

From the *Ogdensburg Palladium*, of Oct. 6.

On Friday last, about forty British boats came up the river St. Lawrence. They arrived at Jonstown about sunset, escorted by 2 gun-boats. On their leaving Jonstown for Prescott, (opposite this place) a heavy cannonade was opened from the batteries at Prescott upon this village, which continued for two hours, in order to cover the boats in proceeding to Prescott from Jonstown. The fire was returned in a very spirited manner from our batteries, until it was perceived that long shots made but very little effect. On Saturday morning, the boats were discovered to be in the harbor of Prescott, and early in the morning the enemy recommenced a heavy fire on this place, from 12's, 9's, and 6 pounders, which Gen. Brown thought proper not to answer. The fire continued for half an hour. The enemy were busily engaged all day in preparing their boats for something more serious; and about 10 o'clock on Sunday morning, 25 boats, aided by 2 gun-boats, mounted with 9 pounders, moved up the river from Prescott, about three fourths of a mile, and then tacked and made for this place. As soon as they altered their course, all the cannon on the batteries at Prescott opened a fire on this village, which was not answered till the boats had advanced about the middle of the river, when our batteries commenced a tremendous cannonade upon them, which after about an hour, caused the enemy to return to Prescott in great confusion.

From the judicious arrangements made by Col. Benedict, Capt. Forsyth, Capt. Griffin, Major Dimock, Adj. Hottchkiss, Capt. Hubbard, Capt. Benedict, Capt. McNitt and others, of the troops under their command, as directed by Gen. Brown, had the enemy attempted a landing an immense slaughter must have ensued. No person could have been more attentive than Gen. Brown, through the whole action. Praise is also due to his field, staff, and commissioned officers.

By this action the British are taught, that 400 Yankees will not decline a combat when attacked by 1000 of their troops. Col. Lethbridge and Breckenridge, led the British in person.

Although several hundred 12, 9 and 6lb shot were thrown into this village, we are happy to inform our readers, that not a single person was either killed or wounded, and very little damage done to our village. From several deserters we learn, that a number were killed and several severely wounded on board the boats—that one of their batteries gave way, by which circumstance a 12 pounder was dismounted, and that one of their iron 9's burst and mortally wounded a number of those who were managing the piece.

BATTLE OF QUEENSTON.

From the *Gazette office*, Albany, Oct. 20.

The following is the most accurate account we have been able to obtain of the late attack on the British at Queenston, by the American troops.

At 4 o'clock in the morning of the 13th inst. Col. Solomon Van Rensselaer, at the head of 300 militia, and Lieut. Col. Christie, at the head of 300 regulars of the 13th regiment, embarked in boats to dislodge the British from the heights of Queenston. They crossed under cover of a battery of two eighteen and two

six pounders. Their movement was discovered almost at the instant of their departure from the American shore. The detachments landed under a heavy fire of artillery and musketry. Col. Van Rensselaer received a wound through his right thigh soon after landing, but proceeded on until he received two other flesh wounds in his thigh and the calf of one of his legs, and a severe contusion on one of his heels, when he ordered the detachments to march on and storm the first battery, and was himself carried off the field. The order for storming was gallantly executed, and a severe conflict ensued. Lieut. Col. Christie received a wound in the hand, but got over the works. At this time both parties were reinforced. The enemy soon gave way and fled in every direction. Major General Van Rensselaer crossed over to sustain the attack, and ascended the heights of Queenston, where he was attacked with great fury by several hundred Indians, who were, however, soon routed and driven into the woods. The reinforcements ordered over from the American side began to move tardily, and finally stopped. This induced the major-general to return in order to accelerate their movements. He mounted a horse, and used every exertion in his power to urge on the reinforcements, but in vain, whereupon the general perceiving that a strong reinforcement was advancing to support the British, ordered a retreat, but before the order reached Brigadier-General Wadsworth, the battle was renewed by the enemy with great vigor and increased numbers, which compelled the Americans, whose strength and ammunition were nearly exhausted by hard fighting for eleven hours, and with very little intermission, to give way. The number of killed is considerable on both sides, but the Americans have lost many prisoners, including about sixty officers, most of whom are wounded. Among the prisoners are Lieut. Colonels Scott, Christie, and Fenwick of the United States troops, Gen. Wadsworth and Col. Stranahan of the militia. Major-General Brock of the British is among the slain, and his aide-camp mortally wounded. The whole number of the Americans said to have been engaged is about 1600, of which 900 were regular troops and 700 militia.

