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WAR DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, October 6, 1812.

CAPTAIN COORE, Aide-de-Camp to Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, Governor in Chief of His Majesty's Provinces in North America, arrived this morning with dispatches from the Lieutenant-General, addressed to Earl Bathurst, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, of which the following is an extract and a copy.

My Lord, *Montreal, August 26, 1812.*

I FEEL the greatest satisfaction in transmitting to your Lordship a letter which I have this day received by express from Major-General Brock, announcing to me the surrender of Fort Detroit, on the 16th instant, by Brigadier-General Hull, with the army under his command, exceeding two thousand five hundred men, together with twenty-five pieces of ordnance.

In my dispatches of the 17th and 24th instant, I had the honour of detailing to your Lordship the operations which had taken place in Upper Canada, in consequence of the invasion of that Province by the army of the United States, Brigadier-General Hull having crossed the Detroit River on the 12th of last month, with two thousand three hundred men, consisting of regular cavalry and infantry, and militia, bringing with him several field-pieces; and having driven in the militia towards Amherstburg, first advanced to Sandwich, and afterwards approached Amherstburg with a part of his army to the River Canard, about five miles from the fort, where he was foiled in three attempts to cross that river, and suffered a considerable loss. The garrison of Amherstburg consisted at that time of a subaltern's detachment of the royal artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Troughton; of a detachment of three hundred men of the 41st regiment, under the command of Captain Muir, and of about as many of the militia; the whole under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Saint George, inspecting field officer of militia in the district.

General Brock, relying upon the strong assurances I had given him of a reinforcement as prompt and as effectual as the circumstances under which I was placed by this new war would permit me to send, adopted the most vigorous measures for the safety of that part of the frontier which had been attacked. In these measures he was most opportunely aided by the fortunate surrender of Fort Michilimachinac, which giving spirit and confidence to the Indian tribes in its neighbourhood, part of whom had assisted in its capture, determined them to advance upon the rear and flanks of the American army, as soon as they heard that it had entered the Province.

The certainty of the expected reinforcements, and the weakness of the enemy on the Niagara Frontier, had in the meantime induced Gen. Brock to detach from the garrison of Fort George fifty men of the forty-first regiment, under Captain Chambers into the interior of the country, for the purpose of collecting such of the Indians and Militia as might be ready to join him, and of afterwards advancing upon the left flank of the enemy. Sixty men of the same regiment were also detached from that garrison to Amherstburg, and forty to Long Point to collect the militia in that quarter. Having made these dispositions, and having previously sent forward Colonel Proctor of the forty-first regiment to Amherstburg, where he arrived and assumed the command on the twenty-sixth of last month, General Brock proceeded himself from York on the 5th instant, for Fort St. George and Long Point on Lake Erie, which last place he left on the 8th following for Amherstburg with forty rank and file of the forty-first regiment, and two hundred and sixty of the militia forces.

Whilst General Brock was thus hastening his preparations for the relief of Amherstburg, the prospects of the American army under General Hull, were becoming every day more unfavourable, and their situation more critical. The intelligence of the fall of Michilimachinac had reached them, which they knew must expose them to an attack of the Indians on one quarter, at the same time that they were

threatened on another by the force approaching under Captain Chambers, an Indian tribe of the Wyandots, whom they had in vain attempted to bribe, aided by a detachment of the 41st regiment from Amherstburg, had succeeded in cutting off their supplies on the opposite side of the river, and in intercepting their dispatches, which described in very strong terms their apprehensions and despondency. The losses they had sustained in their different actions, upon the Canard River, as well as those for protecting their supplies, together with the mode of warfare pursued by the Indians, had greatly discouraged and dispirited them, and had convinced General Hull how hopeless any attempt would be to storm Fort Amherstburg, without great reinforcements and a battering train.

