

COL. JOHN BROWN'S EXPEDITION AGAINST
TICONDEROGA AND DIAMOND ISLAND,
1777

Communicated by Capt. WILLIAM BUTLER CLARKE of Belmont, Mass.

To the REGISTER of April 1872 (vol. 26, pages 147-152) Rev. B. F. DeCosta communicated an article entitled "The Fight at Diamond Island," in which he gave British accounts of the operations of Col. John Brown's command against Ticonderoga and Diamond Island in Sept. 1777 and also the text of two letters from Colonel Brown to General Lincoln describing his attack on these posts. Other letters relating to this expedition from Colonel Brown to General Lincoln and other officers and also letters from General Lincoln to Colonel Brown have been for several years in the possession of the contributor of the present article, who is a great-great-grandson of Colonel Brown, and they are given below, together with the text of the two letters from Colonel Brown which appeared in the REGISTER in 1872, the convenience of having all these letters in print in one place justifying the reprinting of the two previously published. In his letter of 4 Oct. 1777 (*vide infra*) Colonel Brown states that he received orders from General Lincoln to make this expedition on 13 Sept. of that year, and the first letter printed below, dated on the day on which he received his orders, shows him already on the march.*

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL LINCOLN]

Poltney Sept. 13th 1777

Dear Sir

I find by my march thus far, that I shall be in Castletown tomorrow by 10 o'clock P M. Should I fail of the Pork by way of Skenbr, I must be detained perhaps the whole Day at Castletown, which retard my march that time butt, hope that the Cattle may be forwarded tomorrow morning as soon as possible as you know that half a Days detention this side the Bay, may be the Means of detaining me an Whole Day the other side and a consequent facture [*sic*] in the whole operation.

Am Sr in hast

Your hos. most Obt. hml. Svt.

Jno Brown

Genl. Lincoln

The Ammunition will be exceeding necessary especially for Col. Warners Party

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL LINCOLN]

Sunday Morning 8 o'clock Poltney Sept. 14th 1777

Sir

As Colo. Warners Detachmt have not arrived or any part of them, I begin to apprehend some unnecessary delay desire they may be hurried on with all possible despatch, as any delay at Castletown will be Danger-

*An account of Colonel Brown's life and services may be found in Colonel John Brown of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, the Brave Accuser of Benedict Arnold, an address delivered at Palatine Bridge, N. Y., in 1908 by the late Archibald Murray Howe, A.M., LL.B., of Cambridge, Mass., and published in Boston in the same year.

ous on Acct. of the Enemy's being advertized of our Motion. I had advice the last Evening of a part of the Enemy being under way to Castleton & have taken proper Methods to inform myself of this Matter, hope it may be true as I think they cannot escape, they are said to be one hundred or upward

Am Sir with Respect

Your very hml. Svt

Jno Brown

Hope to be advertized of every Piece of Intelligence that you may think proper to communicate. The Companies from Colonels Herick, Marsh Johnson Woodbridge Cushing Whitcome and my own Regts. are arrived, 2 Companies of my Detachment are yet behind.

Majr. Genl. Lincoln

[Addressed]

Majr. Genl. Lincoln

pr Express

Powlet

[COLONEL BROWN TO COLONEL JOHNSON]

Lake George Landing North End Thursday Sept. 18th 1777

Col. Johnson,
Sr.

