

the Movements of the Enemy from the 9th Instant, when they landed at Howland's Ferry.

The Badness of the Weather for some Days must have prevented their transporting of Stores, or being in Readiness to approach us, as they did not make their Appearance near us 'till the 14th, when a large Body took Possession of Honyman's Hill.

To repel any Attempts from that Quarter, a Breastwork was directed to be made along the Heights from Green End to Irish's Redoubt, which was strengthened by an Abatis.

On the 17th, the Enemy was discovered breaking Ground on Honyman's Hill, on the Summit of which, and on their Right of the Green End Road, they were constructing a Battery: The next Day another was commenced by them for Five Guns to their Left, and in a direct Line with the former, which was prepared for Four. On this Day a Line of Approach was likewise begun by them from the Battery on the Right to Green End Road, which Works we endeavoured to obstruct by keeping a continual Fire on them. The 19th the Enemy opened their Left Battery, which obliged our Encampment to be removed further in the Rear. This Day we began another Line, for the greater Security of our Left, from Irish's Redoubt to Fomini Hill; and I directed a Battery of 1 Twenty four and 2 Eighteen Pounders to be raised on our Right Breast Work to counteract those of the Enemy, which was opened the following Day, when they were observed busied in forming a second Approach from the first, to a nearer Distance on the Road.

At Noon the French Fleet again came in View, much disabled, and anchored off the Port, where it continued 'till the 22d, when it finally disappeared.

This Day the Rebels were constructing Two other Batteries much lower down the Hill than the former, one on the Right for Five, the other on the Left of Green End Road for Seven Guns, both which were opened the next Day, when I found it necessary to attempt silencing them, and therefore ordered a Battery for Seven heavy Guns, on commanding Ground, near Green End, which, from the Obstructions given by the Enemy's Fire, could not be completed 'till the 25th, when the Rebels thought proper to close the Embrasures of their lower Batteries, and make Use of them for Mortars. During this Time they had been constructing, on the Height of the East Road, another for One of Thirteen Inches; and this Day began a Third Approach in Front, and to the Right of their lower Batteries.

The 26th, observing the Enemy to discontinue their Works, and learning, from Deserters, they were removing the Officers Baggage and Heavy Artillery, I detached Lieutenant Colonel Bruce, with a Hundred Men of the 54th Regiment, in the Night over Easton's Beach in Quest of Intelligence, who with great Address surprized and brought off a Piquet of Two Officers and Twenty-five Men, without any Loss. Some of Colonel Fanning's Corps, at different Times, exerted themselves in taking off People from the Enemy's advanced Posts; but little Intelligence to be depended upon was ever obtained from them; nor were other Attempts to procure it more efficacious, as from all that could be learned, it was doubtful whether their Intentions were to attack our Lines or retreat.

On the 27th the Sphynx and Two other Ships of War arrived; and I had the Honour of being informed by Colonel Stuart of your Excellency's Intention to reinforce this Post.

On the following Day the Vigilant Galley took a Station to cover the Left Flank of the Army; and at Ten o'Clock that Night the Rebels made an Attempt to surprize a Subaltern's Piquet from the Anspach Corps, but were repulsed, after killing One Man, and wounding Two others.

The 29th, at Break of Day, it was perceived that the Enemy had retreated during the night, upon which Major-General Prescott was ordered to detach a Regiment from the second Line under his Command, over Easton's Beach, towards the left Flank of the Enemy's Encampment, and a Part of Brown's

Corps was directed to take Possession of their Works. At the same Time Brigadier-General Smith was detached with the 22d and 43d Regiments, and the Flank Companies of the 38th and 54th, by the East Road. Major-General Losberg marching by the West Road, with the Hessian Chasseurs and the Anspach Regiments of Voit and Seaboth, in order, if possible, to annoy them in their Retreat; and upon receiving a Report from General Smith, that the Rebels made a Stand, and were in Force upon Quaker's Hill, I ordered the 54th and Hessian Regiment of Huyn, with Part of Brown's Corps, to sustain him; but before they could arrive, the Perseverence of General Smith, and the spirited Behaviour of the Troops, had gained Possession of the strong Post on Quaker's Hill, and obliged the Enemy to retire to their Works at the North End of the Island. On hearing a smart Fire from the Chasseurs engaged on the West Road, I dispatched Colonel Fanning's Corps of Provincials to join General Losberg, who obliged the Rebels to quit two Redoubts made to cover their Retreat, drove them before him, and took Possession of Turkey Hill. Towards Evening, an Attempt being made by the Rebels to surround and cut off the Chasseurs, who were advanced on the Left, the Regiments of Fanning and Huyn were ordered up to their Support, and, after a smart Engagement with the Enemy, obliged them to retreat to their main Body on Windmill Hill.

To these Particulars I am in Justice obliged to add Brigadier-General Smith's Report, who, amidst the general Tribute due to the good Conduct of every Individual under his Command, has particularly distinguished Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell and the 22d Regiment, on whom, by their Position, the greater Weight of the Action fell. He also mentions with Applause the spirited Exertions of Lieutenant-Colonel Marsh and the 43d Regiment, of Captains Coore and Trench, who commanded the Flank Companies. He likewise acknowledges particular Obligations to all the Officers and Men of the Royal Artillery, as also to the Seamen who were attached to the Field Pieces; and has expressed his Thanks to Captain Barry, of the 52d Regiment, who was a Volunteer on this Occasion, and assisted in carrying his Orders. General Losberg has given his Testimony of the very good Behaviour of the Anspach Corps, commanded by Colonel de Voit, and of Captains Malburg and Noltenius, with their Companies of Chasseurs.

After these Actions, the Enemy took Post in great Numbers on Windmill Hill, and employed themselves in strengthening that advantageous Situation.

This Night the Troops lay on their Arms on the Ground they had gained, and Directions were given for bringing up the Camp Equipage. Artillery were likewise sent for and Preparation made to remove the Rebels from their Redoubts; but by means of the great Number of Boats, they retreated in the Night of the 30th over Bristol and Howland's Ferry; thus relinquishing every Hold on the Island, and resigning to us its entire Possession.

During these tedious and fatiguing Operations, I was much indebted to the active Zeal of Captain Brisbane and all the Captains, other Officers and Men of the Navy, who enabled me to man the different Batteries with their most experienced Officers, and best Men, who by their Example and constant Attention contributed much in the Support of the Defences. And I must also take Notice of the good Inclination for the Service, shewn by the Marines of the different Ships, which occasioned my giving them in Charge the Defence of that principal Post on Fomini Hill. Nor can I conclude this Account, without expressing my sincere Acknowledgments to every Officer and Soldier under my Command, and to the several Departments, for their unwearied Exertions to counteract so many Difficulties.

The Prisoners taken on the 29th are not many in Number; but I have Reason to believe the Killed and Wounded of the Rebels is greater than that in the Return I have the Honor to inclose you of ours.

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