It was under these circumstances at this critical period, and when the enemy were beginning to consult their security by entrenching themselves, that General Brock entered Amherstburg with a reinforcement, which he was fortunately enabled to do on the 12th instant, without the smallest molestation, in consequence of our decided naval superiority on the lakes. To his active and intelligent mind the advantages which the enemy's situation afforded him over them, even with his very inferior force, became immediately apparent; and that he has not failed most effectually to avail himself of those favourable circumstances, your Lordship will, I trust, be satisfied from the letter which I have the honour of transmitting.

Having thus brought to your Lordship's view the different circumstances which have led to the successful termination of the campaign on the western frontier of Upper Canada, I cannot withhold from Major-General Brock the tribute of applause so justly due to him for his distinguished conduct on this occasion, or omit to recommend him, through your Lordship, to the favourable consideration of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, for the great ability and judgment with which he has planned, and the promptitude, energy, and fortitude with which he has effected the preservation of Upper Canada, with the sacrifice of so little British blood, in accomplishing so important a service.

My aid-de-camp Captain Coore will have the honour of delivering to your Lordship this dispatch; and as he is well qualified to give your Lordship information respecting the military resources of this command; I shall beg leave to refer your Lordship to him for further particulars.

I have the honor, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE PREVOST.

SIR, *Head-Quarters, Detroit, Aug. 16, 1812.*

I HASTEN to apprise your Excellency of the capture of this very important post. Two thousand five hundred troops have this day surrendered prisoners of war, and about twenty-five pieces of ordnance have been taken without the sacrifice of a drop of British blood. I had not more than seven hundred troops, including militia, and about six hundred Indians, to accomplish this service. When I detail my good fortune your Excellency will be astonished. I have been admirably supported by Colonel Procter, the whole of my staff, and

I may justly say every individual under my command.

Believe me, &c.
(Signed) ISAAC BROCK.
Maj. Gen.

To His Excellency Lieutenant-General
Sir George Prevost, Bart.

Head-Quarters, Montreal, Sep-

tember 1, 1812.

MY LORD,
SINCE I had the honour of transmitting to your Lordship my letter of the 26th ult. in charge of my Aid-de-Camp Captain Coore, I have received from Major-General Brock, a dispatch, of which the inclosed is a copy, containing the particulars of Brigadier-General Hull's invasion of Upper Canada, which has terminated most gloriously to His Majesty's arms, in that officer's defeat and surrender, as a prisoner of war, with the whole of the north-western army, together with the fort Detroit, and three and thirty pieces of ordnance.

I forward this dispatch express, in the expectation of its reaching Captain Coore previously to his leaving Canada, which, with the colours of the 4th United States' regiment accompanying it, I trust that officer will have the honour of delivering to your Lordship.

I have the honour to be, &c.

GEORGE PREVOST.
The Right Honourable Earl Bathurst.

Head-Quarters, Detroit, August 17, 1812.

SIR,

I HAVE had the honour of informing your Excellency, that the enemy effected his passage across the Detroit River on the 12th ultimo, without opposition, and that after establishing himself at Sandwich, he had ravaged the country as far as the Moravia town. Some skirmishes occurred between the troops under Lieutenant-Colonel 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 Procter was directed to assume the command, and his force was soon after increased with sixty rank and file of the 41st 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 shewed 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 honoured me with his services as my Provincial Aide-de-Camp. A sufficiency of boats being collected at Long Point for the conveyance of three hundred men, the em-

barkation took place on the 8th instant, and in five days 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 reserve.—This produced two smart skirmishes on the 5th and 9th instant, in both of which the enemy's loss was very considerable, whilst ours amounted to three killed, and thirteen wounded; amongst the latter I have particularly to regret Capt. Muir and Lieut. 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 Port Detroit, for one eighteen-pounder, two twelve, and two five and a half inch mortars; all of which opened on the evening of the 15th (having previously summoned Brigadier General Hull to surrender), and although opposed by a well directed fire from seven twenty-four-pounders, such was their construction, under the able directions 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 daylight on the following morning, and by 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 forwards 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 thirty royal artillery, two hundred and fifty 41st regiment, fifty royal Newfoundland regiment, four hundred militia, and about six hundred Indians, to which were attached three six-pounders and two three-pounders. The services 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 the hope of compelling him to meet us in the field; but receiving information upon landing, that Colonel M'Arthur, an officer of high reputation, had left the garrison three days before with a detachment of five hundred 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-General Hull, however, prevented this movement, by proposing a cessation of hostilities, for the purpose of prepar-

