I presume there were 40 prisoners. The troops that were landed fell back in the rear of the Island, and commenced throwing rockets from Mr. WISE's house, when gun-boat No. 67 threw a few shot over that way, they dispersed and went back.

We have had all day deserters from the enemy coming in. I have myself taken in 25, and 18 prisoners belonging to the *Centipede*.

The officers of the Constellation fired their 18 pound more like riflemen than artillery. I never saw such shooting, and seriously believe they saved the Island. In the evening the boats came round the point of Nansemond, and, at sunset, were seen returning to their ships, full of men. At dusk they threw the shore along with fires, in order to run away by the light. I have the honor to be, &c.

JOHN CASSIN.

The Hon. WM. JONES, Sec'y of the Navy.

RICHMOND, JUNE 25.

We have letters from Hampton to the 23d, at 3 P. M. On Tuesday the enemy disembarked on the southern shore near Craney Island, and attempted to cross a creek three or four feet deep to reach the Island. From Newport's Noose they were seen very distinctly moving in columns, their number about 2400, but they met a warm reception and was obliged to retire. Our troops were reinforced by 6 or 700 men from Norfolk. This morning, the tenders with men were moving down towards Lynnhaven. We hourly expect our share of the business.

HAMPTON TAKEN.

NORFOLK, (Virg.) JUNE 25.—About 5 o'clock this morning the British made an attack on Hampton, by land and water. Reports state, that the firing continued an hour and forty-five minutes. Two houses were set on fire by the rockets. The troops at Hampton are variously estimated at from five to 800. Their fate is not known.

RICHMOND, JUNE 26.

BY EXPRESS TO THE GOVERNOR.

Col. WALKER, of the 63th regt. of militia has informed Gov. BARBOUR, by express, of the arrival of an express in Yorktown with the dreadful melancholy news of the capture of Hampton. This express was sent from Col. HOWARD, to order the militia to repair to the *Half-way-House*, between Hampton and York. Col. WALKER adds, he shall order his regiment, to rendezvous immediately at Williamsburgh and York.

The express adds, that the attack on Hampton commenced yesterday morning, at four, by water;—that the attack began with Congreve Rockets which set fire to the town;—that the enemy then effected a landing; and were met gallantly by the militia.—Further is not stated, except that the town was taken. Major CORLIN of York county, was killed; and Capt. ANDERSON, of Williamsburg, either killed, or a prisoner. Of the invading troops, strange to tell, about 35 of them were said to be troopers! The extent of our loss is not known. It is believed, our troops were retiring to the *Half-way-House*, which was to be the rendezvous of the surrounding militia.

The Council was immediately convened, and measures of defence are in train of execution. All the neighboring militia have been called out.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER.

"Williamsburg, June 25. I lay down my musket a moment to state to you hastily, that the attack on Craney Island was a feint to attract attention to that side of the river, while it appears the plan of the enemy was to attack us on this side; and accordingly, Hampton was invaded and carried this morning; and as a party was landed five miles above the town we fear the militia there have been cut off. But we hope for the best. God only