

North Western Army.

Copy of a letter from Gen. W. H. Harrison to the Secretary of War
 Head Quarters, Camp Meigs,
 9th May, 1813.

SIR—I have the honor to inform you that the enemy having been several days making preparations for raising the siege of this post, accomplished this day the removal of their artillery from the opposite bank, and about 12 o'clock left their encampment below, were soon embarked and out of sight. I have the honor to enclose you an agreement entered into between Gen. Proctor and myself for the discharge of the prisoners of the Kentucky militia in his possession, and for the exchange of the officers and men of the regular troops which were respectively possessed by us. My anxiety to get the Kentucky troops released as early as possible, induced me to agree to the dismissal of all the prisoners I had, although there was not as many of ours in General Proctor's possession. The surplusage is to be accounted for, and an equal number of ours released from their parole, whenever the government may think proper to direct it.

The two actions on this side the river on the 5th, were infinitely more important and more honorable to our arms, than I had at first conceived. In the sortie made upon the left flank, captain Waring's company of the 19th regt. a detachment of 12 months' volunteers under major Alexander and three companies of Kentucky militia under colonel Boswell, defeated at least double the number of Indians and British militia.

The sortie on the right still more glorious; the British batteries in that direction were defended by the grenadier and light infantry companies of the forty-first regt. amounting to 200 effectives and two companies of militia, flanked by a host of Indians. The detachment sent to attack those consisted of all the men off duty belonging to the companies of Croghan and Bradford of the 17th regt. Langham Elliott's (late Graham's) and Waring's of the 19th, about eighty of major Alexander's volunteers, and a single company of Kentucky militia under captain Seby, amounting in the whole to not more than 340. Yet the event of the action was not a moment doubtful, and had not the British troops been covered in their retreat by their allies, the whole of them would have been taken.

It is not possible for troops to behave better than ours did throughout—all the officers exerted themselves to execute my orders, and the enemy who had a full view of our operations from the opposite shore, declared that they had never seen so much work performed in so short a time.

To all the commanders of corps I feel particular obligations. These were colonel Miller of the 19th infantry, col. Mills of the Ohio militia, major Stoddard of the artillery, and major Bull of the dragoons, and major Johnson of the Kentucky militia. Capt. Gratiot of the engineers having been for a long time much indisposed, the task of fortifying this post devolved on capt Wood. It could not have been placed in better hands. Permit me to recommend him to the President, and to assure you that any mark of his approbation bestowed on capt. Wood, would be highly gratifying to the whole of the troops who witnessed his arduous exertions.

From major Hukill, acting inspector general my aide de camp major Graham, Lieut. O'Fallon, who has done the duty of assistant adjutant general in the absence of Major Adams, and my volunteer aide de camp John Johnston, Esq. I received the most useful assistance.

I have the honor to enclose you a list of the killed and wounded during the siege and in the two sorties, those of the latter were much greater than I had at first expected.

Want of sleep and exposure to the continued rains which have fallen almost every day for some time past, renders me incapable of mentioning many interesting particulars; amongst others a most extraordinary proposition of gen. Proctor's on the subject of the Indians within our boundary—this shall form the subject of a communication to be made to-morrow or next day, and for which I will provide a safer conveyance than that which carries this. All the prisoners and deserters agree in saying that the information given to major Stoddard by Ryland, of the British having launched a sloop of war this spring is incorrect, and the most of them say that the one which is now building will not be launched for many weeks.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect,
 your humble servant,
 WM. HENRY HARRISON.

Hon. John Armstrong, Secy of War
 P. S.—Capt. Price of the regt. light artiller, and the 20 regulars prisoners with gen. Proctor, were taken on the N. W. side of the river, with the Kentucky militia. We had no prisoners taken on this side during the siege.

Copy of a dispatch from Major General WILLIAM H. HARRISON, to the Secretary at War, dated,
 Head Quarters, Lower Sandusky,
 May 13th 1813.

SIR—Having ascertained that the enemy (Indians as well as British) had entirely abandoned the neighborhood of the Rapids, I left the command of Camp Meigs with Gen. Clay and came to the Rapids. It is with the greatest satisfaction that I inform you, sir, that I have every reason to believe, that the loss of the Kentucky troops killed on the north side of the river does not exceed fifty. On the 10th and 11th inst. I caused the ground which was the scene of the action and its environs to be carefully examined, and after the most diligent search 45 bodies only of our men were discovered—amongst them was the leader of the detachment, col. Dudley. I have strong reason to believe that a considerable number of the Kentuckians effected their retreat up the river to Fort Winchester. General Proctor did not furnish me with a return of the prisoners in his possession, although repeatedly promised. His retreat was as precipitate as it could properly be, leaving a number of cannon ball, a new elegant sling-carriage for cannon, and other valuable articles. The night before his de-

