

River above the Falls. These were driven back with great loss. In January, 1813, Col. Proctor defeated the Americans at Brownstown. General Dearborn was appointed to the chief command of the American forces early in 1813. The plan of his campaign was limited to the conquest of Upper Canada, the achievement of which, as the number of troops by which that country was defended was only 2,100, was looked upon as a certainty. On the 27th of April, York the Capital of the Province was captured by the Americans. The British gained important advantages at Ogdensburgh, and Fort George the chief military station in the province was taken by the Americans.

By the capture of this fort they for the first time gained a lodgment in Canada, and General Vincent after calling in the garrison of Chippewa and Fort Erie, was obliged to retreat to Burlington Heights. Dearborn immediately despatched General Chandler and Winder with 4,000 men in pursuit. Had they succeeded in destroying this small force, the conquest of all the Western Province would have been the result. On the 5th June they took post at Stoney Creek, to prepare for operations on the following day. In this critical situation Lieutenant Colonel Harvey suggested a night attack to which General Vincent assented, and 700 picked troops attacked the invaders, a short but sanguinary conflict followed. At daylight the British force withdrew. Though the loss of the Americans had not been severe, yet, such was the panic inspired by the events of the night, that they abandoned their camp and retreated to Forty Mile Creek, eleven miles distant. Here they received a reinforcement, but being threatened by Sir James Yeo, who had come with a squadron and a small body of troops to support General Vincent, they resolved on a retreat to Niagara. Intelligence being received that the English had a small advance post at Beaver Dam, Lieut-Col. Boerstler, with about 700 men, was sent to attack it, but this force was captured. With the exception of Fort George, the Americans now held nothing on the right bank of the River. The subsequent events may be summed up briefly. By Perry's victory on Lake Erie the British squadron of nine vessels, mounting 56 guns, fell into the hands of the Americans; General Proctor was defeated at Moravian Town, on the Thames, by the Americans under General Harrison. In this engagement, Tecumseth was killed. Fort