

who were willing to take the oath of allegiance, while an oath of neutrality would be required from "confirmed citizens of the United States." His situation was still extremely precarious, as Harrison had actually advanced to the Miami and might at any time be expected to move upon Amherstburg with more thousands of troops than he had hundreds to oppose them. The Indians and militia might indeed be relied on for support as long as there was some probability of success; but a reverse would dishearten and disperse them. He had already witnessed the powerful effects of hope and fear on the minds of both. His influence over the Indians in particular, largely depended upon their estimate of his strength, and he declared that not less than an entire regiment of regular troops would be necessary to ensure the safety of the military posts and shipping.<sup>1</sup>

He had shown conspicuous energy and decision on all occasions and there seemed little reason to suspect that he would be found wanting in future.

Woodward, who had excellent opportunities of observation and was a keen and by no means a friendly critic, wrote with unrestrained admiration:

"The operations of the British commander are marked with the same minute correctness of judgment in this instance and the same boldness of conception and execution which distinguished in the former instance his illustrious predecessor, General Brock. It is a military movement of equal and in fact of greater splendor."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Conditions proposed for a convention; Woodward to Procter, 2nd February, 1813; Procter to Sheaffe, 4th February, 1813; Procter to Baynes, 31st January, 1813; Procter to Sheaffe, 2nd February, 1813.

<sup>2</sup> Woodward to Monroe, 31st January, 1813