

merchandise embraced by the provisions of the act, entitled "An act authorizing the admission, under certain circumstances, of vessels owned by citizens of the U. States of America, with their cargoes from British ports beyond the Cape of Good Hope," shall not in any case be paid, or secured to be paid, in such manner as to postpone the payment of such duties beyond the time and those at which the said duties should have become payable, if the goods, wares and merchandise had been imported and entered at the time of passing this act, any thing in the act above mentioned to the contrary notwithstanding.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Wm. H. CRAWFORD,
President of the Senate, pro tempore.
February 27, 1813.—APPROVED.
JAMES MADISON.

AN ACT for the relief of John Dixon and John Murray.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, &c. he hereby is authorized to pay to John Dixon, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$29 dollars and 84 cents, with six per centum per annum interest thereon, from the 1st day of January, 1785, being the amount of a final settlement certificate number 536, issued by Andrew Dinscomb, late commissioner of accounts for the State of Virginia, on the 23d day of December, 1785, to Lucy Dixon, who transferred the same to John Dixon.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the accounting officers of the treasury be, and they are hereby authorized and directed to settle the account of John Murray, representative of the district of New York, and that he be allowed the amount of three loan office certificates, number 13,975 for 2000 dollars; number 13,976 for 200 dollars; number 6,409 for 600 dollars, with interest from the 29th day of March, 1782, if paid in the name of Henry Murray, signed Francis Hopkinson, treasurer of loans, and countersigned Thomas Harwood; and that the amount due be paid to the said John Murray, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Wm. H. CRAWFORD,
President of the Senate, pro tempore.
February 23, 1813.—APPROVED.
JAMES MADISON.

AN ACT for the relief of Royal Converse.

BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That Royal Converse, now imprisoned in the town of Burlington, in the county of Chittenden, and district of Vermont, shall be, and is hereby released and discharged from all claim and demand of the U. States, to or upon a certain judgment or sentence before the circuit court of the second circuit of the U. States, begun and holden at Rutland, within and for the said district of Vermont, on the 3d day of October, in the year of our Lord 1812 recovered or rendered for the sum of 528 dollars, with costs at their suit, for importing into the U. States, to wit: into the said Vermont district, certain goods, wares and merchandise, contrary to law.

H. CLAY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
Wm. H. CRAWFORD,
President of the Senate, pro tempore.
February 23, 1813.—APPROVED.
JAMES MADISON.

From the Pittsburgh Mercury.

News from the Centre Army.

On Friday last, we issued from the Mercury office an Extra, containing the principal features of the following article from the Buffalo Gazette. To the friends of the country, it must be highly gratifying to find this pleasing intelligence fully confirmed. The campaign has indeed opened in a manner becoming the character of the nation. The enemy is every where abandoning his strong holds. The American standard is planted on the walls of fort George and Erie; the enemy, indubitably, is flying before our victorious troops, destroying his stores and munitions of war; the command of the lakes is ours; & the nests of savage

barbarity broken up. Where is the American whole heart does not exult in the glorious exploits of his countrymen?

In addition to the particulars mentioned under the Buffalo head, the editor of the Mercury has received the following articles from a gentleman who left Erie on Friday last:—There is no doubt of their truth.

On Thursday evening last, an express arrived at Erie from gen. Dearborn, on his way to gen. Harrison. He left Buffalo on Thursday morning, & calculated reaching Cleveland on Friday night. He reports that a few minutes before he left Niagara, an express had arrived to gen. Dearborn, informing that the enemy from Kingston, had made an attack on Sackett's Harbor; but were repulsed with great loss. Com. Chauncey had failed for Sackett's Harbor, the day before the express arrived; and it was thought might possibly reach there in time to fall on the rear of the enemy.

The British forces who had been driven from forts George, Erie, &c. had made a stand at the Forty Mile creek, on the little lake or pond at the head of lake Ontario. They were 2000 strong; had 5 pieces of cannon; and were throwing up fortifications. It was supposed that the enemy would evacuate Detroit, Malden, &c. and bring on all their forces above to this point when they would make a stand—gen. Lewis with 4000 men had marched for this place, with a full determination to drive the enemy from his entrenchments.

The loss of the British in the attack on fort George was said to be 170 killed, and 200 wounded.

Com. Perry is expected up at Erie from Black Rock, with six sail the first fair wind. Fort Erie being in possession of the American forces, leaves our little squadron at the Rock, at perfect liberty.

