

mence firing on the brigand bivouac—the position of which was easily ascertained from the clouds of smoke rising above the trees.

As soon as it was ascertained that the ice was strong enough to bear the soldiers, the two companies of regular troops, followed by the militia, began to file across to the island; but before they had time to form again, the whole of the brigands were seen flying in all directions back to the American side, leaving behind them their provisions, and several stands of arms. Five of their men were wounded by the artillery. The British sustained no loss.

A few days afterwards, Colonel Prince and Captain Girty, residents on the Canadian frontier, waited on the colonel commanding, and informed him that another band of those armed Americans, about 400 in number, had crossed the ice from Sandusky, and taken possession of Point Péié Island; that they had driven off the inhabitants, taken possession of their farms, and were plundering the island in every direction.

Captain Glasgow, of the royal artillery, was immediately sent to reconnoitre the island, and ascertain if the ice was strong enough to bear his guns across. He returned next day, and reported that it was "perfectly so."

About six o'clock on the evening of the 2d March, Colonel Maitland left Amherstburgh, taking with him the detachment of royal artillery, with two guns, four companies of the 32d, and one of the 83d regiment, with a company of volunteers, some volunteer cavalry, and about six Indians—the whole amounting to about 300 men.

This island is forty miles from Amherstburgh, and directly opposite Colchester, a small village on the lake shore. The party arrived at this place about ten o'clock, and, finding that it was only a distance of twenty miles across to the island, Colonel Maitland decided upon halting there for a few hours; the men were therefore put into the houses, and the sleighs ordered to be in readiness at two o'clock in the morning.

Accordingly, at that hour, the soldiers being all seated in their sleighs, the party began to move across the lake; it had not proceeded far, however, before it was found impossible, from the darkness of the night, to keep the track leading to the island. One of the cavalry was sent back to the village for a lantern, which being procured, the party again moved on without further obstruction.

About day-break, when within three miles of the island, Captain Browne, with a detachment of three officers, six sergeants, and ninety-five rank and file, (being his own and Captain Eveleigh's companies,)