

Vincent, might give additional consequence to his troops, I have embarked the remainder of the 8th regiment, consisting of about two hundred men, with which, and a supply of clothing, ammunition, and provisions, the fleet sailed this morning.

The enemy's flotilla were seen yesterday returning to Sackett's Harbour, to which place they had, without doubt, been recalled by the attack upon it. I last night received a confirmation of this fact from a flag of truce, which had been sent over with one of our wounded officers, from whom I learn, that their fleet is in port, and that the whole of the naval stores collected at Sackett's Harbour were consumed by fire on the day of the attack.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE PREVOST.

Earl Bathurst, &c. &c.

SIR, *Forty Mile Creek, May 28, 1813.*

I HAVE the honour to inform your Excellency, that yesterday morning about daybreak, the enemy again opened his batteries upon Fort George: the fire not being immediately returned, it ceased for some time. About four 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 fourteen or fifteen vessels, was discovered under way standing towards the light-house, in an extended line of more than two miles, covering from ninety to one hundred large boats and scows, each containing an average of fifty or sixty men. Though at this time no doubt could be entertained 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 picquets 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 scoured 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 commenced skirmishing with the enemy's riflemen, who were advancing through the brush wood. The enemy having perfect command of the beach, he quickly landed from three to four thousand 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 ardour 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 tenfold 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 four to five thousand 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 honour of reporting to your Excellency a depôt 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 Bishopp, with all the detachments from Chippawa 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 one thousand six hundred 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 honoured with your Excellency's instructions, which I shall feel most anxious to receive. I beg leave to suggest the great importance