

side off, when the word was given that two suspicious vessels were in sight, and owing to the haziness of the night, a sail could be discerned only a short distance. that the first attempt to land was made at Fraser's wharf, although he has no doubt the intention was to effect a landing on the wharf of Hiram Norton, that Col Young, A Jones, Esq. and our informant with 15 or 20 armed men ran down to the bank of the river, that upon being first hailed no reply was made, but that afterwards an answer was given that the vessel was the Charlotte of Toronto, Capt George, that at this time the schooners had fallen down owing to a heavy south wind opposite the yellow Storehouse of Alexr McMillan Esq. where Mr A. Jones and Colonel Young with a few others were standing, that some on board called to Mr J. demanding who he was, to which he replied, I am the Collector for the Port of Prescott, that no one was seen upon the deck but the necessary hands, and that they said they had put in, in distress, that at the time no opposition was made to their landing, as some really supposed, including the Colonel himself, that no harm was intended us, but that the vessels were actually British and loaded with merchandize.

Our informant further says that just as they neared the yellow store, he standing upon Fraser's wharf, discovered that two vessels were lashed together, that he immediately called out to Mr. Jones, stating the fact, and saying he had no doubt, it was the enemy, and that then the Pirates were not ten feet from the wharf, that they threw their rope over the post three times in succession, and that as Providence would have it, it slipped off each time, partly owing to the stiffness of the rope being frozen, and partly to the shortness of the post, which however was sufficiently long for all ordinary purposes; that in order to account for the schooners being lashed together, an answer was made from some one on board, that they had run foul of each other some distance above, and one of them was fast filling with water; that after failing to land at the yellow store, they dropped to Warner's wharf, which is out of repair, and that there one of their Boats was smashed, they then fell below near the Point opposite the Port, where they cast anchor and remained half an hour, that by this time a number of armed men had collected, and upon being requested to send a Boat ashore, they promised to do so, and that within a few minutes after, they hoisted their sails weighed anchor and stood for the American shore. Having no ordnance here, not even one piece, their retreat could not have been prevented.

The small armed Steam boat Experiment, from Brockville, arrived within half an hour after, and took up a position in front of the town. The cowardice of these cut-throat scoundrels alone saved the place; had they landed on Monday morning and marched into our village, there is no doubt they would have succeeded in driving out the inhabitants, and taken possession of Fort Wellington, as there was but a small body of Militia quartered here, and some thirty or forty Volunteers. The overruling hand of a kind Providence, which has been so conspicuous since the first attempt of these unprincipled Barbarians, to carry ruin and devastation