I have been favoured with good success in my Attempts upon the Enemy this way, as I heartily wish you may in your Department on the Mount. I took possession of the Landing here this Morning, & the Mills, & a block house near them, & Mount Defiance, as also the old french Lines on Ticonderoga side; & have sent in a flag & demanded the immediate surrender of Ticonderoga & Mount Independence. I have not as yet heard what Success you may have had. The Number of Prisoners taken at these several places is as follows 12 British Commissioned officers viz 2 Captns. 7 Lieut. 2 Ensigns. 1 Commissary. Non Commissioned officers 1 Gentleman & privates 143 British. 119 Canadians. 18 Artificers, & retook more than 100 of our own Men total. 293. exclusive of our own Prisoners 150 Batteaus below the falls in Lake Champlain fell into my hands, as also 50 above the falls including 17 Gun Boats, & 1 armed Sloop. Our loss of Men in these several Actions is not more than 3 or 4 killed & 5 wounded the Enemys Loss is less still. I have taken Arms perhaps equal to the Number of Prisoners, & some Cannon & Ammunition. Your spirited Exertions will much facilitate my operations on this side, as mine may be of Service to you on the other side. I am not without hope of those places being speedily in our possession. If Recruits should not come in to the Enemy soon, I think there is some probability of so agreeable an Event. I am informed by an officer of ours retaken that a Rinforcemnt from Canada are on their Way. You will put wt. weight to this you think proper, I am sending of the Prisoners as fast as possible. have recved no Express from you.

Am in the utmost hast your very hml Svt

John Brown

Colo. Johnson

[Addressed]

Colo. Johnson near Fort Independance

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL LINCOLN]

North end of lake George landing. thursday Sep 18th 1777

Sir,

With great fatigue after marching all last night I arrived at this place at the break of day, and after the best disposition of the men, I could make,

immediately began the attack, and in a few minutes, carried the place. I then without any loss of time detached a considerable part of my men to the mills, where a greater number of the enemy were posted, who also were soon made prisoners, a small number of whom having taken possession of a block house in that Vicinity were with more difficulty bro't to submission; but at the sight of a Cannon they surrendered. during this season of success, Mount Defiance also fell into our hands. I have taken possession of the old french lines at Ticonderoga, and have sent a flag demanding the surrender of Ty: and mount independence in strong and peremptory terms. I have had as yet no information of the event of Colo. Johnsons attack on the mount. My loss of men in these several actions are not more than 3 or 4 killed and 5 wounded. the enemy's loss: is less. I find myself in possession of 293 prisoners. Vizt 2 captains, 9 subs. 2 Commissaries. non Commissioned officers and privates 143. British 119 Canadians, 18 artificers and retook more than 100 of our men. total 293, exclusive of the prisoners retaken.—The watercraft I have taken, is 150 batteaus below the falls on lake Champlain 50 above the falls including 17 gun boats and one armed sloop. arms equal to the number of prisoners. Some ammunition and many other things which I cannot now ascertain. I must not forget to mention a few Cannon which may be of great service to us. Tho: my success has hitherto answered my most sanguine expectations, I cannot promise myself great things, the events of war being so dubious in their nature, but shall do my best to distress the enemy all in my power, having regard to my retreat—There is but a small quantity of provisions at this place which I think will necessitate my retreat in case we do not carry Ty and independence—I hope you will use your utmost endeavor to give me assistance should I need in crossing the lake &c—The enemy but a very small force at fort George. Their boats are on an island about 14 miles from this guarded by six companies, having artillery—I have much fear with respect to the prisoners, being obliged to send them under a small guard—I am well informed that considerable reinforcements is hourly expected at the lake under command of Sir John Johnson—This minute received Genl. Powals answer to my demand in these words, "The garrison intrusted to my charge I shall defend to the last." Indeed I have little hopes of putting him to the necessity of giving it up unless by the force under Colonel Johnson.

I am &
John Brown.

Genl Lincoln.*

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL LINCOLN]

North End Lake George 6 o'clock A. M. Friday Sept. 19th 1777

Dear Genl.

I have nothing Material to advise you this Morning have kept up a canonade from within the Lines on Ty, all Night have not heard this Morning whether to any purpose. It is most certainly out of my Power to cast the Enemy from that place, should they chuse to keep it, without too great loss of Men.

