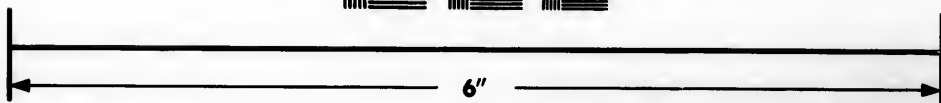
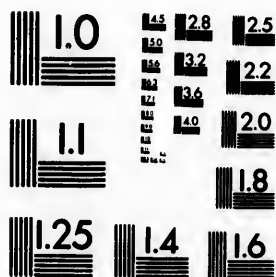


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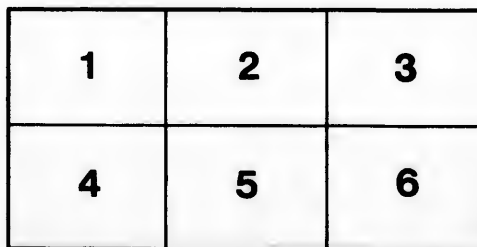
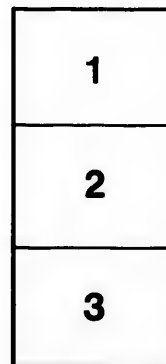
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SKETCHES
OF
THE WAR,
BETWEEN THE
UNITED STATES AND THE BRITISH ISLES:
INTENDED AS
A FAITHFUL HISTORY
OF ALL THE MATERIAL EVENTS FROM THE TIME OF THE DECLARATION IN 1812,
TO AND INCLUDING THE TREATY OF PEACE IN 1815:
INTERSPERSED WITH
GEOGRAPHICAL DESCRIPTIONS OF PLACES,
AND
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF DISTINGUISHED MILI-
TARY AND NAVAL COMMANDERS.

VOLUMES I. AND II.

RUTLAND, VT.

PUBLISHED BY FAY AND DAVISON.

1815.

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District of Vermont, to wit:

(L. S.)

BE IT REMEMBERED, that on the twentieth day of January, in the thirty-ninth year of the independence of the United States of America, Messrs. Fay and Davison, of the said district, have deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof they claim as proprietors, in the words following, to wit:

"Sketches of the War between the United States and the British Isles: intended as a faithful history of all the material events from the time of the declaration in 1812, to and including the treaty of peace in 1815; interspersed with geographical descriptions of places, and biographical notices of distinguished military and naval commanders."

In conformity to the act of the congress of the United States, entitled "an act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of maps, charts and books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned."

JESSE GOVE, Clerk
of the District of Vermont.

A true copy,
Examined and sealed by
J. GOVE, Clerk.

* * READERS,

Who may not have perused this work, as it progressed from the press, will perceive, that these numbers were commenced, and that part of them were written for a family record, while the war was continually proclaiming its events from the embattled field. Hence, the work, from a seeming necessity, and from the then unknown duration of the war, assumed its present form. Had all the events herein registered in our numbers been matter of history, before the first was printed, they would have enabled us to have given to this work a more dignified character. Perhaps, however, what we may lose in respect, the reader may gain in information. The simple "unvarnished tale" often more instructs than the leisurely composed and rounded periods of some better writer, but semi-romantic historian.

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PREFACE.

To our fellow citizens we do not promise a perfect and an im-
partial history of this war. To depict with perfect accuracy the
embattled plain, while the roar of cannon yet lives in our ears, and
the dust, excited by the conflict, yet obscures the contending le-
gions, is more than the discerning public will demand or we can
perform. The agitations of the flood may distort and render in-
distinct the images which the sun has painted on its bosom. We
profess to love our country, feel for its honour and hope for its glo-
ry. With this partiality, though we would, we may not always
be just. We may also be embarrassed by the necessary policy of
war, which conceals as much as possible, that the enemy by no
chance of information may profit. Any occasional excess of feel-
ing in us may usually be either restrained or rendered harmless to
others, as we shall endeavor to collate official or other accredited
public documents, to present rather faithful *sketches of the war*,
than ourselves as historians, imposing upon the world the hasty
deductions of our own mind, perhaps often partial and incorrect.
In the compilation of this work, in which genius can take no part,
we would labor to exhibit concisely and truly this war to our citi-
zens. By the method attempted to be pursued, the illusions of fan-
cy, and the vagaries of a distorted imagination will be excluded
from our pages.

The present is a nameless moment. Political partizans, like prophecy, effect not the past ; they operate only on the future.... In this presage, even honest men have differed, may now differ, and will hereafter differ : but the evidence of the past is testimony growing into historic fact. The curses of the law are against him who perverts it. This is a hallowed ark, which no man may touch.

One, whose political sentiments differ from those of the publishers, being associated with this press, for the sole purpose of compiling these sketches of the war, opposite politics will balance in even scales, and our patrons may less apprehend any of the excesses of party.

The work shall be for our country, truth shall be our aim, and we hope a general patronage our reward. Surely no good citizen would be regardless, and no proud one ignorant of the martial achievements of our country. Useful to ourselves and to posterity may be the knowledge of the causes, which have occasionally operated victory or disgrace to our arms. It is profitable to be taught, even by the enemy, and to learn from defeat to achieve victories.

When believed to be necessary for understanding the subject, geographical descriptions and biographical sketches will be interspersed, and every elucidation, which we may be enabled to give, shall appear on our pages. With the generous patronage of our fellow citizens, our mountains may echo the storm of battle, and the gleam of the sword of our warriors be seen afar.

SKETCHES
OF
THE WAR.

VOLUME I.....NUMBER 1.

CHAPTER I.

*The President's Manifesto.....Act of Congress declaring war.....
President's proclamation.....General Bloomfield issues his or-
ders.....Commodore Rogers sails.....First prisoner, and first
prize.....Naval force of the United States.....Schedule of the
apportionment of 100,000 militia, by act of Congress of 12th
April, 1812.....Instructions for private armed vessels.*

ON the first day of June, 1812, President Madison sent into Congress his manifesto, in the following words :

"I communicate to Congress certain documents, being a continuation of those heretofore laid before them, on the subject of our affairs with Great Britain.

"Without going back beyond the renewal in 1803, of the war in which Great Britain is engaged, and omitting unrepaid wrongs of inferior magnitude, the conduct of her government presents a series of acts hostile to the United States as an independent and neutral nation.

"British cruisers have been in the continual practice of violating the American flag on the great highway of nations, and of seizing and carrying off persons sailing under it; not in the exercise of a belligerent right founded on the law of nations against an enemy, but of a municipal prerogative over British subjects. British jurisdiction is thus extended to neutral vessels in a situation where no laws can operate but the law of nations and the laws of the country to which the vessels belong: and a self redress is assumed, which, if British subject were wrongfully detained and alone concerned, is that substitution of force, for a resort to the responsible sovereign, which falls within the definition of war. Could the seizure of British subjects in such cases be regarded as

within the exercise of a belligerent right, the acknowledged laws of war, which forbid an article of captured property to be adjudged without a regular investigation before a competent tribunal, would imperiously demand the fairest trial, where the sacred rights of persons were at issue. In place of such a trial, these rights are subjected to the will of every petty commander.

“ The practice, hence, is so far from affecting British subjects alone, that, under the pretext of searching for these, thousands of American citizens, under the safeguard of public law, and of their national flag, have been torn from their country and every thing dear to them ; have been dragged on board ships of war of a foreign nation, and exposed, under the severities of their discipline, to be exiled to the most distant and deadly climes, to risk their lives in the battles of their oppressors, and to be the melancholy instruments of taking away those of their own brethren.

“ Against this crying enormity, which Great Britain would be so prompt to avenge if committed against herself, the United States have in vain exhausted remonstrances and expostulations. And that no proof might be wanting of their conciliatory dispositions, and no pretext left for a continuance of the practice, the British government was formally assured of the readiness of the United States to enter into arrangements, such as could not be rejected, if the recovery of British subjects were the real and sole object. The communication passed without effect.

“ British cruizers have been in the practice also, of violating the rights, and the peace of our coasts. They hover over and harass our departing commerce. To the most insulting pretensions they have added the most lawless proceedings in our very harbors ; and have wantonly spilt American blood within the sanctuary of our territorial jurisdiction. The principles and rules enforced by that nation, when a neutral nation, against armed vessels or belligerents hovering near her coasts, and disturbing her commerce, are well known. When called on, nevertheless, by the United States, to punish the greater offences committed by her own vessels, her government has bestowed on their commanders additional marks of honour and confidence.

“ Under pretended blockades, without the presence of an adequate force, and sometimes without the practicability of applying one, our commerce has been plundered in every sea : the great staples of our country have been cut off from their legitimate markets ; and a destructive blow aimed at our agricultural and maritime interests. In aggravation of these predatory measures, they have been considered as in force from the dates of their notification ; a retrospective effect being thus added, as has been done in other important cases, to the unlawfulness of the course pursued. And to render the outrage the more signal, these mock blockades have been reiterated and enforced in the face of official

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communications from the British government, declaring, as the true definition of a legal blockade, "that particular ports must be actually invested, and previous warning given to vessels bound to them not to enter."

"Not content with these occasional expedients for laying waste our neutral trade, the cabinet of Great Britain resorted, at length, to the sweeping system of blockades, under the name of Orders in Council, which has been moulded and managed as might best suit its political views, its commercial jealousies, or the avidity of British cruisers.

"To our remonstrances against this complicated and transcendent injustice of this innovation, the first reply was, that the orders were reluctantly adopted by Great Britain as a necessary retaliation on the decrees of her enemy proclaiming a general blockade of the British isles, at a time when the naval force of that enemy dared not to issue from his own ports. She was reminded without effect, that her own prior blockades, unsupported by an adequate naval force, actually applied and continued, were a bar to this plea: that executed edicts against millions of our property could not be retaliation on edicts, confessedly impossible to be executed: that retaliation, to be just, should fall on the party setting the guilty example, not on an innocent party, which was not even chargeable with an acquiescence in it.

"When deprived of this slimy veil for a prohibition of our trade with her enemy, by the repeal of his prohibition of our trade with Great Britain, her cabinet, instead of a corresponding repeal, or practical discontinuance of its orders, formally avowed a determination to persist in them against the United States, until the markets of her enemy should be laid open to British products: thus asserting an obligation on a neutral power to require one belligerent to encourage, by its internal regulations, the trade of another belligerent: contradicting her own practice towards all nations, in peace as well as in war; and betraying the insincerity of those professions which inculcated a belief that, having resorted to her orders with regret, she was anxious to find an occasion for putting an end to them.

"Abandoning still more all respect for the neutral rights of the United States, and for its own consistency, the British government now demands as prerequisites to a repeal of its orders, as they relate to the United States, that a formality should be observed in the repeal of the French decrees nowise necessary to their termination, nor exemplified by British usage; and that the French repeal, besides including that portion of the decrees which operates within a territorial jurisdiction, as well as that which operates on the high seas against the commerce of the United States, should not be a single special repeal in relation to the United States, but should be extended to whatever other neutral nations, unconnect-

ed with them, may be affected by those decrees. And as an additional insult, they are called on for a formal disavowal of conditions and pretensions advanced by the French government, for which the United States are so far from having made themselves responsible, that, in official explanations, which have been published to the world, and in a correspondence of the American minister at London with the British minister for foreign affairs, such a responsibility was explicitly and emphatically disclaimed.

"It has become indeed sufficiently certain, that the commerce of the United States is to be sacrificed, not as interfering with the belligerent rights of Great Britain....not as supplying the wants of her enemies, which she herself supplies; but as interfering with the monopoly which she covets for her own commerce and navigation. She carries on a war against the lawful commerce of a friend, that she may the better carry on a commerce with an enemy....a commerce, polluted by the forgeries and perjuries which are for the most part the only passports by which it can succeed.

"Anxious to make every experiment short of the last resort of injured nations, the United States have withheld from Great Britain, under successive modifications, the benefits of a free intercourse with their market, the loss of which could not but outweigh the profits accruing from her restrictions of our commerce with other nations. And to entitle these experiments to the more favorable consideration, they were so framed as to enable her to place her adversary under the exclusive operation of them. To these appeals her government has been equally inflexible, as if willing to make sacrifices of every sort, rather than yield to the claims of justice, or renounce the errors of a false pride. Nay, so far were the attempts carried to overcome the attachment of the British cabinet to its unjust edicts, that it received every encouragement within the competency of the executive branch of our government, to expect that a repeal of them would be followed by a war between the United States and France, unless the French edicts should also be repealed. Even this communication, although silencing forever the plea of a disposition in the United States to acquiesce in those edicts, originally the sole plea of them, received no attention.

"If no other proof existed of a predetermination of the British government against a repeal of its orders, it might be found in the correspondence of the minister plenipotentiary of the United States at London, and the British secretary for foreign affairs, in 1810, on the question whether the blockade of May, 1806, was considered as in force, or as not in force. It had been ascertained that the French government, which urged this blockade as the ground of its Berlin decree, was willing, in the event of its removal, to repeal that decree; which being followed by alternate repeals of the other offensive edicts, might abolish the whole system

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on both sides. This inviting opportunity for accomplishing an object so important to the United States, and professed so often to be the desire of both the belligerents, was made known to the British government. As that government admits that an actual application of an adequate force is necessary to the existence of a legal blockade, and it was notorious, that, if such a force had ever been applied, its long discontinuance had annulled the blockade in question, there could be no sufficient objection on the part of Great Britain to a formal revocation of it; and no imaginable objection to a declaration of the fact that the blockade did not exist. The declaration would have been consistent with her avowed principles of blockade, and would have enabled the United States to demand from France the pledged repeal of her decrees; either with success, in which case the way would have been opened for a general repeal of the belligerent edicts; or without success, in which case the United States would be justified in turning their measures exclusively against France. The British government would, however, neither rescind the blockade, nor declare its non-existence: nor permit its non-existence to be inferred and affirmed by the American plenipotentiary. On the contrary, by representing the blockade to be comprehended in the orders in council, the United States were compelled so to regard it in their subsequent proceedings.

"There was a period when a favorable change in the policy of the British cabinet was justly considered as established. The minister plenipotentiary of his Britannic majesty here proposed an adjustment of the differences more immediately endangering the harmony of the two countries. The proposition was accepted with a promptitude and cordiality corresponding with the invariable professions of this government. A foundation appeared to be laid for a sincere and lasting reconciliation. The prospect, however, quickly vanished. The whole proceeding was disavowed by the British government, without any explanations which could at that time repress the belief, that the disavowal proceeded from a spirit of hostility to the commercial rights and prosperity of the United States. And it has since come into proof, that at the very moment when the public minister was holding the language of friendship and inspiring confidence in the sincerity of the negotiation with which he was charged, a secret agent of his government was employed in intrigues, having for their object a subversion of our government, and a dismemberment of our happy union.

"In reviewing the conduct of Great Britain towards the United States, our attention is necessarily drawn to the warfare just renewed by the savages on one of our extensive frontiers; a warfare which is known to spare neither age nor sex, and to be distinguished by features peculiarly shocking to humanity. It is difficult to account for the activity and combinations which have for

some time been developing themselves among tribes in constant intercourse with British traders and garrisons, without connecting their hostility with that influence ; and without recollecting the authenticated examples of such interpositions heretofore furnished by the officers and agents of that government.

"Such is the spectacle of injuries and indignities which have been heaped on our country ; and such the crisis which its unexampled forbearance and conciliatory efforts have not been able to avert. It might at least have been expected, that an enlightened nation, if less urged by moral obligations, or invited by friendly dispositions on the part of the United States, would have found in its true interest alone a sufficient motive to respect their rights and their tranquility on the high seas ; that an enlarged policy would have favoured that free and general circulation of commerce, in which the British nation is at all times interested, and which in times of war is the best alleviation of its calamities to herself, as well as the other belligerents ; and more especially that the British cabinet would not, for the sake of a precarious and surreptitious intercourse with hostile markets, have persevered in a course of measures which necessarily put at hazard the invaluable market of a great and growing country, disposed to cultivate the mutual advantages of an active commerce.

"Other councils have prevailed. Our moderation and conciliation have had no other effect than to encourage perseverance, and to enlarge pretensions. We behold our seafaring citizens still the daily victims of lawless violence committed on the great common and highway of nations, even within sight of the country which owes them protection. We behold our vessels, freighted with the products of our soil and industry, or returning with the honest proceeds of them, wrested from their lawful destinations, confiscated by prize courts, no longer the organs of public law, but the instruments of arbitrary edicts ; and their unfortunate crews dispersed and lost, or forced or inveigled in British ports into British fleets ; whilst arguments are employed, in support of these aggressions, which have no foundation but in a principle equally supporting a claim to regulate our external commerce in all cases whatsoever.

"We behold, in fine, on the side of Great Britain, a state of war against the United States ; on the side of the United States a state of peace towards Great Britain.

"Whether the United States shall continue passive under these progressive usurpations, and these accumulating wrongs ; or, opposing force to force in defence of their natural rights, shall commit a just cause into the hands of the Almighty disposer of events ; avoiding all connections which might entangle it in the contests or views of other powers, and preserving a constant readiness to concur in an honorable re-establishment of peace and friendship, is a solemn question, which the constitution wisely confides to the le-

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legislative Department of the government. In recommending it to their early deliberations, I am happy in the assurance that the decision will be worthy the enlightened and patriotic councils of a virtuous, a free and a powerful nation.

"Having presented this view of the relations of the United States with Great Britain, and of the solemn alternative growing out of them, I proceed to remark, that the communications last made to Congress on the subject of our relations with France will have shown that since the revocation of her decrees as they violated the neutral rights of the United States, her government has authorised illegal captures, by its privateers and public ships, and that other outrages have been practised on our vessels and our citizens. It will have been seen also, that no indemnity had been provided, or satisfactorily pledged, for the extensive spoliations committed under the violent and retrospective orders of the French government against the property of our citizens seized within the jurisdiction of France. I abstain at this time from recommending to the consideration of Congress definitive measures with respect to that nation, in the expectation, that the result of unclosed discussions between our Minister Plenipotentiary at Paris and the French government will speedily enable Congress to decide, with greater advantage, on the course due to the rights, the interests, and the honour of our country.

JAMES MADISON."

On the 18th of June it was enacted by Congress, "That WAR be, and the same is hereby declared to exist between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the dependencies thereof, and the United States of America and their territories; and that the President of the United States be and is hereby authorised to use the whole land and naval force of the United States to carry the same into effect, and to issue to private armed vessels of the United States commissions or letters of marque and general reprisal, in such form as he shall think proper, and under the seal of the United States, against the vessels, goods, and effects of the government of the same United Kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, and the subjects thereof."

The declaration of war was announced on the day after its passage by Proclamation, of which the following is a copy :

By the President of the United States of America,
A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Congress of the United States, by virtue of the constituted authorities vested in them, have decided by their act, bearing date the eighteenth day of the present month, that War exist between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dependencies thereof, and the United States of America and their territories; Now, therefore, I JAMES MADISON, Presi-

dent of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the same to all whom it may concern ; and I do specially enjoin on all persons holding offices, civil or military, under the authority of the United States, that they be vigilant and zealous, in discharging the duties respectively incident thereto : And I do moreover exhort the good people of the United States, as they love their country ; as they value the precious heritage derived from the virtue and valor of their fathers : as they feel the wrongs which have forced on them the last resort of injured nations ; and as they consult the best means, under the blessing of Divine Providence, of abridging its calamities ; that they exert themselves in preserving order, in promoting concord, in maintaining the authority and the efficacy of the laws, and in supporting and invigorating all the measures which may be adopted by the constituted authorities, for obtaining a speedy, a just, and an honorable peace.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused (L. S.) the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents.

Done at the city of Washington, the nineteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and twelve, and of the Independence of the United States the thirty-sixth.

(Signed)

JAMES MADISON.

By the President,

JAMES MONROE, *Secretary of State.*

General Bloomfield, in his orders of the 20th June, as commander of the forts in the harbor of New-York, announced the declaration of war.

Commodore Rodgers immediately got under way, having under his command the frigates *President*, the *United States*, and *Congress*, the sloops *Hornet* and *Argus*. He was over the bar before 5 o'clock in the afternoon, and proceeded to sea in quest, as was supposed, of the British frigate *Belvidera*, and sloop of war *Tartarus*, which were, for some days, blockading that port and capturing our shipping. It is however probable that the enemy received such early notice of his intended fate as enabled him to effect a timely escape.

The Commodore, in an address to his crew, told them, the time had arrived when the country required their services—"If (said he) there are any of you unwilling to risk your lives with me, say so, and you shall be paid off and discharged." Every man huzza'd, and said they would stand or fall with their commodore.

First prisoner.—Before the declaration of war was known at Norfolk, in Virginia, a stranger, by the name of Wilkinson, had arrived in that town, and lodged at the British Consul's. He was understood to be a British officer, though habited as a private gen-

man. This circumstance was not noticed till the declaration of war was received, a few days after; when, as the mail-boat was about to depart for Hampton, he was observed making his way with uncommon speed and circumspection along the back street, which leads from the British Consul's to the wharf where the mail-boat lay, when he sprang on board, darted into the cabin, and in a few seconds the boat was under way. From his precipitate retreat some of the leading citizens were apprehensive he intended to communicate, without delay, the news of the war to a British man of war, known to be hovering on that coast. Two boats, one from the navy-yard, the other from fort Nelson, were immediately dispatched in pursuit of the mail-boat, which they overtook, and re-conducted Mr. Wilkinson to the navy-yard, as a prisoner of war. He was supposed to be a captain in the Royal Marines.

First prize.—On the 25th June arrived at Norfolk, the schooner Patriot, J. A. Brown, master, from Guadaloup, bound to Halifax with a valuable cargo of sugar, as prize to the revenue cutter Jefferson, Wm. Ham, master.

Naval force.—The following, at the commencement of the war, was a list of the naval force of the United States:

	<i>Rated.</i>	<i>Mounting.</i>	
Constitution,	44	58	Capt. Hull.
United States,	44	58	Decatur.
President,	44	58	Com. Rodgers.
Chesapeake,	36	44	Ordinary.
New-York,	36	44	do.
Constellation,	36	44	do.
Congress,	36	44	Capt. Smith.
Boston,	32		Ordinary.
Essex,	32		Capt. Porter.
Adams,	32		Ordinary.
CORVETTE.			
John Adams,	26		Capt. Ludlow.
SHIPS OF WAR.			
Wasp,	16	18	Capt. Jones.
Hornet,	16	18	Lawrence.
BRIGS.			
Siren,	16		Lieut. Caroll.
Argus,	16		Crane.
Oneida,	16		Com. Woolsey.
SCHOONERS.			
Vixen,	12		Lieut. Gadsden.
Nautilus,	12		Sinclair.
Enterprise,	12		Blakeley.
Viper,	12		Bainbridge.
170 GUN-BOATS, 20 at New-Orleans,			Capt. Shaw.

BOMBS.

Vengeance, } Ordinary. { Ætna,
Spitfire, } { Vesuvius.

Military force.—As preparatory to a state of war, Congress, by their act of the 10th of April, 1812, had authorized a detachment from the militia of the United States of 100,000 men, apportioned as follows :

New-Hampshire,	3,500	Maryland,	6,000
Massachusetts,	10,000	Virginia	12,000
Connecticut,	3,000	North-Carolina,	7,000
Rhode Island,	500	South-Carolina,	5,000
Vermont,	8,000	Georgia,	3,500
New-York,	13,500	Kentucky,	5,500
New-Jersey,	5,000	Ohio,	5,000
Pennsylvania,	14,000	Tennessee,	2,500
Delaware,	1,000		
			100,000

Instructions for private armed vessels.—Mr. Munroe, as Secretary of State, by command of the President, issued the following instructions to the captains and commanders of private armed vessels.

" 1. The tenure of your commission under the act of Congress, entitled " an act concerning letters of marque, prizes, and prize goods, a copy of which is hereto annexed, will be kept constantly in your view. The high seas referred to in your commission, you will understand, generally, to extend to low water mark ; but with the exception of the space within one league, or three miles, from the shore of countries at peace both with Great Britain and with the United States. You may nevertheless execute your commission within that distance of the shore of a nation at war with Great Britain, and even on the waters within the jurisdiction of such nation, if permitted so to do.

" 2. You are to pay the strictest regard to the rights of neutral powers, and the usages of civilized nations ; and in all your proceedings towards neutral vessels, you are to give them as little molestation or interruption as will consist with the right of ascertaining their neutral character, and of detaining and bringing them in for regular adjudication, in the proper case. You are particularly to avoid even the appearance of using force or seduction, with a view to deprive such vessels of their crews, or of their passengers, other than persons in the military service of the enemy.

" 3. Towards enemy's vessels and their crews, you are to proceed in exercising the rights of war, with all the justice and humanity which characterize the nation of which you are members.

" 4. The master and one or more of the principal persons belonging to captured vessels, are to be sent, as soon after the cap-

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ture as may be, to the judge or judges of the proper court in the United States, to be examined upon oath, touching the interest or property of the captured vessel, and her lading ; and at the same time are to be delivered to the judge or judges, all passes, charter parties, bills of lading, invoices, letters and other documents, and writings found on board ; the said papers to be proved by the affidavit of the commander of the capturing vessels, or some other person present at the capture, to be produced as they were received, without fraud, addition, subduction or embezzlement."

CHAPTER II.

Northwestern army.....General Hull.....his march.....advance into Canada.....his retreat, capitulation, surrender and trial.

In April, 1812, by virtue of a requisition from the President of the United States, Governor Meigs, of the state of Ohio, very promptly raised the 1200 men, required, and upon his own responsibility 300 more, all volunteers, and organized them into three regiments. Colonels M'Arthur, Cass, and Findly, by the election of the volunteers, received the command of them. The zeal of Gov. Meigs, and the ardor of his people, in a great measure supplied the deficiency of public arsenals. Dayton, on Mad river, one of the waters of the great Miami, 60 miles by land, and about 75 by water from its mouth, was the place of rendezvous of the volunteers. Here Gov. Meigs surrendered his command of them to Brigadier General Hull, appointed by the President to command them. Gov. Meigs, before he left the troops, in the name of the president, thanked them for their patriotism, encouraged their ardor, and gave them his own benedictions. Gen. Hull, among other things, observed to them, "In marching through a wilderness, memorable for savage barbarity, you will remember the causes by which that barbarity has been heretofore excited. In viewing the ground stained with the blood of your fellow citizens, it will be impossible to suppress the feelings of indignation. Passing by the ruins of a Fortress* erected in our territory in times of profound peace, and for the express purpose of exciting the savages to hostility and supplying them with the means of conducting a barbarous war, must remind you of that system of oppression and injustice, which that nation has

* Fort Miami, erected by the British in 1793 its ruins are to be seen on the left bank of the Miami of the lakes a little below Fort Meigs, which is situate on the right bank of the same river nearly opposite the rapids, and eighteen miles above its mouth.

constantly practiced, and which the spirit of an indignant people can no longer endure."

At the close of the General's speech the troops uncovered and gave six cheers, as a testimonial of respect for their beloved chief magistrate, and new commander.

On the 27th of May, Gen. Hull pitched his tent in camp Meigs, on the western bank of the river, when the United States flag was hoisted in a hollow square formed by the troops. Upon this occasion Col. Cass said,

"Fellow-Citizens.....the standard of your country is displayed. You have rallied around it to defend her rights and avenge her injuries. May it wave protection to our friends, and defiance to our enemies.....and, should it ever meet in the hostile field, I doubt not that the eagle of liberty which it bears will be found more than a match for the lion of England."

On the first of June, the fourth regiment, commanded by Col. Miller, having joined Gen. Hull, the army resumed its march for Detroit.

Governor Meigs had accompanied the army a few miles from Dayton to Urbana for the purpose of holding a council with twelve Indian chiefs, of the lake tribes. It was agreed to renew the treaty of Greenville. After smoking the calmut of peace, both parties called on the Great Spirit to witness the sincerity of their professions. *The Indians appeared unusually friendly*, and gave Gen. Hull permission to march through their country, and to erect block-houses every twenty miles, which he did.

From Urbana to the rapids of the Miami of the lakes is a distance of one hundred and fifty miles. The route of the army was through a thick and almost trackless forest. As there was a great number of baggage waggons attached to the army, it became necessary to open a new road the whole distance. The soil of the land was moist, being in many places a perfect swamp. The weather was rainy, and man and horse were compelled to travel mid leg deep in mud. Frequently the van had to halt for the rear, which was as often detained in its march, in relieving waggons and horses from the mire. Almost every officer and soldier have concurred in stating, that the march of the army from Dayton to Detroit was as rapid as was practicable, considering the natural obstacles to be overcome. Most of them, however, charge the General with a vain show of military parade, in passing small rivers. His plan of encampment, at night, was a hollow square, defended always by a temporary breast-work of felled trees. The troops received no annoyance from the enemy, on the march, if we except the wounding of a centinel, who was shot through the thighs. The army arrived at the rapids of the Miami of the lakes, 18 miles above the mouth of the river, on or about the 30th of June.

The Miami of the lake is described as a fine river, navigable for light vessels as far as the rapids. It is formed by the union of the St. Mary's and the St. Joseph's, at fort Wayne; thence it meanders through a rich level country, to fort Winchester, (lately fort Defiance) where it receives the Au Glaize from the south-east. Its general course is northeast: its banks are regular, high, but not abrupt; sloping gradually to the waters' edge, and covered with a beautiful, luxuriant verdure. The channel of the river from the rapids to within three miles of the bay, is composed of limestone rock, formed into regular strata, by parallel fissures, which sink perpendicularly into the rock, and run transversely across the river. The face of the bank, for ten or twelve feet above the water, is also composed of solid rock, and from its appearance, it is evident that the current has worn the channel many feet deeper than it was in former ages. The rich open interval, extending to the right and left as far as the eye can reach; the elevation of the bank; the beautiful Miami flowing rapidly through the centre of the valley, the declivities of the surrounding hills, here and there adorned with clusters of honey locust, plum trees, and hawthorn, clad with the wide spreading grape vine, present at once a romantic and interesting scenery. The quantity of fish, of an excellent quality, at the head of the rapids, is almost incredible. So numerous are they at this place, that a spear thrown into the water at random will rarely miss one. Several hundreds of them have been taken in a few hours. The soldiers of the Fort used to kill them in great quantities, with clubs and stones. The river, swan creek, and the shoals of the bay swarm with ducks, geese, and other water fowl. The woods are filled with deer, elk, and wild turkeys.

The whole length of the rapids, on both sides of the river, will unquestionably, at no remote period, be lined with mills and various manufactories. The favorable circumstances of the situation, the water, and a very extensive navigation will invite the enterprising. Cotton, in any quantity, may be procured from Tennessee, subject to a land carriage of not more than twenty miles. This place affords a beautiful site for a town, and there is little doubt, but that in a short time there will be a flourishing village where fort Meigs now stands. Before the war there was a flourishing French settlement on the river, extending for several miles above and below the town. The usual yield of corn is 80 bushels to the acre. There was also a small settlement on Swan Creek, on the Michigan side, which falls into the Miami, seven miles below the fort. Within three miles, below the fort, are several beautiful islands; the largest of which contains 500 acres, and has been cultivated. The river Raisin is by land 34 miles northwardly, from fort Meigs.

The Miami river falls into Miami bay, which, like that of Sandusky is about 15 miles long, and 12 wide. Vessels of 70 tons burthen can pass the bar, at its interval. Within the bason of the bay grow several thousand acres of *folle avoine*, (wild oats.) It grows in about 7 feet water; the stalks near the roots, are about an inch in diameter, and grow to the height of ten feet; its leaves above the surface of the water are like the reed cane. In other respects it resembles the common oat stalks, excepting its size and kernel, which is of the nature of rice, and of which the French people make free use in their favorite soup. Its yield is very abundant, being half a pint at least from every stalk. This valuable aquatic grain is found at the mouths of all the rivers which fall into the lakes west of Sandusky, as far as the south end of lake Michigan, and is the chief subsistence of the prodigious number of water-fowl, which are found on these waters.

On the 1st July Gen. Hull dispatched from fort Meigs, at the foot of the rapids of the Miami of the lake, a schooner and a boat, to convey to Detroit the sick and the baggage of the army. On board the schooner were 30 persons, among whom were pay-master Lewis Dent, Capt. Short of Marietta, a Lieut. of the 4th regiment, and three of the officers' wives, the General's baggage, and that of most of the officers of the army, all the hospital stores, and a trunk containing the official and confidential papers of the General. The boat was laden with sick. The schooner and boat were ordered to sail in company, but the schooner passed the boat the first night, and by some untoward fatality, which seems constantly to have attended this army, the schooner sailed on the British side of the Bois-blanc island. The enemy's armed brig Hunter bore down upon her, and she was also pursued by a bateau from Malden, filled with armed men. Unconscious of the war, opposite fort Malden, at 10 o'clock the next day, the schooner became an easy prize. Two of the ladies were sent to Detroit, the other remained with her husband, at Malden.

The same day, in the evening, the boat passed Malden up a different channel, unmolested by the British, but harrassed by the Indians that night. On the 3d, at three o'clock in the afternoon, the boat arrived at Detroit, and its crew first knew that war was declared.

The town of Detroit has been thus described: "It is situated on the western bank of the strait, nine miles below lake St. Clair and eighteen above Brownstown. The town contains about two hundred houses, which are inhabited by more than one thousand two hundred souls: under one roof are often crowded several families. The town stands contiguous to the river, on the top of the bank, which is here about twenty feet high. There are several wooden wharves extending into the river upwards of one hundred feet, for the accommodation of the shipping: the largest

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was built by the United States, and is found very convenient for the unloading of vessels. The principal streets run parallel with the river, and are intersected by cross streets at right angles. They are wide, but not being paved, are extremely muddy in wet weather ; but for the accommodation of passengers, there are foot ways in most of them, formed of square logs. Every house has a garden attached to it ; the buildings are mostly framed, though there are several elegant stone and brick buildings. Before the great fire in 1806, the town was surrounded by a strong stockade, through which there were four gates ; two of them open to the wharves, the others to the land : this defence was intended to repel the attacks of the Indians.

" The fort stands on a rise of ground two hundred yards in the rear of the town ; the fortifications consist of a stockade of cedar pickets, with bastions of earth ; near the foot of the ditch is a row of short sharp pickets, inclining outwards.....thirty pieces of cannon can be mounted on the ramparts ; the fort covers about an acre and an half of ground.

" The proximity of one house to another, from lake St. Clair to the river Rouge, gives the street the resemblance of the suburbs of a great town. The farms are only twenty rods wide on the river, and extend back one mile and a quarter : the same of those on the other rivers, as well as those on the British side. The country round Detroit is very much cleared. The inhabitants have to draw their wood a mile and a half, from the United States' lands, in the rear of the town. It sells in market for three dollars a cord ; almost every farm has an orchard : apples, pears, and peaches do well.....several hundred barrels of cider are annually made, and sell as high as six dollars a barrel. The land rises gradually from the river to the distance of three hundred yards : then it recedes, till the country becomes low and level, and continues so for four or five miles, when it rises by degrees, and at this distance is represented as first rate land.

" The United States have a long elegant brick store at the water's edge, near the public warf.....this is completely filled with the spoils of the enemy taken on the Thames, and the arms of the volunteers. This building is 80 feet long, and 30 wide, and three stories high.

" The streets of Detroit are generally crowded with Indians of various tribes, who collect here to sell their skins.

" The inhabitants are plentifully supplied with many kinds of excellent fish.....the white bass, nearly as large as a shad, are caught with seines, and in great quantities. The population is three-fourths of French extraction, and very few understand any other language. They are excessively fond of music and dancing. There is a kind of nunnery, a Roman chapel for devotion

and singing : a wretched printing office, in which religious French books are printed in a rude style. Learning is almost wholly neglected."

"The village of Sandwich lies opposite Detroit, about one and a half miles below Detroit garrison, and is situated on the bank of Detroit river. The country is settled along the river from lake St. Clair (ten miles above Sandwich) to Malden or Amherstburg, sixteen miles below. This part of the country is handsomely situated : the land good and unbroken, with excellent roads. Fort Malden is situated on a point of land at the mouth of Detroit river, and commands a view of lake Erie and the main channel of the river. (Here were built most of the king's armed vessels for lakes Erie and Huron.) It is a port of considerable importance, and it is believed the only fortification place between fort St. Joseph's, near the mouth of St. Mary's river, (outlet of lake Superior) and fort Erie. There is also a considerable settlement on the river of Thames, which empties into lake St. Clair, from the northeast, about 30 or 36 miles above Sandwich, composed principally of persons who have fled from the United States to escape justice. There are several settlements on the north side of lake Erie, but none of any importance except those about Long Point.

"The land from Detroit to lake Erie, (on the American side) along Detroit river, is low and marshy, and mostly uninhabited. There are several islands in Detroit river, some of which are inhabited.

"The distance from Detroit through Canada (from Sandwich to fort Erie) must be about 300 miles. The roads are tolerable, though the country is new. Formerly people travelling from Detroit to the eastern states, went this route in preference to going on the south side of lake Erie.

"A considerable proportion of the inhabitants opposite Detroit are French; with some English, Scotch, Irish, &c."

The army had arrived at Springwells, otherwise Bellefontaine, 3 miles below Detroit, on the 5th of July. On the 6th or 7th the whole army marched through Detroit in the morning, and returned in the afternoon.....on the same day marched from Springwells—on the 8th or 9th marched with baggage and camp equipage, and encamped in the rear of the town of Detroit, and there remained until the 12th, when the whole army crossed into Canada. As it approached Sandwich, the peasantry there fled, and General Hull here erected the standard of the United States amid his troops of more than 2000 men, and issued the following proclamation :

"Inhabitants of Canada !.....After thirty years of peace and prosperity, the United States have been driven to arms. The in-

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juries and aggressions, the insults and indignities of Great Britain have once more left them no alternative but manly resistance, or unconditional submission. The army under my command has invaded your country : the standard of the Union now waves over the territory of Canada. To the peaceable unoffending inhabitants, it brings neither danger nor difficulty. I come to find enemies, not to make them. I come to protect, not to injure you.

"Separated by an immense ocean and an extensive wilderness from Great Britain, you have no participation in her councils; no interest in her conduct. You have felt her tyranny, you have seen her injustice. But I do not ask you to avenge the one, or to redress the other. The United States are sufficiently powerful to afford every security consistent with their rights, and your expectations. I tender you the invaluable blessings of civil, political, and religious liberty, and their necessary result, individual and general prosperity ; that liberty which gave decision to our councils and energy to our conduct in a struggle for independence..... which conducted us safely and triumphantly through the stormy period of the revolution.....the liberty which raised us to an elevated rank among the nations of the world ; and which afforded us a greater measure of peace and security, of wealth and improvement, than ever fell to the lot of any people. In the name of my country, and the authority of government, I promise you protection to your persons, property and rights : remain at your homes ; pursue your peaceful and accustomary avocations ; raise not your hands against your brethren. Many of your fathers fought for the freedom and independence we now enjoy. Being children, therefore, of the same family with us, and heirs to the same heritage, the arrival of an army of friends must be hailed by you with a cordial welcome. You will be emancipated from tyranny and oppression, and restored to the dignified station of freedom. Had I any doubt of eventual success, I might ask your assistance ; but I do not. I come prepared for every contingency. I have a force which will break down all opposition, and that force is but the vanguard of a much greater.....If, contrary to your own interest, and the just expectation of my country, you should take part in the approaching contest, you will be considered as enemies, and the horrors and calamities of war will stalk before you. If the barbarous and savage policy of Great Britain be pursued, and the savages let loose to murder our citizens, and butcher our women and children, this war will be a war of extermination. The first stroke of the tomahawk.....the first attempt with the scalping knife, will be the signal of one indiscriminate scene of desolation. No white man found fighting by the side of an Indian will be taken prisoner.....instant death will be his lot. If the dictates of reason, duty, justice and humanity cannot prevent the employment of a force which respects no

rights, and knows no wrong, it will be prevented by a severe and relentless system of retaliation. I doubt not your courage and firmness.....I will not doubt your attachment to liberty. If you tender your services voluntarily, they will be accepted readily. The United States offer you peace, liberty, and security. Your choice lies between these, and war, slavery and destruction. Choose then, but choose wisely; and may he who knows the justice of our cause, and who holds in his hand the fate of nations, guide you to the result the most compatible with your rights and interests, your peace and happiness."

Such, however, was the eventual influence of Gen. Hull's proclamation, that the greater part of the Canadian militia, in that vicinity, having at his approach fled to swamps, morasses, and forests, yet afterwards having acquired confidence that they were to enjoy protection, deserted their allegiance and many of them united under the American standard. The Indians there seemed, as usual, to await the display, and the certainty of superior power, that at last they might be found with the conquerors.

The American troops, impatient to march into Malden, and irritated from delay, soon ceased to conceal their ardor from their general.....he was insulted to his face.

Col. M'Arthur was detached with about 150 men to the river Thames,* otherwise La Trenche, which discharges its waters into lake St. Clair, about 9 miles above, and E. N. E. from Detroit, where, unopposed, he captured a considerable quantity of provision, blankets, arms, and ammunition. Another detachment, without obstruction, captured some hundreds of merino sheep, reputed to be of the property of the Earl of Selkirk.

Col. Cass was, on the 15th of July, detached with 280 men to reconnoitre the enemy's advanced posts. A bridge over Aux Canards, otherwise duck river, 5 miles above Amherstburg, was found occupied by the enemy. The colonel having examined the enemy's position, ascended the river five miles to a ford, thence descended on the south side of the river, and on the 17th attacked and drove him. This is recorded as the first time since the revolutionary war, that American militia had fought British regulars. Our men attacked with great spirit. Three times the enemy formed, and as often retreated. Night compelled our troops to relinquish the pursuit. They encamped, during the night, on the ground where they had fought. Col. Cass, the next day, led them unmolested, to the American camp. The enemy must have feared to renew the conflict. He could not have confided in his force, or fort Malden, a principal depository, in this quarter, of

* This river, in Canada, is a fine stream, navigable for vessels of considerable burden, after the passage of the bar at its mouth, over which there is generally seven feet of water. The gun boats ascended 12 miles from its mouth.

