

rence although several times wounded, refused to quit the deck. Midshipman Forest, (doing duty as Lieutenant) and Sailing master Taylor, were of great assistance to me. I have great pain in stating to you the death of Lieutenant Brooks, of the Marines, and Midshipman Laub, both of the Lawrence, and Midshipman John Clark, of the Scorpion; they were valuable officers. Mr. Humbleton, Purser, who volunteered his services on deck, was severely wounded late in the action. Midshipmen Claxton and Swartwout, of the Lawrence, were severely wounded. On board the Niagara, Lieutenants Smith and Edwards, and Midshipman Webster, (doing duty as Sailing Master) behaved in a very handsome manner. Captain Brevoort, of the army, who acted as a volunteer in the capacity of a marine officer on board that vessel, is an excellent and brave officer, and with his musquetry, did great execution. Lieut. Turner, commanding the Caledonia, brought that vessel into action in the most able manner, and is an officer, that in all situations may be relied upon. The Ariel, Lieut. Packet, and Scorpion, Sailing-Master Champlin, were enabled to get early into the action, and were of great service. Capt. Elliot speaks in the highest terms of Mr. Magrath, Purser, who had been despatched in a boat on service, previous to my getting on board the Niagara; and being a seaman, since the action has rendered essential service in taking charge of one of the prizes. Of Capt. Elliot, already so well known to the government, it would be almost superfluous to speak. In this action he evinced his characteristic bravery and judgement, and since the close of the action, has given me the most able and essential assistance.

I have the honor to enclose you a return of the killed and wounded, together with a statement of the relative force of the squadrons. The Captain and first Lieut. of the Queen Charlotte, and First Lieut. of the Detroit, were killed. Capt. Barelay, senior officer, and the commander of the Lady Prevost, severely wounded. Their loss in killed and wounded, I have not yet been able to ascertain; it must, however, have been very great.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be,

Sir, your obedient servant,

O. H. PERRY.

The Hon. Wm. Jones,  
Secretary of the Navy.

*Additions made by the publishers.*

In a subsequent letter to the Secretary of the Navy, in January following, the Commodore speaks of other officers:—of the gallantry of Lieut. Holdup of the Tripp, who, with Mr. Champlin, in the Scorpion, captured the two vessels that attempted to escape:—of the acting Surgeon of the Lawrence he writes as follows—“Of Dr. Usher Parsons, Surgeon's mate, I cannot say too much. In consequence of the disability of both the other Surgeons, Drs. Barton and Horsely, the whole duty of operating, dressing, and attending nearly one hundred wounded, and as many sick devolved entirely on him, and it must be pleasing to you, sir, to reflect that of the whole number wounded, only three have died.”—[See *American Annals*.] Of Chaplain Thomas Breece, who acted as aid, he also makes honorable mention.