NORTH WESTERN ARMY.

CHILICOTHE, May 10.

An express arrived yesterday from the army, bringing the important intelligence contained in the following letters ——We have only time to add, that we hope that the numerous reinforcements now on their march to join Harrison will arrive at the Rapids before the enemy effect their retreat; in which case we may venture to predict that Malden will be ours before the first of June.

Extract of a letter from the Post Master in Franklinton to the Post Master in this place, who has politely favored us with a copy of it, dated

"*Franklinton, May 9.*

"While writing, news has arrived from Fort Meigs, which is lamentable. The British cannon spiked, and forty prisoners—*contra.* 550 Kentucky militia killed or taken. The Fort was yet safe on the 5th. I have not learnt the particulars; but you will receive them no doubt by the mail."

"The Chilicothe volunteer horsemen arrived here this evening."

Extract of a letter from a member of the Chilicothe Guards, dated

Head Quarters, Sandusky, May 8th, 1813.

"An express has just arrived from Camp Meigs and brings the Commanding General's letters to the Governor & Secretary of War.——They contain in their proceedings up to the 5th inst.—They, the enemy, invested the Fort on the 26th ult. but did nothing except a little shooting with small arms until the 1st of May, when the cannonade commenced from our side, while the enemy were erecting and preparing their batteries, two on the opposite side and one on this side the Miami river. General Clay sent an express to the Commanding General, informing him of his approach, and requesting orders.——The General immediately sent him orders to land his force [coming down in boats] on the opposite shore, and attack the British batteries at a given hour, when the General designed a sortie on the battery on this side, which was commanded by Col. Miller, of the 19th United States infantry.—Both were completely successful.—Gen. Clay drove the enemy, and spiked 7 pieces of artillery, but unfortunately when the militia are successful they have too much confidence. They remained on the ground, amused by manœuvring of the British until attacked by their force united with the savages, and of about 800 but 150 escaped—the rest were killed or taken prisoners. They had been repeatedly called to from the Fort to leave the position, embark and come in. Kentucky seems to suffer on all occasions. Col Miller took 2 pieces of artillery, and about 50 prisoners, among whom were 2 British officers, lieutenants, and bro't them into the Fort with very little loss It is believed some of Gen. Clay's men escaped and retreated towards Defiance. Only about 10 men have been killed in the Fort, and the General has the fullest confidence of holding out until the reinforcements arrive to compel the enemy to raise the siege. Capt. M'Culloch was killed in the Fort, a brother of him who fell at Brown's town. It is believed that Tecumseh is among the slain. He was seen riding, (or an Indian chief who the British prisoners upon being asked said was Tecumseh) was immediately fired upon by a party of our men. The General writes that the Indians were retiring. On the whole I consider the result equal to a victory.—If reinforcements arrive as we expect, Malden may be conquered at the Rapids. We have about 500 men here & expect more; we shall probably move on to morrow——More will join us at Lower Sandusky—we may probably make a force of near one thousand.——If the enemy remained five days they will probably be accounted for in a way they little expect."

Copy of a letter from Wm. Creighton, jun. Esq. dated

Upper Sandusky, May 8.

I wrote to you a few days since from this place. Troops are coming in daily—we now can muster about 500 strong. We expect by to morrow night to be 1000 strong, the Governor is here, and anxious to march for Fort Meigs. An express has this moment arrived from Gen. Harrison, with dispatches for this post, dated the 5th inst. On the 26th ult. the enemy's columns shewed themselves opposite Fort Meigs.——On the 27th some Indians crossed the river in the rear of the Fort. On the 1st, 2d and 3d of May, the enemy opened their batteries and kept up an incessant and tremendous fire, from 5 1 2 and 8 1 2 inch howitzers, one 24 pounder, and several lighter pieces. The shells and balls during that period showered in the Fort, but little execution was done; only eight or ten men killed during that period in the Fort. Silas M'Culloch, a brave & gallant man, is among the slain. On the night of the 3d, the enemy erected a gun and mortar battery on this side of the River, within two hundred and fifty yards of our lines, but were soon forced to take a more respectful distance.——About twelve o'clock on the night of the 4th, an officer arrived in a boat from General Clay, to inform the General of his approach, and that he would reach Fort Meigs in about 2 hours.

