

cellar of their own home during that memorable night, having been put there by the Americans to prevent their escape with information. In the year 1875 the author had the pleasure of hearing from his grandfather's lips, and on the historic Battlefield itself, the old gentleman's account of the battle.

The United States declared war against Great Britain on the 18th of June, 1812, and at once began to assemble her armies along the frontiers of Canada. Britain at this time was engaged in a fierce struggle with the First Napoleon.

The plan of campaign adopted by the Americans was to invade Canada by way of Lake Champlain in the East, by the Niagara River in the centre, and by River Detroit in the West. Colonel Proctor with a small British force drove the American General Hull back to Detroit and forced him to surrender. Along the Niagara River the Americans were defeated at Queenston Heights, while at Rouse's Point in the East they retired after a slight skirmish. Thus ended the Campaign of 1812, with the British successful at all points, but with the loss of their brave commander, Sir Isaac Brock, at the Battle of Queenston Heights.

The Americans conducted the campaign of 1813 along somewhat similar lines, but concentrating their efforts mostly on the Province of Upper Canada. On the 27th of April they captured York (now Toronto), the capital of Upper Canada, where they remained until the 2nd of May. They then made a descent upon Fort George at the mouth of the Niagara River, where General Vincent was stationed with an army of less than 1400 men. Being unable to hold this position against the superior forces, he