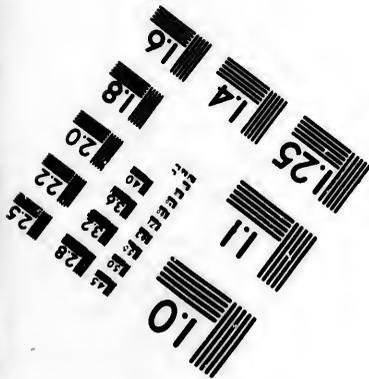
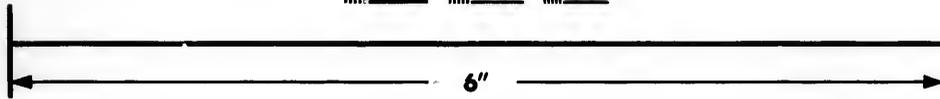
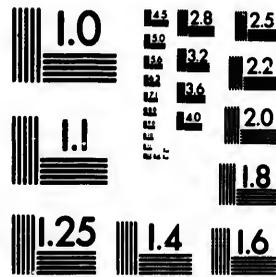


**IMAGE EVALUATION
TEST TARGET (MT-3)**



**Photographic
Sciences
Corporation**

23 WEST MAIN STREET
WEBSTER, N.Y. 14580
(716) 372-4503

15 128
16 132
18 22
20
25

**CIHM/ICMH
Microfiche
Series.**

**CIHM/ICMH
Collection de
microfiches.**



Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions / Institut canadien de microreproductions historiques

11
10
128
132

© 1984

Technical and Bibliographic Notes/Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages detached/
Pages détachées |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Showthrough/
Transparence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes supplementary material/
Comprend du matériel supplémentaire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la
distortion le long de la marge intérieure | <input type="checkbox"/> Only edition available/
Seule édition disponible |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blank leaves added during restoration may
appear within the text. Whenever possible, these
have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées
lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte,
mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont
pas été filmées. | <input type="checkbox"/> Pages wholly or partially obscured by errata
slips, tissues, etc., have been refilmed to
ensure the best possible image/
Les pages totalement ou partiellement
obscurcies par un feuillet d'errata, une pelure,
etc., ont été filmées à nouveau de façon à
obtenir la meilleure image possible. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires: | |

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	12X	14X	16X	18X	20X	22X	24X	26X	28X	30X	32X
						✓					

The copy filmed here has been reproduced thanks to the generosity of:

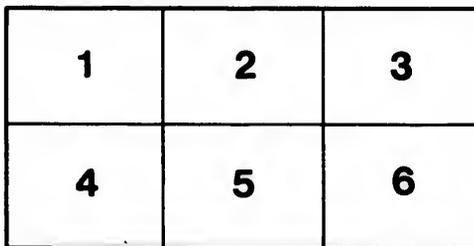
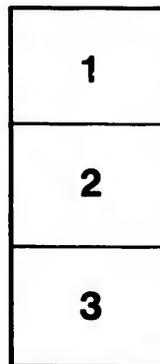
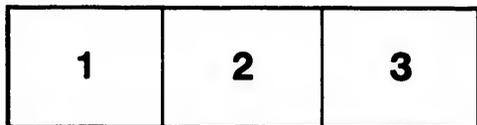
National Library of Canada

The images appearing here are the best quality possible considering the condition and legibility of the original copy and in keeping with the filming contract specifications.

Original copies in printed paper covers are filmed beginning with the front cover and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression, or the back cover when appropriate. All other original copies are filmed beginning on the first page with a printed or illustrated impression, and ending on the last page with a printed or illustrated impression.

The last recorded frame on each microfiche shall contain the symbol \rightarrow (meaning "CONTINUED"), or the symbol ∇ (meaning "END"), whichever applies.

Maps, plates, charts, etc., may be filmed at different reduction ratios. Those too large to be entirely included in one exposure are filmed beginning in the upper left hand corner, left to right and top to bottom, as many frames as required. The following diagrams illustrate the method:



L'exemplaire filmé fut reproduit grâce à la générosité de:

Bibliothèque nationale du Canada

Les images suivantes ont été reproduites avec le plus grand soin, compte tenu de la condition et de la netteté de l'exemplaire filmé, et en conformité avec les conditions du contrat de filmage.

Les exemplaires originaux dont la couverture en papier est imprimée sont filmés en commençant par le premier plat et en terminant soit par la dernière page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration, soit par le second plat, selon le cas. Tous les autres exemplaires originaux sont filmés en commençant par la première page qui comporte une empreinte d'impression ou d'illustration et en terminant par la dernière page qui comporte une telle empreinte.

Un des symboles suivants apparaîtra sur la dernière image de chaque microfiche, selon le cas: le symbole \rightarrow signifie "A SUIVRE", le symbole ∇ signifie "FIN".

Les cartes, planches, tableaux, etc., peuvent être filmés à des taux de réduction différents. Lorsque le document est trop grand pour être reproduit en un seul cliché, il est filmé à partir de l'angle supérieur gauche, de gauche à droite, et de haut en bas, en prenant le nombre d'images nécessaire. Les diagrammes suivants illustrent la méthode.

e
étails
s du
modifier
r une
image

s

rrata
to

pelure,
n à

32X

W. R. A. G. 41374

Massachusetts Election!

FIRST MONDAY IN APRIL NEXT.

AMERICAN NOMINATION.

MAJOR-GENERAL
HENRY DEARBORN,
FOR GOVERNOR.

Hon. **WILLIAM KING,**
FOR LIEUT. GOVERNOR.

At the close of our revolutionary conflict, the enlightened citizens of America, took a pride in exalting to offices of honor the heroes who had assisted in achieving that great event. Shall it be said that we are less grateful at the close of our *second* struggle than we were at that of the *first*? We presume the free citizens of Massachusetts will not allow this imputation to rest upon them. The few who still survive are justly the objects of their affection and confidence. In the memorable war, of the revolution, as well as in the glorious contest recently terminated, General DEARBORN has acted a part so honorable to himself, and so useful to his country, that time can never obliterate or envy expunge it from that proud portion of the annals of our rising nation. Though a youth at its commencement, he was placed at the head of a brave company, and marched from New-Hampshire to the environs of Boston, where he shared largely in the glorious deeds of *Bunker Hill*. With his company he traversed the wilds of Kennebec, and by the side of the great MONTGOMERY scaled the walls of Quebec. In the battle of *Saratoga*, his corps, with that of the brave MORGAN, captured the enemy's artillery; and decided the fortune of the day. The capture of Burgoyne's whole army was the consequence. In the battle of *Monmouth*, his bravery and resolution attracted the eye of the great WASHINGTON, who gave him his unqualified approbation, and continued his esteem and confidence through all the subsequent perils of the contest for independence.

In peace it was the glory of General DEARBORN to have shared the friendship and the councils of the illustrious JEFFERSON, during whose administration he filled the War Department.

When President MADISON appointed him Commander in Chief of the Army in our late war, the nation approved the choice of the Executive, and the activity with which an army of new recruits was assembled and concentrated on our frontier, after the shameful surrender of the first division by General Hull; the promptitude and vigor with which the enemy were attacked and expelled from their strong-holds of *York* and *Fort George*, were highly gratifying to the nation, and revived the spirits of the army.—The capture of the whole British army must have speedily followed, had Gen. Lewis, the second in command, fulfilled the orders of Major-General DEARBORN. The envy of WASHINGTON had nearly sacrificed our liberties; the envy of Dearborn lost to our country the provinces of Canada. But at length the eyes of the nation are opened, and its justice and gratitude are rapidly assigning to him and his brave associates in arms the meed of valor, and the imperishable tribute of renown. In the following biographical sketch of the life of General DEARBORN, in which is included the Narrative of the events of the last war, the character of this distinguished citizen is placed, in a correct light. After becoming acquainted with the facts contained in these documents, the free citizens of Massachusetts will be enabled to judge of the merits and services of Gen. DEARBORN, and the grounds upon which the Republicans rest their pretensions in his behalf, as the most suitable character to fill the first official station in the great and respectable State of Massachusetts.

Boston 1817

SKETCH OF THE LIFE
OF
MAJOR GEN. HENRY DEARBORN,
FROM 1775, TO 1812.

MAJOR GENERAL HENRY DEARBORN is a descendant from one of the first settlers of New Hampshire, who emigrated from the County of Devonshire in England.

He received a medical education under the instruction of Doctor Hall Jackson, of Portsmouth, who was a distinguished surgeon in the revolutionary army, and justly celebrated as one of the most able physicians which New England has produced. Dearborn was settled in the practice of physic at Nottingham-square in New Hampshire, three years previous to the commencement of the *revolutionary war*, where, with several gentlemen of the neighbourhood, he employed his leisure hours in military exercises; being convinced that the time was rapidly approaching, when the liberties of his country must either be shamefully surrendered, or boldly defended at the point of the sword.

This band of associates were determined to be prepared, and equipped themselves for the last resort of freemen.

On the morning of the *20th of April, 1775*, notice by an express was received of the affair of the preceding day at Lexington. He assembled with about sixty of the inhabitants of the town, and made a rapid movement for Cambridge, where they arrived the next morning at sunrise—having marched a distance of *fifty-five miles* in less than twenty-four hours. After remaining several days, and there being no immediate occasion for their services, they returned. It being determined that a number of regiments should be immediately raised for the common defence, Dearborn was appointed Captain, in the first New Hampshire regiment, under the command of Col. John Stark. Such was his popularity and the confidence of the people in his bravery and conduct, that in ten days from the time he received his commission, he enlisted a full company, and joined the regiment at Medford on the 15th of May. Previous to the battle of Bunker-Hill, he was engaged in a skirmish on Hog-Island, whither he had been sent to prevent the cattle and other stock from being carried off by the British, and soon after took a part in an action with an armed vessel near Winnesmet ferry.

Battle of Bunker-Hill.

On the morning of the glorious *seventeenth of June*, information was received that the British were preparing to come out from Boston, and storm the works which had been thrown up on Breed's Hill the night before by the Americans. The regiment to which he was attached was immediately paraded, and marched from Mystic to Charlestown Neck.

Dearborn's company composed the flank guards of the regiment. They crossed the neck under a galling fire from the British men of war, and the floating batteries, and having sustained some loss, arrived at Bunker's heights. The enemy were landing on the shore opposite Copp's Hill, when Stark advanced and formed his regiment on the declivity of Breed's Hill, in rear of a rail fence, which ran from the redoubt, commanded by the gallant Col. Prescott, to Mystic river. The action soon commenced, and the Americans stood their ground until their ammunition was entirely expended.—

Dear
fused

ward
temp
return
false.

in th
from
dead
troop
Dear

nold
perm
arduc
wilde
durin
hard
crimi
to de
remu
to m
Chau
const
ite do
cold
he w
invig
hut
furth
His
Dear
desp
ries
and
cross
head
in th
stor
cold
Gen
field
barr
mor
ful
to a

was
upon
wh
des
der

Dearborn was posted on the right of the regiment, and being armed with a fusée, fired regularly with his men.