The brig at Erie are all safely launched into their destined element, and will be ready to sail about the first of July. When the reinforcements from Black Rock shall have arrived, our little squadron on Lake Erie will amount to thirteen—forces fully sufficient to give us the complete command on that lake, as we already have on lake Ontario.

From the Buffalo Gaz. of June 1.
Fort George Evacuated!

This post was evacuated on Thursday last by the enemy; on Friday we issued the intelligence in a hand bill, which we now republish, with corrections and some particulars.

On Thursday morning, in conformity to previous arrangements, 1000 men, under the immediate command of gen. Lewis, embarked on board the fleet, lying near fort Niagara, under command of commodore Chauncey, during the early part of the morning there was a thick fog, which prevented the landing until eight or 9 o'clock, when the vessels formed a curved line off the point, beyond the light house, and in the rear of Newark. A van guard, consisting of 800 picked men (among whom were capt. Forsyth's riflemen, and a number of Baltimore and Albany volunteers) under the command of col. Scott, now put for the shore in about twenty boats, and effected their landing in good order; part of them ascended the bank and were attacked by the enemy, who had drawn his whole force to this point; they gave back, and formed on the beach; a spirited fire was now exchanged for fifteen minutes, which had but little effect on our troops, they being partly sheltered by the bank; but the van guard ascended the bank amidst a shower of musketry, and compelled the enemy to give the ground. Col. Scott was able to ascend by a powerful and well directed fire from the shipping. A body of rifling 2000 men made a landing; and the enemy prudently took up their line of retreat in the rear of fort George; the flying artillery (which had also landed) played upon the enemy in his retreat with considerable effect.

Gen. Lewis now formed a line extending from the light house to the Niagara river above fort George, to prevent the escape of the enemy, but all made good their retreat, except a dozen, who had been left to blow up their magazines. Two small magazines were immediately blown up—a short time after which their principal magazine flared the same fate. The men left in the fort were taken and sent to fort Niagara. Part of the army entered fort George, the British flag was taken down and the American flag

substituted in its place, amidst the acclamations of thousands.

From an early hour in the morning, until the British retreated, fort Niagara and the batteries opened a most tremendous cannonade upon fort George and the British batteries, and literally demolished them.—The two schooners Growler and Ontario, anchored in the mouth of Niagara river, and played upon the fort and batteries with much effect.

The enemy were commanded by general Vincent; their forces were estimated at 3000 regulars and militia. We understand that they retreated by the Beaver dam for the Short Hills (about twenty miles from Queenstown). It is reported that gen. Lewis with a respectable force has gone in pursuit of the enemy.

Our loss in the action at the landing has been variously stated; we believe, however, it will not be far from 30 killed and dangerously wounded. The enemy's loss was much greater.

The village of Newark was entirely deserted by its inhabitants. The public stores at Queenstown were removed or destroyed.

Dr. C. Chace of this village was in the van guard. Gen. Porter, we understand, went with gen. Lewis as an aid. General Dearborn was on board the commodore's ship during the landing.

Those two fine troops of light dragoons, under capt. Bird and Selden, which encamped in this village last Tuesday night, arrived at fort Niagara and crossed the river on the day of the battle.

We do not learn that any private buildings were destroyed at Newark.

The following letter, written on the day of the action, is all the written information we possess:

"Fort George and the batteries are ours, the former demolished, magazines blown up by the enemy. The fort destroyed by our artillery alone; it is inferior to none in the world. The enemy have retreated a few miles more fighting to be expected. Our loss ten killed, a few wounded, major King wounded in the arm. Thirteen prisoners have been sent over."

Evacuation of fort Erie.

About four o'clock on the evening of the same day, an express arrived at fort Erie from the British commander below. It is understood that the express brought orders for all the regulars to march immediately down to gen. Vincent on his retreat—and also for major Warren (of the militia) to open a fire upon Black Rock, and continue the same until the next morning; and then build his guns, blow up the magazines, and dismiss his men. He executed his orders. The batteries below the fort immediately opened a fire upon Black Rock, which was returned, and continued at intervals during the night. Early in the morning, the destruction of their military stores commenced—All their magazines, all their barracks, public stores and flour houses, from Chipewas to Point Abino, have been blown up or burned.

