

I herewith have the honor to transmit two letters one from Captain Roberts Comm<sup>rs</sup> at St Josephs, and the second from M<sup>r</sup> Dickson a gentleman every way capable of forming a correct judgment of the actual state of the Indians. Nothing can be more deplorable than his description. Yet the United States' government accuse Great Britain of instigating that people to war—Is not the true cause to be found in the state of desparation to which they are reduced by the unfriendly and unjust measures of that Government towards them?

COLONEL THOMAS TALBOT TO MAJOR-GENERAL BROCK.

*(Canadian Archives, C 688A, p. 153a.)*

Oxford Mouday 27<sup>th</sup> July 1812.

My dear General

I arrived at this place this morning from Long point where I had been two days, one spent in endeavouring to procure 100 Volunteers from the Norfolk Militia, and I am sorry to inform you that notwithstanding the apparent readiness manifested by the Flank Companies of those Batt<sup>ns</sup> on former occasions, that when it was understood that the men required, were absolutely to proceed to The River Thames, very few turned out for that service, after much explanation of the expectations of the Government and the disgrace that would attend their Reg<sup>ts</sup> I made out about 60 men, I then ballotted 40 more and ordered the detachment to march to join Major Chambers as yesterday morning, when I reached the ground from whence the Detachment was to march, I found a large assembly of the Farmers with their Women, who upon my approach addressed me, by declaring that their men should not March, upon this I enquired if there were any Magistrates present, the answer was, several, I required one to come forward, on which M<sup>r</sup> Bemer appeared, I asked him, how he as a Magistrate could permit such proceedings, he offered no excuse, but said that he conceived the measure of withdrawing any of the Militia from Long point was highly improper. I then ordered the party to March, when about a half obey'd anl after proceeding a short distance the men fell out, all but about 20, who continued their march, and even those few appeared unwilling, I therefore thought it most prudent to allow those few to return as I could not flatter myself with any material benefit that could result from their weak and uncertain assistance—Major