

no. crossed over, annoyed, except by the one un-  
 consequently more troops were hourly arriving.  
 in the afternoon, a body of about fifty Mohawks, under  
 and young Brant, advanced through the woods, took up  
 in front, and a very sharp skirmish ensued, which  
 the Indians returned on the reinforcements which now  
 arrived from Fort George. This reinforcement consisted  
 three hundred and eighty rank and file of the 41st regiment,  
 Captains James Crooks and M. Ewen's flank companies of  
 the 5th Lincoln; Captains Nevis and W. Crook's flank compa-  
 of the 5th Lincoln; Halls, Durand's and Applegarth's com-  
 of the 5th Lincoln; Cameron's, Howard's and Chisholm's  
 companies of the York Militia; Major Merritt's Yeomanry  
 and a body of Switzer's Militia artillery numbering in all  
 three and four hundred men. A short time afterwards,  
 of Clark of the Militia, arrived from Chippewa, with Capt.  
 a company of the 41st; Captains R. Hamilton's and  
 flank companies of the 2nd Lincoln, and volunteer Seden-  
 Militia.

AMERICAN ACCOUNT  
 General Van Rensselaer, to the American Secretary of War  
 Head Quarters, Lewiston, Oct. 14th, 1813

As the movements of this Army under my command,  
 I had last the honor to address you on the 8th, have been  
 very important character, producing consequences serious to  
 the individual; establishing facts actually connected with the  
 and the safety of the army; and as I stand prominently  
 responsible for some of these consequences, I beg leave to ex-  
 plain to you, Sir, and through you to my country, the situation  
 of circumstances in which I have had to act, and the reasons  
 which governed me; and if the result is not all that  
 have been wished, it is when that, when the whole ground  
 is viewed, I shall cheerfully submit myself to the judgment  
 of my country.

On the 8th instant, I apprised you that the crisis  
 of the campaign was rapidly advancing; and that (to repel the  
 blow must be soon struck, or all the toil and expense  
 of the campaign will go for nothing, for the whole will be judged  
 dishonored.

Under such impressions, I had on the 5th instant, written to  
 General Smyth, of the United States forces, requesting an  
 interview with him, Major General Hall, and the commandants  
 of the regiments, for the purpose of conferring upon the subject of  
 the operations. I wrote Major General Hall to the same pur-  
 port. On the 11th I had received no answer from Gen. Smyth;  
 but on a note to me of the 10th, Gen. Hall mentioned that Gen.  
 Smyth had not yet then agreed upon any day for the consultation.  
 In the mean time, the partial success of Lieutenant Elliot at  
 Black Rock (of which, however, I have received no official in-  
 formation) began to excite a strong disposition in the troops to  
 retreat. This was expressed to me through various channels, in the  
 shape of an alternative; that they must have orders to act, or at  
 least to go home. I forbear here commenting upon the obvious  
 consequences, to me personally, of longer than necessary  
 in delaying my orders under such circumstances.

I had a conference with ———, as to the possibility of getting  
 one person to pass over into Canada, and obtain correct infor-  
 mation. On the morning of the 4th, he wrote to me that he had  
 secured the man, who bore his letter to go over. Instructions  
 were given him; he passed over, and obtained such information  
 as warranted an immediate attack. This was confidentially com-  
 municated to several of my first officers, and produced great zeal  
 and ardor; more especially as it might have a controlling effect upon  
 the movement at Detroit, where it was supposed that General  
 Brock had gone with all the force he dared to spare from the  
 Niagara frontier. The best preparations in my power were,  
 therefore, made to dislodge the enemy from the heights of Queen-  
 ston, and to possess ourselves of the village, where the troops might  
 be protected from the distressing inclemency of the weather.

Lieutenant Colonel Fleming's flying artillery, and a detach-  
 ment of regular troops under his command, were ordered to be up  
 in the morning from Fort Niagara. Orders were also sent General  
 Sim to send down from Buffalo such detachments of his brig-  
 ade as existing circumstances in that vicinity might warrant.  
 The attack was to be made at three o'clock on the morning of  
 the 11th, by crossing over in boats from the old ferry opposite  
 the heights. To avoid any embarrassment in crossing the river,  
 (which is here a sheet of violent eddies) experienced boatmen  
 were procured to take the boats from the landing below the place  
 of embarkation. Lieutenant Sim was considered the man of the  
 greatest skill for this service; he went ahead, and, in the extreme  
 darkness, passed the intended place far up the river; and there,  
 in the most extraordinary manner, fastened his boat to the shore,  
 and abandoned the detachment. In this frigate boat he had carried  
 nearly all the cars, which were prepared for the boats. In this  
 amazing dilemma stood officers and men, whose ardor had not  
 been cooled by exposure through the night, to one of the most tremen-  
 dous north-east storms, which continued unabated for twenty-  
 four hours, and deluged the whole camp. Colonel Van Ranselaer  
 was to have commanded the detachment.

