where they and their property would be safe. That if all did not attend to his advice, he hoped some who had any regard for their lives, would go and join him.

A Shawanoe informs me that he saw three hundred troops advancing towards Fort Wayne—report however, said 200. The said Indian came from the Ottowa towns.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most ob't humble serv't,
M. ELLIOTT.

Gen. Proctor, Commanding.

Head of Lake Ontario, 4th June, 1813.

My dear General,

A series of misfortunes have suddenly befallen us. Perhaps before you receive this, you will have learnt that the army under Gen. Dearborn crossed the Niagara line on the 27th ult. and after being most gallantly opposed by part of the Kings, Newfoundland and Glengary regiments, got possession of Fort George, and compelled the whole of our troops to retire upon this position. Here General Vincent means to make a stand, but in the event of his being beat, and forced altogether to retire upon Kingstown, he is directed by the orders which I yesterday brought him, to detach to your assistance the remainder of the 41st regiment, two companies of the Newfoundland, and the remainder of the three companies of the Glengary regt. The companies of the two latter corps are much weakened in the action on the 27th.

I learn with infinite regret, your distressed situation for want of provisions, and it is certainly unfortunate that a considerable quantity of Pork intended for your use, was destroyed at Point Abino, for fear of falling into the enemy's hands I hear you have flour enough, and I hope you will have plenty of fresh beef. It is said that the enemy have detached troops against you. Your situation, it must be owned, is sufficiently embarrassing; but sir George, on my leaving him, knowing but imperfectly the events here, and still more so, those of your neighborhood, relies with confidence upon your zeal and ability—certain that the most indefatigable exertions will be made on your part, in defence of your post, *and of the squadron, which (whatever may happen) must not fall into the hands of the enemy.*

Our fleet under Sir James Yeo, is now on the Lake, determined to fight; *and at present fully equal to beat the enemy's.* All are anxious for the meeting; for a naval victory on our part, would soon restore matters to their usual flourishing state. Col. Baynes, with a force of only 800 men, attacked Sackett's Harbor on the 29th ult. It was supposed the garrison was small, in consequence of their having detached so many men to Niagara—we found, however, upwards of 3000. Our gallant little band drove them at the point of the bayonet, into their works (tho' with a good deal of loss) which were found much too strong to carry with our small force, without artillery, and unassisted by our large ships, a calm having prevented their co-operation: Thus seperated, we re-embarked without any opposition, having taken from them three field pieces and one hundred and fifty men.

When I left Kingston, 2000 men were on the march for that place (including 2d bat. 41 st, De Watteville's, and Muerone. The 18th and 98th were hourly expected to arrive at Quebec. We may look for other reinforcements from Spain, which will, I hope, enable us to recover our lost ground.

I beg my best respects to Mrs. and Miss Proctor, and to Henry, and believe me, dear general,

Your's most truly,
RT. M'DOUALL.

Brig. gen. Proctor.

(COPY.)

Head quarters, Forty-mile creek, 14th June, 1813.

My Dear General,

We every day look for a reinforcement of about 4000 men, from Kingston. On their arrival, and should the fleet continue with us, it is intended to advance the army to the 20 mile creek and throw forward our whole body of Indians, and the light troops (considerably augmented) to feel the pulse of the enemy. We have various accounts as to his force, and none to be depended upon, but his fears are said to be as strong as ever and a *ruse* of the nature above mentioned, might operate so powerful upon him, as might induce him to think, that his own side of the river was the only place of safety.

Our Indians prove themselves right worthy, and right useful auxiliaries.—Macbeth says, "'tis the eye of childhood that fears a painted "devil." But it is so far lucky, that our opponents are mere infants in the sublime science of war.—Now, as you are perhaps encumbered with too many mouths, consider your scanty means of filling them, you perhaps might be able to prevail on two or three hundred more of *your swarthy warriors* to join us here. *They would be invaluable under our present circumstances*, and you might fairly tell them, that a great effort is about to be made to drive their enemy and ours, across the St. Lawrence; and once effected, I do most potently believe, that they never would remove the attempt. Rember me to Cols. Warburton, Dickson, and Monckler, and believe me always, yours. RT. M'DOUALL.

Brig. Gen. Proctor, Sandwich.

Amherstburgh, 27th Oct. 1812.

