

ing this small force, I was a witness having with Commodore Sir James Yeo, the Deputy Adjutant General, and the officers of my staff landed with the troops.

I refer your Excellency to Lieut. Colonel Fischer's letter enclosed for an account of the operations. The place was gained in ten minutes from the moment the troops advanced. The fort being everywhere almost open, the whole of the garrison, consisting of the third battalion of artillery, about 400 strong, and seven hundred militia, effected their escape, with the exception of about 60 men half of them severely wounded. I enclose a return of our loss amongst which I have to regret that of Capt. Holtaway, of the Royal Marines. Your Excellency will lament to observe on the list the name of that gallant, judicious and excellent officer, Capt. Mulcaster of the Royal Navy, who landed at the head of 200 volunteer seamen from the fleet and received a severe and dangerous wound within a few yards of the guns which he was advancing to storm and which, I fear, will deprive the squadron of his valuable assistance for some time at least.

In noticing the co-operation of the naval branch of the service, I have the highest satisfaction in assuring your Excellency that I have throughout this as well as on every other occasion, experienced the most zealous, cordial and able support from Sir James Yeo. It will be for him to do justice to the merits of those under his command, but I may nevertheless be permitted to observe that nothing could exceed the coolness and gallantry in action, or unwearied exertions on shore of the captains, officers and men of the whole squadron. I enclose a memorandum of the captured articles that have been brought away in which your Excellency will perceive with satisfaction seven heavy guns that were intended for the enemy's new ship. Three 32-pounders were sunk by the enemy in the river, as well as a large quantity of cordage and other naval stores. The loss to them, therefore, has been very great and I am sanguine in believing that by this blow they have been deprived of the means of completing the armament and particularly the equipment of the large man-of-war, an object of the greatest importance.

Every object of the expedition having been effected and the captured stores embarked, the troops returned in the most perfect order on board their respective ships at four o'clock this morning when the squadron immediately sailed, the barracks in the town as well as those in the fort having been previously burnt together with the platforms, bridge, &c., and the work in every other respect dismantled and destroyed as far as was practicable. I cannot close this despatch without offering to your Excellency's notice the admirable and judicious manner in which Lieut. Col. Fischer formed the troops and led them to the attack; the cool and gallant conduct of Lieut. Col. Malcolm at the head of the second battalion Royal Marines, the intrepidity of Capt. DeBersey of the regiment DeWatteville, who commanded the advance; the zeal and energy of Lieut. Col. Pearson, inspecting field officer, who, with Major Smelt of the 103rd regiment, had obtained a passage on board the squadron to Niagara and volunteered their services on the occasion; the gallantry of Captain McMillan of the Glengarry light infantry, who covered the left flank of the troops in the advance, and the activity and judgement of Captain Cruttenden, Royal Artillery, Brevet Major DeComer of the regiment DeWatteville, Lieut. Stevens of the Rocket Company, Lieut. Garrett, Royal Engineers, each in their respective situations.

Lieut. Col. Malcolm has reported in high terms the conduct of Lieut. Laurie of the Royal Marines, who was at the least the first man to enter the fort, and I had an opportunity of witnessing the bravery of Lieutenant Hewett of that corps who climbed the flag staff and pulled down the American ensign which was nailed to it. To Lieut. Col. Harvey, Deputy Adjutant General, my warmest approbation is most justly due for his unremitting zeal and useful assistance. The services of this intelligent and experienced officer have been so frequently brought under your Excellency's observation before that it would be superfluous my making any comment on the high estimation in which I hold his valuable exertions. Captain Jervois, my aide-de-camp, and Lieut. Col. Hagerman my Provincial aid-de-camp, the only officers of my personal staff who accompanied me, rendered me every assistance. Capt. Jervois, who will deliver to your Excellency with this despatch the American flag taken at Oswego, is fully able to afford every further information you may require, and I avail myself of the present opportunity strongly to recommend this officer to the favourable consideration of his Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

GORDON DREUMOND.

His Excellency Sir George Prevost.

The British loss on this occasion amounted to 18 killed and 64 wounded; the American loss cannot be correctly ascertained.