Gen. Harrison, determined on a general sally, and sent an officer to Gen. Clay, directing him to land 800 men some short distance above, to attack and carry the enemy's batteries, spike their cannon, and destroy their artillery. Gen. Clay was unfortunately delayed longer than he expected in passing the Rapids, and the detachment destined to make the attack did not reach the landing until near nine o'clock—this however, did not prevent them from making the attempt, and never was any thing more completely successful: the four batteries were immediately taken possession of, and their cannon spiked. The work was done, but that confidence which always attends militia when successful proved their ruin.—Although there was time sufficient to return to the boats, before a reinforcement arrived to the enemy, they remained upon the ground, in spite of the repeated calls which were made from the fort to bring them back to their boats, and suffered themselves to be amused and drawn into the woods by some feint skirmishing, while the British troops and an immense body of Indians were brought up; a severe action then took place. The British immediately intercepted the retreat of our men to the plain and the river, where they would have been under cover of our cannon: about 150 only out of nearly 800 effected their escape to the boats. When the balance of General Clay's force made its appearance and attempted to land above the garrison, their flank was attacked by a large body of Indians. General Harrison immediately ordered out a detachment consisting of part of the 19th United States regiment, about 100 twelve months volunteers and some militia; they however succeeded in driving the enemy entirely off, pursuant to the plan Gen. Harrison had formed.

An attack was then made upon the batteries on this side of the river, conducted by Col. Miller of the 19th regiment, with part of his regiment, the aforesaid volunteers, and the few militia; this attempt was successful.——The enemy were driven from their works—a number killed, and 2 British officers and 41 privates brought into camp

This attack was intended to be simultaneous, with that on the other side and it was nearly so. Notwithstanding the severe loss we have sustained in the Kentucky militia, the events of the day have been honorable to the American arms. The detachment under Col. Miller, suffered very little; and had the militia been contented with executing what they were ordered to do, every object which had been contemplated by gen. Harrison would have been accomplished.

General Harrison writes confidently of his ability to maintain his position.——I hope in a very short time we shall be able to relieve him. Poor Kentucky! My heart bleeds for the loss of her gallant sons! She has bled freely, yea, profusely, during this war.

ZANESVILLE, May 12.

RECENT OCCURRENCES.

On Monday evening last, lieutenant Vanhorn returned express from Gen. Cass, bringing orders to major Munsen for capt. Cains's company to march immediately to Delaware; also inviting as many volunteers as could be raised forthwith, to repair to the frontiers; stating that the news from the Rapids was most disastrous. It was also stated, with some degree of probability, that the Kentuckians, under gen. Clay, had been all cut off except 200 men.

Two mounted volunteer corps are rapidly raising in this county; the one east of the river by col. R. M. Connel, and that west of the river by maj. S. C. Smith; which, we understand will march in two or three days An honorable display of patriotism is almost universal.

Last evening intelligence of a most pleasing nature, arrived at this place from fort Meigs, that gen. Harrison had got possession of the British cannon, viz. seven 18 pounders and six howitzers, which he had obtained by means of a sally from the fort, & at the expence of 200 men——This information came brough such a channel that little doubt can be entertained of its correctness.

From Coshocton, we learn, that nearly 100 mounted volunteers have marched from that place to the frontiers, comprising almost all the first characters in the country.

Further particulars——by Mr. William Cummings, who arrived here this morning direct from Chilicothe we are informed that just before he left that place, an express had arrived from Harrison with whom he conversed, and from whom he received the following particulars, which were immediately published in bills at Chilicothe, that Clay with his troops arrived with about 3 miles of Fort Meigs, at Wayne's old camping ground: that he was ordered to cross the maumee with 800 men, in order to spike or take the cannon of the enemy, which were placed opposite to Fort Meigs, while colonel Miller should attack the enemy's batteries on this side of the river;—that col. Miller succeeded in his attack, took the British cannon & about 30 prisoners; that the Kentuckians, after a desperate fight routed the enemy on the other side of the river and having spiked their cannon were ordered into Fort Meigs; but conceiving victory complete, they indulged in rejoicing, &c. until they were attacked by the British and Indians, and all cut off but about 150.