SIR,

I have seen a letter from you to Col. St. George, mentioning that three Frenchmen had been killed near Sandusky. That it is the case, is true, but the Indians having seen them in an enemy's country, and those people being actually resident for a long time past there, occasioned them being taken for enemies.—They had been on board the vessel, and had gone a shore to get something more of their property on board, and the Indians having no knowledge of that circumstance, and not knowing them to be Canadians consequently shot them.

I shall drop down to day to the mouth of the river, and to-morrow morning will set up the Miami Bay.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
M. ELLIOTT.

P. S. Colonel Clure writes me, that they expect another attack soon, and says, they will require assistance from this place—if you have any commands on the subject I should be glad to know—and your opinion.

Col. Proctor &c. &c. &c. Detroit.

CANANDAIGUA, DECEMBER 28.

IMPORTANT!

Loss of Fort Niagara—Destruction of Lisbon, &c.

The events of the Niagara Frontier, during the past week, have been highly interesting and important, as well on account of their public consequence, as the ruin and misery which they have brought on a large portion of the people in that ill fated region. Some accounts of these events we gave a handbill on Tuesday evening last; but recent information shows it to have been a very imperfect, and in some parts, incorrect narration of the national disaster, and of individual suffering. From soldiers who escaped from the fort, and from officers and others who were at Lewistown, we have taken pains to collect further particulars, and now give the following, as the substance of their representation:

On Sunday the 19th inst. between 4 and 5 o'clock in the morning, a force consisting of British regulars and Indians, crossed the Niagara river, in boats, and landed at Five-mile-Meadow, (i. e 5 miles above Fort Niagara,) and proceeded down thro' Youngstown to the fort—covered by the darkness of the night, and meeting, it would seem, with no obstacle. They posted a part of their forces around the out works to prevent the escape of those within, while a strong body *entered the Fort thro' the main gate!* (which on that night, and for the first time for several years, was not fastened.) Their bugle was now blown as the signal for general assault, which was furiously began by the assailants, as well on the sick in the hospital as on the troops in the Fort. The cries of the helpless for quarters, and the hideous yells of the merciless savages, resound from every corner. It was a complete surprise to the Americans, and they made but a partial, irregular, and of course a feeble and short resistance. A few effected their escape—but these know not the fate of those who fell into the hands of the enemy. There is reason to hope, however, that they were not massacred as has been reported. This strong garrison was thus carried in a few minutes, and with it lost an immense quantity of public stores.—The number of effective men in the Fort, was about 150, who, with the means in their hands, it is supposed, could have resisted a larger force than the captors, had they been apprised of their approach. In the hospital and other buildings, were about 150 men.

During, or soon after the reduction of Fort Niagara, a part of the enemy's force marched up to Lewiston (2 miles above 5 mile meadow) where we had but a small force, consisting of artilleries, from this county. The town was entered about sunrise, by a number of Indians and some regulars, who *plundered* and *burnt the place*, and killed a number of inhabitants. Among those who fell victims to the savages, were Dr. Alvord and Mr. W. Gardner, of Buffalo—the wife and children of a Mr. Pitcher—Mr. St. John—and several others, whose names we are not able to give. The two sons of Mr. Barton, (one of whom was in Fort Niagara) reported to have been killed, got off safe.

The enemy then went up to Manchester, which place they also sacked and destroyed. It is said, that the whole frontier, from Niagara, as far up as Schlosser, and several miles wide from the river, is laid waste, and the inhabitants either killed, taken, or fled into the interior.

The number of the enemy that has effected so much in so little time, or the name of their commander is not known. From the various opinions expressed, there were perhaps 1200, including Indians. The enterprize is supposed to have been headed by a Col. Murray.

