

post established by the enemy at Chissencsick, on the main land abreast of Watt's Island. The detachment landed, notwithstanding a fire of grape and musketry, drove the enemy from the post, and destroyed the guard-houses, &c. bringing away a six-pounder, the only gun of the enemy at that place. Great gallantry was displayed by all employed on this occasion.

July 6.—The Rear-Admiral incloses two reports addressed to him by Captains Brown and Nourse, of the Loire and Severn; the former dated the 27th of June, states that the enemy having established a battery on the banks of the Patuxent, which opened on the *Loira* and *Narcissus*, he had judged it proper to move the two ships lower down the river, when the flotilla under Commodore Barney moved out of St. Leonard's Creek, and ran higher up the Patuxent, with the exception of one row-boat, which returned to the creek, apparently damaged by the fire of the frigates; the letter from Captain Nourse, dated the 4th July, reports his joining the ships in the Patuxent; and having moved them up beyond St. Leonard's Creek, he sent Captain Brown with the marines of the ships up the Creek, by whom two of the enemy's gun-boats that were found drawn up and scuttled, were with several other vessels burnt, and a large tobacco store destroyed.

July 19.—The Rear-Admiral states that, having been joined by a battalion of marines, he proceeded up the Potowmack with a view to attack Leonard's Town, the capital of St. Mary's county, where the 36th regiment was stationed.

The marines were landed under Major Lewis, whilst the boats pulled up in front of the town, but on discovering the British, the enemy's armed force, quitted the place, and suffered them to take quiet possession of it. A quantity of stores belonging to the 36th regiment, and a number of arms of different descriptions were found there and destroyed: a quantity of tobacco, flour, provisions, and other articles were brought away, in the boats and in a schooner lying off the town. Not a musket being fired, nor an armed enemy seen, the town was accordingly spared.

July 21.—The Rear-Admiral reports, that the enemy having collected some Virginia militia, at a place called Nominy-Ferry, in Virginia, a considerable way up Nominy-River, he proceeded thither with the boats and marines (the latter commanded by Captain Robyns during the illness of Major Lewis). The enemy's position was on a very commanding eminence, projecting into the water; but some marines been landed on its flank, and seen getting up the craggy side of the mountain, while the main body landed at the ferry, the enemy fell back, and though pursued several miles till the approach of night, escaped with the loss of a few prisoners. They had withdrawn their field artillery, and hid it in the woods, fearing that if they kept it to use against the British, they would not be able to retreat with it quick enough to save it from capture.

After taking on board all the tobacco, and other stores found in the place, with a quantity of cattle, and destroying all the storehouses and buildings,

the Rear-Admiral re-embarked; and dropping down to another point of the Nominy River, he observed some movements on shore, upon which he again landed with marines. The enemy fired a volley at them, but on the advance of the marines, fled into the woods. Every thing in the neighbourhood was therefore also destroyed or brought off, and after visiting the country in several other directions, covering the escape of the negroes who were anxious to join him, he quitted the river and returned to the ships with one hundred and thirty five refugee negroes, two captured schooners, a large quantity of tobacco, dry goods, and cattle, and a few prisoners.

July 24.—The Rear-Admiral gives an account of his having gone up St. Clement's Creek, in St. Mary's county, with the boats and marines, to examine the country. The militia shewed themselves occasionally, but always retreated when pursued; and the boats returned to the ships without any casualty, having captured four schooners and destroyed one.

The inhabitants having remained peaceably in their houses, the Rear-Admiral did not suffer any injury to be done to them, excepting at one farm, from which two musket-shot were fired at the Admiral's gig; and where the property was therefore destroyed.

July 31.—The Rear-Admiral reports, that having on the 26th proceeded to the head of the Machodick river, in Virginia, where he burnt six schooners; whilst the marines marched, without opposition, over the country on the banks of that river; and there not remaining any other place on the Virginia or St. Mary's side of his last anchorage that he had not visited, he on the 28th caused the ships to move above Blackstone's Island, and on the 29th proceeded with the boats and marines up the Wicomoco River: he landed at Hanburgh and Chaptico, from which latter place he shipped a considerable quantity of tobacco, and visited several houses in different parts of the country, the owners of which living quietly with their families, and seeming to consider themselves and the neighbourhood at his disposal, he caused no farther inconvenience to them, than obliging them to furnish supplies of cattle and stock for the use of his forces.

August 4.—The Rear-Admiral states, that on the 2d, the squadron dropped down the Potowmack, near to the entrance of the Yocomoco River, which he entered the following day with the boats and marines, and landed with the latter. The enemy had here collected in great force, and made more resistance than usual, but the ardour and determination of the Rear-Admiral's gallant little band, carried all before them; and after forcing the enemy to give way, they followed him ten miles up the country, captured a field piece, and burnt several houses which had been converted into depôts for militia, arms, &c. Learning afterwards that General Hungerford had rallied his men at Kinsale, the Rear-Admiral proceeded thither; and though the enemy's position was extremely strong, he had only time to give the British an ineffectual volley before they gained the height, when he again retired with