WASHINGTON CITY, May 20.

Good News from the North Western Army.

THE ENEMY REPULSED.

[A despatch of prior date to the following, supposed to contain the earlier transactions of the siege, has not yet reached the department of war, as will appear from passages in gen. Harrison's letter.]

Copy of a despatch from Major General Wm. H. Harrison to the Secretary of War, dated

Head Quarters, L. Sandusky, 15th May, 1813.

SIR,

Having ascertained that the enemy [Indians as well as British] had entirely abandoned the neighborhood of the Rapids, I left the command of camp Meigs with Gen. Clay, and came here last night. It is with the greatest satisfaction, I inform you, sir, that I have reason to believe that the loss of the Kentucky troops in killed on the north side of the river does not exceed 50.—On the 10th and 11th inst. I caused the ground which was the scene of action and its environs to be carefully examined, and after the most diligent search 45 bodies only of our men were discovered—amongst them was the leader of the detachment, Col. Dudley. No other officer of note fell in the action. I have strong reason to believe that a considerable number of the Kentuckians effected their retreat up the river to for Winchester. Gen. Procter did not furnish me with a return of prisoners in his possession, although repeatedly promised. His retreat was as precipitate as it could properly be, leaving a number of cannon ball, a new elegant sling carriage for cannon, and other valuable articles. The night before his departure, two persons that were employed in the British gun boats [Americans by birth] deserted to us. The information they gave me was very interesting—they say that the Indians, of which there were from 1600 to 2000, left the British the day before their departure in a high state of dissatisfaction, from the great loss which they had sustained in the several engagements of the 5th, and the failure of the British in accomplishing their promise of taking the post at the Rapids. From the account given by these men, my opinion is confirmed of the great superiority of the enemy which were defeated by our troops in the two sallies made on the 5th inst. That led by Col. Miller did not exceed 350 men, and it is very certain that they defeated 200 British regulars, 150 militia, and 4 or 500 Indians. That the American regulars, although they were raw recruits, and such men as compose the Pittsburg, Penn. and Petersburg, Va. volunteers, should behave well, is not to be wondered at—but that a company of militia should maintain its ground against four times its numbers, as did captain Sebres of Kentucky, is truly astonishing. These brave fellows were at length however entirely surrounded by Indians, and would have been entirely cut off, but for the gallantry of lieutenant Gwyne of the 19th reg. who with part of captain Ellicott's company, charged the enemy and released the Kentuckians. I enclose you a list of the killed and wounded during the whole siege. It is considerably larger than I had supposed it would be when I last wrote to you—but it is a satisfaction to know that they did not bleed uselessly, but in the course of successful exertions. The return does not embrace those who fell on the N. W. side of the Miami.

You will also receive herewith a monthly return of the troops at camp Meigs for the last month; the communication with the other posts being cut off, the returns were not received. A copy of gen. Clay's report to me of the manner of his executing my order for the attack on the enemy's batteries, is likewise forwarded, by which it will be seen that my intentions were perfectly understood, and the great facility with which they might have been executed is apparent to every individual who witnessed the scene. Indeed the cannon might have been spiked, the carriages cut to pieces, the magazines, destroyed and the retreat effected to the boats without the loss of a man, as none were killed in taking the batteries, so complete was the surprise.

An extensive open plain intervenes between the river & the hill upon which the batteries of the enemy were placed; this plain was raked by four of our 18 pounders, a 12 and a 6. The enemy, even before their guns were spiked, could not have brought one to bear upon it.—So perfectly secured was their retreat that the 150 men who came off effected it without loss and brought off some of the wounded, one of them upon the backs of his comrades. The Indians followed them to the woods, but dared not enter into the plain.

I am unable to form a correct estimate of the enemy's force. The prisoners varied much in their accounts; those who made them least stated the regulars at 550 and militia at 800; but the numbers of Indians were far beyond comparison greater than have ever been bro't into the field before; numbers arrived after the siege commenced. I have caused their camps on the S. E. side of the river to be examined, and the general opinion is that there could not have been fewer on that side than 1000 or 1200; they were indeed the efficient force of the enemy.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favors of the 14th, 18th and 28th ult. and 4th inst.

