

capturing the British General on his journey. Sir George left on the morning of the 22nd February, and the gallant Major at once prepared to turn the demonstration into terrible earnestness, of which the following despatch will give the fairest and best account:

PARRSCOTT,
Feb. 23rd, 1813.

SIR:—I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of his Excellency the commander of the forces, that in consequence of his Excellency's order to retaliate under favourable circumstances upon the enemy for his late wanton aggressions on this frontier, I this morning, about 7 o'clock, crossed the river St Lawrence upon the ice and attacked and carried after a little more than an hour's action his position in and near the opposite town of Ogdensburg, taking eleven pieces of cannon and all his ordnance; marine, commissariat and Quartermaster General's stores, four officers and 70 prisoners, and burning two armed schooners and two large gunboats and both his barracks. My force consisted of about 480 regulars and militia and was divided into two columns; the right commanded by Capt. Jenkins of the Glengarry light infantry fencibles, was composed of his own flank company and about 70 militia, and from the state of the ice and the enemy's position in the old French Fort, was directed to check his left and interrupt his retreat, whilst I moved on with the left column, consisting of 120 of the King's regiment, 40 of the Royal Newfoundland corps, and about 200 militia, towards his position in the town where he had posted his heavy field artillery. The depth of the snow in some degree retarded the advance of both columns and exposed them, particularly the right, to a heavy cross fire from the batteries of the enemy for a longer period than I had expected; but pushing on rapidly after the batteries began to open up on us, the left column soon gained the right bank of the river under the direct fire of his artillery and line of musketry posted on an eminence near the shore. Moving on rapidly, my advance, consisting of the Royal Newfoundland and some select militia, I turned his right with the detachment of the King's regiment and after a fire from his artillery took them with the bayonet and drove his infantry through the town, some escaping across the Black river into the fort, but the majority fled to the woods or sought refuge in the houses from whence they kept such a galling fire that it was necessary to dislodge them with our field pieces which now came up from the bank of the river, where they had stuck on landing in the deep snow. Having gained the high ground on the brink of the Black river, opposite the fort, I prepared to carry it by storm, but the men being quite exhausted I procured time for them to recover breath by sending in a summons requiring an unconditional surrender. During those transactions Captain Jenkins gallantly led on his column and had been exposed to a heavy fire of seven guns which he bravely attempted to take with the bayonet, though covered with 30 of the enemy's best troops; advancing as rapidly as the deep snow and the exhausted state (in consequence) of his men would admit, he ordered a charge and had not proceeded many paces when his left arm was broken to pieces by a grape shot; but still undauntedly running on with his men he almost immediately afterwards was deprived of the use of his right arm by a discharge of case shot, still heroically disregarding all

personal consideration, he nobly ran on cheering his men to the assault, till exhausted by pain and loss of blood he became unable to move. His company gallantly continued the charge under Lieut. McAuley, but the reserve of militia not being able to keep up with them, they were compelled by the great superiority of the enemy to give way, leaving a few on a commanding position, and a few of the most advanced in the enemy's possession, nearly about the time I gained the height above mentioned. The enemy hesitating to surrender I instantly carried his eastern battery and by it silenced another which was opened again, and ordering on the advance the detachments of the King's and Highland company of militia under Captain Eustace of the King's regiment, he gallantly rushed into the fort, but the enemy retreating by the opposite entrance escaped into the woods, which I should have effectually prevented if my Indian warriors had returned sooner from a detached service on which they had that morning been employed.

I cannot close this statement without expressing my admiration of the gallantry and self-devotion of Capt. Jenkins who had lost one arm and was in danger of losing the other. I must also report the intrepidity of Capt. Lofievre of the Newfoundland regiment who had the immediate charge of the militia under Colonel Frazer, of Captain Eustace and the other officers of the King's regiment, and particularly of Lieut. Ridge of that corps who very gallantly led on the advance, and of Lieut. McAuley and Ensign McDonnell of the Glengarry regiment, as also of Lieut. Gangueben of the Royal Engineers; and of Ensign McKay of the Glengarry light infantry, and of Ensign Kerr of the militia, each of whom had charge of a field piece, and of Lt. Impey of the militia who has lost a leg. I was also well supported by Colonel Frazer and the other officers and men of the militia, who emulated the conspicuous bravery of all the troops of the line. I enclose a list of killed and wounded; the enemy had 500 men under arms and must have sustained a considerable loss.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

G. MACDONALD,

Major, Glengarry Lt. Infantry.

