

On the 27th of Nov. Gen. Smyth made an attempt to cross from Black Rock into Canada (river 1 mile wide) he first sent 300 soldiers and sailors under Capt. King : they stormed 3 batteries, and spiked the cannon with the loss of 40.

About 10 o'clock the same day, some soldiers went over, burnt some houses and brought away considerable plunder.

After Gen. Smyth had embarked the troops twice he gave over the project, and for which he has been severely censured by many ; but upon the whole, perhaps it was best, as at that time he was not able to take over with him more than 2500 soldiers, which was not enough, as the British had at that time 8000 soldiers on the line between forts George and Erie, a distance of 34 miles only.

As Smyth and his army were seen by the British coming over and twice returning back, it was confidently reported and generally believed, that the American army had mutinized.

This very much encouraged the inhabitants, judging from hence that the soldiers would not come over at all ; knowing also that many had refused so to do at the time of the battle of Queenston.

After this, as the winter was coming on, the British calculated that they should not be invaded again, at least till the ice of the river became strong ; the Col. of each regiment therefore per-