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men and munitions of war, and within five miles, as Col. Cass would have disturbed his repose. Col. Cass, as a luminous body, shone from behind the cloud which hung in the west. He marked its confines, while his brightness displayed the adjacent darkness with greater horrors. Other small detachments were afterwards occasionally sent to the river Aux Canards, further to discover the force of the enemy, and the position and strength of his works. Hence there was frequent skirmishing in the vicinity of fort Malden. The Americans at one time had seven men killed, and ten wounded. A horse of Col. M'Arthur was shot under him. The Queen Charlotte, at anchor off the mouth of Aux Canards, fired several broadsides at our troops. On one of these reconnoitering excursions Col. M'Arthur and Capt. Puthoff very narrowly escaped an ambush of the Indians.

On the 4th of Aug. Maj. Van Horne, with 200 men, principally riflemen, was detached to march to the river Rasin, to escort a convoy of provisions to the army. At Brownstown, nearly opposite fort Malden, and near the mouth of the river Rasin, a large body of Indians had ambushed, and, at the short distance of fifty yards, fired upon this detachment, which was thrown into disorder, and thus retreated. Major Van Horne attempted, but in vain, to rally them. He lost seventeen of his party, of whom four were captains, and three lieutenants.

This attempt having been unfortunate in its result, Col. Miller, on the 8th of Aug. with 600 men, was sent to protect the same provisions in transportation, under the insufficient escort of Capt. Brush. This detachment was composed of regular troops, and of volunteer militia from Ohio and Michigan.

On the 9th, about 4 o'clock, P. M. the vanguard, commanded by Capt. Snelling, was fired upon by an extensive line of British troops and Indians, at the lower end of the village of Magaugo, 14 miles from Detroit. At this time the main body were marching in two columns, at the distance of half a mile. Capt. Snelling maintained his position in a most gallant manner, under a very heavy fire, until the line was formed and advanced to his relief, when the whole, except the rear guard, was brought into action. The enemy were formed behind a breast-work of felled trees, which they had been, during several days preparing. The moment Col. Miller had brought up his troops in line, the enemy sprung from their hiding places, and formed in line of battle. A scene that would appal the stoutest heart now presented itself. The Americans had to contend with a force one third greater than their own. Five hundred Indians almost entirely naked, were fighting on almost every side, led on and encouraged by British officers and savage chiefs.

But American valour rose superior to every thing. Our troops charged and drove the enemy inch by inch, two miles, to the village of Brownstown, where the British took to their boats, and the In-

dians to the woods. When the enemy were in full rout, Col. Miller directed a troop of cavalry to charge and cut them up.... but they could not be made to advance, although Capt. Snelling offered to head them in person. This cowardice of the cavalry alone saved the enemy from total destruction, for the British were in complete disorder, and their guns unloaded.

Col. Miller having thus opened the way, was determined to push on to the river Raisin, but received a preremptory order from Gen. Hull to return to Detroit, which he obeyed the day after the battle. On their return towards Detroit, our troops were frequently fired upon from the brig Hunter, which took several positions for that purpose; even the wounded who were conveyed in wag-gons, were inhumanely fired upon.

The allies lost in the battle of Magaugo, about 100 killed and twice that number wounded. They were commanded by Maj. Muir of the British regulars, who was wounded. Tecumseh, Marpot, and Walk-in-the-water, directed the Indians.

The Americans had 18 killed, and 58 wounded: thus was much blood spilt without achieving the object of the detachment. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the officers and men generally, engaged in that conflict. Col. Miller proved himself by his courage and judicious arrangements, equal to a more responsible command. Capt. Baker was wounded in the leg. Lieut. Larabee lost an arm. These officers distinguished themselves. Capts. Delandre and Brevoort, of the Michigan volunteers conducted in a brave and soldier-like manner.

On the 8th of Aug. Gen. Hull retreated from Canada to Detroit: on the 15th he was challenged by Gen. Brock to surrender, and on the 16th he surrendered himself, his army, fort Detroit, and the Michigan Territory, according to the articles of capitulation....and under the circumstances detailed in his letters, and that of Col. (now Gen.) Cass, all which, as public documents, are here subjoined.

CAPITULATION.

Article 1st. Fort Detroit, with all the troops, regulars as well as militia, will be immediately surrendered to the British forces under the command of Maj. Gen. Brock, and will be considered prisoners of war, with the exception of such of the militia of the Michigan territory, as have not joined the army.

Article 2d. All public stores, arms and public documents, including every thing also of a public nature, will be immediately given up.

Article 3d. Private property and private persons of every description will be respected.

Article 4th. His excellency Brig. Gen. Hull having expressed a desire that a detachment from the state of Ohio on its way to

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join his army, as well as one sent from fort Detroit, under the command of Col. McArthur, should be included in the above stipulation, it is accordingly agreed to. It is however to be understood, that such parts of the Ohio militia as have not joined the army, will be permitted to return home, on condition that they will not serve during the war.....their arms, however, will be delivered up, if belonging to the public.

Article 5th. The garrison will march out at the hour of 12 o'clock this day, and the British forces take immediate possession of the fort.

J. McDOWELL, Lt. Col. Militia B. A. D. C.

J. B. CRAIG, Maj. A. D. C.

APPROVED. WILLIAM HULL, Brig. Gen.

Commanding the N. W. army.

JAMES MILLER, Lt. Col.

5th U. S. Infantry.

E. BRUSH, Col. 1st Reg.

Michigan Militia.

APPROVED. ISAAC BROCK, Maj. Gen.

The army at 12 o'clock this day will march out of the east gate, where they will stack their arms and will be then subject to the articles of capitulation.

WM. HULL, Brig. Gen.

Commanding N. W. army.

(Capitulation herewith published.)

An article supplementary to the articles of capitulation concluded at Detroit, 16th August, 1812.

It is agreed that the officers and soldiers of the Ohio militia and volunteers shall be permitted to proceed to their respective homes, on this condition, that they are not to serve during the present war, unless they are exchanged.

(Signed)

W. HULL, Brig. Gen.

Commanding N. W. army.

ISAAC BROCK, Maj. Gen.

An article in addition to the supplementary article of the capitulation concluded at Detroit, 16th Aug. 1812.

It is further agreed that the officers and soldiers of the Michigan militia and volunteers, under the command of Major Wetherell, shall be placed on the same principles as the Ohio volunteers and militia are placed by the supplementary article of the 16th inst.

(Signed)

W. HULL, B.ig. Gen.

Commanding N. W. army U. S.

ISAAC BROCK, Maj. Gen.

GEN. HULL'S LETTERS.

Fort George, Aug. 26, 1812.

SIR.....Enclosed are the articles of capitulation, by which the fort of Detroit has been surrendered to Major Gen. Brock, command-

ing his Britannic majesty's forces in Upper Canada, and by which the troops have become prisoners of war. My situation at present forbids me from detailing the particular causes which have led to this unfortunate event. I will, however, generally observe, that after the surrender of Michillimackinac, almost every tribe and nation of Indians, excepting a part of the Miamies and Delawares, north from beyond lake Superior, west from beyond the Mississippi, south from the Ohio and Wabash, and east from every part of Upper Canada, and from all the intermediate country, joined in open hostility under the British standard, against the army I commanded, contrary to the most solemn assurances of a large portion of them to remain neutral; even the Ottawa chiefs from Arbecrotch, who formed the delegation to Washington the last summer, in whose friendship I know you had great confidence, are among the hostile tribes, and several of them distinguished leaders. Among the vast number of chiefs who led the hostile bands, Tecumseh, Marpot, Logan, Walk-in-the-water, Split-log, &c. are considered the principals. This numerous assemblage of savages, under the entire influence and direction of the British commander, enabled him totally to obstruct the only communication which I had with my country. This communication had been opened from the settlements in the state of Ohio, two hundred miles through a wilderness, by the fatigues of the army which I marched to the frontier on the river Detroit. The body of the lake being commanded by the British armed ships, and the shores and rivers by gun-boats, the army was totally deprived of all communication by water. On this extensive road is depended for transportation of provisions, military stores, medicine, clothing, and every other supply, on pack-horses.....All its operations were successful until its arrival at Detroit, and in a few days it passed into the enemy's country, and all opposition seemed to fall before it. One month it remained in possession of this country, and was fed from its resources. In different directions detachments penetrated sixty miles in the settled part of the province, and the inhabitants seemed satisfied with the change of situation, which appeared to be taking place.....the militia from Amherstburg were daily deserting, and the whole country, then under the controul of the army, was asking for protection. The Indians generally, in the first instance, appeared to be neutralized, and determined to take no part in the contest. The fort of Amherstburg was eighteen miles below my encampment. Not a single cannon or mortar was on wheels suitable to carry before that place. I consulted my officers, whether it was expedient to make an attempt on it with the bayonet alone, without cannon to make a breach in the first instance. The council I called was of the opinion it was not.....The greatest industry was exerted in making preparation, and it was not until the 7th of Aug. that two

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24-pounders; and three howitzers were prepared: It was then my intention to have proceeded on the enterprize. While the operations of the army were delayed by these preparations, the clouds of adversity had been for some time, and seemed still thickly to be gathering around me. The surrender of Michillimackinac opened the northern hive of Indians, and they were swarming down in every direction. Reinforcements from Niagara had arrived at Amherstburg under the command of Colonel Proctor. The desertion of the militia ceased. Besides the reinforcements that came by water, I received information of a very considerable force under the command of Maj. Chambers, on the river Le French, with four field-pieces, and collecting the militia on his route, evidently designed for Amherstburg; and in addition to this combination, and increase of force, contrary to all my expectations, the Wyandots, Chippewas, Ottawas, Pottawatomies, Munsees, Delawares, &c. with whom I had the most friendly intercourse, at once passed over to Amherstburg, and accepted the tomabawk and scalping knife. There being now a vast number of Indians at the British post, they were sent to the river Huron, Brownstown, and Magaugo, to intercept my communication. To open this communication, I detached Maj. Vanhorne, of the Ohio volunteers, with two hundred men to proceed as far as the river Rasin, under an expectation he would meet Captain Brush, with one hundred and fifty men, volunteers from the state of Ohio, and a quantity of provision for the army. An ambuscade was formed at Brownstown, and Maj. Vanhorne's detachment defeated, and returned to camp without effecting the object of the expedition.

In my letter of the 7th inst. you have the particulars of that transaction with a return of the killed and wounded. Under this sudden and unexpected change of things, and having received an express from Gen. Hall, commanding opposite the British shore on the Niagara river, by which it appeared that there was no prospect of any co-operation from that quarter, and the two senior officers of the artillery having stated to me an opinion that it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible to pass the Turkey river and river Aux Cannard, with the 24 pounders, and that they could not be transported by water, as the Queen Charlotte, which carried eighteen 24 pounders, lay in the river Detroit above the mouth of the river Aux Cannard: and as it appeared indispensably necessary to open the communication to the river Rasin and the Miami, I found myself compelled to suspend the operation against Amherstburg, and concentrate the main force of the army at Detroit. Fully intending at that time, after the communication was opened, to re-cross the river, and pursue the object at Amherstburg, and strongly desirous of continuing protection to a

very large number of the inhabitants of Upper Canada, who had voluntarily accepted it under my proclamation, I established a fortress on the banks of the river, a little below Detroit, calculated for a garrison of three hundred men.

On the evening of the 7th, and morning of the 8th inst. the army, excepting the garrison of 250 infantry, and a corps of artilleryists, all under the command of Maj. Denney, of the Ohio volunteers, recrossed the river, and encamped at Detroit. In pursuance of the object of opening the communication, on which I considered the existence of the army depending, a detachment of 600 men, under the command of Lieut. Col. Miller, was immediately ordered.

For a particular account of the proceedings of this detachment, and the memorable battle which was fought at Magaugo, which reflects the highest honour on the American arms, I refer you to my letter of the 13th of Aug. inst. a duplicate of which is enclosed, marked G. Nothing, however, but honour was acquired by this victory; and it is a painful consideration, that the blood of 75 gallant men could only open the communication, as far as the points of their bayonets extended. The necessary care of the sick and wounded, and a very severe storm of rain, rendered their return to camp indispensably necessary for their own comfort. Captain Brush, with his small detachment, and the provisions being still at the river Rasin, and in a situation to be destroyed by the savages, on the 13th inst. in the evening, I permitted Cols. M'Arthur and Cass to select from their regiment 400 of their most effective men, and proceed on an upper route through the woods, which I had sent an express to Capt. Brush to take, and had directed the militia of the river Rasin to accompany him as a reinforcement. The force of the enemy continually increasing, and the necessity of opening the communication, and acting on the defensive becoming more apparent, I had, previous to detaching Cols. M'Arthur and Cass on the 11th inst. evacuated and destroyed the fort on the opposite bank. On the 13th, in the evening, Gen. Brock arrived at Amherstburg, about the hour Cols. M'Arthur and Cass marched, of which, at that time, I had received no information.

On the 15th I received a summons from him to surrender fort Detroit, of which the paper marked A is a copy. My answer is marked B. At this time I had received no information from Cols. M'Arthur and Cass. An express was immediately sent, strongly escorted, with orders for them to return. On the 15th, as soon as Gen. Brock received my letter, his batteries opened on the town and fort, and continued until evening. In the evening all the British ships of war came nearly as far up the river as Sandwich, three miles below Detroit. At day light, on the 16th, (at which time I had received no information from Cols. M'Arthur

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and Cass, my expresses sent the evening before, and in the night, having been prevented from passing by numerous bodies of Indians) the cannonade recommenced, and in a short time I received information that the British army and Indians were landing below the Spring-wells, under the cover of their ships of war. At this time the whole effective force at my disposal at Detroit, did not exceed eight hundred men. Being new troops, and unaccustomed to a camp life : having performed a laborious march ; having been engaged in a number of battles and skirmishes, in which many had fallen, and more had received wounds, in addition to which a large number being sick and unprovided with medicine, and the comforts necessary for their situation ; are the general causes by which the strength of the army was thus reduced. The fort at this time was filled with women, children, and the old and decrepid people of the town and country ; they were unsafe in the town, as it was entirely open and exposed to the enemy's batteries. Back of the fort, above or below it, there was no safety for them on account of the Indians. In the first instance the enemy's fire was principally directed against our batteries ; towards the close, it was directed against the fort alone, and almost every shot and shell had their effect.

It now became necessary either to fight the enemy in the field ; collect the whole force in the fort ; or propose terms of capitulation. I could not have carried into the field more than six hundred men, and left any adequate force in the fort. There were landed at that time of the enemy a regular force of much more than that number, and twice the number of Indians. Considering this great inequality of force, I did not think it expedient to adopt the first measure. The second must have been attended with a great sacrifice of blood, and no possible advantage, because the contest could not have been sustained more than a day for the want of powder, and but a very few days for the want of provisions. In addition to this, Cols. M'Arthur and Cass would have been in a most hazardous situation. I feared nothing but the last alternative. I have dared to adopt it.....I well know the high responsibility of the measure, and I take the whole of it on myself. It was dictated by a sense of duty, and a full conviction of its expediency. The bands of savages which had then joined the British force were numerous beyond any former example. Their numbers have since increased, and the history of the barbarians of the north of Europe does not furnish examples of more greedy violence than these savages have exhibited. A large portion of the brave and gallant officers and men I commanded would cheerfully have contested until the last cartridge had been expended, and the bayonets worn to the sockets. I could not consent to the useless sacrifice of such brave men, when I knew it was impossible for

me to sustain my situation. It was impossible in the nature of things that an army could have been furnished with the necessary supplies of provision, military stores, clothing, and comforts for the sick, on pack-horses, through a wilderness of two hundred miles, filled with hostile savages. It was impossible, sir, that this little army, worn down by fatigue, by sickness, by wounds, and deaths, could have supported itself, not only against the collected force of all the northern nations of Indians ; but against the united strength of Upper Canada, whose population consists of more than twenty times the number contained in the territory of Michigan, aided by the principal part of the regular forces of the provinces and the wealth and influence of the North West and other trading establishments among the Indians, which have in their employment and under their entire controul more than two thousand white men. Before I close this despatch, it is a duty I owe my respectable associates in command, Cols. M'Arthur, Findly, Cass, and Lt. Col. Miller, to express my obligations to them for the prompt and judicious manner in which they have performed their respective duties. If ought has taken place during the campaign, which is honourable to the army, these officers are entitled to a large share of it. If the last act should be disapproved, no part of the censure belongs to them. I have likewise to express my obligations to Gen. Taylor, who has performed the duty of quarter-master-general, for his great exertions in procuring every thing in his department which it was possible to furnish for the convenience of the army ; likewise to brigade major Jessup, for the correct and punctual manner in which he has discharged his duty ; and to the army generally for their exertion, and the zeal they have manifested for the public interest. The death of Dr. Foster, soon after he arrived at Detroit, was a severe misfortune to the army ; it was increased by the capture of the Chachaga packet, by which the medicine and hospital stores were lost. He was commencing the best arrangements in the department of which he was the principal, with the very small means which he possessed. I was likewise deprived of the necessary services of Capt. Partridge by sickness, the only officer of the corps of engineers attached to the army.

All the officers and men have gone to their respective homes, except the fourth United States' regiment, and a small part of the first, and Capt. Dyson's company of artillery. Capt. D's company was left at Amherstburg, and the others are with me prisoners.....they amount to about 340.

I have only to solicit an investigation of my conduct, as early as my situation, and the state of things will admit ; and to add the further request, that the government will not be unmindful of my associates in captivity, and of the families of those brave men who have fallen in the contest.

I have the honour to be very respectfully, your most obedient servant.

W. HULL, Brig. Gen.

commanding the North Western army of the U. States.

Hon. W. EUSTIS, Secretary of the Department of war.

The following are the letters alluded to in the preceding dispatch.

Sandwich, 7th Aug. 1812.

SIR.....On the 4th inst. Maj. Van Horne, of Col. Findley's Regiment of Ohio Volunteers was detached from this army, with the command of 200 men, principally riflemen, to proceed to the river Rasin, and further, if necessary, to meet and reinforce Capt. Brush, of the state of Ohio, commanding a company of volunteers, and escorting provisions for this army. At Brownstown a large body of Indians had formed an ambuscade, and the Major's detachment received a heavy fire, at a distance of fifty yards from the enemy. The whole detachment retreated in disorder. Maj. Van Horne made every exertion to form, and prevent the retreat, that was possible for a brave and gallant officer, but without success. By the return of killed and wounded it will be perceived that the loss of officers was uncommonly great. Their efforts to rally their companies was the occasion of it.

I am very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. HULL.

Hon. WM. EUSTIS, Sec. &c. &c. &c.

Report of killed in Maj. Van Horn's defeat.

Captains....Gilchrist, Ullery, McCallough, of the spies, Boerstler severely wounded, and not expected to recover (since dead) 4

Lieutenant Pentz, 1

Ensigns.....Roby and Alliston, 2

Ten privates 10

Number of wounded as yet unknown.

Total loss 17

Detroit, 13th Aug. 1812.

SIR.....The main body of the army having re-crossed the river Detroit, on the night and morning of the 8th inst. six hundred men were immediately detached under the command of Lieut. Col. Miller, to open the communication to the river Rasin; and protect the provisions, which were under the escort of Capt. Brush. This detachment consisted of the 4th United States' regiment, and two small detachments under the command of Lieut. Stansbury and Ensign M'Labe of the 1st regiment: detachments from the Ohio and Michigan volunteers, a corps of artilleryists, with one six pounder and a howitzer, under the command of Lieut. East-

man, and a part of Captains Smith and Sloan's cavalry, commanded by Capt. Sloan, of the Ohio volunteers.

Lieutenant Col. Miller marched from Detroit on the afternoon of the 8th instant, and on the 9th, about four o'clock, P. M. the van guard commanded by Capt. Snelling of the 4th United States' regiment, was fired on by an extensive line of British troops and Indians at the lower part of the Maguago, about fourteen miles from Detroit. At this time the main body was marching in two columns, and Capt. Snelling maintained his position in a most gallant manner, under a very heavy fire, until the line was formed and advanced to the ground he occupied, when the whole, excepting the rear guard, was brought into action. The enemy were formed behind a temporary breast-work of logs, the Indians extending in a thick wood on their left.

Lieutenant Colonel Miller ordered his whole line to advance, and when within a small distance of the enemy made a general discharge, and proceeded with charged bayonets, when the British line and Indians commenced a retreat. They were pursued in a most vigorous manner about two miles, and pursuit discontinued only on account of the fatigue of the troops, the approach of evening, and the necessity of returning to take care of the wounded. The judicious arrangements made by Lieut. Col. Miller, and the gallant manner in which they were executed, justly entitle him to the highest honour. From the moment the line commenced the fire, it continually moved on, and the enemy maintained their position until forced at the point of the bayonet.... The Indians on the left, under the command of Tecumseh, fought with great obstinacy, but were continually forced and compelled to retreat. The victory was complete in every part of the line, and the success would have been more brilliant had the cavalry charged the enemy on the retreat, when a most favourable opportunity presented. Although orders were given for the purpose, unfortunately they were not executed. Majors Van Horne and Morrison, of the Ohio volunteers, were associated with Lieut. Col. Miller, as field officers in this command, and were highly distinguished by their exertions in forming the line, and the firm and intrepid manner they led their respective commands to action.

Captain Baker of the first United States' regiment, Capt. Brevort of the 2d, and Capt. Hull of the 13th, my aid-de-camp, and Lieut. Whistler of the 1st, requested permission to join the detachment as volunteers. Lieut. Col. Miller assigned commands to Capt. Baker and Lieut. Whistler : Capts. Brevort and Hull, at his request, attended his person and aided him in the general engagements. Lieut. Col. Miller has mentioned the conduct of these officers in terms of high approbation. In addition to the captains

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who have been named, Lieut. Col. Miller has mentioned Captains Burton and Fuller of the 4th regiment, Captains Saunders and Brown of the Ohio volunteers, and Capt. Delandre of the Michigan volunteers, who were attached to his command—and distinguished by their valour. It is impossible for me, in this communication, to do justice to the officers and soldiers, who gained the victory which I have described. They have acquired high honour to themselves and are justly entitled to the gratitude of their country.

Maj. Muir, of the 41st British regiment, commanded the British in this action. The regulars and volunteers consisted of about four hundred, and a larger number of Indians. Maj. Muir and two subalterns were wounded, one of them since dead. About forty Indians were found dead on the field, and Tecumseh their leader was slightly wounded. The number of wounded Indians who escaped has not been ascertained. Four of Maj. Muir's detachment have been made prisoners, and 15 of the 41st regiment killed and wounded. The militia and volunteers attached to his command were in the severest part of the action, and their loss must have been great.....it has not yet been ascertained.

I have the honour to be, your most obedient servant,

W. HULL, Brig. Gen.

Commanding N. W. army.

Hon. WM. EUSTIS, Secretary of War.

*Return of killed and wounded in the action fought near Ma-
guago, Aug. 9th, 1812.*

4th United States' regiment.....10 non-commissioned officers and privates killed, and 45 wounded : Capt. Baker of the 1st regiment of infantry : Lieut. Larabee of the 4th ; Lieut. Peters of the 4th : Ensign Whistler of the 17th, doing duty in the 4th : Lieut. Silly, and an Ensign, whose name has not been returned to me, were wounded.

In the Ohio and Michigan volunteers 8 were killed, and 12 wounded.

WM. HULL.

COLONEL CASS' LETTER.

Washington, Sept. 10th, 1812.

SIR.....Having been ordered on to this place by Col. M^rArthur, for the purpose of communicating to the government such particulars respecting the expedition lately commanded by Brigadier Gen. Hull, and its disastrous result, as might enable them correctly to appreciate the conduct of the officers and men ; and to develope the causes which produced so foul a stain upon the national character, I have the honour to submit for your consideration the following statement :

When the forces landed in Canada, they landed with an ardent zeal, and stimulated with the hope of conquest. No enemy appeared within view of us, and had an immediate and vigorous attack been made upon Malden, it would doubtless have fallen an easy victory. I know Gen. Hull afterwards declared he regretted this attack had not been made, and he had every reason to believe success would have crowned his efforts..... The reason given for delaying our operations were to mount our heavy cannon, and to afford the Canadian militia time and opportunity to quit an obnoxious service. In the course of two weeks the number of their militia, who were embodied, had decreased by desertion from six hundred to one hundred men; and, in the course of three weeks, the cannon were mounted, the ammunition fixed, and every preparation made for an immediate investment of the fort. At a council, at which were present all the field officers, and which was held two days before our preparations were completed, it was unanimously agreed to make an immediate attempt to accomplish the object of the expedition. If by waiting two days we could have the service of our heavy artillery, it was agreed to wait; if not, it was determined to go without it, and to attempt the place by storm. This opinion appeared to correspond with the views of the General, and the day was appointed for commencing our march. He declared to me, that he considered himself pledged to lead the army to Malden. The ammunition was placed in the waggons; the cannon were embarked on board the floating batteries, and every requisite article was prepared. The spirit and zeal, the ardour and animation displayed by the officers and men, on learning the near accomplishment of their wishes, was a sure and sacred pledge, that in the hour of trial they would not be wanting in their duty to their country and to themselves. But a change of measures, in opposition to the wishes and opinions of all the officers was adopted by the General. The plan of attacking Malden was abandoned, and instead of acting offensively, we broke up our camp, evacuated Canada, and re-crossed the river in the night, without even the shadow of an enemy to injure us. We left to the tender mercy of the enemy the miserable Canadians who had joined us, and the protection we afforded them was but a passport to vengeance. This fatal and unaccountable step dispirited the troops, and destroyed the little confidence which a series of timid, irresolute, and indecisive measures had left in the commanding officer.

About the tenth of August, the enemy received a reinforcement of four hundred men. On the 12th the commanding officers of three regiments (the fourth was absent) were informed through a medium which admitted of no doubt, that the General had stated that a capitulation would be necessary. They on the same day

addressed to Gov. Melge of Ohio, a letter, of which the following is an extract :

" Believe all the bearer will tell you. Believe it, however it may astonish you, as much as if it had been told by one of us.... Even a c is talked of by the The bearer will fill the vacancy."

The doubtful fate of this letter rendered it necessary to use circumspection in its details, and therefore these blanks were left. The word "capitulation" will fill the first, and "commanding general," the other. As no enemy was near us, and as the superiority of our force was manifest, we could see no necessity for capitulating, nor any propriety in alluding to it. We therefore determined in the last resort, to incur the responsibility of divesting the general of his command. This plan was eventually prevented by two of the commanding officers of regiments being ordered upon detachments.

On the 13th the British took a position opposite to Detroit, and began to throw up works. During that and the two following days, they pursued their object without interruption and established a battery for two 18 pounders and an 8 inch howitzer..... About sunset on the evening of the 14th, a detachment of 350 men from the regiments commanded by Col. M^rArthur and myself, was ordered to march to the river Rasin, to escort some provisions, which had some time remained there protected by a party under the command of Capt. Brush.

On Saturday, the 15th, about 1 o'clock, a flag of truce arrived from Sandwich, bearing a summons from Gen. Brock for the surrender of the town and fort of Detroit, stating he could no longer restrain the fury of the savages. To this an immediate and spirited refusal was returned. About four o'clock their batteries began to play upon the town. The fire was returned and continued without interruption, and with little effect till dark. Their shells were thrown till eleven o'clock.

At day light firing on both sides recommenced ; about the same time the enemy began to land troops at the Springwells, three miles below Detroit, protected by two of their armed vessels. Between 6 and 7 o'clock they effected their landing, and immediately took up their line of march. They moved in a close column of platoons, twelve in front, upon the bank of the river.

The fourth regiment was stationed in the fort ; the Ohio volunteers and a part of the Michigan militia, behind some pickets, in a situation in which the whole flank of the enemy would have been exposed. The residue of the Michigan militia were in the upper part of the town to resist the incursions of the savages. Two 24 pounders, loaded with grape shot, were posted on a commanding eminence, ready to sweep the advancing column. In this situation, the superiority of our position was apparent, and

our troops, in the eager expectation of victory, awaited the approach of the enemy. Not a discontent broke upon the ear : not a look of cowardice met the eye. Every man expected a proud day for his country, and each was anxious that his individual exertion should contribute to the general result.

When the head of their column arrived within about five hundred yards of our line, orders were received from Gen. Hull for the whole to retreat to the fort, and for the twenty-four pounders not to open upon the enemy. One universal burst of indignation was apparent upon the receipt of this order. Those, whose conviction was the deliberate result of a dispassionate examination of passing events, saw the folly and impropriety of crowding 1100 men into a little work which 300 men could fully man, and into which the shot and shells of the enemy were falling. The fort was in this manner filled ; the men were directed to stack their arms, and scarcely was an opportunity afforded of moving..... Shortly a white flag was hung out upon the walls. A British officer rode up to inquire the cause. A communication passed between the commanding Generals, which ended in the capitulation submitted to you. In entering into this capitulation the General took counsel from his own feelings only. Not an officer was consulted. Not one anticipated a surrender till he saw the white flag displayed. Even the women were indignant at so shameful a degradation of the American character, and all felt as they should have felt, but he who held in his hands the reins of authority.

Our morning report had that morning made our effective men present fit for duty 1060, without including the detachment before alluded to, and without including 300 of the Michigan militia on duty. About dark on Saturday evening the detachment sent to escort the provisions, received several orders from Gen. Hull to return with as much expedition as possible. About ten o'clock the next day they arrived within sight of Detroit. Had a firing been heard, or any resistance visible, they would have immediately advanced and attacked the rear of the enemy. The situation in which this detachment was placed, although the result of accident, was the best for annoying the enemy and cutting off his retreat that could have been selected. With his raw troops enclosed between two fires, and no hopes of succor, it is hazardous little to say, that very few would have escaped.

I have been informed by Col. Findley, who saw the return of their quarter-master-general the day after the surrender, that their whole force of every description, white, red, and black, was 1030. They had twenty-nine platoons, twelve in a platoon, of men dressed in uniform. Many of these were evidently Canadian militia. The rest of the militia increased their white force to about seven hundred men. The number of their Indians could not be

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asertained with any degree of precision ; not many were visible. And in the event of an attack upon the town and fort, it was a species of force which could have afforded no material advantage to the enemy.

In endeavouring to appreciate the motives and to investigate the causes which led to an event so unexpected and dishonourable, it is impossible to find any solution in the relative strength of the contending parties, or in the measures of resistance in our power. That we were far superior to the enemy ; that upon any ordinary principles of calculation we would have defeated them, the wounded and indignant feelings of every man there will testify.

A few days before the surrender, I was informed by Gen. Hull that we had 400 rounds of 24 pound shot fixed, and about 100,000 cartridges made. We surrendered with the fort 40 barrels of powder and 2500 stand of arms.

The state of our provisions has not been generally understood. On the day of the surrender we had fifteen days' provisions of every kind on hand. Of meat there was plenty in the country, and arrangements had been made for purchasing grain and grinding it to flour. It was calculated we could readily procure three months' provisions, independent of 150 barrels flour, and 1300 head of cattle, which had been forwarded from the state of Ohio, and which remained at the river Raisin, under Capt. Brush, within reach of the army.

But had we been totally destitute of provisions, our duty and our interest undoubtedly was to fight. The enemy invited us to meet him in the field.

By defeating him the whole country would have been open to us, and the object of our expedition gloriously and successfully obtained. If we had been defeated we had nothing to do but retreat to the fort, and make the best defence which circumstances and our situation rendered practicable. But basely to surrender without firing a gun.....tamely to submit without raising a bayonet.....disgracefully to pass in review before an enemy as inferior in the quality as in the number of his forces, were circumstances which excited feelings of indignation more easily felt than described. To see the whole of our men flushed with the hope of victory, eagerly awaiting the approaching contest ; to see them afterwards dispirited, hopeless, and desponding, at least 500 shedding tears because they were not allowed to meet their country's foe, and to fight their country's battles, excited sensations, which no American has ever before had cause to feel, and which, I trust in God, will never again be felt, while one man remains to defend the standard of the Union.

I am expressly authorized to state, that Col. M^rArthur and Col. Findley and Lieut. Col. Miller viewed this transaction in the

light which I do. They know and feel, that no circumstance in our situation, none in that of the enemy, can excuse a capitulation so dishonourable and unjustifiable. This too is the universal sentiment among the troops; and I shall be surprised to learn, that there is one man who thinks it was necessary to sheath his sword, or lay down his musket.

I was informed by Gen. Hull the morning after the capitulation, that the British forces consisted of 1800 regulars, and that he surrendered to prevent the effusion of human blood. That he magnified their regular force nearly five fold, there can be no doubt. Whether the philanthropic reason assigned by him is a sufficient justification for surrendering a fortified town, an army and a territory, is for the government to determine. Confident I am, that had the courage and conduct of the General been equal to the spirit and zeal of the troops, the event would have been as brilliant and successful as it now is disastrous and dishonourable.

Very respectfully, Sir, I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient servant, LEWIS CASS,

Col. 3d reg. Ohio volunteers.

The Hon. WILLIAM EUSTIS, Sec. of War.

GENERAL HULL'S TRIAL.

On the 3d January, 1814, the members detailed by general orders, to constitute the court for the trial of Brig. Gen. Hull, assembled at Albany, and were as follows, viz.

Maj. Gen. Henry Dearborn, *President*.

Brig. Gen. Joseph Bloomfield,	} <i>Members:</i> {	Col. J. K. Fenwick, artl.
Col. Peter Little 38th reg.		— Robert Bogardus, 41st,
— Wm. N. Irvine, 42d		Lt. Col. Richard Dennis 16th,
Lt. Col. James House, artl.		— S. R. Conner, 13th,
— Wm. Scott, 36th.		— J. B. Davis, 32d,
— Wm. Stewart, 38th,		— J. W. Livingston, 41st.
Lt. Col. J. G. Forbes, 42d reg. <i>Supernumerary</i> .		
Judge Advocate (special) Martin Van Buren, Esq.		
Army Judge Advocate, Philip S. Parker, Esq.		

Charges exhibited by order of the Secretary of War.

*Charge 1.....*Treason against the United States, between the ninth of April and the seventeenth of August, 1812.

The specifications under this charge were, in substance, as follows :

First Specification, in this.....That the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull did traitorously hire, or cause to be hired, at the rapids of the river Miami of the lake, on the 1st day of July, 1812, an unarm-

ed vessel, and did then and there traitorously put on board said vessel a trunk containing the official correspondence of the Secretary of war, with the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, touching the expedition of the north-western army, under the said Hull's command ; also, the declaration of war by the United States against Great Britain ; and also, certain official muster-rolls, reports, and returns of the numbers, state, and condition of the said north-western army....and dispatched the same from the said rapids, with intent that the same should fall into the hands of the said enemy : and that afterwards, on the 2d day of July aforesaid, the said unarmed vessel was captured by the enemy, by means whereof, and in fulfilment of the said traitorous design of the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, the said correspondence, and the said muster-rolls, reports, and returns came to the possession, knowledge, and use of the enemies of the United States : whereby the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, at the rapids of the river of the Miami of the lake aforesaid, did then and there traitorously hold correspondence with, and give intelligence to the enemy ; and did then and there traitorously, by the means aforesaid, adhere to the enemies of the United States, giving them aid and comfort.

Second specification. Also in this....That afterwards, to wit, on the 8th Aug. 1812, at Sandwich, in the province of Upper Canada, the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull did traitorously conspire with the enemies of the United States, to quit and abandon a military post established by the north-western army of the United States, at or near Sandwich aforesaid, with intent to prevent a certain fort called Malden, belonging to the enemy, from being attacked and reduced by the said north-western army of the United States, under the command of the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull : and that in pursuance of the said traitorous intention, the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull did quit and abandon, and did cause to be quitted and abandoned, the said military post, and did traitorously omit and neglect to make the necessary preparations for attacking and reducing the said enemy's fort called Malden : and did traitorously march, withdraw, and remove the said north-western army of the United States from the said military post at Sandwich aforesaid, to Detroit, in the territory of Michigan : whereby the said Brig. Gen. Hull, on the 8th day of Aug. aforesaid, did traitorously hold correspondence with the enemy, quit, and abandon the said military post at Sandwich aforesaid, omit and neglect the necessary preparations for the reduction of Malden aforesaid, and adhere to the enemies of the United States, giving them aid and comfort.

Third specification. Also in this.....That afterward, to wit, at Detroit aforesaid, on the 16th Aug. 1812, the said Brig. Gen. Hull was then and there commander of a certain fort belonging to the United States, called Fort Detroit, and did traitorously conspire with the enemy to surrender and abandon to them the said fort,

called fort Detroit, with all the troops, regulars and militia, then and there under his command, and all the public stores, arms, and every thing else of a public nature, appertaining to said fort and army : and in prosecution of his said traitorous intentions, did then and there traitorously omit and neglect to repair and strengthen the works of said fort, and put the same in a proper condition for resistance and defence against the approaches and attacks of said enemy ; and did traitorously neglect and omit to fortify the places and passes at and near said fort, by and through which the enemy might reasonably have been expected to approach, and did approach said fort ; and did traitorously omit and neglect to resist, repel and defeat the enemy in their approaches to and towards said fort, for the purpose of attacking and reducing the same : and in further prosecution of said traitorous intentions, did treacherously surrender the said fort, with all the troop, regulars and militia, under his command ; and all the public stores, arms and documents, including every thing else of a public nature, appertaining to said fort and army, unto the said enemy of the United States, under the command of Major Gen. Brock : whereby the said Brig. Gen. Hull, on the 16th of Aug. aforesaid, at Detroit aforesaid, did traitorously surrender the said fort to the said enemy, and adhere to said enemy, giving them aid and comfort.

*Charge 2.....*Cowardice at and in the neighborhood of Detroit, between the first day of July and the seventeenth day of Aug. in the year 1812.

Substance of the specifications to this charge.

First specification. In this.....That the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, having command of the north-western army of the United States, and having therewith entered the British province of Upper Canada, with the avowed object of attacking and reducing the British fort called Malden, at Sandwich, in said province, on the 8th Aug. 1812, did misbehave himself before the enemy, and manifest undue fear and apprehension of danger, by conduct and conversation evincing personal alarm, agitation of mind, and privation of judgment, by abandonig said object and intention, by quitting the position by him taken at said Sandwich, and by retreating abruptly out of said province to Detroit, in the territory of Michigan, without any cause for so doing, arising from the number, state, or condition of the enemy opposed to him : whereby the officers and soldiers of the army of the United States, under his command as aforesaid, lost all confidence in his personal courage and military capacity ; the inhabitants of said provi. ce were taught to distrust his power and professions ; a shade was cast upon the American arms, and the cause of the United States suffered great detriment and disadvantage.

Second specification. Also in this....That afterwards, to wit, on the 15th Aug. 1812, at Detroit aforesaid, the enemy having raised certain batteries on the bank of the river opposite the United States' fort Detroit, and having commenced a cannonade against said fort, the said Brig. Gen. Hull then and there having command of the north-western army of the United States, and the said fort, during the continuance of said cannonade did shamefully misbehave himself before the enemy, and manifest great fear of personal danger, by a course of conduct evincing personal alarm, agitation of mind, and privation of judgment, by timid and cowardly expressions and actions, then and there uttered and used in the presence of the officers and soldiers of said army : whereby a fatal encouragement was afforded the hostile enterprizes of the enemy, a pernicious example given the American troop, and the service of the United States exposed to hazard, shame and disappointment.

Third specification. Also in this....That afterwards, to wit, on the 16th Aug. 1812, at Detroit, in the territory of Michigan, the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, having command of the United States' fort Detroit, and the northwestern army of the United States, (the British forces having crossed the river, and landed at Springwells, and marched towards the said fort Detroit, with design to attack the same) did, during the crossing of the river, the landing and march by the enemy as aforesaid, shamefully misbehave himself before the enemy, and manifest great fear and apprehension of personal danger, by various timid and cowardly actions and expressions, then and there used and uttered in the presence of the officers and soldiers of said army, by avoiding all personal danger, making no attempt to prevent the crossing and landing of the enemy as aforesaid, avoiding all personal danger in reconnoitering or encountering the enemy in battle, in their approaches to said fort ; hastily sending flags of truce to them with overtures for capitulation ; withdrawing his person from the American troop in the open field to the said fort Detroit ; giving irresolute and fluctuating orders ; forbidding the American artillery to fire on the enemy ; calling the American troop from the open field, and crowding them into said fort ; precipitately declaring to the enemy that he surrendered said fort and army, before terms of capitulation were considered or suggested ; and generally by a course of conduct and conversation evincing personal fear, agitation of mind, and privation of judgment : whereby the said fort and army were rendered then and there an easy and certain conquest to the enemy ; the officers and soldiers of a gallant army exposed to unmerited mortification and reproach, and the service of the United States suffered great detriment and discredit.

Fourth specification. And also in this....That the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, on the 16th Aug. aforesaid, at Detroit aforesaid, having

command of the United States' fort Detroit, well garrisoned, and supplied with cannon, ammunition and provisions, and the north-western army of the United States, then and there being in fine spirits, and eager to meet the approaching enemy in battle, acting from personal fear and apprehension, and contemplating a shameful abandonment and surrender of said fort and army, did shamefully misbehave himself before the enemy, and enter into a shameful capitulation, containing no consolatory stipulations for the security of such of the inhabitants of Canada as had joined the American standard, nor any reasonable stipulation for an opportunity of reporting to his government the circumstances of so unexpected and important an event : and did shamefully abandon, surrender and give up said fort and army, and all the public stores, arms and documents, including every thing else of a public nature belonging to said fort and army, to the approaching enemy under the command of Maj. Gen. Brock, without any cause therefor, arising from the superior number, state, and condition of the said enemy, or from the actual want, or just expectation or sudden want of arms, ammunition, or provisions for said fort and army, and without any other adequate cause whatever : whereby the territorial sovereignty, rights, and property of the United States were shamefully ceded to the enemy ; a brave army wantonly sacrificed by the personal fears of its commander, and the service of the United States suffering a great and afflicting loss.

Charge 3.....Neglect of duty, and unofficer-like conduct while commanding a separate army between the ninth of April and the seventeenth Aug. in the year 1812.

Substance of the specifications to this charge.

