

tember, but without success. The President claimed that "he had deserted from off his post while in charge of a guard, in time of war, therefore, must suffer as an example for others." They were all three executed on board the "Niagara" while at anchor in the roadstead at Erie, in October, 1814.

The enemy having nothing, comparatively, in the shape of a "flotilla,"—in fact but a few small craft, which seldom ventured beyond their harbors,—our squadron consequently done but little cruising, making their headquarters at Erie, that, in case of need, it was known where they were to be found. The season of storms soon came round, when they went into winter quarters at Erie, late in November.

CHAPTER XXII.

ON THE 24th of December, 1814, peace was declared between the United States and Great Britain, and matters began to be quieted down. In July, 1815, an order was forwarded from Washington to dispose of some of the smaller vessels, and sink the "Detroit," "Queen Charlotte," and "Lawrence," in some suitable place in the harbor, for preservation. Mr. Dobbins received an order to supervise the sinking, which order was fully complied with, and the three sunk side and side in Misery Bay. The "Niagara" being kept afloat as a sort of receiving ship.

An incident occurred in connection with the sinking which