I have in Contemplation to cross the Bay this Night to Independence, and in conjunction with Genl. Warner attack the post, but this depends on

*This letter is reprinted from *RECONSTRUCTION*, vol. 20, p. 150, but the date, printed there as "thursday Sep 10th 1777," has been changed here to "thursday Sep 18th 1777," since it is clear from Gen. Burgoyne's statement (*ib.*, vol. 20, p. 149) and from other letters printed in the present article that "Sep 18th" is the correct date and that the reading "Sep 10th" was due to an error, probably either of the copyist or of the printer. The letter is said (*ib.*, vol. 20, p. 150) to have been taken from the Gates Papers, p. 194. Cf. Colonel Brown's letter of 4 Oct. 1777 to General _____, *infra*, p. 292.

certain Contingencies—I have a large Quantity of Plunder on hand particularly of Cloathing which I have taken out of the thereabouts [?] under Ty. Should therefore wish for a reinforcement that it might be in my Power to move [?] it round. I think of sending it in Boats up to the lake George some Distance, by which Means it may be transported across to Defiance [?] fort, as it will be of great service to the Army—I have before the attack for the Incouragemt. of the Men, given them all the Plunder—this is going beyond the Letter of the Law, but as it had been so often superceeded [?] in this way thought myself warranted and hope my ingagemts. may be confirmed—

Am Sr. Your very hmble Svt

John Brown

Genl. Lincoln

[Addressed]

Honble. Majr. Genl Benjn. Lincoln
Pr Express Skeenboro

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL WARNER]

North End lake George Sept. 19th 1777 Friday 6 Oclock A. M.

Dear Genl.

I recved yours of Yesterday by Mr. Potter. My Letter of Yesterd and Mr. Potters information will give you my Situation

I know of nothing new hapned since last Night we have kept up a fire from within the French Lines at Ty on the Mnt most of the Night, know of no Material Consequence which has hapned, the Enemy Yesterday seemed to be about to abandon Ty whether they will do it or not cant say. 'tis out of my Power to force them to do it.

I look on myself not in the best Situation being liable to be attacked—by way of both Lakes, but shall not quit the ground untill such an Event shall happen. I mean to examine the Situation of the Enemy this Morning, and as I understand you have in Contemplation an Attack by way of Storm on Independence shall before night give you my oppinion on the propriety of such a Measure together with the Assistance you are to expect from me. Still believe had you attacked at the time I proposed you had carried the Mount—I have a large Quantity of Plunder on hand expect to loose it all in Case I am attacked, wish I could supply you with some Rum which would improve [?] your convenience extremely well

Am Sr with Respect

Your very hml. Svt
Brown

B. Genl. Warner

[Addressed]

B: Genl. Warner
Pr Mr. Potter

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL LINCOLN]

Lake George Landing Sept. 20th 1777 11 P M.

Dear Genl.

Have not heard any thing from you this Several Days, Have reason to fear that our Communication is interrupted. I am this moment informd by two Men express from the Officer commanding at the Narrows that at noon Yesterday he had received no intiligence from me—The Prisoners must have arrived at that Place before this—Have taken about 20 Prisoners since the First attack in three Boats from Fort George—I this Minute am advised that a large Number of tracks have been discovered this

side of Crownpoint, perhaps to endeavour to surprise us, shall be better informed of this Matter very soon the Boats mentioned in my Letter of yesterday have fallen into my hands—Have this Morning sent off 100 Prisoners Shall endeavour to cross them to Genl Warner I have still on hand about 25 sick prisoners not able to be removed, while I am writing Express arrives from Genl. Warner with your advice for us to retreat by order Genl. Gates this is impracticable at present without the loss of Many Prisoners and a vast Quantity of Stores. I wrote you in my last that I should attack Ty at all Events, but on more Mature consideration think that the advantages of carrying that Post with Independence will not compensate for the probable loss altho I am certain of carrying the Posts, indeed I begin to be censured by Officers and Men for not suffering them to make the attempt.