First specification, in this.....That the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, having command of the north-western army of the United States, from the 25th May, to the 16th Aug. 1812, unmindful of the trust reposed in him during all the time aforesaid, as well on the march of the said army from Dayton to Detroit, and at Detroit, as in the province of Upper Canada, was guilty of neglect of duty, and unofficer-like conduct, in neglecting to inspect, train, exercise, review, and order said army, with sufficient care and frequency, or to cause the same to be done ; and also by neglecting in due time and form, to prepare and make known to said army an order of battle on its march from Dayton to Detroit aforesaid : whereby the discipline of said army was in danger of being relaxed ; its comfort liable to be impaired ; its confidence in the military skill and dispositions of its commander diminished, and the said army exposed to the hazard of disorder and defeat, in the event of an attack thereon by the enemy.

Second specification. Also in this....That the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, having command of the north-western army of the United

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States, and having cause to know or believe that war existed between the United States and Great Britain, on the 1st July, 1812, at the rapids of the river Miami of the lake, was guilty of neglect of duty and unofficer-like conduct, by hiring or causing to be hired, an unarmed vessel, and putting on board thereof, to be transported to Detroit, (having cause to know or believe the imminent danger of its capture by the enemy) certain sick soldiers, a great part of the hospital stores of said army, and a trunk containing the official correspondence of the secretary of war, touching the expedition on which said army was employed, and touching a declaration of war by the United States against Great Britain; and also the official muster-rolls, reports, and returns of the number, state, and condition of said army: and the said vessel afterwards, on the 2d July aforesaid, on its passage from said rapids to Detroit, was captured by the enemy, having on board thereof, at the said capture, the said soldiers, hospital stores, and said trunk, containing the said correspondence, muster-rolls, reports, and returns: whereby the said soldiers were made prisoners, the said stores lost, and the said correspondence, muster-rolls, reports and returns came to the possession, knowledge, and use of the enemy, to the great injury of the United States.

Third specification. Also in this.....That the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, having command of the north-western army of the United States, and the United States' fort Detroit, from the 7th of July to the 16th Aug. 1812, the said fort being greatly damaged and dilapidated, and the guns and gun carriages thereof damaged and out of repair, and well knowing their importance to the service of the United States, was guilty of neglect of duty in omitting, during all the time aforesaid, to repair and strengthen said fort, omitting to repair the said guns and gun carriages, and generally, by neglecting to put said fort in a proper state for resistance and defence: whereby the said fort was an easy conquest to the enemy. The said guns and gun carriages afterwards required for service, in the province of Upper Canada, were unfit for transportation and use, great time consumed in fitting them afterwards for service, and the operations of the war fatally suspended.

Fourth specification. Also in this.....That the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, having command of the north-western army of the United States, and having avowed the intention with said army to invade the province of Upper Canada, to invest and reduce the fort of the enemy called Malden, and to maintain and enlarge his positions therein, and having on the 7th July, 1812, arrived at Detroit, and having on the 12th July aforesaid, invaded said province, and having on the 8th of Aug. following evacuated said province, well knowing that resolution and energy were necessary in the prosecution of his said intention, was guilty of neglect

of duty, and unofficer-like conduct, by not seasonably repairing, fitting, and transporting the guns and gun carriages necessary in the prosecution of said intention, by an useless waste of time at Sandwich, in said province, without attempting the reduction of Malden, and in projects to conciliate the inhabitants of said province and neighbouring Indians, without resorting to the more effectual display of military power and capacity, to maintain his acquisitions, and perform his promises of protection, by postponing in the first instance, and abandoning in the next an attack of fort Malden, and finally, by evacuating said province without providing for the safety of such of the inhabitants thereof as had accepted his invitation to join the American standard, and without accomplishing in any degree his said avowed intention : whereby the enemy were enabled to bring his power and conduct into suspicion and contempt, to reinforce fort Malden, and to prepare for the investment of the United States' fort Detroit : while on the other hand, the said United States' army was diminished in numbers by sickness and casualties ; the officers and soldiers dissatisfied and disgusted by a scene of inactivity, irresolution, and procrastination ; the hope of support and co-operation from the inhabitants of said province and the Indians destroyed ; and the general ardor of the army insensibly abated.

Fifth specification. Also in this.....That the said Brig. Gen. Wm. Hull, having command of the north-western army of the United States, arrived with said army at Detroit, on or about the 7th July, 1812 ; invaded the province of Upper Canada, on or about the 12th July aforesaid ; evacuated said province on or about the 8th Aug. following, and returned to Detroit, and abandoned and surrendered the said United States' fort Detroit, and said army, on the 16th Aug. aforesaid, to the enemy under the command of Maj. Gen. Brock. And that during all the movements aforesaid it was of high importance to the supply of said fort and army, that a free and open communication by and between the said fort and army and a certain United States' military post at the river Raisin should be preserved : and the said Hull, well knowing the premises, was guilty of neglect of duty and unofficer-like conduct, by suffering the enemy to interrupt said communication, viz. on or about the 1st Aug. 1812 ; also by detaching, on the 4th Aug. aforesaid, Maj. Thomas B. Van Horne to open or attempt to open said communication, with an inadequate force, having cause to know or believe the same inadequate : also by afterwards, on the 8th Aug. aforesaid, detaching Col. James Miller, with about 500 men, to open or attempt to open said communication, and neglecting to furnish and forward to said detachment an adequate supply of provisions, having cause to know or believe said detachment to be in want thereof, and unable to proceed without the same : and also by afterwards, on the 14th day of

Aug. aforesaid, Cass, with and forwardment, having want thereof Horne was defeated ; the signal provisions, employed, and for want of on which it by reason of interrupted and 1st Aug. aforesaid.

Sixth specification. Hull, having the United States, and the said ada, with an enemy's fort, Col. Cass and a bridge over to said fort, ment and re the premises ince, was guilty neglecting said bridge, bridge was in spect of a success.

Seventh specification. Gen. Hull, the United States having erected river Detroit Michigan, and said intention yet the said and including and unofficer the erection fy the said l and omitting Springwells, curely to ere sition or loss, of triumph.

Aug. aforesaid, detaching Col. Duncan M'Arthur and Col. Lewis Cass, with about 400 men on the same service, without issuing and forwarding an adequate supply of provisions for said detachment, having cause to know or believe said detachment to be in want thereof: whereby the said detachment under Maj. Van Horne was encountered by a superior force of the enemy, and defeated; the said detachment under Col. Miller having achieved a signal victory over the enemy, were compelled for want of provisions, to abandon the expedition on which they were employed, and the said detachment under Cols. M'Arthur and Cass, for want of provisions, was compelled to abandon the expedition on which it was employed: and finally, the said communication, by reason of the said neglect and omission, was and remained interrupted and wholly cut off by the enemy, from on or about the 1st Aug. aforesaid, to and including the 16th Aug. aforesaid.

Sixth specification. Also in this.....That the said Brig. Gen. Hull, having command of the north-western army of the United States, and having therewith invaded the province of Upper Canada, with an avowed intention of attacking and reducing the enemy's fort, called Malden, and a detachment of said army under Cols. Cass and Miller having repulsed the enemy, and seized upon a bridge over the river Aux Canards, on the proper route of said army to said fort, whereby an opportunity was afforded for the investment and reduction of said fort: yet the said Hull, well knowing the premises, on the 17th July, 1812, at Sandwich, in said province, was guilty of neglect of duty, and unofficer-like conduct, by neglecting and omitting to advance with said army to maintain said bridge, and to invest and reduce said fort: whereby said bridge was improvidently lost to the United States and the prospect of a successful investment of said fort speedily vanished.

Seventh specification. And also in this.....That the said Brig. Gen. Hull, having command of the north-western army of the United States, and the United States' fort Detroit, and the enemy having erected batteries opposite said fort, on the bank of the river Detroit, with a manifest design of invading the territory of Michigan, and reducing said fort; and afterwards, in pursuance of said intention, having landed at Springwells, in said territory: yet the said Hull, well knowing the premises, from the 11th, to and including the 16th Aug. 1812, was guilty of neglect of duty, and unofficer-like conduct, by neglecting and omitting to prevent the erection of said batteries, by neglecting and omitting to fortify the said landing place, called Springwells, and by neglecting and omitting to annoy and attack said enemy after their landing at Springwells, as aforesaid: whereby the enemy were enabled securely to erect said batteries, to invade said territory without opposition or loss, and to approach said fort with the air and confidence of triumph.

Historical recitation of the principal facts disclosed by the witnesses adduced by the judge advocate.

Gen. Hull took command of the north-western army of the United States on the 27th May, 1812, with orders from the secretary of war to proceed therewith to Detroit.

The army took up its line of march on or about the first of June following, for Detroit, in two columns, with front and rear guards, the baggage in the centre.

On the 26th June an express brought a letter to Gen. Hull, from the secretary of war, bearing date 18th June, indicating in rather obscure terms, a declaration of war : the same express conveyed a letter to Col. M'Arthur, from a friend in Chillicothe, containing the copy of a postscript of a letter from senator Worthington to one of his friends, in these words : "Before this reaches you war will be declared," which was shown by the Colonel to Gen. Hull.

On the 1st July Gen. Hull despatched an unarmed vessel from the rapids of the river Miami of the lake to Detroit, with the sick of the army, the hospital stores, a trunk containing the correspondence of the secretary of war with him, and many of his official papers, which was captured by the enemy on the 2d, and taken to Malden.

On the 2d July Gen. Hull received a letter from the secretary of war, bearing date 18th June, announcing the declaration of war, and repeating his previous orders, to repair with all possible expedition to Detroit.

On the 5th July the army arrived at Springwells, and on the 6th Col. Cass was despatched with a flag of truce to Malden, and returned on the 7th in a boat, accompanied with a British officer and six men, who were permitted to inspect the army. Gen. Hull was afterwards informed thereof, and replied carelessly, that the more they saw of it the less they would like it.

On the 8th or 9th the army encamped in rear of Detroit, and in the evening the General received a letter from the secretary of war, authorizing him to act offensively, if consistent with the security of his own posts.

On the 12th Gen. Hull, with about 18 or 1900 effectives, crossed the Detroit river, encamped at Sandwich, issued his proclamation, and entrenched himself there.

On the 14th despatched Col. M'Arthur, with a detachment of 100 or 120 men, up the river Thames after a quantity of flour, which was captured and brought to camp. During the absence of Col. M'Arthur, Cols. Cass and Miller solicited and obtained from the General a detachment of about 280 men, to reconnoitre the enemy at or near Malden, and proceeded to the bridge over the Aux Canards, where they encountered the enemy, routed them, occupied the bridge, and gave information to the General

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of their success, who ordered them to return. Cols. Cass and Miller joined in a letter to the General, representing the importance of maintaining their position. The General was evidently dissatisfied with the officers; but, at the earnest solicitation of Col. Findley, returned a written answer, stating several objections to the measure, but finally, leaving it with their discretion. Upon this a council of the officers was held, who resolved to return, upon the ground that the responsibility of the measure should have been taken by the General, and not by themselves.

On the succeeding day Col. Findley was sent with another detachment to the bridge, and found it unoccupied by the enemy. Several other detachments were afterwards sent, the particular objects of which are not disclosed.....one of these was defeated.

On or about the 30th July, Gen. Hull was informed of the fall of Michillimackinack, and from this moment he seems to have formed an entirely new scheme of returning to Detroit, to await reinforcements.

Repeated councils of the officers were held while the army was in Canada, who were unanimous for attacking Malden, and nearly one half of them for an immediate attack; but finally decided, by a majority of one, to wait for heavy ordnance which was then preparing, and which was made ready about the 6th August. The General then pledged himself to march the army to the attack on the 8th, and accordingly made out and published an order of battle: but on the evening of that day he abruptly ordered a retreat to Detroit, without counselling his officers, and contrary to the wishes and expectations of the whole army.

The enemy's force at Malden, on the 12th July, consisted of about 100 regulars, between three and four hundred militia, and from 50 to 150 Indians. The regular force was increased to 220 or 30 during the month of July, but that of the militia was reduced to about 100 by desertion, and the greater part of the deserters took protections from Gen. Hull. The amount of this force was understood by the General, by information from deserters, and also by letters received from American prisoners there.

From the American encampment at Sandwich, to the bridge at the river Aux Canards is an open level country, cultivated for many years, distance about twelve miles. The river is a small but deep stream, about three rods wide. From the bridge to Malden, a distance of one and a half mile, is an open prairie, and near the fort bad for marching troops.

The fort was merely an outline.....the east side was rendered defensible, but the north and west sides could never be made so; and the whole works could be commanded from an eminence distant about one fourth of a mile, as a person walking in the fort may be seen from that place. Gen. Hull had been in fort Malden frequently, and must have known its situation.

On the 4th Aug. Maj. Van Horne was despatched with a detachment of 150 riflemen (with liberty to take 50 of the Ohio militia, who were at Detroit, if he chose) to open the communication with the river Raisin. Previous to the departure of this detachment, Cols. M'Arthur and Cass represented in the strongest terms the inadequacy of this force, to effect the object, and that it would be defeated. These admonitions were disregarded by the General.....the detachment proceeded to or near Brownstown, where it was attacked and defeated by the enemy, as had been predicted.

On the day that the army retreated from Canada, Col. Miller was despatched with a detachment of 600 men, also to open the communication to the river Raisin, who met the enemy's whole force at Brownstown, and defeated them. 750 regulars, militia, and Indians crossed from Malden to Brownstown, previous to the battle, and at that time there were but 13 men left in the fort at Malden. After the battle Col. Miller was ordered to return to Detroit, without effecting his object, and returned accordingly.

On the 14th Aug. the enemy were discovered on the bank of the river opposite Detroit, digging and planting batteries, and the General was informed of it, but declined taking any measures to dislodge them; which, in the opinion of his officers, might have been done at that time: but on the contrary despatched Cols. M'Arthur and Cass the same day, with a detachment of 300 men, to meet Capt. Brush, who was conveying provisions from the river Raisin to Detroit, who did not return till after the surrender..... No attempt was made to dislodge the enemy at Sandwich, till they commenced their fire on the 15th. In the evening of that day Capt. Snelling was posted with a picket guard, at Springwells, and found, in the opinion of himself and other officers, an advantageous site for artillery to dislodge the Queen Charlotte, then laying opposite in the channel of the Detroit. He requested that a 24 pounder might be furnished him, but the General refused it.

At day light on the 16th the cannonade and bombardment was renewed by the enemy, and answered from batteries on the river, but not from the fort. At seven o'clock the enemy commenced crossing the river to Springwells. It was observed, and information thereof given the General, who took no measures whatever to prevent their landing or advance to the fort. Two shots from the enemy took effect in the fort, and killed two officers, a surgeon, and two soldiers; immediately upon which, Gen. Hull despatched a flag of truce, and ordered Col. Findley, who was advantageously posted in advance of the fort towards Springwells, to retreat to the fort. The Colonel hesitated, but finally obeyed the order, and retired.

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Gen. Hull, about this time, despatched a letter to Gen Brock, in nearly these words: "Sir....I agree to surrender the fort and town of Detroit." The articles of capitulation were then dictated by Col. Dowell and Maj. Glegg, approved by the General, and the fort was given up. The two additional articles form no part of the conditions of the surrender, but were the gratuities of Gen. Brock.

The force of the enemy was 750 whites, and from 150 to 200 Indians....the American force more than 1000 at Detroit, beside the detachment under Cols. McArthur and Cass, who were within a few miles.

Fort Detroit is situated on the highest ground within the circumference of three miles, was at the time of surrender a regular half bastion fort, composed of four curtains and four half bastions, about 100 yards on each face, not including the half bastions; about 75 yards being the extreme length of the curtains. The fort is composed in part of earth, the parapet 11 feet in elevation, 12 feet thick at top: the banquet for infantry about 6 feet from the level of the fort, and 5 from the parapet; the whole width of the rampart at its base 26 feet: the ditch 6 feet in depth and 12 in width at the bottom, with a row of pickets therein of cedar, 12 feet in height: the gate strong, and the fort generally in good repair, with the following ordnance well mounted, viz. seven 24 pounders, four 12s. four 9s. three 6s. two 4s. and one 3....one 8 1-2 inch howitzer, one 5 1-2 inch do. two 3 1-4 do. three 6 inch do....two thousand five hundred stand of arms, 1400 twenty-four pound balls, 1700 twelve lb. do. 1400 nine lb. do. 4000 four and six lb. do. 4800 three lb. do. 290 ten inch shells, 500 eight inch do. 800 five and half inch do. 4000 two and three fourths inch do. 3 1-2 tons led, principally in balls; a large supply of musket cartridges, and a present supply for the artillery....about 10,000 pounds of powder in all, and a present supply of provisions.

The General manifested, in the opinion of a large majority of his officers, great concern and anxiety after he was made acquainted with the fall of Mackana, and on the 15th, and more especially on the 16th Aug. manifested, by words and actions, great personal fear and agitation of mind, till after the surrender, when he appeared composed.

The testimony adduced by Gen. Hull consisted of several letters and affidavits from some of the most respectable gentlemen in the United States, who knew him as an officer in the revolution, which fully established his claim at that time to courage and conduct.

He also introduced several officers of the north-western army, who thought that the appearances which led most of his officers to think him under the influence of personal fear, on the 15th and

16th Aug. might have arisen from great fatigue and anxiety.... The testimony of Capt. Hull also proved that the trunk containing the General's official paper was sent on board the unarmed vessel at the rapids by accident, and contrary to the General's expectation and wish.

The decision of the court was pronounced as follows....All the evidence being read (whether on the part of the prosecution or the defence) applicable to the first charge, and the specifications attached to that charge, and after due deliberation had thereon, the court express the following opinion:

The accused having in his final defence protested against the jurisdiction of the court to try the charge of treason, and the opinion of the court being that the objection would have been tenable if the same had been pleaded by the accused on his arraignmentand believing also that the court cannot acquire jurisdiction of the offence by the waiver or consent of the accused, they decline making any formal decision on that charge.

The evidence on the subject having however been publicly given, the court deem it proper, in justice to the accused to say, that they do not believe from any thing that has appeared before them, that Brigadier General William Hull has committed treason against the United States.

On the second charge, and the specifications attached to that charge, after hearing all the evidence, and defence, and after due deliberation thereon) the court find Brigadier General William Hull guilty of the first, second, and fourth specifications under that charge, except that part which charges the said Brigadier William Hull with "forbidding the American artillery to fire on the enemy, on their march towards said fort Detroit."

The court find the said Brigadier General William Hull guilty of the second charge.

On the third charge the court, after having heard the evidence (as well as the defence) and after due deliberation, find the said Brigadier William Hull guilty of neglect of duty and an officer-like conduct, as charged in the first specification under this charge, in omitting with sufficient care and frequency to inspect, train, exercise and order, and to cause to be trained, inspected, exercised and ordered, the troops under his command, from the 6th day of July until the 17th day of August, 1812; and acquit him of the residue of the charge contained in that specification.

The court acquit the said Brigadier General William Hull of the second and third specifications of the same charge.

The court find the said Brigadier General William Hull guilty of the whole of the fourth specification of that charge, except that part which charges him with not seasonably repairing, fitting and transporting.....or causing to be fitted, repaired and transported,

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the guns, and gun-carriages which were necessary to the operations of the war in the said British province of Upper Canada.

The court find the said Brigadier General William Hull guilty of so much of the fifth specification to that charge as relates to neglect of duty and unofficer-like conduct in suffering his communication with the River Raisin and the state of Ohio to be cut off.... and sending Major Van Horne to attempt to open the same, with an inadequate force ; he, the said Brigadier Gen. William Hull having reason to know or believe the same was insufficient....and the court acquit him of the residue of that specification.

The court find the said Brigadier General William Hull guilty of the sixth and seventh specifications of that charge.

The court find the said Brigadier General William Hull guilty of the third charge.

The court, in consequence of their determination respecting the second and third charges, and the specifications under those charges, exhibited against the said Brigadier General William Hull....and after due consideration, do sentence him to be shot to death, two thirds of the court concurring in the sentence.

The court, in consideration of Brigadier General Hull's revolutionary services, and his advanced age, earnestly recommend him to the mercy of the President of the United States.

The court then adjourned to meet on Monday morning, March 28, 1814, at 10 o'clock.....when

The proceedings having been read once, approved and signed by the president, the court adjourned sine die.

H. DEARBORN, major general, president of the court.

M. VAN BUREN, special judge advocate.

PHILIP S. PARKER, army judge advocate.

April 25, 1814....The sentence of the court is approved, and the execution of it remitted.

(Signed)

JAMES MADISON.

CHAPTER III.

Capture of Michillimackinac, and geographical description of the upper lakes.

THE capture of Michillimackinac had, without doubt, been contemplated by the enemy, previous to the declaration of war.... The Indians in the vicinity of lakes Superior, Michigan, and Huron, had been stimulated to hostilities as early as May, 1812 ; and were doubtless collecting for this very enterprise at St. Josephs, in the early part of July. On the 15th news of the de-

laration of war reached St. Josephs, and such was the preparation of the enemy, that they were enabled to embark the next day for Mackana, with a force consisting of 40 regulars, 260 militia, made up principally of the *engagees* of the north-west company, and 500 Indians. With so formidable a force, our garrison, consisting of 57 effectives, was unable to contend, and accordingly surrendered the fort and island, on the 17th. Subjoined is an official account of the capture, in a letter from Lieut. Hanks to Gen. Hull, accompanied with a copy of the articles of capitulation.

Detroit, 4th Aug. 1812.

SIR.....I take the earliest opportunity to acquaint your excellency of the surrender of Michillimackinac, under my command to his Britannic majesty's forces under the command of Captain Charles Roberts, on the 17th ult. the particulars of which are as follows: On the 16th I was informed by the Indian interpreter, that he had discovered from an Indian that the several nations of Indians then at St. Josephs, (a British garrison, distant forty-five miles) intended to make an immediate attack on Michillimackinac. I was inclined, from the coolness I had discovered in some of the principal chiefs of the Ottawa and Chippawa nations, who had but a few days before professed the greatest friendship for the United States, to place confidence in this report. I immediately called a meeting of the American gentlemen at that time on the Island, in which it was thought proper to despatch a confidential person to St. Josephs, to watch the motions of the Indians. Capt. Daurman, of the militia, was thought the most suitable for this service. He embarked about sunset, and met the British forces within ten or fifteen miles of the island, by whom he was made prisoner and put on his parole of honour. He was landed on the island at day-break, with positive directions to give me no intelligence whatever. He was also instructed to take the inhabitants of the village indiscriminately to a place on the west side of the island, where their persons and property should be protected by a British guard: but should they go to the fort, they would be subject to a general massacre by the savages, which would be inevitable if the garrison fired a gun. This information I received from Doctor Day, who was passing through the village when every person was flying for refuge to the enemy. Immediately on being informed of the approach of the enemy, I placed ammunition, &c. in the blockhouses: ordered every gun charged, and made every preparation for action. About 9 o'clock I could discover that the enemy were in possession of the heights that commanded the fort, and one piece of their artillery directed to the most defenceless part of the garrison. The Indians at this time were to be seen in great numbers in the edge of the woods. At half past 11 o'clock, the enemy sent in a flag of truce, demanding a surrender of the fort

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and island, to his Britannic majesty's forces. This, sir, was the first information I had of the declaration of war ; I, however, had anticipated it, and was as well prepared to meet such an event as I possibly could have been with the force under my command, amounting to fifty-seven effective men, including officers. Three American gentlemen, who were prisoners, were permitted to accompany the flag : from them I ascertained the strength of the enemy to be from nine hundred to one thousand strong, consisting of regular troops, Canadians, and savages : that they had two pieces of artillery, and were provided with ladders and ropes for the purpose of scaling the works if necessary. After I had obtained this information, I consulted my officers and also the American gentlemen present, who were very intelligent men : the result of which was, that it was impossible for the garrison to hold out against such a superior force. In this opinion I fully concurred, from a conviction that it was the only measure that could prevent a general massacre. The fort and garrison were accordingly surrendered.

The enclosed papers exhibit copies of the correspondence between the officer commanding the British forces and myself, and of the articles of capitulation. This subject involved questions of a peculiar nature ; and I hope, sir, that my demands and protests will meet the approbation of my government. I cannot allow this opportunity to escape without expressing my obligations to Doct. Day for the service he rendered me in conducting this correspondence.

In consequence of this unfortunate affair, I beg leave, sir, to demand that a court of enquiry may be ordered to investigate all the facts connected with it ; and I do further request, that the court may be speedily directed to express their opinion on the merits of the case.

I have the honour to be, &c.
His Excellency Gen. Hull,
Commanding N. W. army.

P. HANKS,
Lieut. of artillery.

" P. S. The following particulars relative to the British force were obtained after the capitulation, from a source that admits of no doubt :.....Regular troops 46 (including 4 officers,) Canadian militia 260.....Total 306.

Savages.....Sioux 56 ; Winnebagoes 48 ; Talleswain 39 ; Chippawas and Ottawas 572.....savages 715, whites 306.....Total 1024.

It may also be remarked, that one hundred and fifty Chippewas and Ottawas joined the British, two days after the capitulation.

P. H.
Heights above Michillimackinac,
17th July, 1812.

CAPITULATION

Agreed upon between Capt. Charles Roberts, commanding his Britannic majesty's forces, on the one part, and Lieut. Porter Hanks, commanding the forces of the United States, on the other part.

1st. The fort of Michillimackinac shall immediately be surrendered to the British forces.

2d. The garrison shall march out with the honours of war, lay down their arms, and become prisoners ; and shall be sent to the United States of America by his Britannic majesty, not to serve this war until regularly exchanged : and for the performance of this article, the officers pledge their word and honour.

3d. All the merchant vessels in the harbour, with their cargoes, shall be in possession of their respective owners.

4th. Private property shall be held sacred as far as it is in my power.

5th. All the citizens of the United States, who shall not take the oath of allegiance to his Britannic majesty, shall depart with their property from the island, in one month from the date hereof.

(Signed)

CHARLES ROBERTS,

Captain, commanding his Britannic majesty's forces.

P HANKS, Lieut.

Commanding the U. States' troops.

Supplement to the articles of capitulation signed on the 7th July.

The Captains and crews of the vessels Erie and Freegoodwill, shall be included under the second article, not to serve until regularly exchanged, for which the officers shall pledge their word of honour.

CHARLES ROBERTS, Captain,

Fort Michillimackinac, }
23d July, 1812. }

commanding the forces of his
Britannic majesty.

GRANTED,

P. HANKS, Lieut.

commanding the U. States' troops.

Geographical..... We give the following extracts of an able geographical sketch of the three upper lakes, from Niles' Register, (with some little alteration,) by which our readers will be enabled to form a more correct idea of the relative situation of some of the most important places alluded to in this and the succeeding number.

"The position of the great lakes is so well known to the people of the United States, from the common use of the map, that we shall waste no time in describing them; but proceed immediately to the main objects of enquiry.

"Lake Erie is of an elliptical form, three hundred miles long from east to west, and ninety broad at its widest part, from north to south. The depth is rated at twenty fathoms : but there are

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many shoals. The bottom is generally of a light yellowish sand ; which being disturbed by storms, tinges the waters of the lake, at other times clear, and of a greenish colour. The northern shore is rude and rocky, but has several harbours for small vessels, and at fort Erie and Malden, or (as the British call it) Amherstburg, large ships may ride safely. Long point, running from the north shore, is a narrow peninsula of sand, piled with mighty rocks, towards the north ; but on the other sides presents a fine beach..... " very convenient to haul the boats out of the surf upon it, when the lake is too rough for sailing and rowing." The south side of Erie is generally a sand beach, and the harbours are all incommoded with bars at their entrance. But in some places, at Caya-hoga particularly, there are immense ranges of rocks, rising perpendicularly out of the waters of the lake forty or fifty feet high, and several miles in length. The danger of passing these is so great in the time of a storm, that the Indians always offer a sacrifice of tobacco to the water, as they approach them. The harbours on this side of the lake, best known to us, are Black Rock opposite fort Erie ; Erie, at which is the United States' navy-yard, &c. here the water on the bar is not more than seven or eight feet, though there is depth enough within it : Cleveland, with six or seven feet water ; Sandusky and Put-in-bay, which last is spoken of as one of the " finest harbours in America." This bay is not laid down in the maps, nor is it mentioned in any of the books or papers we have : but we apprehend it is near the head of the lake, about forty miles above Sandusky, and from twenty to thirty from Malden. Passing Malden, where the Detroit river is about three miles wide, (though the channel is within the range of a musket shot from the fort, which is therefore the key of the higher lakes) with a fine navigation of eighteen miles, you arrive at the town of Detroit, famous for Hull's capitulation, and the river here is only half a mile wide. Passing Detroit, the river again expands, and receives the waters of lake St. Clair by a mouth a mile and a half wide. This lake is about ninety miles in circumference. It is said to have a bar across the middle, running east and west, to pass which, vessels proceeding to or from lake Huron, must be unladen. We do not credit this assertion, but believe it may be navigated by any of the vessels we have on lake Erie, with safety. The river St. Clair, which unites the lake of that name with lake Huron, presents an easy entrance for vessels into the latter, and is about eighteen miles long.

" Lake Huron is of a triangular shape, about one thousand miles in circumference, and navigable for large ships, though some say it is not safe for vessels drawing more than nine or ten feet, on account of the shoals ; perhaps chiefly because they are yet little known. The shores of this lake are represented as generally sterile, being composed of sand and small stones : but at some

distance back the soil is pretty good. On the northern parts are many valuable establishments for carrying on the fur trade, of great importance to the enemy. From the northern extremity of this lake there is a back passage to Montreal. It is by the Ottawa river, which has its source in the lake Timiskimaing, north of lake Huron, but the passage from which into lake Huron is by a portage of two miles to the navigable head of French river, which falls into lake Huron. The Ottawa river falls into the Cadaraqui from the north-west about ten miles above Montreal, and presents in the passage upwards from Montreal numerous rapids, the waters passable with difficulty by canoes, and portages over which every thing must be transported by human labour only : circumstances which render it inefficient for military uses, since a force passing upward must not only transport its military stores and provisions over these portages, but the supply and difficulty must be increased with numbers. These facts, in the present posture of affairs, are very important, because they demonstrate, that with the command of the lakes, which the United States can always possess when they determine to employ the ample and facile means they possess, the whole of the Indian trade of the British must fall, and their garrisons must surrender, or descend the Ottawa river from mere necessity : we shall therefore give a short sketch of the passage up this river as it is pursued by the traders, whose commodities for transport are much more manageable than military apparatus.

" The navigation is conducted in canoes of birch, which carry about eight or ten men, and from forty to sixty packages of merchandize ; besides their provision, biscuit, pork, pease and Indian corn. In May they leave La Chine, about a mile below the entrance of the river Ottawa, and proceed to St. Anne, about two miles from the western end of the island upon which stands Montreal, the two mountains being on the opposite side of the lake, here formed by the confluence of the Ottawa with the Cadaraqui, and taking the name of the lake of the two mountains : at St. Ann's there is a rapid, where they are obliged to unlade part of their cargoes. This lake of the two mountains is twenty miles long, and about two miles wide, and cultivation is seen on both its sides : at its end the water contracts and assumes the name of Ottawa river. Here the inland voyage is considered as beginning : and after a course of fifteen miles, the current is interrupted by currents and cascades for a succession of ten miles, generally denominated rapids ; here the travellers are obliged to unload and bear their burdens on slings or on their backs ; whilst the canoes are towed up against the current with immense labour and patience. There are places where the ground will not admit of the carriage of large loads, and they are therefore carried at several times.

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“ After about sixty miles of smooth current, where the river is generally more than a mile wide, they reach the portage of the lake Claudiere, where there is a cascade of twenty feet. The portage here is about half a mile, and canoes and all their lading are carried upon men's shoulders. Thence to the next portage des Chenes, is short, but the land carriage is about a third longer than the preceding, and is called portage du Chat ; there are two smaller portages called des Sables and de la Montagne, in eighteen miles to the grand Calumet, where the current is again tranquil ; next the portage Dufort, which is two hundred forty-five yards, over which canoes and cargoes must be all carried.... then the portage of the mountain, the Derige, where the loads must be carried three hundred eighty-five yards over one, and two hundred fifty over the other. The last portage of this river is a long one between Les Alumettes, Deux Joachins and Roche Capitaine, and the discharge De Trou. The distance of the portages nearly two miles, and others over lofty and difficult rocks.... when at about four hundred miles from Montreal, Petit Reviere falls into the Ottawa from the south westward ; here the voyagers must turn off to the left, and pass this river of about sixty five miles length, interrupted by rocks and cataracts to the number of thirteen to the high lands ; when after the greatest difficulties, and a course of land carriage of about six miles, they reach lake Nipising, which is about thirty-six miles long, and about fifteen wide ; but the track of the canoes is much longer, as they must follow the coast.

“ Out of this lake flows French river before mentioned, precipitating its flood over rocks of considerable height, called the Kettle falls, which necessarily infers another portage, of which there are not less than five more in a distance of about eighty miles to the entrance of lake Huron.”

“ Lake Michigan communicates with Huron by the straits of Michillimackinac, which are about six miles long. This lake is entirely embosomed within the United States, which are separated from the British possessions by an imaginary line drawn through the middle of lakes Ontario, Erie, Huron, Superior, &c. The length of Michigan, from north to south, is estimated at two hundred eighty miles, and the breadth between sixty and seventy, and it has about the same depth of water as Huron. The island of Michillimackinac, on which stands the village and fort of that name, is situate near the entrance of the strait from Huron, being about seven miles in circumference, and four miles distant from the nearest land. It abounds with excellent water, and is high and healthy ; rising to the centre “ as to resemble when you approach it, a turtle's back from whence it derived its name, Michillimackinac, or the turtle.”

“ The fort, which stands on the S. E. side, is handsomely situated on a bluff rock, rising from one to two hundred feet from the

water, almost perpendicular in many places, extending about half way round the island. It overlooks, and of course commands the harbour, a beautiful semicircular basin of about one mile in extent, and from one to five or six fathoms in depth, and sheltered from lake Huron by two islands stretching across its mouth, and leaving only a narrow ship channel, by which to enter the harbour. From the fort you have an uninterrupted view into lake Huron to the north east, and into lake Michigan on the west. It is entirely commanded by the high ground in its rear, where is only a stockade defended by two block-houses, with a brass six pounder in each. There are also two long nines on a battery in front, besides two howitz, and a brass three pounder, which commands the approach to the front gate.

"The first growth of timber has been principally cut off, and the under-brush grown up, so that an invading enemy might approach within cannon shot (as was the case at its capture by the enemy) without being discovered by the centinels at the fort."

"The village contained about three hundred inhabitants in 1810, chiefly French Canadians; and a very brisk trade was carried on with the neighbouring Indians. The export of furs in 1804 was valued at D. 238,936, and the duties received on goods imported from the British possessions were D. 60,000. It was in a very flourishing situation when the enemy possessed themselves of it in 1812, before the declaration of war was known to our commandant. The hostile force came from St. Joseph's, a post about forty miles north, situate at the foot of the straits of St. Marie, through which the waters of lake Superior are discharged into Huron. St. Josephs was held chiefly as a place of observation on Michillimackinac: which latter the British gave up with great reluctance by Jay's treaty, in 1794, though they had conditioned to do it, immediately, in 1783, ten years before. Chicago, or fort Dearborn, famous for the murder of its garrison, [an account of which will be given in a future number] by the allies, is near the foot, or south end of Michigan, nearly two hundred fifty miles from Michillimackinac, and was the only post or settlement we had on the shores of the lake.

"St. Josephs was garrisoned by two companies of Canadians, and a few regulars. It is assailable by water. The straits of St. Marie are forty miles long, and so rapid that they cannot be ascended even by canoes, though the descent is safe, if the pilots are good."

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SKETCHES OF THE WAR.

VOLUME I.....NUMBER 2.

CHAPTER IV.

*Operations of the army of the centre.....Battle of Queenstown
.....Bombardment of fort Niagara.....Attack on the British
lines opposite and below Black Rock.....Geographical descrip-
tion of the Niagara frontier.*

IT was late in the season before a sufficient force was collected upon the Niagara frontier to attempt offensive operations. In October, however, Gen. Van Rensselaer, of the New York militia, had his head-quarters at Lewistown, with a force under his command of four thousand men, consisting of about fifteen hundred regulars, and the remainder militia. They were distributed along the river from fort Niagara to Buffalo. Nothing of importance occurred till the 12th, when the militia at Lewistown became impatient to attack the enemy's works opposite, at Queenstown. The attack was accordingly made on the 13th, the result of which, with the previous arrangements, and many important particulars, will be found in the following letter from Gen. Van Rensselaer to Maj. Gen. Dearborn, dated,

Head-quarters, Lewistown, Oct. 14, 1812.

SIR.....As the movements of the army under my command, since I had last the honour to address you on the 8th inst. have been of a very important character, producing consequences serious to many individuals ; establishing facts actually connected with the interest of the service and the safety of the army ; and as I stand prominently responsible for some of these consequences, I beg leave to explain to you sir, and through you, to my country, the situation and circumstances in which I have had to act, and the reasons and motives which have governed me : and if the result is not all that might have been wished, it is such that when the whole ground shall be viewed, I shall cheerfully submit myself to the judgment of my country.

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In my letter of the 8th inst. I apprised you that a crisis in this campaign was rapidly advancing ; and that, (to repeat the same words) " the blow must be soon struck, or all the toil and expense of the campaign go for nothing, and worse than nothing, for the whole would be tinged with dishonour."

Under such impressions, I had, on the 15th inst. written to Brig. Gen. Smyth, of the United States' forces, requesting an interview with him, Maj. Gen. Hall, and the commandants of the United States' regiments, for the purpose of conferring upon the subject of future operations. I wrote Maj. Gen. Hall to the same purport. On the 11th I had received no answer from Gen. Smyth ; but in a note to me of the 10th Gen. Hall mentioned that Gen. Smyth had not yet then agreed upon any day for the consultation.

In the mean time, the partial success of Lieut. Elliott, at Black Rock (of which, however, I have received no official information) began to excite a strong disposition in the troops to act. This was expressed to me through various channels, in the shape of an alternative ; that they must have orders to act.....or, at all hazards they would go home. I forbear here commenting upon the obvious consequences, to me, personally, of longer withholding my orders under such circumstances.

I had a conference with —, as to the possibility of getting some person to pass over to Canada, and obtain correct information. On the morning of the 4th, he wrote to me that he had procured the man, who bore his letter to go over. Instructions were given him ; he passed over.....obtained such information as warranted an immediate attack. This was confidentially communicated to several of my first officers, and produced great zeal to act ; more especially as it might have a controlling effect upon the movements at Detroit, where it was supposed that Gen. Brock had gone with all the force he dared to spare from the Niagara frontier. The best preparations in my power were, therefore, made to dislodge the enemy from the heights of Queenstown, and possess ourselves of the village, where the troops might be sheltered from the distressing inclemency of the weather.

Lieut. Col. Fenwick's flying artillery, and a detachment of regular troops, under his command, were ordered to be up in season from fort Niagara. Orders were also sent Gen. Smyth, to send down from Buffalo such detachment of his brigade as existing circumstances in that vicinity might warrant. The attack was to have been made at 3 o'clock, on the morning of the 11th, by crossing over in boats from the old ferry opposite the heights. To avoid any embarrassment in crossing the river (which is here a sheet of violent eddies) experienced boatmen were procured to take the boats from the landing below, to the place of embarkation. Lieut. Sim was considered the man of greatest skill for

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this service.....he went ahead, and in the extreme darkness, passed the intended place far up the river ; and there, in a most extraordinary manner, fastened his boat to the shore, and abandoned the detachment. In the *front boat* he had carried nearly every oar which was prepared for all the boats. In this agonizing dilemma stood officers and men, whose ardor had not been cooled by exposure through the night to one of the most tremendous north-east storms, which continued unabated for twenty-eight hours, and deluged the whole camp. The approach of day light extinguished every prospect of success, and the detachment returned to camp. Col. Van Rensselaer was to have commanded the detachment.

After this result I had hoped the patience of the troops would have continued until I could submit the plan suggested in my letter of the 8th, that I might act under and in conformity to the opinion which might be then expressed. But my hope was idle : the previously excited ardor seemed to have gained new heat from the late miscarriage....the brave were mortified to stop short of their object, and the timid thought laurels half won by an attempt.

On the morning of the 12th, such was the pressure upon me from all quarters, that I became satisfied that my refusal to act might involve me in suspicion, and the service in disgrace.

Viewing affairs at Buffalo as yet unsettled, I had immediately countermanded the march of Gen. Smyth's brigade, upon the failure of the first expedition : but having now determined to attack Queenstown, I sent new orders to Gen. Smyth to march ; not with the view of his aid in the attack, for I considered the force detached sufficient, but to support the detachment should the conflict be obstinate and long continued.

Lieut. Col. Christie, who had just arrived at the Four Mile Creek, had late in the night of the first contemplated attack, gallantly offered me his own and his men's services : but he got my permission too late. He now again came forward, had a conference with Col. Van Rensselaer, and begged that he might have the honour of a command in the expedition. The arrangement was made. Colonel Van Rensselaer was to command one column of 300 militia ; and Lieut. Col. Christie a column of the same number of regular troops.

Every precaution was now adopted as to boats, and the most confidential and experienced men to manage them. At an early hour in the night, Lieut. Col. Christie marched his detachment, by the rear road, from Niagara to camp. At 7 in the evening Lieut. Col. Stranahan's regiment moved from Niagara Falls.....at 8 o'clock, Mead's....and at 9, Lieut. Col. Blan's regiment marched from the same place. All were in camp in good season. Agreeably to my orders issued upon this occasion, the two columns were to pass over together ; as soon as the heights should be

carried, Lieut. Col. Fenwick's flying artillery was to pass over ; then Maj. Mullany's detachment of regulars ; and the other troops to follow in order.

At dawn of day the boats were in readiness, and the troops commenced embarking, under the cover of a commanding battery mounting two eighteen pounders and two sixes. The movements were soon discovered, and a brisk fire of musquetry poured from the whole line of the Canada shore. Our battery then opened to sweep the shore ; but it was, for some minutes, too dark to direct much fire with safety. A brisk cannonade was now opened upon the boats from three different batteries....our battery returned their fire, and occasionally threw grape upon the shore, and was itself served with shells from a small mortar of the enemy's. Col. Scott, of the artillery, by hastening his march from Niagara Falls in the night, arrived in season to return the enemy's fire with two six pounders.

