that he had received the Prince Regent's commands to return to England to repel accusations affecting his military character, which had been preferred by the late naval Commander-in-chief on the lakes in Canada. On April 3 he left Quebec, receiving on the eve of his departure addresses, mainly signed by French Canadians, which showed warm appreciation of his just and conciliatory rule. As the St. Lawrence navigation was not yet open, he took the toilsome overland route to St. John in New Brunswick, and, embarking at St. John, arrived at Portsmouth on May 11. At the end of that month he was told, in answer to an inquiry, that his conduct would be investigated by court-martial at a future date, which could not then be fixed. Meanwhile on August 28 following, the naval court-martial held on Pring, Robertson, and the other surviving officers of Downie's squadron, gave its sentence. These officers were all, except the lieutenant of the *Chubb*, most honourably acquitted ; and the court, while of opinion that the British attack would have been more effective, if part of the gunboats had not withdrawn from action, and the winds had not prevented others of the vessels from taking up their appointed stations, found that the disaster 'was principally caused by the British squadron having been urged into battle previous to its being in a proper state to meet the enemy, by the promised co-operation of the land forces not being carried into effect, and by the pressing letters of their commander-in-chief, whereby it appears that he had, on September 10, 1814, only waited for the naval attack to storm the enemy's works ; that the signal of the approach on the following day was made by the scaling of the guns, as settled between Captain Downie and Major Coore [1], and the promised co-operation communicated to the other officers and crews of the British squadron before the commencement of the action '. A week later, on September 5, Yeo, having formulated his charges

Finding of the naval court-martial on the Plattsburg disaster.

[1] Major Coore was Prevost's aide-de-camp, and had been sent by him to Downie.