

Rebuke of a hesitating Soldier.

Maguaga Battle-ground.

The Wounded saved from Capture.

have been paralyzed for the moment. He stood still. The impetuous Snelling perceived it, and, rushing up to him, peremptorily ordered him to dismount, leaped upon the horse himself, and, at the head of his troops, bareheaded (his hat having been shot away in the battle), his red hair streaming in the wind, he dashed after the fugitives, and pursued them more than two miles, when the danger of an ambuscade, the necessary care of the wounded, and the approach of night, induced Lieutenant Colonel Miller to order a suspension of the chase. The rout and victory were complete. According to the British account, the loss of their regulars was

MAGUAGA BATTLE-GROUND.<sup>1</sup>

twenty-four, only one of whom was killed.<sup>2</sup> That of the militia and Indians were never reported. Our troops found forty of the latter dead on the field. The loss of the Americans was eighteen killed and fifty-seven wounded.<sup>3</sup>

Miller was anxious to follow up his advantage gained, and push on to the Raisin; and at sunset he dispatched a messenger to Hull reporting his success, and asking for a supply of provisions. Hull ordered Colonel M'Arthur to take one hundred men of his regiment, and six hundred rations, and go down the river in boats for the relief of Miller. M'Arthur embarked at a little past two in the morning,<sup>a</sup> in nine boats, and, under the cover of darkness and a drenching rain, he passed the *Queen Charlotte* and the *Hunter*, and reached his destination in safety. The wounded were immediately conveyed to the boats, but, in attempting to return by daylight, M'Arthur found himself intercepted by the British vessels. He hastened to the shore, left the boats, conveyed the wounded through the woods to the road, and sent them to Detroit in wagons, which, with proper forecast, he had ordered down, because he anticipated this very difficulty. Colonel Cass had come down in the mean time, and attempted to secure the boats, but before he reached the shore they were seized by the British and lost.

Miller was injured by the fall from his horse at the beginning of the battle, and was so ill that he could not proceed toward the Raisin immediately. He sent to Hull for more provisions. His messenger met Cass below the River Aux Ecorces, and

<sup>1</sup> This is from a pencil sketch made by an officer of the United States Army in 1816. Beyond the opening out of the Oak Woods, mentioned in the text, is seen the Detroit River, with Grosse Isle in the distance. The Indian village near which this battle was fought is spelled sometimes *Maguaga*, according to the orthography of the official dispatches: *Mongenaga*, according to Mellish's Military Atlas, from which our map on page 266 was copied; and *Monquagon*, according to Judge Witherell and other local writers. I have adopted the orthography of the dispatches. The battle-ground was at or near the present village of Trenton, in Michigan.

<sup>2</sup> Hull's Letter to the Secretary of War, August 13, 1812; Major Richardson, quoted by Auchinleck, pages 53 and 54; M'Affee, pages 78 and 79; Judge Witherell's Paper, read before the Michigan Historical Society in the Spring of 1812, give a Lieutenant Colonel Miller to his Wife, August 27, 1812—Autograph Letter.

<sup>3</sup> Major Muir and Lieutenant Sutherland were the only British officers wounded. Tecumtha was killed with a buckshot.