For this result I had hoped that the patience of the troops  
 would have continued until I could submit the plan suggested  
 in my letter of the 8th, that I might act under, and in conformity  
 with the opinion which might be then expressed. But my hope  
 was idle; the previously excited ardor seemed to have gained  
 new heat from the late miscarriage; the brave men were mortified  
 to stop short of their object, and the timid thought laurels  
 were won by the attempt.

On the morning of the 12th, such was the pressure upon me  
 from all quarters, that I became satisfied that my refusal to act  
 might involve me in suspicion, and the service in disgrace.

Lieutenant Colonel Christie, who had just arrived at the Four-  
 Mile Creek, and had, late in the night of the 1st, contemplated an  
 attack, gallantly offered me his own and his men's services; but  
 I gave my permission too late. He now again came forward.  
 At a conference with Colonel Van Rensselaer, and begged that  
 I might have the honor of a command in the expedition. The  
 arrangement was made, Colonel Van Rensselaer was to command  
 the column of 300 militia; and Lieutenant Colonel Christie a  
 column of the same number of regular troops.

Every precaution was now adopted as to boats, and the most  
 confidential and experienced men to manage them. At an early  
 hour in the night, Lieutenant Colonel Christie marched his de-  
 tachment by the rear road to the camp. At seven  
 in the evening Lieutenant Colonel Stranahan's regiment moved  
 from Niagara Falls; at eight o'clock Mead's, and at nine o'clock  
 Lieutenant Colonel Bland's regiment marched from the same  
 place. All were in camp in good season. Agreeably to my or-  
 ders, issued upon this occasion, the two columns were to pass  
 over together; as soon as the heights should be carried, Lieuten-  
 ant Colonel Fenwick's flying artillery was to pass over; then  
 Major Mullany's detachment of regulars; and the other troops  
 to follow in order.

Colonel Van Rensselaer, with great presence of mind, ordered  
 his officers to proceed with alacrity, and storm the fort. This  
 service was gallantly performed, and the enemy driven down the  
 hill in every direction. Soon after this, both parties were consi-  
 derably reinforced, and the conflict was renewed in various  
 places. Many of the enemy took shelter behind a stone guard-  
 house, where a piece of ordnance was now briskly served. I  
 ordered the fire of our battery to be directed on the guard-house;  
 and it was so effectually done, that with eight or ten shots the  
 fire was silenced. The enemy, then retreated behind a large  
 stone house; but in a short time the route became general, and  
 the enemy's fire was silenced, except from a one-gun battery, so  
 far down the river as to be out of the reach of our heavy or-  
 dnance; and our light pieces could not silence it. A number of  
 boats now passed over unannoyed, except by the one unsilenced  
 gun. For some time after I had passed over the victory ap-  
 peared complete, but in expectation of further attacks, I was  
 taking measures for fortifying my camp immediately; the direc-  
 tion of this service I committed to Lieutenant Totten, of the en-  
 gineers. But very soon the enemy were reinforced by a de-  
 tachment of several hundred Indians from Chippewa; they  
 commenced a furious attack; but were promptly met and routed  
 by the rifle and bayonet. By this time I perceived my troops  
 were embarking very slowly. I passed immediately over to ac-  
 celerate their movements; but, to my utter astonishment, I found  
 that, at the very moment when complete victory was in our  
 hands, the ardor of the unengaged troops had entirely subsided.  
 I rode in all directions; urged the men by every consideration to  
 pass over, but in vain; Lieutenant Colonel Bloom, who had been  
 wounded in action, returned, mounted his horse and rode through  
 the camp; as did also Judge Peck, who happened to be here,  
 exhorting the companions to proceed, but all in vain.