I am sorry to inform you that Maj. Stodard died the night before I left the Rapids. of a lock-jaw, produced by a slight wound from a fragment of a shell which struck him on the thigh. Several have died in this way from their great and unavoidable exposure to the cold, but perhaps there never were so many instances of desperate wounds being likely to do well. The gallant capt. Bradford will recover.

I shall go from here to Upper Sandusky and shall take my station at Delaware or Franklinton until the troops are assembled. Gen. Clay, who commands at the Rapids, is a man of capacity and entirely to be relied on. I have the honor to be,

WM. H. HARRISON.

The Hon. John Armstrong,
Secretary at War.

Return of the killed and wounded in the siege of Camp Meigs, and the several sorties of the 5th inst.

	Killed.	Wounded.	Total.
U. S. Artillery	1		
U. S. Infantry	39	90	129
U. S. Drag.	3	17	20
Ken. Militia	30	42	72
Ohio Militia	3	8	11
12 mo. Volun.	2	29	31
Detachment of Infantry of the U. States	3	3	6
	81	189	269

REMARKS.

Majors Stoddard and Hukill—the former died of his wounds, the latter slightly wounded.

Sixty-four of the above were killed in the sorties, and one hundred and twenty four wounded: the balance, eighty one killed and wounded within the fortified camp.

J. O. FALLON,
Act. Ass. Ad. Gen.

Copy of a letter from General Clay to General Harrison.

SIR,

On the 5th inst. about 8 o'clock, A. M. descending the Miami of the Lake about midway of the Rapids, with 1260 of the Kentucky troops in 18 flat bottomed boats, I was met by capt. Hamilton and a subaltern, who delivered me (as he said) the orders of Maj Gen. Harrison, to the following effect:

"You must detach about 800 men from your brigade, who will land at a point I will shew, about one or one and a half miles above the Fort, and I will conduct them to the British batteries on the left bank of the river. They must take possession of the enemy's cannon, spike them, cut down the carriages and return to their boats."

Observing that the British force at their large batteries was inconsiderable, but that their main force was at the old garrison, about one and a half miles below, on the same side of the river; that the Indian forces were chiefly on the right bank of the river——"The balance of the men under your command must land on the right bank, opposite the first landing, and will fight their way through to the Fort," observing that the route thus to be taken would be shewn by a subaltern officer there, in company with Captain Hamilton, who would land the Perogue at the point on the right bank, to which the boats would land.

The order of descending the river in boats was the same as the order of march in the line of battle in solid column, each officer taking position according to rank. Col. Dudly, the eldest Col. led the van, and in this order the river had been descended. As soon as Capt. Hamilton had delivered these orders, being in the thirteenth boat from the front, directed him to proceed immediately to Col. Dudley and order him to take the men in the twelve front boats, and execute Gen. Harrison's orders on the left bank of the river, and post his (Capt. Hamilton's) subaltern on the right bank to conduct myself with the men in the 6 rear boats to the Fort. I ordered the five boats in the rear to fall in a line and follow me.—High winds and the rapidity of the current drove four of the rear boats ashore in the attempt to follow on according to order, where they remained a short time, sufficient, however, to detain them 3 quarters of a mile in the rear. To land according to order I kept close along the right bank until opposite Col. Dudley's landing.——There I found no guide left to conduct me to the Fort as Capt. Hamilton had promised. I then made an attempt to cross the river and join Col. Dudley, but from the rapid current on the falls I was unable to land on the point with him. Being nearly half way across the river, and the waves running too high to risk the boat then driving down the current sidewise—veered about the boat and rowed the best way we could to save our boat. My attempt to cross the river to Col. Dudley occasioned all the boats (I presume is the rear of me) and which were then out of hailing distance to cross over and land with Col. Dudley. Having been defeated in a landing on the left, we then endeavored to effect one on the right, even without a guide: But before a landing could be effected we received a brisk fire from the enemy on shore, which was returned and kept up on both sides.—And I was in this unavoidable situation compelled to make to Fort Meigs with no other force than about 50 men on board (the other boats being still in the rear) and to receive the enemy's fire until we arrived under the protection of the Fort. Col. Boswell's command (except the men in my boat) having landed to join Col. Dudley, were, as I have been informed, ordered by Capt. Hamilton immediately to embark and land on the right hand shore about a mile above the fort, and prepare to fight his way thro' to the garrison.

