



The London Gazette.

Published by Authority.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1814.

COLONIAL DEPARTMENT.

Downing-Street, October 24, 1814.

A DISPATCH, of which the following is a copy, addressed to Earl Bathurst by Lieutenant-General Sir J. C. Sherbrooke, K. B. was yesterday received at this office.

My Lord, Halifax, September 23, 1814.

HAVING now received Lieutenant-Colonel Pilkington's official report of the capture of Machias; I do myself the honour of forwarding it for your Lordship's information.

I beg leave to call the attention of your Lordship to the zeal and activity displayed by Lieutenant-Colonel Pilkington on this occasion, as well as the discipline and good conduct evinced by the officers and troops under his command, in the execution of this service.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. C. SHERBROOKE,

SIR, Machias, September 14, 1814.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency, that I sailed from Penobscot Bay, with the brigade you was pleased to place under my command, consisting of a detachment of royal artillery, with a howitzer, the battalion companies of the 29th regiment, and a party of the 7th battalion of the 60th foot, on the morning of the 9th instant; and arrived at Bucks Harbour, about ten miles from this place, on the following evening.

As the enemy fired several alarm guns on our approaching the shore, it was evident he was apprehensive of an attack; I therefore deemed it ex-

pedient to disembark the troops with as little delay as possible; and Captain Hyde Parker, commanding the naval force, appointed Captain Stanfell to superintend this duty, and it was executed by that officer with the utmost promptitude and decision.

Upon reaching the shore, I ascertained that there was only a pathway through the woods by which we could advance and take Fort O'Brien, and the battery in reverse; and as the guns of these works commanded the passage of the river, upon which the town is situated, I decided upon possessing ourselves of them, if practicable, during the night.

We moved forward at ten o'clock P. M. and, after a most tedious and harassing march, only arrived near to the fort at break of day, although the distance does not exceed five miles.

The advanced guard, which consisted of two companies of the 29th regiment, and a detachment of riflemen of the 60th regiment, under Major Tod, of the former corps, immediately drove in the enemy's picquets, and upon pursuing him closely, found the fort had been evacuated, leaving their colours, about five minutes before we entered it. Within it, and the battery, there are two twenty-four-pounders, three eighteen-pounders, several dismounted guns, and a blockhouse. The party which escaped amounted to about seventy men of the 40th regiment of American infantry and thirty of the embodied militia: the retreat was so rapid that I was not enabled to take any prisoners. I understand there were a few wounded, but they secreted themselves in the woods.

Having secured the fort, we lost no time in ad-