Col. commanding in the Eastern District of Upper Canada.

The loss consisted of eight killed and 32 wounded in this well planned and gallantly executed action.

Col. Macdonald had the honor of recapturing two 12-pounder guns surrendered by General Burgoyne in 1777 at Saratoga. This was probably the smartest minor action of the war, and was a fair trial of skill as well as daring.

THE ORIGINAL INDIAN TREATY WITH LORD SELKIRK.

The following is a copy of the original treaty between Lord Selkirk and the Indian Chiefs, for the transfer of a considerable block of land along the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, on which was formed the Selkirk Settlement.—It will be observed that the quit rent agreed upon is not of a very formidable character. We are not, however, to conclude that the Earl took advantage of the ignorance of the natives to secure a wide tract of land for almost nothing. At that time and in those regions, land was really of very little worth, and the risk and expense

attending such an undertaking as that which the Earl planned, would not justify very much outlay for a portion of that land of which the Indians had more than they knew what to do with. Though the Indians were very fond of tobacco, it is very possible that the quantity mentioned was merely a sort of pepper corn acknowledgement. Be that as it may, thus runs the treaty:—

This indenture, made on the 18th day of July, in the 57th year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Third, and in the year of our Lord 1817, between the undersigned chiefs and warriors of Chippeway or Sautaux Nation, and of the Kittistino or Cree nation on the one part, and the Right Honorable Thomas Earl of Selkirk on the other part, Witnesseth that, for and in consideration of the annual present or quit rent hereinafter mentioned, the said Chiefs have given, granted, and confirmed, and do by these presents give, grant, and confirm, unto our Sovereign Lord the King all that tract of land adjacent to the Red River and beginning at the mouth of Red River and extending along the same as far as Great Forks at the mouth of Red Lake River, and along the Osiniboyne River as far as the Muskrat River, otherwise called Rivere des Champignons, and extending to the distance of six miles from Fort Douglas on every side, and likewise from Fort Daer, and also from the Great Forks, and in other parts extending in breadth to the distance of two English statute miles back from the banks of the said rivers on each side, together with all the appurtenances whatsoever of the said tract of land, and to have and to hold forever the said tract of land and appurtenances to the use of the said Earl of Selkirk, and of the settlers being established thereon, with the consent or permission of our Sovereign Lord the King, or of the said Earl of Selkirk; provided always, and these presents are under the express condition that the said Earl, his heirs and successors, or their agents, shall annually pay to the chiefs and warriors of the Chippeway or Sautaux Nation the pre-sent or quit rent, consisting of one hundred pounds weight of good and merchantable tobacco, to be delivered on or before the 10th day of October at the Forks of Osiniboyne River, and to the chiefs and warriors of the Kittistino or Cree Nation, a like present or quit rent of one hundred pounds of tobacco, to be delivered to them on or before the said 10th day of October, at Portage La Prairie, on the banks of the Osiniboyne River. Provided always that the traders hitherto established on any part of the above mentioned tract of land shall not be molested in the possession of the lands which they have already cultivated till his Majesty's pleasure shall be known. In witness whereof the Chiefs aforesaid have set their marks at the Forks of Red River, on the day aforesaid.

SELKIRK,
MACHEWKEVAL,
His x mark.
(Le Sonnant.)
MEAHKADWIKONAL,
His x mark.
(La Robe Noir.)
PEGOWIS,
His x mark.
OUCKIDOAT,
His x mark.
KATAJESKERINOA,
His x mark.
(L'Homme Noir.)

Signed in presence of—Thomas Thomas; James Bird; F. Matthey, Capt; P. Deison-nens, Capt; Miles MacDonell; J. Bt. Chas. De Louinico; Louis Nolin, jr.