

chant boats and actually captured them." No reparation appears to have ever been made for this high-handed act.

But war had finally broken out and General Hull invaded Canada from Detroit on the 12th of July, 1812. The result of that invasion may be told in a few words. One month later General Brock was himself crossing the Detroit River, and on the 16th of August articles were drawn up by which the whole Michigan territory, Fort Detroit, a ship of war, thirty-three pieces of cannon, 2,500 troops and a stand of colours were surrendered to about 1,300 British and Colonial troops. It is not necessary to go into any details of a war so well known as that of 1812-14. Suffice it to say that the Canadian militia and volunteers did their duty as nobly as the British soldiers, and

"Have left their sons a hope, a fame
They too would rather die than shame."

But the Americans hardly fought fair. In April, 1813, the public buildings of York, now Toronto, were burned, contrary to the articles of capitulation. In the same year Newark was captured, and, in spite of repeated promises by Generals Dearborn and Boyd, the most respectable inhabitants were sent as prisoners into the United States and the whole beautiful village consigned to the flames. General Brown laid waste the country between Chippewa and Fort Erie, burning mills, private houses and the village of St. Davids. Colonel Campbell burnt the village of Dover, near London, whilst frequent raids of Indian and American troops were made in 1813 from Detroit, and whole districts laid waste. It is little use however to follow these events further. Canada held her own at Queenston and Chateauguay, and the war redounded ultimately to our glory and America's discomfiture. In its inception and progress, it was largely a war for the conquest of Canada. Had these British provinces not existed, it seems very probable that the conflict with Great Britain would never have been undertaken. But the Americans thought that England was too busy with France to do much and that the Canadians were unable to defend themselves, so that this was their opportunity. Events, however, turned out otherwise, and Washington was captured instead of Montreal.

The treaty of 1818 settled matters for a time, but in 1837 the Canadian rebellion gave an opportunity for renewed aggres-

sion. In December of that year Wm. Lyon Mackenzie, at the head of a number of rebels, and with a horde of American sympathisers, took up his quarters at Navy Island, on the Niagara River. Entrenchments were thrown up, artillery and stores obtained from the United States arsenals at several frontier towns and fire was opened on the Canadian shore. Many United States citizens publicly espoused the insurgent cause and lent the rebels every possible assistance. Enlistment went on steadily and without concealment, whilst a "score of American rascaldom," encamped at Grand Island, further up the river, and fired at Canadian farmers as they proceeded with their labours. As Mr. Dent says, in his "Last Thirty Years," there can be no doubt that the State of New York winked at these things and that the sympathies of the American people were almost to a man in favour of the rebels. A cannon was taken from the State artillery to Navy Island on the pretext, given to the American officer in command, that it was wanted to shoot wild ducks. Matters were brought to a crisis by the American branch of the insurgent force obtaining a Buffalo steamboat called the "Caroline," which was used to bring men and "upplies to the Island. A number of Americans gave a bond to the owner, indemnifying him in case of capture, and the Collector of Customs at Buffalo knowingly licensed the vessel for the use to which it was to be put. This was too much for loyal men in Upper Canada, and protests having been useless, Colonel McNab, of Hamilton, at last sent an expedition, under Captain Drew, to seize the vessel. The act was promptly performed, the ship set on fire and sent over the Falls. Shortly afterwards the rebels dispersed, though the Alex. McLeod case, growing out of this seizure, almost brought the two nations to the verge of war some years later. As in the recent case of the Italian massacre in New Orleans, the United States Government tried to get out of its responsibility for these infringements of international amity by the ready subterfuge that it could not control a state of the Union in such matters.

But 1842 witnessed a far more disgraceful aggression upon Canadian rights. Deception, not threats, was the weapon employed, and it certainly answered the purpose well. For many years the true location of the boundary line between New Brunswick and the State of Maine