At this time a large reinforcement from Fort George was dis-  
 covered coming up the river. As the battery on the hill was  
 considered an important check against ascending the heights,  
 measures were immediately taken to send them a fresh supply  
 of ammunition, as we learnt there were only left twenty shot for  
 the eighteen-pounders. The reinforcements, however, obliqued to  
 the right from the road, and formed a junction with the Indians  
 in the rear of the heights. Finding to my infinite mortification,  
 that no reinforcements would pass over; seeing that another se-  
 vere conflict must soon commence; and knowing that the brave  
 men at the heights were quite exhausted, and nearly out of am-  
 munition; all I could do, was to send them a fresh supply of  
 cartridges. At this critical moment I despatched a note to Gen.  
 Wadsworth acquainting him with our situation; leaving the  
 course to be pursued much to his own judgment; with the as-  
 surance that if he thought best to retreat, I would endeavor to  
 send as many boats as I could command, and cover his retreat by  
 every fire I could safely make. But the boats were dispersed;  
 many of the boatmen had fled panic-struck; and but few got off.  
 My note, however, could but hinder more than have reached Gen.  
 W., about four o'clock, when a most severe and obstinate con-  
 flict commenced, and continued for about half an hour, with a  
 tremendous fire of cannon, flying artillery and musketry. The  
 enemy succeeded in re-passing their battery, and gaining ad-  
 vantage on every side; the brave men who had gained the victory  
 being exhausted of strength and ammunition, and grieved at the  
 unpardonable neglect of their fellow soldiers, gave up the  
 conflict.

I can only add, that the victory was really won; but lost for  
 the want of a small reinforcement; one-third part of the idle men  
 might have saved all.

I have the honor to be, &c.,  
 STEPHEN VAN RANSELAER.  
 Hon. WILLIAM EUSTIS,  
 Secretary of War.

From Major General Sheaffe to Sir George Prevost.  
 Fort George, Oct. 13, 1812.

SIR,—I have the honor of informing your Excellency, that the  
 enemy made an attack with considerable force, this morning, be-  
 fore daylight, on the position of Queenston. On receiving intel-  
 ligence of it, Major General Brock immediately proceeded to that  
 post, and I am excessively grieved to have to add, that he fell  
 whilst gallantly cheering his troops to an exertion to maintain it.  
 With him the position was lost; but the enemy was not allowed  
 to retain it long, reinforcements having been sent up from this  
 post, composed of regular troops, militia and Indians; a move-  
 ment was made to turn his left, while some artillery, under the  
 able direction of Captain Holcroft, supported by a body of in-  
 fantry, engaged his attention in front. This direction was aided,  
 too, by the judicious position which Norton, and the Indians with  
 him, had taken on the woody brow of the high ground above  
 Queenston.

A communication being thus opened with Chippewa, a junc-  
 tion was formed of success that had been ordered from that  
 post. The enemy was then attacked, and, after a short, but spi-  
 rited conflict, was completely defeated. I had the satisfaction of  
 receiving the sword of their commander, Brigadier General  
 Wadsworth, on the field of battle, and many officers, with one  
 hundred men, were made prisoners, and more may yet be expect-  
 ed. A band of colors and one six-pounder, were also taken.  
 The action did not terminate till nearly three o'clock in the after-  
 noon, and their loss, in killed and wounded, must have been con-  
 siderable. Ours I believe to be comparatively small in numbers;  
 no officers were killed besides Major General Brock, one of the  
 gallant and valiant officers in His Majesty's service, whose loss  
 cannot be too much deplored, and Lieutenant Colonel M'Donnell,  
 provincial aide-camp, whose gallantry and merit render him  
 worthy of his chief. Captains Dennis and Williams, command-  
 ing the flank companies of the 48th regiment, who were stationed

at Queenston, were wounded, bravely contending at the head  
 of their men against superior numbers; but I am glad to have it in  
 my power to add, that Captain Dennis was fortunately able to  
 keep the field, though it was with pain and difficulty, and Capt.  
 Williams' wound is not likely to deprive him of his service.

I am particularly indebted to Captain Holcroft, of the royal ar-  
 tillery, for his judicious and skilful co-operation with the guns  
 and howitzers under his immediate superintendance; their well  
 directed fire contributed materially to the fortunate result of the  
 day.

Captain Derenzy, of the 41st regiment, brought up the re-  
 force ment of that corps from Fort George, and Captain Bullock  
 led that of the same regiment from Chippewa; and under their  
 commands those detachments acquitted themselves in such a  
 manner as to sustain the reputation which the 41st regiment had  
 already acquired in the vicinity of Detroit.

Major General Brock, soon after his arrival at Queenston, had  
 sent down orders for battering the American fort at Niagara.  
 Brigade-Major Evans, who was left in charge of Fort George,  
 directed the operations against it with so much effect, as to  
 silence its fire, and to force the troops to abandon it; and, by his  
 prudent precautions, he prevented mischief of a most serious na-  
 ture, which otherwise might have been effected—the enemy  
 having used heated shot in firing at Fort George.

