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tice. While employed immediately under my eye, I had every reason to be perfectly satisfied with their zealous emulation, as well as that of every seaman and marine, to promote the service in which they were engaged.

Captain Wainwright, of his Majesty's ship *Tonnant*, will have the honour to deliver this dispatch to you, and as he was actually employed both with the flotilla and with the army in the whole of their proceedings, I beg leave to refer their Lordships to him for any farther particulars.

I have not yet received any returns from the ships employed in the *Potowmack*, the winds having been unfavourable to their coming down; but by the information I gain from the country people, they have completely succeeded in the capture and destruction of *Port Washington*, which has been blown up.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) ALEXANDER COCHRANE.

Vice-Admiral and Commander in Chief.

*John Wilson Croker, Esq.*

*On board the Resolution Tender, off Mount Calvert,  
Monday night, 22d Aug. 1814.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you, that after parting from you at *Benedict* on the evening of the 20th instant, I proceeded up the *Potowmack* with the boats and tenders, the marines of the ships being embarked in them, under the command of Captain Robyns (the senior officer of that corps in the fleet) and the marine artillery, under Captain Harrison, in their two tenders; the *Severn* and *Hebrus* frigates, and the *Manly* sloop, being directed to follow us up the river, as far as might prove practicable.

The boats and tenders I placed in three divisions: the first under the immediate command of Captains Sullivan (the senior commander employed on the occasion) and Badcock; the second, under Captains Money and Somerville; the third, under Captain Ramsay;—the whole under the superintendance and immediate management of Captain Wainwright of the *Tonnant*, Lieutenant James Scott (1st of the *Albion*) attending as my aid-de-camp.

I endeavoured to keep with the boats and tenders as nearly as possible abreast of the army under Major-general Ross, that I might communicate with him as occasion offered, according to the plan previously arranged; and about mid-day yesterday I accordingly anchored at the ferry-house opposite *Lower Marlborough*, where I met the General, and where the army halted for some hours, after which he marched for *Nottingham*, and I proceeded on for the same place with the boats. On our approaching that town a few shot were exchanged between the leading boats and some of the enemy's cavalry; but the appearance of our army advancing caused them to retire with precipitation. Captains Nourse and Palmer, of the *Severn* and *Hebrus*, joined me this day with their boats, having found it impracticable to get their ships higher than *Benedict*.

The Major-General remained with the army at *Nottingham*, and the boats and tenders continued anchored off it during the night; and soon after

day light this morning, the whole moved again forward, but the wind blowing during the morning down the river, and the channel being excessively narrow, and the advance of our tenders consequently slow, I judged it advisable to push on with the boats, only leaving the tenders to follow as they could.

On approaching *Pig Point* (where the enemy's flotilla was said to be), I landed the marines under Captain Robyns on the left bank of the river, and directed him to march round and attack, on the land side, the town situated on the point, to draw from us the attention of such troops as might be there for its defence, and the defence of the flotilla: I then proceeded on with the boats, and, as we opened the reach above *Pig Point*, I plainly discovered Commodore Barney's broad pendant in the headmost vessel, a large sloop, and the remainder of the flotilla extending in a long line astern of her. Our boats now advanced towards them as rapidly as possible; but, on nearing them, we observed the sloop bearing the broad pendant to be on fire, and she very soon afterwards blew up. I now saw clearly that they were all abandoned, and on fire, with trains to their magazines; and out of the 17 vessels which composed this formidable, and so much vaunted flotilla, 16 were in quick succession blown to atoms, and the seventeenth (in which the fire had not taken) we captured. The commodore's sloop was a large armed vessel; the others were gun-boats, all having a long gun in the bow, and a carronade in the stern; the calibre of the guns and number of the crew of each differed in proportion to the size of the boat, varying from 32-pounders and 60 men to 18-pounders and 40 men. I found here lying above the flotilla, under its protection, 13 merchant schooners, some of which not being worth bringing away I caused to be burnt; such as were in good condition I directed to be moved to *Pig Point*. Whilst employed taking these vessels a few shot were fired at us by some of the men of the flotilla from the bushes on the shore near us; but Lieutenant Scott, whom I had handed for that purpose, soon got hold of them, and made them prisoners. Some horsemen likewise showed themselves on the neighbouring heights, but a rocket or two dispersed them; and Captain Robyns, who had got possession of *Pig Point* without resistance, now spreading his men through the country, the enemy retreated to a distance, and left us in quiet possession of the town, the neighbourhood, and our prizes.

A large quantity of tobacco having been found in the town at *Pig Point*, I have left Captain Robyns, with the marines, and Captain Nourse, with two divisions of the boats, to hold the place, and ship the tobacco into the prizes, and I have moved back with the third division to this point, to enable me to confer on our future operations, with the Major-General, who has been good enough to send his Aide-de-camp to inform me of his safe arrival, with the army under his command, at *Upper Marlborough*.

In congratulating you, Sir, which I do most sincerely, on the complete destruction of this flotilla of the enemy, which has lately occupied so much of our attention, I must beg to be permitted to assure you, that the cheerful and indefatigable exertions,