

ADM 1/509/379-385 [188-192]

Barrie. Cockburn (cont)

On the 4th Instant I dispatched Captain Hamilton (who had Volunteered his Services to command the Row Boats of the Expedition) in advance to reconnoitre the River in Seven Mile Reach, finding from his report that it would require more time to arrive at Fredericksburg than I could spare, and having sufficiently alarmed this part of the State, I bore up for an Inspectors store on the left entrance of the River near which it was reported the Militia were assembled in considerable force, we Anchored off this Place at 5 P.M., on the 5th being joined by the Devastation, Terror and Dotterel at daybreak on the 6th I landed with the Dragon's, Menelaus, and Havannah's Marines, part of the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of Royal Marines and about 50 Soldiers belonging to the 4th, 21st, 44th and 85th Regiments of the Line (lately received in exchange from the American Commissary for Prisoners of War) who volunteered their Services, with a Rocket Brigade, and some trained Seamen the whole consisting of about Three hundred and Sixty Bayonets. On approaching the Shore a party of the Enemy's Horsemen were observed reconnoitring our motions, from some Slaves who joined us, I was informed that the Enemy had a Force of Six hundred Militia with two Field Pieces assembled at Farnham Church distant near seven Miles from the place of landing, and that a few hours before daybreak a Party also consisting of about Six hundred had marched on our right, expecting we should land in Lancaster County; the Slaves volunteering to be our Guides I determined to attack the Party at Farnham before they marched to Lancaster County could be apprized of our intentions. I therefore directed Lieut. Col. Malcolm to leave a strong party within Grape Shot of the boats to

(cont)

(of the HAVANNAH)

 See chart of Bay
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 probably landed in
 Lancaster Creek