

Murray, the enemy retired on the approach of our troops, and permitted thereby two guns, a twelve and six pounder, to fall into our hands.

From Major-General Riall's report of the good conduct of the troops employed on this service, I am convinced that if an opportunity had offered, they would have equally distinguished themselves with those at Niagara.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) GORDON DRUMMOND,
Lieutenant-General.

Lieut.-General Sir George Prevost, Bart.

(A true copy.)
(Signed) NOAH PEER, Mil. Secy.

Head-Quarters, Quebec, January
12, 1814.

My Lord,

I HAVE great satisfaction in transmitting herewith to your Lordship, the copy of a letter I have just received from Lieutenant-General Drummond, containing a report of a successful attack made on the enemy's positions of Black Rock and Buffalo, by a brigade of His Majesty's troops under the command of Major-General Riall, on the 20th ult.

In this brilliant affair, as in that of the capture of Fort Niagara, the officers and men engaged have acquitted themselves with determined bravery, and are distinguished by their devotion to the service of His Majesty, under several hardships and privations. Eight pieces of ordnance, and one hundred and thirty prisoners have fallen into our possession; and the towns of Black Rock and Buffalo have been totally destroyed, the inhabitants having previously abandoned those places.

Four of the enemy's armed sloops and schooners have also been burnt. I beg your Lordship's indulgence in submitting to the gracious consideration of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the officers who are particularly mentioned by the Lieutenant-General, as having acted with great gallantry upon this occasion.

Captain Robinson, who commanded the King's regiment after Lieutenant-Colonel Ogilvie was disabled, and to whose judicious and prompt execution of a flank movement, much merit and great advantage have been ascribed; Captain Fawcett, of the 100th regiment, who was wounded; Captain Jervoise Aid-de-Camp to Lieutenant-General Drummond, and Captain Holland Aid-de-Camp to Major-General Riall, appear to have been very forward in a zealous performance of their respective duties, and present themselves as objects entitled to my commendation.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) GEORGE PREVOST.
To Earl Bathurst.

Niagara Frontier, near Fort Erie,
2d January, 1814.

SIR,

HAVING pushed forward the troops as nearly opposite the head of Grand Island as I could, without discovering them to the enemy, I moved my head-quarters to Chippawa on the 28th, and on the following day to within two miles of Fort Erie, when, having reconnoitred the enemy's position at

Black Rock, I determined to attack him that night. The boats were accordingly moved up from Chippawa Creek on the evening of the 29th, and Major-General Riall proceeded to execute the instructions with which I had previously furnished him. As soon as the troops destined under the immediate direction of Major-General Riall to advance upon Black Rock from below, had been passed across the river, the boats were tracked up as high as the foot of the Rapids, immediately below Fort Erie. In doing this, which cost much time and labour, it was necessary to observe considerable caution, and the greatest silence, as the river there narrows very much, and the point in particular to which the boats were brought, and from whence the troops were to embark, was immediately under the point blank fire of the enemy's heaviest batteries.

Owing to the boats having been brought in the dark to a part of the beach which was shoal and full of rocks, and on which they had grounded before any thing was ready for pushing off, the day appeared, and at the same moment the attack on the enemy's out-posts was commenced by the troops under Major-General Riall.

By the uncommon exertion of all, the boats were got off, and the Royals, after being exposed to a galling fire of musketry, in their passage across, (notwithstanding the well directed fire of five field pieces, with which I had directed the old batteries to be occupied) reached the opposite shore in time to co-operate with the troops under Major-General Riall, in the defeat of the enemy. I beg to refer your Excellency to the Major-General's report for a detailed account of the operations of the troops, of whose gallantry and exertion he speaks in terms of the highest praise.

To the Major-General himself I feel greatly indebted for the very gallant and able manner in which he has executed the service with which I have entrusted him. Of the conduct of the officers and troops too much cannot be said.

The patience and fortitude with which they have borne the privation of almost every comfort, and the severity of a most rigorous climate at this advanced season of the year, reflects the highest credit on all. Nothing, in fact, can more strongly evince their anxious desire to meet the enemy. Their conduct when he was met, the result of the action, as well as the report of the gallant officer by whom they were led, sufficiently prove.

The conduct of Captain Robinson, of the King's regiment, and of Captain Holland, Aide-de-Camp to Major-General Riall, were particularly conspicuous; and I beg leave to recommend these officers to the favourable notice of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent.

All the objects proposed in my letter of the 27th ult., and in fact all that are at this moment attainable, having thus been completely accomplished, by the destruction of the whole of the cover on the opposite frontier, and by the infliction of a severe retaliation for the burning of the town of Niagara, the justice of which the enemy himself most fully admits, the troops have been placed in cantonments along the frontier, in the manner which appears to me best calculated to insure its security, and their comfort and repose.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Harvey, Deputy Adju-