

VINCENNES, Feb. 9, 1812.

SIR—In compliance with your excellency's request, I have the honor to observe that my idea of the statement submitted to the honorable the secretary of war, on the subject of the affair on the morning of the 7th Nov. by col. Boyd, was intended solely to convey a knowledge of the situation of the 4th regt. without any designed reference, other than that relative one which necessarily arises—to the merits and demerits of any other corps, and to afford an opportunity, should future occasion require it, in consideration of many exparte publications which had previously appeared—for individual recurrence. My situation in the action, precluded me, of course from a personal knowledge of the conduct of the several corps during the engagement, nor could I declare that any particular company abandoned their posts, but that many of the militia were behind trees, &c. I know, & I sincerely avow that I do not perceive any insinuation reflecting upon the conduct of the militia beyond what I heard from themselves on the arrival of the army at this place.—

From capt. Scott I heard many particulars relating to capt. Biggers and his company, and but from information which I conceived general and unquestionable, I should not at the time have known that capt. Robb's company deserted the line. I never heard any reflection upon the conduct of capt. Bigger, he commanded one of the guards, and not being able to find his men when his guard came in, I was informed he took a musket & fell into the ranks with the men of capt. Scott's company, whose company, as the company of capt. Wilson, I ever understood and believe behaved with great bravery—I know nothing particularly of the conduct of other companies.—I have the honor to be with great esteem, respectfully your excellency's obedient servant.

G. W. PRESCOTT, *capt.*  
His execy. govt. Harrison.

GROUSELAND, 9th Feb. 1812.

SIR—I have this moment received your letter of this date. It is not as satisfactory as I could have wished it, and I am sorry to be obliged again to trouble you upon the eve of your departure. Since I conversed with you on the subject, the letter to the secretary of war, signed by col. Boyd and yourself, has appeared in the papers. Whatever might have been the motives with which it was written, it is most evident that a thorough investigation of their conduct in the action of the 7th Nov. would acquit the militia of that almost indiscriminate censure which that letter has cast upon them.

Of this description of troops there were in the action ten companies exclusively of the dragoons. In the letter to the secretary, you admit that Spencer's and Geiger's companies behaved well, and in that of this date, you give the same credit to Wilson's and Scott's. You also say that you were informed that Biggers & Robb's companies had abandoned their posts, & that you know nothing particularly of the conduct of the other companies. In the letter to the secretary it is asserted that the dastardly conduct of some whole militia companies, led to exposure and consequent loss of the lives of some of the militia officers whose men deserting the lines, were seen behind trees and under wagons, where many were killed. The censure contained in this paragraph must then have been intended by you to apply exclusively to Robb's & Biggers companies; that Biggers company did abandon the position in which it had been placed before the action will not be denied, but in admitting this, justice requires that by a singular mistake (of whose I will not pretend to say) that company was placed in a situation where it was not only exposed to be taken in front, flank and rear by the enemy but to be fired on also by our troops—that a militia company armed with rifles only, without its captain, should break in such a situation, is not to be wondered at—they are only censurable for not falling back in better order and rallying behind one of the other companies. Since the action I have been told that the greater part of the company was rallied by adjt. D. Floyd, and that they continued in the line upon the left flank, until the close of the action. Capt. Robb asserts that his company was ordered to fall back from its position in the line by some field officer, but admitting that this was not the case, every military man must allow that by its subsequent conduct it not only wiped away the stain of a momentary indecision, but is justly entitled to great applause. It was rallied by me and taken

to a point of great importance and eminent danger, and this post it preserved throughout the action.

Wishing to interrupt the preparations for your voyage as little as possible, I have only now to request that you would be so obliging as to answer the following questions. You have admitted that Spencer's, Geiger's, Wilson's & Scott's companies behaved well—do you know or have you ever heard that Warrick, Norris, Hargrove & Wilkins did not also behave well, & do every thing that was required of them? Do you know or have you ever heard that any other companies but Biggers and Robbs had abandoned their positions in the line (for Biggers did not form a part of the line?) Do you know or did you ever hear that a single militia man was killed behind or under a wagon or behind a tree, unless that tree was near the line, and where of course it was proper for riflemen to be? Did you ever hear that Robb's company had behaved amiss after I had placed it upon the right flank? Your answers to these questions will oblige me.

I am, &c.

WM. H. HARRISON,  
Capt. G. W. Prescott, 4th U. S. regt.