After leaving the field, he was ordered to move with his company towards Charlestown ferry, where there was an appearance of the British attempting to cross over. While on the march, he saw Major McClary returning, who directed him to order his company to retire, as the alarm was false.

Soon after the retrograde movement of the company, as he was standing in the road, conversing with Major McClary, a random cannon ball, fired from Copp's Hill, passed through the Major's body, and he fell instantly dead. Late in the afternoon, the New Hampshire regiments, with the other troops, fell back and entrenched themselves on Winter Hill. The loss in Dearborn's company was one killed and five wounded.

Expedition to Quebec.

In September he volunteered his services to join the expedition of Arnold up Kennebec river, and through the wilderness to Quebec. He was permitted to select a company from the New Hampshire regiment for this arduous service. Thirty-two days were employed in traversing the hideous wilderness, between the settlements on the Kennebec and Chaudiere river, during the inclement months of November and December, in which every hardship and fatigue of which human nature is capable, was endured indiscriminately, by the officers and troops, and a large portion of them starved to death. On the highlands between the Kennebec and St. Lawrence, the remnant of provisions was divided among the companies, who were directed to make the best of their way in separate divisions to the settlements on the Chaudiere. The last fragment of food in most of the companies was soon consumed, and Dearborn was reduced to the extremity of dividing his favorite dog among his suffering men. When they reached the Chaudiere, from colds, extreme hardships and want of sustenance, his strength failed him, and he was unable to walk but a short distance, without walling into the water to invigorate and stimulate his limbs. With great difficulty he reached a poor hut on the Chaudiere, when he told his men he could accompany them no further, and animated them forward to a glorious discharge of their duty. His company left him with tears in their eyes, expecting to see him no more. Dearborn was here seized with a violent fever, during which his life was despaired of for ten days; without medicine, and with scarcely the necessaries of common life. His fine constitution at last surmounted the disease, and as soon as he was able to travel he proceeded to Point Levi in a sleigh, crossed over to Wolf's Cove, and made his unexpected appearance at the head of his company, a few days before the assault on Quebec. At 4 o'clock in the morning, on the thirty-first day of December, 1775, in a severe snow storm, and in a climate that vies with Norway in tempests and intense cold, the attack was commenced. Dearborn was attached to the corps under Gen. Arnold, who was wounded early in the action and carried from the field. Lt. Col. Green succeeded in the command. They stormed the first barrier and entered the lower town. Montgomery had already bled on immortal ground, and his division having made a precipitate and most shameful retreat, as soon as their General fell, the corps under Green was exposed to a sanguinary but unavailing contest.

From the windows of the houses, which being constructed of stone, each was a castle, and from the tops of the parapets, a destructive fire was poured upon the assailants, which threatened inevitable destruction to every one who should appear in the streets. The American troops maintained this desperate warfare until at last they were reduced to the necessity of surrendering in small parties.

BORN,

stant from one
the County of

f Doctor Hall
revolutionary
s which New
e of physic at
to the com-
tlemen of the
reises; being
berties of his
fended at the

and equipped

express was
he assembled
rapid move-
rise—having
ours. After
sion for their
of regiments
orn was ap-
he command
ence of the
time he re-
the regiment
ker-Hill, he
sent to pre-
British, and
Winnesimet

ion was re-
and storm
before by
mediately

nt. They
ar, and the
r's heights.
hen Stark
ll, in rear
allant Col.
he Ameri-
pended.—

The whole corps led on by Gen. Arnold, were killed or made prisoners of war. The officers were put into rigid confinement, and every day were tauntingly told, *that in the spring they would be sent to England and hanged as rebels.*

In May, 1776, Majors Melis and Dearborn were permitted to return on their parole. They were sent round to Halifax in the frigate Niger, and treated with the usual contumely and hauteur of English officers. On their arrival at Halifax they were put on board another ship of war, and the commander instructed, by Gen. Howe, to land them in some port in New England. After the ship had cruised with them on board for upwards of thirty days, during which period they met with the grossest insults, they were put on shore in Penobscot bay, from whence they proceeded to Portland by land.

In the fore part of the following March, Dearborn was exchanged, and appointed a Major to the third New Hampshire regiment, commanded by Colonel Alexander Scammel, and early in May arrived with the regiment at Ticonderoga.

On the 6th of July the post at Ticonderoga was abandoned on the approach of Gen. Burgoyne's army. General St. Clair retreated with the main body of the troops, by land, through Vermont to Hudson river, near Saratoga, and soon after continued to retreat until the army had crossed the Mohawk river, near its junction with the Hudson, where considerable reinforcements were met, and General Gates assumed the command of the Northern Army.

Battle of Saratoga and capture of Burgoyne.

Soon after the capture of the British detachment under Baum at Bennington, by General Stark; and the retreat of General St. Ledger from fort Stanwix; Gen. Gates advanced to meet the enemy, who was encamped near Saratoga. When the army arrived at Stillwater, a corps of light infantry was formed, by detachments from the line, consisting of five full companies, and the command given to Major Dearborn, with orders from Gen. Gates to act in concert with Col. Morgan's regiment of riflemen, which had joined the army a few days previous. A strong position was selected, called Bemis' Heights, and immediately occupied by the American army. The riflemen and Dearborn's corps of light infantry, encamped in advance of the left of the main line. The British army had advanced from Saratoga, and encamped on the bank of the river, within three miles of Gen. Gates' position.

On the morning of the 19th of September, the advanced pickets announced, that the right wing of the British army was in motion, when Morgan and Dearborn, who commanded separate corps, received orders from Gen. Arnold to make a forward movement, to check the approaching column. These orders were promptly obeyed, and the advanced guard, consisting of *lories* and other irregulars, was soon met and attacked with spirit, in which conflict they killed and wounded a considerable number of the enemy, and made twenty-two prisoners. The action soon after became general, and continued until the dusk of the evening, on the same ground on which it commenced; neither party having retreated more than twenty or thirty rods, and that alternately, so that the dead of both armies were mingled together.

Dearborn, with his light corps, covered the left of the main line, while Morgan covered the right. The loss was severe on both sides, and especially in the New Hampshire line. Lieut. Colonels Adams and Colburn being killed, Dearborn was promoted to a Lieut. Colonel, and was at that time in the 27th year of his age. As his light corps was constantly em-

ployed
advanc

On
make a
position
to join
o'clock
driving
Gates's
eral Ar
advanc
but soo
oppose
nence v
army.
dred str
staidly.

Th
rived in
warm b
the skir
wing, w
where t
German
within a
as killed
all the s

Th
the com
General
just giv
horse to
the can
ican car
and pou
fect, as
and dis
treat G

Th
Arnold
and car
New H
enemy
nearly
leaped
his hors
Dearbo
his hors
great w
Quebec
had gor

Al
baggage
troops t
about t
Early t
vanced

employed in reconnoitring, frequent actions occurred between the pickets and advance parties of the enemy.

On the seventh of October, General Burgoyne having determined to make an extraordinary and last effort to gain possession of the American position, and to open a passage for his army to Albany, where he expected to join the British forces, then ascending the Hudson river, at about one o'clock, P. M. advanced in force with a fine train of artillery, and after driving in the American pickets, appeared in full view of the left of General Gates's line, in open ground. Morgan and Dearborn were ordered by General Arnold, in person, to advance, and hold the enemy in check. They advanced rapidly, and in a few moments were engaged with the enemy, but soon after received orders to move in such a direction as to meet and oppose any body of the enemy that might be advancing to occupy an eminence which would give him the command of the left wing of the American army. In this movement, a body of British light infantry, about five hundred strong, under the command of Lord Bellcaras, was met, which was instantly broken and dispersed, by one fire and a gallant charge of the infantry.

The riflemen and light infantry continued their pursuit until they arrived in the rear of the enemy's right wing, where the battle was extremely warm between the two main lines. Morgan's troops now passed through the skirts of a wood, which brought him in the rear of the enemy's left wing, while Dearborn bore down directly on the rear of the right wing, where the British artillery was principally posted, under cover of a body of German troops. Dearborn advanced rapidly up to the pieces, and when within about thirty yards, threw in such a tremendous and well directed fire, as killed and dispersed the whole of the covering party, as well as nearly all the artillerymen.

The artillery was immediately taken, together with Major Williams, the commander, and several other officers; also Sir Francis Clark, one of General Burgoyne's aids de camp, who was mortally wounded. He had just given orders for the removal of the cannon, and as he wheeled his horse to return, received the fire from Dearborn's corps. Dearborn sent the cannon and prisoners round the right of the British army into the American camp, then advanced in line within sixty yards of the enemy's rear, and poured in a full fire from his whole corps, which produced such an effect, as compelled the enemy to abandon the field, with great precipitation and disorder; and to retire to their advanced fortified camp. In this retreat General Frazer was killed.

The Americans immediately advanced upon the British, and while Arnold with Dearborn's corps and several regiments of infantry assaulted and carried the *German fortified camp*, on the right; General Poor with the New Hampshire line, attacked what was called *Frazer's camp*, which the enemy abandoned, as soon as the *German camp* was carried. It was then nearly dark. In the assault on the German camp, General Arnold, who leaped his horse over the ramparts, received a severe wound in his leg, and his horse being killed at the same moment, fell on him. While Colonel Dearborn, who ran to him as soon as he fell, was assisting him from under his horse, he asked the General if he was badly wounded; he replied with great warmth, "yes, in the same leg which was wounded in the attack on Quebec; I can never go into action without being shot—I wish the ball had gone through my heart."

After taking care of the wounded, the artillery waggons, horses, tents, baggage and prisoners were sent to the American head quarters, and the troops that had assaulted and carried the post, being relieved by others, at about twelve o'clock at night, marched into camp very much fatigued.—Early the next morning, Dearborn's corps, with one thousand infantry, advanced over the field of battle into the rear of the enemy's main position,

from an expectation that he would attempt a retreat towards Canada; but as he did not move, this detachment retreated to camp at dark.

The next morning, it being ascertained that the enemy were retreating, Dearborn was ordered to advance with his corps, and a part of Morgan's regiment, and take possession of the British camp, with the sick and wounded that had been left to the care of General Gates. The whole of the American army was soon afterwards ordered to march, but an unusually heavy rain prevented this movement, and compelled General Burgoyne to halt and encamp, not more than eight miles from his former position. The rain continued without intermission until past the middle of the night.

On the 10th of October, the American army marched in pursuit of Gen. Burgoyne, with the light troops in front, and on the 17th the British army surrendered. Gen. Gates in his official report of the battles at Saratoga, mentioned in a particular manner, the bravery and good conduct of Colonels Morgan and Dearborn. A few days after the capitulation, Dearborn's light corps was broken up, and the officers and men restored to their respective regiments.

The New Hampshire troops, with a large part of the northern army, marched for General Washington's head-quarters at White Marsh, in Pennsylvania, and on their arrival, Col. Scammel being appointed Adjutant General of the army, Lieut. Col. Dearborn took the command of the third New Hampshire regiment.

Battle of Monmouth.

