

dence. General Brock, on the other hand, was equally pleased with his dusky ally. We are indebted to Captain Glegg, who acted as Brock's *aide-de-camp*, for a minute description of the Shawanee chieftain:—"Tecumseh's appearance," he says, "was very prepossessing; his figure light and finely proportioned; his age, I imagined to be about five and thirty;" (he was forty) "in height, five feet nine or ten inches; his complexion, light copper; countenance, oval, with bright hazel eyes, beaming cheerfulness, energy and decision. Three small silver crowns, or coronets, were suspended from the lower cartilage of his aquiline nose; and a large silver medallion of George the Third, which I believe his ancestor had received from Lord Dorchester, when Governor-General of Canada, was attached to a mixed-colored wampum string, and hung round his neck. His dress consisted of a plain, neat uniform, tanned deer-skin jacket, with long trousers of the same material, the seams of both being covered with neatly cut fringe; and he had on his feet leather moccasins, much ornamented with work made from the dyed quills of the porcupine." The interview, in which Tecumseh acted as spokesman for the Indians, proved most satisfactory. The Indians promised their assistance, and assured General Brock of their intention to keep the promise they had already made Tecumseh, that they would abstain from drinking spirits until they had humbled the "big knives," as they called the Americans. Having settled his alliance with the Indians, to which he attached much importance, Brock hastened to complete his preparations for the attack he meditated upon Detroit. The leading officers were called together, and to them was submitted the plan of attack. Tecumseh also was summoned to the council, and approved cordially all that was proposed. The following day the American commander was startled by a summons to surrender. General

Brock was, no doubt, aware of the horror the American commander entertained of Indian warriors, and the demand is artfully worded so as to press on that weak point. "It is far from my inclination," said Brock, in the communication forwarded by him through Captain Glegg, "to join in a war of extermination; but you must be aware that the numerous body of Indians who have attached themselves to my troops, will be beyond my control the moment the contest commences." An interval of two hours or more elapsed before General Hull framed his answer, which was to the effect that he was prepared to meet any force opposed to him and abide by the consequences. The Canadian batteries, upon receiving the reply, immediately opened fire. They were commanded by Captain Hall and the marines, and are credited by General Brock in his report of the capture to Sir George Prevost with having done efficient service. The first shot fired took effect, and killed a distinguished American officer, an intimate friend of Captain Hall's,—a trivial incident, perhaps, but one which shows how unnatural the contest was, and goes far to explain the reluctance showed at first by the mass of the people on both sides to enter upon the struggle. The bombardment was kept up until late that evening, and early the next morning, under cover of the guns, General Brock began to cross his little army. He had under his command "30 artillery, 250 41st Regiment, 50 Royal Newfoundland Regiment, 400 militia, and about 600 Indians." No effort was made to prevent the crossing of the troops, which was effected in a most orderly manner. They landed at Spring Wells, some four or five miles below Detroit, and after breakfast moved upon the fort. The regulars and militia were formed in single column, their left flank protected by the Indians, their right resting on the river, and covered by the guns of the "Queen Charlotte." The advance