The boats were somewhat embarrassed with the eddies, as well as with a shower of shot : but Col. Van Rensselaer, with about one hundred men, soon effected his landing, amidst a tremendous fire directed upon him from every point ; but to the astonishment of all who witnessed the scene, this van of the column advanced but slowly against the fire. It was a serious misfortune to the van, and indeed to the whole expedition, that in a few minutes after landing, Col. Van Rensselaer received four wounds....a ball passed through his right thigh, entering just below the hip-bone....another shot passed through the same thigh, a little below....a third through the calf of his leg....and a fourth cartused his heel. This was quite a crisis in the expedition. Under so severe a fire it was difficult to form raw troops. By some mismanagement of the boat-men, Lieut. Col. Christie did not arrive until some time after this, and was wounded in the hand in passing the river. Col. Van Rensselaer was still able to stand ; and with great presence of mind ordered his officers to proceed with rapidity and storm the fort. This service was gallantly performed, and the enemy driven down the hill in every direction. Soon after this both parties were considerably reinforced, and the conflict was renewed in several places....many of the enemy took shelter behind a stone guard-house, where a piece of ordnance was now briskly served. I ordered the fire of our battery directed upon the guard house ; and it was so effectually done, that with eight or ten shot the fire was silenced. The enemy then retreated behind a large store house ; but in a short time the route became general, and the enemy's fire was silenced, except from a one gun battery, so far down the river as to be out of the reach of heavy ordnance, and our light pieces could not silence it. A number of boats now passed over unannoyed, except from one unsilenced gun. For some time after I had passed over the victory appeared complete : but in the expectation of further

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attacks, I was taking measures for fortifying my camp immediately....the direction of this service I committed to Lieut. Totten, of the engineers. But very soon the enemy were reinforced by a detachment of several hundred Indians from Chippewa. They commenced a furious attack ; but were promptly met and routed by the rifle and bayonet. By this time I perceived my troops were embarking very slowly. I passed immediately over to accelerate their movements ; but to my utter astonishment I found at the very moment when complete victory was in our hands, the ardour of the unengaged troops had entirely subsided. I rode in all directions, urged the men by every consideration to pass over, but in vain. Lieut. Col. Bloom, who had been wounded in the action, returned, mounted his horse and rode through the camp ; as did also Judge Peck, who happened to be here, exhorting the companies to proceed, but all in vain.

At this time a large reinforcement from Fort George were discovered coming up the river. As the battery on the hill was considered an important check against their ascending the heights, measures were immediately taken to send them a fresh supply of ammunition, as I had learnt there were left only twenty shot for the eighteen pounders. The reinforcements, however, obliqued to the right from the road, and formed a junction with the Indians in the rear of the heights. Finding to my infinite mortification, that no reinforcement would pass over ; seeing that another severe conflict must soon commence ; and knowing that the brave men on the heights were quite exhausted and nearly out of ammunition, all I could do was to send them a fresh supply of cartridges. At this critical moment I despatched a note to Gen. Wadsworth, acquainting him with our situation....leaving the course to be pursued much to his own judgment....with assurance that if he thought best to retreat, I would endeavour to send as many boats as I could command, and cover his retreat by every fire I could safely make. But the boats were dispersed.....many of the boatmen had fled panic struck.....and but few got off. But my note could but little more than have reached Gen. Wadsworth about 4 o'clock, when a most severe and obstinate conflict commenced and continued about half an hour, with a tremendous fire of cannon, flying artillery, and musketry. The enemy succeeded in repossessing their battery ; and, gaining advantage on every side, the brave men who had gained the victory, exhausted of strength and ammunition, and grieved at the unparalleled neglect of their fellow-soldiers, gave up the conflict.

I can only add that the victory was really won ; but lost for the want of a small reinforcement. One third part of the idle men might have saved all.

I have been so pressed with the various duties of burying the dead, providing for the wounded, collecting the public property, negotiating an exchange of prisoners, and all the concerns conse-

quent of such a battle, that I have not been able to forward this despatch at as early an hour as I could have wished. I shall soon forward you another despatch in which I shall endeavour to to point out to you the conduct of some most gallant and deserving officers. But I cannot in justice close this without expressing the very great obligation I am under to Brig. Gen. Wadsworth, Col. Van Rensselaer, Col. Scott, Lieut. Cols. Christie and Fenwick, and Capt. Gibson. Many others have also behaved most gallantly. I have reason to believe that many of our troops fled to the woods, with the hope of crossing the river. I have not been able to learn the probable number of killed, wounded, or prisoners. The slaughter of our troops must have been very considerable, and the enemy have suffered severely.

Gen. Brock is among the slain, and his aid-de camp mortally wounded.

I have the honour to be, sir, with great respect and consideration, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) **STEPHEN VAN RENSSELAER,**
Maj. Gen. DEARBORN. Maj. Gen.

The following additional interesting particulars of the battle of Queenstown, are derived from a source which may be deemed authentic.

On the 12th Oct. Gen. Van Rensselaer had under his command about 5800 men, thus disposed : 2900 militia at or near Lewistown : 1300 regular troops, under Gen. Smyth, near Black Rock, 28 miles from Lewistown : 500 militia and volunteers at Black Rock and Schlosser; about 300 men in six companies of field and light artillery ; about 500 men of the 6th and 13th regiments, at fort Niagara ; about 300 regulars of the 23d regiment, under Maj. Mullany, at the same place.

On the same day Maj. Gen. Brock had under his command and under arms, at different posts, from and including fort George and fort Erie, 2800 men, of whom 2400 were disciplined troops of the 41st and 49th British regiments and Canadian flank companies, and 400 were Indians.

Gen. Van Rensselaer decided to attempt to cross the river and attack the enemy's batteries at Queenstown, on the night of the 12th. The regular troops at Niagara, under Lieut. Col. Fenwick, and Maj. Mullany, were ordered up to Lewistown, and 13 boats were provided to effect the crossing.

The detachment that was to make the attack, consisted of some militia under the command of Col. Van Rensselaer, the General's aid-de-camp ; a part of the 13th infantry, under Lieut. Col. Christie ; and detachments of the 6th and 23d, under Maj. Mullany ; and Col. Van Rensselaer was to command the whole.

At 3 o'clock, in the morning of the 13th of Oct. the detachment, about 400 men, marched from the camp near Lewistown.

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Col. Van Rensselaer crossed over. A grape shot from a battery below Queenstown, which enfiladed the crossing place, wounded Lieut. Col. Christie slightly in the hand; his pilot became confused, the boatmen frightened, and his boat returned. The boats with Maj. Mullany fell below the landing, two of them were taken, and the Major returned.

Lieut. Vallean was killed in crossing;* and in ascending the bank or on a small low flat at the water's edge, Col. Van Rensselaer, Capt. Armstrong, Capt. Malcom, and Capt. Wool, were wounded; and Ens. Morris killed.†

A party of British troops issued from an old fort below Queenstown: they were fired on by the Americans, and retreated. The firing from battery, soon afterwards compelled the Americans to retreat under the bank.

To Col. Van Rensselaer, who lay there wounded, application was made by the officers for orders. He said that if the battery on the heights of Queenstown was taken possession of, the British must retreat or surrender. The men were rallied, and about 160 under the command of Capt. Wool, Capt. Ogilvie, Lieut. Gansevoort, Lieut. Randolph,‡ Lieut. Carr, and Lieut. Huginin, all of the regular troops, and Lieut. Lush, (brigade major) of militia, mounted the rocks on the right of the battery, and carried it. Captain Wool ordered the artillery-men to take possession of the guns and turn them on the enemy: but it was found that Lieut. Gansevoort had hastily spiked the cannon. The remainder of the detachment joined those who carried the battery.

Capt. Wool discovered the British troops forming at Queenstown, and formed the troops under his command in line. Gen. Brock was at the head of the British troops, and led them round about to the heights in the rear of the battery. Capt. Wool detached 160 men to meet the British; this detachment was driven back, reinforced, and the whole driven to the brink of the precipice forming the bank of the Niagara river, above Queenstown.

At this moment some of the officers put a white handkerchief on a bayonet to hoist as a flag, with intention to surrender. Capt. Wool enquired the object. It was answered that the party were nearly without ammunition, and that it was useless to sacrifice the lives of brave men. Capt. Wool tore off the flag; ordered the officers to rally the men, and bring them to the charge. The order was executed, but in some confusion. The boasted 49th could not stand the American bayonet. The British troops were routed; and Maj. Gen. Brock, in gallantly exerting himself to rally them, was struck by three balls, and killed. His aid, Col. McDonald, fell mortally wounded, at the same time.

* Capt. Nelson was killed by a grape shot when preparing to embark.

† Brother to Capt. Morris of the U. S. navy.

‡ The British officers speak highly of the valor of Lieut. Randolph.

The British being completely driven from the heights about ten o'clock, the line was re-formed, and flanking parties sent out.

After this brilliant success, reinforcements continued to arrive under Capt. Gibson of the light artillery, Capt. Mackesney of the 6th, Capt. Lawrence of the 13th infantry ; and of Cols. Allen, Mead, Stranahan, and other militia officers.

About 2 o'clock in the afternoon, Brig. Gen. Wadsworth of militia, Lieut. Col. Scott of artillery, Lieut. Col. Christie and Maj. Mullany crossed the river, and took the command of the American troops. Lieut. Col. Christie ordered Capt. Wool to leave the field and have his wounds dressed. He obeyed, crossed the river, had his wounds dressed, and re crossed to the Canadian side, but acted no more during the day.

About 3 o'clock a party of Indians appeared in the direction of the village of Chippewa, and commenced an attack. As they approached through a wood and orchard, the American troops not knowing their numbers, at first gave way. Lieut. Col. Scott made great exertions. He was in full dress ; and his tall stature rendered him a conspicuous mark. Several Indians say they shot at him ; but he remained unhurt. Lieut. Col. Christie was remarked for his perfect composure and coolness. The Indians were soon defeated and fled to the woods, leaving several dead, and one of their chiefs a prisoner.

As soon as this engagement was over, a body of British troops with some light artillery, approached from Fort George. Exertions were made by Gen. Van Rensselaer* to send over the militia. Two thousand of them remained on the American bank of the river, to which they had not been marched in any order, but had ran as a mob. Not one of them would cross. The number of boats were at first insufficient ; some of those had been lost or destroyed, and only three or four were left. And a great error had been committed in leaving undisturbed a battery below Queenstown, which enfiladed the ferry. The militia had seen the wounded, they had seen the Indians, and were panic struck. There were wretches who, at this critical moment, could talk of the constitution, and the right of the militia to refuse to cross the line !

The American troops had been scattered in pursuit of the Indians, and were somewhat surprised. They lost the precious time and opportunity of attacking the British as they ascended the heights. So soon as the British force, estimated at 800 men, was formed in line, flanked by some pieces of light artillery and Indians, the event was no longer doubtful.

The American troops formed in line to the number of 125 regulars, and 117 militia, with one piece of light artillery. This little band would have made a gallant resistance ; but at that mo-

* The General at one time crossed the river, but never ascended the heights.

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* Capt. Gil

ment an order was received from Gen. Van Rensselaer to retreat with an assurance that boats would be ready to receive the troops. They retreated in disorder down the hill to the bank, but there were no boats there. The Americans then surrendered. 386 regulars and 378 militia were reported prisoners, 62 of the regulars and 20 of the militia being wounded.

The number of either killed or wounded in this battle has never been very accurately ascertained. The highest estimate of the killed is 90. The loss of the British in killed was probably considerably less.

Our whole loss may be estimated at 1000 men. And the desertion and discharges from our militia corps had diminished that force one thousand more.

Captain Wool, the hero of the heights of Queenstown, was at that time 26 years of age. He has since been promoted.

List of officers taken prisoners in the battle of Queenstown.....
Lieut. Cols. Fenwick, Scott, and Christie; Capts. Ogilvie, Machesney and Gibson; Lieuts. Turner, Clarke, Bayley, Kearney, Randolph, M'Cartey, Phelps, Totten, Carr, Sammons, Fink, and Huginnin, and Ensign Reab.*

Shortly after the battle of Queenstown, Gen. Van. Rensselaer resigned the command of the army to Gen. Alexander Smyth, who excited high expectations in many, by his gasconading proclamations; but finally disgraced himself by a series of measures of an indecisive, peurile, and cowardly character. We shall not fatigue our readers with these proclamations, promises of attack upon Canada, repeated embarkations and re-embarkations of the troops, and final abandonment of the threatened expedition, nor with Gen. Smyth's long and awkward apology for such abandonment, but select from this mass of trash and disgrace such incidents as may develop the spirit of our troops.

On the 21st of Nov. the British batteries at and near fort George opened a tremendous fire upon fort Niagara, which was returned with great effect; the particulars of which are disclosed in the following official letter of Col. M'Feeley to Gen. Smyth:

SIR.....I beg leave to inform you that on the morning of the 21st of Nov. at 6 o'clock, a heavy cannonading opened upon this garrison from all the batteries at and in the neighborhood of fort George, which lasted without intermission until after sun-down. They had five detached batteries, two mounting 24 pounders, one mounting a 9, and two mortar batteries, one 10 1-2, the other 5 1-2 inch. The batteries firing hot shot, which set some of our buildings on fire, but from the extraordinary vigilance of the officers and men, particularly Maj. Armistead of the United States'

* Capts. Gibson and Machesney, Lieuts. Totten and Randolph were immediately exchanged.

corps of engineers, whose indefatigable exertions were extended to all parts of the garrison, the fires were got under without being observed by the enemy.

Our garrison was not as well provided with artillery and ammunition as I could have wished; however the batteries opened a tremendous fire upon them, in return, with hot shot, admirably well directed.

Several times during the cannonading, the town of Newark was in flames, but was extinguished by their engines....as also the centre building in fort George. Their mess-house and all the buildings near it were consumed. Capt. M'Keen commanded a 12 pounder in the S. E. block-house, and distinguished himself by his usual gallantry and skill. Capt. Jacks, of the 7th regiment militia artillery, commanded a 6 pounder on the N. block house, and together with a part of his own company, though placed in a situation most exposed to the fire of the enemy, maintained their position like veterans.

Lieut. Rees, of the 3d regiment of artillery, had the command of an 18 pounder on the S. E. battery, which was pointed at the battery *en barbette*, mounting a 24 pounder, and also at fort George; several well-directed shot were made from this gun, which proved the skill of its commander. About ten o'clock Lieut. Rees had his left shoulder bruised by a part of the parapet falling on him; which, though it did not materially injure him, obliged him to retire, and Capt. Leonard of the 1st regiment United States' artillery, at that moment arriving, took the command of this battery for the remainder of the day. Lieut. Wendel, of the 3d regiment of artillery, had the command of an 18 and 4 pounders on the W. battery....and Doct. Hooper of Capt. Jack's company militia artillery, had the command of a 6 pounder on the mess-house. Of these gentlemen and their commands, I cannot speak with too much praise; they distinguished themselves highly, and from their shot, all of which was hot, the town of Newark was repeatedly fired, and one of the enemy's batteries silenced for a time.

An instance of extraordinary bravery in a female, (the wife of one Doyle, a private of the U. States' artillery, made a prisoner at Queenstown) I cannot pass over. During the most tremendous cannonading I have ever seen, she attended the 6 pounder on the old mess-house with the red hot shot, and shewed fortitude equaling the maid of Orleans. Lieuts. Ganesvoort and Harris of the 1st regiment United States' artillery, had the command of the Salt battery at Youngstown, mounting one 18 and a 4 pounder. These two guns played upon the garrison of fort George, and the buildings near it: from every observation I could make during their fire, I am happy to say they merited my warmest thanks for their skill in the service of these guns. Lieut. Harris, from his

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4 pounder, sunk a schooner which lay at their wharf: she was one of those taken by the enemy at the mouth of the Genesee river a short time since. He also assisted in burning and destroying the buildings near the wharf. These two officers and their men, in the warmest part of the cannonading, having fired away all their cartridges, cut up their flannel waist-coats and shirts, and the soldiers their trowsers, to supply their guns.

I cannot say too much in praise of all the officers and soldiers of the artillery immediately under my observation in this garrison; they merit the thanks and esteem of their country for the defence of it, and I believe it never sustained so sharp and continued a bombardment.

The enemy threw more than two thousand red hot balls into it, and a number of shells amounting to more than one hundred and eighty, only one of which did injury to our men.

Lieut. Col. Gray commanded the artillery; the unremitting attention paid to his duty, proves him an officer whose zeal and science do honour to himself and country; to this gentlemen I feel much indebted for the manner he acquitted himself.

To the officers of my regiment, (particularly Capt. Mulligan) and the soldiers who assisted the artillery, and those employed in extinguishing the fires, and carrying off the killed and wounded, I am also much indebted: they merit my warmest thanks. To Doct. West of the garrison, Doct. Hagan of the 14th regiment United States' infantry, and Doct. Craige of the 22d regiment United States' infantry, I offer my thanks. They were employed during the entire day, in the most critical duties of their profession. Our killed and wounded amount to eleven.

Killed.....Serjeants, Jones, 1st regiment of United States' artillery; Salisbury, 3d do. do. do.: privates, Stewart, 22d do. United States' infantry; Lewis, 1st do. do. artillery.

Wounded.....Officers, Lieut. Thomas, 22d regiment of United States' infantry: privates, Boman, 14th do. do.; M'Evo, 1st do. do.; Campbell, 1st do. do.; Welsh, 1st do. do.: Ray, 3d do. do.; Woodworth, 7th do. militia artillery.

From the numbers we saw carried off from the enemy's batteries, I presume many more were killed and wounded on their side.

Only two of the above men were killed by the enemy's shot, the rest by the bursting of a 12 pounder in the S. E. block-house, and by the sponges of the guns on the north block-house, and at the salt battery.

GEO. M'FEELEY, Lieut. Col.

commanding fort Niagara.

On the 27th November Gen. Smyth ordered the enemy's batteries opposite Black Rock to be stormed, as a precautionary measure previous to the crossing of the army into Canada, which was to take place agreeably to orders the next day. The partic-

ulars of this affair will be found in the following official letter of Col. Winder to Gen. Smyth :

Black Rock, Dec. 7, 1812.

SIR.....I should before this have communicated the circumstances relative to the two enterprises of the night of the 28th, had not your presence enabled you at once to learn the general result, so far as was necessary, to predicate other movements on ; and had not my incessant occupation since rendered it almost impossible to find the requisite time. I deem it, however, my duty, in justice to the gallant officers and men who formed a part of that expedition, to present to you such particulars as I have obtained from those engaged in it, and which have been confirmed by the prisoners who were taken.

Agreeably to your order of the 27th, Lieut. Col. Boerstler embarked with about 200 of the 4th in boats ; and Capt. King of the army, and Lieut. Angus of the navy, embarked with 150 soldiers and 70 sailors, in ten boats ; between 12 and 1 o'clock of the morning of the 28th. The embarkation of both detachments was made with exemplary silence, order and promptitude.

The detachment of Captain King having to ascend the river against the current, to arrive at the point of attack, I directed him to move off first, so that the detachment under Lieut. Col. Boerstler having in some degree the advantage of the current, each party might arrive as nearly as possible at its point of attack at the same time.

The detachment of King and Angus was discovered by the centinels some time before it landed, and was assailed by a discharge of small arms from the centinels, and one or two discharges from a field piece at the Red House. Four boats out of the ten nevertheless resolutely landed. The sailors under Lieut. Angus, with their characteristic impetuosity, rushed into the hottest fire, before the infantry could be formed after landing, and sustained considerable injury. Capt. King, however, seconded by Capt. Morgan and Sprole, formed the infantry, which did land as expeditiously as possible....and in conjunction with Lieut. Angus, volunteer Swartwout, and the brave naval officers, soon overcame all resistance there. He then turned to the left, and proceeded to storm the enemy's lower battery, which was vigorously assailed, and soon carried, and the cannon spiked. He then proceeded to the next battery above, which the enemy, in their trepidation, had by this time abandoned....and spiked the cannon there and broke the carriage. In the mean time Lieut. Angus and volunteer Swartwout, and their party of sailors, had spiked the field pieces at the Red House, and had thrown them, together with two caissons, into the river....which having accomplished, he retired to the place of landing, where, finding only four boats, and being

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ignorant that the others had not landed, and seeing nothing of the infantry, he concluded that either they had been made prisoners, or had deserted him ; and in consequence immediately embarked his men with his wounded prisoner, Lieut. King of the Royal artillery, and returned round the lower end of Squaw Island again to the navy yard. In consequence of this unfortunate mistake, which arose from the failure of six of the boats to make their landing, Capt. King with Capts. Sprole and Morgan, and about 60 men, were left on the other shore.

Lieut. Col. Boerstler with his detachment had in the mean time proceeded down the river to attack and destroy the party stationed at Frenchman's creek, and the bridge over it.

The discovery of the party under Capt. King and Lieut. Angus at so early a period, and the consequent firing, had alarmed the centinels and party near Frenchman's creek, and Lieut. Col. Boerstler immediately pushed to strike the shore at the nearest point, which, with a want of the knowledge of the localities of the place and the darkness of the night, occasioned him to land from a quarter to half a mile above the bridge....not without having received the fire of the centinels and a small party, and having a picket guard of about thirty men of the 49th drawn up and advancing upon them at the moment of landing. Four of his boats, misled by the darkness of the night, or the inexperienced rowers, being unable to force them across the current, fell below near the bridge, and were forced to retire by a party of the enemy stationed there.

The companies of Capts. Montgomery and Lane, and a part of Sullivan's company under Lieut. Kearney, however, effected their landing with Lieut. Col. Boerstler. The boat in which Lieut. Col. Boerstler was, with Capt. Lane and twenty men, first reached the shore. These were formed as well, and as quickly as possible, and ordered to fire on the enemy, which was done with much gallantry, but not without some confusion, inseparable from darkness, in the face of an enemy ready to receive them, of whose numbers they were ignorant, and by men and officers for the first time engaged in a contest. The exertions of Lieut. Col. Boerstler to keep his party in order, threw him somewhat in advance, and he was saved from the bayonet of one of the enemy by his presence of mind and promptitude in shooting him down with his pistol. An encouraging command at that moment brought the bayonets of his party in contact with those of the enemy, and they fled with precipitation, leaving several dead, and two prisoners. The pursuit was pressed to the bridge. Several of the axes were in the boats which had not landed, and the necessity of encountering the enemy at the moment of landing occasioned those that were in the boats that had reached the shore, to be left. A party however was detached under Lieut. Waring, to break up the bridge by any means which they could find ; and about one third of the planks were actually removed.

At this time all was silent with the parties under Capt. King and Lieut. Angus....and Lieut. Col. Boerstler supposed them either repulsed or successful. At this moment Lieut. Woodward, commanding the boat guard, made a corporal and a private of the 49th, prisoners, and learned that the whole force from fort Erie were coming down upon them, and that two hundred were within a few minutes' march of the boats. He immediately dispatched a messenger to inform Lieut. Col. Boerstler, who formed his party, hastened up to the boats, and a small distance above the boats discovered a considerable party of the enemy formed.... Lieut. Col. Boerstler, by a feint in giving the title of field officers to captains, and battalions to companies, in loud orders, endeavored to alarm the enemy by the apprehension of being outnumbered, ordered a fire and then a charge....the enemy fled without giving a chance to reach him.

The order being not to attempt to hold possession, Lieut. Col. Boerstler deemed it advisable to embark his troops to return; judging, as has since been ascertained, that the whole force from fort Erie was approaching.

The success of Capt. King and Lieut. Angus had led the enemy to suppose that a large force had landed with them, and instead, therefore, of coming down the river, they passed through the fields between the batteries and the woods, and came into the river road between the batteries and Frenchman's creek; probably without knowing that Lieut. Col. Boerstler's detachment had landed below....and when they found their advance dispersed by what, from Lieut. Col. Boerstler's feint, they had supposed a large party, they again turned off to the left through the fields, passed round the bridge, and concentrated their force below.

Had Lieut. Col. Boerstler known that the party of Capt. King had been successful, a junction might have been made, and every thing accomplished. But he was justified in supposing that as the enemy's force had passed down by the point of Capt. King's attack, he had been beaten off or taken; and that under that supposition it therefore became necessary for him immediately to embark.

Capt. King with Morgan and Sprole, after accomplishing their object, and finding the boats gone, proceeded down the river; and near Frenchman's creek found two of the enemy's boats, in which Morgan and Sprole, with about half the detachment, and their prisoners embarked about day, and returned to our shore.... Capt. King gallantly refusing to leave the shore unless all his men could accompany him.

Lieut. Warring, with eight men employed in breaking up the bridge, were left, notwithstanding Lieut. Col. Boerstler, in the most pointed manner, enquired several times after the party were on board, and before they put off, whether every one was on

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board. It was too dark to see, and he was left. You know the manner in which I saved him the next morning ; and of the manner in which my attempt to land with the 14th and part of the 23d was frustrated.

I cannot close this communication, without expressing my high sense of the cool, intrepid, and collected manner in which Lieut. Col. Boerstler, and the officers and men under him, conducted themselves in this their first essay in practical war, under circumstances well calculated to have confused, distracted, and intimidated veteran soldiers.

Captain King has placed his gallantry and magnanimity in a conspicuous point of view, by his storming the enemy's batteries, and refusing to desert his men.

Lieut. Angus and such of his men as landed, maintained the high character of American tars. He was unfortunately and necessarily misled by the absence of so many boats....and from this cause it arose, that we remained ignorant of the actual state of the enemy's shore, until it was too late to profit by it. I think however, there is no man who would not have acted, under similar circumstances, as Lieut. Angus did.

Lieut. Col. Boerstler has shewn by this night, that he is adequate to command in very trying and perplexing circumstances ; and Capt. King has manifested most fully his character for gallantry and courage.

I cannot pretend to particularize the merits of others, where all who landed under the respective commands of these gentlemen, conducted themselves in the handsomest manner.

I am with great respect, sir, your obedient servant.

(Signed)

W. H. WINDER,

Brig. Gen. Alexander Smyth, }
Commanding Centre Army. }

Col. 14th Inf. U. S. Army.

*Geographical description of the Niagara frontier....*The village of Buffalo is situated at the lower end of lake Erie, between a quarter and a half mile back from the margin of the lake. Fort Erie is nearly opposite, and at the distance of between two and three miles, part of which is woods. Immediately below this the river Niagara forms itself, and a very considerable rapid continues for about two miles, the main channel being on the British side of the river. Black Rock is -at the foot of these rapids, near three miles from Buffalo ; here the river is about half a mile wide : a flat bottomed boat or scow is said to cross in two minutes. The opposite shore makes a handsome appearance, the buildings being all on the bank of the river, and the farms appear to be cleared back about half a mile.

The navy-yard is a short distance below Black Rock, covered from the enemy by Squaw Island. About three miles below this

is the head of Grand Island, which continues for twelve miles, immediately below which is a small island called Navy Island, Schlosser, a place so called from the old French fort which formerly stood there, is 12 miles from Buffalo, and opposite Chipewa, a small village and creek of that name on the Canada side, and half a mile below the point of Navy Island. The river is between two and three miles wide, and a ferry has usually been kept, but great caution has to be used by the ferry-men to keep clear of the rapids below, which are so considerable as to render navigation impracticable. This is also a landing place for boats, and all kinds of merchandize which is carried round the falls.

The great falls of Niagara are one mile below Schlosser, half a mile above which the river begins to descend with great rapidity; its bottom is very rocky, with sundry small perpendicular pitches; the stream is divided by Goat Island, which runs down to the main pitch. This pitch is said to be 137 feet perpendicular, and is in a circular form....on the top of the fall the river is about three-fourths of a mile in width, but becomes considerably narrower immediately below, and continues a very wild current, from a quarter to a half mile in width, to Lewistown, a distance of seven miles; being conaned by perpendicular banks of about 200 feet in height, generally covered with cedar.

The face of the country continues perfectly level on each side as far as Lewistown, without any descent, as might be expected from so great a fall in the river. The descent from fort Schlosser to Devil's Hole, or Whirlpool, a distance of four miles including the perpendicular falls and rapids, has, agreeably to an official report made to Congress in April, 1808, been by correct measurement ascertained to be 375 feet, and the whole fall from Lake Erie to Lake Ontario is estimated at 450 feet. From the outlet of Lake Ontario, which forms the St. Lawrence, to Montreal, the descent is estimated at 200 feet, making the elevation of Lake Erie above the surface of the river at Montreal 650 feet.

On the hill above Lewistown a delightful prospect presents itselfa commanding view of the adjacent country, Lake Ontario, fort Niagara, at a distance of seven mile; Newark, fort George, Queenstown, Lewistown, &c. From Lewistown the river continues about half a mile wide, with a deep but moderate current.... Fort Niagara is situated on a delightful plain, its walls on the very margin of the lake, and bank of the river; Newark is situated directly opposite the fort, immediately above which stands fort George. Queenstown, a handsome village, is on the opposite shore from Lewistown. It is at the head of navigation for ships.

Youngstown is one mile above fort Niagara, on the river, and half a mile above fort George. A battery was here erected,

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called the salt battery, mounting one 18 and a 4 pounder : this battery and those on Niagara fort, owing to a bend in the river, formed a cross fire on fort George to great advantage, which was seventeen times set in flames by our batteries on the 21st Nov. 1812.

CHAPTER V.

Massacre at fort Dearborn.....Gallant defence of forts Harrison and Belle-vue.....Forsyth's expedition.....Defeat of the enemy at Ogdensburgh.....Observations on the campaign of 1812.

IN the following chapter are collected, in the order of time, such incidents of the war during the campaign of 1812, as are unconnected with the operations of the armies. Some important movements of the north-western army under Gen. Harrison, towards the close of this year, remain unspoken of ; but as the chief operations of that army were in the succeeding campaign, they will be deferred for the present.

*Massacre at fort Dearborn.....*Gen. Hull, immediately upon learning of the fall of Mackana was sensible that fort Dearborn,* could not be maintained, and accordingly gave orders for its evacuation : but the allies of the enemy had assembled in season to prevent the escape of the garrison, and to effect their destruction. The following extract of a letter from Capt. Heald, the then commanding officer at the fort, contains a relation of the bloody transaction :

" On the 9th of Aug. I received orders from Gen. Hull to evacuate the post, and proceed with my command to Detroit by land, leaving it at my discretion to dispose of the public property as I thought proper. The neighboring Indians got the information as early as I did, and came in from all quarters in order to receive the goods in the factory store, which they understood were to be given them. On the 13th, Capt. Wells, of fort Wayne, arrived with about 30 Miamies, for the purpose of escorting us in, by the request of Gen. Hull. On the 14th, I delivered the Indians all the goods in the factory store, and a considerable quantity of provisions which we could not take away with us. The surplus arms and ammunition I thought proper to destroy, fearing they would make bad use of it, if put in their possession. I also destroyed all the liquor on hand, soon after they began to collect. The collection was unusually large for that place, but they conducted

* See page 56.

with the strictest propriety, till after I left the fort. On the 15th, at 9 A. M. we commenced our march; a part of the Miamies were detached in front, the remainder in our rear as guards, under the direction of Capt. Wells. The situation of the country rendered it necessary for us to take the beach, with the lake on our left, and a high sand bank on our right, at about 100 yards distance. We had proceeded about a mile and a half, when it was discovered the Indians were prepared to attack us from behind the bank: I immediately marched up with the company to the top of the bank, when the action commenced; after firing one round, we charged, and the Indians gave way in front, and joined those on our flanks. In about fifteen minutes they got possession of all our horses, provision and baggage of every description, and, finding the Miamies did not assist us, I drew off the few men I had left, and took possession of a small elevation in the open prairie, out of shot of the bank or any other cover. The Indians did not follow me, but assembled in a body on the top of the bank, and, after some consultation among themselves, made signs for me to approach them. I advanced towards them alone, and was met by one of the Potawatamie chiefs, called the black-bird, with an interpreter. After shaking hands he requested me to surrender, promising to spare the lives of all the prisoners. On a few moments consideration, I concluded it would be most prudent to comply with his request, although I did not put entire confidence in his promise. After delivering up our arms, we were taken back to their encampment near the fort, and distributed among the different tribes. The next morning they set fire to the fort, and left the place, taking the prisoners with them. Their number of warriors was between four and five hundred, mostly of the Potawatamie nation, and their loss, from the best information I could get, was about 15. Our strength was 54 regulars, and the militia, out of which 26 regulars and all the militia were killed in the action, with two women and 12 children. Ensign George Ronan and Doct. Isaac V. Van Voorhis, of my company, with Capt. Wells of fort Wayne, are, to my great sorrow, numbered among the dead. Lieut. Lina T. Helm, with 25 non-commissioned officers and privates, and 11 women and children, were prisoners when we separated. Mrs. Heald and myself were taken to the mouth of the river St. Joseph, and being both badly wounded, were permitted to reside with Mr. Burnet, an Indian trader. In a few days after our arrival there, the Indians all went off to take fort Wayne, and in their absence I engaged a Frenchman to take us to Michillimackinac, by water, where I gave myself up as a prisoner of war, with one of my serjeants. The commanding officer, Capt. Roberts, offered me every assistance in his power, to render our situation comfortable while we remained there, and to enable us to proceed on our journey. To him I gave my part

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role of honour, and reported myself to Col. Proctor, who gave us a passage to Buffalo."

*Defence of fort Harrison.....*On the 3d September, 1812, fort Harrison was invested by the Indians; but the garrison, under Capt Taylor, made a most gallant resistance. The particulars will be found in the following extract of a letter from Capt. Taylor to Gov. Harrison:

"On Tuesday evening the 3d inst. after retreat beating, four guns were heard to fire in the direction where two young men (citizens who resided here) were making hay, about 400 yards distant from the fort. I was immediately impressed with an idea that they were killed by the Indians, as I had that day been informed that the prophet's party would soon be here for the purpose of commencing hostilities. Prudence induced me to wait until 8 o'clock the next morning, when I sent a corporal with a small party to find them, which he soon did: they had been each shot with two balls, and scalped and cut in the most shocking manner. I had them brought in and buried. In the evening of the 4th inst. old Joseph Lenar, and between 30 and 40 Indians arrived from the Prophet's Town, with a white flag; among whom were about ten women, and the men were composed of the different tribes that compose the Prophet's party. A Shawanoe man, that spoke good English, informed me that old Lenar intended to speak to me next morning, and try to get something to eat. At retreat beating I examined the men's arms and found them all in good order, and completed their cartridges to 16 rounds per man. As I had not been able to mount a guard of more than six privates and two non-commissioned officers, for some time past, and sometimes only a part of them every other day, from the unhealthiness of the company; I had not conceived my force adequate for the defence of this post, should it be vigorously attacked. I had just recovered from a very severe attack of the fever, and was not able to be up much through the night. After tattoo I cautioned the guard to be vigilant, and ordered one of the non-commissioned officers, as the centinels could not see every part of the garrison, to walk around on the inside during the whole night, to prevent the Indians taking any advantage of us, provided they had any intention of attacking us. About 11 o'clock I was awakened by the firing of one of the centinels; I sprung up ran out, and ordered the men to their posts; when my orderly sergeant (who had charge of the upper block house) called out that the Indians had fired the lower block house (which contained the property of the contractor, which was deposited in the lower part, the upper post having been assigned to a corporal and ten privates as an alarm post). The guns had begun to fire pretty smartly from both sides. I directed the buckets to be got ready and water brought from the well, and the fire extinguished im-

mediately, as it was hardly preceivable at that time ; but from debility or some other cause, the men were very slow in executing my orders.....the word *fire* appeared to throw the whole of them into confusion ; and by the time they had got the water and broken open the door, the fire had unfortunately communicated to a quantity of whisky (the stock having leaked several holes through the lower part of the building, after the salt that was stored there, through which they had introduced the fire without being discovered, as the night was very dark,) and in spite of every exertion we could make use of, in less than a moment it ascended to the roof, and baffled all our efforts to extinguish it. As that block house adjoined the barracks that make part of the fortifications, most of the men immediately gave themselves up for lost, and I had the greatest difficulty in getting any of my orders executedand, sir, from the raging of the fire ; the yelling and howling of several hundred Indians ; the cries of nine women and children (a part soldiers' and a part citizens' wives, who had taken shelter in the fort) ; and the desponding of so many of the men, which was worse than all ; I can assure you that my feelings were very unpleasant.....and indeed there were not more than 10 or 15 men able to do a great deal, the others being either sick or convalescent ; and to add to our other misfortunes, two of the stoutest men in the fort, and whom I had every confidence in, jumped the picket and left us. But my presence of mind did not for a moment forsake me. I saw, by throwing off part of the roof that joined the block house that was on fire, and keeping the end perfectly wet, the whole row of buildings might be saved, and leave only an entrance of 18 or 20 feet for the Indians to enter, after the house was consumed ; and that a temporary breast-work might be erected to prevent their even entering there.....I convinced the men that this could be accomplished, and it appeared to inspire them with new life, and never did men act with more firmness and desperation. Those that were able (while the others kept up a constant fire from the other block house and the two bastions) mounted the roofs of the houses, with Doct. Clark at their head, who acted with the greatest firmness and presence of mind, the whole time the attack lasted, which was seven hours, under a shower of bullets, and in a moment threw off as much of the roof as was necessary. This was done only with the loss of one man and two wounded, and I am in hopes neither of them dangerously. The man that was killed was a little deranged, and did not get off the house as soon as directed, or he would not have been hurt ; and although the barracks were several times in a blaze, and an immense quantity of fire against them, the men used such exertions that they kept it under, and before day raised a temporary breast-work as high as a man's head, although the Indians continued to pour in a heavy fire of ball, and an innu-

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merable quantity of arrows during the whole time the attack lasted, I had but one other man killed inside the fort, and he lost his life by being too anxious.....he got into one of the galleys of the bastions, and fired over the pickets, and called out to his comrades that he had killed an Indian, and neglecting to stoop down, in an instant he was shot dead. One of the men that jumped the pickets, returned an hour before day, and running up towards the gate, begged for God's sake that it might be opened. I suspected it to be a stratagem of the Indians to get in, as I did not recollect the voice.....I directed the men in the bastion, where I happened to be, to shoot him let him be who he would, and one of them fired at him, but fortunately he ran up to the other bastion, where they knew his voice, and Doct. Clark directed him to lie down close to the pickets behind an empty barrel that happened to be there, and at day light I had him let in. His arm was broken in a most shocking manner, which he says was done by the Indians, and which I suppose was the cause of his returning. I think it probable that he will not recover. The other, they caught about 130 yards from the garrison, and cut him all to pieces. After keeping up a constant fire until about six o'clock the next morning, which we returned with some effect; at day-light, they removed out of the reach of our guns. A party of them drove up the horses that belonged to the citizens here, and as they could not catch them very readily, shot the whole of them in our sight, as well as a number of their hogs. They drove off the whole of the cattle which amounted to sixty-five head, as well as the public oxen. I had the vacancy filled up before night, (which was made by the burning of the block house) with a strong row of pickets which I got by pulling down the guard house. We lost the whole of our provisions, but must make out to live upon green corn until we can get a supply, which I am in hopes will not be long. I believe the whole of the Miamies or Weas were among the Prophet's party, as one chief gave his orders in that language, which resembled Stone Eater's voice, and I believe Negro Legs was there likewise. The Indians suffered severely, but were so numerous as to take off all that were shot."

*Defence of fort Bellevue.....*On the 5th September, 1812, the garrison at fort Bellevue, an American post on the Mississippi, near St. Louis, was attacked by upwards of 200 Winabagoes. It is one of the most inellgible positions for defence upon the Mississippi. The parade ground is within musket shot of an eminence that completely commands the fort, and is surrounded to within a few paces of the pickets and block-houses, by hollows or chasms, from which the Indians threw upwards of five hundred pieces of burning timber on the roofs of the block houses, and emitted a constant sheet of fire onevery side, from guns, fiery arrows and brands.

which afforded the garrison little opportunity of annoying them, except such as had the impudence to peep over the banks. To counteract the effects of the fire-brands and arrows with matches, which were thrown upon the block houses, surringes were made of gun barrels and the roofs kept wet : by these means all the attempts of the Indians to fire the block-houses were defeated. They however continued to invest the fort for several days, waiting a favourable wind to set fire to a factory near the garrison, hoping thereby to effect their object. But Lieut. Hamilton anticipated their designs, and took a favorable opportunity to fire the factory when it would not endanger the garrison.

The Indians, being thus baffled in all their attempts to fire the works, withdrew from the fort on the 9th. No lives were lost at the garrison, and but one wounded. The Indians had many killed, as they were seen to fall from the garrison. Lieuts. Hamilton and Vasques did themselves great honour in so ably defending this fort.

Forsyth's expedition.... On the 20th Sept. Capt. Forsyth, with 70 of his rifle company, and 34 militia men, embarked on board a number of boats, at Cape Vincent, and went over to a small village called Gananoque, in the town of Leeds, for the purpose of destroying the king's store-house at that place. They landed unobserved, a short distance from the village, a little before sunrise on the morning of the 21st, but were soon after discovered and fired upon by a party of the British, consisting of about 125 regulars and militia. The Americans returned the fire with so much effect, that the British retreated in disorder, and were pursued to the village, where they again rallied, but soon finding the contest too warm for them, they fled over a bridge and made their escape, leaving behind ten of their number killed, (besides several who were seen to fall into the stream as they were fired upon when passing the bridge) and 8 regulars and a number of militia prisoners. Capt. Forsyth had only one man killed and one slightly wounded....The number of wounded on the part of the enemy, was not ascertained. The militia prisoners were discharged on parole. Capt. Forsyth and his party, with 8 prisoners and 60 stands of arms, two barrels of fixed ammunition, one barrel of powder, one barrel of flints, and some other articles of public property, which they had taken from the enemy, then returned to Cape Vincent ; not however, till they had set fire to his majesty's store-house, which was consumed, together with a quantity of flour and pork.

