

Battle of Fort Erie.

Copies of letters from Brigadier Gen. Gaines to the Secretary of War, dated

II. Q. Fort Erie, U. C.
August 29, 1814.

SIR,

Loss of sleep and constant exposure to the weather in its various changes, gave me some days ago a violent cold, which has put it out of my power to do any thing more than the state of the service here rendered absolutely indispensable. Hence my apology for delaying until this day my report of the battle of the 15th instant.

General Drummond is quietly engaged in collecting his reinforcements. His camp appears to be fortified. I attempted to look at it a few days past, and it cost me a few young officers, Lt. Yates, of the 4th Rifle regiment, killed; and Lt. Keasley, of that excellent corps, with Lt. Childs of the 9th, wounded; with the loss of some 2 or 3 privates killed and 5 or 6 wounded. The loss of the enemy I was unable to ascertain. He would not leave his defences, and I did not think proper to leave mine at all exposed. Several deserters say that the 6th and 82d regiments* arrived last night. If this be true their strength is about the same as it was before the battle of the 15th. Their Col. Scott is dead; about twenty deserters from De Watteville regiment, and some few from other corps concur in the report, that their loss in killed, wounded and missing on the 15th, was upwards of a thousand.

Your obedient servant,

E. P. GAINES.

Brigadier Gen. Commanding.
General Armstrong,
Secretary at War.

Head-Quarters, Left Wing,
2d Division, Fort Erie, U. C. Aug. 29, 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to communicate for the information of the Department of War, the particulars of the battle fought at this place on the 15th instant, between the left wing of the 2d division of the Northern Army, under my command, and the British forces in the Peninsula of Upper Canada, commanded by Lieutenant-General Drummond, which terminated in a signal victory in favour of the United States' arms.

Our position on the margin of the Lake at the entrance of the Niagara River, being nearly a horizontal plain twelve to fifteen feet above the surface of the water, possessing few natural advantages, had been strengthened in front by temporary parapet breastworks, entrenchments and abattis, with two batteries and six field pieces. The small unfinished Fort, Erie, with 24 18 and 12 pounders, forms the North East, and the Douglass Battery, with a 11 and 6 pounder near the edge of the Lake, the South-East angle of our right. The left is defended by a redoubt battery with six field pieces just thrown up on a small ridge. Our rear was left open to the Lake, bordered by a rocky shore of easy ascent. The battery on the left was defended by Capt. Towsen; Fort Erie by Capt. Williams, with Major Trimble's command of the 19th infantry; the batteries on the front by Captains Biddle and Fanning; the whole of the artillery commanded by Major Hindman parts of the 11th, 9th, and 22d infantry (of the late veteran brigade of Major Gen. Scott,) were posted on the right under the command of Lieut. Col. Aspinwall, Gen. Ripley's brigade, consisting of the 21st, and 23d, defended the left. Gen. Porter's brigade of New-York and Pennsylvania Volunteers, with our distinguished riflemen, occupied the centre.

I have heretofore omitted stating to you, that during the 13th and 14th the enemy had kept up a brisk cannonade, which was sharply returned from our batteries, without any considerable loss on our part. At 6 P. M. one of their shells lodged in a magazine in Fort Erie which was fortunately almost empty. It blew up with an explosion more awful in appearance than injurious in its effects, as it did not disable a man or derange a gun. It occasioned but a momentary cessation of the thunders of the artillery on both sides; it was followed by a loud and joyous shout by the British army, which was instantly returned on our part, and Capt. Williams amidst the smoke of the explosion renewed the contest by an animated roar of his heavy canon.

From the supposed loss of our ammunition, and the consequent depression such an event was likely to produce upon the minds of our men, I felt persuaded that this explosion would lead the enemy to assault, and made my ar-

