

"Full and sole powers were to be invested in me to conduct
"all military operations in my own way, and no one allowed to
"interfere

"With the hope of being instrumental in hastening a crisis so
"desirable to all the republican world—my wish as a North-
"erner to see the chivalrous example of the South in the case
"of Texas emulated here—my innate detestation of tyranny
"and oppression wherever manifested; finally, relying upon
"numberless promises of being sustained, and trusting in the
"smiles of Heaven itself, I agreed to accept the offer.

(Signed)

"RENSSELAER VAN RENSSELAER."

3. It has been certified on oath that an officer of the State
of New York, whose duty it was to prevent the state artillery
from being carried off to Navy Island, allowed a cannon to pro-
ceed there on being told by those who were conducting it, that
"it was only going to shoot ducks."

The following extract from the New York "Sunday Morn-
ing Herald" of the 28th Jan., 1838, relates a similar anecdote:—

"THE WESTERN FRONTIER.—There is nothing new, or of
any interest from Buffalo or Detroit. The following is a *verba-
tim et literatim* copy of the document, which Colonel Ransom
chose to consider as General Scott's manuscript, and on the
strength of which he gave up the cannon to the rogue who pre-
sented it. A fine compliment to the general's literary reputation,
and the accomplished colonel's own discernment. This gem of
military correspondence reads thus:—

'Buffalo Head Qr Jany 18 1838.

'Col H B Ransom commander in Chief at

'Tonawanda.

'Pleas sen on those pieces of Canon which are at you place
let the same teams come on with them.

'Your in hase,

'W SCOTT* Commander

'in Chief on the Frontiers

'of Niagara.'"

* This General Scott is now a candidate for the Presidency of the
United States.