Defeat of the enemy at Ogdensburg..... On the fourth of October the British made an attack upon the village of Ogdensburg. The Friday and Saturday preceding, they cannonaded the town for several hours each day, from the fort at Prescott ; and on Sunday, having prepared 40 boats, with from 10 to

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15 armed men in each, and six pieces of artillery, they advanced to storm the town. When they advanced within a short distance, the American troops, under Gen. Brown,* commenced a warm fire upon them, which continued, on both sides, for about two hours, at which time the British, having two of their boats so knocked to pieces as to render it necessary to abandon them, and one taken, on board of which was six men, were compelled to relinquish the unprofitable contest, and fled precipitately to Prescott. No damage was sustained on our side, except the injury of some buildings by their cannonading.

*Observations on the campaign of 1812.....*The army of the United States, upon the declaration of war, consisted of eleven regiments, of the old peace establishment. We are not precisely informed how full these regiments were, but believe they ought not to be estimated at more than five hundred men each.

In 1811, congress passed an act for raising ten additional regiments of 2000 men each, to be enlisted for five years. By subsequent acts, however, these regiments were divided into twenty, to consist of 1000 men each, and enlistments authorized for eighteen months. Little progress had been made in enlistments for the new regiments, at the time of the declaration of war. It was, however, immediately undertaken, and with considerable success; but it could hardly be expected to add much to the real force of this campaign.

In addition to this force, congress had put at the controul of the president, upon the happening of either of the exigencies pointed out in the constitution, 100,000 militia, apportioned among the several states as stated, p. 12; and also authorized him to accept the services of such volunteer companies as might tender their services, not exceeding 50,000 men. Such portion of this force as was in actual service, was divided into three armies, called the north-western, centre, and northern. The first, under the immediate command of Gen. Hull, consisted of about 5000 regulars, and 2000 militia from the state of Ohio, and the territory of Michigan. This army commenced offensive operations in Upper Canada, opposite Detroit, as early as the 12th of July; but finally retreated to Detroit, and surrendered Aug. 16th. The second, under the immediate command, first of Gen. Van Rensselaer of the New-York militia, and afterwards of Gen. Smyth, consisted of near 2000 regulars, and 3000 New-York militia. This army was distributed along the Niagara river, from fort Niagara to Buffalo. The third, under the immediate command, first of Gen. Bloomfield, and afterwards of Gen. Dearborn, consisted of about 5000 men, regulars, and Vermont and New-York militia. This army was not actively employed during the campaign.

* At that time of the New-York militia.

The following is a list of the general officers of the United States' army for the year 1812 :

Major Generals....Henry Dearborn and Thomas Pinckney.

Brigadier Generals....James Wilkinson, Wade Hampton, James Winchester, William Hull, John Chandler, Joseph Bloomfield, Thomas Flourney, John Armstrong, William H. Harrison, and John P. Boyd.

Quarter-Master-General....Morgan Lewis.

Adjutant General....Thomas Cushing.

Inspector General....Alexander Smyth.

To form a just estimate of the merits of the American armies for the campaign of 1812 is indeed a difficult task. We ought to reflect that the nation had been in profound peace for four and twenty years, and that consequently the art of war had been almost wholly lost. We had not remaining any officers of experience to conduct our armies, and not a single company that had seen service. In addition to this, the whole system for the recruiting, feeding, clothing, and maintaining an army, was, as it were, to be created. Many of the necessary munitions of war were to be provided. Platoon, staff, and many of the general officers were to be selected from the body of the American people, upon conjecture merely as to their merits. It was therefore to be expected, that many of them would be found incompetent, and undeserving. The campaign has therefore proved, that our generals needed, at least, experience, and our officers and soldiers discipline. It was indeed disastrous, but it was not without its consolations. The great body of the army was found to be brave to a fault ; and many officers gave earnest of their future glory. A Miller, a Snelling, a Van Rensselaer, a Scott, a Christie, a Wadsworth, and a Wool have done immortal honour to themselves and country ; and Maguago and Queenstown will be lasting monuments of their fame.

CHAPTER VI.

Naval operations on lakes Ontario and Erie....Attack on Sacket's Harbour....The Julia.....Capt. Chauncey....His cruize....Battle in Kingston harbour....Capture of the Detroit and Caledonia..... Biography of Capt. Elliot.

THE reader will no doubt rejoice with us, that we have at length passed the most barren and uninteresting part of the campaign, and have arrived at a field of incidents and achievements most interesting in themselves, and honourable to our country....

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achievements that have filled our enemy, the world, and even ourselves with astonishment and admiration. But we will not detain our readers upon achievements that need only be faithfully related to be duly appreciated.

Operations on lake Ontario..... When war was declared the American force upon lake Ontario consisted only of the Oneida of 16 guns, under the command of Lieut. Woolsey. The British had been for a considerable time previous actively employed in equipping vessels of war on that lake. Their force consisted of five sail, viz. the Royal George, of 22 guns, the Prince Regent, of 16, the Earl Moira, of 12, the Seneca, of 8 and the other unknown. On the 19th July Lieut. Woolsey, of the Oneida, lying in Sackets' Harbour, discovered from the mast-head of his brig, the whole British force about five leagues distance, beating up for the Harbour with the wind ahead. The troops were immediately called to arms, and expresses sent to call in the neighboring detachments and volunteers, who arrived in the course of the day, to the amount of nearly 3000. Soon after sunrise, the Prince Regent brought to and captured the custom boat, about seven miles from the harbour, on her return from Gravelly Point. The boat's crew were liberated and set on shore, with a message to Col. Bellenger, the commandant at the harbour, demanding the surrender of the Oneida, and the late British schooner Nelson, seized for a breach of the revenue laws, and fitting for a privateer; and declaring, that in case of a refusal to surrender the vessels the squadron would burn the village, or lay the inhabitants under contribution. Soon after this, Capt. Woolsey left the harbour in the Oneida, and ran down within a league of the squadron; when he returned and moored his vessel on a line with a battery, with springs on his cables. Capt. Woolsey being the most experienced engineer present, left the Oneida under the command of a Lieutenant, and went on shore and took the command of a 32 pounder on the battery, the other guns of which consisted of nine pounders.

By this time the enemy had arrived within gun-shot, the Royal George, as flag ship, ahead, and firing was commenced from the 32 pounder. This was returned by the squadron, which stood off and on....and a brisk cannonading was reciprocally continued for more than two hours, all our guns being well manned and served....and it was plainly discovered that the Royal George and Prince Regent were much injured. At this time, as the flag ship was wearing to give another broadside, a ball from the 32 pounder was seen to strike her and rake her completely; after which the squadron fired but a few guns and bore away for Kingston, not a man being hurt on our side.

The action was maintained within point blank shot. Most of the enemy's balls struck the rocks below the battery, and one 32

pound shot was picked up by our citizens, it having lodged near the breast work.

The Julia.....On the 31st of July, the schooner *Julia*, (late the *Lord Nelson*) of about 60 tons, carrying three guns, one a 32 pounder, and 40 men, was put under the command of Capt. Dickson, and despatched to Ogdensburgh, to convoy seven schooners to Sackets' Harbour. As she arrived at the narrows, about eleven miles from Ogdensburg, she anchored and hailed a smack, with six men on board. They gave no answer, but pulled off.... *The Julia* fired a shot ahead of them, but they continued their course. Capt. Dickson ordered his crew to fire on them; and so effectually was his order executed, that four were killed, and two leaped from the smack and swam ashore.

The *Earl Moria* and *Duke of Gloucester*, then lying at Elizabethtown, came out, and after firing a broadside at the *Julia*, which did no injury, for some unknown reason, retreated under the fort. Capt. Dickson pursued them, and fired his 32 pounder about one hundred times, with great effect. Screeches were distinctly heard on board the enemy, and the splinters were seen to fly mast high almost every shot.

Capt. Chauncy.....In the month of Sept. Capt. Isaac Chauncy was appointed to superintend the building and command of the American fleet on lake Ontario. He arrived at Sackets' Harbour in the month of October; and so great were his exertions, that on the 8th of Nov. following he was enabled to sail with an aggregate force of 40 guns, and 430 men. Having learned that the British fleet, then consisting of an aggregate force of 108 guns, and 890 men, were separated, he determined to take an advantageous position near the False Ducks, (a number of small islands, so called, on the Canada shore, near which the enemy must pass to get into Kingston,) and attack and defeat either portion of this squadron, if possible.

The following is an extract of Capt. Chauncy's official letter to the Secretary of the Navy, dated Nov. 13, 1812, detailing the events of the cruise:

"On the 8th I fell in with the *Royal George* and chased her into the bay of Quantico, where I lost sight of her in the night. In the morning of the 9th we again got sight of her, lying in Kingston channel. We gave chase and followed her in the harbour of Kingston, where we engaged her and the batteries for one hour and forty minutes. I had made up my mind to board her, but she was so well protected by the batteries and the wind blowing directly in, it was deemed imprudent to make the attempt at that time....the pilots also refused to take charge of the vessels. Under these circumstances, and it being after sundown, I deter-

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mined to haul off and renew the attack next morning. We beat up in good order, under a heavy fire from the Royal George and batteries, to Four Mile Point, where we anchored. It blew heavy in squalls from the westward during the night, and there was every appearance of a gale of wind. The pilots became alarmed, and I thought it most prudent to get into a place of more safety. I therefore (very reluctantly) deferred renewing the attack upon the ship and forts until a more favourable opportunity.

At 7 A. M. on the 10th, I made the signal to weigh, and we beat out of a very narrow channel, under a very heavy press of sail to the open lake. At 10 we fell in with the Governor Simcoe, running for Kingston, and chased her in the harbour. She escaped by running over a reef of rocks, under a heavy fire from the Governor Tompkins, the Hamilton, and the Julia, which cut her very much. All her people ran below while under the fire of these vessels. The Hamilton chased her into nine feet water before she hauled off. We tacked to the southward with an intention of running to our station at the Ducks, but it coming on to blow very heavy, the pilots told me it would be unsafe to keep the lake.

"In our passage through the Bay of Quanti, I discovered a schooner at the village of Armingstown, which we took possession of, but finding she would detain us, (being then in chase of the Royal George) I ordered Lieut. Macpherson to take out her sails and rigging and burn her, which he did. We also took the schooner Mary Hall from Niagara, at the mouth of Kingston harbour, and took her with us to our anchorage. The next morning, finding that she could not beat through the channel with us, I ordered the sailing master in the Growler to take her under convoy and run down past Kingston, anchor on the east end of Long Island and wait for a wind to come up on the east side. I was also in hopes that the Royal George might be induced to follow her for the purpose of re-taking our prize, but her commander was too well aware of the consequences to leave his moorings.

"We lost in this affair, one man killed and three slightly wounded, with a few shot through our sails. The other vessels lost no men, and received but little injury in their hull and sails, with the exception of the Pert, whose gun burst in the early part of the action, and wounded her commander, (sailing master Arundel) badly, and a midshipman and three men slightly. Mr. Arundel, who refused to quit the deck although wounded, was knocked overboard in beating up to our anchorage, and I am sorry to say was drowned.

"The Royal George must have received very considerable injury in the hull and in men, as the gun vessels with a long 32 pounder, were seen to strike her almost every shot, and it was

observed that she was reinforced with troops four different times during the action.

"I have great pleasure in saying, that the officers and men on board every vessel behaved with the utmost coolness, and are extremely anxious to meet the enemy on the open lake; and as long as I have the honour to command such officers and such men, I have no doubt of the result."

The following, a more detailed account of the action in Kingston harbour, is taken from the notes of an officer on board the fleet during the action:

"At 50 minutes after 2, set top-gallant sails; 5 minutes after 3, the batteries on India and Navy points opened their fire on the leading vessels. Lieut. Elliot of the Conquest pushed forward, and went in the handsomest style: he was followed by the Julia, Frant....Pert, Aurundle....Growler, Mix; next came the brig bearing the commodore's broad pendant....then the Hamilton, Lieut. M'Pherson, and Governor Tompkins, Lieut. Brown, who was far astern, having been despatched in the early part of the day on particular business. 12 minutes after 3, Lieut. Elliot opened his fire; 15 minutes after 3, the Pert, Growler, and Julia commenced their's; 20 minutes after 3, batteries opened on the brig, and she sustained the principal part of the fire during the remainder of the action; 22 minutes after 3, signal, "engage closer," thrown out, and answered by all; 25 minutes after 3, the Pert's gun burst; Aurundel wounded badly....(he was afterwards knocked over by the boom, and drowned!); 30 minutes after 3, Garnet killed aboard the brig; 40 minutes after 3, brig opened her fire on the ship, and the ship on the Hamilton; fire continued with astonishing alacrity.

"4 o'clock, ship George cut her cables and run away further up the bay. The squadron is now exposed to the cross fire of five batteries, of flying artillery, of the ship with springs on her cables so as to enable her to bring her guns to bear. The Governor Tompkins now bears up in the bay and opens her fire! and the firing becomes general and very warm! Showers of round and grape fall around us.

"Half past 4, hauled by the wind, and began to beat out of the bay, as night was closing in, and the prospect, blowing weather....anchored two miles out in full sight....heavy gales all night.... continued in sight next day....the Royal George was too prudent to venture out.

"Our sailors had no grog: they need no stimulus of that kind; they seem to have no fear of death. I was by the side of Garnet a few moments before he fell. He was laughing heartily, and in that act was cut in two by a nine pound shot. I afterwards saw his countenance; it seemed as if the smile had not yet

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left it. This disaster only exasperated our seamen ; they prayed and entreated to be laid close aboard the Royal George only 5 minutes, "just to revenge Garnet's death."

One incident deserves notice, which does great honour to Capt. Chauncy....When going into the harbour, he directed the squadron to level their fire as much as possible against the Royal George and batteries, as it was not his wish to do injury to individuals, by beating down the houses at Kingston.

*Operations on lake Erie.....*On the morning of the 8th October, two British vessels, the Detroit and Caledonia, came down the lake and anchored under the guns of fort Erie. Lieut. Elliot, then at Black Rock, had the superintendence of our naval affairs on that lake. He immediately conceived a project for their capture, though his seamen had not then arrived : and in the morning of the succeeding day most gallantly effected his object, as related in the following extract from his official letter to the Secretary of the Navy :

"On the morning of the 8th Oct. two British vessels, which I was informed were his Britannic majesty's brigs Detroit, late the United States' brig Adams, and the brig Hunter, mounting 14 guns, but which afterwards proved to be the brig Caledonia, both said to be well armed and manned, came down the lake and anchored under the protection of fort Erie. Having been on the lines for some time, and in a measure inactively employed, I determined to make an attack, and if possible get possession of them. A strong inducement to this attempt arose from a conviction that with these two vessels, added to those which I have purchased and am fitting out, I should be able to meet the remainder of the British force on the upper lakes, and save an incalculable expence and labour to the government. On the morning of their arrival I heard that our seamen were but a short distance from this place, and immediately despatched an express to the officers directing them to use all possible dispatch in getting their men to this place, as I had important service to perform. On their arrival, which was about 12 o'clock, I discovered that they had only 20 pistols, and neither cutlasses or battle axes. But on application to Gens. Smith and Hall, of the regulars and militia, I was supplied with a few arms, and Gen. Smith was so good on my request, as immediately to detach fifty men from the regulars, armed with muskets.

"By 4 o'clock in the afternoon, I had my men selected and stationed in two boats, which I had previously prepared for the purpose. With these boats, fifty men in each, and under circumstances very disadvantageous, my men having scarcely had time to refresh themselves after a fatiguing march of 500 miles, I put

off from the mouth of Buffalo creek, at 1 o'clock the following morning, and at 3 I was along side the vessels. In the space of about 10 minutes I had the prisoners all secured, the topsails sheeted home, and the vessels under way. Unfortunately the wind was not sufficiently strong to get up a rapid current into the lake, where I had understood another armed vessel lay at anchor, and I was obliged to run down the river by the forts, under a heavy fire of round, grape, and canister, from a number of pieces of heavy ordnance and several pieces of flying artillery, was compelled to anchor at a distance of about 400 yards from two of their batteries. After the discharge of the first gun, which was from the flying artillery, I hailed the shore, and observed to the officer, that if another gun was fired I would bring the prisoners on deck, and expose them to the same fate we should all share.... but notwithstanding they disregarded the caution, and continued a constant and destructive fire. One single moment's reflection determined me not to commit an act that would subject me to the imputation of barbarity. The Caledonia had been beached in as safe a position as the circumstances would admit of, under one of our batteries at Black Rock. I now brought all the guns of the Detroit on one side next the enemy, stationed the men at them, and directed a fire which was continued as long as our ammunition lasted, and circumstances permitted. During the contest I endeavored to get the Detroit on our side, by sounding a line, there being no wind on shore, with all the line I could muster; but the current being so strong the boat could not reach the shore. I then hailed our shore, and requested that warps would be made fast on land, and sent on board; the attempt to all which again proved useless. As the fire was such as would in all probability, sink the vessel in a short time, I determined to drift down the river out of reach of the batteries, and make a stand against the flying artillery. I accordingly cut the cable, made sail with very light airs, and at that instant discovered that the pilot had abandoned me. I dropped astern for about ten minutes, when I was brought up on our shore on Squaw Island....got the boarding boat ready, had the prisoners put in and sent on shore, with directions for the officer to return for me and what property we could get from the brig. He did not return, owing to the difficulty in the boat's getting on shore. Discovering a skiff under the counter, I put the four remaining prisoners in a boat, and with my officers I went on shore to bring the boat off. I asked for protection to the brig, of Lieut. Col. Scott, who readily gave it. At this moment I discovered a boat with about 40 soldiers from the British side, making for the brig. They got on board, but were soon compelled to abandon her, with the loss of nearly all their men. During the whole of this morning, both sides of the river kept up alternately a continued fire on the brig, and so much injured her

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that it was impossible to have floated her. Before I left her, she had several heavy shot of large size in her bends, her sails in ribbons, and rigging all cut to pieces.

"To my officers and men I feel under great obligation. To Capt. Towson and Lieut. Roach of the 2d regiment of artillery, Ensign Prestman, of the infantry, Capt. Chapin, Mr. John McComb, Messrs. John Town, Thomas Dain, Peter Overstocks, and James Sloan, resident gentlemen of Buffalo, for their soldier and sailor like conduct. In a word, sir, every man fought as if with their hearts animated only by the interest and honour of their country.

"The prisoners I have turned over to the military. The Detroit mounted six 6 pound long guns, commanding Lieut. marines, a boatswain and gunner, and 56 men.....about 30 American prisoners on board, muskets, pistols, cutlasses and battle-axes. In boarding her I lost one man, one officer wounded, Mr. John C. Cummings, acting midshipman, layonet through the leg....his conduct was correct, and deserves the notice of the department. The Caledonia mounted two small guns, blunderbusses, pistols, muskets, cutlasses and boarding pikes, 12 men including officers, 10 prisoners on board. The boat boarding her, commanded by sailing master George Watts, performed his duty in a masterly style. But one man killed, and four wounded badly, I am afraid mortally."

About three o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, the British boarded the Detroit the second time, and were again dislodged, with the loss of three prisoners, and several wounded. She was afterwards burned by the Americans, after having secured her stores and armament. The Caledonia, having on board a cargo of fur, valued at 150,000 dollars, was safely moored under the batteries at Black Rock.

*Biography of Capt. Elliot....*The following biographical notice of Lieut. now Capt Elliot, is from the Port Folio, and we think cannot fail of being interesting:

JESSE DUNCAN ELLIOT was born in Maryland, on the 14th of July, 1780. His father, Robert Elliot, was unfortunately slain by the Indians in the year 1794, near the Muskingum river, while transacting business for the army of the United States. The particular nature of this business may be known by the resolution of congress, passed on this melancholy event: "Be it enacted, &c. that the sum of two thousand dollars be allowed to the widow of Robert Elliot, who was killed by a party of hostile Indians while he was conducting the necessary supplies for the army commanded by Major Genl. Wayne in the year 1794, and that the sum be paid to her, to and for the use of herself and the children of the



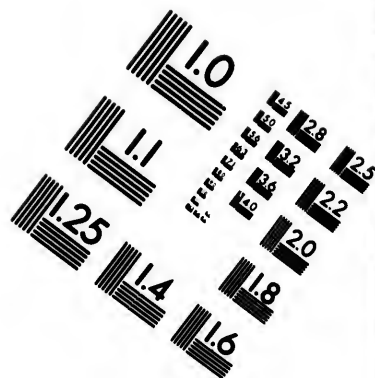
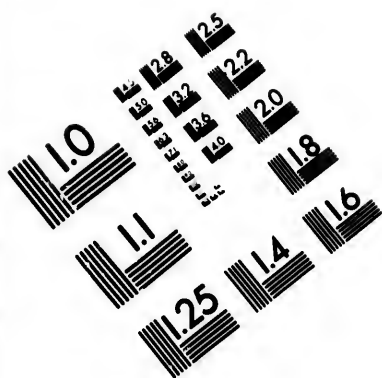
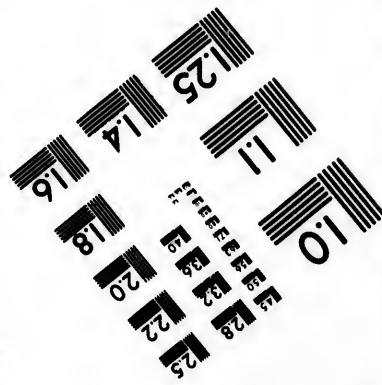
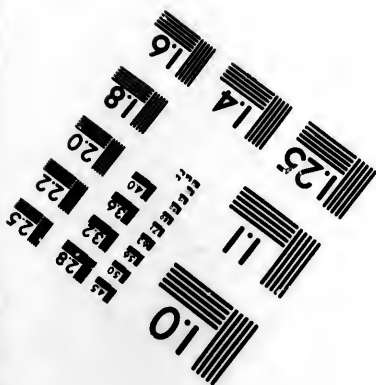
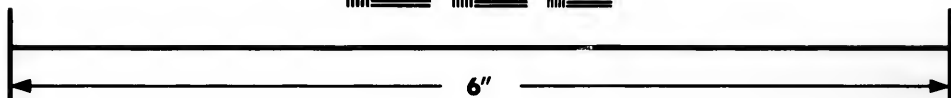
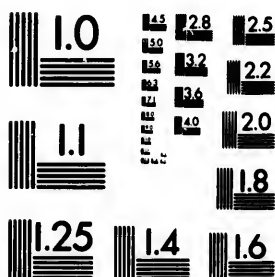


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said Robert, out of any monies in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated."

Until the year 1804, Jesse Elliot was engaged in prosecuting his regular studies in a school in Pennsylvania, when he was appointed a midshipman in the navy, and ordered on board the U. S. frigate *Essex*. The United States being engaged in a war with the Barbary powers, the above mentioned frigate was ordered to cruise in the Mediterranean.

The little force that congress were enabled to detach for that service....their limited means of annoyance....the treachery and ferocity of their barbarous antagonists, created a deep responsibility in the officers, and conspired to introduce a system of masculine intrepidity, severity of discipline, and promptitude of obedience, of which, even to the present hour, we reap the benefits. The treachery of our opponents taught our men to be ever on the alert, and their cruelty made them bold and resolute to rashness. Knowing how much was expected, and how scanty were their means, they supplied every deficiency by skill and courage. Contempt of danger was so rigidly enforced, that when one of our subordinate officers showed symptoms of fear in an engagement, and was tried by a court-martial, the commodore assigned for his acquittal, a reason no less curious than just, (*viz.*) that the bare supposition that one coward existed on board of the American fleet, was of itself a greater injury than the condemnation of this man could possibly be a benefit, *as it would establish the fact.* The British squadron in the Mediterranean minutely watched the movements of our little fleet for the purpose of sarcasm and jest. Their sarcasms were however soon converted into expressions of warm admiration.

Thus does the sturdy son of Vulcan deal,
On the hard anvil he torments his steel.
Drawn from the forge, it glows with angry lights,
And sparkles indignation while he smites
Fast fall the blows, but they new strength afford,
Till chang'd at last, it shines the warrior's sword.

Amidst such a band of kindred spirits, our young midshipman learned to smile at danger while he grew familiar with it, and felt his ideas expanded and enlarged. Returning to the United States in July 1807, and desirous of obtaining a lieutenancy in the navy, he solicited the kind offices of Mr. Robert Serrit Smith, in whose charge he had been placed as well privately as officially, to obtain a station on board the frigate *Chesapeake*. He remained in this station until June 1810, when he was appointed acting lieutenant on board the schooner *Enterprize*. This vessel was ordered to cruise on the coast, and to enforce the embargo laws. Lieut. Elliot remained in this service until the year 1810, and was then appointed to carry a despatch to Mr. Pinkney our minister at the court of Great Britain.

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On his return to the United States he served in the John Adams until September 1811. From the Adams he was transferred to the Argus, on board of which he acted as first lieutenant, and in which he remained until the following year. He was all this time preparing his mind for the severe duties of his profession; for to shine in gold lace and epaulets, to talk of his own intrepidity, to become the petty hero of a drawing-room, constituted no part of his ambition. He left that grovelling pride to those who can condescend to become the heroes of their own fame, and who wear the badges of their country's honour to show how little they deserve them.

The probability that an opportunity would be soon afforded of distinguishing himself in the service of his country, was, in his estimation, becoming every hour more and more remote. He saw no prospect of war, and, fatigued in the chace of glory's brilliant visions that still sparkled over his head, and still eluded his grasp, he resigned his mind to the sway of the more endearing passions. On the 5th of April 1812, he was married to Miss Frances Vaughan, daughter of Mr. William Vaughan, of Norfolk county, Virginia. Fortune, that capricious goddess, as if to try the strength of his attachment to arms, immediately compelled him to relinquish the sweets of domestic intercourse, and the calm delights of conjugal affection, for the hardier scenes of danger and battle: war was declared against England. He immediately and with all speed repaired to New York, to rejoin the vessel whence he had been furloughed, and found, to his mortification, that she had already sailed upon a cruise.

He was nevertheless solicited by Commodore Chauncey to embark with him on a secret and novel expedition, to which he cordially assented, and the commodore applied to the proper department to receive his instructions. Lieutenant Elliot was honoured by an appointment to the command on Lake Erie, and received orders to repair to that place with all possible despatch, purchase what private vessels he could, build two ships of twenty guns, and as early as possible have his fleet in readiness to meet that of the enemy.

Lieutenant Elliot knew the vast importance of the command of the lakes in our war against Canada and the difficulty and delay which would attend the building of the vessels, to say nothing of the expense. He had indeed, in pursuance of his instructions, purchased some vessels; but here again he was much embarrassed with the difficulty of getting up the Niagara and into the lake. After revolving in his mind all these obstacles, he formed the resolution of boarding and capturing two British brigs of war, called the Detroit and Caledonia, lying under the protection of the batteries on Fort Erie. He accordingly embarked in two boats, with fifty men in each, and put off from the mouth of Buffalo

creek, and at one o'clock in the morning came along side of the enemy. He boarded and captured the two vessels, and secured all the prisoners in ten minutes. Unfortunately the wind was not strong enough to enable Lieutenant Elliot to make head against the rapid current in the lake, and he was compelled to anchor opposite the enemy's forts, within about four hundred and fifty yards of their batteries, exposed to a heavy and incessant fire of round, grape, and cannister shot from a number of pieces of heavy ordnance and their flying artillery. The Caledonia was however beyond the reach of the enemy's guns, under one of our batteries at Black Rock. Lieut. Elliot ordered all the guns of the Detroit to be mounted on one side, whence he kept up a constant fire against the enemy's batteries as long as his ammunition lasted. He determined then to drop down the river out of reach of their cannon, and make a stand against the flying artillery. At this instant he discovered, for the first time, that his pilot had deserted him. He however, cut the cable and falling astern, made good his way to Square Island. He sent the boarding boat on shore with the prisoners, himself and four others only remaining in the Detroit, directing the officer to return for him and what property they might be able to save from the brig. The officer was unable to return on account of the strength of the current. At length discovering a skiff under the stern, he made for the shore in her with the remaining part of the crew.

During all this time an incessant fire was kept up from both sides of the river on the brig. She received twelve shot of large size in her bends, her sails were reduced to ribbands, and her rigging cut to pieces. Finding that all attempts to carry off the Detroit was unavailing, he dismantled her of all her ordnance and stores and set her on fire. The Caledonia was found to be a vessel belonging to the north-west company, loaded with peltry. Lieutenant Elliot's party consisted of one hundred men. He was fortunate enough to capture one hundred and thirty prisoners with their officers, and to release from captivity forty of his own countrymen, belonging to the fourth U. S. regiment. Lieut. Elliot on boarding opposed three of the enemy with no other weapon than his cutlass. During the hottest of the fire from the batteries, a cannon shot passed through, and striking a large silver wedge deposited in a trunk belonging to one of the officers, bent it double. This wedge is still preserved as a curiosity.

So sensible were congress of the gallantry and skill of this young officer, as displayed in this exploit, that they passed the following resolution: "Be it enacted, &c. that the president of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to have distributed as prize money to Lieut. Elliot, his officers and companions, or to their widows and children, the sum of twelve thousand dollars, for the capture and destruction of the British brig Detroit." "Re-

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solved, that the president of the United States be, and he is hereby requested to present to Lieut. Elliot of the navy of the United States, an elegant sword with suitable emblems and devices, in testimony of the just sense entertained by congress of his gallantry and good conduct in boarding and capturing the British brigs Detroit and Caledonia, while anchored under the protection of Fort Erie."

Shortly after this brilliant exploit, Lieut. Elliot left Erie and arrived at Sacket's Harbour, where he joined Commodore Chauncey. The commodore sailed on the 8th of November with six schooners in quest of the enemy's fleet, and on the same day fell in with the Royal George. Losing sight of her in the night, he discovered her the next morning riding in Kingston channel, under the protection of the batteries. He immediately followed her into the channel where he engaged her and the batteries for an hour and three quarters, and determined to board her in the night. But as the wind blew directly on shore, and the pilot refused to take charge of the vessels, the commodore was reluctantly compelled to forego his determination. Lieut. Elliot commanded the leading vessel in this engagement.

On the 24th of July Lieut. Elliot was promoted over thirty lieutenants, to the rank of master commandant. Being appointed to command the Madison in Commodore Chauncey's fleet, when that officer sailed for York, on his arrival he discovered that he could not bring his ship into action from the shoalness of the water.... He then volunteered his services, and asked and obtained the commodore's permission to lead the small vessels employed in covering the troops while they were landing and attacking the batteries. Gen. Dearborn embarked his troops, amounting to seventeen hundred men, on board Com. Chauncey's fleet, and arrived at York, the capital of Upper Canada. The squadron taking a position to the westward and southward of the fort, covered the debarkation of the troops. The riflemen under Major Forsyth landed under a heavy fire, and seven hundred regulars with one hundred Indians marched to oppose the landing of the American army. Gen. Pike with seven hundred men having effected a landing, routed the enemy and pushed direct for the principal batteries. At this time the enemy blew up his magazine, and precipitately retreated. Thirty-eight of our men were killed by this explosion, amongst whom we have to lament the gallant Pike, and two hundred and thirty-eight were wounded. The town surrendered by capitulation, and Capt. Elliot was appointed by Com. Chauncey to see that the articles were carried into execution on the part of the navy.

After his return to Sacket's Harbour, he found an officer of usual rank in waiting for the Madison, while he himself was ordered by the secretary of the navy to take the command of one

of the brigs on Lake Erie. He complied with this order, not without regret, desiring as he did to be with Com. Chauncey in the action hourly expected to be fought on Lake Ontario. He volunteered until after the contemplated action to serve on board the General Pike as acting first lieutenant. He made this proposition however with reluctance, as he thought that his rank and services entitled him to a more conspicuous command.

When the squadron was ready for sea and had proceeded to the head of the lake, information was received that the American fleet was blockaded at Erie, that the siege of Fort Meigs was raised, and that the troops were waiting for the navy to cover their crossing to Malden. The commodore communicated this intelligence to Capt. Elliot. He was then under a belief that Sir James Yeo would not venture out of Kingston and give battle to Com. Chauncey for some time, and agreed to leave Ontario for Lake Erie. He accordingly set out with one hundred volunteers, arrived at Erie in five days, and on the sixth sailed for Malden in pursuit of the enemy. On the 10th of September the enemy's fleet were discovered at sun-rise from Put-in-bay, where the American squadron, commanded by Commodore Perry, were riding at anchor.

The American commander immediately prepared for action, and gave chase to the enemy. On the flag of the commodore's vessel were inscribed the dying words of the gallant Lawrence.... "Dont give up the ship."

Perry having formed his line, bore down for the enemy's fleet, in order of battle, and outsailing his squadron, pursued his course, with an intention to come to close quarters, and thus received the whole fire of the enemy's line. Being much annoyed by the long guns of the enemy, with all his rigging shot away, and his guns all dismounted, the Lawrence became unmanageable, having sustained the enemy's fire for two hours within cannister distance. At this moment Com. Perry formed the resolution of shifting his flag, and abandoning the ship to the care of Lieut. Yarnall. He repaired in an open boat, exposed to the whole range of the enemy's fire, from his broad-side and small arms, on board the Niagara commanded by Capt. Elliot. He determined now on breaking the enemy's line, and bearing up passed ahead of their two ships, giving them a raking fire from the right and left. While this bold manoeuvre was performing, some circumstances occurred that induced Capt. Elliot to quit his station and proceed to the head of the line.

Here unfortunately rests the difference between these two gallant officers. Com. Perry states in his official account of this battle, that he made sail and directed the other vessels to follow him, for the purpose of closing with the enemy. He further states, that at half-past two Capt. Elliot was enabled, by the wind spring-

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ing up, to bring his vessel gallantly *into close action*. Capt. Elliot alleges that at the time the commodore relinquished the Lawrence and came on board the Niagara, he went to the head of the line, unauthorised and on his own responsibility. He apprehended that the commodore was dead, and was preparing to change the line of battle when that officer came on board the Niagara. Capt. Elliot discovering an important part of the fleet improperly placed, volunteered his services to pass the whole of the enemy's line, bringing up these vessels and place them in a position more capable of annoying the enemy. To this proposition the commodore cordially assented. Accordingly Capt. Elliot passed in a small boat down the whole line, during which time the fire of the enemy was so incessant, that his clothes were wet from the water thrown all around him by the balls. The gun-boats were at that time throwing random and ineffectual shot at a distance, when Capt. Elliot commanded them to cease their firing, and to make sail and follow him. This was accordingly done, and he placed them under the stern of the two heaviest ships of the enemy. In this manner were the gun-boats all brought up and disposed by Capt. Elliot, when, after some considerable fire, the enemy's fleet struck their colours. The guns not having been fired from the Somers as he wished, he repaired on board that vessel and fired the thirty two pounder three times himself, while Commodore Perry gallantly broke the line of the enemy, and bringing both sides of the Niagara into action at once, the fire from the gun-boats raking them from another direction from their sterns, soon decided the fate of the day. It is singular in such contests to observe the accordance that sometimes happen in the chances of war. Com. Perry, by breaking the enemy's line, passed ahead of his two heaviest ships, and, as before stated, poured in a raking fire from his starboard guns, while the gun-boats so disposed by Capt. Elliot, saluted them in the same manner from their sterns. The larboard guns at the same time gave a raking fire to a large schooner and sloop that passed at half pistol shot distance.

We know not whether another instance can be produced in the annals of naval history, of bringing all the guns of a single ship to bear, and so effectually upon the enemy as was done by his bold project of breaking their line. It is no less astonishing that Capt. Elliot, without knowing how the senior officer proposed to manage the Niagara, should on his own responsibility, at such a time have placed the gun-boats under the sterns of the enemy's largest ships. We see two great and gallant minds, maintaining an immovable tenacity in the midst of danger, and occupied solely by one great object, the destruction of the enemy's fleet, and acting strictly in concert, although unconscious of it themselves. It proves how early this ethereal spirit is the same on whatever portion of hu-

manity it acts, and that it is always consistent in the display of its proper character.

We all can admire the courage and skill of a successful warrior. Wherever victory impresses her dazzling stamp, we dare not call in question the act that passes her consecrated seal. And yet if we soberly investigate the matter, how nearly is even this wonder of the million allied to glorious rashness. We will suppose that the light breeze which favoured Perry when he went on board the Niagara, and enabled him to pass triumphantly through the enemy's line, had settled to a dead calm when he had reached the head of the hostile ships. They would have wore round, and he exposed to two full broadsides, and incapable of extricating himself, must have surrendered. But his raking fire threw every thing into confusion, and while he was rounding to, to pass the defile again, the thunders of the gun-boats were breaking on their sterns. On such nice and delicate points rests the reputation of hero. That successful breath of wind consecrated to fame the character of the American navy.

We hope it may not be deemed altogether inappropriate, since we have traced the character of this great spirit when surrounded by the lustre of victory, to observe its complexion under the shade of misfortune. Commodore Barclay, the British commander had participated in Nelson's lustre. Wounded and faint from the loss of blood, he was carried below; he beheld his fleet dispersed and captured with all that mortification felt by a generous and ardent mind; compelled to submit, but not conquered or enslaved by misfortune. He is sent home a prisoner on parole, and a festival is given by his countrymen to his honour. At that time and at that place, the toast of that gallant and heroic officer, *Commodore Perry, the brave and generous enemy*. Nothing all that has been said to Perry's honour equals this, and it may be generously retorted by every high minded American, that the gallant soul who could indulge in such a sentiment, has achieved victory over misfortune more glorious than even the triumph of Erie. To Capt. Elliot belongs, beyond all dispute, an important share in the lustre of this memorable day. The moment he perceives the commodore's flag shifted on board his own ship, he considers what service he can now render, what new dangers he encounters with a prospect of advantage. He assumes the command of the gun-boats with the same promptitude that he relinquished his own vessel, intent only on serving his country, and giving lustre to her name. Let the highest authority known to our laws speak for themselves on this occasion. Congress passes the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the president of the United States be requested to cause gold medals to be struck, emblematic of the action between the two squadrons, and to be presented to Capt. Perry

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to Capt. Jesse Elliot, in such manner as will be most agreeable to them, and that the president be further requested to present a silver medal, with suitable emblems and devices, to each of the commissioned officers either of the navy or army, and a sword to each of the midshipmen and sailing-masters who so nobly distinguished themselves on that day."

Capt. Elliot, after the action on Erie, was entrusted with the arrangement of Gen. Harrison's boats in the embarkation and debarkation of his troops, when he assumed the command of the fleet, and went up the lake. When Gen. Harrison's army advanced, he selected some of his best men to man three gun-boats, for the purpose of boarding a force of gun-boats the enemy were said to have collected in the Thames. These vessels unfortunately fell into the hands of the British, who destroyed them by fire before they were ready for action.

Capt. Elliot afterwards received orders to take the command of the fleet on lake Erie, and make preparations for the reduction of fort Mackinac in the spring. He received the thanks of the committee of Pennsylvania, the state from which he was introduced into the navy, accompanied by a gold medal.

Capt. Elliot is now attached to the squadron commanded by Com. Chauncey on lake Ontario, and has signalized himself in such a manner, as to have received the most marked acknowledgements from that gallant and intrepid officer.

The private life of Capt. Elliot affords a delightful and reposing contrast to that character in which we have all along seen him invested. The warm and generous friend, the kind and hospitable companion, and the affectionate husband, are, at such seasons, all that remain of him who in the chase of fame is so prodigal of existence. He then cultivates assiduously all the tender charities of life, and veils from sight the noble stock round which they twine for support, by the intervening blossoms. The heart that no danger could move, yields to the slightest touch of compassion.

Thus the proud oak, when tempests rage on high,
Shakes his green head against the frowning sky;
But when his breath the gentle zephyr heaves,
The trembling dew-drops trickle from his leaves.

CHAPTER VII.

Naval operations on the ocean.....Com. Rodgers' cruise.....Chase of the Constitution.....Capture of the Guerriere.....Comparison of American and British frigates.....Biography of Capt. Hull.

*Com. Rodgers' cruise.....*Com. Rodgers, on the 21st of June, having received instructions from the navy department, and official information of the declaration of war, sailed from New-York, on board the President, having under his command, also, the United States, Congress, Argus, and Hornet. Previous to leaving New-York, he had learned that the homeward bound Jamaica fleet had sailed under convoy, on the 20th of the preceding month. He shaped his course eastwardly, in expectation of falling in with vessels which had seen the convoy; and the following evening fell in with an American brig, which gave him such information as he desired. He now crowded all sail in pursuit; but the next morning was taken out of his course, by chasing the British frigate Belvidere.

The Belvidere was discovered on the 23d, at 6 A. M. when the squadron gave chase. The superiority of the President's sailing, while the breeze continued fresh, enabled her to get within gun shot between 4 and 5 P. M. when it had moderated so much as to give very faint hopes of getting along side. At this time, perceiving she was training her guns to bear upon the President, the latter commenced a fire at her spars and rigging, with a view to cripple and get abreast of her. A fire was kept up about two hours. The President gave her two or three broad-sides, and kept up a well directed fire from the chase guns, which cut her sails and rigging very much, but did not succeed in destroying any of her spars, although some of them were much wounded. The President all this time was exposed to a running fire from her 4 stern chasers; and once the British frigate commenced a fire from her main deck, with an intention of raking the President with a broadside, but at that moment receiving one from the President, continued her course under a press of sail, and used only her stern guns. All sail was crowded in pursuit, but in vain. The chase was now throwing overboard, every thing that could be spared, to increase her sailing, and escaped by the lightness of the wind. Four of her boats were seen floating by the President completely knocked to pieces, together with a great number of casks, spars, &c.

The President received a considerable number of shot in her sails and rigging, but was not materially injured. The chase was continued till about midnight, when it was relinquished as hopeless, and the President hove too for the squadron to come up.....

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Early in the chase, one of the President's chase guns, on the gun deck, burst, and injured the upper deck so much, as to prevent the use of the chase guns on that side for a considerable time. The President had three killed and nineteen wounded, most of the latter slightly; of the wounded 16 were by the bursting of a gun. By the same gun Com. Rodgers had his leg fractured.

On board the Belvidere two were killed and seven wounded; among the latter, her captain and one lieutenant.

