

fort sustained considerable damage. The fire was resumed on the morning of the 27th, aided by the guns of the United States fleet, which covered the landing of the enemy. For three hours General Vincent gallantly opposed the enemy, but, finding it useless longer to resist a force which greatly outnumbered his own, and which was, moreover, supported by the guns of a powerful fleet, he at length ordered the guns to be spiked and the magazine to be blown up. He then commenced a retreat, in excellent order, to Queenston, leaving to the United States troops a dismantled fortress and a few damaged houses. On the day following General Vincent withdrew the garrison from Fort Erie and his other outposts, and continued his retreat to Forty-Mile Creek. The British loss on this occasion was 52 killed and about 300 wounded and missing. The loss of the United States troops is stated at 39 killed and 111 wounded.—On the 5th of May, Sir James Yeo, a British naval officer, had arrived at Quebec with several officers of the royal navy and four hundred and fifty seamen. Captains Barclay, Pring, and Finnis, who had come overland from Halifax, were already busily engaged at Kingston in putting the fleet into a state of preparation to meet the enemy. The Governor-General accompanied Sir James Yeo to Kingston, with a view to immediate offensive operations.—May 27th. Sir James Yeo, having completed his preparations, the British fleet of seven vessels, mounting about one hundred guns, sailed from Kingston, having on board nearly one thousand troops, under the immediate command of the Governor-General, Sir George Prevost, who had with him Colonel Baynes, Adjutant-General. The 28th was spent in reconnoitering. On the 29th the troops were landed, and, led on by Colonel

Baynes, soon compelled the enemy to retire to cover of his forts and block-houses. The barracks and a new frigate on the stocks were set on fire by the British troops; and General Brown, who commanded the United States forces, believing his position untenable, gave orders to destroy the public buildings and naval stores. At this crisis, when a complete victory was almost gained, Sir George Prevost directed the withdrawal of the troops, thus snatching the fruits of victory from his own forces, and enabling the United States troops to return and save from destruction a considerable amount of public property. The British loss in this affair was one officer and forty-seven men killed, twelve officers and nearly two hundred men wounded and missing.—June 5th. The British advanced pickets fell back from Stony Creek owing to the near approach of the United States forces from Fort George. General Vincent having, upon the advice of Lieut.-Colonel Harvey, Deputy Adjutant-General, decided to make a night attack upon the United States troops, moved up about eleven o'clock in the evening with the 49th and part of the 8th regiments, altogether about seven hundred men. Lieut.-Colonel Harvey, who had previously reconnoitred the position, led the attack with his usual gallantry, and completely surprised the enemy, who, besides their loss in killed and wounded, had two brigadier-generals (Chandler and Winder), seven officers, and one hundred and sixteen men taken prisoners. Three guns, a brass howitzer, and three tumbrils also fell into the hands of the British. General Vincent withdrew his force before daylight lest the discovery of his numerical inferiority should not only neutralize the effect his spirited attack had produced, but encourage the enemy to risk an action which, in view of his superior