our batteries and lines were soon lighted by a most brilliant fire of cannon and musketry; it announced the approach of the centre and left columns of the enemy, under Colonels Drummond and Scott; the latter was received by the veteran 9th, under the command of Capt. Foster, and Captains Boughton and Harding's companies of New-York and Pennsylvania volunteers, aided by a 6 pounder judiciously posted by Major M'Ken, chief engineer, who was most active and useful at this point; they were repulsed. That of the centre led by Col. Drummond, was not long kept in check; approached at once every assailable point of the Fort, and with scaling ladders ascended the parapet, but was repulsed with dreadful carnage. The assault was twice repeated, and as often checked, but the enemy having moved round to the south covered by darkness, added to the heavy cloud of smoke which had rolled from our cannon and musketry, enveloping surrounding objects, repeated the charge, re-ascended the ladders, their pikes, bayonets, and spears, fell upon our gallant artillerists. The gallant spirits of our favorite Captain Williams and Lieutenant McDonough and Watmough, with their brave men were overcome. The two former, and several of their men, received deadly wounds. Our bastion was lost. Lieutenant McDonough, being severely wounded, demanded quarters. It was refused by Colonel Drummond. The Lieutenant then seized a handspike, and nobly defended himself until he was shot down with a pistol by the monster who had refused him quarters, who often reiterated to order—"Give the damned Yankees no quarters." This officer, whose bravery, if it had been seasoned with virtue, would have entitled him to the admiration of every soldier—this hardened murderer soon met his fate. He was shot through the breast by one of the regt while repeating the order "to give no quarters."

The battle now raged with increased fury on the right, but on the left the enemy was repulsed and put to flight. These and from the centre I ordered reinforcements. They were promptly sent by Brig. Gen. Ripley and Brig. Gen. Porter. Capt. Fanning, of the corps of artillery, kept up a spirited and destructive fire with his field pieces on the enemy attempting to approach the Fort. Major Hindman's gallant efforts, aided by Major Trimble, having failed to drive the enemy from the bastion, with the remaining artillerists and infantry in the Fort, Capt. Birdsall, of the 4th rifle regiment, with a detachment of riflemen, gallantly rushed in through the gateway to their assistance, and with some infantry charged the enemy; but was repulsed, and the Captain severely wounded. A detachment from the 11th 19th and 22d infantry under Captain Foster of the 11th, were introduced over the interior bastion for the purpose of charging the enemy. Major Hall, Assistant Inspector General, very handsomely tendered his services to lead the charge. The charge was gallantly made by Captain Foster and Major Hall, but owing to the narrowness of the passage up to the bastion admitting only two or three men abreast it failed. It was often repeated and as often checked. The enemy's force in the bastion was however, much cut to pieces and diminished by our artillery and small arms. At this moment every operation was arrested by the explosion of some cartridges deposited in the end of the stone building adjoining the contested bastion. The explosion was tremendous—it was decisive: the bastion was restored. At this moment Captain Biddle was ordered to cause a field piece to be posted so as to enfilade the exterior plain, and salient glacis. The captain though not recoveryed from a severe contusion in the shoulder, received from one of the enemy's shells promptily took his position and served his field piece with vivacity and effect. Captain Fanning's battery likewise played upon them at this time with great effect. The enemy were in a few moments entirely defeated, taken or put to flight, leaving on the field 221 killed, 174 wounded, & 186 prisoners, including 14 officers killed and 7 wounded and prisoners. A large portion are so severely wounded, that they cannot survive, the slightly wounded it is presumed were carried off.

To Brig. Gen. Ripley much credit is due for the judicious disposition of the left wing previous to the action, and for the steady disciplined courage manifested by him and his immediate command, and for the promptness with which he complied with my orders for reinforcement during the action. Brig. Gen. Porter, commanding the New-York and Pennsylvania Volunteers, manifested a degree of vigilance and judgment in his preparatory arrangement, as well as military skill and courage in the action, which proves him to be worthy the confidence of his country and the brave Volunteers who fought under him. Of the Volunteers, captains Boughton and Harding with their

good conduct. Lieut. Zantzinger and Lieut. Chiles, is spoken of in high terms by Major Hindman and Capt. Towsen, as also that of Sergeant-Major Denbow. Captain Biddle & Fanning, on the centre and right of their entrenchments, threw their shot to the right, left and front, and annoyed the Indians and light troops of the enemy approaching from the woods. Lieut. Fontaine, in his zeal to meet the enemy, was unfortunately wounded and made prisoner. Lieutenant Bird was active and useful, and in fact every individual of the corps did their duty.

The detachment of Scott's gallant brigade, consisting of parts of the 9th 11th and 22d infantry, did its duty in a manner worthy the high reputation the brigade had acquired at Chippewa and at the falls of the Niagara. The 9th under the command of Capt. Edmund Foster, was actively engaged against the left of the enemy, & with the aid of Lieut. Douglass' corps of bombardiers, commanding the water battery, and of that of the Volunteers, under Captains Boughton and Harding, effected their repulse. The good conduct of Lieuts. Childs, Cushman and Foot, and Ensign Blake, deserves commendation.

