

under Captain Forsyth, pushed forward under shelter of the trees and covered the landing of General Pike's division of about one thousand men. The British force, having already sustained a heavy loss, and being so greatly outnumbered, slowly fell back upon the town. General Pike pushed steadily forward, and early in the afternoon found himself in front of the old French fort, which his troops at once proceeded to occupy. Before, however, the defence had entirely ceased, a tremendous explosion took place, and friend and foe were enveloped in one common destruction. This catastrophe put an end to the contest, which cost the British force 62 killed and 72 wounded, besides Lieut.-Colonel Chewett and 293 of the militia who were compelled to surrender prisoners of war. The loss of the United States troops, caused mainly by the explosion of the magazine, was much heavier: upwards of 320 men were killed and wounded, General Pike being amongst the number. During the advance of the enemy, General Sheaffe had destroyed a ship which was on the stocks, the dockyard, and such stores as could not be taken away; and having despatched, under escort, all the stores which could be removed, had himself followed with the remainder of his forces, and commenced his retreat to Kingston. The United States troops burned the halls and offices used by the Legislature and Courts of Justice; destroyed the library, and all the papers and records, including the library of the town; robbed the church, and plundered private property to a considerable extent. A few of the books belonging to the public library were returned by Commodore Chauncey, but by far the greater part were taken away or destroyed.—May 2nd. The United States forces evacuated York.—April 23rd. General Proctor, in further-

ance of his plan of attacking General Harrison's force in detail, assembled his forces and set out for the Miami, hoping to arrive there before some considerable reinforcements which were expected by General Harrison could reach that officer. He ascended the river, and arrived opposite Fort Meigs on the 28th, his force at that time amounting to about 520 regulars, 400 militia, and nearly 1200 Indians.—On the 5th May, Brigadier-General Clay, who had arrived with two battalions, assaulted the British batteries and carried them, but, having been drawn into a pursuit by the Indians, was cut off by General Proctor's main body, and, after a sharp action, the greater portion of the assailants were killed or captured. The loss of the enemy was over seven hundred in killed, wounded, and prisoners (nearly five hundred prisoners were taken); the British loss was comparatively trifling, amounting to fifteen killed and forty-five wounded. The Indians and militia, however willing to engage in the active duties of a campaign, were ill fitted for the steady drudgery of ordinary siege operations, and, consequently, notwithstanding his recent success, General Proctor found himself compelled to relinquish his attempt upon Fort Meigs. He accordingly raised the siege, but was allowed to carry off his guns and stores without molestation. The main object of the attack had, however, been attained, as General Harrison found himself unable to commence offensive operations until he could receive reinforcements.—After his successful attack upon Toronto, General Dearborn prepared for an attack upon Fort George; and, having obtained reinforcements from Sackett's Harbour, commenced operations on the 26th of May, when Fort Niagara opened a heavy cannonade upon Fort George, by which the latter