parture two persons that were employed in the British Gun Boats (Americans by birth) deserted to us. The information they gave me was very interesting; they say that the Indians, of which there were from 1600 to 2000, left the British the day before their departure in a high state of dissatisfaction, from the great loss which they had sustained in the several engagements of the 5th, and the failure of the British in accomplishing their promise of taking the post at the Rapids. From the account given by these men, my opinion is confirmed of the great superiority of the enemy which were defeated by our troops in the two sallies made on the 5th inst. That led by Colonel Miller did not exceed 350 men, and it is very certain that they defeated 200 British Regulars, 150 militia, and 4 or 500 Indians. That American Regulars (although they were recruits) and such men as compose the Pittsburgh, Penn. and Petersburg, Va. Volunteers, should behave well, is not to be wondered at—but that a company of militia should maintain its ground against four times its numbers, as did Capt. Seby's of the Kentucky, is truly astonishing. These brave fellows were at length however entirely surrounded by Indians, and would have been entirely cut off, but for the gallantry of Lt. Gwynne of the 16th Regiment, who with part of Captain Elliott's company, charged the enemy and released the Kentuckians. I enclose you a list of the killed and wounded during the whole siege. It is considerably larger than I had supposed it would be when I last wrote to you—but it is satisfactory to know that they did not bleed uselessly—but in the course of successful exertions. The return does not embrace those who fell on the N. W. side of the Miami.

You will also receive therewith a monthly return of the troops at Camp Meigs for the last month; the communication with the other posts being cut off, the returns were not received. A copy of Gen. Clay's report to me of the manner of his executing my order for the attack on the enemy's batteries, is likewise forwarded, by which it will be seen that my intentions were perfectly understood, and the great facility with which they might have been executed is apparent to every individual who witnessed the scene. Indeed the cannon might have been spiked, the carriages cut to pieces, the magazine destroyed and the retreat effected to the boats without the loss of a man, as none were killed in taking the batteries, so complete was the surprize.

An extensive open plain intervenes between the river and the hill upon which the batteries of the enemy were placed; this plain was raked by four of our eighteen pounders, a twelve and a six. The enemy, even before their guns were spiked, could not have bro't one to bear upon it. So perfectly secured was their retreat that the 150 men who came off effected it without loss and brought off some of the wounded, one of them upon the backs of his comrades. The Indians followed them to the woods, but dared not enter into the plain.

I am unable to form a correct estimate of the enemy's force. The prisoners varied much in their accounts; those who made them least, stated the regulars at 550 and militia at 800; but the numbers of Indians were beyond comparison greater than have ever been bro't into the field before; numbers arrived after the siege commenced. I have caused their camps on the south-east side of the river to be particularly examined, and the general opinion is, that there could not have been fewer on that side than 1000 or 1200; they were indeed the efficient force of the enemy.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favors of the 14th, 18th and 28th ult. and 4th inst.

I am sorry to inform you that Major Stoddard died the night before I left the Rapids, of a lock-jaw, produced by a slight wound from a fragment of a shell which struck him on the thigh. Several have died in this way from their great and unavoidable exposure to the cold; but perhaps there never where so many instances of desperate wounds being likely to do well.

The gallant captain Bradford will recover. I shall go from here to Upper Sandusky, and shall take my station at Delaware or Franklinton until the troops are assembled. General Clay, who commands at the Rapids is a man of capacity and entirely to be relied on.

I have the honor to be with great respect, Sir,
 your humble servant,
 WM. HENRY HARRISON.

The hon. JOHN ARMSTRONG,
 Secretary at War.

RETURN
 Of the killed and wounded in the siege of Camp Meigs, and the several sorties of the 5th inst.

U. S. Artillery, 1 killed.	
U. S. Infan. 39 killed, 90 wounded, aggre. 129	
U. S. Drags 2 do. 17 do. do. 20	
Kent. Milit. 30 do. 42 do. total 72	
Ohio Milit 3 do. 8 do. do. 11	
13 mo. Vol. 2 do. 29 do. do. 31	
Detachm. of Infan. } 3 do. 3 do. do. 6	
of the U. S.	

Tot. killed 81 tot. wd 189 tot. kill. and wound. 269

REMARKS.
 Majors Stoddard and Hukill—the former died of his wounds, the latter slightly wounded.

Sixty-four of the above were killed in the sorties, and one hundred and twenty-four wounded: the balance, eighty-one, killed and wounded within the fortified camp.

J. O. FALLON,
 Acting Ass. Adj. General.

Copy of a letter from Gen. Clay to General Harrison.
 Camp at Fort Meigs, May 1813.