The squadron then resumed its course in pursuit of the Jamaica fleet, but received no further intelligence of it until the 29th of June; when on the western banks of Newfoundland, an American schooner was spoken, the master of which gave information that he had passed the fleet two days before. On the 1st of July, a little to the eastward of Newfoundland bank, the squadron fell in with quantities of cocoa-nut shells, orange peels, &c. which indicated that the fleet was not far distant. The pursuit was now continued with great spirit, though frequent interruptions were occasioned by vessels it was necessary to pursue. No more intelligence was obtained until the 9th of July, when a British private armed brig was captured. She had seen the fleet the preceding evening, and had counted eighty-five sail. The convoy consisted of a two decker, a frigate, a sloop of war, and a brig.

This was the last intelligence the commodore received of the fleet. He continued the pursuit until the 13th of July. He was then within eighteen or twenty hours' sail of the British channel. The Commodore now directed the squadron to steer for Madeira. It passed close by that island on the 21st of July; thence near the Azores; returned by the banks of Newfoundland, and entered the port of Boston, after a cruise of upwards of two months.

During the cruise seven merchant vessels were captured, and one American re-captured.

Though this cruise was not attended with any success of a brilliant nature, yet it was productive of considerable advantage, by the American squadron being thus united, and cruising for such a length of time, the attention of the British vessels was drawn from the harbours of the United States, while they went in quest of it. Thus an almost incalculable amount of American property, that would otherwise have been captured, was brought safe into port.

Chase of the Constitution..... On the 12th of July, the United States' frigate Constitution, Capt. Hull, sailed from Chesapeake bay. On the 16th Capt. Hull saw and gave chase to a frigate, but was unable, the wind being light, to come up with her before night. It continued calm during the night. In the morning, Captain Hull found himself near an enemy's squadron, con-

sisting of one ship of the line, four frigates, a brig and a schooner. The nearest frigate was within gun-shot. It was a dead calm. The British immediately put all the boats of the squadron to two frigates, and thereby gained on the Constitution, and brought some of their bow guns to bear. The Constitution occasionally fired her stern chasers. In this state the vessels continued all that day. On the following morning a light breeze sprang up, which enabled the Constitution to escape, after a chase of sixty-four hours. During the whole of this time, her gallant crew remained at their quarters without a murmur. So ably and successfully did Capt. Hull manœuvre his vessel on this occasion, that it excited admiration even in the British admiral. The Constitution arrived safe in Boston.

On the 2d of Aug. she again sailed from Boston. Capt. Hull stood to the eastward, along the coast, in hopes of falling in with one of the British frigates, reported to be cruising in that direction. He passed near the coast, as far as the bay of Fundy, without seeing any vessel whatever. He then ran off Halifax and cape Sables. Seeing no vessel for three or four days, he determined to steer eastward, toward Newfoundland. He passed near the isle of Sables; and took a station off the Gulph of St. Lawrence, near cape Race, to intercept vessels bound either to or from Canada. While cruising off this station he captured two merchant vessels. On the 15th he discovered a convoy of five sail, to which he gave chase. He captured one of them, and prevented the prize ship of an American privateer from being taken.

Having received information, that the British squadron were off the Grand Bank, and not far distant, he determined to change his cruising ground. He accordingly stood to the southward.... On the 18th he was informed by the commander of an American privateer, that a British ship of war had been seen the day before standing to the southward, and could not be far off. It was then about 12 o'clock at night. Hull immediately made sail to the southward, intending, if possible, to fall in with her.

On the 19th of Aug. at 2 o'clock, P. M. the Constitution being in latitude 41 degrees and 42 minutes north, and 55 degrees 33 minutes west longitude, a vessel was discovered to the southward. The Constitution instantly made all sail in chase, and soon gained on her. At 3 P. M. it could plainly be perceived she was a ship on the starboard tack, under easy sail, close hauled to the wind. At half past 3 she was ascertained to be a frigate. The Constitution continued the chase. At about three miles distance Capt. Hull ordered the light sails to be taken in, the coursers to be hauled up, and the ship to be cleared for action. The chase now backed her main-top sail, and waited for the Constitution to come down. As soon as the Constitution was ready for action, she bore down, intending to bring immediately to close

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action, the British frigate, which had about this time hoisted three English ensigns in token of defiance. As soon as the Constitution came within gun-shot, the British frigate fired her broadside; then filled away, wore, and gave a broadside on the other tack. They, however, produced no effect; her shot fell short. The British frigate manœuvred and wore several times for about three quarters of an hour, in order to obtain a raking position. But not succeeding in this, she bore up under her top-sails and jib with the wind on the quarter. Capt. Hull immediately made sail to bring his ship up with her. At 5 minutes before six, P. M. the Constitution being along side, within pistol shot, he ordered a brisk firing to be commenced from all her guns, which were double-shotted with round and grape shot, and so well directed, and so warmly kept up that, in fifteen minutes, the mizen-mast of the British frigate went by the board, and her main-yard in her slings. Her hull was much injured; and her rigging and sails torn to pieces. The fire was kept up, in the same spirited manner, for fifteen minutes longer by the Constitution. She had now taken a position for raking, on the bows of the British frigate; when the latter could only bring her bow guns to bear on the Constitution. The grape shot and small arms of the Constitution completely swept the decks of the British frigate. Thirty minutes after the commencement of the action by the Constitution, the mainmast and foremast of the British frigate went by the board, taking with them every spar except the bowsprit. She then struck her colours, which had been fastened to the stump of the mizen-mast. The Constitution then sat fore and main sails, and hauled to the eastward to repair damages. All her braces, a great part of her standing and running rigging, and some of her spars were shot away. At 7 P. M. she stood under the lee of the prize and sent a boat on board, which returned at 8, with Capt. Dacres, commander of the frigate. She was the *Guerriere*, rating 38 and mounting 49 guns. The hull of the *Guerriere* was so much shattered, that a few more broadsides would have sunk her. She had fifteen men killed, sixty-one wounded, and twenty-four missing, who, it is presumed, were swept overboard by the falling masts. The Constitution had only seven killed and seven wounded.

The boats were immediately employed in bringing the wounded and prisoners on board the Constitution. About two A. M. a sail was discovered off the larboard beam, standing to the south. The ship was instantly cleared for action. At three the vessel stood away. At day-break, information was received from the Lieut. on board the prize, that the ship was in a sinking condition, and had four feet water in the hold. As soon as all her crew were removed from on board of her, she was set on fire, and blew up a quarter past three.

Capt. Hull, in his letter to the secretary of the navy, says : " that from the smallest boy in the ship, to the oldest seaman, not a look of fear was seen. They all went into action giving three cheers, and requesting to be laid along side the enemy."

An instance of heroism may be here given, which fully shows with what spirit the American sailors entered into the action, and the noble enthusiasm and bravery that animated them. In the heat of the engagement, one of the crew of the Constitution, perceiving that the flag at the fore top-mast head had been shot away, went up with it, and lashed it so securely, as to render it impossible to shoot it away, unless the mast went with it.

Few events ever excited greater sensations of joy throughout the United States, than the capture of the Guerriere. All the principal towns through which Capt. Hull passed, after his return to Boston welcomed him with every demonstration of joy. At Boston a splendid entertainment was given to him and his officers. The citizens of Philadelphia subscribed for the purchase of two elegant pieces of plate.....one to be presented to Capt. Hull; and the other to Charles Morris, his first lieutenant.

The legislature of New-York....the council of the city of Albany and Savannah.....the congress of the U. S.....the house of representatives of Massachusetts, and other public bodies, voted their thanks to Capt. Hull, his officers and crew. The order of Cincinnati admitted the Captain as an honorary member. And congress voted 50,000 dollars as an indemnification to the captain, his officers and crew, for the loss sustained by the destruction of the Guerriere.

Much having been said on the disparity of force between the American 44 gun frigates and the British 38, the rates of the Constitution and Guerriere, it will, perhaps, not be out of place here to give a comparative view of the force of each. Both the American 44 gun ships, and the British 38 gun ships are constructed on the same principles; and their guns are placed in the same relative position, forming batteries of a similar nature. The guns in each ship are placed on the main or gun deck, the quarter deck, and the forecastle. The gun deck, which may be considered as the line of defence, is about 176 feet long in the American 44 gun ships, and about 150 feet in the English 38 gun ships. The line of defence, therefore, in the American 44 gun ships exceeds the English by about 16 feet. But it is to be observed that the length of line of defence by no means implies strength. This essentially consists in the number of guns that can be placed in battery, with advantage, in a given line, and the strength of the ramparts and parapets; in which light the sides of the ship may be considered. A line of defence of 200 feet, mounting 30 guns in battery, would be about one fourth weaker, and produce an effect one-fourth less than a line of defence 150 feet long, mounting

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the same number of guns. The American 44 gun ships mount twenty-four pounders on the gun deck, 24 thirty-two pound carronades, and two eighteen pounders on the quarter deck and fore-castle or upper decks.* The British 38 gun ships mount 28 eighteen pounders on their gun deck, 18 thirty-two pound carronades, and two eighteen pounders, on their quarter deck and fore-castle, besides a 24 pounder shifting gun. In an engagement between ship and ship, the effect produced is by the broadside or the number of guns placed in battery on one side of the ship.... that only half the number of guns in a ship can be considered placed in battery in its length or line of defence. The number of guns, therefore, of the American 44 gun ships, placed in battery in its line of defence of 176 feet, will be 28. The number of guns in the English 38 gun ships, placed in battery in its line of defence of 160 feet, will be 24 ; but as they carry a shifting gun, which may be placed in battery on either side, the number will actually be 25. So that the number of guns in battery of the American 44 gun ships, will exceed those in the English 38 gun ships, only one-tenth. But the American line of defence is one tenth longer, and consequently would be one-tenth weaker than the English, if it had only the same number of guns in battery ; consequently, the force of each, when the line of defence and number of guns placed in battery are considered, is very nearly equal.

The American 44 gun ships carry twenty-four pounders on their gun decks ; the English eighteen pounders. But are not eighteen pounders of sufficient weight of metal for the service of large frigates, and fully calculated to produce every effect that may be required in an engagement between frigates ? It has, moreover, been asserted by the officers of the Constitution, that the shot of Java's eighteen pounders were only three pounds lighter than those of the American twenty-four pounders, after accurately weighing them both. So that consequently the difference in weight of metal was only one-eighth.

It has been often asserted in the British newspapers, that the American frigates were 74's in disguise. It has also been asserted by an English naval commander, in his official letter, that the American 44 gun ships were built with the scantling of a 74. If this assertion he meant to insinuate, that the American 44 gun ships were of the same nature with a 74, or a ship of the line, he manifested an extreme want of candour or want of professional knowledge. 74 gun ships are all of the line, that is, they have guns mounted on two gun decks, extending the whole length of the ship, or its line of defence, besides those on the quarter deck and fore-castle ; and in addition to these, there are guns on the

The reader will please correct a mistake in page 11, stating the number of guns on board the Constitution—there are but 56.

poop. The length of the line of defence of a 74 is about the same as that of the American 44 gun ships. A 74 gun ship mounts about 88 guns; therefore, the number of guns placed in battery in her line of defence, will be 44 guns; and in the American frigate of 44 guns, only 28 in the same line of defence. Consequently, the strength of the line of defence of a 74, is not very far from double that of an American 44 gun ship, considered in respect of the number of guns: without taking into consideration the difference in weight of metal, and the compactness and strength of sides.

This, we believe, sufficiently demonstrates the illiberality and absurdity of comparing the American 44 gun frigates to British 74's with a view to disparage the rising glory of the American Navy, and to depreciate the noble exploits of her gallant tars.

*Biography of Capt. Hull.....*The following biographical notice of Capt. Hull is taken, with some alterations, from the *Analectic Magazine*.

"Capt. ISAAC HULL was born at Derby, a small town in the state of Connecticut, about ten miles from New-Haven. He is the son of the gentleman who distinguished himself in the capture of some whale boats in the Sound during the late war. Choosing the sea for the exercise of his profession, he entered, soon after leaving school, on board a merchant vessel, and in due course became master of a ship. He was in this situation at the first establishment of the navy, and, at that time, received the appointment of a lieutenant. In this capacity he always ranked high as an excellent seaman, an attentive and vigilant officer. The situation of the United States for some years past, it is well known, afforded little opportunity for the acquisition of either naval or military reputation; or to obtain any other distinction than that which arises from an attentive discharge of an officer's daily duties." Upon a certain occasion, however, during this period, Captain Hull gave evidence of the spirit he has since so abundantly manifested. While the *Constitution* was lying at Spithead, in 1811, one of her seamen deserted to the Havana, a British frigate then lying in the harbour. Capt. Hull made demand of him, and was referred to the port admiral at Portsmouth, and by him informed that the seaman could not be restored until he was instructed by the admiralty board on the subject. In a day or two afterwards, an American seaman swam from the Havana to the *Constitution*; and being demanded by the British commandant, Capt. Hull refused to deliver him until he had received instructions from his government, taking for the basis of his refusal, the precedent which the British officer had furnished him in the first instance.

Since the declaration of war, he has excited the public atten-

on by the two brilliant exploits before related. The one exhibiting an instance of consummate skill as a seaman, and the other of his gallantry as an officer.

Upon his arrival in Boston, after his successful escape from the British squadron, he found the public ascribing the whole merit to him: he therefore inserted the following card in the books of the Exchange Coffee-house.

"Capt. Hull finding that his friends in Boston are correctly informed of his situation when chased by the British squadron off New-York, and that they are good enough to give him more credit for having escaped it than he ought to claim, takes this opportunity of requesting them to transfer their good wishes to Lieut. Morris, and the other brave officers, and the crew under his command, for their very great exertions and prompt attention to his orders while the enemy were in chase. Capt. Hull has great pleasure in saying, that notwithstanding the length of the chase, and the officers and crew being deprived of sleep, and allowed but little refreshment during the time, not a murmur was heard to escape them."

It was naturally to be expected that a man, who had the honest pride to decline monopolizing that praise, which he was conscious ought to be shared with others, would, when opportunity offered, distinguish himself in the most honourable manner. Those who are themselves conscious of desert, are the last to claim that praise which belongs to others; and those who feel a capacity to acquire reputation, are ever the most liberal in awarding it to others. It is only little stunted minds that are anxious to claim that glory, which they can only gain by defrauding their associates: liberal hearts are not afraid even to resign what they can so easily acquire.

Accordingly, we have found Capt. Hull, on the nineteenth of the ensuing Aug. with the same vessel, the same officers, and the same crew, falling in with a large frigate, which struck to him after a close action of thirty minutes. She proved to be his Majesty's ship the *Guerriere*, rated at thirty-eight guns, and carrying fifty; commanded by Capt. J. R. Dacres, who some time before had politely endorsed on the register of a merchant ship, an invitation to Capt. Hull to give him a meeting of this kind.

In this action, where there was a vast disparity of loss on the part of the enemy, we think we can trace some of the effects of Capt. Hull's generous self-denial, on his officers and crew.... Whatever may be the fashion of considering soldiers and sailors as mere machines, without capacity of being operated upon by any excitement but that of the fear of punishment, we are convinced that all men, high or low, are fond of glory, and that this fondness is one of the strongest incitements to brave actions, even in the most common minds. Mere discipline, however indispen-

sable it may be to constitute a soldier or sailor, is but a tame inspirer, when compared with the impulse given by the hope and expectation of renown. It was from this conviction, that all the distinguished commanders we ever read or heard of, were careful to celebrate the valour of their officers and soldiers, and to bestow on them the glory of every action. Men, let them be what they may, will assuredly make greater sacrifices and exertions in an engagement, where, if they conquer, they share the glory, than if it is all to be given to their commander, let them love him ever so well. Small as may be the portion of this glory which falls to the share of each man, still we are to consider that though he is not individually named in the records of the times, or transmitted to future periods in the page of history ; yet in that little circle by which every being, however insignificant, is surrounded, he moves an object of wonder : and is a hero among the little men of his little world. In our minds, therefore, that commander not only displays his magnanimity, but his knowledge of mankind, who assigns a large portion of his fame to his followers. They will fight the better for it, and the world will make him ample amends for his generosity, inasmuch as this liberal self-denial is a much more rare and heroic quality, than mere personal courage or military skill.

Captain Hull has not been at sea since his return from the cruise which terminated in the capture of the *Guerriere*, having been, we understand, employed a time in settling the affairs of a deceased brother. It was reported, but without foundation, that he was under some disgust at the command of the *Constitution* being assigned to Capt. Bainbridge, who, as his senior officer had undoubtedly a right to claim it according to the etiquette of the service. Capt. Hull, we are confident, knows too well the duty which he owes to his country in this period of danger, to desert his colours. The sailor as well as the soldier is a man who in war, by defending his country, makes her amends for the care she extends to him in the time of peace. Their duties are reciprocal and we think the officer who in time of war retires prematurely from a station where he has been placed in the time of peace ought to have the strongest motives for such a desertion.

This gallant officer is still in the vigour of life ; of pleasing, unaffected manners, and of unblemished reputation in all the relations of social life.

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CHAPTER VIII.

Cruise of the Essex.....Cruise of the Wasp.....Capture of the Frolic.....Loss of the Wasp and Frolic.....Biography of Capt. Jones.

Cruise of the Essex..... Capt. Porter of the Essex, sailed from New-York on the 3d July, shaping his course to the southward, in pursuit of the Thetis frigate, which he had learned from a captured vessel, was to sail from Jamaica on the 26th June, with a large convoy for England: he therefore made every exertion to get off St. Augustine in time to fall in with them, but without effect, as fresh gales prevailed from the S. W. Baffled in his attempt to meet them there, he resolved, if possible, to intercept them on the banks of Newfoundland, and made sail for that purpose: but in this he was also disappointed.

On the 13th August, the British sloop of war Alert of 20 guns, ran down on the weather quarter of the Essex. Her crew gave three cheers and immediately commenced an engagement; but the Essex poured in such a tremendous fire that in eight minutes the Alert was forced to strike her colours. She had seven feet water in her hold, was much cut to pieces, and had three of her crew wounded. The Essex did not receive the slightest injury.

Capt. Porter being now much embarrassed with the number of prisoners on board his ship, amounting to about five hundred, resolved to send them to a British port, in the Alert as a cartel. He accordingly threw her guns overboard, withdrew from her all the Essex's men, put the prisoners on board, and despatched her as a cartel to St. Johns, under the command of Lieut. Wilmer, with orders to proceed from thence to New-York, with such Americans as he should receive in exchange. The Alert, upon her return to the United States, was fitted out as a government vessel.

On the 30th of August, the Essex being in latitude 36 N. long. 62 W. a British frigate was discovered standing towards her, under a press of sail. Porter stood for her under easy sail, with his ship prepared for action; and apprehensive that she might not find the Essex during the night, he hoisted a light. At nine the British vessel made a signal. It consisted of two flashes and a blue light. She was then apparently about four miles distant. Porter stood for the point where she was seen, until midnight, when perceiving nothing of her, he concluded it would be best to heave to for her until morning, concluding she had done the same. But to his great surprise, and the mortification of his officers and crew, she was no longer in sight.

On the 4th of September, the *Essex* being off the tail of St. George's Bank, two ships of war were discovered to the southward, and a brig to the northward. The brig was in chase of an American merchant ship. Porter immediately chased the brig, which attempted to pass, and join the rest of the squadron. This he prevented, and compelled her to stand to the northward. He continued in chase of her, until abreast of the American ship, when the wind becoming light, she escaped by means of her sweeps. On showing American colours, several signal guns were fired by the ships to the southward. All sail was made by them in chase. At 4 P. M. they had gained the wake of the *Essex*, and were coming up with her very fast. Calculating on making his escape by some manœuvre during the night, he fired a gun to windward. The two ships still continued to gain on the *Essex*. The largest was considerably to windward of the other, and about five miles astern of the *Essex*. Capt. Porter determined to heave about as soon as it grew dark, and in case he should not be able to pass her, he determined to fire a broadside into her, and lay her on board. Every preparation was made for this purpose. The crew, as soon as the plan was proposed to them, gave three cheers, and were in high spirits. At 20 minutes after seven, the *Essex* hove about, and stood S. E. by S. until 30 minutes after eight, when she bore away S. W. without seeing any thing more of them. This was the more extraordinary, as a pistol was fired on board the *Essex*, when nearest to them.

The *Essex* arrived safe in the Delaware a few days afterwards.

Cruise of the Wasp..... The *Wasp*, Capt. Jones, sailed from the Delaware on a cruise, the 13th Oct. and on the 16th, it came on to blow a heavy gale, which carried away her jib boom and two men. On the 17th, at 11 P. M. in lat. 37 N. lon. 65 W. (the track of vessels passing from Bermuda to Halifax,) she found herself near five strange sail, steering westward.

As some of them seemed to be ships of war, it was thought better to get farther from them. The *Wasp* therefore hauled her wind, and having reached a few miles to windward, so as to escape or fight as the occasion might require, followed the strange sail through the night. At daybreak on Sunday morning, Capt. Jones found that they were six large merchant ships, under convoy of a sloop of war, which proved to be the *Frolic*, Captain Whinyates, from Honduras to England, with a convoy, strongly armed and manned, having all forty or fifty men, and two of them mounting sixteen guns each. He determined, however, to attack them, and as there was a heavy swell and the weather boisterous, got down his top-gallant yards, close-reefed the topsails, and prepared for action. About eleven o'clock, the *Fro-*

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he showed Spanish colours, and the Wasp immediately displayed the American ensign and pendant. At 32 minutes past eleven, the Wasp came down to windward, on her larboard side, within about 60 yards, and hailed. The enemy hauled down the Spanish colours, hoisted the British ensign, and opened a fire of cannon and musketry. This the Wasp instantly returned, and coming nearer to the enemy, the action became close, and without intermission. In four or five minutes the maintopmast of the Wasp was shot away, and falling down with the maintopsail yard, across the larboard fore and foretopsail braces, rendered her head yards unmanageable during the rest of the action. In two or three minutes more her gaff and mizen-topgallantsail were shot away. Still she continued a close and constant fire. The sea was so rough that the muzzle of the Wasp's guns were frequently in the water. The Americans fired as the ship's side was going down, so that their shot struck on the enemy's deck or below it, while the English fired as the vessel rose, and thus her balls chiefly pierced the rigging, or were thrown away. The Wasp now shot ahead of the Frolic, raked her, and then resumed her position on her larboard bow. Her fire was now obviously attended with such success, and that of the Frolic so slackened, that Capt. Jones did not wish to board her, lest the roughness of the sea might endanger both vessels; but in the course of a few minutes more, every brace of the Wasp was shot away, and her rigging so much torn to pieces, that he was afraid that his masts, being unsupported, would go by the board, and the Frolic be able to escape. He thought, therefore, the best chance of securing her was to board, and decide the contest at once. With this view he wore ship, and running down upon the enemy, the vessels struck each other, the Wasp's side rubbing along the Frolic's bow, so that her jibboom came in between the main and mizzen rigging of the Wasp, directly over the heads of Capt. Jones and the first lieutenant, Mr. Biddle, who were at that moment standing together near the capstan. The Frolic lay so fair for raking, that they decided not to board until they had given a closing broadside. Whilst they were loading for this, so near were the two vessels, that the rammers of the Wasp were pushed against the Frolic's sides, and two of her guns went through the bow ports of the Frolic, and swept the whole length of her deck. At this moment, Jack Lang,* a seaman of the Wasp, a gallant fellow, who had been once impressed by a British man of war, jumped on a gun with his cutlass, and was springing on board the Frolic: Capt. Jones, wishing to fire again before boarding, called him down; but his impetuosity could not be restrained, and

* John Lang is a native of New Brunswick, in New Jersey. We mention with great pleasure the name of this brave American seaman, as a proof that conspicuous valour is confined to no rank in the naval service.

he was already on the bowsprit of the Frolic ; when, seeing the ardour and enthusiasm of the Wasp's crew, Lieut. Biddle mounted on the hammock cloth to board. At this signal the crew followed : but Lieut. Biddle's feet got entangled in the rigging of the enemy's bowsprit, and midshipman Baker, in his ardour to get on board, laying hold of his coat, he fell back on the Wasp's deck. He sprang up, and as the next swell of the sea brought the Frolic nearer, he got on her bowsprit, where Lang and another seaman were already. He passed them on the forecastle, and was surprised at seeing not a single man alive on the Frolic's deck, except the seaman at the wheel, and three officers. The deck was slippery with blood, and strewn with the bodies of the dead. As he went forward, the captain of the Frolic, with two other officers, who were standing on the quarter-deck, threw down their swords, and made an inclination of their bodies, denoting that they had surrendered. At this moment the colours were still flying, as, probably, none of the seamen of the Frolic, would dare to go into the rigging for fear of the musketry of the Wasp. Lieut. Biddle, therefore, jumped into the rigging himself and hauled down the British ensign, and possession was taken of the Frolic, in forty-three minutes after the first fire. She was in a shocking condition : the birth-deck, particularly, was crowded with dead, and wounded, and dying ; there being but a small portion of the Frolic's crew who had escaped. Capt. Jones instantly sent on board his surgeon's mate, and all the blankets of the Frolic were brought from her slop-room for the comfort of the wounded. To increase this confusion, both the Frolic's masts soon fell, covering the dead and every thing on deck, and she lay a complete wreck.

It now appeared that the Frolic mounted 16 thirty-two pound carronades, 4 twelve pounders on the main-deck, and 2 twelve pound carronades. She was, therefore, superior to the Wasp, by exactly four twelve pounders. The number of men on board, as stated by the officers of the Frolic, was one hundred and ten.... the number of seamen on board the Wasp was one hundred and two ; but it could not be ascertained, whether in this one hundred and ten were included marines and officers ; for the Wasp had, besides her one hundred and two men, officers and marines, making the whole crew about one hundred and thirty-five. What is, however, decisive, as to their comparative force is, that the officers of the Frolic acknowledge that they had as many men as they knew what to do with, and, in fact the Wasp could have spared fifteen men. There was, therefore, on the most favourable view, at least an equality of men, and an inequality of four guns. The disparity of loss was much greater. The exact number of killed and wounded on board the Frolic could not be precisely determined ; but from the observations of our officers, and

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the declarations of those of the Frolic, the number could not be less than about thirty killed, including two officers, and of the wounded between forty and fifty; the captain and second lieutenant being of the number. The Wasp had five men killed and five slightly wounded.

All hands were now employed in clearing the deck, burying the dead, and taking care of the wounded, when Capt. Jones sent orders to Lieut. Biddle to proceed to Charleston, or any southern port of the United States: and, as there was a suspicious sail to windward, the Wasp would continue her cruise. The ships then parted. The suspicious sail was now coming down very fast. At first it was supposed that she was one of the convoy, who had all fled during the engagement, and who now came for the purpose of attacking the prize. The guns of the Frolic were, therefore, loaded, and the ship cleared for action; but the enemy, as she advanced, proved to be a seventy-four....the Poictiers, Capt. Beresford. She fired a shot over the Frolic; passed her; overtook the Wasp, the disabled state of whose rigging prevented her from escaping; and then returned to the Frolic, who could, of course, make no resistance. The Wasp and Frolic were carried into Bermuda.*

*Biography of Capt. Jones.....*JACOB JONES, Esq. of the United States' navy, was born about the year 1770, near the village of Smyrna, in the county of Kent, state of Delaware. His father was an independent and respectable farmer, of excellent moral and religious character. His mother was of a good family, of the name of Jones; an amiable and interesting woman; she died when the subject of this memoir was yet an infant. Between two and three years afterwards his father married again, with a Miss Holt, grand-daughter of the honourable Ryvez Holt, formerly chief justice of the supreme court of Delaware; or, as it was then denominated, "the lower counties on Delaware." Shortly after this second marriage his father died, when this his only child was scarcely four years of age. It was the good fortune of our hero to be left under the care of a step-mother, who had all the kind feelings of a natural parent. The affection which this excellent woman had borne towards the father, was, on his death, transferred to the child. By her he was nurtured from infancy to manhood, with a truly maternal care and tenderness. At an early age he was placed at a school, and his proficiency in learning was equal to her most anxious wishes. After becoming well acquainted with the general branches of an English education, he was transferred to a grammar school at Lewes in Sussex county, conducted by the learned and pious Dr. Matthew Wilson. Under his direction he read the classics with much assiduity, and became well acquainted with the Latin and Greek languages. The

* We are indebted to the Port Folio for the foregoing account of the capture of the Frolic.

writer of this memoir distinctly remembers also, that in the geographical lessons he continually bore off the palm, and received, beyond all others, repeated proofs of approbation from his preceptor. At the age of eighteen he left Lewes Academy, and entered on the study of physic and surgery, under Dr. Sykes, an eminent physician and surgeon of Dover in the county of Kent. With him he diligently prosecuted his studies for four years, after which he attended the usual courses of medical lectures of the University of Pennsylvania, and then returned to Dover to commence the exercise of his profession.

He did not, however, continue long in the practice. He found the field already engrossed by a number of able and experienced gentlemen of the faculty, among whom was the late lamented Dr. Miller of New York. Discouraged by the scanty employment that is commonly the lot of the young physician, and impatient of an inactive life, he determined to abandon the profession for the present, and seek some more productive occupation. This resolution was a matter of much regret among the elder physicians. They entertained a high opinion of his medical acquirements, and considered him as promising to become a distinguished and skilful member of their body. Gov. Clayton, (who was himself an eminent physician) seeing that he was fixed in his determination, conferred upon him the clerkship of the supreme court of the state of Delaware, for the county of Kent.

In this office he continued for some time, but the sedentary nature of its duties was uncongenial with his health and habits; he longed to mingle in more active scenes, and possessed that ardent spirit of enterprise that can never rest contented with the tranquil ease of common life. With a certain bravery of resolution, therefore, or rather a noble unconcern, he turned his back upon the comforts and emoluments of office; and resolved upon a measure as indicative of the force of his character, as it was decisive of his future fortunes. This was to enter as a midshipman into the service of his country, in the year 1799, when menaced with a war with France.

He was at this time almost twenty-nine years of age, highly respected for the solidity of his understanding and his varied acquirements; it may readily be imagined, therefore, how greatly his friends were dissatisfied at seeing him in a manner taking a retrograde step in life, entering upon that tedious probation which the naval service peculiarly requires, and accepting a grade which is generally allotted to boys and striplings. It was in vain, however, to remonstrate against a resolution, which, once formed, never vibrated. Jones had determined on embracing the profession; he had weighed all the peculiar inconveniences and sacrifices incident to his determination, and had made up his mind to encounter and surmount them all. His friends could only cen-

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sole themselves with the reflection, that if courage, activity, and hardihood could ensure naval success, Jones was peculiarly fitted for the life he had adopted ; and it is probable they felt some degree of admiration for that decision of character, which, in the pursuit of what he conceived a laudable object, could enable him to make such large sacrifices of personal pride and convenience.

The first cruises which he made in his new capacity were under the father of our infant navy, the late Com. Barry, from whom he derived great instruction in the theory and practice of his profession, and experienced the utmost kindness and civility. He was a midshipman on board the frigate *United States*, when she bore to France Chief Justice Ellsworth and Gen. Davie, as envoys extraordinary to the French Republic. He was next on board of the *Ganges*, as midshipman, and during the whole intervening period between his appointment, and the war with Tripoli, he was sedulously employed in obtaining that nautical skill for which he is at present celebrated.

On the breaking out of the war with Tripoli, he was stationed on board of the frigate *Philadelphia*, under the command of the gallant Bainbridge. The disaster which befel that ship and her crew before Tripoli, forms a solemn page in our naval history ; attoned for, however, by the brilliant achievements to which it gave rise. Twenty months of severe captivity among a barbarous people, and in a warm climate, neither broke the spirit nor impaired the constitution of our hero. Blest by nature with vigorous health and an invincible resolution, when relieved from bondage by the bravery of his countrymen, he returned home full of life and ardour. He was soon after promoted to a lieutenancy. This grade he had merited before his confinement in Tripoli, but older warrant officers had stood in the way of his preferment.

He was now for some time employed on the Orleans station, where he conducted himself with his usual judgment and propriety, and was a favorite in the polite circles of the Orleans and Mississippi territories. He was shortly after appointed to the command of the brig *Argus*, stationed for the protection of our commerce on the southern maritime frontier. In this situation he acted with vigilance and fidelity, and though there were at one time insidious suggestions to the contrary, it has appeared that he conformed to his instructions, promoted the public interest, and gave entire satisfaction to the government.

In 1811, Capt. Jones was transferred by the secretary of the navy to the command of the sloop of war the *Wasp*, mounting eighteen twenty-four pound carronades, and was despatched, in the spring of 1812, with communications from our government to its functionaries at the courts of St. Cloud and St. James. Before he returned from this voyage, war had been declared by the United States against Great Britain. Capt. Jones refitted his ship

with all possible dispatch, and repaired to sea on a cruise, in which he met with no other luck than the capture of an inconsiderable prize. He again put to sea on the 13th of October last, and on the 18th of the month, after a long and heavy gale, he fell in with a number of strongly armed merchantmen under convoy of his Britannic majesty's sloop of war the *Frolic*, Capt. Winyates.

Capt. Jones bore down upon the *Frolic*, and a bloody action was commenced which ended in the capture of the *Frolic*, though unfortunately both vessels were captured by the *Poictiers* 74, within an hour or two after, and carried to Bermuda, as more particularly and minutely related before.

On the return of Capt. Jones to the United States, he was every where received with the utmost demonstrations of gratitude and admiration. Brilliant entertainments were given him in the cities through which he passed. The legislature of his native state appointed a committee to wait on him with their thanks, and to express the "pride and pleasure" they felt in recognizing him as a native of their state; in the same resolution they voted him an elegant piece of plate, with appropriate engravings. The congress of the United States, on motion of Mr. J. A. Bayard, of Delaware, appropriated 25,000 dollars, as a compensation to Capt. Jones and his crew, for the loss they sustained by the recapture of the *Frolic*. They also ordered a gold medal to be presented to the captain, and a silver one to each of his officers.

Various other marks of honour have been paid by the legislatures, and the citizens of different states, which it would be superfluous to enumerate; but the most substantial testimony of approbation which he has received, is the appointment to the command of the frigate *Macedonian*.

Capt. Jones is about the middle size, of an active mind and vigorous make, and an excellent constitution, capable of the utmost vigilance and fatigue. Naturally and habitually temperate himself, he is a great promoter of temperance among his crew; and has been successful in reclaiming many a valuable seaman from the pernicious habits of intoxication.

[*Analectic Magazine.*]

*** TO READERS.

Our readers will please to recollect, that this publication claims no other merit than that of a judicious selection. In most instances credit has been given; in some, however, it has been omitted. We have already been, and shall probably hereafter be indebted to the *Naval History of the United States*, the *Port Folio*, *Analectic Magazine*, and *Nile's Register*, for much of the matter, and even the language of this work. We have used the language where it would answer our purpose, with more or less alteration, as necessity or propriety dictated.

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SKETCHES
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VOLUME I.....NUMBER 3.

CHAPTER IX.

Com. Rodgers' second cruise.....Capture of the Swallow.....Capture of the Macedonian.....Chase of the Argus.....Biography of Capt. Decatur.

ON the 8th Oct. the President, Com. Rodgers, United States, Capt. Decatur, Congress, Capt. Smith, and Argus, Capt. Sinclair, sailed from Boston, on a cruise. In a day or two afterwards, however, the United States and Argus parted company from the other vessels. Com. Rodgers, with the President and Congress, traversed about 8000 miles upon the atlantic without falling in with any of the enemy's frigates : he however captured two valuable prizes, the Swallow, having on board 168,000 dollars in specie, and a south-sea vessel, the Argo, of great value, and returned into the harbour of Boston the latter part of December..... his prizes had previously arrived in safety.

*Capture of the Macedonian.....*Capt. Decatur, after leaving the squadron, bore south-east. Nothing of moment occurred until the 25th, when, being in latitude 20 d. N. long. 20 d. 30 m. W. he fell in with the British frigate Macedonian, commanded by Capt. John S. Carden.

The Macedonian being to windward, had the advantage of engaging at her own distance. This was so great, that for the first half-hour the United States did not use her carronades. At no time was the Macedonian within such distance as to admit of musketry and grape being used with good effect. Owing to this circumstance, and a heavy swell of the sea, the action lasted an hour and a half. So brisk and spirited was the fire kept up from the United States, that the crew of the British ship supposed she was on fire ; and it was so well directed that the Macedonian's

mizen-mast was shot away by the board. Her fore and main-top-masts were shot away by the caps. Her main yard was shot in pieces. Her lower masts were badly wounded. Her lower rigging was all cut to pieces. Only a small portion of the foresail was left to the foreyard. All her guns on the quarter-deck and fore-castle were disabled but two, and filled with wreck. Two also of her guns on the main-deck were disabled. She had received several shot between wind and water. A very great portion of her crew were killed or wounded. So much disabled was she, that she lay a perfect wreck and unmanageable log. At this time the United States shot ahead, and was about placing herself in a position to rake, when the British vessel struck her colours.

The Macedonian rated in Steel's List a 38 gun ship, but mounted 49 guns. She was only two years old; and had been but four months out of dock. She was reputed one of the best sailers in the British navy. The killed on board of her amounted to 36the wounded to 68. She has since been fitted out as a 38 gun ship in the American navy.

The damage sustained by the United States was very trifling. She had only 5 men killed and 7 wounded.

All the private property of the officers and men on board the Macedonian was given up to them. The private property claimed by Capt. Carden, valued at about 800 dollars, Capt. Decatur paid him for.

Capt. Decatur arrived at New York with his prize on the 1st Jan. He arrived some time previous off New London, but continued in the sound for several weeks, doubtless, to present his prize to the citizens of New York on that day.

John Archibald, one of the crew of the United States, received a mortal wound, of which he soon after died. He left three children to the mercy of the world, with a mother who had deserted them. When the father of the deceased seaman went on board the frigate to claim the wages and property of his son, an inquiry was made into the circumstances of the family. A plan was immediately agreed upon by the seamen, for the relief of the orphans. Two dollars was subscribed by each of them. A sum of 800 dollars was made up, and placed in the hands of suitable trustees, for the maintenance and education of the children.

Capt. Decatur, on his return to the United States, received from all quarters the grateful congratulations of his countrymen.

*Chase of the Argus.....*The Argus parted company from the United States previous to the capture of the Macedonian by that vessel, and proceeded to the coast of Brazil, down the north coast of the country from St. Roquo to Surinam, thence she passed to the windward of the islands, and in every direction between the

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Bermudas, Halifax, and the continent. After a lapse of 96 days, she returned into port, having made five prizes, valued at about 200,000 dollars. During her cruize she fell in with a squadron of the enemy, consisting of six sail, two of which were of the line, one of them a remarkable fast sailer. The favour of the moon enabling them to chase as well at night, as in the day, the chase was continued for three days, without intermission, and under various circumstances, but the unremitting exertions of their officers and crew enabled her to elude the pursuit. Pressed on all sides by the number of the enemy, and the baffling and unsettled state of the weather, the Argus was at one time within musket shot of a 74, and at another surrounded; the determined vigilance of Capt. Sinclair rescued her however from the difficulty.

They had joined in the chase an armed transport, with a view no doubt of distracting the attention, and deceiving the chase, which being discovered, he bore down upon her and compelled her to clear the way. Such was the confidence of Capt. Sinclair in the sailing of the Argus, that during the chase, although at one time so closely pressed as to be compelled to lighten his vessel by throwing over his spare anchors and spars and deck boats, and starting the salt water with which his casks had been filled, as the fresh had been used, and reduced to the last necessity of wetting his sails; yet did he preserve all his guns, and one night during the chase he found time to capture, man and despatch a prize. So close were they upon his heels that when he again made sail, two of the ships opened their batteries upon him.

Biography of Commodore Decatur.... Commodore STEPHEN DECATUR is of French descent by the male line. His grandfather was a native of La Rochelle, in France, and married a lady of Rhode-Island. His father, Stephen Decatur, was born in Newport, (Rhode-Island) and, when a very young man, removed to Philadelphia, where he married the daughter of an Irish gentleman by the name of Pine. He was bred to the sea, and commanded a merchant vessel out of the port of Philadelphia, until the establishment of the navy, when he was appointed to command the Delaware sloop of war. He continued in her until the frigate Philadelphia was built, when the command of that ship was given to him, at the particular request of the merchants, who had built her by subscription. In this situation he remained until peace was made with France, when he resigned his commission, and retired to his residence a few miles from Philadelphia, where he resided until his death, which happened in November, 1808.

His son, Stephen Decatur, the present commodore, was born on the 5th January, 1779, on the eastern shore of Maryland, whether his parents had retired, whilst the British were in possession of Philadelphia. They returned to that city when he was a few months old, and he was there educated and brought up:

He entered the navy in March, 1798, as midshipman, and joined the frigate *United States*, under the command of Commodore Barry, who had obtained the warrant for him. He continued for some time with that officer, and was promoted to the rank of lieutenant. The *United States* at that time required some repairs and, not wishing to remain in port, he requested an order to join the brig *Norfolk*, then bound to the Spanish Main. He performed one cruise in her, as first lieutenant, and on his return to port, resumed his station on board of the *United States*, where he remained until peace was concluded with France.

He was then ordered to the *Essex*, as first lieutenant, and sailed with Commodore Dale's squadron to the Mediterranean. On the return of that squadron he was ordered to the *New-York*, one of the second Mediterranean squadron, under the command of Commodore Morris.

When he returned to the *United States* he was ordered to take command of the *Argus*, and proceed in her to join Commodore Preble's squadron, then in the Mediterranean, and on his arrival there to resign the command of the *Argus* to Lieutenant Hull, and take the schooner *Enterprize*, then commanded by that officer. After making that exchange, he proceeded to Syracuse, where the squadron was to rendezvous. On his arrival at that port he was informed of the fate of the frigate *Philadelphia*, which had ran aground on the Barbary coast, and fallen into the hands of the Tripolitans. The idea immediately presented itself to his mind of attempting her recapture or destruction. On Commodore Preble's arrival, a few days afterwards, he proposed to him a plan for the purpose, and volunteered his services to execute it. The wary mind of that veteran officer at first disapproved of an enterprise so full of peril; but the risks and difficulties that surrounded it only stimulated the ardour of Decatur, and imparted to it an air of adventure, fascinating to his youthful imagination.

