

had long enjoyed, was much interrupted by the proclamation of war. Fathers, and sons, summoned to arms in defence of the province, renounced for a season their social relations. From the moment of military conscription the cultivation of their lands was in a great measure neglected. While hostilities were carrying on, their houses were at times pillaged and burnt down by the rapacious cruelty of the enemy. Their fences and orchards were destroyed; their fields were laid desolate. Mothers, with their children trembling in their arms, were forced to fly under night for shelter into the woods, when turning round, they beheld from afar the smoke ascending from their "smouldering" dwellings*. Some had to mourn for their nearest relatives who had fallen in battle. To such the destruction of property, with the kindred feelings of nature, harrowed up by death, dispelled for a short time their hopes of future security.

* The village of Newark was burnt down by the enemy in the winter of 1813.