

and the volunteers of St. Andrews, towards Saint Benoit.

On the 14th I crossed the north branch of the Ottawa, three miles below St. Eustache, with two brigades and six field pieces, and the Montreal volunteer cavalry and rifle corps, while Captain Globinsky's company of volunteers attracted the attention of the rebels by marching a more direct route.

As the force, which had passed the river, approached St. Eustache, Colonel Maitland's brigade, consisting of the 32d and 83d regiments and the cavalry, moved in front of the town towards the St. Benoit road, followed by the second brigade, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Wetherall, and entered it at several points.

Major Jackson, commanding the Royal Artillery, with the Battery under his charge, opened a fire on the church, and the houses occupied by the Rebels. Girod, and many of the Rebels from St. Scholastique, abandoned the defence of the houses, and walls, which they had previously occupied, on the approach of the troops; but the more determined of the rebels from St. Benoit, under Chenier, continued firing from the church and adjoining houses, till they were driven from them by the fire of the field pieces placed in front of the church by Major Jackson, and the advanced parties of the royal and 32d regiments and rifle corps, which had been posted under cover of the unoccupied houses.

The reports of the officers commanding brigades are annexed for the information of the General Commanding in Chief.

The troops left St. Eustache early on the 15th, and on the march to St. Benoit were met by delegates from the rebels, authorised to acquaint me that they were prepared to lay down their arms unconditionally.

On our arrival at St. Benoit, it was ascertained that all the rebel leaders had abandoned their deluded followers. I directed Colonel Maitland to proceed to St. Scholastique, with the 32d regiment and two field pieces, and the remainder of the troops to march by St. Eustache to Montreal.

The good results of these movements have been proved by the return of the peasantry to their usual occupations, and the disappearance of armed parties of the rebels.

It is scarcely possible to suppose that the loyal and peaceable subjects whose property had been pillaged, and who had so recently suffered from the outrages committed by the rebels of Grand Brulé and the Riviere du Chêne, a population of the worst character, could be prevented, on being liberated from their oppressors, from committing acts of violence at St. Benoit.

The several departments under my orders have at this critical period, by their great exertions, enabled me to assemble the troops promptly.

I have to assure the General Commanding in Chief, that from the time that the rebels appeared in position, no opportunity has been lost in attacking them constantly, as soon as a sufficient force could be collected to march against them, without exposing or leaving unprotected the important stations of Montreal, Chambly, St. John's, and Sorel.

I have received, on every occasion, a zealous

assistance from the Deputy Adjutant-General Lieutenant-Colonel Eden, and the Deputy Quartermaster-General Colonel Gore, and the officers of my personal staff, and from Captain Foster, Royal Engineers, and Majors Jackson and Macbean, Royal Artillery, and the respective officers.

The Commissary-General has by his able arrangement, greatly facilitated the movement of the troops in this district, and of the reinforcements on the march from New Brunswick.

On my return from the county of the Lake of the Two Mountains, I ordered part of the 24th regiment to proceed in sleighs, to Kingston and Toronto. I find, however, from my reports from Toronto, that the loyal Upper Canadians are fully prepared to defend their institutions, and to ensure the preservation of public peace, without the aid of Her Majesty's troops.

I cannot close this dispatch without mentioning that all the corps of volunteers of Montreal have occasionally taken the duties of this garrison, and thus enabled me to leave the town under their protection.

From the reports and communications from every district, order has been restored.

*Montreal barracks, Lower Canada,
December 20, 1837.*

SIR,

I have the honour to report to your Excellency the course of proceedings of the 1st brigade under my command, consisting of the 32d regiment, commanded by Brevet Major Reid, and the 83d regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable Henry Dundas.

The troops having assembled at St. Martin's on the 13th instant, on the morning of the 14th the 1st brigade took the advance of the troops to be employed under your Excellency against the rebels assembled in force at St. Eustache. We left Saint Martin's at eight A. M. and about eleven o'clock crossed the river, on the ice, without opposition, about a half a league below St. Eustache; the light company of the 32d regiment, with two guns, under the command of Major Jackson, Royal Artillery, covering the advance of the troops. On our near approach, the rebels were seen crossing the ice in divisions, to an island opposite the town, when orders were given by your Excellency for the two guns to open a fire upon them, which had the effect of making them retire back into the town.

The brigade again advanced, in the same order, and the guns took up a position and opened a fire upon the church, as I perceived, with my glass, that they appeared to occupy the church in considerable force, the guns still continued to cannonade the church. I then, agreeable to the directions of your Excellency, changed direction to the right with the brigade, the 32d regiment leading, covered by its light company, and followed by the 83d regiment, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel the Honourable Henry Dundas, with a view of securing the roads and bridges from the opposite side of the town, leading to the Grand Brulé road, where it was supposed that the rebels would eventually make a stand; the troops, at this movement were within musket shot of the town, and found the greatest