

da, as a political Union," was adopted. A net work of societies was to be spread over the country ; and care was to be taken to have them composed of persons known to one another.

On the 2d August, a " Declaration of the Reformers of Toronto to their Fellow Reformers in Upper Canada," was published in *The Constitution*. This document was virtually a declaration of independence, and it was afterwards called the "Declaration of the Independence," of Upper Canada, but there is reason to doubt whether its purport was fully understood even by all who signed it.

The several engagements which took place between the insurrectionists and the loyalists, and the final and complete victory gained by the latter are now matters of history.

There is however one scene in which McKenzie took part, not so generally known. The effort made to establish himself upon Navy Island, was probably one of his most daring as well as unsuccessful undertakings.

This Island, awarded to England by the Treaty of Ghent, is situated in the Niagara River, a short distance above the world-renowned cataract. A swift current sweeps past the island on either side, on its way to the vast abyss below ; but its navigation is practicable for steamers or row boats.

On the Dec. 13, 1837, McKenzie with an American named Van Rensselaer as Commander of the *Patriot Army* landed on this island. They had been led to expect a large gathering of volunteers at Whitehaven, near Buffalo, but to their great disappointment the promised *army* of 250 men, 2 pieces of artillery and 450 stand of arms beside provisions and munitions of war, were not forthcoming and only some 24 volunteers waited to accompany them on their expedition for the *liberation* of the *enslaved* Canadian.

Still the leaders trusted in the good faith of their friends and the little band took possession of the island on the day named.