The officers killed are, Captain Williams & Lieutenant McDonough, of the artillery; wounded, Lieut. Watmough, of the artillery; Ensign Diana 19th; Lieut. Bushnell 21st; Lieut. Brown and Beekman, 23d; and Capt. Birdsall, 4th rifle regt, all severely.

Lieut. Fontaine, of the artillery, who was taken prisoner, writes from the British camp, that he fortunately fell into the hands of the Indians, who, after taking his money, treated him kindly. It would seem, then that these savages had not joined in the resolution to give no quarters.

To Major Jones, assist. adj. gen. and major Hall, assist. insp. gen.; Capt. Harris of the dev-gons, vol. aid-de-camp; Lieut. Bolton aid-de-camp, much credit is due for their constant vigilance and strict attention to every duty previous to the action and the steady courage, zeal and activity which they manifested during the action.

The surgeons, doctors Fuller 23d, Rowbridge 21st with their mates doctors Gale of the 23d & Everett and Allen of the 21st, deserve the warmest approbation for their indefatigable exertions and humane attention to the wounded of our army, as well as to the wounded who fell into their hands.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your very obedient servant,

E. P. GAINES.

Brig. Gen. Commanding.

Hon. John Armstrong, Secretary of War.

Killed, wounded and missing during the bombardment.

Killed, privates,	9	9
Severely wounded, 1 officer 16 privs.	17	
Slightly. Ditto,	3 do. 14 do.	17

43

During the Action.

Killed 2 officers 15 privates,	17
Dangerously wounded 3 privates,	3
Severely wounded 5 officers 22 a. & p. 27	
Wounded slightly, 26 privates,	26

Missing 1 officer, 10 privates,

11

84

Return of the killed, wounded and prisoners taken at the battle of Erie U. C. August 30, 1814.

Killed left on the field 22; wounded left on the field 17; prisoners 186—grand total 58.

Two hundred supposed to be killed on the left flank near Snake Hill (in the water) and permitted to float down the Niagara. The number on the right flank near the woods could not be ascertained.

Given at the Inspector General Office, Fort Erie, U. C.

NATHL. N. HALL,

Assistant Inspector General.

Brig. Gen. E. P. Gaines, &c.

Lieutenant-General Drummond's arrangement and order for attack.

[Secret.]

Head-Quarters, Camp before Erie,
14 h August, 1814.

ARRANGEMENT.

Right column—Lieutenant colonel Fischer,

King's Regiment.

(V. lancers) De Watteville's.

Light companies, 89th and 100th regiments.

Detachments Royal artillery—1 officer, 12 men

and a rocketeer, with a couple of 12 pound

rockets.

Capt. Eustace's picket of cavalry; capt. Powell,

deputy assistant-quarter-master-general, will

conduct this column, which is to attack the left

of the enemy's position. Major Court.

Centre column—Lieutenant colonel Drummond

The Lieut. General most strongly recommends the use of the bayonet.

The enemy's force does not exceed 1500 men, and those are represented as much divided.

The ground on which the columns of an army to be formed will be posted on; and the order for their advance will be given by the Lieut. General commanding.

J. H. M. R. V. H. D. A. C.

Parole "S. es." Counter-sign "Twenty,
Copy of a letter from Commodore Barney to
Secretary of the Navy, dated

FARM, 2d Elk-Ridge, Aug. 29, 1814.