In the campaign of 1778, Dearborn served with the main army, and in the battle of Monmouth, the spirited conduct of Cilley's detached regiment, of which Dearborn was Lieut. Colonel, attracted particularly the attention of the Commander in Chief.

After Lee had made a precipitate and unexpected retreat, Washington, among other measures which he took to check the advance of the British, ordered Cilley's regiment to attack a body of troops which were passing through an orchard on the right wing of the enemy.

The regiment advanced under a heavy fire, with a rapid step and shouldered arms. The enemy fled off and formed on the end of a morass. The Americans wheeled to the right, received their second fire with shouldered arms, marched up within eight rods, dressed, gave a full fire, and charged bayonet. The British having sustained considerable loss, fled with precipitation across the morass, where they were protected by the main body of the enemy.

Col. Dearborn was then dispatched to the Commander in Chief, to ask what further service was required; when he approached, Washington enquired, with evident pleasure at their gallant conduct, "*what troops are those?*" "Full blooded Yankees, from New Hampshire, Sir," replied Dearborn. Washington expressed his approbation in explicit terms, and directed that they should fall back and refresh themselves, as the heat was very oppressive and the troops much fatigued.

In the general orders of the next day, Washington bestowed the highest commendation on the brilliant exploit of the regiment.

In 1779, Dearborn accompanied General Sullivan in his expedition against the Indians, and had an active share in the action of the 29th of August, with the united forces of *Tories* and *Indians* at Newtown. During the campaign of 1780, he was with the main army in Jersey.

In 1781, he was appointed Deputy Quarter Master General, with the rank of Colonel, and served in that capacity with Washington's army in Virginia. He was at the siege of Yorktown, and the capture of Lord Cornwallis and his army. Col. Scammel being killed during the siege, Dearborn succeeded to the command of the first New Hampshire regiment,

and was
1782.

As
of Great
survived
pursuits

In
District
litia, and
appointed
was twice
the Unit

On
Secretary
resigned
received
States.

Nar

Gen
manifeste
behalf of
ish govern
exercised t
patriot be
general g
lion, and
How was
was inva
His quick
flexible in
early four
resolution
possessed
inaccessib
posts of h

Gen
No sooner
the head
places of
Dearborn
which, he
Congress
Jefferson
ed within
equalled,
When he
tend with
from eithe
the pride
against th
tegrity an

and was ordered to the frontier garrison at Saratoga during the campaign of 1782. In November he joined the army at Newburg.

After our Independence was secured and acknowledged by the King of Great Britain, Col. Dearborn, with his companions in arms, who had survived the fatigues, hardships and dangers of the war, returned to the pursuits of private life.

In June, 1784, he removed from New-Hampshire to Kennebec, in the District of Maine. In 1787, he was elected Brigadier General of the militia, and soon after appointed a Major General. President Washington appointed him Marshal for the District of Maine in the year 1789. He was twice elected to represent the District of Kennebec in the Congress of the United States.

On the accession of Mr. Jefferson to the Presidency, he was appointed Secretary of War, and continued in that office until March 1800, when he resigned and was appointed Collector for Boston, and in February, 1812, he received a commission as senior Major General in the Army of the United States.



Narrative of Events during the late War.

General Dearborn, from his earliest years to the present period, has manifested himself the firm patriot. Can his adversaries prove as much in behalf of themselves? Have those, who justified the aggressions of the British government, as high claims for public confidence, as those who nobly exerted their influence in her defence? Does the honorable appellation of patriot belong to those who refused to comply with the requisitions of the general government in opposing the common enemy? Who excited rebellion, and called a convention for the apparent purpose of dividing the States? How was General Dearborn employed during the period when our country was invaded? He was seen rallying around the standard of the nation. His quick discernment penetrated the insidious designs of its enemies. Inflexible in his attachment to the independence of his country, for which he early fought, no allurements could be presented to divert him from his firm resolution in her support. Too sincere and candid to court preferment, he possessed that commanding deportment and stability which rendered him inaccessible to flattery and the subtle arts of dissimulation. The high posts of honor to which he has been elevated were due to his rigid integrity.

General Washington never forgot his distinguished compatriots in arms. No sooner was this most illustrious man called by the voice of the nation to the head of government, than he nominated his most deserving officers to places of trust in the civil department. Among these we find Colonel Dearborn, whom he appointed Marshal in the District of Maine. Since which, he was twice in succession elected to represent the same district in Congress; and selected out of that illustrious body, was one of President Jefferson's cabinet council. This great statesman and philosopher combined within himself strong mental powers, and a profound erudition seldom equalled, which justly entitled him to the highest honors of the nation. When he was conducted to the presidential chair, he foresaw he had to contend with disappointed men, possessing passions and prejudices originating from either venality or interest. He knew he had to fortify himself against the pride and influence of a powerful party. To support his administration against this formidable opposition, he formed his council of men whose integrity and patriotism had been tried. Thus encircled with an impenetra-

ble phalanx of honest statesmen, he secured himself against the subtle intrigues of his internal adversaries, and more avowed hostility of the external enemies of the country.

The glorious history of the Jeffersonian administration is fresh in our memory. Nor have we forgotten the virulent and abusive attacks it had to sustain. Not only the President, but his ministers were set up as the objects of slander and detraction. Let us turn over the files of the tory papers of that period;—a period, when the increasing affluence and rising importance of the nation, by her unprecedented strides to honor and glory, excited the envy of Europe; our eyes are assailed on every page with the most woful misrepresentations of our approaching destruction, prophetic of the downfall of the nation, dissolution of the government, and disorganization of every social bond.

The administration, although powerfully attacked, stood firm; its enemies daily lost their influence. Our wise constitution, the dread of tyrants, did not crumble to pieces, as had been predicted, but remained unshaken. This palladium of our liberties, so impregnable within itself, could be assailed only through those who administered the government under it.

It was at this period that Col. Dearborn's unsullied reputation first dignified the columns of the tory papers. His pure name they would have immolated to vindictive passions. But his character remained as unimpeached in the cabinet, as his courage and bravery had been proved in the field.

Colonel Dearborn resigned the Secretaryship of the War Department, and was appointed Collector of the port of Boston; in which office he remained until the nation, deeply wounded and dishonored by repeated violations of its rights, resorted to arms to obtain redress.

The government of thirty years of prosperous peace, had to select its officers to command its armies from among its citizens. Could a more eligible appointment have been made, for a commander in chief, than from the few existing veterans whose talents had been proved in the tented field, and on the day of battle? Among this small number was Colonel Dearborn. During the month of January, 1812, he received the following letter from the President of the United States.

Washington, January 11, 1812.

“DEAR SIR—Congress have just passed the act adding twenty odd thousand troops to the military establishment. It provides for two Major Generals and five Brigadiers. The importance of placing this, and the forces in view, under the best commanders, speaks for itself. Our eyes could not but be turned on such an occasion, to your qualifications and experience; and I wait for your permission only to name you to the Senate for the *senior* Major General. I hope you will so far suspend all other considerations as not to withhold it, and that I shall not only be gratified with this information as quickly as possible, but with an authority to look for your arrival here as soon as you can make it practicable. You will be sensible of all the value of your co-operation on the spot, in making the arrangements necessary to repair the loss of time which has taken place. All the information we receive, urges a vigorous preparation for events.

Accept my best respects and most friendly wishes.

General DEARBORN.

JAMES MADISON.”

Believing that the accumulated injuries which his country had received from Great Britain, and which still remained unredressed, required an appeal to the God of battles, he informed the President that his life had ever been devoted to the service of his country, and he felt himself bound to obey her commands whenever his services were required.

Early in February he received a letter from the President, dated January 28, in which he observed,

"I have just received from the Senate their concurrence (23 to 0 votes) in your nomination as a Major General. I give you the earliest notice, that without waiting for a formal communication, you may hasten your setting out for Washington. In order to afford the public the benefit of your counsels here, it is very important that you be with us without a moment's delay. In the hope of seeing you very speedily, and with every wish for your happiness, I tender assurances of my esteem and friendship."

The next day after the receipt of the foregoing communication—*ever prompt to obey the command of his country*—he left Boston for the City of Washington, where he remained until the last of April; assisting the executive in making those military arrangements which were deemed necessary on the anticipated event, of a declaration of war. He then repaired to Albany, and directed the establishment of barracks, depots of arms, provisions, and the whole material of war, on the northern and north-western frontier. From thence he proceeded to Boston, and adopted the necessary arrangements for putting the garrisons on the sea coasts of Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts Proper, New Hampshire, and the District of Maine, in the best possible posture of defence.

Soon after the declaration of war, he repaired to the Cantonment at Greenbush, to direct and superintend the operations for opening the campaign. "It belongs to those who witnessed the perplexities and embarrassments attending the organization of an undisciplined body of men, to appreciate his merits. The raw troops under his command, learnt their first rudiments of war, and were taught to beat the celebrated veterans of Europe." The shameful surrender of General Hull, at Detroit, and subsequent unfortunate transactions on the Niagara, at Queenstown heights, frustrated the plans of the campaign of 1812. Notwithstanding these severe checks, Gen. Dearborn did not relax in activity; for as soon as he had ordered his army into winter quarters at Plattsburgh and Burlington, he was unremittingly employed in recruiting the army, and making preparations for opening the campaign early in the following spring. We witnessed the effects of eight months discipline; his expeditious movements in 1813, preserved Sackett's Harbor, when abandoned by the militia; and preserved the fleet, then frozen up at that port, from a contemplated attack from the enemy.

Capture of York and Fort George.

Previous to the General's departure from Albany in the month of February, 1813, he had ordered Generals Lewis and Boyd to the Niagara frontier, directing the former to prepare boats and scows, erect batteries, and make every necessary arrangement for an attack, and descent on Fort George. General Dearborn, after giving these orders, repaired to Utica and Whites town, made these arrangements for the transportation of troops down the Oswego to Sackett's Harbor, and gave the necessary directions relative to all the military stores for the ensuing campaign. These accomplished, he proceeded to Sackett's Harbor, agreeably to a plan of operations which had been submitted to the consideration of the Secretary of War, and which was left to the discretion of Major General Dearborn to carry into effect.

The projected plan was to capture and destroy Little York; this would give Commodore Chauncey the command of the lake, render it impossible to furnish their troops and Indians with stores, and cut off all communications between Kingston and Maiden.

The plan was disclosed at the harbour only to Commodore Chauncey and General Pike. General Lewis then at Niagara, was also advised of

The movement, and ordered to be in readiness for an immediate attack on Fort George. After the capture of York, the troops were to be transported to Niagara, and make an *instant* attack on Fort George. This being effected, the army was to have been transported back to Sackett's Harbour; from whence, with an additional number of troops collecting by previous orders, they were to make an attack on Kingston in its rear; while the fleet would batter the town, fortifications and the fleet in front.

With this system of operations in view, General Dearborn sailed with sixteen hundred men, as soon as the ice permitted the fleet to leave the harbor. York was taken 27th April, with all the stores of the British army; a ship of thirty guns burnt, and the Duke of Gloucester, of fourteen guns, made a prize. The Earl of Moira had previously sailed for Kingston.