P. S. Since the above was in type, a friend has obtained and handed us the following account of the invasion of the Niagara frontier by the British and Indians, the capture of our fort, and the atrocities committed upon our territory.—It appears to us the most probable of any we have heard. It comes from a soldier, who deserted from the British at Lewistown on Sunday evening, after the events which he relates took place:

General Drummond, with between ten and eleven hundred regular troops, two hundred Canadian militia, and two hundred and fifty Indians landed soon after midnight at the five mile meadow, from 7 boats which they had brought from Burlington Heights. The regular troops consisted of a part of the 100th regiment of Scotch Royals and a few of the 49th. After they had landed, orders were given and preparations made for attacking fort Niagara, with the first appearance of day-light, and in the mean time colonel Murray, with 5 or 600 regulars was sent towards the fort to reconnoitre. Instead of returning with intelligence, as was expected by day light in the morning colonel Murray sent word to general Drummond that he had taken the fort—that two of the Scotch Royals had surprized our utmost centinel, and compelled him to communicate the countersign, with which he had been able to enter the gate of the fort without opposition; that after he had entered the gate he had little difficulty in possessing himself of the place: that not much American blood was spilt—and that the assailants had not a man killed; the colonel himself was wounded in the right arm. The deserter further says, that a stone house and two other are saved at Lewistown; that the British army, having in their possession considerable number of men, women and children, as prisoners, whom they have placed in a building near the fort, around which they had placed a guard of regular troops. He says that some of our people were murdered by the Indians, but he thinks not near so many as we have supposed.

Major general Hall reached Batavia on Thursday last. It is understood he will place himself, at the head of the militia that are going on to the lines. The promptitude and activity of the major general, on this occasion, is highly praiseworthy. He proceeded for Buffaloe on Saturday. A large number of militia had assembled in that direction, but there was a great deficiency of arms and ammunition.

Brigadier general M'Clure has left the frontier. He was at Batavia on Thursday, and intended to organize the militia assembling there. It is apparent that the unfortunate man has been actually *hissed off the stage*, by the militia he understood to *command*. The general has published an exculpatory address.

Capt. Parish, who passed through this village yesterday, from Canandaigua, informs, that large numbers of militia, supposed to be 8 or 10,000, were on their march towards the frontiers. They were, however, without organization, without provisions, camp equippage, arms or ammunition. The report of the death of Mr. Barton's two son's, stated in the Canandaigua handbill, is incorrect, they are both safe. The western mail this morning, brought no letters or papers to this village. A passenger in the stage relates, that most of the militia who started for Buffaloe, are returning, not being able to find subsistence, or arms and ammunition on the lines. It is expected that most of the arms and ordnance belonging to this State, are either taken by the enemy, or are in the service of the U. States. The enemy is absolutely stated to be fortifying Lewiston heights.

[*Manlius Times.*

THE PRESIDENT's REPLY

To the Senate and House of Commons of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina.

I have received, fellow citizens, your Memorial of the 29th ult. respecting the exposure of your State to danger on its sea board, and requesting to be informed whether measures will be immediately taken by the National Government for its protection.

The anxiety which you manifest for the security of the State under your particular care, cannot but be recommended, and it would be highly ageeable to make a communication that would remove all occasion for it.

The Logislature of North Carolina is too enlightened and too just not to be sensible that the protection to be extended by the General Government over the Union, must be proportioned to the aggregate means applicable thereto; and that, in distributing these, regard must be had to the comparative practicability and probability of attempts on particular States and places. Against occasional attempts, where there are so many points accessible by water, from an enemy having on that element a force so extensive and so readily concentrated. An absolute protection of every one is not possible. Considering the States as parts of one whole, the best defence of the whole must be kept in view, by the authority to which that is entrusted; and it fortunately happens that the security and interests of particular ports will often be comprehended in the effect produced by means more immediately applied to the protection of other parts.

These observations are not intended to preclude a due consideration of the particular case, stated in your memorial. They appeal only to the candor with which you will be sure to review the measures of the Executive in relation to the general and particular defence of our country, and to the confidence claimed by the impartiality which has directed them.

With a view to the more convenient superintendance and protection of every part of the U. States, they have been partitioned into military districts. The officer alloted to that which includes the State of North Carolina, will be instructed, as soon as practicable, to visit & examine the situation of the exposed parts of the State, with a view to improvements which may be properly made in works of defence. He was about to make such a visit when he was lately called away to a more urgent, but temporary service.—In the mean time, a Colonel of Engineers had been sent to examine the ports, and to make report on the subject of them.

The Secretary of the Navy has not been inattentive to the means of defence depending on his Department, which were thought best adapted to the waters of North Carolina; and to the gun boats already alloted, the equipment of which has not been intermitted a like number of armed boats of another modification will be added as soon as they can be made ready for service.

