

history should be aware of the causes leading to that fratricidal struggle. If he still needs information on that point I would refer him to the third edition of McMullen's History of Canada, volume 1, page 321, where he will find all the information needed. Canada was then a poor and sparsely settled country. In the lower province there were only 220,000 inhabitants all told, in Upper Canada 80,000. On the other hand the population of the United States stood at about eight millions, and their resources were enormous. The odds were terrible—twenty-seven or so to one. There were not quite six thousand troops in Canada to defend a frontier fifteen hundred miles in extent, while the Mother Country was then engaged in a life and death struggle with the great Napoleon. Congress, when it declared war on the 19th of June, 1812, against Great Britain, thought the affair would be a mere walk-over. At the close of a three years struggle the United States did not hold one inch of Canadian soil. Their export trade had dwindled down from \$120,000,000 per annum to \$7,000,000, three thousand of their merchant vessels had been captured, and fully two-thirds of their mercantile and trading classes had become insolvent, while the Union itself was threatened with disruption by the secession of the New England States. On the other hand the war gave a great stimulus to the prosperity of Canada, and at its close she was in an infinitely better position to defend herself than at the beginning of the contest.

When hostilities commenced in 1812