

I. THE FIRST ALARM.

6th Dec., Niagara.

The City of Toronto is besieged by the Rebels, the Lieutenant-Governor has sent a deputation with the steamer Traveller for the immediate transport of volunteers. Under this pressing emergency the deputation demand your instant attendance at Harrington's Hotel to concert measures, as the Boat must start at 12 o'clock this day.

Leaves Hamilton at 11.30 p.m.

Please advise to me time of arrival.

Hamilton, 7th December, 1837.

A. Hamilton, Esq.,

Sir,—I send you the enclosed just received from Toronto by express, which left here at 3 o'clock this day, at which time a sharp engagement was then going on to the destruction of the Rebel force. You have, I presume, heard of the interception of the mail hence to Toronto and visa versa.

It will be interesting to you to read the enclosed received here by the same express.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) E. RITCHIE.

We are all under arms, and altho various reports of contemplated attacks have reached us, we do not conceive they are well founded, but we are ready.

(Enclosure.)

It will be satisfactory to the people of your district to know that up to this time, except a few acts of violence and plunder directed against individuals, nothing has been done by the party who are said to be in arms against the Laws. A large party have gone to pursue and take the rebels if they remain embodied.

If there are reports among you of anything contrary to this, it is false. People are flocking to this place by thousands to put down this disgraceful attempt.

Call out your militia, remain embodied, and use every exertion to keep the peace of your district.* I have no doubt that there are 20 men now here armed on behalf of the Government for every one man that the rebels have collected.

Dated at Toronto, the 7th day of December, 1837.

(Signed) JNO. B. ROBINSON,
W. CHISHOLM,
JNO. MACAULAY.

Toronto, 9 December, 1837.

Sir,—I am commanded by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to say that he has determined to place in your hands two hundred stand