1779.

the Indians and rangers, but about 100 head have been sent to Niagara this fall. Page 85

January 2, Albany. Brigadier Clinton (U.S.) to Capt. Butler (Walter). Stating that a letter relating to an exchange of prisoners had been transmitted to Governor Clinton, who had consented to the proposal. States the arrangement for the exchanges. Reflections on the want of zeal shown by the British officers in restraining the excesses of the Indians, and on cruelties committed when no Indians were present.

January 26, Niagara.

Return of Indians at Niagara, from 30th December, 1778, to date, with the arrivals and departures of the several parties of different nations in that time. The names and numbers of the different nations are given in detail. The table shows: Present, 1,581; gone, 1,042; total, 2,623. The return is signed by Colonel Bolton. 90 Return by Butler of scouts employed.

February 12, Niagara. February 14, Niagara.

Butler to Haldimand. Reporting that the Indians think a post at Irondequot would be of no material service in protecting their country, and would wish to have the post at Oswego. The Indians in general, but not the Oneidas, have resolved to come to no terms with the rebels, who have sent to build a small fort to protect the Oneida villages. A post at Oswego would shake the resolution of the Oneidas and strengthen the others, who are afraid of an attack during the winter. The scouts, who are out in every quarter, will give the earliest notice of movements on the frontier, and a large party of rangers is ready to move. Suggests that messages to the Indians should not be sent direct from Quebec, but sent through Col. Bolton. A number of Mohawks, Onondagos and Ochquagos are to remain at Niagara, having now no homes to go to.

February 18, Niagara. Walter Butler to Brigadier Clinton. Respecting the exchange of prisoners. He is to proceed to Quebec to have Haldimand's determination on the subject. He denies the cruelty charged in his (Clinton's) letters (pp. 88, 89), not a man, woman or child was killed at Cherry Valley, except those who were killed in arms in the field. Enters into details of the destruction of the Indian village and the violations of parole by the continental officers, &c.

95.
Walter Butler. Journal of an expedition from Niagara on the

March 8 to March 16.

March 8,

Niagara.

north shore of Lake Ontario to Cataraqui, with descriptions of the shore, rivers, bays, &c.

Butler to Haldimand. Sending details of the intrigues of the rebels with the Indians and their efforts to intimidate them; what he is doing to counteract these designs. One party sent by way of Lake Erie to bring in a prisoner. Another to Fort Stanwix. Delawares have had a skirmish with the enemy at Wyoming. They have taken three prisoners and seven scalps. Captain Butler carries with him the muster rolls and pay lists of the rangers, and will give every information relative thereto. He (Col. Butler) has drawn for expenses of building barracks for rangers and distressed families. Remarks on the pay lists of the Indian Department.

April 2, Niagara. The same to the same. Letter enclosed shows that Hay of Detroit had not a favourable opinion of the Indians. The disaster to Hamilton will not improve them. Does not yet know how it will affect the Six Nations, it may incline them to listen to the artful messages sent by Congress. Sends copy of a message delivered by the Caughnawagas at the Cayuga Village; the Cayugas took no notice of the message. The Onondagos have been invited to come in, to settle among the Senecas and Ca ugas, and