In making this communication it will of course not be understood as superseding any auxiliary provisions which the State of North Carolina may think proper to make on its own account, as has been done by some other States, in order to a more complete and particular security than it may be in the power of the General Government to extend to every exposed situation thro'out the frontier of the U. States.

Be pleased, fellow citizens, to accept assurances of my high respect and my best wishes.

JAMES MADISON.

Washington, Dec. 11, 1313.

FROM THE LONDON GLOBE, OF OCTOBER 18.

Letters have been received from Halifax of the 11th of Sept. enclosing some further accounts of the naval operations in the Chesapeake. The British squadron, under Admiral WARREN, had taken possession of Swan Island, which had been fortified. From this point and Kent Island, the British had sent the ships' barges up Chester and Choptank rivers, and aided by a considerable body of troops (800) had visited the towns of Chester, Cambridge and Oxford, and sent parties to Easton and Centreville. At the most of these places they had burned such stores as they could not carry off, and took abandance of cattle and provisions. Whilst the parties were thus proceeding unsuccessfully on the eastern shores of the Chesapeake, some small vessels had been employed to take soundings of the river Chaptaco, on the northern bank of which stands the City of Baltimore.—Great alarm had in consequence been excited among the inhabitants, and under an impression that an attack was in contemplation, troops had been sent to that place from Washington. The entrance of Baltimore harbor is defended, and indeed commanded, by Whetstone Fort, which it would be difficult to storm. Perhaps the object of our equadron be answered by a mere demonstration; and of interrupting the trade and navigation of the southern provinces—keeping the inhabitants in a state of alarm—and effecting a diversion in behalf of the forces in Canada—were the leading objects in the naval operations undertaken by Admiral Warren; they seem to have been completely successful; since we find by a late number of the *National Intelligencer*, that a great part of the regular army, and not a small number of the militia, which had been ordered to the neighborhood of the Lakes, have been countermanded, in order that they may be in readiness to defend their own provinces from attack. The alarm at one time reached even Washington; within 70 miles of which City our parties had approached and occasioned much temporary bustle, and the packing up of the papers at the public offices, in case removal had been rendered necessary.

FROM THE BORDERS OF ERIE.

Pittsburg, Jan. 5.

ALARMING INTELLIGENCE.

With feelings of agony we present our readers with the following alarming intelligence, received by a gentleman who arrived here yesterday from Erie, which place he left on Friday last. It is unhappily entitled to the fullest credit.

If there is any hope left in the present case, it is, that, we understand the fleet is so moored in the harbor of Erie, as to present a battery of from 15 to 20 guns from whatever point it may be attacked—that the ice is not sufficient to bear should the enemy attempt to board, and that it is completely cut away around the shipping. We also learnt that General Mead had issued circulars to all the Colonels of his brigade, by express, ordering them immediately to march their respective regiments to the defence of Erie. May their patriotic efforts be successful! and the enemy may be checked in his incendiary career.

A number of patriotic young men of Pittsburg, having volunteered their services, and the troops at Fort Fayette will march this day for Erie. *Mercury.*

COPY.

To the commandant at Erie, or to whom it may concern:

The British this morning landed about 3,000 regulars, militia and Indians, at Black Rock; and after a severe engagement with the militia, under the command of Major Gen. Hall, forced them to retreat to the village of Buffalo; and, about sun rise, to surrender themselves prisoners of war. The houses in the village were immediately committed to the flames; and about 3 o'clock this afternoon almost entirely consumed. At the same time, two large vessels, lying above Black Rock, were set on fire and consumed. It is the avowed object of the British, as received by good authority, to proceed in a short time to Erie, for the purpose of burning the vessels in that port; and, as an inducement to the Indians to aid and assist them in this nefarious plan, full liberty is given them to plunder, for their own benefit, wherever they may go. As the communication from this place to the eastward is entirely interrupted by the said Indians, &c. and as it is important for you to have the earliest information of the above, we recommend to you every exertion, to be in readiness, in case of an attempt to burn as aforesaid; and request of you some assistance in men, arms and ammunition as we have but few arms and no ammunition. The time is alarming! Destruction is the order of the day!

On the retreat from Buffalo, 30th Dec. 1813.