By intelligence from up the Lake I am sure that I shall have it in my Power to command this Lake. the Enemy have a Post at Dimond Islandt (?) consisting of 3 Companies of German Troops, and almost all the Boats in the lake exclusive of those I have taken they have but little Provision and cannot be reinforced or supplied from this Quarter. Shall endeavour to set out tomorrow morning with a small Sloop Mounting 3 Carriage Guns 7 pounds. one Gun Boat with one Brass 18 Do. in her Bow and one other Boat Mounting one 7 Do. and about 400 Men in Boats I can Retreat much easier from 20 Miles up the Lake then from this Place do not mean however to abandon this Place unless necessitated to do it until the Event of this Expedition is known—

I must not omit doing Justice to the Officers and Soldiers under my Command in the late attack never were Men more furious, and even fool hardy in the instance of attacking the Block house by which Means I lost several Men. Capt. Ebr. Allin of the Vermont Rangers with his Compy alone attacked mount Defiance supported by double his Number and previously advertized by my attack at this Place, and paraded on the top of the Mount on which was a Block House about half finished and every other advantage he ascended the precipice and drove them in 6 Minutes killing a Number and took 21 Prisoners Cannon &c &c the remainder got headlong down the mountain. Desire you by all Means to give me every Piece of Inteligence—

Wishing you Success

Am Sr. your Obt. [?] hml. Svt

Jno Brown

J Brown

[Addressed]

Honble. Benja Lincoln Esqr.

Majr. Genl. in the northern Army

[GENERAL LINCOLN TO COLONEL BROWN*]

Pawlet Sept. 21 1777

Dear Colonel

All your movments since you left this place have [been] very agreeable to me I am greatly obliged to you for your exertions & am glad to hear that with spirit the officers and men under you have distinguished themselves—You are all entitled to the thanks of ye public mine you have most cordially

I had no idea when I wrote to General Bayley, to which letter you refer, of your retreating while there was a probability of success neither do I now wish it Coll. Woodbridge will afford you all ye assistance in his power.—I had yesterday General Gates repeated orders to join him at Stillwater I must do it my self with all the troops I can collect here. He had a skirmish

*This letter, unsigned, was found among General Lincoln's papers. It is endorsed: "To Col: Brown Sept. 21st 1777."

ye night before last night with ye enemy he took 250 prisoners & 3 field pieces—General Warner & you must act your own judgments with respect to attacking ye enemis lines continuing ye Sige or retiring I am this moment going to set off expect to see General Gates tomorrow—I shall leave Genl Bayley at Castletown who will afford you every in supplies

I am Dr Sir with sincere regard & esteem

your most hum Servt—

While at Skeenboro I could git no advice from you I supposed our expresses were cutt off indeed I was confirmed in this opinion [?] after being informed that one of our boats were fired on by the tories some men killed The boat went as, afterward, I was told into East Bay I therefore took post for one night at Castletown.

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL LINCOLN*]

Skeensboro Friday 11 o'clock, a m. Sept. 26th 1777

Dear Sir

I this minute arrived at this place by the way of Fort Ann, was induced to take this rout on act of my Ignorance of the situation of every part of the continental Army—

On the 22 inst at 4 o'clk P.M. I set sail from the north end Lake George with 20 sail of Boats three of which were armed, Viz one small sloop mounting 3 guns. and 2 British Gun Boats having on Board the whole about 420 Men officers included with a Determined resolution to attack Diamond Island which lies within 5 miles Fort George at the break of Day the next Morning, but a very heavy storm coming on prevented—I arrived Sabbath Day point abt midnight where I tarried all night, during which time I [sic] small Boat in the fleet taken the Day before coming from Fort George, conducted by one Ferry lately a sutler in our army, I put Ferry on his Parole, but in the night he found Means to escape with his Boat, and informed the Enemy of our approach, on the 23d I advanced as far as 12 Mile Island, the Wind continuing too high for an attack I suspended it untill the Morning of the 24th at 9 oclock at which Time I advanced with the 3 armed Boats in front and the other Boats, I ordered to wing to the Right and left of Island to attempt a landing if practicable, and to support the Gun Boats in case they should need assistance, I was induced to make this experiment to find the strength of the Island as also to carry it if practicable—the enemy gave me the first fire which I returned in good earnest, and advanced as nigh as I thought prudent, I soon found that the enemy had been advertised of our approach and well prepared for our reception having a great number of cannon well mounted with good Breast Works, I however approached within a small Distance giving the Enemy as hot a fire as in my Power, untill the sloop was hulled between wind and Water and obliged to toe her off and one of the boats so damaged as I was obliged to quit her in the action. I had two men killed two Mortally wounded and several others wounded in such Manner as I was obliged to leave them under the Care of the Inhabitants, who I had taken Prisoners giving them a sufficient reward for their services.

