

Whether his conduct towards me has been just, or military—or the reverse, it would not here become me to determine: that rests with you; but in order to give a full view of the subject, however painful it may be to my feelings, I must refer to general Brown's official report of the battle of Chippeway, and his general order of the 5th of July.*

For the publication of these extraordinary documents, there could be no other authority or foundation than barely a "suspicion of cowardice," as there had been neither enquiry nor evidence to ascertain the fact; and the only effect it could have, was to wound the feelings of one, whom neither the tongue of slander, nor the finger of malignity could have attainted, nor attached to his character the palest hue of dishonor.

Can there not be made an official report of a battle without sacrificing some devoted victim on the altar of ambition?

Gentlemen, I must leave it to your own feelings to conceive my situation—for I cannot describe it, nor the emotions that rend my heart; being deprived of my command, driven from my regiment, and separated from my companions in arms, to whom I was bound by the strongest ties of friendship, which naturally exist in the hearts of those who have together borne the toils and privations incident to the life of a soldier.

Nothing could have supported me under this load of misfortune, but a consciousness of my own innocence, and a hope that the majesty of truth would

* See Appendix No. I. II.