

miles from the fort) with a part of his militia, and proposed to force his way to the fort for our relief. In order to render him what service we could in his march, it was agreed that I should make a sally from the fort with two hundred and fifty men, consisting one-half of Gansevoort's, and one-half of Massachusetts men, and one field-piece (an iron three-pounder). The men were instantly paraded, and I ordered the following dispositions to be made: Thirty men for the advanced guard, to be commanded by Captain van Bescoten and Lieutenant Stockwell; thirty for the rear guard, under the command of Captain Allen of the Massachusetts troops, and Lieutenant Dauffendroff; thirty for flank guards, to be commanded by Captain —, from Massachusetts, and Ensign Chase. The main body formed into eight subdivisions [to be] commanded by Captain Blecker, Lieutenants Conine, Bogardus, M'Clennar, and Ostrander; Ensigns Bayley, Lewis, and Denison; Lieutenant Ball, the only supernumerary officer, to march with me; Captain Jenson to bring up the rear of the main body; Captain Swartwourdt with Ensigns Magee and Amant and fifty men to guard the field-piece, which was under the direction of Major Badlam. Nothing could be more fortunate than this enterprise. We totally routed two of the enemy's encampments, destroyed all their provision that was in them, brought off upwards of fifty brass kettles, and more than a hundred blankets (two articles which were much needed by us), with a number of muskets, tomahawks, spears, ammunition, clothing, deerskins, a variety of Indian affairs, five colours, which, on our return to the fort were displayed on our flag-staff under the continental flag."

"On the evening of the next day," as further remarked in the 'narrative of the military actions' of Lieutenant-Colonel Willett, "the enemy fired a few cannon at us from high ground, about a half a mile north of the fort, where they had erected a small battery. The next day, being Friday, the 8th, they threw a number of shells from the battery, none of which did any execution.

"In the evening they sent us a flag, with which came their adjutant-general Captain Armstrong, Colonel John Butler, and a surgeon; the surgeon to examine [Lieutenant] Singleton's wounds" [who had been wounded and taken prisoner on Wednesday].

"The principal business of the flag was to acquaint us that General St. Leger had with much difficulty prevailed on the Indians to agree that if the commanding officer would deliver up the fort the garrison should be secured from any kind of harm, that not a hair on the heads of the troops should be touched, but if not, the consequence to the garrison, should it afterwards fall into their hands, would be terrible; that the Indians were very much enraged on account of their having a number of their chiefs killed in the late action, and