

such force as I expected. They have taken post at the 40 mile creek, and I just understand that their strength at that post consists of one hundred dragoons and two thousand men. I have likewise reason to suppose that men will be embarked at the Fort of Niagara to attack me in front on the Lake side, but still if they do not come on me in an overwhelming force, I do not think they will find it an easy matter again to make me quit my post. If I am reduced to the necessity of retiring to Kingston.\* I am afraid it will be adding to Brig.-Gen. Proctor's misery in sending him the remaining companies of the 41st, the Newfoundland, and part of the Glengarry, according to the instructions I received this day by Captain McDonell, as I am too much afraid he is at this present moment in great distress for provisions, and unfortunately the Queen Charlotte was only able to take thirty barrels of pork from Point Abino. I am doing everything I possibly can to assist him. Six militia officers, all active and picked men, are sent forward to purchase and drive all the cattle they can find from this to Sandwich. I have been able to procure, to assist this service, from Col. Clark, five hundred guineas which I hope will remove all difficulties with those farmers who will not take paper money.

Captain Milnes will, I suspect, be the bearer of this. I am sorry to part with him, as I find him not only of the greatest service to myself, but as active an officer in the field as any under my command. He is perfectly able to explain our situation and what can be expected from us. I am so hurried with other matters that I have requested Col. Harvey would write you on all the particulars of the post at this present moment, and believe me, dear Colonel,

Yours very obliged,

JOHN VINCENT.

\* This sentence does not appear to be finished; it is given as in the original.