

through the country, was here again signally interposed, and our peaceable inhabitants saved from the hand of those who were pledged by an infernal oath, to spare neither sex, age, or condition who were known to be favourable to British rule.

On Monday morning, at daylight, the two schooners belonging to the American Pirates, were seen anchored in the channel near the centre of the river—they appeared crowded with men, & a constant communication was kept up between the American shore; small boats were seen continually passing and repassing, to and from Ogdensburgh carrying on board provisions, arms, ammunition, &c. We have been told upon good authority, that one or two pieces of cannon were conveyed from Ogdensburgh to the schooners, and there is no doubt can exist in the mind of any candid person that this was the case.

About 9 o'clock on Monday morning, the little *Experiment*, having on board two small pieces of ordnance, being the only cannon that Prescott had to protect herself (there not being one piece of cannon in town) showed some true British play, and was no doubt the only cause that prevented the pirates from landing on our shores on Monday. About 10 o'clock on that day, the American steamer *United States*, came out of Ogdensburgh and fell alongside the Brigands, evidently with the intention of rendering them every assistance in her power. This boat has ever been encouraged by the travelling community of the Canadas, and is principally owned in Ogdensburgh; as soon as this was perceived, the *Experiment* gave her a dose of John Bull's powders which had a salutary effect, as the *United States*, although she had a large body of Pirates on board, and a schooner at hand, filled with armed men, still she and the schooner retreated below with the expectation of drawing the *Experiment* into a double fire; but British tars were wide awake to this manoeuvre; the *Experiment* kept her position in front of the town, passing up & down within the compass of a mile. She put two or three shots through the famed *United States*,—sent overboard several of the Patriots (as our neighbours term them) from the Schooners, and sent every American vessel to their own shores, without the loss of a single man killed or wounded.

During this time every one of our townsmen was astonished to see the principal steamer of the *United States*, not only encouraging but doing every thing in her power to aid the Pirates and cut-throats, who were combined together to invade us. This truly sympathising Steamer, having received two or three shots from our little vessel the *Experiment*, abandoned the cause of the Patriots, and subsequently was taken possession of by the U. S. Marshall, with the two Schooners, and conveyed to Sacket's Harbour.

An Express was sent from Ogdensburgh, saying that the Pirates had taken forcible possession of the Steamer *United States* and that the Government of the Republic could not prevent it. Who could believe this—who for one moment, could imagine that two or three hundred men could control a populous town like Ogdensburgh,—the thing was absurd—every thinking man ridiculed the idea, and the only wish of each true British heart was