SIR—This is the first moment I have had in my power to make a report of the proceedings of the forces under my command since I last had the honour of seeing you on Tuesday, the 23d inst. at the Camp at the "Old Fields." On the afternoon of that day we were informed that the enemy were advancing upon us. Our army was put into order of battle and our positions taken; my forces were on the right, flanked by two battalions of the 36th and 38th regts. where we remained some hours. The enemy did not, however, make his appearance. A little before sunset Gen. Winder came to me and recommended that the heavy artillery should be withdrawn with the exception of one 12-pdr to cover the retreat. We took up the line of march, and in the night entered Washington by the Eastern Branch Bridge. I marched my men, &c. to the Marine barracks, and took up quarters for the night. About 2 o'clock Gen. Winder came to my quarters, and we made some arrangements. In the morning I received a note from Gen. Winder, and waited upon him. He requested me to take command and place my artillery to defend the pass to the bridge on the Eastern Branch as the enemy was approaching the city in that direction. I immediately put my guns in position, leaving the marines and the rest of my men at the barracks, to wait further orders. I was in this situation when I had the honor to meet with the President and Heads of Department when it was determined I should draw a few guns and men, and proceed towards Bladensburg which was immediately put into execution. On our way I was informed the enemy was within a mile of Bladensburg: we hurried on, the day was very hot, and my men much fatigued from severe marches we had experienced the preceding days. I preceded the men, and when arrived at the line which separates the District from Maryland, the battle began. I sent a few men back to hasten on my men—they came in a trot. We took our position on the ridge, put the pieces in battery, posted the marines under Capt. Miller, and flanking men who were to act as infantry under their own officers on my right, to support the pieces, and wait the approach of the enemy. During this period the engagement continued—the enemy advancing and our army retreating before them apparently in much disorder. At length the enemy made his appearance on the main road in force and in front of my battery, and on seeing us made a hasty retreat. I immediately put our fire; in a few minutes the enemy again advanced, when I ordered an 18 pounder to be fired, which completely cleared the road shortly after, a second and third attempt was made by the enemy to come forward, but all who made the attempt were destroyed. The enemy then crossed over into an open field and attempted to flank our right. He was here met by three 12-pdr's, the marines under Capt. Miller, and men acting as infantry, and again was totally driven up. By this time not a vestige of the American army remained except a body of five or six hundred posted on a height on my right from whom I expected much support from their fine situation.

I preceeded the men, and when arrived at the line which separates the District from Maryland, the battle began. I sent a few men back to hasten on my men—they came in a trot. We took our position on the ridge, put the pieces in battery, posted the marines under Capt. Miller, and flanking men who were to act as infantry under their own officers on my right, to support the pieces, and wait the approach of the enemy. During this period the engagement continued—the enemy advancing and our army retreating before them apparently in much disorder. At length the enemy made his appearance on the main road in force and in front of my battery, and on seeing us made a hasty retreat. I immediately put our fire; in a few minutes the enemy again advanced, when I ordered an 18 pounder to be fired, which completely cleared the road shortly after, a second and third attempt was made by the enemy to come forward, but all who made the attempt were destroyed. The enemy then crossed over into an open field and attempted to flank our right. He was here met by three 12-pdr's, the marines under Capt. Miller, and men acting as infantry, and again was totally driven up. By this time not a vestige of the American army remained except a body of five or six hundred posted on a height on my right from whom I expected much support from their fine situation. The enemy from this period never appeared in front of us. He however pushed forward his sharpshooters, one of whom shot a bullet under me, which fell dead between two of my guns. The enemy who had been kept in check by our fire for nearly a hour now began to outflank us on the right. Our gunners turned that way; he pushed up the hill above or 300 men towards the corps of Americans mentioned as above described, who to my great mortification made no resistance, giving a fire and retreating.

In this situation we had the whole army of the enemy to contend with; our ammunition expended, and unfortunately the drivers of our ammunition wagons had gone off in the general panic. At this time I received a severe wound in my thigh. Capt. Miller was wounded, Sailing Master Warner killed, Acting Sailing Master Martin killed, and Sailing Master Martin wounded, but to the honor of my officers and men, fast as their companions and messmates fell

corps concurred in the report, killed, wounded and missing on the 15th, was upwards of a thousand.

Your obedient servant,

E. P. GAINES.

Brigadier Gen. Commanding.

General Armstrong,
Secretary at War.

Head-Quarters, Left Wing,
2d Division, Fort Erie, U. C. Aug. — 1814.

SIR—I have the honor to communicate for the information of the Department of War, the particulars of the battle fought at this place on the 15th instant, between the left wing of the 2d division of the Northern Army, under my command, and the British forces in the Peninsula of Upper Canada, commanded by Lieutenant General Drummond, which terminated in a signal victory in favor of the United States' arms.