The Col. embarked, landed as he conceived at the proper point, pursuant to Capt. Hamilton's order, and was forming his men in order of battle, when he was met by capt. Shaw, and ordered to march into the garrison at open order, the safest route

When my own boat landed we were met by 2 men who took charge of the boat as we understood to bring her under the protection of the fort batteries. Believing our baggage to be thus made safe we forbid our servants to carry any portion of it, but loaded them with cannon ball, which they bore to the Fort. Our baggage was however taken by the Indians in a very short time after we left the boat. Upon receiving the orders of Capt. Hamilton, I asked if he had bro't spikes to spike the enemy's cannon.—To which he replied he had plenty.

I am, sir, respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
GREEN CLAY, Brig. Gen.

His Excellency Maj Gen. Harrison.

P. S. Capt. Hamilton on delivering the orders of Gen. Harrison, observed that the object of landing and marching a portion of the troops on the right bank, was to draw the attention of the Indians, and by thus engaging them afford an opportunity to the garrison to make a sally by a circuitous route, surprize and carry the batteries and cannon of the enemy below the Fort on the right bank. G. C. Brig. Gen.

A true Copy, G. CROGHAN, A. D. C.

VICTORY OF YORK.

The letter of the brave but unfortunate capt. MOORE, while it has filled with sorrow the hearts of those whose friends were killed or wounded in battle, has placed the victory of York in a more brilliant light than any in which it has hitherto been seen. It may indeed prove the ground work of speedy and decisive success in the attempt to conquer and occupy the province of Upper Canada. In this signal triumph of the American arms, the traduced corps of Baltimore volunteers have performed their duty, with honour to themselves and credit to the city. They have alike put their calumniators, who accuse them of being destitute of courage, to shame, and their foreign enemies to flight. Abhorred be the man who unjustly reviles the gallant soldier while defending his country's rights and advancing its glory in distant regions. *American.*

BALTIMORE VOLUNTEERS.

Extract of a letter from Stephen H. Moore, capt. of the Baltimore Volunteers, to his brother in this city, dated

"NIAGARA, 5th May, 1813.

"I last wrote you from the Harbour, stating that I was then about to embark with my company, together with Gen. Pike's brigade, for the purpose of making a descent on the Canada shore. I have to inform you now of the result, which has been victorious and glorious to the American arms, although peculiarly unfortunate to me. We arrived at the head of the lake Ontario on Tuesday morning, the 27th ult. and debarked the forces about a mile above York, the capital of Upper Canada; here we were met on the beach by about 500 British regulars and 250 Indians; we contended with them warmly for about one hour, when we succeeded in driving them before us, and made good our landing, with the loss of some brave officers, and about 40 men killed or wounded; we then formed immediately, moved up to York, and when arrived just at the opening of the main street, the enemy sprung a mine upon us, which destroyed about 60 of his own men, and killed or maimed about 150 of our men. This horrible explosion has deprived me of my left leg, and otherwise grievously wounded me. I was taken from the field, carried on board the commodore's ship, where my leg was amputated, and I am now likely to recover. Two of my company were killed at the same time, and four or five more of my brave fellows were severely wounded—now out of danger.

"We have taken the capital of the enemy, & about a *million and a half* worth of public stores and other property. We have killed & wounded about three hundred British and their savage allies, and have taken prisoners about 700 men. We have taken from them also several vessels of war, which were found in the harbor, and destroyed a thirty two gun frigate, then on the stocks.

"This is the severest blow the British have felt since the war, and is to them irremediable——it will teach them a lesson of American bravery, which they cannot soon forget. The conquest of Upper Canada is now no longer doubtful, as almost all the guns, munitions of war and provisions, necessary to carry on the present campaign, were deposited at York, and have been taken by us. Gen. PIKE, however, the brave and gallant projector of this enterprise, fell in the very moment of complete victory, at the head of his column We have suffered severely in the loss of officers—2 capts. 14 lieuts. wounded. My wound, they say, is a good one, but it has maimed me for life.

