

As a statesman and administrator, Brock would have taken a high rank had not his fame as a soldier dwarfed all other qualities. His letters to General Prevost, his report to the Duke of York as to the formation of a veteran battalion in Canada, his military despatches, his address to Parliament, his proclamation to the people in reply to that of Hull, all showing great ability, sound common sense, patriotism, deep thought, are indeed models, whether of statesmanlike views, military brevity and accuracy, thoroughness and shrewdness in every detail, soldierlike commands — he himself was sometimes doubtful of the results, knowing his meagre resources, but a spirit of hopefulness and courage breathes through every utterance. In his address at the opening of the Legislature, Feb. 4, 1812, he said in closing: "We wish and hope for peace, but it was nevertheless necessary to be prepared for war. The task imposed on you is arduous. This task, however, I hope and trust, laying aside every consideration but that of the public good, you will perform with that firmness, discretion and promptitude which a regard to yourselves, your families, your country and your King call for at your hands." In opening the House on the 27th July he used these words: "When invaded by an enemy, whose avowed object is the entire conquest of the province, the voice of loyalty as well as of interest calls aloud for every person in the sphere in which he is placed to defend his country. Our militia have heard the voice and have obeyed it. They have evinced by the promptitude and loyalty of their conduct that they are worthy of the King whom they serve and of the constitution which they enjoy. We are engaged in an awful, an eventful contest. By unanimity and despatch in our councils and by vigor in our operations we may teach the enemy this lesson — that a country defended by free men enthusiastically devoted to the cause of the King and constitution cannot be conquered."

His readiness to give credit to the militia is shown in his despatch, 16th August, 1812, after the capture of Detroit "The steadiness and discipline of the 41st Regiment, and the readiness of the militia to follow so good an example, were highly conspicuous," and again in the following order: "The Major-General cannot forego the opportunity of expressing his admiration at the conduct of the several companies of militia who so handsomely volunteered to undergo the fatigues