Our position on the margin of the Lake at the entrance of the Niagara River, being nearly a horizontal plain twelve to fifteen feet above the surface of the water, possessing few natural advantages, had been strengthened in front by temporary parapet breastworks, entrenchments and abattis, with two batteries and six field pieces. The small unfinished Fort, Erie, with 24 18 and 12 pounders, forms the North-East, and the Douglass Battery, with a 11 and 6 pounder near the edge of the Lake, the South-East angle of our right. The left is defended by a redoubt battery with six field pieces just thrown up on a small ridge. Our rear was left open to the Lake, bordered by a rocky shore of easy ascent. The battery on the left was defended by Capt. Towson; Fort Erie by Capt. Williams, with Major Trimble's command of the 19th infantry; the batteries on the front by Captains Biddle and Fanning, the whole of the artillery commanded by Major Hindman parts of the 11th, 9th, and 22d infantry (of the late veteran brigade of Major Gen. Scott,) were posted on the right under the command of Lieut. Col. Aspinwall. Gen. Ripley's brigade, consisting of the 21st, and 23d, defended the left. Gen. Foster's brigade of New-York and Pennsylvania Volunteers, with our distinguished riflemen, occupied the centre.

I have heretofore omitted stating to you, that during the 13th and 14th the enemy had kept up a brisk cannonade, which was sharply returned from our batteries, without any considerable loss on our part. A. 6. P. M. one of their shells lodged in a magazine in Fort Erie which was fortunately almost empty. It blew up with an explosion more awful in appearance than injurious in its effects, as it did not disable a man or derange a gun. It occasioned but a momentary cessation of the thunders of the artillery on both sides; it was followed by a loud and joyous shout by the British army, which was instantly returned on our part, and Capt. Williams amidst the smoke of the explosion renewed the contest by an animated roar of his heavy canon.

From the supposed loss of our ammunition, and the consequent depression such an event was likely to produce upon the minds of our men, I felt persuaded that this explosion would lead the enemy to assault, and made my arrangements accordingly. The annexed paper No. 1, is a copy of Lieut. Gen. Drummond's order and plan of attack.

The night was dark, and the early part of it training, but the faithful sentinel slept not; one third of the troops were up at their posts. At half past 2 o'clock, the right column of the enemy approached, and though enveloped in darkness, black as his designs and principles, was distinctly heard on our left and promptly marked by our musketry under Major Wood, and cannon under Capt. Towson. Being mounted at the moment, I repaired to the point of attack where the sheet of fire rolling from Towson's battery and the musketry of the left wing of the 21st infantry under Major Wood, enabled me to see the enemy's column of about 1500 men approaching on that point; his advance was not checked until it had approached within ten feet of our infantry. A line of loose brush representing an *abatis* only intervened; a column of the enemy attempted to pass round the *abatis* thro' the water where it was nearly *breast deep*. Apprehending that this point would be carried, I ordered a detachment of riflemen and infantry to its support; but, having met with the gallant commander Major Wood, was assured by him that he could defend his position, without reinforcements. At this moment the enemy were repulsed, but instantly renewed the charge, and were again repulsed. My attention was now called to the right, where

whose bravery, if it had been seasoned with virtue, would have entitled him to the admiration of every soldier—this hardened murderer soon met his fate. He was shot through the breast by the 1st regt. while repeating the order "to give no quarter."

The battle now raged with increased fury on the right, but on the left the enemy was repulsed and put to flight. Thence and from the centre I ordered reinforcements. They were promptly sent by Brig. Gen. Ripley and Brig. Gen. Porter. Capt. Fanning, of the corps of artillery, kept up a spirited and destructive fire with his field pieces on the enemy attempting to approach the Fort. Major Hindman's gallant efforts, aided by Major Trimble, having failed to drive the enemy from the bastion, with the remaining artillerists and infantry in the Fort, Capt. Birdsall, of the 4th rifle regiment, with a detachment of riflemen, gallantly rushed in through the gateway to their assistance, and with some infantry charged the enemy; but was repulsed, and the Captain severely wounded. A detachment from the 11th, 19th and 22d infantry, under Captain Foster of the 11th, were introduced over the interior bastion for the purpose of charging the enemy. Major Hall, Assistant Inspector General, very handsomely tendered his services to lead the charge. The charge was gallantly made by Captain Foster and Major Hall, but owing to the narrowness of the passage up to the bastion admitting only two or three men abreast it failed. It was often repeated and as often checked. The enemy's force in the bastion was, however, much cut to pieces and diminished by our artillery and small arms. At this moment every operation was arrested by the explosion of some cartridges deposited in the end of the stone building adjoining the contested bastion. The explosion was tremendous—it was decisive: the bastion was restored. At this moment Captain Biddle was ordered to cause a field piece to be posted so as to enfilade the exterior plain, and salient glacis. The captain though not recovered from a severe contusion in the shoulder, received from one of the enemy's shells promptly took his position, and served his field piece with vivacity and effect. Captain Fanning's battery likewise played upon them at this time with great effect. The enemy were in a few moments entirely defeated, taken or put to flight, leaving on the field 221 killed, 174 wounded, & 186 prisoners, including 14 officers killed and 7 wounded and prisoners. A large portion are so severely wounded that they cannot survive, the slightly wounded it is presumed were carried off.