Not a person was injured at the Rock, during the whole cannonade. The barracks and several private buildings received a few shots.

On the evening of Friday last, col. J. P. Preston, commanding at Black Rock, crossed over with his regiment and entered fort Erie. From the humane and salutary measures adopted by col. Preston on his entrance into the enemy's territory, in determining between friends and enemies, and securing those well disposed in their persons & property, we anticipate that he will be very favorably received by the inhabitants of Canada.

Addressed to the Canadians.

The commandant at fort Erie, finding the people in its vicinity anxious to obtain special protections, deems it necessary to make a public declaration, that all those who may come forward & enrol their names with him and claim protection of the U. States, shall have their property and persons secured to them inviolate. He invites all who mean to pursue this course to take it immediately, that they may be distinguished from the enemy; & while he assures them that their interests and happiness will be regarded by the government of the U. S. he solemnly warns those who may obstinately continue inimical, that they are bringing on themselves the most rigorous and disastrous consequences; as they will be pursued and treated with that spirit of re-

taliation which the treatment of the American prisoners in the hands of the British so justly inspires.

JAMES P. PRESTON, Lieut. col.
12th regt. infy. comd. at fort Erie, Black Rock, and Buffalo.
May 30th, 1813.

WASHINGTON CITY, June 17.
Copy of a letter from major general Dearborn to the Secretary of war.

HEAD QUARTERS,

Fort George, June 6.

SIR—I have received an express from the head of the lake this evening, with intelligence that our troops commanded by brig. gen. Chandler were attacked at two o'clock this morning by the whole of the British & Indian forces, and by some strange fatality though our loss was small (not exceeding 30) and the enemy completely driven from the field, both brigadier generals Chandler and Winder were taken prisoners. They had advanced to ascertain the situation of a company of artillery when the attack commenced. Gen. Vincent is reported to be among the killed of the enemy; col. Clark was mortally wounded, and fell into our hands with sixty prisoners of the 49th British regiment. The whole loss of the enemy is 250. They sent in a flag with a request to bury their dead. Gen. Lewis, accompanied by brig. gen. Boyd, goes on to take the command of the advanced troops.

I have the honor to be, Sir, &c.

H. DEARBORN.

Hon. gen. John Armstrong,

Secretary of War.

P. S. June 8.—The enemy's fleet has passed this place—two ships and four schooners.

Extract from a private letter, dated fort George, 3th June, to the Secretary of war.

"The enemy considered himself pursued, took post at the head of the lake, waiting the arrival of Proctor (who has left Malden) and taking the chance of other succours from below.

"Winder was detached on the 10 inst. to dislodge him. He carried with him his own brigade and one regt. from Boyd's brigade. On Thursday, Chandler (for whom the command was intended) followed with the remainder of Boyd's brigade. The British gen. Vincent anticipated the blow and attacked our troops at 2 o'clock in the morning of the 6th. Chandler and Winder, & the deputy quarter master general, Vandevanter were made prisoners early in the action. The command devolved on col. Burn of the dragoons. The enemy were beaten and routed, leaving 250 behind him—but according to our northern tactics, we declined to press a beaten enemy. We gave him time to collect and fight once more.—Lewis and Boyd are under marching orders for the command of the advance. Our loss does not exceed thirty."

Major gen. Hampton left this city on Thursday morning for the northern frontier where he is about to take a command.

Major general Wilkinson, we learn is expected here in two or three weeks at farthest, who it is believed, is also destined to a station in the north.

Nat. Int.

NEW-YORK, June 10.

Capt. Rodgers arrived at this port in the schr. Piper, three days from Saybrook, reports that yesterday, off Sands' Point, he spoke the schr. Sally of Newport, the capt. of which informed, that two frigates had arrived there, who stated that the Chesapeake was recaptured by her own crew—that during the action with the Shannon, the Chesapeake was boarded by 150 men; these men were put in irons, and the Chesapeake was standing for the first American port.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at fort Niagara, to his friend in Pittsburgh, dated,

Fort Niagara, June 8.

We crossed into Canada on the 27th of May, at fort George. On landing we lost 25 men killed and 55 wounded. The British lost 100 killed.

They did not stand us 20 minutes. We took about 100 prisoners, 3000 barrels of flour, and 100 barrels of pork. The next day we marched for Queenstown and took possession of it without firing a gun.

The day following we took two other forts. Then we left the main body of the