As this expedition was organized to destroy the stores at Oswego, it was not a profitable success, the greater part of the stores being placed at Onondago Falls, thirteen miles by the river above the town, and its influence on the remainder of the contest was not marked. Our readers will smile at the description of Oswego in 1814; it is now a post of importance on the Erie Canal, that great water way traversing ground consecrated by many gallant and daring deeds the actors wherein would be much puzzled if they could "revisit the pale glimpses of the moon," to identify the sites of their bravery and sufferings.

HER MAJESTY'S ACCESSION.

[From the London Daily News, June 30.]

To-day, three and-thirty years ago, the reign of the present Sovereign of England began. Shortly after two o'clock in the morning of the 20th of June, 1837, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Chamberlain left Windsor for Kensington Palace, where the Princess Victoria was residing with her mother, to inform her Royal Highness of the King's death. They reached Kensington Palace about five, and with some difficulty roused the porter at the gate. This functionary, apparently ignorant of the rank of the distinguished visitors, and knowing nothing of the business upon which they had come, kept them waiting for some time in the court yard, and then turned them into one of the lower rooms, where they remained until, ringing the bell, the Lord Chamberlain desired the attendant of the Princess to inform her Royal Highness that they requested an audience on business of importance. After another delay, and another ringing to inquire the cause, the attendant was summoned, who stated that the Princess was in such a sweet sleep that she could not venture to disturb her. The Arch-

bishop of Canterbury gravely replied; "We are come to the Queen on business of State, and even her sleep must give way to that!" It did; and in a few minutes her majesty came into the room in a loose white dress and shawl, her hair falling over her shoulders, her feet in slippers, tears in her eyes, but perfectly collected and dignified. Lord Melbourne was immediately sent for and a Privy Council was summoned to assemble at Kensington at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. At that hour the Queen, with the Duchess of Kent, entered the Council chamber, and the Lord Chancellor administered to her Majesty the usual oaths, binding her to govern the Kingdom according to its laws and customs. She first received the homage of her uncles, the Dukes of Cumberland and Sussex, the Queen with admirable grace rising from her seat and preventing them from kneeling. The Cabinet Ministers and Privy Counsellors then took the oaths of allegiance and supremacy; the former surrendered their seals of office, which her Majesty returned, and Ministers kissed her hand on re-appointment. A declaration was drawn up and signed by all present, acknowledging faith and constant obedience to "our only lawful and rightful liege Lady Victoria, by the grace of God, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Defender of the Faith." Her Majesty then spoke to the following effect:

The severe and afflicting loss which the nation has sustained by the death of my beloved uncle has devolved upon me the duty of administering the government of this empire. This awful responsibility is imposed upon me so suddenly and at so early a period of my life, that I should feel myself utterly oppressed by the burden were I not supported by the hope that Divine Providence, which has called me to this work, will give me strength for its performance, and that I shall find in the purity of my intentions, and in my zeal for the public welfare, those resources which usually belong to a more mature age and a longer experience. I place my firm reliance upon the wisdom of parliament and upon the loyalty and affection of my people. I esteem it also a peculiar advantage that I succeed to a Sovereign whose constant regard for the rights and liberties of his subjects, and whose desire to promote the amelioration of the laws and institutions of the country, have rendered his name the object of general attachment and veneration. Educated in England, under the tender and enlightened care of a most affectionate mother. I have learned from my infancy to respect and love the constitution of my native country. It will be my unceasing duty to maintain the reformed religion as by law established, securing at the same time to all the full enjoyment of religious liberty; and I shall steadily protect the rights, and promote to the utmost of my power, the happiness and welfare of all classes of my people.

A generation has passed away since these words were uttered, eight parliaments have been called to the counsels of the Sovereign, and twelve Ministers have ruled in Downing street. Abroad, all continental thrones, from the vast empire of Russia to the smallest of the German grand duchies, have changed their occupants. Amid the stormy times of conflict and revolution in Europe, the throne of the Queen of England has remained unshaken, for the loyalty and affection of her subjects have been its basis. Amid the strife of contending parties at home, and throughout the thirty-three years which separate the Premiership of Lord Melbourne from that of Mr. Gladstone