I Run my Boats up a Bay a considerable distance and burnt them with all the Baggage that was not portable—The Enemy have on Diamond Island as near as could be collected are about three hundred, and about 40 at Fort George with orders if they are attacked to retreat to the Island—Genl Borgoine has about 4 Weeks Provision with his army and no more, he is determined to cut his Road through to Albany at all events, for this

*This letter is reprinted from REGISTER, vol. 26, pp. 151-152, where it is said to have been taken from the Gates Papers, p. 220. Cf. Colonel Brown's report to General — about this attack, in his letter of 4 Oct. 1777, *infra*, p. 293.

I have the last authority, still I think him under a small mistake—Most of the Horses and Cattle taken at Ty and thereabouts were left in the Woods. Genl Warner has put out a party in quest of them.

I am Dear Sr wishing you and the Main Army great Success
your most obt huml Sert
Jno Brown

Genl Lincoln

NB You may Depend on it that after the British Army were supply with six Weeks provision which was two weeks from the Communication between Lake George and Fort Edward was ordered by Genl. Burgoine to be stor'd and no passes given—

The attack on the Island continued with interruption 2 Hours.

[GENERAL LINCOLN TO COLONEL BROWN*]

Camp at Behsmus hight Sept. 28 1777

My dear Colonel

Your favor of the 26 I recd this morning in which you mention your several movments I think they were made with judgment & executed with spirit, altho you had not all ye wished for success. the eminent services you have rendered to your country in your late rout will always be remembered by them with gratitude—The time for which your men engaged to serve now expires you will suffer them to return home please to present to them my warmest thank[s] for their faithfull services—I wish to see you before you return that I may receive from your own mouth a full & particular acct. of your several moyments & the articles you have taken & have an opportunity to mention to you the high sense I entertain of your faithfull services

Colo Browne

[GENERAL LINCOLN TO COLONEL BROWN]

Camp, Behmesses hieghts 4 Miles above Stilwater. September 30th 1777

Dear Colonel,

I think it unnecessary for you to seal my letter to General Warner it will be best to give it to him open—

You will be so good when you arrive at Pawlet as to send a party of men consisting of two or three hundred with ten or twelve days provision (the bread they can carry the beef may be on foot) between Fort Edward and Fort George in order to cut off all communication between these posts and to harrass and distress the enemy you will appoint some person of known bravery, ability and experience to command them if there should not be a number sufficient at Pawlet you will please to send to General Bailey at Manchester requesting such aid from the militia there as you may need. if you should fail of succour there, you will send to the commanding officer at white creek for it. I will replace them by troops from Falls mills.—You will please to give the party instructions to cut off all communication between Fort Edward and Fort George. If in their power, prevent any supplies going to the enemy to harrass and distress them and report to General Gates every piece of information of importance which may come to their knowledge—

I am sorry to give you this trouble but I know not how to avoid it and prosecute the plan agreed on

You promised no more to the troops when you assured them that they should

*This letter, unsigned, was found among General Lincoln's papers. It is endorsed: "To Colo Browne. Sept. 28th 1777."

have the benefit of the plunder than you had a right to engage, the only question is who are to be considered as captures.*

I am dear Sir with sincere regard

Your hml Servant

B Lincoln

N. B. If Sir your ill state of health forbids your doing this business you will be so good as to let me know it by a line—

B Lincoln

[Endorsed]

To Colo. Browne

Sepr. 30. 1777

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL LINCOLN]

Camp at Falls Mills Oct. 1st 1777

Dear Sir

This Minute received your favr of this Day Am sorry you did not hint in your letter the oppinion of Genl. Gates with regard to the Plunder, as possibly that might have given satisfaction could wish you would do it the first Express.

