

a good one, protected on the left by the river Thames, not broad but deep, and on the right by a swamp, leaving a narrow front, in the centre of which the road ran, upon which a small six-pounder field-piece was posted. About 8 a.m., the enemy appeared in sight, and advanced slowly, carefully availing themselves of the excellent cover afforded by the trees. All at once the men were massed and a rush was made; this was checked by a volley from the British, but in a moment the enemy rallied and renewed the attack, this time with more success, as the British troops, dissatisfied by fancied or real neglect, and dispirited by long continued exposure and privation, made but a feeble resistance, and finally broke, and the battle was over. The greater part at once surrendered, the total loss in killed, wounded, and missing being twenty-eight officers, thirty-four serjeants, and five hundred and sixty-three rank and file. General Proctor and his staff managed, however, to make good their retreat, and with a remnant of his force amounting to seventeen officers, besides the general, fifteen serjeants, and two hundred and thirteen rank and file, assembled sometime afterwards at Ancaster. On this occasion the Indians carried on the contest with great courage and tenacity until the day was irretrievably lost and thirty-three of their number had been slain, including the celebrated Shawanese chief Tecumseth, who fell whilst

* Tecumseth was a Shawanee, and was born in 1769 (or 1770). He first distinguished himself in resisting the attempt of General Harmer to punish the Indians in 1790; and in 1791, when General St. Clair undertook a similar mission, Tecumseth was one of his most determined and skilful opponents. From this time until 1812, the great aim of Tecumseth's life was to unite the numerous aboriginal tribes of North America in one great confederation, so that they might be strong enough to resist further encroachments, even if unable to regain their former possessions. In 1812, Tecumseth, whilst on one of his tours

bravely contending with the Kentucky horsemen under Colonel R. M. Johnston, by whose hand it is believed Tecumseth was slain, as there seems to be no doubt that it was whilst engaged in a hand-to-hand contest with Colonel Johnston that Tecumseth received the wound which caused his death. The conduct of Major-General Proctor in the management of his retreat from Malden, was very severely commented on. In the the general order of 24th November, 1813, the Governor-General, who was also Commander-in-Chief, uses these words in referring to the action at Moraviantown: "In the latter, but very few appear to have been rescued by an honourable death, from the ignominy of passing under the American yoke; nor are there many whose wounds plead in mitigation of this reproach. The right division appears to have been encumbered with an unmanageable load of unnecessary and forbidden private baggage; whilst the requisite arrangements for the expedition, and certain conveyance of the ammunition and provisions, the sole objects worthy of consideration, appear to have been totally neglected, as well as all those ordinary measures

amongst the tribes, had an interview with Major-General Harrison, then Governor of the State of Indiana; no result followed this interview, and Tecumseth continued his journey to the Creek nation. On his return he found that, during his absence, General Harrison had attacked his people at Tippecanoe, and that many of his warriors had been slain. In 1812, when war between the United States and Great Britain became imminent, Tecumseth was strongly solicited by General Hull's emissaries to remain neutral during the war; but he resolutely declined to have any thing to do with the big knives, and from the first became the firm and true friend of the British, taking an active part in all the operations on the western frontier. His last words to General Proctor just before the battle of the Thames, were, "Father, tell your young men to be firm, and all will be well." In 1814 a handsome sword was sent by the Prince Regent to the son of Tecumseth, as a mark of respect to his father's memory.—*Tupper's Life of Sir Isaac Brock.*