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## *EVENTS IN CANADA FROM 1812 TO 1815.*

[Condensed from a paper read by Mr. J. P. EDWARDS before the Society for Historical Studies, Montreal, 11th May, 1887]

The hostile feeling of the people of the United States towards Great Britain which was engendered in the war of independence, showed itself from time to time after that until it again assumed the form of active warfare in 1812. It is unnecessary to trace the incidents which expressed this feeling, such as the closing of the American ports to British commerce, the failure of Erskine's negotiations, the disputes arising from England's claim to the right of search and similar matters, but there are some facts comparatively unknown which may be mentioned.

In May, 1811, an American officer, Commodore Rogers, commanding the forty-four gun frigate, the "President," attacked a British eighteen-gun sloop, the "Little Belt," off the Massachusetts coast. The smaller vessel made a short resistance, but was soon reduced to a very crippled condition. There was something peculiar about this affair. The American commander had evidently mistaken the "Little Belt" for some other vessel, as, after the fight, on learning the name of the British commander, he expressed surprise and regret, and offered all possible assistance to the sloop,