

detached in the direction of the upper bridge, by which I had passed in the morning. On arriving where the road branched off to the two bridges, I turned to my left to the lower bridge, having ascertained that St. Ours was not fortified, and rid myself of the rebels, who were skirting my right flank. On crossing the bridge the artillery horses gave up altogether, and two of them fell; the infantry went immediately to the gun, and every exertion was made to get it on; the officers' horses and those of the ammunition waggon were put to the gun, but without effect; the wheels clogged with mud were now frozen, and after seven hours of severe toil, and during which Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes never left the gun; the medical officer declared that a half an hour more would freeze the men. The gun was spiked and abandoned. I then moved to St. Ours, where I was in hopes of finding the steam boat Varennes, ordered to meet us with provisions, but she had been attacked by two hundred armed persons, and forced to cut her cable and return.

I passed through the village, and halted at some farm houses, a mile on, to refresh the men, and proceeded, in the morning, at daylight, to Sorel, where I arrived at eleven o'clock in the morning of the 21th. My loss in killed and wounded, by the accompanying returns, is, one officer severely wounded (Captain Markham) and nineteen killed and wounded, and four missing; the loss of the rebels must have been about one hundred, which has since been confirmed. I have not yet received a correct return of the two companies of the 66th regiment, but I do not think they lost more than one or two. I enclose a detailed report from Lieutenant Newcomen, on the loss of the howitzer, who deserves much praise for his conduct.

In this arduous march, and during the whole of the operation, the officers and men displayed the highest courage and steadiness, although exposed to extreme suffering.

I was much indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel Hughes, of the 24th Regiment, for the advice and assistance I received from him, and his exertions to extricate the gun; and also to Lieutenant Lysons, of the Royal Regiment attached to the Quarter-Master-General's Department, for his zealous and active conduct; in Captain Markham, of the 32d regiment, who led the advance with great judgment, and was severely wounded, the service will be deprived for some time of a most valuable officer; Surgeon Farndon, of the Royal Regiment, and Assistant-Surgeon MacGirgior, of the 32d regiment, rendered every assistance in their power, and made the best arrangements for the wounded.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CHARLES GORE, Col.

Lieutenant-General Sir John Colborne,
K. C. B. and G. C. H. &c. &c. &c.

Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing.

Killed.

24th Regiment—1 serjeant, 2 rank and file.
32d Regiment—2 rank and file.
66th Regiment—1 rank and file.

Wounded.

24th Regiment—2 rank and file, severely; 2 rank and file, slightly.
32d Regiment Captain Markham, severely, but not dangerously; 3 rank and file, severely; 2 rank and file, slightly.

Missing.

24th Regiment—1 rank and file.
32d Regiment—4 rank and file (1 wounded).

Total.

Killed—1 serjeant, 5 rank and file.
Wounded—1 captain, 9 rank and file.
Missing—6 rank and file.

(Extract.)

SIR, St. Charles, November 27, 1837.

I HAD the honour, yesterday, to report the successful result of my attack on the stockaded post of the rebels at this place.

In my letter of the 25th November, I stated the circumstances which induced me to suspend my march towards Saint Charles, and to order a company from Chambly to my support, and I then said that I should wait at Saint Hilaire for his Excellency's further orders: this dispatch was sent by Doctor Jones, of the Montreal Cavalry, and I hoped for his Excellency's answer during the following night. Not having received it, at nine yesterday morning, I concluded that my messenger had been interrupted, and having learned that the basin, at Chambly, was frozen over, and every probability of a retreat being cut off, should such an event occur, I resolved on the attack.

The march was accomplished without opposition or hindrance, except from the breaking down of the bridges, &c., &c., until I arrived one mile from this place, when the troops were fired at from the left, or opposite bank of the Richelieu, and a man of the Royal Regiment wounded; several rifle shots were also fired from a barn immediately in our front. I burnt the barn.

On arriving at two hundred and fifty yards from the rebel works, I took up a position, hoping that a display of my force would induce some defection among these infatuated people; they, however, opened a heavy fire, which was returned. I then advanced to another position, one hundred yards from the works, but, finding the defenders obstinate, I stormed and carried them, burning every building within the stockade, except that of the Honourable Mr. Debartsch, which, however, is much injured. The affair occupied about one hour. The slaughter on the side of the rebels was great; only sixteen prisoners were then made. I have counted fifty-six bodies, and many more were killed in the buildings and their bodies burnt.

I shall occupy this village until the receipt of his Excellency's orders.

My killed and wounded are as follows:

The Royal Regiment—1 serjeant, 1 rank and file, killed; 3 rank and file severely wounded; 7 rank and file slightly wounded.