VINCENNES, Feb. 10, 1812.

SIR—In reply to your questions of this morning it is impossible for me to give that consideration I wish at this moment—I had never any personal knowledge of the captains named in your first query, and do not know that they as well as their men did not behave well, and do every thing that was required of them. I know of no other companies than Robb's and Biggers that abandoned their position in the line, to which reference could have been had, as stated in my note of yesterday.

I have repeatedly heard that more than one militia man was killed behind trees or wagons, where they could not act as riflemen, or in any other way to the annoyance of the enemy. I never heard that Robb's company behaved amiss after your excellency had placed it on the right flank.

I am, sir, respectfully your excellency's obedient servant.

G. W. PRESCOTT,

To his excellency William Henry Harrison, governor and commander in chief of the Indiana Territory.

SIR—In answer to the questions which your excellency has put to me—Do you know, or have you ever heard that any other companies than those of Bigger's and Robb's had abandoned their stations in the action?—I must state that I neither know, nor have I heard of any other companies who had deserted their posts, nor do I conceive that those companies can justly be considered to have abandoned their posts, as Bigger was certainly attacked in front, flank and rear; their captain on guard, and themselves overpowered by numbers.—Robb's company in common with the whole of that flank, may also justly be said to have given way before superior numbers; Robb's company was rallied and taken to the right flank, where they manfully sustained the repeated attacks of the savages, until the close of the action, and suffered severely as their list of killed and wounded will show, which answers also your excellency's second question, viz. 'Do you not know, or have you sufficient reason to believe from what you have heard, that Robb's company was rallied and removed to the right flank, where in a post of great danger it continued to discharge its duty until the close of the action?'—In answer to the third question—'Do you know, or have you ever heard that any militia officer or soldier was killed or wounded behind or under wagons or behind trees, which were not on or near the line, & where of course it was proper for riflemen to be?'—I must declare I neither know, nor ever heard, that any officer or soldier was wounded or killed behind trees or wagons. Most of those who were wounded, retired to the centre of the camp, which may have led those who superficially observed things to suppose that they were there wounded—such people also might have mistaken waggoners men in the contractors and quarter masters department who were not few, whose duty called them about the wagons, for those who had fled from their posts. It must be indeed a source of regret to your excellency, to find people who are perhaps not the most deserving, striving to rend in pieces the laurel wreath which your little army so gallantly won—merely because they cannot be the exclusive owners. For them should be shore the

wreath of discord, labelled with dissensions, folly and madness, on its front. That such may no more disturb where you command, sir, is the wish of your obedient servant.

NATHL. F. ADAMS,  
Capt. 4th regt. Infy. & Adj.  
of the army on the expedition.

LONDON, April 14.

We received this morning the following account from Manchester, where, we are glad to state, no further disturbances have taken place.

Manchester, April 14.

Since Wednesday evening the town has been peaceable and free from alarm; but the more effectually to preserve good order, and prevent the renewal of the shameful conduct of Wednesday the constables sent circular letters (of which the following is a copy) to every publican in the town:

SIR—We are desired by the magistrates to order all the public houses to be shut by 7 o'clock in the evening, so long as the riotous disposition which manifested itself yesterday shall continue, to which we request your strict attention.

E. LLOYD, Constables.

J. KERSEY, Constables.

POPULAR TUMULT.

In addition to the particulars in the evening papers of the alarming riots at Sheffield, very affecting reports have been in circulation respecting others at Stockport and Macclesfield, but we are happy to say from the best authority, that the accounts are much exaggerated. Messrs. Marshall and Co's manufactory, which was said to have been burnt to the ground, was attacked, but no very material damage was done to it. From thence a lawless multitude proceeded to Mr. Goodier's, also to Stockport, where great damage was done, and Mrs. G. had a narrow escape with her life. From thence the insurgents hastened to the establishment of Mr. Sykes, and what further mischief was accomplished, is not ascertained as the post took its departure before the result could be made known. The mob attempted to set fire to the house of Mr. Charles Wood, but did not succeed.—We believe only one manufactory has been destroyed at Macclesfield.

Such is the news which the London papers must carry to Bonaparte, to add to the many consolations they have lately afforded him for the gallant efforts and the important success of the British arms in Spain.

