

HISTORY OF THE
Battle of Lake Erie,
AND REMINISCENCES OF THE
Flagship "Lawrence."

CHAPTER I.

AT THE time war was declared with Great Britain in 1812, the Canadian frontier was in advance of us in commerce and agriculture. A goodly portion of our supplies of merchandise, particularly groceries, came to us from Montreal. In regard to agriculture, the tory emigration from the United States at the commencement of, and during the Revolution, had done good work in this line, assisted by emigration from the old country, and the Canadian French. Then their military posts were well kept up, and having something of a Navy in the way of several heavily armed vessels, classed by the British Government as a "Provincial Navy," and not *regular*. These vessels also transported passengers and