Upon the success of the first part of the expedition, General Dearborn sent an express to inform General Lewis what he had done, and to notify him of his intended arrival with the army at Fort Niagara, at which post the General arrived a few days after; when he learnt that General Lewis was at Judge Porter's, opposite Niagara falls, fourteen miles from his troops. Upon further inquiry, to the disappointment and mortification of General Dearborn, it was further learnt, that no step had been taken by General Lewis to prepare for the contemplated attack. The batteries were not even commenced; the boats necessary to make the descent were not furnished. General Dearborn had felt a previous attachment for Gen. Lewis, and out of respect to him, transmitted a letter to the Secretary of War, in which the violent storms were assigned a *public* reason for the delay of the movement, and postponement of the intended attack; but lest improper advantage should be taken of this circumstance, to the prejudice of General Dearborn, (which afterwards proved to be the case) another letter was transmitted, which particularly detailed the *real* causes of delay.

The General thus circumstanced, knowing the enemy would be reinforced before the boats to be built would be in readiness to pass over the river, desired Commodore Chauncey to return to Sackett's Harbor, and in the interim bring up General Chandler's brigade. During this period, five batteries were erected above fort Niagara, and the boats which had been commenced were ordered to be finished with all expedition, and brought round to Four Mile Creek; the last was effected, on the river under the fire of five of the enemy's batteries, without any loss.

Immediately on the return of the fleet with General Chandler's brigade, the General issued an order which never has been published, "that on the next day the troops should breakfast at two o'clock, strike tents at three, and embark at four o'clock." The situation and position of the country had been previously obtained by spies, the place of landing designated, and the plan of attack delineated; which was submitted to Generals Lewis, Chandler, Winder and Boyd, and met their full approbation.

Excessive fatigues, and frequent exposures to storms, had produced a violent fever, which ten days previous to the attack on Fort George confined General Dearborn to his bed. The morning after the general order was announced for the attack, General Lewis called on him and said, it would be impossible for the army to be embarked. General Dearborn then having some suspicions of the *military* character and *energy* of Gen. Lewis, replied the attack should be made as ordered; that he was prepared, and no further delay would be allowed.

The morning of the attack General Dearborn was mounted on his horse, by assistance, before four o'clock, in opposition to the opinion of his physicians, and against the remonstrances of the officers of the staff. He rode to the place of embarkation; saw all the troops on board the fleet and boats; General Lewis, who had the immediate command, now *first made his appearance*, and expressed his great astonishment at the unexpected rapidity with

which the
General
veyed on
a Hospi
" I appr
replied,
From
tremend
ed batte
houses,
The
light tro
Boyd, t
most ex
ly made
in succ
like ma
evidenc
they we
20 feet
the nor
Ge
health,
at once
moveme
Lewis s
exercis
he ough
Dearbo
peated
was not
between
landed,
in orde
the ene
At this
carried
prevail
puty A
stantly
this or
all their
side of
the line
rear of
howev
would
been o
moved
was ta
with C
him to
Instea
his arm
mover
Beave
A. C.

which this movement had been made. This exertion had so exhausted General Dearborn, that he was taken from his horse, led to a boat, and conveyed on-board the Madison. On his way to Four Mile Creek, Dr. Mann, a Hospital Surgeon of the army, meeting General Dearborn, said to him, "I apprehend you do not intend to embark with the army."—The General replied, "*I apprehend nothing, sir; I go into battle, or perish in the attempt.*"

From the first dawn of day, and while the army was embarking, a most tremendous fire of hot shot and shells from Fort Niagara and the new erected batteries, was opening on Fort George, and continued until the block-houses, barracks and stores were enveloped in flames, and the guns silenced.

The gallant Colonel (now General) Scott, with a command of 800 light troops, composed the advance of the army, followed by the brave Gen. Boyd, the accomplished officer Gen. Winder, and the reserve under that most excellent and active officer General Chandler. Col. Scott immediately made good his landing under a sheet of fire, while the several regiments in succession formed the order of battle from right to left in a most soldier-like manner. Officers of the army have repeatedly been heard to say, as evidence of the judicious dispositions made, and the rapidity with which they were executed, that this landing of the army, this escalade of a bank 20 feet high, similar to a parapet, was the handsomest military display on the northern frontier during the war.

General Dearborn, from his great exertions, added to his ill state of health, was unable to support himself more than 15 or 20 minutes on his feet at once: but he was nevertheless frequently up, watching these interesting movements. The troops had all landed, (except the reserve) when Gen. Lewis still remained on board. His delay astonished Gen. Dearborn, who exercising his usual delicacy with him, merely suggested to him, whether he ought not to land, and then retired. Within twenty minutes, General Dearborn again came on deck, and finding Gen. Lewis still on board, repeated his suggestions for him to land, notwithstanding which, *Gen. Lewis was not on shore, until after the battle.* The enemy now had fallen back between the village of Newark and Fort George. After Gen. Lewis had landed, one hour and a half had passed away, and four thousand men formed in order of battle with a fine train of artillery, were seen standing still, while the enemy not more than 1200 in number, was manœuvring for a retreat. At this moment, Gen. Dearborn forgot his debility, and insisted on being carried on shore; but by the strong solicitations of those about him, was prevailed upon to remain on board; and in agony at the delay, sent his Deputy Adjutant General, Beebe, to Gen. Lewis, with orders "to move instantly, surround the enemy, and cut them up." Gen. Lewis, even after this order, waited an hour before Generals Boyd, Chandler and Scott, with all their arguments, could induce him to advance, and then only to the south side of Newark, perhaps three fourths of a mile from his first position, *where the line was again formed, and continued until the enemy had retreated in the rear of Fort George,* and took the rout to Queenstown Heights. Col. Scott, however, pursued the retreating broken army without orders three miles, and would not desist in his pursuit, until four *aids de camp* of Gen. Lewis had been dispatched to order his return. Late in the day, the ship Madison moved up the Niagara river in front of Fort George, where Gen. Dearborn was taken on shore and carried to his quarters much exhausted. Meeting with Gen. Lewis he expressed his disapprobation of his conduct, and ordered him to put the army in pursuit of the enemy at 5 o'clock the next morning. Instead of which, he did not move until 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Upon his arrival at Queenstown Heights, he learnt the enemy had made a rapid movement towards the head of Lake Ontario, a few hours previous, by the Beaver Dam, and sent back a report to this effect.

General Dearborn having on his part neglected nothing to secure the

advantage obtained over the enemy, mortified and provoked at the dereliction of duty in any officer, unwilling that a broken and disconcerted army should escape, and still determined to pursue the fugitives, sent for Com. Chauncey, and requested him to take on board his fleet part of the army, and proceed with them to the head of the lake; while the remainder would march by the lake road, thus to make certain the capture of the scattered forces of the enemy. To this proposition the gallant Commodore readily assented. Orders were in consequence immediately sent to Gen. Lewis to return. On the following morning Com. Chauncey called again on Gen. Dearborn, to inform him, that on consideration of the subject, it would not be prudent for him to delay his return to Sackett's Harbour, as it was of the utmost importance the new ship General Pike should be got out on the lake with all possible despatch; while the weak state of that garrison would favor an attack from a much superior force of the enemy at Kingston, (which before his return actually took place) and destroy his new ship, and thus give Sir George Yeo the command of the Lake. To the correctness of these remarks, and having no command over Com. Chauncey, Gen. Dearborn was obliged to yield. Thus frustrated in his expectation of assistance from the fleet, he ordered Gen. Chandler and Winder's Brigades to follow the enemy on the lake road, while ammunitions, provisions, &c. were transported in Batteaux to the head of the lake.

These brigades marched without delay, and having arrived within five miles of the enemy's entrenched camp at sunset, it was thought most *politico* to wait and make the attack on the following morning; but apprehending an attack from the enemy, they encamped in order of battle, sleeping on their arms.

The necessary dispositions were made in concert with Generals Chandler, Winder, and the general staff. As was apprehended they were attacked, but not surprised; for on the first alarm the line was formed, as the Inspector General, Johnson, has stated. The enemy was repulsed and defeated at every point. At the close of the action, Gen. Chandler had his horse shot under him, and was lamed by the fall. Having previously ordered General Winder to place one regiment of his brigade in a road in front, and observing a bustle in that direction, he (Gen. Chandler) presuming some confusion had taken place among the troops, "hobbled" down there to reduce them to order. At this time all firing had ceased. Upon arriving at the spot he gave orders to form the men, but found to his astonishment he was in the midst of the enemy, who led him into the rear as a prisoner. Gen. Winder, who was on the left, rode up to the centre to confer with Gen. Chandler, agreeably to an order sent him by the Inspector General, and arriving where he expected to meet Gen. Chandler, noticed the bustle in the road, where he had ordered one of his regiments, went immediately to the spot and fell in the same trap. There never was a darker night. As soon as day opened, the enemy were observed flying in every direction, in squads of five, tens and twenties.

The command now devolved on Col. Burns, of the cavalry; who being placed unexpectedly in a novel situation, called a council of war; the officers being peculiarly situated, determined to send back to Gen. Dearborn, (forty miles distant) inform him of the event, and wait his orders. The express arrived at night. Gen. Dearborn immediately called Generals Lewis, Boyd and Swartout, and ordered them to set out immediately for the army and attack the enemy. Gen. Boyd, with the promptness of a soldier, declared he was ready to start instantly; but Gen. Lewis observed that it rained and was dark, and did not get in readiness until next day.

In the narrative of the campaign of 1813, we have detailed the events to the period when Generals Chandler and Winder were made prisoners of war, and General Lewis, with Boyd and Swartout was ordered to proceed,

lake com
minute, t
cious re
Niagara
The futu
creased
the above
approach
be design
eral Dea
fleet cou
directed b
and com
from Sto
Con
ta, he sh
the 10th
come out
Commod
enemy w
dered wa
for the an
attempt
The
Commod
fleet arri
vising he
was redu
mand of
his fever
the army
was rece
post six
their arm
harass a
and whe
that this
plan to
men of
ed beca
light ar
house, i
It
a numb
Boerstl
prise an
choice.
Scott,
Genera
theirs.
G
by a ri
the hor
to cam
The
expres
tacked

take command of the army, and beat the enemy. We have been the next minute, to shew how grossly the public have been blinded by false and malicious representations respecting the conduct of General Dearborn on the Niagara frontier. After the capture of Fort George, his health deteriorated. The fatigues and exposures of that important day, as was predicted, increased his fever, so that he was not able to leave his bed. The day after the above officers departed to join the army, the British fleet hove in sight, approached to take the soundings opposite Fort Niagara, and appeared to be designating a place for landing troops. In consequence of which, General Dearborn recalled the army from Stoney Creek; knowing the enemy's fleet could bring down all his forces, land, take Fort Niagara and the new erected batteries, turn their guns on Fort George, now in a demolished state, and compel its small garrison to surrender before the army could return from Stony Creek by land.