The consent of the commodore having been obtained, Lieutenant Decatur selected for the expedition a ketch (the *Intrepid*) which he had captured a few weeks before from the enemy, and manned her with seventy volunteers, chiefly from his own crew. He sailed from Syracuse on the 3d February, 1804, accompanied by the *United States'* brig *Syren*, Lieut. Stewart, who was to aid with his boats, and to receive the crew of the ketch, in case it should be found expedient to use her as a fire-ship.

After fifteen days of very tempestuous weather, they arrived at the harbour of Tripoli a little before sunset. It had been arranged between Lieutenants Decatur and Stewart, that the ketch should enter the harbour about ten o'clock that night, attended by the boats of the *Syren*. On arriving off the harbour, the *Syren*, in consequence of a change of wind, had been thrown six or eight miles without the *Intrepid*. The wind at this time was

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fair, but fast declining, and Lieutenant Decatur apprehended that, should he wait for the Syren's boats to come up, it might be too late to make the attack that night. Such delay might be fatal to the enterprise, as they could not remain longer on the coast, their provisions being nearly exhausted. For these reasons he determined to adventure into the harbour alone, which he did about 8 o'clock.

An idea may be formed of the extreme hazard of this enterprise, from the situation of the frigate. She was moored within half gun shot of the bashaw's castle, and of the principal battery. Two of the enemy's cruisers lay within two cables' length, on the starboard quarter, and their gun-boats within half gun shot, on the starboard bow. All the guns of the frigate were mounted and loaded. Such were the immediate perils that our hero ventured to encounter with a single ketch, beside the other dangers that abound in a strongly fortified harbour.

Although from the entrance to the place where the frigate lay was only three miles, yet, in consequence of the lightness of the wind, they did not get within hail of her until eleven o'clock.... When they had approached within two hundred yards, they were hailed and ordered to anchor, or they would be fired into. Lieut. Decatur ordered a Maltese pilot, who was on board the ketch, to answer that they had lost their anchors in a gale of wind on the coast, and therefore could not comply with their request. By this time it had become perfectly calm, and they were about fifty yards from the frigate. Lieutenant Decatur ordered a small boat that was alongside of the ketch, to take a rope and make it fast to the frigate's fore chains. This being done they began to warp the ketch alongside. It was not until this moment that the enemy suspected the character of their visitor, and great confusion immediately ensued. This enabled our adventurers to get alongside of the frigate, when Decatur immediately sprang aboard, followed by Mr. Charles Morris,* midshipman. These two were nearly a minute on the deck, before their companions could succeed in mounting the side. Fortunately, the Turks had not sufficiently recovered from their surprise to take advantage of this delay. They were crowded together on the quarter deck, perfectly astonished and aghast, without making any attempt to oppose the assailing party. As soon as a sufficient number of our men had gained the deck, to form a front equal to that of the enemy, they rushed in upon them. The Turks stood the assault but a short time, and were completely overpowered. About twenty were killed on the spot, many jumped overboard, and the rest fled to the main deck, whither they were pursued and driven to the hold.

* Now Captain Morris, late of the Adams.

After entire possession had been gained of the ship, and every thing prepared to set fire to her, a number of launches were seen rowing about the harbour. This determined Lieutenant Decatur to remain in the frigate, from whence a better defence could be made than from on board the ketch. The enemy had already commenced firing upon them from their batteries and castle, and from two corsairs that were laying near. Perceiving that the launches did not attempt to approach, he ordered that the ship should be set on fire, which was done, at the same time, in different parts. As soon as this was completely effected they left her, and such was the rapidity of the flames, that it was with the utmost difficulty they preserved the ketch. At this critical moment a most propitious breeze sprang up, blowing directly out of the harbour, which, in a few minutes, carried them beyond the reach of the enemy's guns, and they made good their retreat without the loss of a single man, and with but four wounded.

For this gallant and romantic achievement, Lieutenant Decatur was promoted to the rank of post captain, there being at that time no intermediate grade. This promotion was particularly gratifying to him, inasmuch as it was done with the consent of the officers over whose heads he was raised.

In the ensuing spring, it being determined to make an attack upon Tripoli, Commodore Preble obtained from the king of Naples the loan of six gun-boats and two bombards, which he formed into two divisions, and gave the command of one of them to Captain Decatur, the other to Lieutenant Somers. The squadron sailed from Syracuse, consisting of the frigate Constitution, the brig Syren, the schooners Nautilus and Vixen, and the gun-boats.

Having arrived on the coast of Barbary, they were for some days prevented from making the attack, by adverse wind and weather; at length, on the morning of the 3d of August, the weather being favourable, the signal was made from the commodore's ship, to prepare for action, the light vessels towing the gun-boats to windward. At 9 o'clock the signal was made for bombarding the town and the enemy's vessels. The gun-boats were cast off, and advanced in a line ahead, led on by Captain Decatur, and covered by the frigate Constitution, and the brig and schooners. The enemy's gun-boats were moored along the mouth of the harbour under the batteries, and within musket shot. Their sails had been taken from them, and they were ordered to sink, rather than abandon their position. They were aided and covered likewise by a brig of sixteen, and a schooner of ten guns.

Before entering into close action, Captain Decatur went alongside each of his boats, and ordered them to unship their bowsprits and follow him, as it was his intention to board the enemy's boats.

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Lieutenant James Decatur commanded one of the boats belonging to Lieutenant Somers' division, but being further to windward than the rest of his division, he joined and took orders from his brother.

When Captain Decatur, who was in the leading boat, came within range of the fire from the batteries, a heavy fire was opened upon him from them and from the gun-boats. He returned their fire, and continued advancing until he came in contact with the boats. At this time, Commodore Preble, seeing Decatur approaching nearer than he thought prudent, ordered the signal to be made for a retreat; but it was found that in making out the signals for the boats, the one for a retreat had been omitted.... The enemy's boats had about forty men each; ours an equal number, twenty-seven of whom were Americans, and thirteen Neapolitans. Decatur, on boarding the enemy, was instantly followed by his countrymen, but the Neapolitans remained behind. The Turks did not sustain the combat, hand to hand, with that firmness they had obtained a reputation for: in ten minutes the deck was cleared; eight of them sought refuge in the hold; and the rest, some fell on the deck, and others jumped into the sea. Only three of the Americans were wounded.

As Decatur was about to proceed out with his prize, the boat which had been commanded by his brother, came under his stern and informed him that they had engaged and captured one of the enemy; but that her commander, after surrendering, had treacherously shot Lieut. James Decatur, and pushed off with the boat, and was then making for the harbour.

The feelings of the gallant Decatur, on receiving this intelligence, may more easily be imagined than described. Every consideration of prudence and safety was lost in his eagerness to punish so dastardly an act, and to revenge the death of a brother so basely murdered. He pushed within the enemy's line with his single boat, and having succeeded in getting alongside of the retreating foe, boarded her at the head of eleven men, who were all the Americans he had left.

The fate of this contest was extremely doubtful for twenty minutes. All the Americans except four were now severely wounded. Decatur singled out the commander as the peculiar object of his vengeance. The Turk was armed with an espartoon, and Decatur with a cutlass; in attempting to cut off the head of the weapon, his sword struck on the iron and broke close to the hilt. The Turk at this moment made a push, which slightly wounded him in the right arm and breast. He immediately seized the spear and closed with him. A fierce struggle ensued, and both fell, Decatur uppermost. By this time the Turk had drawn a dagger from his belt, and was about to

plunge it in the body of his foe, when Decatur caught his arm, and shot him with a pistol which he had taken from his pocket. During the time they were struggling on the deck, the crew rushed to the aid of their commanders, and a most sanguinary conflict took place, insomuch, that when Decatur had despatched his adversary, it was with the greatest difficulty he could extricate himself from the killed and wounded that had fallen around him.

It is with no common feeling of admiration that we record an instance of heroic courage, and loyal self devotion, on the part of a common sailor. During the early part of Decatur's struggle with the Turk, he was assailed in rear by one of the enemy, who had just aimed a blow at his head with his sabre, that must have been fatal; at this fearful juncture, a noble hearted tar, who had been so badly wounded as to lose the use of his hands, seeing no other means of saving his commander, rushed between him and the uplifted sabre, and received the blow on his own head, which fractured his skull. We love to pause and honour great actions in humble life, because they speak well for human nature. Men of rank and station in society often do gallant deeds, in a manner from necessity. Their conspicuous station obliges them to do so, or their eagerness for glory urges them on; but an act like this we have mentioned, so desperate, yet so disinterested; done by an obscure, unambitious individual, a poor sailor, can spring from nothing but innate nobleness of soul. We are happy to add that this generous fellow survived, and now receives a pension from government.

Decatur succeeded in getting with both of his prizes to the squadron, and the next day received the highest commendation, in a general order from Commodore Preble. When that able officer was superseded in the command of the squadron, he gave the Constitution to Captain Decatur, who had, some time before, received his commission.* From that ship he was removed to the Congress, and returned home in her when peace was concluded with Tripoli. On his return to the United States, he was employed in superintending gun-boats, until the affair of the Chesapeake, when he was ordered to supersede Commodore Barron in the command of that ship, since which period he has had the command of the southern squadron. When the United States was again put in commission, he was removed from the Chesapeake to that frigate.

The present war with Great Britain has given Commodore Decatur another opportunity of adding to the laurels he had already won. On the 25th October 1812, in lat. 29 N. long. 29 3Q W. he fell in with his Britannic majesty's ship Macedonian,

* It was dated the 16th February, 1804, the day on which he destroyed the Philadelphia. He also received a vote of thanks and a sword, for that achievement.

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mounting 49 carriage guns. This was one of the finest frigates in the British navy, and commanded by Captain John S. Carden, one of the ablest officers. She was in prime order, two years old, and but four months out of dock. The enemy being to windward, had the advantage of choosing his own distance; and, supposing the United States to be the *Essex*, (which only mounts carronades) kept at first at long shot, and did not at any moment come within the complete effect of the musketry and grape. After the frigates had come to close action, the battle was terminated in a very short period, by the enemy's surrender.

The whole engagement lasted for an hour and a half, being prolonged by the distance at which the early part of it was fought, and by a heavy swell of the sea. The superior gunnery of the Americans was apparent in this, as in all our other actions. The *Macedonian* lost her mizen-mast, fore and main top-masts and main yard, and was much cut up in the hull. Her loss was thirty-six killed, and sixty-eight wounded. The damage of the United States was comparatively trivial, four killed and seven wounded; and she suffered so little in her hull and rigging, that she might have continued her cruise, had not Commodore Decatur thought it important to convoy his prize into port. His reception of Captain Carden on board of the United States, was truly characteristic. On presenting his sword, Decatur observed that he could not think of taking the sword of an officer who had defended his ship so gallantly, but he should be happy to take him by the hand.

We are sorry to observe that Captain Carden has not been ingenuous in his account of this affair. He mentions that, "after an hour's action, the enemy backed and came to the wind, and *was then enabled to bring her to close action.*" Now, on the contrary, we have it from the *very best authority*, that the United States was close haled to the wind, and her commander was extremely anxious to come to close quarters. There are other parts of Captain Carden's official letter that are exceptionable, but we shall pass them over without comment. It is natural for a proud and gallant mind to writhe under humiliation, and to endeavour to palliate the disgrace of defeat; but a truly magnanimous spirit would scorn to do it at the expense of a brave and generous foe. Captain Carden *must* know that he had it in his power to close with the United States whenever he pleased, and that there was no movement on the part of Commodore Decatur to prevent it. We again repeat, that it is with regret we notice any instance of disingenuousness in an officer whose general character we admire, and whose deportment at all times to our countrymen has been such as to entitle him to their highest good will.

It is not one of the least circumstances of Commodore Decatur's good fortune, or rather good management, that he conveyed his prize, in her shattered condition, across a vast extent of ocean, swarming with foes, and conducted her triumphantly into port; thus placing immediately before the eyes of his countrymen, a noble trophy of his own skill, and of national prowess.

Such has been the brilliant career of this naval hero. In private life his fortune has been equally propitious. Honoured by his country, beloved by his friends, and blessed by the affections of an amiable and elegant woman.* He is now in the very prime of life, pleasing in his person, of an intelligent and interesting countenance, and an eye in whose mild and brilliant lustre, spirit, enterprise and urbanity are happily blended. His deportment is manly and unassuming, and his manners peculiarly gentle and engaging; uniting the polish of the gentleman with the frank simplicity of the sailor. It is with the most perfect delight that we have noticed our naval officers, on returning from the gallant achievements which are the universal topics of national pride and exultation, sinking at once into unostentatious and quiet citizens. No vainglorious boastings, no puerile gasconades, are ever heard from their lips; of their enemy they always speak with courtesy and respect; of their own exploits, with unaffected modesty and frankness. With the aspiring ardour of truly brave spirits, they pay but little regard to the past; their whole souls seem stretched towards the future. Into such hands we confide, without apprehension or reserve, our national interest and honour; to this handful of gallant worthies is allotted the proud destiny of founding the naval fame of the nation, and of thus having their names inseparably connected with the glory of their country.†

[*Analectic Magazine.*]

* Some years since, Commodore Decatur was married to Miss Wheeler of Norfolk, a lady celebrated for her accomplishments, and at that time a reigning belle in Virginia.

† The frigates *United States* and *Macedonian* have been measured, and the following are the results:

	length of deck	breadth of beam	tonnage
<i>United States</i>	175 feet	48 feet	1465
<i>Macedonian</i>	165	48 8 inches	1324

Each vessel has fifteen ports on a side, on the main deck; the first carries 24 and the latter 18 pounds thereon. The carronades of each, on the quarter deck and fore-castle, are of the like calibre; and the only further difference is, that the *United States* had five more of them. It is false that our frigates carry 54 lb. carronades, they have only 32's.

The gallant conduct of Commodore Decatur, in capturing the *Macedonian*, has been rewarded by numerous tokens of public gratitude. He has received a vote of thanks and medal from congress; a vote of thanks and sword from the state of Virginia; a vote of thanks from Maryland; a vote of thanks and sword from Pennsylvania; a sword from the city of Philadelphia; a vote of thanks from Massachusetts; a vote of thanks from the state of New-York; the freedom of the city of New-York; and has been elected an honorary member of the Cincinnati Society of that state. Public dinners have been given him, and various other entertainments.

CHAPTER X.

*Cruise of the Constitution and Hornet.....Capture of the Java
.....Biography of Capt. Bainbridge.*

AFTER the capture of the *Guerriere* by the *Constitution*, the latter required repairs, which were made at Boston with all possible despatch. Capt. Hull asked leave to remain on shore to transact some private business of importance which was granted by the navy department, and Capt. William Bainbridge was appointed to the command of the *Constitution*.

In the latter part of Oct. she sailed in company with the *Hornet*, Capt. Lawrence, on a cruise to the East-Indies. They made the coast of South America, and found the *Bonne Citoyenne*, of 22 guns, having on board a million and half of specie, lying at St. Salvador. Capt. Lawrence was desirous to engage her, tho' superior to his own vessel by four guns; and accordingly sent a challenge to her commander, Capt. Green, who declined meeting him, on account of the danger he should be in from the *Constitution*, though Capt. Bainbridge had given an assurance that he would not interfere. To remove all suspicion, however, upon this point, Capt. Bainbridge parted company from the *Hornet*, and made northward along the Brazil coast.

Capture of the Java..... On the 29th of December, Capt. Bainbridge discovered, about nine in the morning, two sail, one of which was standing off shore towards him. He immediately made sail to meet the strange ship, and finding, as he approached her, that she did not answer his private signals, proceeded out to sea in order to separate her from her companion, and draw her off the neutral coast. About one o'clock, having reached what he considered a proper distance from the shore, he hoisted his ensign and pendant, which was answered by English colours, and perceiving she was an English frigate (the *Java*, Capt. Lambert) he took in his royals, tacked, and stood for the enemy. The *Java* immediately bore down, intending to rake, which the *Constitution* avoided by wearing. The enemy being now within half a mile to windward, and having hauled down his flag, the *Constitution* fired a gun ahead to make him show his colours, and immediately poured in her whole broadside, on which English colours were immediately hoisted, and the fire returned. On this the action became general, within grape and cannister distance. In a few minutes the wheel of the *Constitution* was shot away; and in about half an hour, Com. Bainbridge finding that his adversary kept too far off, determined to close with him at the risk of being raked. He therefore luffed up so close to the *Java*,

that in passing, her jibboom got foul of the Constitution's mizzen rigging ; and having now gained a nearer position, he poured in so well directed a fire, that in ten minutes he shot away the Java's jibboom and part of the bowsprit ; in five minutes more her foremast went by the board....her maintopmast followed....then the gaff and spanker boom, and lastly the mizzenmast went nearly by the board. At five minutes past four, one hour and fifty minutes from the commencement of the action, the Java's fire was completely silenced, and her colours being down, Capt. Bainbridge supposed that she had struck : he therefore shot ahead to repair his rigging ; but while hove to for that purpose, discovered that her colours were still flying, although her mainmast had just gone by the board. He therefore bore down again upon her, and having got close athwart her bows, was on the point of raking her with a broadside, when she hauled down her colours, being a completely unmanageable wreck, entirely dismantled, without a spar of any kind standing. On boarding her it was found that Capt. Lambert had been mortally wounded, and that the Java was so much injured, that it would be impossible to bring her to the United States. All the prisoners and the baggage were therefore brought on board the Constitution, a service which it required two days to perform, there being but a single boat left between the two frigates. On the 31st she was blown up, and the Constitution put into St. Salvador. The Java carried forty-nine guns, and upwards of four hundred men ; she was bound to the East-Indies, and had, in addition to her own crew, upwards of one hundred supernumerary officers and seamen, for different ships on the East-India station.....among whom was a master and commander in the navy, and also Lieut. Gen. Hislop and his two aids, of the British army.

Her loss was sixty killed ; and among these Capt. Lambert.... Of the wounded, the accounts varied from one hundred and one (which were ascertained positively) to one hundred and seventy.

On board the Constitution nine were killed, and twenty-five wounded ; among whom was the commodore himself.

This victory was scarcely less honourable to Com. Bainbridge, than the generosity with which he exercised the rights of a conqueror. While on board, the prisoners were treated with the most respectful attention. Immediately on their landing at St. Salvador, they were set at liberty on parole, and received every article of their baggage : and particularly a service of plate belonging to Gen. Hislop, was carefully preserved and restored to him. These proofs of honourable courtesy were not lost on the prisoners, who expressed their gratitude in a manner as creditable to themselves as to the victors.

The decayed state of the Constitution and other circumstances combining to interfere with the original plan of the cruise, Com.

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Bainbridge now left the *Hornet* to blockade a superior British force at St. Salvador, and returned to the United States.

Capt. Bainbridge arrived at Boston about the middle of February, in safety.

Biography of Capt. Bainbridge......WILLIAM BAINBRIDGE, son of Dr. Absalom Bainbridge, a respectable physician of Princeton, New-Jersey, was born at that place on the 7th of May, 1774. While yet a child his parents removed to New-York, and he was left under the care of his grandfather, John Taylor, Esq. of Monmouth county, where he received his education, which, as he was originally destined to mercantile pursuits, was confined to the ordinary branches of English instruction, and the rudiments of the French language. At sixteen he was placed in a counting-house at New York, but was soon removed by his grand-father to Philadelphia, and placed as an apprentice to the sea service, in the employ of Messrs. Miller and Murray, merchants, whom he was to serve for a certain time without indentures, and free of expense. In their employ he made many voyages, and soon rose to command. At eighteen years of age, while mate of the ship *Hope*, on her way to Holland, the crew, taking advantage of a violent gale of wind, rose upon the officers, seized the captain, and had nearly succeeded in throwing him overboard, when young Bainbridge, hearing the alarm, ran on deck with an old pistol without a lock, and being assisted by an apprentice boy and an Irish sailor, who was attached to him from being an old ship-mate, rescued the captain, seized the ringleaders, and quelled the mutiny. So satisfied were his employers with this as well as his general conduct, that before his term of service expired, he received the command of a ship in the Dutch trade when only nineteen years of age. From this time, 1793, till the year 1798, he commanded merchant ships in the trade from Philadelphia to Europe. In one of these voyages, in the year 1796, on his way from Bourdeaux to St. Thomas, in the small ship *Hope*, with four small carriage guns and nine men, he had an engagement with a British schooner of eight guns and thirty-five men, commanded by a sailing master in the navy, and after a smart action compelled her to strike her colours. As, however, the two countries were at peace, and he of course was acting only on the defensive, he could not take possession of her; but sent her off contemptuously to make a report of her action. The *Hope* lost no men, but the enemy had many killed and wounded.

In the month of July, 1798, while preparing to sail for Spain, he received, unexpectedly, and without any application on his part, an offer of the command of the United States' schooner *Retaliation*, of fourteen guns, to be employed against France, between which power and the United States hostilities had recent-

ly commenced. He accepted the appointment, on condition that he should have a commission as lieutenant and commander in the navy, and be placed first of that grade on the list of promotion. Having received this he sailed in the *Retaliation*, and after cruising during the summer, along the coast of the United States, accompanied the squadron, under Com. Murray, on a cruise in the West-Indies. While cruising to the windward of Guadeloupe, the *Retaliation* was captured, in the month of November, by two French frigates and a lugger, and taken into that island, where she remained three months. On board the frigate which captured her was Gen. Desfourneaux, on his way to Guadeloupe, to supersede Victor Hughes in the command of the island. This officer, desirous, as it would appear from his conduct, of seeming to be the friend of the United States, and from political motives, to soothe the irritation of the American people at the outrages of the French government, proposed to Lieut. Bainbridge to resume the command of his vessel, and return to the United States. This offer was accompanied by assurances of the respect and regard in which he held the American people. His conduct, however, rendered these plausible appearances but too suspicious. Whilst affecting an ostentatious generosity in giving up the *Retaliation*, other American ships, of far more value, were retained, and his assurances of respect were contradicted by the harsh and rigorous treatment of many Americans whom he refused to regard as prisoners, but who were confined and treated with as much severity as criminals. Perceiving the scheme which was laid for him, Lieut. Bainbridge replied, that he knew of no other light in which he could be regarded, than either as a prisoner, or as entirely freethat if Gen. Desfourneaux returned him his ship and his commission, that commission required him to cruise against the commerce of France, an injunction which he dared not disobey. On the other hand, if he were a prisoner, the proper course would be to make his ship a cartel, and send her home in that way. He remonstrated, at the same time, with great firmness against the treatment which his countrymen were daily receiving. Gen. Desfourneaux insisted on his resuming his command, threatened him with imprisonment if he refused, and declared, that if, on receiving the *Retaliation* he should cruise against the French, every American would be put to the sword. Lieut. Bainbridge replied, that no threats should induce him to act unworthy of his character as an American officer; till at last, finding that he was not to be won over into this plan of dissembled friendship, Gen. Desfourneaux gave him a declaration, that he had been obliged by force to resume the command of his vessel, with her crew reduced to forty men; and with this justification for his government, Lieut. Bainbridge sailed, in company with two flags of truce, for the United States.

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He reached home in February, 1700, and his exchange being soon effected, he received a commission of master commandant, and sailed in the brig *Norfolk*, of eighteen guns, on a second cruise to the West Indies. Here he remained, convoying the trade of the United States, for some months, during which time he captured a French privateer, ran ashore another of sixteen guns, destroyed a number of barges, besides taking several of the enemy's merchant vessels. On his return to the United States in August of the same year, he found that during his absence, contrary to the assurances he had received, as well as to the tenure of his commissions (both of which were higher than that of any lieutenant) that five lieutenants had been promoted over him to the rank of captain. As his conduct had uniformly received the approbation of the government, and as none of those who were promoted had had any opportunity of distinguishing themselves particularly, he remonstrated, of course, against such a violation of his rights. He received, however, no other satisfaction than a promise that no such appointment should take place for the future. Were it not for this irregularity he would now have ranked as second captain in the navy. Although mortified and disappointed, his attachment to the service induced him still to remain in it; and he again sailed with a squadron of four brigs and a ship, destined to protect the trade of the United States to Cuba.....a service which he performed so much to the satisfaction of all who were interested in it, that on his leaving the station in April, 1800, an address was presented to him from the American merchants and others concerned in the United States' trade, expressive of their regret at his approaching absence, and their testimony "of the vigilance, perseverance, and urbanity which had marked his conduct during his arduous command on this station," and the "essential services which he had rendered to his country."

When he returned to the United States he received a captain's commission, and was appointed to the command of the frigate *George Washington*, in which he shortly afterwards sailed for Algiers, with the presents which the United States were by treaty bound to make to that regency. He arrived in safety at Algiers on the 17th of September, 1800, and proceeded to land the presents, which were well received, and every attention paid to Capt. Bainbridge, to whom the dey presented an elegant Turkish sword. In a few days, however, these friendly appearances vanished, and the dey made a most unexpected and extraordinary demand, that the *George Washington* should carry his ambassador with presents to the grand signior at Constantinople. This demand was made under pretence of one of the stipulations in our treaty with Algiers, by which it is declared, that "should the dey want to freight any American vessel that may be in the regency of Tur-

key, said vessel not being engaged, in consequence of the friendship subsisting between the two nations, he expects to have the preference given him, on his paying the same freight offered by any other nation." Against this requisition Capt. Bainbridge and the American consul, Mr. O'Brien, remonstrated warmly and strenuously. It was evident, they said, that this stipulation could apply only to merchant ships, not to national vessels, charged by their own government with specific employments....that Capt. Bainbridge had received positive instructions for his voyage, from which he dared not, and would not deviate, and that there were other ships in the harbour which would answer the purpose equally well. The dey, however, persisted in his demand; and left Capt. Bainbridge only a choice of great difficulties and embarrassments. On the one hand, an ambassador, with a retinue of two hundred Turks as passengers, and presents to the amount of five or six hundred thousand dollars, were to be forced on board the frigate, and carried to Constantinople, at the entire risk of the United States. If in the new and dangerous navigation to that place accidents happened to the dey's property, the United States would be held responsible to indemnify him; if any cruizers of the Portuguese, Neapolitans, or other powers at war with Algiers should meet the George Washington and capture her, still the United States would be bound to reimburse the loss; and the American vessels in the Mediterranean would be instantly seized by the Algerines as a security for it. Should he be more fortunate and beat off these enemies, they might consider this cover of Algerine property as a violation of neutrality, and think themselves justified in retaliating on the defenceless commerce of the United States in the Mediterranean. Besides which, he would deviate from his orders by undertaking, for six months, a voyage not sanctioned by his government. On the other hand, a refusal to comply would occasion the detention of the frigate, which was now in the power of the dey, and be followed by an immediate declaration of war against the United States, for this alledged breach of the treaty, and a seizure of all American vessels in the Mediterranean. In this situation Capt. Bainbridge opposed the dey as long and as vigorously as possible. The dey promised that if a Swedish frigate, which was then expected, arrived, he would take her in place of the George Washington. But she did not come. A British twenty-four gun ship arrived and offered to carry the presents. This, however, the dey refused, because he would not be under obligations to England; and at last, exasperated by opposition he sent for Capt. Bainbridge and the consul, and peremptorily demanded that the frigate should go to Constantinople, threatening, in case of refusal, to make slaves of all the Americans in Algiers, to detain the frigate, and send out his cruizers against the defenceless trade of the United States. The

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liberty of his countrymen, and the safety of the American commerce, decided Capt. Bainbridge at last to smother his indignation at this unpleasant and humiliating service, and he consented to receive the Algerine ambassador.

Another difference arose about the flag : Capt. Bainbridge declared that the frigate should carry her own colours ; but the dey insisted that the flag of Algiers should be worn during the voyage. It was vain to resist, however mortifying to obey.

They sailed from Algiers on the 19th of October. The winds were unfavourable, the weather bad, and the society of the Turks not calculated to console the officers for these inconveniences ; but they submitted with as good grace as possible to a humiliation which they deemed necessary for their country's service. The frigate anchored at the lower end of Constantinople in twenty-three days from her departure, and the next morning, the 12th of November, the American flag was hoisted at the mizen, the Algerine at the main. Soon afterwards three officers in succession were sent on board by the grand seignior, to inquire what ship that was, and what colours she had hoisted. They were told that it was an American frigate and an American flag. They said they did not know any such country. Capt. Bainbridge then explained that America was the New World.... by which name they had some idea of the country. After these inquiries the frigate came into the harbour, saluted the grand seignior's palace with twenty-one guns, and proceeded to unload the Algerine cargo. The ambassador was not permitted to have his audience before the arrival of the capudan pacha, or high admiral from Egypt, and it was necessary for the frigate to wait the result. Capt. Bainbridge endeavoured to employ the interval in giving to the Turkish government a favourable impression of a country, of which his ship and crew were the only specimens they had ever had an opportunity of seeing. At this time an embassy to Constantinople was projected, and William L. Smith, Esq. then minister of the United States in Portugal, was designated as our ambassador. It was therefore desirable that his arrival should be preceded by as advantageous an opinion as possible of his country. How well Capt. Bainbridge succeeded in making these impressions we may learn from the unsuspicious testimony of a distinguished traveller, Mr. Clarke, who was then at Constantinople, and with whom Capt. Bainbridge contracted a friendly intimacy.*

* "The arrival of an American frigate," says Mr. Clarke "for the first time at Constantinople, caused considerable sensation, not only among the Turks, but also throughout the whole diplomatic corps stationed in Pera. This ship, commanded by Capt. Bainbridge, came from Algiers, with a letter and presents from the dey to the sultan and capudan pacha. The presents consisted of tigers and other animals sent with a view to conciliate the Turkish government, whom the dey had offended. When she came to an anchor and a message went to the porte that an American frigate was in the harbour, the Turks were altogether unable to comprehend where the country was situated whose flag they had to salute. A great deal of time was therefore lost in settling this important point, and considering how to receive the stranger. In the meantime we went on board to visit the captain; and were sitting with him in the cabin, when a messenger came from the Turkish government to ask whether America was not otherwise called the New World; and

On the arrival of the capudan pacha, the unfortunate Algerine ambassador was denied an audience, and both his letters and presents refused, on account of the many depredations committed by Algiers on the commerce of Austria and other nations friendly to the porte, and also for having made peace with France without consulting the grand seignior. The ambassador and his suite were not suffered to leave their houses, the dey of Algiers was ordered to declare war against France, and sixty days allowed to receive in Constantinople the account of his compliance, on pain of immediate war.

Capt. Bainbridge was, however, received by the capudan pacha with distinguished politeness. He took the frigate under his immediate protection; requested Capt. Bainbridge to haul down the Algerine flag and carry the American; and being fond of ship-building and naval affairs, conceived, from the seaman-like conduct of the officers and the state of the frigate, a high idea of our marine character. These attentions were peculiarly grateful, as this officer was related by marriage to the grand seignior, and supposed to possess great influence in public affairs. He afterwards addressed a friendly letter to Mr. Smith, the expected ambassador, and the two countries might have formed a commercial treaty under very favourable auspices: but the mission to Constantinople was afterwards discountenanced by our government. The different diplomatic characters at Constantinople paid to Capt. Bainbridge very marked civilities.....more particularly lord Elgin, the British, and baron de Hubsch, the Danish ambassador. Every thing being at length arranged, the George Washington sailed from Constantinople in the month of December, carrying the Turkish ambassador's secretary back to Algiers, with an account of the unfortunate result of his embassy.

This voyage to Constantinople, though irksome to the officers, was ultimately the means of acquiring much honour to the United States, and might have been rendered highly serviceable. Fortunately for us, the George Washington arrived suddenly before Constantinople, which no Christian vessel was permitted to do....

being answered in the affirmative, assured the captain that he was welcome, and would be treated with the utmost cordiality and respect. The messengers from the dey were then ordered on board the capudan pacha's ship; who, receiving the letter from their sovereign with great rage, first spat, and then stamped upon it; telling them to go back to their master, and inform him that he would be served after the same manner, whenever the Turkish admiral met him. Capt. Bainbridge was, however, received with every mark of attention, and rewarded with magnificent presents*. The fine order of the ship, and the healthy state of her crew, became topics of general conversation in Pera; and the different ministers strove who should receive him in their palaces. We accompanied him in his long boat to the Black sea, as he was desirous of hoisting there, for the first time, the American flag; and, upon his return, were amused with a very singular entertainment at his table during dinner. Upon the four corners were as many decanters, containing fresh water from as many quarters of the globe. The natives of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America sat down together at the same table, and were regaled with flesh, fruit, bread, and other viands, while, of every article, a sample from each quarter of the globe was presented at the same time. The means of accomplishing this are easily explained, by his having touched at Algiers in his passage from America, and being at anchor so near the shores both of Europe and Asia.

* This is incorrectly stated. The only presents received were a shawl and a fur cloak, which together were worth about 400 dollars.

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the laws of the porte requiring that all foreign vessels should wait one hundred and twenty miles below the city, in order to obtain leave to come up ; and as the American flag and nation were then unknown, and the ministers of foreign powers would of course have been unwilling to see a young adventurous people admitted to share the advantages of a trade, which they were enjoying exclusively, the probability is that the frigate never would have reached Constantinople. Arriving, however, as she did, a fine ship, with an excellent crew in the best discipline, she gave the Turks a high idea of the naval character of the United Statesa character which they have since seen us sustain with so much glory in the war with Tripoli. After landing some Turks at Malta, as a favour to the capudan pacha, Capt. Bainbridge arrived off Algiers on the twenty-first of January. Warned by his past misfortune, he did not venture his frigate within reach of the fort, but sent the ambassador's secretary on shore in a boat, although the dey desired that he would come into port to discharge some guns belonging to Algiers, which he had taken in there as ballast for the voyage to Constantinople. The dey, however, insisted, and Capt. Bainbridge, fearful of the consequences to the unprotected commerce of the United States, again ventured within the dey's power, delivered the old guns, and took other ballast. The tyrant was now so effectually humbled by the orders of the grand seignior, that he instantly released four hundred prisoners, who had been taken with British and Austrian passports, and declared war against France. Finding too, that Capt. Bainbridge was on friendly terms with the capudan pacha, his menaces softened into great mildness. After having been thus instrumental in the release of so many prisoners, Capt. Bainbridge was now enabled to serve the interests of humanity in another way. On the declaration of war with France, the consul and all the French subjects, then in Algiers, were ordered to leave the country in forty-eight hours, and as their longer stay would have exposed them to captivity, they were all taken on board the *George Washington*.

He sailed from Algiers about the last of January, and after landing the French passengers at Alicant, arrived at Philadelphia in the month of April, 1801, and received the marked approbation of the government for his conduct during this long, unpleasant, and delicate service. Before his return, the cessation of hostilities with France had caused a reduction of the navy, and there were retained only nine captains, of whom he had the satisfaction of finding himself one. In the following June he received the command of the frigate *Essex*. About this time the regency of Tripoli, emboldened by the success of the Algerines, commenced hostilities against the United States : to oppose which a squadron of frigates, among which was the *Essex*, was sent to the Mediterra-

nean. Here he continued for thirteen or fourteen months engaged in convoying American ships and other neutrals in the Mediterranean, and cruising against the Tripolitan ships of war, with none of which, however he had the good fortune to engage. He returned to New-York in July, 1802, and remained on shore for about nine months, engaged in superintending the building of the U. States' brigs *Syren* and *Vixen*.

In May, 1803, he was appointed to command the *Philadelphia*, a frigate built by the merchants of Philadelphia, and presented to the government of the United States. He sailed in her from the port of Philadelphia, in July, 1803, for the Mediterranean, to join the squadron then under Com. Preble. On reaching Gibraltar, he heard of two Tripolitan cruisers off Cape de Gatt, and immediately shaped his course after them. On the 26th of August he discovered a ship with a brig in company, both under a foresail only. As it was night, the wind blowing very fresh, and the ship's guns housed, it was not till the *Philadelphia* hailed her that she proved to be a vessel of war from the coast of Barbary. On ordering her boat on board with the ship's passports, she was found to be the *Mirboha*, a cruiser of 22 guns and one hundred and ten men, from Morocco, and by concealing from the Moorish officer who came on board, the nation to which the *Essex* belonged, he was led to mention that the brig was an American going to Spain, whom they had boarded, but not detained. The low sail under which the brig was, however, exciting some suspicion, Capt. Bainbridge sent his first lieutenant to examine if the ship had any American prisoners; but he was prevented by the captain of the ship. A boat well manned and armed was sent to enforce a compliance, and they found on board the American captain of the brig, who, with his crew, were all confined below, the brig having been captured by the Moorish cruiser nine days before. After this act of hostility, Capt. Bainbridge had no hesitation in making prize of the ship, which was immediately manned from the *Philadelphia*, and the two ships proceeded to cruise for the brig, which had made off during this examination. It was not till after a search among a fleet of vessels, all the next day, that she was discovered, pursued, and taken, and both vessels carried into Gibraltar.

On board the *Mirboha* were found cruising orders from the governor of Tangiers, which proved the hostile dispositions of the emperor of Morocco, who was about letting loose his forces against the American commerce. The capture of one of his finest ships, at the very commencement of this scheme, convinced him of the folly of it, and afforded Com. Preble, on his arrival at Gibraltar, the means of bringing the emperor to a speedy and permanent peace with the United States.

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While he was detained by this negotiation, Capt. Bainbridge, in company with the *Vixen*, Capt. Smith, had proceeded to blockade the harbour of Tripoli. Here he soon received information that a Tripolitan cruiser had escaped from the port, and he despatched the *Vixen* to cruise off Cape Bon in quest of her. After her departure the *Philadelphia* was driven from her cruising ground for several days, by the prevalence of strong westerly gales; but the wind having changed to the eastward, she was returning to her station when, on the 31st of October, not many leagues to the east of the town, at about nine o'clock in the morning, a strange ship was seen in shore, to which chase was immediately given. The chase kept as close in shore as she dared, and ran for the harbour of Tripoli. The *Philadelphia* continued to chase along the land, not venturing into shoaler water than seven fathoms, and keeping up a constant fire; but finding she could not cut the chase off from the harbour, gave up the pursuit, and haled her wind to the northward, which was directly from off the land; when, about half after eleven o'clock, as she was going at the rate of six or seven knots, she ran upon rocks about four miles and a half from the town. These rocks are a continuation of a reef which directly opposite the town are above water, and extend a long distance to the eastward. They were not laid down in any charts on board, nor had they been discovered by our public ships, which had before cruized on this coast; nor, although three leads were kept heaving, were they perceived till she struck. Great exertions were instantly made to float the ship. A part of the guns were thrown overboard; the anchors cut away from the bows; the water started; the foremast cut away; but all to no purpose. As soon as she had grounded the gun-boats came out to attack her. They took a position on her quarters: but her stern chasers compelled them to change their station; and while the ship continued upright, with the few guns that could be brought to bear, she could keep the enemy at distance; but she soon lay over so much on one side, that she could not use her guns. At length, after sustaining the enemy's fire for between five and six hours, and seeing no chance of getting the ship off, a council of war was called of all the officers, who gave an unanimous opinion, that, as it was impossible to defend themselves, or to annoy the enemy, any further show of resistance would only expose the lives of the crew, and that the painful alternative of surrendering was all that remained for them. The magazine was therefore drowned; the arms and every article of value thrown overboard; the ship scuttled; the pumps choaked, and the colours were then hauled down at five o'clock. One of the boats was sent to acquaint the enemy that the ship would make no further resistance. "On approaching the enemy," says one of the officers employed on this occasion, "we were hailed

by almost every one, and each ordered us along side of his boat. One, however, fired a shot, which struck near us, and presuming him to be the commodore, we rowed towards him, when one of the near gun-boats, perceiving we were not coming to him, manned his boat and came after us. There were about fifteen men in this boat, all armed with pistols, with sabres, and a long musket suspended over their backs. They were a ferocious and savage set. They sprung into our boat, and immediately two seized Lieut. Porter, and two others seized me. My coat was soon off, my vest unbuttoned, and my cravat torn from my neck. I thought, for my own part, I should not have time to count my beads; but we soon perceived that their violence was only with a view of getting from us whatever money or valuables we might have concealed about our persons. We now proceeded towards the shore, the gun-boat men continuing in our boat. It was just dark when we approached the beach, which was covered with people, armed and shouting most hideously, and landed amid the shouts of the populace, by whom we were pushed about rudely. We were conducted to the gate of the pacha's castle, followed by the crowd. Here we were detained some minutes, his majesty not being ready to receive us. We were, however, at length ushered into his presence. We now felt ourselves safe. The pacha was seated in state, with his ministers and principal officers about him, and surrounded by a numerous guard. We were desired to be seated, while the boat's crew stood at some distance back. A variety of questions were put to us: how many men were in the Philadelphia? how many guns had she? were any of the guns of brass? how much powder was there? was there any money in the ship? where was Com. Morris? where was the schooner Enterprise? &c. Three glasses of sherbert were brought, one for each of us, of which we drank."

The same scene of plunder was renewed when the Tripolitans came on board. They took from Capt. Bainbridge his watch, and epaulets, and the cravat from his neck: but with much struggling and difficulty he saved the miniature of his wife. When he was brought into the castle the same set of questions were repeated by the pacha, who observed, among other things, that the fortune of war had placed Capt. Bainbridge in his present situation. They were then sent to another apartment, where a supper was provided for the officers; after which they were brought in a body before the pacha, who gratified himself by taking a view of them collectively. The complacency with which he surveyed them, his cheerful and animated countenance, sufficiently denoted his satisfaction at seeing them. His reception of them, however, made favourable impressions of his character. He presented them to his minister of foreign affairs, Sidi Muhamed Dghies, who was to have charge of them, and who, the bashaw observed, would

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take good care of them. This indeed they found to be strictly true; for they were now conducted to the house of the late American consul, and although it was by this time one o'clock in the morning, the minister sent for the Danish consul, Mr. Nissen, whom he introduced to Capt. Bainbridge as his particular friend, and one who would render the officers every service in his power. This estimable man immediately brought refreshments, and all the bedding which he could collect at that hour; and about two o'clock the officers lay down to sleep as well as their new and terrible misfortune would permit them. The next day, the minister of foreign affairs requested Capt. Bainbridge and his officers to give their parole, in order that he might in turn, pledge his word to the pacha for their safety. This was complied with. The officers also presented an unanimous address to the captain, in which they stated their belief that the charts and soundings justified as near an approach to the shore as they had made; and declaring, that on this as on every other occasion, his conduct had been correct and honourable. Soothed by this proof of confidence and attachment, Capt. Bainbridge endeavoured to render the situation of his officers and crew as comfortable as possible. The consular house was commodious, and although not large enough for the accommodation of so many persons, was at least airy, and the atmosphere they breathed was pure. About a fortnight after this, however, the pacha's minister acquainted Capt. Bainbridge that letters had been received from the Tripolitans who had been taken by Capt. Rodgers, in the John Adams, complaining of being ill-treated by him, and Capt. Bainbridge was requested to sign an order upon Com. Preble to give up these Tripolitan prisoners, with a declaration, that if he refused, the ill-treatment shown to the Tripolitan prisoners should be retaliated upon the officers of the Philadelphia. Capt. Bainbridge peremptorily refused to sign this order, and accordingly, by way of punishment, they were conducted by the slave-driver to the prison, where the crew were confined at work. Here they remained one day, when the Tripolitan government finding Capt. Bainbridge's firmness not to be shaken, they were re-conducted in the evening to the consular house, and an apology received from the minister for the indignity they had suffered. Here they continued, and were permitted occasionally to walk out to the country in small parties, accompanied by a guard.