ing terms of capitulation. Lieutenant-Colonel John M'Donnell and Captain Glegg were accordingly deputed by me on this mission, and returned within an hour with the conditions which I have the honour 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 two thousand five hundred 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 two hundred men, whom he left escorting a valuable convoy at some little distance in his rear; but there can be no doubt the officer commanding will consider himself equally bound by the capitulation.

The enemy's aggregate force was divided into two troops of cavalry; one company of artillery regulars; the 4th United States regiment; detachments of the 1st and 3d United States regiment, 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 active warfare with the United States, notwithstanding the constant endeavours of this Government to dissuade them from it. Some of the principal chiefs happened to be at Amherstburg, 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 Elliott and Captain M'Kee, 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 and judgment of Lieutenant-Colonel Myers, induced me to appoint him to the important command at Niagara; it was 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 Nicholls, Quarter-Master-General of the militia.

Captain Glegg, my Aid-de-Camp, will have the honour of delivering this dispatch 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 honour to be, &c.

(Signed) ISAAC BROCK, Major. Gen.

P. S. I have the honour 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 dispatch the capture of the Adams; she is a fine vessel, and recently repaired, but without arms.

Camp at Detroit, August 16, 1812.

CAPITULATION for the Surrender of Fort Detroit, entered into between Major-General Brock, commanding His Britannic Majesty's Forces, on the one Part, and Brigadier-General Hull, Commanding the North Western Army of the United States, on the other Part.

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

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

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

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.

V. The garrison will march out at the hour of twelve o'clock this day, and the British forces will take immediate possession of the fort.

(Signed) J. MACDONELL, Lieut. Col. Militia, P. A. D. C.

J. B. GLEGG, Major, A. D. C.
JAS. MILLER, Lieut. Col. 5th U. S. Infantry.

E. BRUSH, Colonel commanding 1st Regiment of Michigan Militia.

Approved,

W. HULL, Brig. Gen. commanding the N. W. Army.

Approved,

ISAAC BROCK, Major-Gen.

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 the 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.

(Signed) W. HULL, Brig. Gen. commanding U. S. N. W. Army.
ISAAC BROCK, Major-General.

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 Wetherall, shall be placed on the same principles as the Ohio Militia and Volunteers are placed by the supplementary article of the 16th instant.

(Signed) W. HULL, Brig. Gen.
Commanding N. W. Army U. S.
ISAAC BROCK, Maj. Gen.

True Copies.

(Signed) ISAAC BROCK, Maj. Gen.

Return of Ordnance taken in the Fort and Batteries at Detroit, August 16th, 1812.

Iron Ordnance—9 twenty-four pounders, 8 twelve-pounders, 5 nine-pounders, 3 six-pounders.

Brass Ordnance—3 six-pounders, 2 four-pounders, 1 three-pounder, 1 eight-inch howitzer, 1 five and half inch ditto.

Total of ordnance taken—33.

FELIX TROUGHTON,

Lt. Comd. Royal Artillery.

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

PROCLAMATION by Isaac Brock, Esq. Major General commanding His Majesty's Forces in the Province of Upper Canada, &c. &c. &c.

Whereas the territory of Michigan was this day by capitulation 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 laws 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 enjoyment 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 knowledge of any public property, shall forthwith deliver in the same, or give notice thereof to the officer commanding, or Lieut. Col. Nicholl, who are duly authorized to receive and give proper receipts for the same.

Officers of militia will be held responsible, that all arms in possession of militia men be immediately delivered up, and all individuals whatever who have in their possession arms of any kind, will deliver them up without delay.

Given under my hand at Detroit, this sixteenth day of August, 1812, and in the fifty-second year of His Majesty's reign.

(Signed) ISAAC BROCK,
Maj. Gen.