

rapids, that in the course of the night the party of Indians having the four bags of gun powder I sent from this on the 17th, reached them. The barges being encamped at a distance from each other they, on the 22nd early in the morning, attacked the lowest and killed about 100 persons, took five pieces of cannon and burnt the barge; the other barges seeing this disaster and knowing there were British troops here ran off. This is perhaps one of the most brilliant actions, fought by Indians only, since the commencement of the war.

I have the honor to be &c.,

Wm. McKay,
Lieut.-Col.

Lieut. Colonel McDouall, commanding at Michilimackinac.

The writer very modestly says nothing of himself nor of the skill which carried a force of the description he commanded 430 miles through untroubled wilderness to achieve a victory under the circumstances he narrates; but the gallant French Canadian Rollette, the brave and shrewd soldier that captured Hull's despatches and paved the way for General Brock's success at Detroit in 1812, the plucky artilleryman of the river aux Raisins again appears on the scene and is duly appreciated by the gallant Militia Colonel under whom it was his good fortune to serve. In the first Volume of the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW* will be found a memoir of Captain Frederic Rollette, who like many other gallant soldiers, had only the consolation of knowing he did his duty to his country, the rewards he ought to share being borne off by some more fortunate man.

Soldiers grumble now-a-days if they have to march a few miles extra, and good natured newspaper correspondents ring out the changes on red tapeism, imbecility and neglect, but the episode narrated is one of those illustrations of this war which would set the aforesaid correspondents wild with indignation and would have ended by every one engaged being decorated with a medal or honored with an order, distinctions unknown to the brave and simple hearted colonist, whose deeds remind us that "there were giants in the land in those days."

While this latter expedition was winning for itself immortal renown a much larger one was under way to attack the post at Michilimackinac, and, if possible, wrest it from British control. It consisted of the American brigs Niagara, St. Lawrence and Caledonia and the Scorpion and Tigress schooners, the aggregate tonnage being 1170 tons carrying 46 heavy guns and manned by 420 officers and men, conveying 740 American soldiers under the command of Lieut. Col. Croghan. This expedition landed on 20th July at St. Joseph, destroying the houses of that settlement and a detachment of 280 rank and file, under command of Major Holmes, proceeded up the river St. Mary's to the Sault, where they destroyed the property of the North West Company with all the private property they could lay hold of and committed various acts of brutality. On the 26th July this squadron,

commanded by Commodore Sinclair, appeared off the Island of Michilimackinac to reconnoitre.

Colonel McDouall with a garrison of 190 men of all ranks, and works on which a three and six-pounder was mounted, without any artilleryman to use them, prepared to make the best possible defence; the result is told in the following despatch:

MICHELIMACKINAC, }
Aug. 14th, 1813. }

SIR:—I have reported to Lieut.-General Drummond the particulars of the attack made by the enemy on this post on the 4th inst. My situation was embarrassing: I knew that they could land upwards of 1000 men and after manning the guns at the fort I had only a despicable force of 140 to meet them which I determined to do in order, as much as possible to encourage the Indians and having the fullest confidence in the little detachment of the Newfoundland regiment. The position I took up was excellent but at an unavoidable and too great a distance from the forts in each of which I was only able to leave 25 militiamen.

There were likewise roads upon my flanks every inch of which was known to the enemy by means of the people, formerly residents of this island, which were with them. I could not afford to detach a man to guard them.

My position was rather too extensive for such a handful of men. The ground was commanding and in front as clear as I could wish it. On both our flanks and rear a thick wood. My utmost wish was that the Indians would only prevent the enemy from gaining the woods upon our flanks, which would have forced them upon the open ground in our front. A natural breast-work protected my men from every shot and I had told them that on a close approach of the enemy they were to pour in a volley and charge; numerous as they were all were fully confident of the result.

On the advance of the enemy my 6 pounder and 3-pounder opened a heavy fire upon them but not with the effect they should have had, being not well manned and for want of an artillery officer, which would have been invaluable to us. They moved slowly and cautiously declining to meet me in the open ground but gradually gaining my left flank, which the Indians permitted, even in the woods, without firing a shot. I was even obliged to weaken my small front by detaching the Michigan Fencibles to oppose a party of the enemy which were advancing to the woods on my right. I now received accounts from Major Crawford of the Militia, that the enemy's two large ships had anchored in the rear of my left and troops were moving by a road in that direction towards the forts.

I, therefore, immediately moved to place myself between them and the enemy and took up a position effectually covering them from whence collecting the greater part of the Indians which had retired, and taking with me Major Crawford and about 50 militia, I again advanced to support a party of Falesovine Indians, who, with their gallant chief Thomas, had commenced a spirited attack upon the enemy, who in a short time lost their second in command and several other officers, seventeen of which we counted dead upon the field, besides what they carried off and a considerable number wounded. The enemy retired in the utmost haste and confusion followed by the troops till they found shelter under the very powerful broadsides of their ships, anchored within a few yards of the shore. They re-embarked

that evening and the vessels immediately moved off.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

R. McDouall,
Lieut.-Col.

His Excellency Sir George Prevost, Bart.

The American loss in this action was 66 killed, wounded and missing, the British had one Indian killed. This terminated the attempt of the Americans to recover Michilimackinac, which was only restored to them on the declaration of peace in 1815.

PRUSSIA AND HANOVER.

A JOE ON THE FLANK—WHAT WILL THE HANOVERIANS DO?

In estimating the comparative strength of the combatants in the present war, it is usual, says the *New York Times*, to count the population and the military resources of recently-annexed territory upon a homogeneous basis; that is to say, to reckon upon the people of the newly appropriated duchies and Electorates, as if they were sure to be actuated by the same spirit of patriotism that is certain to animate the populations which live within what constituted the jurisdictional frontiers in 1865. Events may prove this prognostication to be a sound one but we should not forget that there are circumstances which throw some doubt upon it. The parties, for example, which ostensibly or secretly have adhered to the ex-King of Hanover, and the ex-Elector of Hesse, will undoubtedly embrace with eagerness the opportunity to spread disaffection calculated to produce considerable embarrassment.

It will be remembered that in January, 1860, Count Bismarck made some startling disclosures in the Diet about a Hanoverian legion formed in time of peace, and concerning other secret proceedings said to have been taken on behalf of the deposed sovereigns, with a view to their restoration and the overthrow of the Prussian rule. It is perhaps not less likely that conspirators of this sort will resume their machinations at the juncture, than that the Italian Republic will resume their designs upon Rome. The Hanoverian Legion was organized in France, and was disbanded during last year—The agents of King George, who had been most active in the organization, reuniting with their families to Algeria. At the same time the property of this unlucky monarch, amounting to 13,322,000 thalers—without including the content of the royal castles—was sequestered by the Prussian government, as was also the accessible property of the Elector of Hesse. Now, whatever influences to the detriment of Prussia can be stimulated into activity, either by French exertions or those of the exiled rulers themselves, we may be sure will not be suffered to lie dormant. Hanover was the direct occasion of the Franco-Prussian war of 1866 and the disposition of her people may have an important relation to the struggle of 1870. It seems certain, at all events, that the Prussian General commanding the Province has already demanded reinforcements, and that the Prussian Government has given orders to prevent by every means, the circulation in Hanover of the French Proclamation.

The Vienna "Post" says the Grand Duke of Baden asserts that King William, in conversation with him in 1866, informed him that Bismarck was eager to cede the region about the river Saar to France, but that the King and his council declined.