To Brig. Gen. Ripley much credit is due for the judicious disposition of the left wing previous to the action, and for the steady disciplined courage manifested by him and his immediate command, and for the promptness with which he complied with my orders for reinforcement during the action. Brig. Gen. Porter, commanding the New-York and Pennsylvania Volunteers, manifested a degree of vigilance and judgment in his preparatory arrangement, as well as military skill and courage in the action, which proves him to be worthy the confidence of his country and the brave Volunteers who fought under him. Of the Volunteers, captains Broughton and Harding, with their detachments, posted on the right and attached to the line, commanded by Captain E. Foster of the Veteran 9th infantry, handsomely contributed to the repulse of the left column of the enemy under Col. Scott.

The judicious preparations and steady conduct of Lieut. Col. Aspinwall, commanding the first brigade merit approbation.

To Major M'Kee, Chief Engineer, the greatest credit is due for the excellent arrangement and skilful execution of his plans for fortifying and defending the right, and for his correct and seasonable suggestions to regain the bastion. Major Wood, of the Engineers, also greatly contributed to the previous measures of defence. He had accepted the command of a regiment of infantry (the 21st) for which he has often proved himself well qualified, but never so conspicuously as on this occasion.

Towson's battery emitted a constant sheet of fire. Wood's small arms lightened up the space; and repulsed five terrible charges made between the battery and the Lake. Brig. Gen. Ripley speaks in high terms of the officers and men engaged, particularly Captains Marston & Ropes; Lieuts. Biddle of the 15th, doing duty with the 21st and Hall; Ensigns Benn, Jones, Cummings and Thomas, of the 21st, and Keally and Green of the 19th.

Major Hindman, and the whole of the artillery under the command of that excellent officer, displayed a degree of gallantry and good conduct not to be surpassed. The particular situation of Captain Towson and the much lamented Captain Williams and Lieut. M'Donough, and that of Lieut. Watmough, as already described, with their respective commands, ren-

dered Indians, who, after taking his money, treated him kindly. It would seem, then, that these savages had not joined in the resolution to give no quarter.

To Major Jones, assist. adj. gen. and major Hall, assist. insp. gen.; Capt. Harris of the dragoons, vol. ad-de-camp; Lieut. Bolton ad-de-camp, much credit is due for their constant vigilance and strict attention to every duty previous to the action, and the steady courage, zeal and activity which they manifested during the action.

The surgeons, doctors Fuller 23d, Trowbridge 21st with their mates; doctors Gale of the 23d & Everett and Allen of the 21st, deserve the warmest approbation for their indefatigable exertions and humane attention to the wounded of our army, as well as to the wounded who fell into their hands.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your very obedient servant,

E. P. GAINES,

Brig. Gen. Commanding.

Hon. John Armstrong, Secretary of War.

Killed, wounded and missing during the bombardment.

Killed, privates,	9	9
Severely wounded, 1 officer 16 privates,	17	
Slightly Ditto,	3 do.	14 do.
		43

During the Action.

Killed 2 officers 15 privates,	17
Dangerously wounded 3 privates,	3
Severely wounded 5 officers 22 r. & F. 27	
Wounded slightly, 26 privates,	26
Missing 1 officer, 10 privates,	11
	84

Return of the killed, wounded and prisoners taken at the battle of Erie U. C. August 30, 1814.

Killed left on the field 22; wounded left on the field 17; prisoners 186—grand total 58.

Two hundred supposed to be killed on the left flank near Snake Hill (in the water) and permitted to float down the Niagara. The number on the right flank near the woods could not be ascertained.

Given at the Inspector General Office, Fort Erie, U. C.

NATH'L N. HALL,

Assistant Inspector General.

Brig. Gen. E. P. Gaines, etc.

Lieutenant-General Drummond's arrangement and order for attack.

[Secret.]

