

take a proper interest in their country's history to read all of the history as published in the *Canadian* :—

"Only four single ship engagements took place during the year 1813, in two of which the British were successful. The most important of these, which was between the British frigate Shannon, Capt. Broke, and the United States frigate Chesapeake, Capt. Lawrence, took place six leagues east of Boston light on the 1st of June, 1813, at 5.40 p. m., the Chesapeake having left Boston the same day at noon to engage the Shannon. In the other frigate actions in which the Americans had been victorious they had immense superiority, but here the combatants were more evenly matched. The Chesapeake carried 50 guns, 26 in broadside, 28 long 18's on the gun deck; on the spar deck two long 12's, one long 18, eighteen 32 lb carronades and one 12 lb. carronade. The Shannon carried 52 guns, 26 in broad side, viz., 28 long 18's on the long deck, and on the spar deck four long 9's, one long 6, sixteen 32 lb. carronades and three 12-pound carronades. The respective force of the ships may be seen by the following table:—

	Guns in Broad- side.	Weight of Broad- side.	Number of Men.
Chesapeake	26	582	379
Shannon	26	544	330

"The American vessel was thus superior both in weight of metal and number of men yet she was captured by boarding after an engagement which lasted just fifteen minutes. The Chesapeake had 61 killed or mortally wounded, including Capt. Lawrence and Lieut. Ludlow, and 85 severely and slightly wounded. The Shannon had 33 killed and 50 wounded, Capt. Broke being among the latter. The Chesapeake was taken into Halifax, and the large fleet of pleasure boats and yachts which had attended her down the bay to see how readily she would "whip the Britisher," had to return grievously disappointed.

"Capt. Lawrence, who fell in the engagement, had been the commander of the American ship sloop Hornet, which, on the 24th of February previous, captured and sunk the British brig Peacock off the Demerara River. The Hornet carried eighteen 32-pound carronades and two long 12's, so that she threw a broadside of 300 lbs. Her crew numbered 142 men. The Peacock carried sixteen 24-pound carronades, two long 9's, one 12-pound and one 6-pound carronade. Her broadside weight of metal was 210 lbs., and her crew numbered 122 men. With such odds against her, the defeat of the Peacock is easily accounted for, although it was made worse than it need have been by the bad gunnery of her men, who, instead of being drilled at the cannon were kept most of the time polishing brass work in order that the vessel might retain the title of "the Yacht." Her foolish martinet of a captain, Wm. Peake, was killed in the action with seven of his men, and 28 were wounded. The Hornet lost only one killed and two wounded. The Peacock sunk almost immediately after her surrender taking down with her nine of her own men and three of the Hornet's crew.

"On the 14th of August the American brig sloop Argus, which had been committing depredations in St. George's Channel, was encountered and captured by the British brig Pelican, Capt. Maples. The Argus carried 18 24-pounder carronades and two long 12's, and her crew numbered 121 men. The Pelican carried 16 32-pound carronades, two long 12's and two long 6's as stern chasers. The action lasted 45 minutes, the American brig hauling down her colours as the Pelican's men were in the act of boarding. The British vessel had but two men killed and five wounded, the Argus had ten killed and fourteen wounded."