On the 14th, an arrangement was made between major-general Van Rensselaer and Gen. Sheafe, for the liberation of all the militia prisoners on parole, not to serve during the war.

The following, from the Albany Register Extra, contains some additional particulars:

A large body of the enemy got behind a stone guard-house, in which was mounted a pair of heavy ordnance. Two eighteen pounders were directed against it, which raked them severely; and at the 8th shot tumbled up a heap of men, and dismounted one gun. They fled behind Judge Hamilton's store-house; but our eighteens raked them from thence, and they fled. By this time, about 10 o'clock, the enemy's fire, except one gun, out of reach, was silenced, and victory seemed complete. The general had passed over to the Heights, but sent back to urge on the troops which were passing over to head the columns.

At this time, however, the enemy received a reinforcement of several hundred of Chippeway Indians, and commenced an attack with

great fury. The rifle and the bayonet had scarcely put them to rout, and drove them to the woods, when they were joined by a large reinforcement of regulars from Fort George. They renewed the attack, and the conflict became tremendous. It lasted about half an hour, when our valiant Spartan band, who had waded through blood, anticipating victory, being exhausted in strength and ammunition, were obliged to yield the day. They had fought eleven hours, without intermission.

Many have fallen, many lie wounded; and the British have many prisoners; but on this head, we have not sufficient particulars to enter into details.

Col. Van Rensselaer's wounds are severe, but he is on the recovery. Brock, the British general, is certainly slain.

THE WAR.

NEW-YORK:

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 24, 1812.

BATTLE OF QUEENSTON.

In recording this unfortunate event, we have but one consolation to offer our readers, which is, that our troops, by their courage in storming the British batteries, have conferred the highest reputation on the American arms. Col. Christie, of this city, and his regiment, have done themselves immortal honor, by driving at the point of the bayonet the British 49th [some accounts say 42d] veteran regiment, which acquired so much reputation in Egypt. But while we do justice to the heroism of our brave soldiers, we lament that so much blood should have been spilt in vain. It is indeed mortifying, that owing to mismanagement, 700 of our regulars and two or three thousand militia, should be captured from us by the enemy, without one single object of the war being attained. Of what advantage to the country is it, that we have killed a number of the enemy, and had a number of our own countrymen killed and taken prisoners? If it is the determination of the government to attempt the reduction of Canada, something like a system should be pursued in the operations of the army. It is in vain to think of accomplishing the object by sending detachments of one or two thousand men at a time. To ensure success, a vigorous attack on several places should be made at the same time, with a competent force. By these means the enemy would be distracted, and prevented from drawing reinforcements from several posts to one point of attack.

FROM HALIFAX.

By the arrival at Boston of the cartel ship *Fawn*, captain Harris, we are furnished with the following intelligence from that quarter:

A Halifax paper of the 9th inst. gives the result of Capt. Dacres' trial for surrendering his ship to the *Constitution*. He has been honorably acquitted—but the opinion of the court is tinged with that spirit of illiberality and injustice which is the most prominent feature in the British character. It avers, "that the loss of the masts of the *Guerriere* was occasioned more by their defective state, than from the fire of the enemy, though so greatly superior in guns and men; and that the crew, while prisoners, were offered high bribes to enter into the land and sea-service of the U. S." It is truly astonishing, that the *Guerriere*'s masts should so suddenly have got into such a "defective state;" as it will be recollected that when the British squadron chased the *Constitution* a short time previous, the *Guerriere* was the headmost ship, and had every inch of canvass set that it was possible to spread upon her masts and yards. The fact