Head-Quarters, Camp before Erie,

14th August, 1814

ARRANGEMENT.

Right column—Lieutenant colonel Fischer, Kings Regiment.

(Volunteers) De Watteville's.

Light companies, 89th and 100th regiments. Detachments Royal artillery—1 officer, 12 men and a rocketeer, with a couple of 12 pound rockets.

Capt. Eustace's picket of cavalry; Capt. Powell, deputy assistant-quarter-master-general, will conduct this column, which is to attack the left of the enemy's position Major Court. Centre column—Lieutenant colonel Drummond. Flank companies, 41st regiment.

ditto 104th.

Royal Marines 50

Seamen 90

Detachments of Royal artillery, 1 sub and 12 men—Capt. Barney, 89th regiment will guide this column, which is to attack the forts.

Left column—Col. Scott, 103d regiment.

Capt. Elliott, deputy-quarter-master-general, will conduct this column, which will attack the right of the enemy's position towards the Lake, and endeavor to penetrate by the openings, between the forts and entrenchments, using the short ladders at the same time, to pass the entrenchment, which is reported to be defended only by the enemy's 9th regiment, 250 strong. The infantry pickets on Buck's Road, will be pushed on with the Indians, and attack the enemy's pike on that road. Lieut. Col. Nicoll, quarter-mas. er-general of militia, will conduct this column.

The rest of the troops, &c.

1st Battalion Royal.

Remainder of De Watteville's regiment, Glengary light infantry and incorporated militia will remain in reserve under Lieut. Col. Tucker, to be posted on the ground at present occupied by our pickets and covering parties.

Squadron of the 19th light dragoons, in the ravine, in the rear of the battery nearest to the advance, ready to receive charge of prisoners and conduct them to the rear.

The Lieutenant general will station himself at or near the battery where a port is to be made to him. Lieut. Col. Fischer, commanding the right column, will follow his instructions which he has received. Copies of which are commun-

Marine barracks, and took up quarters for the night. About 2 o'clock, Gen. Winder came to my quarters, and we made some arrangements. In the morning I received a note from Gen. Winder, and waited upon him. He requested me to command and place my artilleries to defend the passage of the bridge on the Eastern Branch as the enemy was approaching the city in that direction. I immediately put my guns in position, leaving the marines and the rest of my men at the barracks, to wait further orders. I was in this situation when I had the honor to meet with the President and Heads of Department when it was determined I should draw a few guns and men, and proceed towards Bladensburg, which was immediately put into execution on our way. I was informed the enemy was within a mile of Bladensburg: we hurried on, the day was very hot, and my men much fatigued from severe marches we had experienced the preceding days. I preceded the men, and when arrived at the line which separates the District of Maryland, the battle began. I sent a messenger back to hasten on my men—they came up in a roar. We took our position on the ground, put the pieces in battery, posted the marines under Capt. Miller, and footmen were to act as infantry under their own officers on my right, to support the pieces, and wait the approach of the enemy. During this period the engagement continued—the enemy advancing on our left, retreating before them apparently in much disorder. At length the enemy made an appearance on the main road in force and in front of my battery, and on seeing us made a hasty retreat, reserved our fire; in a few minutes the enemy advanced again, when I ordered an 18 pounder to be fired, which completely cleared the road shortly after, a second and third attempt was made by the enemy to come forward, but all who made the attempt were destroyed. The enemy then crossed over into an open field and attempted to flank our right. He was here met by three 12 pounders, the marines under Capt. Miller, and men acting as infantry, and again was totally cut up. By this time not a vestige of the American army remained except a body of five or six hundred posted on a height on my right from which I expected much support from their fire.

The enemy in this period never appeared in force in front of us. He however pushed forward his sharp shooters, one of whom shot a horse under me, which fell dead between two of my guns. The enemy who had been kept in check by our fire for nearly half an hour, now began to outflank us on the right. Our guns were turned that way; he pushed up the hill about or 300 men towards the corps of Americans positioned as above described, who to my great satisfaction made no resistance, giving a fire and retiring.

