

however, in the evening, the attack was renewed, with increased force, and the enemy finally succeeded in driving the Prince Royal across the river, and pressed him so severely that he had not time to destroy the bridge. He retired in the direction of Bray, and it was understood that the enemy passed a considerable part of his army across the river. The result of this affair induced Prince Schwartzberg to withdraw the grand army from their advanced position upon the Seine, and I understood that his head-quarters were to be established at Troyes in the night of the 19th.

I have the satisfaction of acquainting your Lordship, that on the morning of the 20th, I had an opportunity of seeing the whole of Marshal Blücher's army reunited, and on its march from Chalons to join the grand army. It was moving upon the high road to Troyes; and the head of the column was near Arcis-sur-Aube, between eighteen and twenty English miles from Prince Schwartzberg's head-quarters. After the severe action in which this incomparable army had recently been engaged, it was a matter of infinite gratification to me to observe the admirable condition of the troops composing it, who amounted to nearly sixty thousand men.

I have the honour to be, &c.

F. ROBINSON.

Earl Bathurst, &c. &c. &c.

COLONIAL DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, February 24, 1814.

DISPATCHES, of which the following are copies, have been this day received by Earl Bathurst, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, from Lieutenant-General Sir George Prevost, Bart. commanding His Majesty's forces in North America.

Head-Quarters, Quebec, December

My Lord, 27, 1813.

I DO myself the honour to acquaint your Lordship, that, since my dispatch of the 22d instant, I have received a communication from Lieutenant-General Drummond, containing a supplementary report from Colonel Murray, dated at Fort George the 13th December, correcting his statement of the preceding day, respecting the enemy having passed over the river all his cannon and stores, having since discovered, in the ditch of the fortification, one long eighteen-pounder, four twelve, and several nine-pounders; together with a large supply of shot; some of the temporary magazines, with a proportion of fixed ammunition, have been saved; a camp equipage for fifteen hundred men, has fallen into our possession.

The new barracks, erected in the vicinity of Fort George and at Chippawa, have, from the precipitancy of the enemy's flight, escaped being burned.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GEORGE PREVOST.

The Right Honourable Earl Bathurst,
&c. &c. &c.

My Lord, Head-Quarters, Quebec, January 6, 1814.

HAVING ascertained the enemy's force at Forts George and Niagara, and on that frontier, to have been considerably reduced for the purpose of strengthening the division of the American army, commanded by Major-General Wilkinson, now acting against Lower Canada, I directed Lieutenant-General Drummond, on the 3d of last month, to hold the right division of the army in the Canadas, placed under the immediate command of Major-General Rial, in so perfect a state of preparation as to be enabled to act with promptitude when required to take advantage of the weakness or negligence of the enemy; and I feel a high satisfaction in having the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the Lieutenant-General's letters, containing the reports of the capture of Fort Niagara, on the morning of the 19th December, and of the flight of the enemy's force from Lewistown, on the approach of the corps commanded by Major-General Rial.

The arrangements of Lieutenant-General Drummond, and the brilliant manner in which they were executed, have excited my warmest applause, and afford me infinite satisfaction in the communication I now make to your Lordship. I request to call the gracious consideration of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, to the various officers who have distinguished themselves on the occasion, more especially to Colonel Murray, who has availed himself of this favourable opportunity fully to confirm my opinion of his zeal, intelligence, and military talents.

After the dispersion of the enemy's force at Lewistown, and the destruction of that village, Major-General Rial's brigade pressed forward towards Black Rock and Buffalo, and on its march obtained possession, after a feeble resistance, of the Mills and Rope Walk of General Porter, one of the principal contractors for supplying the American army, which were destroyed. On this occasion an American officer and a few men were killed, and one officer and eleven privates taken prisoners, but not a British soldier suffered.

The bridge over the Tonawanto Creek having been destroyed by the enemy, the progress of Major-General Rial's brigade has been impeded until the arrival of a sufficient number of boats at Chippawa, to enable the troops intended to co-operate with it on the destruction of the vessels and stores at Buffalo, to cross the river. When the last accounts left Fort George, the weather had not then become too severe to render the movement impracticable, I therefore hope to be able to report its success to your Lordship by the next opportunity, as the enemy appears in great consternation, and without plan, or organization for defence.

Having been under the necessity of employing the western Indians who had retreated with General Proctor from Amherstburg, as well as those inhabiting near the Niagara frontier, in conjunction with the force acting under Major-General Rial, I have not failed strongly to enjoin upon Lieutenant-General Drummond, to restrain by every means in his power any excesses or cruelties on their part, which might give just cause of complaint to the