"Lieut. IRVINE received a bayonet thro' his right shoulder, at the moment of stepping out of the boat, but is doing very well—GILL and WARNER, escaped unhurt.

"P. S.—My company distinguished themselves gloriously, and were noticed for their determined spirit. *Whig.*

Extract of a letter from a Field Officer in the force which landed at York, to the Department of War.

"The column of attack consisted of the 6th, 15th, 16th, and 21st regiments of infantry, and a detachment of the light and heavy artillery, Maj. Forsyth's corps of riflemen, and Lieut. Col. M'Clure's corps of volunteers acted on the flanks. There was a long piece of woods to go through, which offered many obstructions to our heavy ordnance. As was expected, we were there annoyed on our flanks by a part of the British and Indians, with a six pounder and two howitzers. One of the enemy's batteries accidentally blew up, by which he lost 50 of the 8th regiment.—A part of our force was detached from our column, as it came into the open ground, who carried the second battery by storm. The troops were halted a few minutes to bring up the heavy artillery to play on the block house. Gen. Sheaffe despairing of holding the town, ordered fire to be put to the magazine, in which there were 500 barrels of powder, many cart loads of stone, and an immense quantity of iron, shells and shot.—The explosion was tremendous. The column was raked from front to rear. Gen. Pike & his 3 aids, and 250 officers and men were killed or wounded in the column. Notwithstanding this calamity and the discomfiture that might be expected to follow it, *the troops gave three cheers, instantly formed the column and marched on* towards the town. Gen. Sheaffe fled and left his papers and baggage behind him. About 60 regulars accompanied him, leaving their wounded in every farm house. They acknowledge the loss of 300 killed and wounded. Their force, regulars and militia, consisted of 1000 men. We took between 4 & 500 prisoners."——*Nat. Intel.*

Extract of a letter from Major General Dearborn, to the Secretary of War, dated

"NIAGARA, May 3.

"As nearly as I have been able to ascertain, the loss of the enemy in the late affair of York amounted to one hundred killed, two hundred prisoners, and three hundred wounded. I have not been able to ascertain precisely the amount of the militia paroled—I presume it could not be less than five hundred. There was an immense depot of naval and military stores. York was a magazine for Niagara, Detroit, &c. and notwithstanding the immense amount which was destroyed by them, we found more than we could bring off. Gen. Sheaffe's baggage and papers fell into my hands; the papers are a valuable acquisition. A *Scalp* was found in the Executive and Legislative Council Chamber, suspended near the Speaker's chair, in company with the mace, &c." [*Ib.*

NEW YORK, May 17.

LATEST FROM FRANCE.

Captain Taylor, of the schooner De Lille, of *Baltimore*, who arrived here this morning down Sound, in 26 days from Bordeaux, informs that the Prussians had joined the Russians and had declared war against France. 40.000 Russians had arrived at Hamburgh. Bonaparte was soon to take the field at the head of a numerous army. The following persons were appointed regent in his absence: The Empress, Cambaceres, Talleyrand, St. John Angely, and Fouchet, formerly Ministers of Police. It was reported at Bordeaux that the Toulon fleet had sailed; but the report was afterwards contradicted. Several French frigates had gone to sea from Bordeaux and other ports. On the 15th inst. off Martha's Vineyard, capt. Taylor fell in with the schr. Gen. Marion, capt. Center from Nantes, with a valuable cargo to Jenkins & Havens, Jones & Megrath, & George Richards, of this city. Capt. Center informed that in the Bay of Biscay, he was chased by a British frigate & after lightening the schr. by staving twenty pipes of brandy fortunately made his escape. On the grand banks, about the 10th inst. the Gen. Marion was chased by four boats from a British frigate. It being nearly calm the boats came up with the Gen. Marion; but were so well plied with grape and cannister shot, marline spikes, and old iron of every description, from their guns, that they thought prudent to return to the frigate. The Gen Marion had expended all her ammunition but three rounds when the boats left her—capt Taylor supplied him & then bid him good bye. We understand the Gen. Marion has since arrived at New Bedford. Capt. Taylor has brought despatches for our government, from our consuls at Paris and Bordeaux, which were forwarded to Washington by this morning's mail.