

surrender, to Lewiston, and of these, not less than one hundred are reported to have been buried within a month, many of them dying from flesh wounds through insufficient care.

Van Rensselaer's failure was complete and disastrous. He had lost all his best officers, and the flower of his troops, and the entire division engaged was practically rendered incapable of resuming operations in the field. Ten days afterwards he abandoned the struggle in despair, by throwing up the command. His successor, General Smyth, reported that he found his force diminished by more than two thousand men in consequence of the defeat, half this loss having been caused by desertion. Several of the militia regiments had to be actually disbanded in consequence, and the men still remaining in camp allowed to return to their homes. A letter written from Manlius, N. Y., on the 3rd of November, states that "the militia corps on the lines have dwindled, and are dwindling to mere skeletons, some of the companies containing a less number of privates than officers. The rifle corps from this county is reduced by sickness, prisoners, etc., to less than the complement of a company, and Major Moseley in consequence has returned home." They literally deserted by hundreds, and the two brigades of Generals Miller and Wadsworth were consolidated into a single regiment.*

Besides the field-piece already mentioned, and about a thousand stand of small arms, the colors of one of the New York regiments were taken. In November this trophy was displayed in the courtyard of the Castle of St. Louis at Quebec, and was thus described by the *Mercury*:—"It is made of blue or purple-colored changeable silk about a yard and a half square, with the arms of the United States on one side and those of New York on the other, both surrounded by a circle of stars."

* "Van Rensselaer's Campaign did not, like that of Hull's, cost a Province, but it sacrificed nearly as many effective troops as were surrendered by Hull."—*Henry Adams, History of the United States*, vol. vi., page 355.