ISAAC BARNES, *Maj. Com. Militia near Buffalo.*

N. B. Information is just received that the enemy have advanced up Lake Erie, 8 or 10 miles and destroy every thing as they pass.

FROM THE WESTERN PRESS.

TO ARMS!

Mercer, (Penn.) January 3.

Our country is invaded. The enemy, whose course is marked by every species of depredation calculated to distress our fellow citizens, is progressing towards Erie, laying waste every thing that comes in their way. Already has Buffalo, Fort Schlosser, Manchester, Lewistown and Fort Niagara, been swept from the earth by conflagration: the cries of infants, women, the aged and infirm, call loudly for protection and redress, and every man having a single drop of American blood flowing in his veins, will not refuse to repair to the protection of Erie, and shipping at that place.

BRIGADE ORDERS.

Meadville, Jan. 1, 1813.

SIR,

In pursuance of General Orders of the most alarming nature, you are hereby commanded to march your regiment with all possible expedition to the town of Erie, there to perform a 30 days tour of duty, unless sooner discharged; the men must be armed with a sufficient rifle or musket, knapsack and blanket, if in their power to furnish the same. A court of appeal will be held at the house of Nathan Patterson, in the town of Mercer, on Thursday the 7th of April next. As at present advised, it is not in my power to furnish the rations that the law contemplates; I shall on its march to the place of rendezvous—and as far as in my power, I will furnish at Meadville and Waterford. You will therefore, have this information communicated to your regiment in order that each man may, if possible, furnish himself to Erie.

WILLIAM CLARKE,
Brigade Inspector.

Lieut. Col. Thomas Hosack.

WASHINGTON CITY, JAN. 10.

Copy of a letter from Gen. M'Clure, of the New-York state troops, to the Secretary of War.

Head-quarters, Buffalo,
Dec. 22d, 1813.

SIR,

I regret to be under the necessity of announcing to you the mortifying intelligence of the loss of Fort Niagara. On the morning of the 19th inst about 4 o'clock, the enemy crossed the river at the Five-mile Meadows in great force, consisting of regulars and Indians, who made their way undiscovered to the garrison, which from the most correct information I can collect, was completely surprised. Our men were nearly all asleep in their tents; the enemy rushed in and commenced a most horrid slaughter. Such as escaped the fury of the first onset, retired to the old messhouse, where they kept up a destructive fire on the enemy, until a want of ammunition compelled them to surrender. Altho' our force was very inferior and comparatively small indeed, I am induced to think that the disaster is not attributable to any *want of troops* but to *gross neglect* in the *commanding officer of the fort*, Capt. Leonard, in not preparing, being ready, and looking out for the expected attack.

I have not been able to ascertain correctly the number of killed and wounded. About twenty regulars have escaped out of the fort—some badly wounded. Lt. Peck, 24th regt. is killed, and it is said three others.

You will perceive, sir, by the enclosed General Orders, that I apprehended an attack, and made the necessary arrangements to meet it, but have reason to believe, from information received by those who have made their escape, that the commandant did not in any respect comply with those orders.

On the same morning a detachment of militia, under Major Bennet, stationed at Lewistown Heights, was attacked by a party of savages; but the Major and his little corps, by making a desperate charge, effected their retreat after being surrounded by several hundred, with the loss of six or eight, who doubtless were killed; among whom were two sons of Capt. Jones, Indian interpreter. The villages of Youngstown, Lewistown, Manchester, and the Indian Tuscarora village, were reduced to ashes, and the inoffensive inhabitants who could not escape, were, without regard to age or sex, inhumanly butchered by savages headed by British officers *painted*. A British officer who is taken prisoner avows that many small children were murdered by their Indians. Maj. Mallory, who was stationed at Schlosser, with about 40 Canadian volunteers, advanced to Lewistown Heights, and compelled the advanced guard of the enemy to fall back to the foot of the mountain. The Major is a meritorious officer—he fought the enemy two days, and contended every inch of ground to the Tautawanty Creek. In these actions Lt. Lowe, 23d regt. U. S. army, and 8 of the Canadian volunteers were killed. I had myself, three days previous to the attack on the Niagara, left it with a view of providing for the defence of this place, Black Rock, and the other villages on the frontier. I came here without troops, and have called out the militia of Genessee, Niagara and Chataugue *en masse*.

This place was then thought to be in most immediate danger, as well as the