Commodore Chauncey was confident, when he sailed from the Niagara, he should be able to get the new ship out, and leave Sackett's Harbor by the 10th of June, and that in the mean time the British would not dare to come out on the lake. They did appear, however, in a few days after the Commodore's departure, and thereby prevented the operations against the enemy which were contemplated. The roads were naturally bad, and rendered worse by rains; so that the transportation of provisions and supplies for the army by land was impossible; while it would have been madness to attempt it in batteaux by water, while the British fleet was on the lake.

Thus situated, General Dearborn determined to wait the return of the Commodore, repair Fort George, and be in readiness to move as soon as the fleet arrived. An express was received from Commodore Chauncey, advising he could not move before the 30th of June. At this period his health was reduced so low that he was induced to relinquish the immediate command of the army, at the special recommendation of his physicians, until his fever should abate, and his strength be restored, and the command of the army, *pro tem.* devolved on Gen. Boyd. A few days after, information was received that a party of British, Indians and militia, had established a post sixteen miles from Fort George, eight miles advanced of a division of their army, from whence were sent plundering parties in every direction, to harass and rob those inhabitants who were friendly to the United States; and where a depot of provisions had been collected. It was of importance that this post should be broken up; and to put it beyond a doubt, that a plan to effect it should succeed, a select corps was formed of 560 picked men of infantry, a detachment of Major Chapin's mounted volunteers, selected because they were acquainted with the country; also a detachment of light artillery, with one 12 and one 6 pounder, to batter down the stone house, if it should be garrisoned for defence.

It became a question who should take the orders of this expedition, as a number of Colonels requested the command, and among others was Col. Boerstler. This officer stood in the highest repute for his talents, enterprise and bravery. To him it was assigned, and considered a most eligible choice. After this arrangement was made, General Boyd, with Colonels Scott, Christie, and other officers, who approved the measure, waited on General Dearborn, and asked his opinion, which was in accordance with theirs.

General Boyd gave orders to Colonel Boerstler to march at dusk, and by a rapid movement, reach the object of the enterprise at sunrise, surround the house, capture the party, destroy the provisions, and return immediately to camp.

The following day, 24th June, between eleven and twelve o'clock, an express arrived from Colonel Boerstler, with information that he was attacked within two or three miles of the house, had fallen back into an open

held, and there would defend himself until he was reinforced. Gen. Boyd, and Colonels Scott and Christie, waited on Gen. Dearborn, and stated to him these facts. Gen. Dearborn considered this such an extraordinary decision of Col. Boerstler, that he informed Gen. Boyd he presumed, after a moment's reflection, Col. Boerstler would either fight a decisive battle, or make a rapid retreat until he met the reinforcement; for Boerstler well knew the enemy was not half the distance from him that he was from Fort George, and could be reinforced and cut him off before it was possible to send him relief. General Boyd, however, ordered Colonel Christie with a detachment of 3 or 400 men to march; who, upon his arrival at Queenstown, sent back an express that information was obtained, that at one o'clock Col. Boerstler surrendered. This report was considered to be impossible by all. The General renewed his order to push on. A short period after, a second express arrived from Col. Christie; then advanced of Queenstown, stating he had further positive information, that Boerstler had surrendered; when the reinforcing detachment was ordered to return.

General Dearborn was censured for this affair, in anonymous letters published in the National Intelligencer, fabricated at Washington; or by some of the *corps d'espionnage* in the army. The unvarnished fact is, that Gen. Boyd ordered 500 selected men to destroy a post garrisoned as he was informed, by not more than 180 British, Indians and militia. It was for this public ostensible reason Gen. Dearborn was censured. The secret reason is known to the late Secretary of War.

The troops felt themselves disgraced by the surrender of Boerstler, while a gloom pervaded the army, which General Dearborn found it necessary to dissipate; and his health improving, he the next morning resumed the command of the army. He was astonished to find, that such was the panic occasioned by this affair, that every exertion was requisite to restore tranquillity and firmness among the troops. A sentiment had gone abroad that the army must recross the Niagara, and abandon the Canadian shore. He immediately assembled the field officers; stated to them the dangerous tendency of the prevailing gloom, and that every exertion must be made to animate the army; that they were capable of maintaining their position, and he never would consent to a retrograde movement. The officers unanimously coincided with him in opinion, who were directed to disseminate this determination among the troops. To convince them of the unalterable decision of the General, the boats were all ordered to the American side of the river, and to restore a confidence in the troops of the strength of their position, every exertion was made to put Fort George in the best possible posture of defence. The army was concentrated between Fort George and the village of Newark, and orders given that the camp should be entrenched by throwing up works to cover them in front and protect the flanks.

The General at this period had so far recovered as to mark out the form of the works, which were thrown up in twenty-four hours. The enemy having received some large reinforcements, was emboldened to advance to Twenty Mile Creek. The officers perceiving Gen. Dearborn recruiting from a fever of thirty-six days duration, were pleased to see him reassume the command in person, even sooner than his physicians thought prudent. A few nights after the army was intrenched, he mounted his horse on an alarm, at a time a movement of the enemy indicated he intended a general attack, rode down the line, and as he passed, harangued the troops that victory was certain, and the next day would close the war at that end of the lake. The unexpected appearance of the Commander in Chief at the head of the army, after so severe a sickness, renewed their confidence; while his exhortations to them to conduct like *Americans* who are never beaten, inspired them with animation.

Gen
strength v
4th of J
naud was
Whi
y severe
command
to the Se
to indelic
r be fit j
ng letter

Dea
report to
ten days
district of
eularly c
had been
best know
of sensib
far devia

In y
condemn
admit of
I sh
report, h
just caus
sary in s
Gener

As
brother-i
were not
to the D
bour, wh
Dearbor
understo
would tr
idence
vice, th

In
no reflect
which h
lieve to
capabili
ing she
General
him to r
date of
posed b
ded by
dated b
telligen
from G
and the
sumed,

General Dearborn, notwithstanding his renewed exertions before his strength was fully reinstated, had rapidly recovered his health, when on the 4th of July, the extraordinary and unexpected order to retire from command was received from the Secretary of War.

While General Dearborn was confined to his quarters at Fort George, by severe indisposition, which made it necessary for him to relinquish the command of the army for a few days, General Lewis made a communication to the Secretary of War relative to the expedition to Stony Creek, in which he indelicately alluded to Gen. Dearborn, and observed that "*he would never be fit for service again.*" Gen. Dearborn wrote Gen. Lewis the following letter, as soon as he noticed his, in the National Intelligencer.

Niagara, July 7th, 1813.

Dear Sir—Notwithstanding your gloomy predictions, in your official report to the Secretary of War; whether "FIT" or "NOT," it is more than ten days since I reassumed the command of the army, and the 9th military district of course. Your delicate description of my state of health was peculiarly calculated for soothing the minds of my children and friends, who had been previously informed of my indisposition. Your *motives* must be best known to yourself, but from your general deportment as a gentleman of sensibility and politeness, I could not have believed you capable of so far deviating from your usual character.

In your account of the affair at Stony Creek, the decided and positive condemnation of the conduct of a general officer, whose situation will not admit of his vindicating himself, may have been premature.

I should not, sir, have troubled you with any remarks on your official report, had it not have sentenced me to death, and as I conceive, without a just cause; and in a manner too, not the most delicate, and quite unnecessary in such a report.

Your obedient servant, &c.

General LEWIS.

H. DEARBORN.

As a proof of the motive, which induced General Lewis, who was the brother-in-law of Armstrong, to write the letter, and that his predictions were not such as he really believed; a few days after the date of his letter to the Department of War, while at Rome, on his way to Sackett's Harbour, whither he had been ordered by General Dearborn, he wrote General Dearborn a letter, urging him to *reassume the command of the army*, as he understood General Hampton had arrived at Albany, and was fearful he would take the command of District No. 9; and stated that he had no confidence in him, and conceived it highly important for the good of the service, that General Dearborn should immediately *reassume his command*.

In his reply to General Dearborn's letter, he stated that he intended no reflection on him, and "*had no idea the letter would have been published*," which he wrote to Armstrong; thus clearly shewing, that he did not believe to be true, what he stated in relation to General Dearborn's health, or capability to command; but that it was to be made use of *privately*, by being shewn to the President to injure General Dearborn; for if he believed General Dearborn would never "*be fit for service again*," why did he urge him to *reassume the command of the army*, within five or six days after the date of the letter to Armstrong? His equivocation and meanness were exposed by the publication of his letter, which no doubt had the effect intended by Armstrong; for the order for the removal of General Dearborn was dated but a few days after Lewis's communication was published in the Intelligencer; notwithstanding the Secretary had *previously* received a letter from General Dearborn, informing him of the *rapid recovery of his health*, and that he had *reassumed the command* of the army, which letter, it is presumed, he did not shew to the President, but ordered his immediate removal,

which was with difficulty effected, as will appear from the following sketch of a conversation, which took place between General Wilkinson and Armstrong on the subject.

"John Armstrong, Esq. Secretary of War told General Wilkinson on the 1st or 2d of August, 1813, that it was with difficulty he could prevail on the President, calling him the "little man," to agree to the recall of General Dearborn from command, and informed Wilkinson, at the same time, that *disobedience of orders* was one of the causes of General Dearborn's recall from command. He gave the same reason to Dr. Bull for General Dearborn's recall; and in a series of documents respecting the campaign, which were submitted to General Wilkinson by Armstrong, the fact of General Dearborn's disobedience of orders, was endeavored to be sustained by the circumstance of his *attack on York*, instead of *Kingston*, as he was ordered. The assertion as to *disobedience of orders* above alluded to is unfounded, as will appear by a letter from General Armstrong to General Dearborn, contained in a report, made by the former to Congress, the next winter after the capture of York, in which that movement is approved and was sanctioned.

War Department, 6th July, 1813.

Sir—I have the President's orders to express to you his decision, that you retire from the command of District No. 9, and of the troops within the same, until your health be re-established, and until further orders.

I have the honor to be, sir, with very great respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Major-General H. DEARBORN.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters, Fort George, July 15, 1813.

Having received an order from the Secretary of War, to retire from my present command, *until my health shall be re-established, and until further orders*, the command of the army will at present devolve on Brigadier-General Boyd.

I embrace this occasion for expressing my hearty and most ardent wishes for the happiness and success of the troops I have had the honor of commanding; of whose bravery and zeal in the service of their country, I have experienced the most distinguished proofs, and for whose fame and welfare, I feel the warmest and strongest interest. While absent, the confidence I shall repose in the soldierly qualities of their future glory. Were I permitted to consult my own feelings, no consideration would induce me to leave the army at this important crisis; *but the first duty of a soldier is to obey the orders of his superiors.*

H. DEARBORN,

Major Gen. Com. Military District No. 9.

About 12 o'clock on the day the foregoing order was promulgated, the following address, signed by all the field and staff officers of the army, stationed at Fort George, was presented to General Dearborn.

Fort George, July 15, 1813.

To Major-General Dearborn, Commanding, &c. &c.
SIR—We the undersigned, general and field officers of the army, who have served under your orders in the present campaign, having heard with regret, that it is your intention to retire from your present command, beg leave respectfully to address you upon the subject.