In these services he was most effectually aided by Col. Claus,  
 who remained in the Fort at my desire, and by Capt. Vigoureaux  
 of the Royal Engineers. Brigade-Major Evans also mentions  
 the conduct of Captains Powell and Cameron of the Militia Ar-  
 tillery, in terms of commendation.

Lieutenant Crowther, of the 41st Regiment, had charge of two  
 three-pounders that had accompanied the movement of our little  
 corps, and they were employed with good effect.

Captain Glegg, of the 49th Regiment, aide-de-camp to our la-  
 mented friend and General, afforded me most essential assistance;  
 and I found the services of Lieutenant Fowler, of the 41st Regi-  
 ment, Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General, very useful. I  
 have derived much aid, too, from the activity and intelligence of  
 Lieutenant Kezz, of the Giengarry Fencibles, whom I employed  
 in communicating with the Indians and other flanking parties.

I was unfortunately deprived of the aid of the experience and  
 ability of Lieutenant Colonel Myers, Deputy Quartermaster-Gen-  
 eral, who had been sent up to Fort Erie, a few days before, on  
 duty, which detained him there.

Lieutenant Colonels Butler and Clark of the Militia, and Cap-  
 tains Hatt, Durand, Rowe, Applegarth, James Crooks, Cooper,  
 Robert Hamilton, McEwen, and Duncan Cameron; and Lieuten-  
 ants Robinson\* and Butler, commanding flank companies of the  
 Lincoln and York Militia, led their men into action with great  
 spirit. Major Merritt, commanding the Niagara dragoons, ac-  
 companied me, and gave much assistance with his corps. Capt.  
 A. Hamilton, belonging to it, was disabled from riding, and at-  
 tached himself to the guns, under Captain Holcroft, who speaks  
 highly of his activity and usefulness. I beg leave to add, that  
 volunteers Shaw, Thomson and Jarvis, attached to the flank  
 companies of the 49th Regiment, conducted themselves with  
 great spirit; the first having been wounded, and the last having  
 been taken prisoner. I beg leave to recommend these young  
 men to your Excellency's notice.

Norton is wounded, but not badly; he and the Indians particu-  
 larly distinguished themselves, and I have very great satisfaction  
 in ascribing your Excellency that the spirit and good conduct of  
 His Majesty's troops, of the militia, and of the other provincial  
 corps, were eminently conspicuous on this occasion.

I have not been able to ascertain as yet the number of our  
 troops, or of those of the enemy engaged; ours did not, I believe,  
 exceed the number of the prisoners we have taken; and their ad-  
 vance, which effected a landing, probably amounted to thirteen  
 or fourteen hundred men.

I shall do myself the honor of transmitting to your Excellency  
 further details, when I shall have received the several reports of  
 the occurrences which did not pass under my own observation,  
 with the return of the casualties, and those of the killed and  
 wounded, and of the ordnance taken.

I have the honor to be,  
 (Signed) R. H. SHEAFFE,  
 Major-General.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF GENERAL BROCK

As we are unacquainted with the preservation of any portrait,  
 public or private, of General Brock in this country, it may not be  
 uninteresting to give here a slight sketch. In person he was  
 tall and stout, even inclining to corpulency; of fair and florid  
 complexion, with a large forehead and full face, though the fea-  
 tures were not prominent. His eyes were rather small, of a  
 greyish blue, with a slight cast in one of them. His mouth was  
 small, with fine teeth, and when his countenance was lighted by  
 a smile the expression was particularly pleasing. In manner he  
 was exceedingly affable and gentlemanlike, of a cheerful and so-  
 cial habit, partial to dancing, and, though never married, he was  
 extremely partial to female society.

Of the soundness of his judgment and bravery we have already  
 adduced sufficient evidence to render any further comment super-  
 fluous, especially as our noses will show the men inimitable of the  
 Province on the occasion of his death.—*Anglo-American Mag.*

\* Now Chief Justice of Upper Canada.

LITERARY LABOUR.—The last number of Dickens' *Household*  
*Words* says:—In the last year we have read nine hundred manu-  
 scripts, of which eleven were available for this journal, after being  
 entirely re-written. In the same period we received and as-  
 sessed two thousand letters, and made appointments with an odd  
 two or three hundred more of our fellow-creatures than there  
 were pounds to pay for the celebrated tails in the horse's shoes,  
 which will go down to posterity rusty with the tears of school-  
 boys. On the other hand it is delightful to state that five of our  
 very best regular fellow-laborers first became known to us as  
 volunteers, at various periods within the three years and upward  
 of our existence; and that some rewardable descriptions in this  
 journal have come to us from wholly unaccustomed writers, who  
 have faithfully and in thorough earnest put down what they have  
 undergone or seen.