Shall execute your Orders respecting the Party to be put between Fort Edward & Lake George. Whitcomb or Wirt must have the Command I think your Scouts ought to be advertized of this party least, they annoy each other—

I have confereed with Genl. Fellows with Regard to the Berkshire Militia, it was almost impossible to retain them at any rate, the Genl. therefore with advice of the Officers of his Brigade thought it most advisable to limit the time for those Militia as it seemed they would consent to tarry [?] Ten Days, although it was apparent they would all desist, they have therefore mostly agreed to tarry [?] the Ten Days—Genl. Fellows desired me to advertise you of this Matter, hope you will make up of the Militia before that time is expired—

Wishing you the greatest Success Am respectfully

your hors. most Obed hml. Svt

Jno Brown

Honle. Genl Lincoln

[Addressed]

Honle. Majr. Genl. Lincoln
at Head Quarters

[GENERAL LINCOLN TO COLONEL BROWN]

October 2d 1777

Dear Colo.

I forgot in my last to request you to order the commissary at Pawlet to make a return of the stores there which he will do and send it by the bearer.

You will mention to General Warner if you think proper that General Gates is of opinion that the party with you who took the plunder hath the sole right to it.

I am dear Sir

Your humble servant

B. Lincoln

To Colonel Browne

[Endorsed]

To Colonel Browne

October 2d 1777

*The words here printed in italics are crossed out in the original letter.

[COLONEL BROWN TO GENERAL ———*]

Pawlet October 4th 1777

Dear General

Permit me to present you the Continental Standard retaken at Ticonderoga on the 18th Ult. Please to Present my Compliments to those Gentlemen who in their hurry slipt off and forgot them,—hope never to have the like Occasion to present Them or your Honour with our own Colours; Should have done myself the honour to make this Presentation in Person when I had the honour of waiting on You, but conceived the Colours to have belonged to an armed Vessel until this Minute when upon Opening them find they are the Continental Standard, hope they may be flourished in your Camp and soon replaced in Ticonderoga.

Agreeable to your desire I send your Honor the Particular Occurrences of my Expedition to the North End of Lake George

On the 13th of Septr receiv'd Orders from Genl. Lincoln to make this Expedition, On the 17th arrived on the Heights above the Landing near Mount Defiance where I made what Discoveries I could of the Situation of the Enemy at their several Posts at Ticonda, Independance and the Landing; At Daybreak the next Morning attacked the Enemy at the Landing and at Mt Defiance, I made such a Disposition at the Landing as infirely to invest the Enemy, so that not one Man Escaped, Two of our Officers were Wounded and several of the Enemy killed in this Attack but the Enemy were so surprized that they could make no Considerable Defence. Mount Defiance was at the same Time stormed by one Company of the Rangers under the Command of Capt Ebenr Allen consisting of 40 Men, the Post being defended by Double that Number was however carried in 6 Minutes without the loss of a Man killed or wounded on our Side, they had two killed and several Wounded and upwards of 20 taken Prisoners—Capt. Allen deserves Immortal Honor for his spirited Conduct in this Attack, being obliged to ascend a craggy Precipice under the Fire of the Enemy to make the Attempt. Immediately on carrying the Landing I detached a considerable Number of the Party to the Bridge who surprized the Enemy there, The Falls making such a Noise that they never heard the Attack at the Landing, the Party being reinforced by me Proceeded on to the Houses and Barn near Mr. Intoss, toward the French Lines where was a Considerable Number of our Prisoners and one Company of British Troops who were surprized in like Manner and taken Prisoners to a Man, We relieved in the whole of our own Prisoners at all the Posts 118 Who had been confined, fatigued and dejected to such a degree that one could scarcely conjecture what they were, They come out of their Holes and Cells with Wonder and Amazement, indeed the Transition was almost too much for them, I immediately armed them and changed the Tables with the Enemy, I found the French Lines undefended and but one Company in the old Fort, I immediately demanded a Surrendery of Ty. & Independance, but receiv'd a Manly denial from General Powel, I heard nothing from Colonel Johnson this Day, on the 19th I receiv'd an Express from the Colol, and found that his attempt on Independance was not made with a View to carry it, Indeed the Enemy have fortified Independance in such a Manner that by the block Houses and Redoubts which they have erected, together with their Shipping, they can cover and defend the whole of the Ground on Independance the Enemy have about 700 Men in the Mount 500 of which they can turn out on an Emergency, considering these Particulars, I thought it Proper not to advise to a Joint Attack of that Post, which I had in Contemplation before I discovered their true situation. The old Fort could