We are far from presuming, sir, to interfere with arrangements made by authority when announced, but humbly conceive the present circumstances of this army are such as will, when taken into serious consideration, convince you that your longer continuance with us is of the first importance, at this moment; if not absolutely *indispensable* to the good of the service.

the following sketch
Wilkinson and Arm-

General Wilkinson on
y he could prevail on
the recall of General
t the same time, that
Dearborn's recall
ll for General Dear-
he campaign, which
the fact of General
be sustained by the
a, as he was ordered.
to is unfounded, as
neral Dearborn, con-
the next winter after
oved and was sanc-

t, 6th July, 1813.
ou his decision, that
he troops within the
er orders.
your most obedi-
ARMSTRONG.

e, July 15, 1813.
ar, to retire from
hed, and until fur-
evolve on Brigadu

y and most ardent
e had the honor of
of their country, I
r whose fame and
r absent, the coun-
ers and men, will
ure glory. Were
ould induce me
y of a soldier is
BORN,

ry District No. 9-
promulgated, the
f the army, sta-

July 15, 1813.

, who have served
that it is your in-
to address you

made by authority
of this army are
your longer con-
solutely independ-

We are now in a hostile country and in the immediate neighborhood of a powerful, though beaten enemy; an enemy, whose strength is daily recruited by the arrival of reinforcements. In our own numbers too we have strength and confidence; our position has been well chosen for defence, and the moment for advancing upon the enemy may soon be expected to come. But to operate with success it is necessary that we should have our complement of officers. But *two generals* now remain, whereas our numbers would give full employment for three. If you too, unfortunately should be taken from us, (at such a period as the present) the deficiencies cannot be soon supplied, and in mean time the enemy and the period for the renewal of operations are at hand.

Sir, we are far from distrusting our own ability to execute the commissions with which we have respectively been honored, by our government, and have no design of converting this address, into one, of mere personal adulation. We know your averseness to flattery, and as soldiers we are unaccustomed to flatter. But the circumstances under which we address you, oblige us to say, that the knowledge we possess of your numerous services and merits, in the ardent struggles of our glorious revolution—not to speak of more recent events, in which we might be supposed to feel too warmly as participators—has given us an infinitely higher confidence in your ability to command, with energy and effect, than we can possibly feel individually, in ourselves; or generally in those who will be placed in stations of increasing responsibility, by your withdrawal from this army.

As soldiers, we trust we shall be found equal to our duties in any event; but as soldiers and lovers of our country we wish to perform those duties under the most favorable auspices;—Therefore we do most earnestly entreat you to postpone the resolution we understand you to have taken, and to continue in the exercise of that command, which you have already holden with honor to yourself and country, and with what is of less consequence, the approbation of those who now address you.—If, however, contrary to our ardent wishes, and contrary to what appear the exigencies of this army, you should still feel yourself bound from any cause whatever, to withdraw from this frontier; in such event, we have to beg that you will please to bear with you, whithersoever you may go; the recollection of our great veneration for your revolutionary services: our respect for your political constancy and virtue; and the high sense we unanimously entertain of the benefits your country has already received, at your hands, since the commencement of the present war.

With these sentiments, and the best wishes for the speedy and perfect restoration of your health, we have the honor to be, with the highest gratitude and respect, your most obedient servants,

J. P. BOYD, Brigadier General,
M. PORTER, Col. Light Artil.
JAMES BURN, Col. 2d Regt. Drag.
H. BRADY, Colonel 22d Inf.
C. PEARCE, Colonel 16th Inf.
JAMES MILLER, Col. 6th Inf.
W. SCOTT, Col. and Adj. Gen.
E. BEEBE, Assistant Adj. Gen.
H. V. MILTON, Lt. Col. 8th Inf.
J. CHRYSTIE, Col. 22d Inf.
J. P. PRESTON, Lt. Col. 12th Inf. com.
J. L. SMITH, Lt. Col. 24th Inf.
G. P. MITCHELL, Lt. Col. 3d Artil.

A. EUSTIS, Major Light Artil.
T. A. POZEY, Major 5th Inf.
J. H. HUYICK, Major 13th Inf.
N. PINKEY, Major 5th Regt.
R. LUCAS, Major 22d Inf.
J. WOODFORD, Maj. 2d. reg. Drag.
J. JOHNSON, Major 21st Inf.
W. CUMMING, Major 8th Inf.
J. E. WOOL, Major Infantry,
W. MORGAN, Major 12th Inf.
B. FORSYTH, Major Rifle Regt.
A. M. MALCOMB, Major 15th Inf.

General Dearborn's reply to the foregoing address :

GENTLEMEN—It is with sentiments of grateful feeling, and the liveliest satisfaction, that I have observed your expressions of personal friendship and confidence. I regret that my ability to serve my country is not commensurate with the devotion and zeal I have ever felt, for the cause in which it is now so honorably engaged: a cause, on which our national character, and the dearest rights of individuals are staked.

By referring to the general order of this date, you will perceive the necessity of my retiring from the command of the army on this frontier. Be assured, gentlemen, that a recollection of the patience and soldier-like deportment of yourselves, and the officers and men under your command, in scenes of privation and suffering; your regularity and discipline in camp,—your cool intrepidity in the hour of threatening and danger; and order and bravery in action, will be among my most pleasing remembrances through-

out life : and I look forward with confidence, to the future glory of the soldiers, who conquered at York and Newark.

Be pleased, gentlemen, to accept my warmest wishes for your health and happiness, and may your arduous and honorable services be *duly appreciated* by your government, and a *grateful country*.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

H. DEARBORN.

General Dearborn having determined to leave Fort George at three o'clock, all the officers waited on him at two, and each shaking him by the hand took an affectionate leave ; then accompanied him to the bank of the Niagara, where he embarked to cross the river. The military band placed in Brock's Bastion, paid appropriate honors to their departing General, and a salute was fired from the ramparts of the fort.

A troop of horse received him on the opposite shore, and escorted him beyond Lewis's Tower.

As soon as he reached Utica, he sent the following letter to the President of the United States:

Utica, July 24, 1813.

The President of the United States.

SIR—From the unequivocal and positive order received from the Secretary of War, (a copy of which I take the liberty of enclosing) I had no option, but implicit obedience, and I retired within twenty hours after the receipt of that order. My health had so much improved as to enable me to reassume the command of the troops on the 16th of June, of which I had informed the Secretary of War. By a letter from the War Department of the 27th of May, I was informed that Major General Hampton would set out the next day for this army. I anxiously expected his arrival by the 18th or 20th of June, but by a letter dated the 30th of June, the Secretary of War gave me the *first notice* of the formation of an army in Vermont, and of the destination of General Hampton and Parker to that army.

From the daily expectation of the arrival of General Hampton, Major General Lewis was directed to proceed to Sackett's Harbor, to take command of the troops assembled and assembling at that place.

As I was suspended from all command, I shall retire to my family, near Boston.

I shall never complain of being so disposed of, as the good of the service may require, but the manner of performing an act, gives a *character* to the act itself, and considering the particular *manner* and time of my removal from command, I trust it will not be deemed improper to afford me the satisfaction of an enquiry, for investigating any parts of my conduct, that may have been deemed improper, and on which my suspension from command, may have been predicated.

I have the honor of being, with the highest respect, Sir, your obedient, humble servant,

H. DEARBORN.

A few days after he reached his seat in Roxbury, he received the subjoined answer from the President.

Washington, August 8, 1813.

DEAR SIR—I have received yours of the 24th July. As my esteem and regard have undergone no change, I wish you to be apprised that such was the state of things, and such the turn they were taking, that the retirement which is the subject of your letter, was pressed by your best personal friends.* It was my purpose to have written to you on the occasion, but it was made impossible by a severe illness, from which I am now barely enough recovered for a journey to the mountains, prescribed by my physicians as indispensable. It would have been entirely agreeable to me,

* See concluding remarks.

if as I took for granted was to be the case, you had executed your original intention, of providing for your health, by exchanging the sickliness of Niagara for some eligible spot, and I sincerely lament, every pain to which you have been subsequently exposed, from whatever circumstance it has proceeded. How far the investigation you refer to would be regular, I am not prepared to say. You have seen the motion in the House of Representatives, comprehending such an object, and the prospect held out of resuming the subject at another session. I am persuaded that you will not lose in any respect by the effect of time and truth.

Accept my respects and best wishes.

JAMES MADISON.

Major Gen. DEARBORN.

General Dearborn's Reply to the President of the United States.

Roxbury, August 17, 1813.

The President of the United States.

SIR—I have been honored with your letter of the 8th inst. It is peculiarly gratifying in my present situation to be assured that your esteem and regard had undergone no change, and that you are persuaded that I shall not lose in any respect "by the effect of time or truth;" but at my time of life, it could hardly be expected that I should quietly acquiesce in so unusual and so unprecedented a measure, as that of being removed from command in the manner I have been. From the peculiar tenor of the order, the measure cannot be viewed in any other light than as the result of an opinion that I had been guilty of such misconduct as to render my removal necessary. To suspend an officer of my grade and situation in command, except by the sentence of a court martial, or the opinion of a court of enquiry, is such a strong measure, as on general received principles, could only be justified by the most unequivocal and outrageous misconduct of the officer; and I cannot permit myself to doubt but that on reflection, it will be considered proper to afford me a hearing before a suitable military tribunal, previous to my being again ordered on duty.

I find it is pretended that my suspension from command was merely to comply with my repeated requests for being allowed to retire, for the recovery of my health, but every one acquainted with the facts, and with the peculiar expressions made use of in the order, will readily perceive that such pretence is unfounded.

In the order I complain of, it being explicitly expressed, that it came directly from the President of the United States, will, I hope, be admitted as an apology for my having addressed my observations directly to yourself. I shall rely with the fullest confidence, Sir, on your justice, for such fair and honorable proceedings, as my situation demands.

That your health be speedily re-established is, Sir, the sincere prayer of your most obedient, humble servant,

H. DEARBORN.

Notwithstanding General Dearborn had requested not to be ordered on duty until his military conduct had been investigated by a competent military tribunal, a different course was pursued by the President.

The latter part of August, Col. S. S. Conner, one of General Dearborn's Aids, requested that he might be permitted to join his regiment on the frontiers, where he could be actually employed. On his arrival at Sackett's Harbor, he waited on Gen. Armstrong, and stated the object of his return to the army. General Armstrong informed him, he had just received the directions of the President to order General Dearborn to assume the command of District No. 3, as it was expected the British contemplated an attack on New York, and advised him to return immediately to Gen. Dearborn. In a few days after, the annexed order was received by Gen. Dearborn.

War Department, Sackett's Harbor, 24th Sept. 1813.

SIR—The enemy's Squadron having left the Chesapeake, and a belief existing, that they mean to shape their course northwardly, and perhaps with a view to New

York, you will be pleased, on receipt hereof, to repair to that post, and take on yourself the command of District No. 3.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your most obedient and very humble servant,
Major Gen. DEARBORN, Boston.