SIR—On the 5th inst. about 8 o'clock A. M. descending the Miami of the Lake about midway the Rapids, with 1200 of the Kentucky troops in 18 flat bottomed boats, I was met by Captain Hamilton and a subaltern, who delivered me (as he said) the orders of Major Gen. Harrison to the following effect.
 "You must detach about 300 men from your

brigade, who will land at a point I will show about one or one and a half miles above the Fort, and I will conduct them to the British batteries on the left bank of the river. They must take possession of the enemy's cannon, spike them, cut down the carriages, and return to their boats."

Observing that the British force at their large batteries was inconsiderable, but that their main force was at the old garrison about 1 1/2 miles below on the same side of the river; that the Indian forces were chiefly on the right bank of the river: "The balance of the men under your command must land on the right bank opposite the first landing, and will fight their way through the Indians to the Fort," observing that the route thus to be taken would be shown by a subaltern officer there, in company with Captain Hamilton, who would land the Perogue at the point on the right bank, at which the boats would land.

The order of descending the river in boats was the same as the order of march in line of battle in solid column, each officer taking position according to his rank. Col Dudley, the eldest colonel, led the van, and in this order the river had been descended. As soon as Capt. Hamilton had delivered these orders, being in the thirteenth boat from the front, I directed him to proceed immediately to Col. Dudley and order him to take the men in the 12 front boats, and execute Gen. Harrison's orders on the left bank of the river; and post his (Capt. Hamilton's) subaltern on the right bank to conduct myself with the men in the six rear boats to the Fort. I ordered the 5 boats in the rear to fall in a line and follow me. High winds and the rapidity of the current drove four of the rear boats ashore in the attempt to follow on according to order, where they remained a short time, sufficient however to detain them half or 3 quarters of a mile in the rear. To land according to order I kept close along the right bank until opposite Col. Dudley's landing. There I found no guide left to conduct me to the Fort as Capt. Hamilton had promised. I then made an attempt to cross the river and join Col. Dudley, but from the rapid current on the falls I was unable to land on the point with him. Being nearly half way across the river, and the waves running too high to risk the boat then driving down the current sidewise—veered about the boat and rowed about the best way we could to save our boat. My attempt to cross the river to Col. Dudley occasioned all the boats (I presume in the rear of me) and which were then out of hailing distance to cross over and land with Col. Dudley. Having been defeated in a landing on the left, we then endeavored to effect one on the right, even without a guide: But before a landing could be effected we received a brisk fire from the enemy on shore, which was returned and kept up on both sides. And I was in this unavoidable situation compelled to make to Fort Meigs with no other force than about 50 men on board (the other boats being still in the rear) and to receive the enemy's fire until we arrived under the protection of the fort. Col. Boswell's command (except the men in my boat) having landed to join col. Dudley, were, as I have been informed, ordered by captain Hamilton immediately to embark and land on the right hand shore about a mile above the fort and prepare to fight his way through to the garrison.

The colonel embarked, landed as he conceived at the proper point, pursuant to captain Hamilton's order, and was forming his men in order of battle, when he was met by captain Shaw, and ordered to march into the garrison at open order, the safest route.

When my own boat landed we were met by two men who took charge of the boat as we understood to bring her under the protection of the fort batteries. Believing our baggage to be thus made safe we forbid our servants to carry any portion of it, but loaded them with cannon ball which they bore on the fort. Our baggage was however taken by the Indians in a very short time after we left the boat. Upon receiving the orders of captain Hamilton, I asked if he had brought spikes to spike the enemy's cannon. To which he replied he had plenty.

I am, sir, respectfully,
 Your obedient servant,
 GREEN CLAY, Brig. Gen.
 His Excellency Major Gen. HARRISON.

P. S. Captain Hamilton on delivering the orders of General Harrison observed that the object of landing and marching a portion of the troops on the right bank was to draw the attention of the Indians, and by thus engaging them afford an opportunity to the Garrison to make a sally and by a circuitous route surprize and carry the batteries and cannon of the enemy below the fort on the right bank.

A true copy,
 G. CROGHAN, A. D. C.

Domestic.

RHODE-ISLAND.
 The general election took place in Rhode Island last month. The Legislature met at Newport on the 5th inst. when William Jones was declared duly elected Governor and Simeon Martin Lt. Governor of the state, by large majorities. These gentlemen, as well as a majority of the Legislature of that state, are of federal politics.

CONNECTICUT.

This inflexibly upright and patriotic state has on every occasion to the fullest extent performed her duty. The late election has again witnessed the complete triumph of constitutional principles over the fatal doctrines prevailing in the councils of our country. The democrats, indeed, rose in their utmost strength; they organized their schemes in secret; held back their efforts to the last moment; and then with all their numbers, made a final and desperate struggle. But they have failed; and will, in all probability, not again attempt their impracticable purposes.—The following statement of the votes, with extracts from the governor's speech, we have taken from a democratic paper.

