

not never forgave  
himself.

When Charlotte did,  
she did in the hear-  
ing why their ship  
instead of firing up-  
on the Niagara kept so  
her guns could not

in the case. 1st,  
to fight the Queer-  
ly? Commodore  
—The officers of  
small vessels say  
reluctant in their  
was not in the  
marks what he has  
sents, and false as-  
serting with his char-  
acter performed his duty,  
point for the fact  
and, when the Law-  
hundred and one  
that the Niagara  
Commodore states) af-

and, after officially  
to the customary  
ably acquitted.—  
at when Perry ap-  
pearing away" from  
American papers. A  
in New York, on  
war, and Elliot,  
the action, applied  
Court to examine  
side, not whether  
several affidavits

state, but whether he attempted to run away. Five witnesses  
were summoned from the Niagara, and two from the Lawrence.  
They all testified that he was not running away. But the at-  
tempt he then made to draw proofs from them that he did his  
duty in the action, was less successful. The two from the  
Lawrence testified adversely.

In the finding of the Court, it was regretted that contradicto-  
ry testimony was given, but finally concluded that "the Niaga-  
ra was not running away from her antagonist the Queen, but  
that she ran away from the Niagara," (*why didn't he run after  
her?*) "and that Commodore Perry's official report was correct."  
It is to be borne in mind that none of the commanders of the  
small vessels, nor the Commodore were summoned before the  
Court. The testimony of the two officers adverse to Elliot is  
disposed of by Cooper in a summary manner. "Mr. Forest,"  
he says, "was a man of very feeble capacity, as was Mr. Yar-  
nell, the other Lieutenant." Now, both were brave and intel-  
ligent officers, and had behaved gallantly in other actions; but  
being dead when Cooper wrote his pamphlet, he felt it safe to  
stultify them in order to prop the reputation of Elliot.

There is a singular perverseness in the course pursued by Mr.  
Cooper, in his assaults upon the memory and hard earned fame  
of the lamented Perry. The few pages of his naval history ap-  
propriated to this victory, contain many palpable errors. They  
however exhibit two prominent traits. 1st: the mistakes are  
all made to tell against Perry and in favor of Elliot: secondly,  
that their general aim is to diminish the glory reflected by the  
victory on American valor and naval skill, by making our fleet  
a vastly superior force to the enemy's. I have not time to ex-  
hibit the numerous instances showing this tendency, but you  
will find some of them stated in McKenzie's *Life of Perry*, one  
of the best pieces of biography ever written in this country.—  
But after a lapse of years, when McKenzie had exposed the un-  
fairness of his naval history, Cooper writes in *Graham's Maga-  
zine* what he calls a *Life of Perry*, in which he aims his mis-  
siles at the character of that hero, not only in respect to Lake  
Erie matters, but to the subsequent events of his life, particular-  
ly in the Mediterranean, where Perry in a moment of excite-