

1813 Victory

Victory by Gen. Dearborn.

Messenger Office, Canandaigua, May 1, 1813.

The following letter from Gen. P. B. Porter, was sent by express to John C. Spencer, Esq. of this village and received here this afternoon. We sincerely congratulate the readers of the Messenger upon the gallant achievement it describes. While we exult in the glory of our arms, we cannot but feel, deeply feel the loss of the brave Gen. Pike.

Manchester, (Niagara County) April 28, 1813, 6 o'clock P.M.

DEAR SIR,

"I have just returned from Fort Niagara, where I saw a Captain of the U. S. navy. He is just from Little York, the capital of U. Canada, and gives the following account, which is confirmed by official dispatches from Gen. Dearborn to Gen. Lewis, now here.

"On Tuesday, the 26th (April) at sunrise, Commodore Chauncey, with a squadron of 10 or 12 vessels, appeared before York, with Gen. Dearborn and near 3000 men. The infantry under Brig. Gen. Pike landed, attacked the town and batteries in the rear, while the squadron attacked them by water. At 2 P.M. they carried the place, taking a great number of Indians and militia prisoners, 1000 Indians being engaged.

"General Sheaffe, with a few regular troops, made their escape. Gen. Pike with about 200 men were killed, by the blowing up of a magazine in one of their batteries, and in which they had a train of powder for the purpose. About fifty of the British artillerists were killed by the same explosion. The loss on both sides is considerable. Our army is now in possession of the town and is expected here shortly. Our troops behaved with the greatest gallantry. Immense quantities of military stores and India goods were taken at York, which seems to have been the depot for those articles. The vessels of the squadron are not sufficient to bring them away."

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

Altho' Gen. Porter does not mention the taking any British vessels, yet we are well informed that a considerable portion of the enemy's lake-navy, was lying at York, and the other part at Kingston. It is therefore highly probable that our gallant tars have either destroyed or obtained possession of a sufficient number of the enemy's ships, to enable us very soon to chase the residue from the lake.

By a gentleman direct from Sackett's harbor we learn that the force that sailed from there on Sunday the 25th, consisted of Com. Chauncey and about 1000 sailors; with Gen. Dearborn and Gen. Pike, who took with them the 6th, 16th, and 15th reg'ts, Col. McClure's regiment, consisting of the N. York, Albany and Baltimore Volunteers, and Capt. Forsyth's company, all of Infantry; and a detachment from Col. Macomb's regiment of artillery, in all about 2000 men.

[Printed at the Salem Gazette Office—Price 12 cts.]