

be the subject of a court-martial, the charges preferred by Perry. We will also give some extracts from the lengthy letter of the officers of the "Niagara" to the Secretary of the Navy—giving a detailed account of the battle from their standpoint:

"U. S. S. "NIAGARA," 13th October, 1813. }

"AT ANCHOR OFF DETROIT. }

"RESPECTED SIR:—We have with regret seen the condensed, and, suffer us to add, the partial statements of the late *action* on Lake Erie; and, induced by motives of the warmest admiration and great respect for our commander, Captain J. D. Elliot, we take the liberty of laying before you our combined observations on the above late action, and knowing, as we do, your power of discrimination and impartiality of judgment, we commit it to you with full confidence of its universal confidence and consideration. (Here is given a detailed account of the action, which, as said before, is given from *their* standpoint, but of too great a length for insertion.) * * * We are unwilling to quit the subject without expressing our estimation of our noble commander. We feel it our duty to him and to ourselves to express our opinion of his conduct during the action, which was manifested by his cool, brave and judicious deportment, and are firmly of the opinion that his valor could not be surpassed by any; and that in him the American flag has a most zealous, skillful, and heroic defender. We have here endeavored, sir, to give you a succinct and minute account of the action from the commencement to the close; in doing this we have been actuated by unprejudiced love and respect for Captain Elliot.

"We have the honor to be, sir,

"Your obedient servants, &c.,

"J. E. SMITH, Lieutenant,

"H. MAGRATH, Purser,

"J. J. EDWARDS, Lieutenant,

"NELSON WEBSTER, A. M.,

"A. B. BREVOORT, Capt. 2d Reg't U. S. Infantry.

"Hon. Wm. Jones, Sec'y of the Navy, Washington City, D. C."