CONNECTICUT ELECTION.
 The result of the recent election in the state of

Connecticut for Governor, Lieut. Governor, &c. having been declared, it appears that John Cotton Smyth is chosen Governor, and that there was no choice of Lieut. Governor by the people.

The following statement of the votes given in at this general election, exhibits a great Democratic increase in this invariable and unchangeable federal state:

FOR GOVERNOR.	
John C. Smith, Fed.	11,890
Elijah Boardman, Rep.	7,201
Scattering	1,023
FOR LIEUT. GOVERNOR.	
Isaac Spencer 2d, Rep.	5,100
Conansey Goodrich, Fed.	4,198
Galvin Goodard, do.	2,509
Scattering	4,573

The Legislature, now in session, chose Chauncey Goodrich Lieut. Governor by an almost unanimous vote.

His excellency Gov. SMITH delivered a Speech from which the following is extracted:
 Gentlemen of the Council,
 Mr. Speaker, and
 Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,

The events of the war in which we are engaged, admonish us that the States situated on the maritime frontier will be left during the present campaign to provide principally for their own defence. Hence an important duty is devolved upon their several legislatures; one which was probably not contemplated at the adoption of the national constitution; but which seems to have arisen necessarily from the new and extraordinary condition in which we are placed. This state, bounded extensively on navigable waters, presents to an enemy many inviting objects of attack. The inhabitants living at the most exposed points, in the absence of other means, look with confidence to their State Government for protection. The powers vested for this purpose in the Commander in Chief, by the resolution heretofore passed, have been executed as far as circumstances would permit; but to ally the apprehensions of our citizens in that portion of the state, more effectual measures will be found necessary. A system of defence, therefore, within the means of our resources and combining efficiency with economy, is earnestly recommended to your early and serious consideration. The sum of money necessary to appropriate to this object, we have a right to expect will ultimately be refunded by the General government, it being a essential purpose of the confederacy that expenses incurred in a common cause should be defrayed from a common treasury. But whatever may be the prospect of eventual remuneration, I am persuaded you will leave no effort untried to protect the lives and fortunes of your fellow citizens.

While the adversary is multiplying his means of annoyance, it becomes an interesting inquiry from whence our succours are to be obtained. The navy of the United States, although its achievements have astonished the world, is essentially inadequate to the protection of the whole American coast. The regular army is employed in distant enterprises. The militia, according to the decision of our Executive, sanctioned by the legislature and I may add by the people, cannot be drawn out merely to wait at posts and in garrisons for the possible advance of an enemy. In this state of things we are no doubt prepared to place a proper estimate upon these measures of precaution which were adopted at the last and preceding sessions of the General Assembly.

I have received from the Governor of North Carolina, a copy of the resolution lately adopted by the legislature of that State, proposing an amendment of the Constitution of the U. States in relation to the choice of electors of President and Vice President, and of Representatives in Congress. I comply with the request of his Excellency in laying the resolution before you. But at the same time I feel it my duty, gentlemen, to remind you that the General Assembly has hitherto viewed this mode of originating amendments of the constitution, as not recognized in that instrument, and on that ground, acceptably, this proposition may have been in principle, they have uniformly I believe refused their concurrence.

Amidst the serious embarrassments occasioned by the war and the antecedent restrictions upon commerce, we have the consolation to witness remarkable progress in manufactures and the cultivation of the useful arts. The increase of domestic fabrics and the extensive manufacturing establishments already in operation furnish a slight evidence that the industry and enterprise of our citizens, however restrained, are not entirely subdued. As the relations of master and apprentice are thus greatly multiplied, it must be considered, should time permit, what further provision is necessary to enforce their respective duties. Regulations especially which shall secure the ordinary means of education to the growing numbers of the young of both sexes employed in the several factories, would raise a powerful objection to these establishments, and would evidently comport with that paternal solicitude which our public councils, in all portions of our history, have manifested for the intellectual and moral culture of the rising generation.

The freemen having failed to elect a Lieutenant Governor, you will doubtless proceed at an early day in the session to appoint a suitable person to that office.

I will not detain you, gentlemen, by a prolix allusion to the various matters which may properly employ your deliberations. A detailed statement of the funds and resources of the State will, as usual, be submitted by the proper officers, and will demonstrate I trust that your fiscal concerns are managed with ability and success. The prosperous condition of our finances, the steady operation of the laws and the internal tranquility which has so happily prevailed are sufficient fervent gratitude to Heaven, in the midst of the severe national judgments with which we are visited. Assembled to direct the affairs of the commonwealth at this momentous period, you will not fail to be impressed with the deep importance of united councils and decided measures. I perform with fidelity our federal engagements, and to maintain resolutely the indisputable rights of this government against every aggressor, with a humble reliance on the protection of the VIRGIN PROVINCE, are high and solemn duties.