

Chap.
XIV.
1812.

miles distance, received, on the eighth of July, from general Brock, commanding in Upper Canada, a notification dated on the 26th June, of the declaration of war, with orders to make an immediate attack upon Mackinac if practicable; or in the event of an attack by the americans upon St. Joseph's, to defend it to the utmost, or retreat upon St. Mary's, a post belonging to the north-west company, at no great distance, and to make the best possible defence. He, however, at once determined upon an attempt against Mackinac, and having communicated his intentions to Mr. Pothier, a gentleman of the south-west company, then at St. Joseph's, he was confirmed in his resolution, by the approbation and zeal with which Mr. P. concurred in the enterprise; who, to facilitate it, patriotically threw open the stores of the company, and laid every thing in them that could contribute to its success, at the disposition of captain Roberts, and at the same time volunteered his personal services upon the expedition, attended by about one hundred and sixty canadian voyageurs, one half of whom were armed with muskets and fowling pieces. On the 15th of July; captain Roberts had prepared his little armament, consisting of thirty regulars, with two artillery-men and a sergeant, one hundred and sixty canadians, and two iron field pieces, neither of which in an emergency could be of much service; and on the following day, he set out with his flotilla of boats and canoes, convoyed by the Caledonia

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