*There is nothing in or on this letter to indicate to what general it was written. Apparently it was not written to General Lincoln.

have been carried by my Party but did not think that the Acquisition would have been a Compensation for the Probable loss, since if Independance was not carried this Post must have been soon evacuated

By the Boats that come in dayly from Fort George and Diamond Island, I found that the Island were not apprized of us and therefore determined that it was my Object rather than Ty I therefore after Canonading the old Fort a Considerable Time, from within the old french Lines and from mount defiance, from which with one Ball two Men within the Parade were killed, and after having destroyed all the Carriges and Boats except 20 in lake George and after having burnt most of the Stores about Ticonderoga and killed and sent off all the Cattle and Horses, on the 24th I embarked for the Island, having 5 Cannon mounted on the small sloop and gun Boats, but an unluky Circumstance happened; One Terry lately a settler [sic] in our Army being a Prisoner, I suffered him to go at large on Parole but on my sailing from the landing I ordered Terry & his Associates on board the Gun Boats, unhappily an Officer coming on in the rear ordered Terry out of the Gun Boats into his own Boat and fall under his stern, altho this Officer had no bad intent in this Order yet it Proved our overthrow at the Island, for Night coming on with a great Storm Terry made his Escape to the Enemy which gave them sufficient Oppertunity to mount their Cannon and Prepare for otr reception I however Proceeded and made the Attempt, but finding the Enemy too well Prepared was obliged to quit after two hours Engagement, in which the Enemy huld the sloop between wind and water in such Manner I was obliged to toe her off, one of the Gun Boats also being Wounded and many other Boats shattered to Pieces, I thought Proper to retreat and after having burnd all the boats on the East shore quit the Lake and got safely into Skeensboro', I left behind me in the whole killed and wounded ten Men—the Number of Prisoners on Parole shall transmit your honor very soon

Am Sr with the utmost respect

Your Honors most Obedient humble Servt,
John Brown

JOHN DEVEREUX OF MARBLEHEAD, MASS.,
AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS

By Mrs. FRANK M. ANGELLOTTI of San Rafael, Cal.

[Concluded from page 211]

20. RALPH⁶ DEVEREUX (*Ralph*,⁵ *Ralph*,⁴ *Ralph*,³ *Robert*,² *John*¹), of Prospect, Me., farmer, born at Penobscot, Me., 15 June 1795, died 2 June 1874. He married first, 27 Feb. 1822, NANCY LENNAN of Georgetown, Me., who died in June 1865; and secondly, in 1868, MARGARET HARRIMAN GRANT of Prospect.

He settled at Prospect the year after his first marriage, and lived near the Penobscot River.

Children by first wife:

- i. RALPH,⁷ master mariner, b. 17 Sept. 1823; d. 20 Sept. 1902; m. 19 July 1846 HESTER A. HARRIMAN of Prospect, who d. in Apr. 1888.