

as well as his letters, proclamations, and speeches, all show a well trained mind and command of language, a style vigorous, terse, pure. In a letter to his brother, Irving, dated Niagara, Jan. 10th, 1811, he says: "I hardly ever stir out, and unless I have company my evenings are passed solus. I read much, but good books are scarce and I hate borrowing. Should I remain here I wish you to send me some choice authors in history, particularly ancient, with maps and the best translations of ancient works. I read in my youth Pope's translation of Homer, but till lately I never discovered its exquisite beauties. As I grow old I acquire a taste for study. In addition to the last daily paper, send me likewise the Observer or any other weekly. You who have passed all your days in the bustle of London can scarcely conceive the uninteresting life I am doomed to lead in this retirement." Brock was soon to exchange this quiet life for days and nights of action, when every moment was filled for mind and body.

The inventory of Gen. Brock's possessions came to light lately very strangely. In the cellar of the house of the late G. W. Allen, stuffed in the crevice of the wall, was found a roll containing several pages of foolscap, discolored and torn in some places, but containing a full inventory of the articles sold at the auction of his effects, to whom sold, and the prices, and by the kindness of Dr. Bain I was allowed to copy it, the list includes silver, cut glass, furniture, wines, provisions, kitchen utensils, carpets, even a cow and pigs, pickled mushrooms, champagne, claret, porter. Among those who bought are found the names of General Sheaffe, Major Glegg, Col. Bishop, Mr. Crookshank, Rev. Dr. Strachan, Major Givins, Dr. Powell, Major Allen, and Messrs. Dickson, Small, Hamilton, Denison. Among the books are: Johnson's works, 12 volumes, Rollins' ancient history, Siecle de Louis 14th, Regiment de l'Infanterie, Voltaire's Henriade, Shakespeare, Telemaque, Dictionary of Arts and Sciences, Court Martials, Expedition to Holland, Life of Conde, Walcheren Expedition. I wonder how many of these articles of furniture, silver and books are still in existence or in possession of the families who bought them? A Miss Selby bought a gig for \$150 and a sofa for \$21, the only lady purchaser mentioned. The sale was on the 12th November, 1812, at York. Perhaps many articles disappeared at the taking of York next year. Had Brock lived we may venture to say that capture would never have taken place.