In this situation we had the whole army of the enemy to contend with; our ammunition expended, and unfortunately the drivers of our ammunition wagons had gone off in the general panic. At this time I received a severe wound in my thigh. Capt. Miller was wounded, Sailing Master Warner killed, Acting Sailing Master Martin killed, and Sailing Master Martin was disabled, but to the honor of my officers and men, fast as their companions and messmates fell by the guns, they were instantly replaced from among the rank and file, acting as infantry. Finding the enemy now completely in our rear and no means of defense, gave orders to my officers and men to retreat. Three of my officers assisted me to get off a short distance, but the great loss of blood occasioned such a weakness that I was compelled to lie down. I requested my officers to leave me, which they obliquely refused, but upon being ordered to obey, one only remained. In a short time I observed a British soldier had him called and directed him to seek an officer; in a few minutes an officer came, who, on learning who I was, brought Gen. Ross and Adm. Cockburn with me. These officers behaved to me with the marked attention, respect and politeness, had a surgeon brought and my wound dressed immediately. After a few minutes conversation the General informed me (after paying me a handsome compliment) that I was paroled and at liberty to proceed to Washington or Bladensburg, as was also Mr. Huntington who had remained with me, offering me every assistance in his power, giving orders for a litter to be brought, which I was carried to Bladensburg. Captain Wainwright remained with me and behaved to me as if I was a brother.

During the stay of the enemy at Bladensburg I received the most polite attention from the officers both of the navy and army.

My wound is deep, but I flattered myself it was dangerous; the ball is not yet extracted. I hope to have a few weeks will restore me to health; that an exchange will take place that I may return to my command, or any other that you may think proper to honor me with.

Yours respectfully,

IRISHIA BARNETT.

Extract of
Abbeville
dated 10th

"The
very ill
ascent, b
violence o
possible fo
mance. I
present in
ence of t
hington.
physician
in exhaust

CANDI
John
Rich
Boll
Tho
Will
Alfr
Wilt
Dr.
Hir
Will

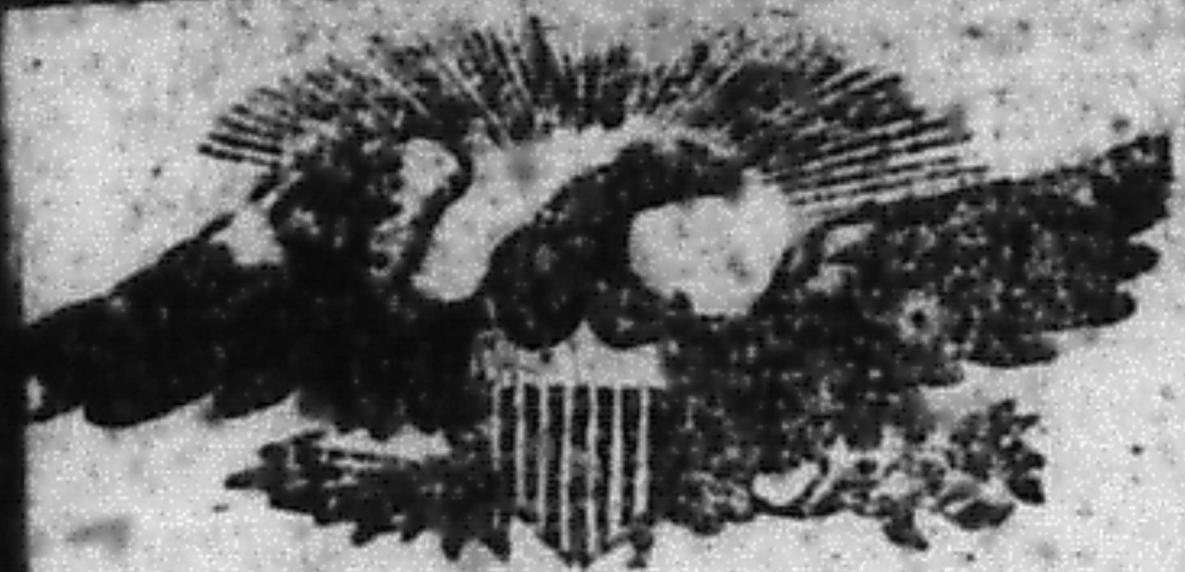
The fo
ates at t
ent the c
wing ses
Free

Gen
J
Col

HANCO
race ful
Mount Z
our early
ends to ci
vile orde
tion, wh
admittanc
story, th
publicati
week.

The c
S. C. is
become a
character
to which
es as wi
tended f
ortherised.

Depart
over 7, ag
Major Wil
He was a
ness and v
fair to be



CHRONICLE.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1814

We understand an express reached Millidge-
ton, a few days ago from Savannah, addressed