

That on the 5th of October following, when within a few miles of a strong position, which it was his intention to take up at the Moravian village on the river Thames, he was attacked by so overwhelming a force, under Major-General Harrison, that the small numbers he had with him, consisting of not more than four hundred and fifty regular troops, were unable to withstand it, and consequently compelled to disperse; that he had afterwards rallied the remains of his division, and retired upon Ancaster, on the Grand River, without being pursued by the enemy, and where he had collected the scattered remains of his force, amounting to about two hundred men, and had with it, subsequently, reached Burlington-heights, the head-quarters of Major-General Vincent. Tecumseth, at the head of twelve hundred Indian warriors, accompanied our little army on its retreat from Sandwich, and the Prophet, as well as his brother Tecumseth, were of the most essential service, in arresting the further progress of the Americans; but as to the extent of our loss on this occasion, or the particulars of this disastrous affair, I am, as yet, ignorant; Major-General Proctor, having signified to Major-General De Rottenberg, commanding in the Upper Provinces, that he had sent a flag of truce to General Harrison, to ascertain the fate of the officers and soldiers who were missing, and requesting his indulgence for a few days until its return, in order to make his official report. I also understand, that the enemy, so far from attempting to improve the advantage they had gained, by pursuing our troops on their retreat to the Grand River, had retired to Sandwich, followed by Tecumseth and his warriors, who had much harassed them on their march. Five or six hundred Indians, belonging to the Eighth Division, are reported to have joined the centre.

I regret to say, that I am still without any official account of Captain Barclay's action on Lake Erie, the result of which has led to our relinquishment of the Michigan territory, excepting Michilimackinac, and our abandonment of the posts in Upper Canada beyond the Grand River.

I have the honour to be, &c.

GEORGE PREVOST.

Extract of a Report from Major-General Proctor, to Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, dated Sandwich, September 21, 1813.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency, that the enemy have been reconnoitred at and in the vicinity of the islands, by an officer of the Indian department, in a birch canoe, who has seen seven vessels, some of them large, standing into Carrying Bay, situated between those of Sandusky and Miami, and soon after heard a salute fired of fifteen guns. He also discovered in Put-in Bay, four large vessels with their lower masts in, and two rigged vessels, one of which, a gun-boat, came out, and chased the canoe. We must expect the enemy soon with their increased naval force, which we most unfortunately have not the means of opposing with effect. Your Excellency will perceive that the enemy, having the command of the waters, would be able to cut off my supplies, and my retreat, were

I to remain in my present extensive position. I have therefore determined to fall back, and to make a stand on the Thames. I have succeeded in bringing the Indians; I am in expectation that the principal part of them will accompany us. Many are arrived at this side of the Strait with their families. The enemy is on the advance, and in very considerable force, accompanied by their small vessels and gun-boats. It would be too hazardous to fight them on the other side, as our retreat might be cut off so easily.

Head-quarters, Montreal, 31st October, 1813.

MY LORD—I have the honour to announce to your Lordship the arrival in the River St. Lawrence, of the troop-ships named in the margin,* having on board the two battalions of Royal Marines, and the two companies of Marine Artillery attached to them, from Halifax, in consequence of a representation which I had made to Admiral Sir J. B. Warren, requiring this reinforcement on account of the disaster that had befallen our fleet on Lake Erie, and the danger to which the right division of the army in Upper Canada was exposed by that circumstance.

By the latest accounts from Major-General De Rottenburg, dated at Kingston on the 28th inst. I am informed that the enemy still menaced that post, but no attack had actually taken place.

The American Armada, under Major-General Wilkinson and Commodore Chauncey, was at Grenadier Island on the 25th; within eighteen miles of Kingston, where it had collected, after having been dispersed in its first attempt from Sackett's Harbour to pass over to Kingston.

The state of the weather prevented the attack of Major-General Hampton on the lower province, and that of Major-General Wilkinson on Kingston, from being simultaneous, as was expected. I have reason to hope their enterprise against Kingston will experience a similar fate to that against Lower Canada.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) GEO. PREVOST.

Right Honourable Earl Bathurst.

Extract of a Letter from Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, Bart. to Earl Bathurst, dated Montreal, November 4, 1813.

THE loss of our fleet on Lake Erie, which I had the honour of reporting to your Lordship, in my dispatch of the date of 22d September last, together with the increasing sickness among the troops of the centre division, and the diminution of the force in Upper Canada, by the different actions which had taken place, induced me to send an officer express to Halifax, with directions for the embarkation of the second battalion of marines, and the artillery company attached to it, which sailing from thence with a fair wind, and being much favoured by the weather, arrived in the St. Lawrence at the same time with the other batta-

* Diadem, Diomedes, Fox, Nemesis, Success, Mariner.