

within the limits of the present county of Middlesex, and of the township of Mosa more especially.

The result of my enquiries is now given to the public, and in order that the events immediately preceding, and leading up to this engagement may be better understood, I propose to lay before my readers a brief resume of the war between the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon family.

Without going fully into the causes of the war of 1812-14, I might simply state that the ostensible reason for it was the dissatisfaction which the American authorities felt at the "right of search" exercised by the British, in overhauling their vessels to seek for deserters from the British navy. But the real cause of the memorable struggle lay in the desire of the United States to conquer Upper and Lower Canada, as well as the other British North American provinces, and thus annex their territories to those of the great Republic.

President Madison, in many respects a well-meaning man, coerced by such of his political friends as John C. Calhoun and Henry Clay, "yielded against the dictates of his better judgment and thereby brought on three years of war against the Mother Country, which gave not one compensating advantage." War was thus accordingly declared on the 18th day of June, 1812, although public opinion in the New England States of the Union strongly condemned the Federal Government in its hostility towards Great Britain.

Right here it may perhaps be out of place to observe that the Americans themselves exercised the same "right of search" in regard to a British vessel in 1801 which they complained that Great Britain had done in 1812.

The Indians of the West and Northwest, smarting under the stings produced by their defeat under Elksotawa, or Laulewasekaw, the prophet-brother of the renowned Tecumseh, by the Americans under General William Henry Harrison at Tippecause on Nov. 7th, 1811, and influenced also by Col. Matthew Elliott, the British Commandant at Amherstburg, were inclined at first to ally themselves with the

British, but after the capture of the American post at Mackinac by Captain Charles Roberts at the very commencement of the war, they, naturally anxious to be on the winning side, showed no hesitation, in a very large measure, in casting in their fortunes with the British, and arraying themselves against the hated "Longknives."

The surrender of Fort Detroit by the American general William Hull, on Aug 16th, 1812, to the British under Maj. Gen. Sir Isaac Brock, assisted by a large body of Indians under Tecumseh, the head chief of the Shawanoes, soon followed.

Thus ended in disaster and disgrace the first invasion of Canada, since by the terms of this capitulation the whole American army of the Northwest, consisting of 2,500 men with their arms and military magazines, including an armed brig, passed into the hands of the British authorities, as did also the entire possession of the then territory of Michigan, which included besides the present State of that name the adjoining ones of Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin.

After this brilliant feat of arms, Brock hastily proceeded to Fort George on the Niagara River, leaving Colonel Henry Procter (not Proctor) in command of the troops of the Right Division, with headquarters at Sandwich, and Lieut. Col. Robert Nicol of the Norfolk Militia in charge of the garrison at Detroit, while the Indians under Tecumseh and Roundhead (Brandy-Jack) retired to the country opposite Amherstburg, on the Michigan side of the Detroit River, in the vicinity of Brownstown, now Gibraltar.

On Oct. 13th, 1812, the victory of Queenston Heights was achieved, but unfortunately for Canada, her success was dearly purchased by the death of Brock, who fell, almost in the first stages of the action.

Col. Procter in the early part of January, 1813, having crossed the Detroit River from Amherstburg, and being again joined by the Indians under Tecumseh, totally routed the Americans under Brig.-Gen. James Winchester, who, with the greater portion of his army, was taken prisoner at River Raisin, forty miles below