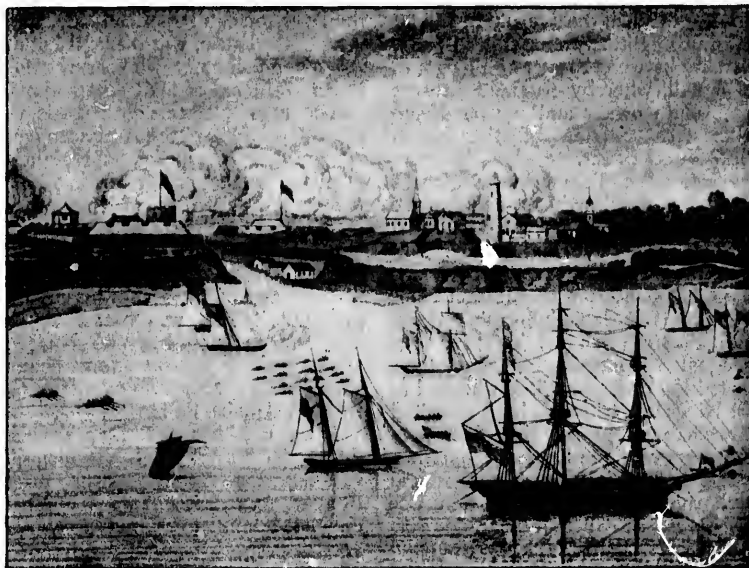


and captured the fort before French reinforcements could arrive.

These reinforcements had been sent from Venango, on Lake Erie, and, coming down the Niagara river, had reached Navy Island (Isle de Marine), then held by the French, when they heard of the fall of Fort Niagara. The certainty that the two vessels which had brought the troops and ammunition from Venango would be captured by the English, induced the French to take them, together with some small vessels

connected with the great French and English struggle. Champlain's early hostility to the Iroquois, when he sided with the Senecas against them, had made the Iroquois the firm friends of the English during all the subsequent years, and it had also endeared the French to the Senecas, even though the latter had subsequently joined the Iroquois confederacy.

After the total defeat of the French and their practical surrender of all their territory in 1759, the old hatred of the



THE CAPTURE OF FORT GEORGE, 1813.
(From an Old Engraving.)

which had recently been built on Navy Island, over to the northern shore of Grand Island, lying close by, into a quiet bay, where they set them on fire and totally destroyed them. As late as the middle of the present century, portions of these vessels were clearly visible under water in the arm of the river, which, from this incident, has become known as "Burnt Ship Bay."

One more historical point, the scene of the Devil's Hole massacre, is con-

English on the part of the Senecas, abetted, no doubt, by French influences, led them to commence a bloody campaign against the English in 1763. They knew the English were, on a certain day, to send a long train of wagons, filled with supplies and ammunition, from Fort Niagara to Fort Schlosser, a station, built in 1761 by Capt. Joseph Schlosser of the English army, to replace Fort de Portage, which had been destroyed two years pre-