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

General Dearborn thought it very extraordinary, that he should be called into service, before the subject of his removal from Fort George had been investigated. That his reputation had very unjustly suffered from that event, he was well satisfied, and conceiving that the public might entertain sentiments adverse to his character as an officer, if he should again go into service, without an opportunity of publicly vindicating himself, doubted the propriety of obeying the order, and had it in contemplation to resign immediately, but on mature deliberation, he concluded to proceed to New-York, as the very circumstance of his being ordered to an honorable command, was a public acknowledgment, on the part of the executive, that his reputation had not suffered, and particularly when the reasons assigned for the order, were such, as evinced no loss of confidence in him, by the President; besides, if he resigned, he would be forever precluded from having an opportunity to defend himself before a military tribunal, which he sanguinely anticipated; and for which, on his arrival at New-York, he reiterated his request.

After the disgraceful close of the campaign of 1813, he had an interview with Gen. Armstrong, at New-York, as he passed through that city from the frontier for Washington, and urged that a court should be immediately organised, as during the winter a sufficient number of general officers could be spared from their command for that service. General Armstrong endeavored to dissuade him from such a measure, and assured him no blame was attached to him, and that his whole conduct met the approbation of the government; that a court was not in the least necessary, for there were no charges to prefer against him. General Dearborn observed, whatever might be the sentiments of the national executive, it was notorious, his reputation suffered, in public estimation; as the correspondence which had passed on the subject, could not be laid before the public, in a manner which comported with his feelings as an officer, nor was the favorable opinion entertained by the government known to the world, and there was no way of doing him ample justice, but by the promulgation of the decision of a competent Court, which would be as notorious as the fact of his unprecedented removal.— It was an act of justice due to him, and he owed it to himself, children, friends, and the people of the United States, to demand as a right, a Court of Inquiry, and which he should never cease to urge.

While in Albany, during the winter of 1813—14, finding that his request had not been granted, he wrote the following letter to the Secretary of War.

Albany, January 2, 1814.

SIR—In my letter to you a few days after I received your order to retire from command, I expressed a wish that I might be allowed a court of inquiry, and I also communicated a similar desire to the President of the United States. I waited for the return of the President and Secretary of War, to the seat of government, as a convenient time for having my application attended to. I had hoped that I should be favored with a hearing before a suitable court, without any more direct application on my part; but having received no intimation to that effect, I consider it necessary to state explicitly, and request that as soon as I am relieved from the tour of duty* I am now about commencing, I may be indulged with a hearing, before such a court as may be deemed proper.

From your own remarks, and from common report, it appears that some general disapprobation had been excited against my conduct as commander of the army in the 9th District, and particularly on account of the disaster of Lieutenant Colonel Boerstler and the detachment under his command: and for having been guilty of disobedience of orders. It must be evident from the extraordinary manner of my being suspended from command, that strong impressions had been made on the mind of the President, to my prejudice, previous to his giving explicit directions for that measure, as expressed in the order for my removal. It is therefore evidently necessary, that a fair and impartial investigation should be had; not only as an act of common justice due to myself, but for affording such information and satisfaction to the public, as ought not to be withheld. I therefore do most earnestly request that a court of inquiry be ordered for the investigation of my conduct generally, while commanding the 9th Military District; and particularly in relation to such parts thereof, as the President of the United States may have deemed improper; and I must take the liberty of requesting that I may not be ordered on any command until I shall have been indulged with such an investigation.

I have the honor to be, &c.

H. DEARBORN.

Hon. JOHN ARMSTRONG, Secretary at War.

* As President of the Court Martial for the trial of General Hull,

The next State, and desubjoined anew

DEAR SIR To a subject who rope, with the my apology,

You say th any imputation ruand on the li perfectly well it may be done

My own ic opinion has alr

You may whether your President's con to your honor a disposition tow est confidence mand, diminish ing the very ac impaired.

In such a The fitness of he satisfied, be their merits, h did, gained you of season and e reproach and I am, however sideration, you done under in plate, it may b in view, I beg me sincere ple

Always re your lady, in our families, a assure her of With gre Major-Gener

After Mr subject of a c from which i were held in

DEAR S would have t taken my at

This eve ighly favora made. Our the contest. satisfied, beir

I am sa verret the into the fiel Vermont, at Pennsylvania movement y many other

from it by y I requ

The next spring, finding his demand was still waved, he wrote to the Secretary of State, and desired him to lay the subject again before the president, who returned the subjoined answer.

Washington, June 15, 1814.

DEAR SIR—I ought to have answered your letter sooner, especially as it is related to a subject which I find deeply interests you. The late extraordinary events in Europe, with the duties imposed on me by the arrival of the Olivier, will, I hope, plead my apology.

You say that you ought to have an inquiry into your conduct, to justify you against any imputation arising from the terms of the order which withdrew you from the command on the lines. I have communicated your impressions to the President, who is perfectly well disposed to afford you the opportunity which you desire, at a time when it may be done without injury to the service.

My own idea is, that you require no vindication in the case alluded to; that public opinion has already done you justice.

You may recollect that you had been infirm, and had even intimated a doubt whether your health would permit you to retain the command of the troops. Of the President's constant friendship for you, and attention to every circumstance interesting to your honor and feelings, I can speak with the utmost confidence, as I can that this disposition towards you has undergone no change. I am satisfied that he had the highest confidence in your integrity, attachment to free government and ability to command, diminished only by the infirmity alluded to, which had more weight, considering the very active service imposed on you at your time of life. That confidence is unimpaired.

In such a movement as that in which we are engaged every thing is experimental. The fitness of men for stations is equally so. In my opinion you have much reason to be satisfied, because the door has been opened to others, who, whatever may have been their merits, have not placed you in an unfavorable light before our country. What you did, gained you credit. Had you been continued on the frontiers, exposed to the change of season and extraordinary fatigues of the campaign, and sunk under them by ill health, reproach and censure might have fallen heavily on you, as well as on the government. I am, however, far from dissuading you from taking any course, which, on great consideration, you find essential to your honor or happiness. I only wish, that it be not done under improper impressions, and that in taking that which you seem to contemplate, it may be done, at a suitable time. In pursuing any object which you may have in view, I beg you to command my services, without reserve. Be assured it will give me sincere pleasure to be useful to you.

Always recollecting as Mrs. Monroe and I do, with deep interest, our meeting with your lady, in London, and the very friendly intercourse which passed between us and our families, at a time the most interesting to our country and ourselves, we beg you to assure her of our constant affection and regards.

With great respect and esteem, believe me, my dear sir, sincerely yours,
Major-General DEARBORN.

JAMES MONROE.

After Mr. Monroe was appointed Secretary of War, he wrote him again, on the subject of a *court of inquiry* and other affairs, to which he received the annexed reply; from which it is very clearly to be inferred that the military talents of Gen. Dearborn were held in the highest estimation by that virtuous and inflexible patriot.

Washington, July 21, 1815.

DEAR SIR—Accept my thanks for your kind attention in several letters, which would have been attended to at the time received, had not the important event of peace, taken my attention to the other department, on which a pressure has since been made.

This event in relation to the great body of our fellow citizens may be considered highly favorable. The honor of the nation is preserved in the treaty. No concession is made. Our land and naval forces have acquired glory, and the nation character by the contest. The period, and circumstances, under which the treaty was received and ratified, being just after the victory at New Orleans, made the result highly honorable.

I am satisfied had another campaign been made, that we should have shaken if not overthrown the power of Great Britain on this continent. Measures were taken for drawing into the field, in aid of our regular troops, 20,000 men from New-York, 10,000 from Vermont, and a strong force from Kentucky, Ohio, the Western parts of Virginia, and Pennsylvania, with a view to force our way towards Quebec, by suitable routes. In this movement you would have had a distinguished place. The peace has robbed you and many others of glory, but you will find an indemnity for it, in the advantages derived from it by your country.

I requested Gen. Swift to consult you and the other members of the board on the

extent and manner of the reduction to a peace establishment, that I might avail myself of your reflections without compromising either of you. The passion is strong for extensive reduction. I hope it may be confined within proper limits. Perhaps you might be disposed to make a visit here... I should be happy to see you.

With great respect and esteem I am sincerely yours, JAS. MONROE.

Notwithstanding the unceasing efforts of Gen. Dearborn to obtain a hearing, before a court of enquiry, that justice was not done him; but if any doubts should still exist as to the estimation in which Gen. Dearborn was held, by the President, the following letter must entirely remove them.

Washington, March 4, 1815.

DEAR SIR—Being desirous of obtaining for the Department of War, services which I thought you could render with peculiar advantage; and hoping that for a time at least you might consent to step into that Department, I took the liberty, without a previous communication, for which there was not time, to nominate you as successor to Mr. Monroe, who was called back to the Department of State. I had not a doubt, from all the calculations I could make, that the senate would readily concur in my views, and if a doubt had arisen, it would have been banished by the confidence of the best informed and best disposed with whom I conferred, that the nomination would be welcomed when it was to be decided on; contrary to these confident expectations, an opposition was disclosed, in an extent, which determined me to withdraw the nomination. But before the message arrived, the senate very unexpectedly had taken up the subject and proceeded to a decision. They promptly however relaxed so far as to erase the proceedings from their journal, and in that mode to give effect to the withdrawal.

I have thought this explanation due, both to me and to yourself. I sincerely and deeply regret the occasion for it. But to whatever blame I may have subjected myself, I trust you will see in the course taken by me, a proof of the high value I place on your public, and of the esteem I feel for your personal character.

Permit me to add, that I have been not a little consoled for the occurrence to which I have been accessory, by the diffusive expressions to which it has led, of sentiments such as your best friends have heard with most pleasure.

Accept assurances of my great respect and sincere regard.

Major General Dearborn.

JAMES MADISON.

After the nomination, a number of the Senators waited on the President, and he then gave them his opinion of Gen. Dearborn, and explained to them the whole transaction, which had done so much injury to a faithful, zealous, patriotic and deserving officer. They were astonished, and said if this development had preceeded the nomination, it would have been instantly confirmed.

It is to that conversation, which the President alludes in the last clause of the foregoing letter, and a burst of indignation which assailed his ears from some of the friends of Gen. Dearborn, who were acquainted with the facts, and openly declared their sentiments, as to the wrongs done to a soldier, who had grown grey in the service of his country; to a hero of the revolution, who when injured was denied the rights of an officer and coldly neglected for "time and truth" to obliterate a stain imposed by executive injustice.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

Those "best personal friends" mentioned in the letter of the President of the 8th of August, were of the heroic character; they were made to believe it was more for their interest to destroy the reputation of Gen. Dearborn, than vindicate him when aspersed. They were such smiling, smooth-faced friends, as for a period wear the mask of sincerity, but can throw it off, when such an act of baseness will have a tendency to better their own situation. They acted their part in such a manner as to deceive the President, and hoped to elude the suspicion of Gen. Dearborn; but he knows them well, and the reasons which induced them to wrong him.

The tide of war had been changed by the capture of York and Fort George. Hitherto the arms of the U. States had been disgraced, and accumulated disasters marked the events of the preceding campaigns. An interrupted series of defeats had cast a gloom over the nation, which was at length dispated by the splendid achievements of the army under the direction of Gen. Dearborn.

