

Addressed: John Askin Esq^r Sandwich

Endorsed: recvd 8^h June & Answ^d partly same day

BATTLE OF STONY CREEK

Dundass Mills June 8th 1813

Dear Father I wrote you on the 5th Inst^t at which time We were in a melancholy state, and thought that we should be forced to surrender to a very large force which were in pursuit of us or make a precipitate Retreat. an Action which took place on the sixth Inst^t which terminated much in our favour has quite altered the face of Affairs, and the appearance of our Vessels which hove in sight last night has put us all in high spirits again. the Enemy were advancing three thousand five hundred strong²⁰ and were within Six miles of us on the evening of the 5th. They took a strong position and encamped, determined to attack us next morning. General Vincent after geting correct information of their situation, determined on attacking them that night, and marched down with the whole of the 8th & 49th Reg^{ts} with us and one field piece. our force was one thousand strong. we got up to them undiscovered and bayoneted the Centinels, then pushed on with the Bayonet; and took the Enemy by Surprise laying in their Tents. our troops in order to alarm them yelled as much like Indians as they could. this had a bad effect; for it woke the Enemy who would have been skivered otherwise. they kept up a warm fire on our troops for a short time, with musketts and a howitzer, and killed a good many of our men. our brave fellows pushed on took the howitzer and seven²¹ field pieces, after which the Americans fled. both

19 The two paragraphs omitted concern matters of no present-day interest.

20 As usual in warfare, the strength of the enemy is here over-estimated. The American army numbered 2700 men, but owing to various detachments made in the course of the advance toward Burlington Bay, only about 1400 were present on the battlefield. See Louis L. Babcock, *The War of 1812 on the Niagara Frontier*, Buffalo Hist. Soc., Pubs., XXIX, 85-86.

21 First written "the field pieces"; the number interpolated in not clear, but seems to be "seven."