

although it is needless to say this was not accepted, and she made the best of her way into Halifax. This may perhaps be explained by a fact mentioned, I believe, only in a number of the *Montreal Gazette* for 1813, namely, that Rogers, who was a Scotchman, had been in the British merchant service, but had been impressed into a man-of-war, from which he deserted and entered the American navy. It is quite possible he may have been the victim of cruel treatment by the commander of the British vessel, and have mistaken the captain of the "Little Belt" for this officer. Rogers was court-martialled, but acquitted, popular sentiment being very strong in his favor. Unlike the action of the British Government in the "Leopard" and "Chesapeake" affair, no reparation appears to have been offered by Mr. Jefferson's administration, although they disavowed any hostile intent.

The causes which led to the declaration of hostilities are to be found in the President's Message to Congress of 1st June, 1812, and the manifesto of the Prince Regent dated 9th January, 1813. To sum up all—apart from any prejudice—it appears that the United States forced on the war, and that the capture of Canada was looked on as a foregone conclusion. The formal declaration of war was made by the U. S. Government on the 18th June, 1812. The populations on the opposite sides of the frontier in America were about eight millions and three hundred thousand, or about twenty-seven to one against Canada. In combatants the United States put about sixty thousand in the field, while Canada was protected by about four thousand regulars, who, with the Canadian militia and Indians, brought the effective force up to about ten thousand.

The deficiency in numbers was to some extent compensated by the energy and ability of Major-General Isaac Brock, who has been well called a worthy successor of Wolfe. Brock was young and thoroughly versed in his position, far-seeing, totally regardless of personal fatigue