

fighting to the last. On the evening of August 2nd, after a smart cannonade from his two six-pounders, and two five and a half inch howitzers, General Proctor attempted to carry the fort by assault. On reaching the ditch the assailants found themselves exposed to a raking fire of grape from a masked six-pounder, which compelled them to retire with heavy loss. Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Short, of the 41st regiment, who led the storming party, and three other officers and fifty-two men, were killed and missing, and three officers and thirty-eight men were wounded. The loss of the garrison is said to have been only one man killed and seven wounded. Thus foiled in his attempt upon fort Stephenson, General Proctor withdrew on the 3rd August and returned to Amherstburg. Commodore Chauncey, who had sailed from Sackett's Harbour with a body of United States troops under Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, with the intention of seizing the British depot at Burlington Heights and destroying the stores; finding that the detachment on duty there under the command of Major Maule had been reinforced by the Glengarry Fencibles under Lieutenant-Colonel Battersby, declined the attack, and moved down the lake to York, where his force landed on 31st July,* without opposition, and having taken possession of such stores as they could find, including a quantity of flour, private property belonging to and taken from the stores of Major Allan and Mr. St. George, burned the barracks wood-yard and public storehouses on Gibraltar Point, re-embarked the troops on Sunday afternoon, 1st August, and bore away for Niagara.

* McMullen in his History of Canada, page 283, gives the date of this raid upon York as the 23rd July; but as the authorities generally fix the 31st as the day upon which the attack was made, that date has been adhered to.

The British Fleet, under Commodore Sir James Yeo, left Kingston on the 31st July, and arrived off Niagara on the 8th August. The two fleets manœuvred for two days, and on the 10th the British Commodore managed to cut off and capture two fine schooners manned by forty men each. Commodore Chauncey lost two other schooners in a heavy squall whilst trying to escape the British fleet. From these vessels sixteen men were saved by the boats of the British fleet; the remainder perished. After these occurrences the fleets separated, the British vessels returned to Kingston, whilst Commodore Chauncey remained for a short time at Niagara and then sailed for Sackett's Harbour.—On 7th September the fleets came in sight of each other, and manœuvred, but without result.—On 28th September the fleets again met off York, when a smart action lasting for two hours took place. Sir James Yeo's ship, the *Wolfe*, was severely handled, and might have been captured had not Captain Mulcaster, in the *Royal George*, run in between the *Wolfe* and the United States Commodore's vessel, the *Pike*, and thus enabled the *Wolfe* to sheer off and repair damages. After this action the British fleet retired under Burlington Heights, whither the United States fleet did not care to follow.—On 1st October, Commodore Chauncey sailed from Fort George for Sackett's Harbour, and on his way down, fell in with and captured five small vessels out of seven, with upwards of two hundred and fifty men of de Watteville's regiment from York, bound for Kingston.—On 10th September, about sunrise, the fleets on Lake Erie, commanded by Commodore Perry of the United States navy, and by Captain Barclay R. N., came in sight of each other off Put-in Bay. About noon the action was commenced by Captain Barclay, who, in the *Niagara*,