How can we hope for peace while the enemy may not only read in so many speeches the most exaggerated statements of the injuries they do us by the war, but may learn by such dreadful misconduct as this, that the English populace are contributing to the destruction of manufactures, and of the very means by which the country has been hitherto prosperous and powerful?

Thus are the abusus of a free constitution on destroying its blessings.

It is said that his royal highness is very far from being on a friendly footing with his present ministers, whatever exterior decency he may preserve in respect to them. We are informed, that an interview, within these few days, with a noble earl, who has been considered unfit of late to hold the first place in the regard of the prince, the regent desired that nobleman to signify the royal displeasure at the conduct of his political servants, in a manner that delicacy to him and to them would not allow us to mention. One circumstance we believe is distinctly ascertained, that his royal highness is sincerely desirous of the success of the Catholic petition this day presented, and that there is a warm opposition between the prince & his minister, with respect to it. It is known among the prince's personal friends, that he expects of them that they should support it. We hear that Sir F. Burdett was at the levee.

WASHINGTON-CITY, June 2.

It will be seen by a reference to the proceedings of congress that a message was yesterday received from the president of a confidential nature. Accompanying the message was sundry documents, embracing a correspondence between Mr. Russel and the British government, much in the spirit of all the late correspondence in that quarter, which we shall present to our readers in our next, as they were not deemed to require secrecy and were by the senate ordered to be printed. Of the import of the message we cannot pretend to speak with certainty; and every reader, who reflects on the course

of measures of the present session, and the various indications of the sentiments of the executive, is as competent as ourselves to conjecture its contents.

We extract the following from the proceedings of the house of representatives on the 29th ult.—we consider it somewhat indicative of the disposition of the house on the question of war. *Ken. Gaz.*

Mr. Randolph, after stating that he had a motion to make, commenced a speech involving generally the present state of our relations with France & G. Britain. When he had been speaking about an hour and a half, a question of order arose, and it was decided by the speaker that the gentleman aught, previously to debating so much at large, to submit his motion to the house.

After some deftory debate and decisions on points of order, Mr. Randolph submitted the following proposition:—“That under present circumstances it is inexpedient to resort to a war against G. Britain.” And the question being taken that the house do now proceed to the consideration of said resolution, it was decided in the negative.

For the consideration 37  
Against it 62

Extract of a letter from the hon. Henry Clay to a gentleman in Lexington.  
Washington, May 27, 1812.

“That we shall have war, I still believe. The dispatches brought by the Hornet were yesterday laid before congress. Although not as favorable as we had a right to expect, or could have wished, they are more so than they had been rumoured to be. They shew the practical observance of the repeal of the Berlin and Milan decrees as to us. The Rambouillet spoliations, it is true, are not yet indemnified, but they are a subject of discussion and negociation—and with regard to the recent burnings (which by the bye however execrable, they do not fall within those decrees) Mr. Barlow had presented a strong note, but had received no reply.—Throughout the whole of Mr. Barlow's intercourse with that government, they appear to have treated him with prompt attention and good manners at least. In short, after the dispatches were read yesterday, there was a general disappointment manifested at their being much better than they had been rumoured to be, and the universal sentiment was “we will go on in our intended course as to England, and wait a little longer with France.” I think it therefore highly probable that about the time this letter will be with you, war will be declared in due form against England. *Ken. Gaz.*

WASHINGTON CITY, June 6.

The Senate sat a short time with closed doors yesterday, and the house of representatives for the whole of the two last days. Report says that some measure of a decisive character has passed the house, and has been sent to the senate for concurrence.

The president of the U. States yesterday communicated to congress two letters from Mr. Foster to Mr. Monroe, and replies thereto by the secretary of state, which have passed within the last week. Of these documents we have not been able to obtain the perusal; but we learn that they embrace, on the part of the British minister, an amplification of the principles contained in the ‘declaration’ published in our last, and on the part of the secretary a nervous exposition of their real character, and incompatibility with our rights and the law of nations. These documents we will endeavor to publish in our next.

ALEXANDER BUCKNER  
HAS established his residence in Charlton, in the County of Clark and Territory of Indiana, and will practice law in the Courts of Clark County, Harrison and Jefferson—Also in the General Court at Vincennes. All business with which he may be intrusted with, will be attended to with punctuality. All letters directed to him on business, must be post paid, otherwise they will not be taken out of the office.

FROM THE PRESS OF  
E. STOUT.  
PRINTER TO THE TERRITORY AND OF  
THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.