

North American Notes and Queries

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THOMAS JEFFERSON AND THE LOYAL AND PATRIOTIC SOCIETY OF UPPER CANADA (1)

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1st. *Ill treatment of American prisoners.*

General Brock sent all the militia taken at Detroit home on their parole, accompanied by a guard to protect them from the Indians (2), detaining only the regulars, whom he sent to Quebec, where they met with the most liberal treatment, as the honest among them have frequently confessed (3). General Sheaffe acted in the same manner after the battle of Queenstown, keeping the regulars and dismissing the militia on their parole. Nor was this liberal course departed from, till the gross misconduct of the American government, in liberating without exchange, those so sent home, and in carrying away

(1). Continued from page 209.

(2). The English army constantly invoked the alliance of the tribes of Indians; and these ferocious bands committed, in the name of Great Britain, atrocities, the recital of which alone would make one shudder. These were the useful auxiliaries employed by Royalist leaders to rid them of their Republican prisoners, after the most solemn capitulations.—*The Criminal History of the English Government*, by Eugène Regnault, translated by an American. New York, 1843, p. 284.—R. R.

(3) On the 29th of September, the following advertisement was published in the *Quebec Mercury*:

“ COMMISSARY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

“ Québec, 28th Sept., 1812.

“ Wanted for the American prisoners of war, comfortable warm clothing, consisting of the following articles: Jackets, Shirts, Trowsers, Stockings, Mocassins or Shoes. Also 2,000 pounds of soap.”