A large force was concentrating on the borders of Lake Champlain. The efforts of Harrison and Ferris presaged glorious results in the west. On Lake Ontario Com. Chauncey had so far increased his fleet as to render his ascendancy certain; and the army of the Niagara was ready to co-operate in such a manner, as would render the conquest of Kingston, the whole of Upper Canada, and perhaps Montreal also certain. The prospect was propitious, and such were the matured plans of Gen. Dearborn, that victory would have perched on his banners.

If Gen. Dearborn could by any means be removed from command, and the Secretary of War repair to the Frontier—direct the operations of a campaign, which had been gloriously opened, and bring it to a splendid conclusion, it would give him such reputation and influence, as would have obtained for him the appointment of Lt. General and commander in chief of the army of the United States, and thus secure him the presidential chair.

The views of the Secretary of War were early developed, of which Gen. Dearborn was apprized, by his real friends in Washington.

Two or three subalterns on the frontiers were agents in this scheme of ambition, and hints were circulated through the medium of certain papers in different sections of the Union, unfavorable to the military character of Gen. Dearborn, in the shape of "extracts of letters from respectable officers of the army." These "respectable officers" were early known to Gen. Dearborn, but such was his confidence in the President and the officers generally of the army, who duly appreciated his talents and worth, and a consciousness of his devotion

the best interest in the horizon...
 Those friends...
 But the direct...
 Dearborn's...

THE...
 develope...
 conviction...
 orthelless...
 the admision...
 classed, we...
 such as hat...
 ment; and...
 toys of nobi...
 you no nati...
 tration, sup...
 nary soldier...
 ment, the st...
 and protect...
 tects his ow...
 such as wou...
 ment, and n...
 oppose her...
 toming a mo...
 deums and s...
 were it not...
 such as hav...
 of servitude...
 land, longin...
 they are th...
 for which p...
 illuminati...
 FORD CO...
 sentiment...
 From...
 republicans...
 their streng...
 the public...
 ly approve...
 have given...
 a candida...
 reected to...
 first nomin...
 series had...
 and their v...
 On his ow...
 did not tr...
 folly, or s...
 ted not on...
 civilities f...
 and firmn...
 public def...
 that this c...
 to the ver...
 state exis...
 Sketches...
 tion of ea...
 of Dear...
 The more...

the best interests of his country, that he called at the indications of the impending storm, which was lowering in the horizon for his destruction.

Insults were circulated as coming from "high authority," that Gen. Dearborn had been guilty of disobedience of orders, and no stratagem left untried, which might tend to his disgrace in public estimation, and apparently warrant his recall. The day held place at last successful.

Stimulated by the ambition of a Career, the rubicon of honor was passed, and with the sanguine anticipations of a Richard, the future hero of the north, hurried to pitch his tent in Barrenworth fields.

Those friends of Gen. Dearborn, who were so zealous for his disgrace, had golden hopes from this event. But the disastrous and disgraceful movements of the army, under the guidance of the Secretary of War, caused those hopes to wither—and the triumphal entry of the British into the city of Washington blasted them forever. The descent of the St. Lawrence and the Blackburgh retreat damned Armstrong, and General Dearborn's "best personal friends" lost their anticipated reward, for assisting to blast his reputation.

●●●●●

To the Electors of Massachusetts.

THE official documents adduced in justification of Major General Dearborn, develop facts which place him, in the opinion of every person who opens his mind to conviction, and divests himself of prejudices, on the most exalted ground. We are nevertheless persuaded, that there are a few, who will close their understanding against the admission of truth; but when it is learnt to what description of character such are classed, we shall not be surprised. It will not be considered unjust to say, they are such as hate every thing which bears the semblance of a democratic form of government; and are more pleased with the glittering emblems of royalty, and the tinselled toys of nobility, than a plain republican robe;—they are such, who would persuade you no nation is equal to Britain, no government so excellent as her corrupt administration, supported not by the affections of her subjects, but by the force of her mercenary soldiery;—they are such as would compel you to believe, that this same government, the sink of every species of vice and corruption, is the bulwark of our religion, and protector of our faith, forgetting that the Lord, our regenerator and saviour, protects his own church, against the powers of darkness cannot prevail;—they are such as would convince you that passive obedience to the will of the British government, and non-resistance to her tyrannic measures, are christian virtues; that wars to oppose her aggressions are unpardonable, and *to rejoice at our own victories is unbecoming a moral people*, and derogatory to the christian name; while to chaunt *te-deums* and sing *horannas* for victories obtained by nations, who would affect to despise, were it not for their interest to respect us, is the highest evidence of sanctity;—they are such as have so perverted their affections, as to cherish a hope to return under the yoke of servitude, as did the Israelites of old, when they turned their backs on the promised land, longing after the leeks and onions of their task-masters in Egypt;—moreover, they are that order of people, who have conspired to subvert their own government; for which purpose every stratagem to delude you has been resorted to, from the low *illuminati* and *tub plots*, to the Henryite—and most daring plot of all, the HARTFORD CONVENTION plot. The above enumerated characters do not unite in sentiment with republicans.

From among a host of worthy men who have high claims on our confidence, the republicans have been disposed eventually to yield their partialities, and concentrate their strength in support of a candidate for Governor, to whom there might appear in the public mind no objection. The nomination of the Hon. Mr. GRAY was unanimously approved by the republican voice, while it would have been highly gratifying to have given him their undivided suffrages. When Mr. Gray declined being considered a candidate for the first magistracy of state, the attention of the republicans was directed to the veteran Hero, Major General HENRY DEARBORN. When he was first nominated, only one objection to him existed; this was, that his political adversaries had previously taken the ground to vilify his character, by misrepresentations, and their virulent aspersions had not been reasonably repelled by himself nor his friends. On his own part we now find he felt so shielded by an internal sense of rectitude, he did not trouble himself to notice their abuse, and could smile at the puerile efforts of folly, or silently spurn at more insidious attempts to disgrace him: herein he exhibited not only a great and independent mind, but the virtues of a Christian, returning civilities for revilings. The General's friends on their part, knowing his composure and firmness, under reiterated abuses, were less solicitous to expose the follies of his public defamers, and falsehoods of his inveterate enemies. His friends, however, knew that this delay of exposition of facts, had left impressions on the public mind, unfavorable to the veteran's reputation; to remove such impressions, it became necessary to clearly state existing truths respecting him, which have been exhibited in the Biographical Sketches. Since this exhibition, the only objection is removed, by a complete refutation of every calumny which has been circulated by the party opposed to him. General Dearborn, like gold seven times tried in the fire, shines with increased lustre.—The more deeply his character is scrutinized, the more we find to astonish and admire

will myself of
for exten-
you might be

NROE.

aring, before
still exist a
llowing letter

4, 1815.
ervices which
time at least
t a previous
r to Mr. Mon-
t, from all the
views, and if a
best informed
welcomed when
osition was dis-
But before the
and proceeded
ceedings from

I sincerely and
bjected myself,
I place on your

rrerence to which
sentiments such

MADISON.

ent, and he then
hole transaction,
deserving officer,
he nomination, it

clause of the fore-
me of the friend
clared their senti-
ervice of his coun-
ights of an officer
osed by executive

of August, were of the
the reputation of Gen
friends, as for a period
re a tendency to better
them hoped to elude the
to wrong him.
erto the arms of the U
campaigns. An union
nspired by the spirit

of Harrison and Perry
increased his feet as to
ate in such a manner,
ntival also certain. The
ory would have perch-

ary of War repair to the
bring it to a splendi
or him the appointment
ure to him the presiden-
ra was apprized, by
and hints were circula-
to the military charac-
try." Those "resp
e President and the o
curses of his devotion

Let us look through the mass of mankind, where shall we select another, under similar circumstances, possessing the amplest documents of self-justification, who would have patiently submitted to three years abuse, and remained silent, without making one effort to close the lips of obloquy, and silence the voice of slander, and even restrained his friends from removing the delusion with which the public mind was darkened? But it is the more astonishing to behold with what complacency he saw his own *hard-earned merits* wrested from him, and claimed for a man who on their strength has been elevated to the gubernatorial chair. Might not General Dearborn in justice have claimed these meritorious deeds, and like the celebrated poet, under similar circumstances, bereft of his honors, by one of inferior note, have inscribed on the portico of the capitol, in letters never to be erased,

....." *fecit
tulit alter honores.*"

For the information of such who may not read Latin, we shall give the following liberal translation:—

Of laurels robb'd, to adorn the brow of another.

Public honors long due, or absolutely refused, have driven ambitious men of hasty passions, to acts of madness, or rendered them enemies to their country. An instance of this, we have seen in Arnold, who commanded that wing of the army, which fought the two important battles at Saratoga; he could not patiently endure that Gen. Gates should bear off the laurels of victory, and be crowned with all the honors of the capture of Burgoyne. Arnold, when opportunity offered, threw off the guise of a patriot—by one infernal stroke, blotted from the page of history all his valiant achievements, and damned his name; and clothed in the detestable garb of a traitor, would have destroyed his country. Such frailty belongs to men, governed only by selfish considerations; let us avoid them as enemies to our liberties; the more conspicuous their talents, the more danger to be apprehended. Every one like Arnold in disposition, has not a West-Point to surrender by an act of treachery to your enemy; but there are other means by which your government may be subverted, and your constitution destroyed. Insidious treasons are equally dangerous, and often more fatal than overt acts.

General Dearborn, under the weight of unmerited censure, regarded less his own, than his country's glory; at every point of danger, and in many responsible stations, we have seen him always the same; on hazardous enterprizes ready to attend the summons of the nation; as ready to retire from posts of honor when ordered, holding it his first duty to obey. Subjected to false imputations without obtaining an opportunity to publicly vindicate himself, we have seen him unremitting in his exertions to resist foreign oppression and invasion.

The official documents, had they been published years ago, would have removed a mass of prejudice which has rested upon Major-General Henry Dearborn. Truth is a divine attribute, under its banner honor and integrity are protected; it shields one from the malignant shafts of detraction; we have only to regret, for the public good, it was not displayed at an earlier day. We can however, congratulate our republican friends throughout the State, that the tide of opposition is checked, and the current of opinion is taking its ancient course, in support of the liberties and independence of the nation, as well as those patriots who have always advocated the righteous cause of freedom, and of whom one of the most conspicuous, is HENRY DEARBORN, who will be unanimously supported at the ensuing election, as Governor of this State.

MEN OF MASSACHUSETTS.

The Siroc winds of party have almost blown you to destruction; yet a redeeming spirit still pervades the Commonwealth. Let the voice of the immortal WARREN call to you, "*my sons scorn to be slaves*"... Let the hallowed name of WASHINGTON remind you to "*frown indignant*" on the enemies of your Republic... Let the words of the venerable GERRY be remembered... "*if you have but one day to live, let that day be devoted to your Country.*"

With these sentiments, crowd to the Polls on the first Monday of April next, and give your united suffrage to Maj. Gen. HENRY DEARBORN for Governor, and the Hon. WILLIAM KING, for Lieut. Governor.