On the 16th of February, 1804, the Philadelphia was burnt by Decatur. This mortified the pacha exceedingly; though he affected to consider it as a fortune of war. Some of the bodies of persons who were known to have been on board the Philadelphia, floated ashore, from which the pacha pretended to believe, that Decatur, after getting clear of the harbour, had, in cold blood, killed the prisoners. This was the pretext for increasing the se-

verity of their confinement. Accordingly they were removed to apartments in the pacha's castle, exceedingly small, and but ill adapted to accommodate so many. They were without windows, and all the light, as well as fresh air, was admitted through a small opening at the top, grated over with iron railing. The atmosphere they breathed, while thus closely confined, soon became unhealthy, and Capt. Bainbridge repeatedly represented to the minister, that they could not exist so crowded together, and with such confined air. After much delay, and when the warm weather came on, and they were all getting sick, these accommodations were enlarged by the addition of other rooms. Still they were much crowded, and they could not have sustained such confinement, but that the climate of Tripoli is the mildest and most delightful in the world. While in this confinement they were sometimes, when none of the American cruizers were off, permitted to walk into the country; but there was one period of nearly eight months, that they were not allowed this indulgence, and these eight months included one whole summer, a season when the weather was warm, and consequently they most needed exercise and fresh air. They continued in this confinement until the peace of June, 1805.

The conduct of the pacha and his officers was, however, far more mild than they had been led to anticipate, and even this rigorous confinement was imposed, not so much with a view to make them suffer, as because the pacha thought it the only mode by which he could secure them. He was very apprehensive on this point. The Danish consul endeavoured to explain to the Tripolitan government the nature of a parole among Europeans, and assured the government that by getting them to pledge their honour, they would make no attempt to escape, and should be more safe than by all his guards, his bolts and his bars; but this the pacha could not understand, and he could not be made to believe that any prisoner who had the chance to escape, would be deterred from doing so merely because he had passed his word. It was once debated in the divan, whether it would not be advisable to put the officers to hard labour, under the idea that Com. Preble, as soon as he heard of it, would, on their account, be more solicitous for peace. But it was justly concluded that it would have a contrary tendency; that it would irritate and exasperate their countrymen, and induce a more vigorous prosecution of the war. The project was therefore abandoned.

When the news was received that Gen. Eaton had taken Derne, and in conjunction with the dethroned pacha, was advancing towards Tripoli, Eaton's force was greatly exaggerated, and the pacha became alarmed. He sent word to Capt. Bainbridge, that heretofore he considered the war as one of interest only; that the United States prosecuted it in order to get away

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their countrymen for as small a sum of money as possible, and that he continued it to get as much as possible for his prisoners; but that now the Americans had made common cause with his exiled brother, and that consequently, he must succeed against Eaton or lose his kingdom; that he had the means of injuring the feelings of the American people in a most delicate point (meaning, by putting the prisoners to death) and that in a case of extremity he should enforce these means. The pacha thought to alarm Capt. Bainbridge, and induce him to write to the commodore, or to Eaton. Capt. Bainbridge, however, replied, that he and his officers were in the power of the pacha, and that he might do with them as he pleased; that the United States had many officers and seamen, and that consequently they should be no loss to their country. This spirited reply saved him from any more such messages. It is impossible to say whether the pacha would or would not have gone to this extremity. He is a man of strong passions, and ambitious; and had he been driven from his kingdom, he might have been urged to this violence; as it cannot be supposed that he should entertain the same sentiments of abhorrence at the atrocity of sacrificing his prisoners, as would be felt by an European. A place in the interior had certainly been fixed on as a place of security for them, in case it became necessary to remove them from the capital.

While thus confined, without exercise or change of scene, their time, it may be easily imagined, passed heavily. But their youth and the hardy frame of mind, created by their profession, were qualified to resist for a long time the depressing effects of misfortune. After the short interval of unavailing regret had passed, they collected their spirits and resources, and endeavoured to derive amusement and occupation from every quarter.

When they were taken they lost all their clothes. The officers of the *Vixen*, as soon as they heard of this circumstance, sent a part of their clothes, which came very seasonably. Soon after, some of their own was brought to the prison for sale, and each officer, having thus an opportunity of purchasing some of his former wardrobe, they had a sufficient supply. Some of their books were also taken to them to be sold, and were purchased from the Tripolitans, to whom they were entirely useless, at a price generally much below their value.

These furnished the means of constant employment, as their officers were enabled to pursue the studies to which they were attached, and the prison became a sort of academy, in which navigation, the French language, and other instructive studies were cultivated. Occasionally too they found some relief against ennui, in theatrical performances. Among the books purchased was an odd volume of plays, containing the *Castle Spectre*, the *Heir at Law*, the *Stranger*, and *Secrets Worth Knowing*. These were

successively got up and performed. This resource was husbanded very carefully. Thus they were busily occupied for some time in preparing the scenery, then the dresses, then in rehearsing, and finally, after great exertions for three or four weeks, the theatre was opened. The scenery was painted in such colours as could be procured; the gayer dresses of the ladies were formed of sheets, while black silk handkerchiefs sewed together furnished suits of wo; and leaves and paper completed the materials of the female toilet. After this, criticism upon the performance and dresses of the several actors and actresses kept them alive, and sometimes cheerful for a fortnight; and now again they began to prepare for another play.

Another great resource was, that sometimes they received letters from their friends in America. This indeed was rare, but it always had a most lively and permanent effect upon them. Their greatest comfort, however, certainly was that they were all kept together. Had they been separated, and deprived of the support of each other's company, they could not have survived so long a captivity.

Among their comforts too we should not omit the active and friendly humanity of Mr. Nissen, the Danish consul.....a gentleman whose generous, manly, and honourable conduct should be connected with every mention of the Tripolitan war. While the other agents of foreign countries, the French, English, and Spanish consuls kept aloof from some paltry consideration of timidity, or commercial jealousy, or wrote to the captives a cold and formal and complimentary and unmeaning offer of service, Mr. Nissen came forward at once, and from the first to the last hour of their captivity was a constant, unremitting, anxious, and affectionate friend. Money, clothes, books, and every thing which could contribute to render the situation of the captives less irksome, was lavished by the friendly zeal of Mr. Nissen. When the period of their captivity was about expiring, they addressed to that estimable man a letter of thanks for his disinterested friendship; and as soon as they were released, presented to him an urn, as a lasting monument of his benevolence and their gratitude.

Besides other modes of occupying their time, their minds were frequently excited by hopes and efforts to escape. An attempt was made in the latter end of April, 1804, to undermine the castle and escape under the wall. They commenced digging in the room of the warrant officers; but after working for four days they reached, at the depth of twenty-five feet, a loose sand and water, and found, that the foundation of the castle was built upon made ground, of so loose a texture, that it was impracticable to undermine it horizontally the requisite distance, which was one hundred and fifty yards, without boards to prop it and prevent its falling in; as they had none of these they were obliged to look

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to some other means of escape. In the following May they adopted another scheme. One of the inner walls of the prison communicated with a subterraneous passage, which they hoped would lead to the outward walls of the castle, and by perforating this they expected to find a passage into the town. Accordingly they began to take out one by one the stones of this wall, which were carefully replaced to avoid suspicion. For this labour they had nothing but their case-knives, a dull axe, and an iron bolt; but they at last got into a long, dark, subterraneous passage, which they followed for some time, till their progress was stopped by another wall. This they perforated; but their surprise and mortification, found a space of made earth or terrace, on which the top of the castle rested. They were not, however, disheartened, but began to excavate a space large enough for a man to crawl in upon his hands and knees, carefully removing the earth to a distance, and scattering it through the subterranean passage; but they had not made much progress before the movements of the soldiers and the great weight on the top of the terrace made it cave in, and destroyed the whole enterprise. Fortunately the suspicions of the guard were not excited, and the plan remained undiscovered.

Another and more bold attempt had no better success. It was intended to reach, by a difficult and dangerous way, to the window at the top of the prison, through which they were to get on the terrace, and taking advantage of some moment when the guards were asleep or inattentive, cross the terrace, a distance of fifty or sixty yards, to the parapet of the wall. In one of the embrasures of this they were to make fast a rope formed of all the sheets tied together, and descend a height of ninety feet to the beach. The first who got down were to swim to a Spanish vessel about half a mile off, cut her boat adrift and bring it ashore, and the whole party were then to embark and endeavour to gain the American squadron. This plan was confined to Capt. Bainbridge and a few of the original projectors of it. On the eve of its execution, Capt. Bainbridge wrote to the Tripolitan minister to inform him, that as no regard had been paid to their parole, he deemed himself justified in attempting to regain his liberty, and recommending the officers who should be left behind to his particular care and attention. To those officers themselves he addressed a note, stating, that as all could not make the attempt, it was necessarily confined to its projectors; that the escape of himself and so many officers would enable them to render the greatest services to those who remained, and hasten the period of their liberation, by lessening the sum to be demanded by the Tripolitans.

When these arrangements were concluded, the party reached the window, but it blew so violent a gale of wind, that they were obliged to postpone the project; and Captain Bain-

bridge, finding that his departure excited some uneasiness in the minds of some of the officers, abandoned the expedition, and determined to share their fate. The attempt was then made by three lieutenants and as many midshipmen. At midnight, on the 21st of May, they reached the terrace, and remained there for nearly two hours, endeavouring to seek a moment to cross to the parapet; but the terrace was covered with guards, and they found no opportunity of getting off. The failure of this scheme put an end to all plans of escape, and they patiently waited their liberation from the hands of their countrymen.

During the bombardment of the town, they were the melancholy and inactive witnesses of the efforts of their countrymen. The burning of the *Philadelphia*, the explosion of the fire-ship commanded by Capt. Somers, and the various attacks made on the town, all passed before their eyes. Sometimes, too, they were exposed from their situation to great danger. On one occasion, a twenty-four pound shot came into Capt. Bainbridge's bed-room, and passed within six inches of his head.

While the officers were confined, the men were kept at work during the day and locked up at night. The work, however, which was required of them was always light, and nothing more than wholesome exercise. It was scarcely as severe as the ordinary duty which is exacted from them on board ship. The Tripolitans are, generally speaking, and excepting the people employed in the gun-boats, of a mild and humane character. The prisoners were often obstinate, uncomplying, and mischievous; yet the Tripolitans who had charge of them were rarely provoked to punish them. They used often to say, that the Americans were the most difficult to manage of any people they had ever seen. Several of the crew turned Mahometans, and thus gained their freedom; but the rest remained faithful to their country and their religion.*

At last Col. Lear appeared off the harbour to negotiate peace with Tripoli. The first overtures were embarrassed by the employment of the Spanish Consul, who was at length put aside, and Capt. Bainbridge proposed, as the shortest mode of pacification, that he should be permitted to visit the squadron. This request was so new in Barbary, that the officers of the *Philadelphia* were obliged to give a written declaration, that in case he did not return they would submit to any punishment the pacha might inflict. Under this guaranty he had an interview with the American officers, and a treaty was at last concluded between the two

* It would be unjust not to record an instance of the generosity of these seamen. Among the drivers who superintended them while at work was a Neapolitan, himself a captive, who had often relented into pity for them and done them acts of kindness. Touched by this treatment, the crew, as they were about to leave Tripoli, made a subscription out of their wages of between three and four hundred dollars, with which they purchased the liberty of the Neapolitan, who was thus restored at the same time with themselves to freedom and his country.

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Captain 1805, and t as to satisfy nate officer than as a va confidence, stand the te brother offic of inquiry h ment of the Capt. Bainb loss of the gree of cens

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countries ; by which the American and Tripolitan prisoners were exchanged, and the sum of sixty thousand dollars given to the pacha. On the 3d of June, 1805, the officers were liberated, after a confinement of nineteen months and three days, and on the fourth they, as well as the crew, embarked on board the squadron, and soon after sailed for America.

Captain Bainbridge reached the United States in the autumn of 1805, and the reception which he met from his country was such as to satisfy completely the feelings of a meritorious but unfortunate officer. He was received rather as a returning conqueror than as a vanquished prisoner—a most unequivocal proof of public confidence, since that merit must indeed be sterling which could stand the test of such misfortunes. Nor were the opinions of his brother officers less honourable and liberal. At his request a court of inquiry had been held on the loss of the frigate, and the judgment of the court was, that it “ was decidedly of opinion that Capt. Bainbridge acted with fortitude and good conduct in the loss of the United States’ frigate Philadelphia ; and that no degree of censure should attach itself to him from that event.”

Early in 1806 he was ordered to take the command of the naval station at New-York : but soon after obtained a furlough to perform a voyage in the merchant service ; which, from the reduced state of his funds, had become necessary to make some provision for his family. He returned in 1807, and was employed in various naval duties until March, 1808, when he was appointed to the Portland station, which had become vacant by the death of Com. Preble. In December following, he was called to Washington, to superintend the repairs of the frigate President, which he was appointed to command. Having completed the ship, he sailed in July, 1809, from Washington, and cruized on our coast ’till the next spring, when he again obtained permission from the navy department to engage in the merchant service.

Having returned from his mercantile pursuits in February, 1812, he was appointed to the command of the navy-yard at Charlestown, Massachusetts, and the public vessels on the eastern station.

On the declaration of war against Great Britain, it was submitted by the government to his own inclination, either to retain his post at the navy-yard, or to cruize against the enemy on the ocean. Accustomed to a life of actual service, and preferring the hazzard of warfare and the chance of victory, to the security of inaction, he did not hesitate to choose the former, and was accordingly appointed to command the frigate Constellation ; but on the arrival at Boston of Capt. Hull, after his victory over the British frigate Guerriere, he applied for a furlough to attend to his private concerns, and Com. Bainbridge was permitted to take command of

the Constitution. In a few weeks he sailed in company with the sloop of war Hornet, Capt. Lawrence, on a cruize to the East-Indies.

After parting company with the Hornet while running down the coast of Brazil, on the 29th of December, he fell in with, and captured the Java, after an engagement of fifty-five minutes, as before related.

On his arrival at Boston, he was received with an enthusiastic welcome by his countrymen, who felt peculiar pleasure in seeing that fortune had at last relented, and given him an opportunity of adding success to merit. Fifty thousand dollars prize-money, as a compensation for the loss of the Java, were given by congress to the officers and crew, and a gold medal presented to the commodore himself. These were followed by votes of thanks and testimonials of respect from several state-legislatures, and also from various corporate bodies and meetings of the citizens generally.

Since his return he has been appointed to command the station from Portsmouth to Connecticut, within which limits he has had charge of the Constitution and two brigs; and the construction of two sloops of war; but his chief employment is the building at Charlestown of a seventy four, which he is appointed to command.

Of the private character of an individual still living, and known so extensively, it is neither necessary nor proper to speak. His domestic life is singularly fortunate. In the year 1798 he married, at St. Bartholomews, Miss Heylegir, an amiable and respectable lady of St. Eustatia, by whom he has three children.

What new adventures await him when afloat in the first American ship of the line, must be left to time and fortune. His country may, however, confidently indulge in all the anticipations which great professional skill, determined spirit, and a high sense of national and personal honour are calculated to inspire.

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CHAPTER XI.

Private armed vessels.....The Atlas.....the High-Flyer.....the Rosic.....the Young Eagle.....the Montgomery.....the Dolphin.

IMMEDIATELY after the declaration of war, a great number of privateers were fitted out in the ports and harbours of the United States, to cruize against the enemy's vessels, and the expectations of the most sanguine have been answered in their success.

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The enterprize and bravery of our seamen has been unexam-
pled ; and to these qualities they have added these admirable ones
.....humanity and generosity to the enemy.

We lament that the limits of this publication will not admit of
of our doing justice to the merits of this valuable class of citizens,
were we competent to the task. But they will not be forgotten
by their countrymen. Their names....their deeds of courage and
humanity, will embellish the fairest page in the history of their
country.

Our object will be to select the most prominent instances of
enterprize and courage in our privateers-men.

The Atlas....The privateer schooner *Atlas*, Capt. Moffat, sailed
from Philadelphia immediately after the declaration of war. On
the 3d August, in latitude 37 north, longitude 46 west, at half
past 8 A. M. she discovered two sail to the westward, standing
to the N. E. At 10, A. M. she beat to quarters, and cleared for
action. At half past 10 she bore away for both ships, and hoist-
ed the American ensign and pendant. At three quarters past 10
the smallest ship fired a shot at the *Atlas*. Both ships at this time
had English colours flying.

At 11, A. M. the action was commenced by the *Atlas* with a
broadside and musketry. She continued engaged with both ships
until noon, when the small one struck her colours. The *Atlas*
then directed the whole of her fire against the large ship. But
the small ship, though her colours were still down, immediately
renewed her fire on the *Atlas*, which had to re-commence firing
on her. But in a few minutes she drove every man off her decks.
At twenty minutes past meridian the large ship struck. Posses-
sion was immediately taken of both. One of them proved to be
the ship *Pursuit*, Capt. Chivers, of 450 tons, 16 guns, and 35 men.
The other was the ship *Planter*, Capt. Frith, of 280 tons, 12
guns, and 15 men. The cargoes of both were very valuable.

The *Atlas* had two men killed and five wounded. All her
shrouds on the larboard side were shot away ; her running rig-
ging and sails were much injured.

The *Atlas* and the *Pursuit* arrived safe in port. The *Planter*
was re-captured off the capes of Delaware.

The Highflyer....The privateer *Highflyer*, Capt. Gavett, of
seven guns, sailed from Baltimore on a cruise. She discovered
a fleet of merchantmen on the 19th of Aug. in latitude 9 d. 20 m.
north, under convoy of a frigate, which gave her chase. She
steered various courses, avoided the frigate, and pursued the fleet.
On the 21st she captured the British ship *Diana*, one of the fleet,
of 353 tons, laden with sugar, rum, coffee, &c. and dispatched her
to the first port, in charge of a prize-master, and ten men. On

.....the Ros-
Dolphin.

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the 22d she engaged two other vessels of the convoy, at the same time, who returned the fire with great spirit and resolution.... The engagement had lasted about twenty minutes when she carried the largest vessel by boarding; the other striking at the same time. They proved to be the Jamaica of 7 guns, 21 men, and 365 tons, and the Mary and Ann, of 12 guns, 18 men, and 320 tons, having valuable cargoes of West-India produce.

The Rossie....The privateer Rossie, of 13 guns, Capt. Barney, sailed from Baltimore July 12th, on a cruize off the banks of Newfoundland, St. John's and St. George's banks, thence through the islands of the West-Indies, and returned into port the latter part of October, having captured on the cruize 3698 tons of shipping, valued at a million and a half of dollars, and taken 217 prisoners.

The Young Eagle....The privateer Young Eagle, of one gun, on a cruize fell in with and engaged the British armed ship Grenada, of 11 guns, and another armed vessel in company with her. After a desperate action of an hour and a half the Young Eagle succeeded in capturing both vessels.

The Montgomery....The privateer brig Montgomery, of Boston, Capt. Upton, mounting 12 guns, on the 6th of December, off Surinam, fell in with a British vessel of war, the Surinam, rating in Steel's List, 18 guns, but carrying 20. They lay board and board for half an hour. Some of the privateer's people lashed the bobstay of the British vessel to the Montgomery's main-mast. So spirited and brave was the resistance on both sides, that neither could succeed in boarding. One of the Montgomery's 18 pounders was repeatedly discharged into the bows of the British vessel, between wind and water, and very much injured her. As soon as the two vessels parted the Surinam made sail from the Montgomery. The foremast of the Surinam was shot away. She was so much disabled as to be obliged to put into an out-port to refit, instead of proceeding to the common place of rendezvous at Barbadoes.

The Dolphin....The privateer Dolphin, of 10 guns and 60 men, engaged off St. Vincent a ship of 16 guns and 40 men, and a brig of 10 guns and 25 men, at the same time, and after a severe struggle succeeded in capturing them both.

The most correct information of the enterprize of our privateers-men may be gathered from the following list of prizes.

List of Prizes
Ship Concord
her, captured
Brig Elbe,
Brig Ulysses
Ship ———
Madison of St.
Brig Hermo
by the Dolphin
A brig and
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Ship ———
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Brig ——— of
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Sloop Endeav
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Brig ———, wi
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Ship ———, 30
Brig ———, 30
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Three schoo
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Brig Valsich
Schr. Ann, by
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age etc. by ditto
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Schooner Ann
Four schooner
the Dolphin and
Brig ———, by
Schooner —
by the Lion.
Schooner —
Argus of Boston
Sloop ———, wi
Schooner Fan
Two schooner
Brig Lamprey
Brig ———, a tr
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Schooner Mar
the Buckskin
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ship Mary, of
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the Dolphin.
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Schooner Ditt
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Two schooner
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the Gossamer o

List of British vessels captured during the year 1812—extracted from Niles' Weekly Register.

Ship Concord, 300 tons 4 guns, laden with timber, captured by the Fame of Salem.
Brig Elbe, 200 tons, by ditto.
Brig Ulves, by the Paul Jones of N York.
Ship —, laden with rice, flour, etc. by the Madison of Salem.
Brig Hermout, with rice, flour and naval stores by the Dolphin of ditto.
A brig and schooner, with timber, tar, etc. by ditto.

Ship —, 4 guns by the Madison.
Six ships and brigs, among them the ships Emperor and Experiment, by the gun-boats at St. Mary's.

Schooner Wade, with 30,000 dollars in specie, by a revenue cutter.
Government transport No. 50, with military stores, 2 guns and 12 men, by the Madison.
Brig Eliza, of 6 guns, by the Madison of one gun, after a smart engagement.

Three Nova-Scotia shallops, with English and West India goods and specie by the Lion of Marblehead.

Brig — of 6 guns by the Lion and Snowbird of ditto.

Sloop Endeavour, with sugar, by the Polly of Salem.

Brig —, with flour, timber etc. by the Madison.

Ship —, 300 tons, with naval stores, by do.

Brig —, 300 tons, with gun powder, dry goods and military stores, by do.

Three schooners, with naval stores and provisions, by the Jefferson of Salem.

Brig Vabishi, with timber, by the Dolphin.

Schooner Ann, by the Nonpareil of Charleston.

Schooner Panda, with 2,000 dollars in specie, by the gun-boat Mary's.

Ship Jarrett, of 18 guns and 18 men, by the Fair Trader of 12 guns and 12 men, of Salem.

Three schooners of 12 guns, wine, furs, cordage etc. by ditto.

Schooner —, by the Dolphin—released after taking from on board of her 1000 dollars in specie and a quantity of beaver skins.

Schooner Ann, with an assorted cargo, by do.

Four schooners with naval stores and furs, by the Dolphin and Jefferson.

Brig —, by the Dolphin.

Schooner —, with lumber and naval stores, by the Lion.

Schooner —, with sugar and indigo, by the Argus of Boston.

Sloop —, with sugar, by the Polly.

Schooner Fauny, in ballast, by the Dolphin.

Two schooners, by the Buckskin of Salem.

Brig Lamprey, with rum, by the U. S. Frigate Essex.

Brig —, a transport with 157 soldiers, by do. ransomed for a bill on London for 14,000 dollars—the vessel and troops were disarmed, the men and officers were released on an exchange receipt and swearing not to serve until its provisions were complied with.

Schooner Mary-Ann, with military stores, by the Buckskin. On board of her was Col. Pearson, a British officer.

Ship Mary, of 14 heavy guns, having on board a quantity of arms and ammunition, captured by the Dolphin.

Schooner Diligent, with 22 pipes of brandy by the Polly.

Two schooners with provisions, by the Snowbird of Salem.

Sloop —, mounting 6 heavy guns, with a quantity of small arms and ammunition, by the revenue cutter James Madison.

Schooner Jane, by the Dolphin.

Ship Ann Green, 430 tons, eight 12 pounders and 6 long 6's—with a cargo of rum, etc. by the Gossamer of Boston.

Barque St. Andrews, of 8 guns, by the Rapid of Boston.

Brig Shamrock, 300 tons, 6 guns and 16 men, by the revenue cutter Madison.

Schooner Sally, captured by the Teazer of New-York, and given up for the purpose of disposing of prisoners.

Schooner Nelson, with oil, furs, fish, etc. by the Buckskin.

Schooner —, by the Fame.

Schooner Three Brothers, by the Wily Reynard of Boston.

Barque —, by the Catharine of Boston.

Brig —, in ballast, by the Polly—ransomed after taking out a few bales of dry goods.

Ship Henry, 400 tons, 10 guns, with sugar, old wine etc. by the Comet of Baltimore.

Schooner Alfred, with an assorted cargo, by the Spentier of Philadelphia.

Schooner Eliza, by the Polly.

Brig Lady Sherbrook, 254 tons, 4 six pounders, with lumber and fish, by the Marengo of New-York.

Brig Elizabeth and Esther, with fish, pork and dry goods, by the Gov. M'Kean of Philadelphia.

Ship Boyd, of 10 guns, with cotton, logwood and coffee, captured by the Glob of Baltimore, after a running fight of an hour and a half.

Brig Ranger, of 6 guns, with coffee and logwood—captured by the Matilda of Philadelphia, after a short engagement, in which the British captain was mortally wounded.

Schooner Polly, by the Wily Reynard.

A ship and two brigs sent into Wisconsin.

Sloop Mary Ann, with salt, by the Paul Jones.

Ship Hassan, of 14 guns and 30 men, with wines, dry goods etc. worth 800,000 dollars—captured after an hour's combat, with the loss of her captain killed and a boy wounded, by this Paul Jones, then of 3 guns. The guns of the Hassan were transferred to the privateer, and the vessel ordered for Savannah.

Brig Harmony, 250 tons, 4 guns, with dry goods etc. by the Yankee of Bristol B. I.

Brig —, captured by the rankee, and given up for the purpose of disposing of her prisoners.

Ship Bragance, of 12 guns, 400 tons, with coffee and logwood—captured by the Tom of Baltimore, after a running fight of 35 minutes.

Brig Peter-Walkie, with British manufactures, by the Teazer.

Schooner Ann, of 4 guns, with logwood and mahogany, by the Glo.

Ship Prince Adolphus, 8 guns and 84 men, among whom were the governor, collector, and post-master of Demarara, by the Governor M'Kean.

Ship —, with dry goods, glass and ironmongery, by the Teazer.

Schooner Harriet, with 8000 dollars in specie by the High Flyer of Baltimore.

Brig Ceres, by the John of Salem.

Brig —, with timber, taken by a Salem privateer, recaptured by the English and taken by a Lynn privateer.

Brig William, with coal, butter and sundries, by the Roscoe of Baltimore.

One ship, five brigs and a schooner, all laden with fish and timber, burnt by the Roscoe.

One brig and a schooner, sent into New-York, laden with 60 prisoners on parole and receipt for exchange.

Schooner Industry, by the Benjamin Franklin of New-York.

Schooner Perseverance, by the Neauusack of Baltimore.

Ship Sir Simon Clark, 16 guns, 80 men, with sugar, rum, coffee, etc. by the Glob.

She was gradually carried by boarding after a brisk cannonade of a few minutes. The British ship had 4 men killed and the captain and 3 others severely wounded. The second lieutenant and

the drummer were killed on board the *Globe*. She had only one wounded.

Brig *Andrus Packet*, 4 guns and 12 men, with rum and dry goods, by the *Mary Ann* of Charleston.

Brig *Ancilla*, 10 guns and 17 men, with wine, castile soap and oil, by the *Mary Ann* of 1 gun and 20 men.

Schooner *Mary* with cotton, by the *Mary Ann*. Schooner — (armed) after a smart brush, taken by the *Mary Ann* and burnt.

Schooner *Union*, with rum, by the *John*.

Brig *Elizabeth*, 100 tons, 4 guns and 12 men, by the *John*.

Three brigs with lumber taken by the *John* and released.

A schooner and a sloop with lumber, by the *Orlando* of Gloucester.

Brig *General Blake* (under Spanish colours) and to have British papers, by the revenue cutter *Gallatin*.

Brig — by the *Bunker Hill* of New-York.

Brig *Janet*, by the *Bunker Hill*.

Ship *Apolly*, 8 guns, 400 tons, by the *John*. Ship *Royal Bounty*, 6 guns, 700 tons—captured by the *Yankee* after a smart action of 20 minutes, in which the captain, the two mates and two seamen of the *Royal Bounty* were wounded and a boy killed—two men were wounded on board the *Yankee*. The vessel being old was destroyed.

Brig *Mary*, by the *Yankee*—released to dispose of her prisoners.

Schooner *Venus* with rum, sugar and fruits, by the *Teazer*.

Ship *Osborne*, 10 eighteen pounders, and 20 men, burthen 840 tons—captured by the *Teazer* after a long fight in which no person on either side was injured.

Brig *Eliza* with rum and sugar by the *Marengo*.

Brig *Richard*, 300 tons, with timber by the *Industry* of Lynn.

Brig *Nancy* with provisions, by the *Fair Trader*.

Brig — with flour by the *Bunker Hill*.

Schooner — by the *Leander* of Providence.

Brig *Leonidas* of 14 guns with sugar, rum, coffee and pimento, by the *Mary* of Norfolk.

Schooner *Skyhawk* with provisions, by the *Bunker Hill*.

Brig *Lady Prevost* by the *Marengo*.

Brig *Friends*, by the *Benjamin Franklin*.

Brig *Mary*, by ditto.

Ship *Jenny* of 12 guns and 18 men, with salt, by the *Russie* of Baltimore.

Ship *John* of 16 guns and 30 men, by the U. S. squadron under Com. Rodgers.

Schooner — 170 tons, with sugar and rum, by the *Teazer*.

Ship *Grenada* of 11 guns and 30 men, 700 tons burthen, with sugar, cotton and coffee, by the *Young Eagle* of New-York.

Schooner *Shaddock* (armed) with molasses in company with the *Grenada*. The *Eagle* carried but 1 gun and 44 men. She engaged the *Grenada* and *Shaddock* at the same time, and in an hour and a half captured them both.

Barque *Diana*, with rum and sugar, by the *High Flyer*.

Brig *Roebuck* with rum, by the *Resamond* of New-York.

Ship *Guerriere*, of 49 guns and 303 men, by the U. S. frigate *Constitution*.

Brig *Lady Warren*, by ditto.

Brig *Abona*, by ditto.

Brig *Harriet*, by ditto.

Brig *Dutchess* of Portland, by the squadron under Com. Rodgers.

Brig *Traveller* with spars, by ditto.

Brig — with 10,000 dollars in specie, by do.

Brig *Henry*, by the *Yankee*.

Ship *Howell* of 14 guns and 25 men, 400 tons, with sugar, molasses, cotton, coffee and cocoa—captured by the *Coquet*.

Brig *Hazard* of 6 guns, 238 tons, by the *Dolphin*—re-captured by the *Æolus* frigate and taken again by the U. S. ship *Wasp*.

Schooner *Forbes* and *Phoebe*, by the squadron of Portsmouth.

Brig *Thetis*, by the *Yankee*.

Brig *Alfred*, by ditto.

Brig *Antelope*, by the *Dolphin*.

Ship *Kitty*, by the *Hossie*.

Schooner *Spunk*, by the *Fair Trader*.

Schooner *Providence*, by the *Wily Reynard*.

Ship *Guayana* of 8 guns, 300 tons, with salt and crates, by the *Phoenix* of Boston.

Barque *Duke of Savoy* of 8 guns, by the *De*

catur of N. wharvport.

Ship *Pursuit* with sugar, by the *Atlas*.

Ship *Evergreen*, by the *Dolphin*.

Brig *New Liverpool* of 1 guns, with wine, by the *Yankee*.

Ship *Mary Ann* of 12 guns and 18 men with sugar by the *High Flyer*.

Ship *Elizabeth* of 10 guns, with sugar, coffee and ginger—captured by the *Sarah Ann* of Baltimore after a smart action in which 4 men were wounded on board the ship and two on board the privateer.

Schooner *James*, by the *Dolphin*.

Brig *Pursuit*, by the *Rapid*.

Brig *Lay*, by ditto.

Ship *Britannia* of 6 guns, 350 tons, by the *Thrasher*.

Brig *Howe* of 6 guns, by the *Dart* of Portland.

Brig *Elizabeth*, 105 tons, with coal and salt, by the *Decatur*.

Ship *Jamaica* of 7 guns and 21 men, 305 tons, with sugar, etc. by the *High Flyer*.

Brig *Alert* of 20 guns, by the *Essex* frigate.

Ship — sent into Cape Ann.

Brig *King George* with salt, by the *Essex* frigate.

Ship — of 14 guns and 5 men, 450 tons, with sugar and rum, by the *Revenge*.

Brig *Ocean* of 7 guns and 26 men, with sugar and rum by the *Saratoga* of New-York.

Ship *Ether* of 12 guns and 25 men, by the *Montgomery* of Salem.

Schooner *Venus* with a valuable cargo from the West Indies, by the *Teazer*.

Ship *Quebec* of 6 guns and 23 men, 400 tons, with sugar, etc. by the *Saratoga*.

Ship *Richmond* of 4 guns and 25 men, with officers, 400 tons, with West India produce, by the *Thomas*.

Ship *Adonis* of 2 guns and 25 men, by the *Montgomery*.

Brig *Palmouth* of 14 guns and 30 men, by the *Thomas*.

Brig *Two Friends*, by the *Benj. Franklin*.

Brig *William*, by the *Rossie*.

Snow *Friends* of 6 guns, 290 tons, with salt, etc. by the *Dart*.

Schooner *Trail*, by the *Leander*.

Schooner *John* and *George*, by the *Regulator*.

Ship — with rum, by the *Poor Sailor* of Charleston.

Brig — with rum, by the *Dart*.

Schooner *Mary Ann* with rum and coffee, by the *Black-joke* of New-York.

Brig *Annals* with rum and fruit, by the *Montgomery*.

Schooner *Mary* with specie, by ditto.

Brig — by the *Dart*.

Brig *Monroe* of 4 guns—captured by the *Decatur* and sent to Halifax as a cartel with prisoners.

Brig *Devonshire* with fish, by do.

Brig *Concord*, by do.

Brig *Hope*, by do. and sent to Halifax with prisoners.

Schooner *Minerva* by the *Wasp* of Baltimore.

Barque *William* and *Charlotte*, by the *Decatur*.

Ship *Mariana* 600 tons, with sugar etc found deserted at sea and towed into Norfolk by the Governor *Meane*.

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Schooner *Four*

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live stock, by the

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Schooner *Daw*

by the *Wasp*.

Brig *Diamond*

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the *Wifed*.

Brig *George*, 2

by ditto.

Brig *Neptune*,

Ship *Jane*, by

Schooner —

of Charleston—g

Brig — with salt, by the Teazer.
Brig — captured by a whale boat privateer.
The vessel of war was brought into port on the deck of the prize.

Brig Isabella, 205 tons with crockery ware, iron, etc by the Teazer.

Ship — with timber, by the Decatur.

Brig Diana by the Dart.

Three vessels by the Dolphin.

Ship John of 14 guns and 35 men, 400 tons, with cotton sugar, rum, etc by the Comet.

Ship Commerce of 14 guns, from 4 to 500 tons, with sugar rum, etc by the Decatur. The captain and several of the crew were killed by the first broadside from the privateer.

Brig Industry of 10 guns, with sugar cotton and coffee, by the Comet.

Privateer schooner Frances of 4 guns and 30 men, by the Dolphin.

Privateer — by the Rapid.

Brig Fox Abbey with fish, by the Thrasher.

Brig Mary with timber by the Benj Franklin.

Ship Princess Amelia of 8 guns and 30 men—

with the mail and passengers; captured after a very obstinate and gallant defence by the *Atorie*. The captain of the packet and one man were killed and 7 wounded. On board the *Rosie* the first officer and 7 men were wounded.—

The passengers in the packet speak in the most handsome terms of the polite treatment they received from Com. Barney.

Schooner — with sugar and flour, by the Teazer.

Brig Concord with wine, by the Marengo.

Brig Orient with timber, by the Teazer.

Schooner Jenny with rum and sugar by the Teazer.

Schooner Adela, with sugars, by the Rosemond.

Brig Point-Shares with fish, by the letter of marque schooner Baltimore of Baltimore.

Brig San Antonio (under Spanish colours) by the Marengo.

Brig Detroit (formerly the Adams surrendered by General Hull) of 18 guns, by two boats from Suffolk.

Schooner Caledonia with furs, by do.

Schooner Single-Top, by the Matilda of Philadelphia.

Schooner Fame with dry goods and oil, by the Nonpareil.

Ship Phoenix of 13 guns and 17 men, with Fajal wine, by the Mary Ann.

Brig Favorite of 2 guns, 223 tons, by the Industry.

Brig Sir John Moore, 177 tons by do.

Brig Lord Sheffield, by the Marengo.

Schooner Betsey Ann with sugar—captured in sight of Halifax harbour by the Fame.

Brig William and Charlotte, by the Montgometry.

Brig Henry with crates, salt and coal, by the John.

Schooner Four Brothers by the Fame.

Schooner Four Sons with fish and furs, by the Fame.

Two schooners—one in ballast, the other with live stock, by the Dart.

Schooner Antelope, by the Rosemond.

Schooner Dawson with sugar, rum and coffee, by the Wasp.

Brig Diamond of 13 guns, 270 tons, with cotton and logwood, and 2,500 dollars in gold, by the Alfred.

Brig George, 270 tons, with sugar and cotton, by ditto.

Brig Neptune, by the John.

Ship Jane, by ditto.

Schooner — with timber, by the Saucy Jack of Charleston—given up to release the prisoners she had made.

Sloop Louise Ann with molasses—captured by a boat from the Benjamin Franklin with 7 men, in Trinity harbour, Martinique, under a battery of 18 eighteen pounders.

Sloop Venus, by the Two Brothers of New-Orleans.

Brig Jane and Charlotte with salt, dry goods, etc. by the American.

Brig Francis with bullocks, by the Nonpareil.

Government brig and packet Swallow of 14 guns and 30 men—captured after a chase of 8 hours by the squadron under Commodore Rodgers.

The swallow had on board the mail and 200,000 dollars in specie, which last was transferred to the President frigate.

Brig Porgie with blackstrap, by the High Flyer.

Ship Ned of 10 guns (9 pounders) and 15 men, with timber—captured by the John and George of Salem after a smart action.

The John and George carried but 3 guns and 58 men including officers.

Schooner — with oil, seal skins, etc. by the Fame.

Schooner Robin, by the Revenge.

Schooner Fame with dry goods, by the Nonpareil.

Schooner Sally, by the Black Joke of New-York and George Washington of Norfolk.

Sloop — by the Saucy Jack.

Brig John of 10 guns, with coffee and cocoa, by the Benjamin Franklin.

Schooner Three Sisters, 120 tons, with plaster, by the Fame.

Schooner Comet, 2 guns and small arms, with sugar, bees-wax, tobacco and dry goods, by the Rapid.

Schooner Searcher of 1 gun and 20 men, by the Rapid.

Schooner Mary, by ditto—ransomed, not having men to spare to send her home.

Schooner Mary Hall, by the squadron under Captain Chauncey on lake Ontario.

Sloop Elizabeth, by ditto. On board this vessel was Captain Brock (brother of the late Gen. Brock) of the 10th British regiment.

Schooner — by ditto.

Brig Union of 6 guns, by the General Armstrong of New-York.

Schooner Neptune with fish, salt and oil, by the Revenge.

Barque Fisher with a very valuable cargo and specie by the Fox.

Brig James Bray with rum and pimento, by the Bunker Hill.

Brig Union, by the General Armstrong.

Brig Lady Harriot with wine, by the Orders in Council of New-York.

Three vessels, by ditto—ransomed.

Brig Freedom with salt, by the Thorm.

Schooner America with salt, by the Fame, Industry and Dromed.

Brig — By the Joel Barlow.

Schooner John Bull, a king's packet, chased on shore by the Haver.

Ship Argo, carrying 10 guns, 4 swivels, a large number of small arms and 50 men, with oil and whale-bone, by the United States' frigates President and Congress.

Frigate Macedonian, 49 guns and 305 men, by the frigate United States.

Ship John Hamilton, 550 tons 13 guns and 30 men, with mahogany—captured by the Dolphin after a smart action, but without the loss of lives on either side, though several were wounded.

Brig — with cotton, by the United States' brig Agus.

Schooner Loren with sugar and coffee, by the Revenge.

Brig Bacchus by ditto.

Brig Venus of 10 guns, with cotton and fustic by the Polly.

Nine vessels, sunk, burnt and destroyed by the Patriot of New-York.

Packet Townsend heavily armed—captured by the Tom of Baltimore after a severe engagement, in which the captain of the Townsend and four of his men were killed, and several

wounded. The Tom was but little injured and had only two men wounded. The mail was thrown overboard, but recovered by the Bona and brought to Baltimore.

Brig Burchell, a packet with an English commissary and his lady on board—captured by the High Flyer. The High Flyer had captured a number of droppers plying between the islands—she released one of them with the commissary and 72 prisoners, and sent her as a flag of truce into Demarara. Governor Carmichael returned a complimentary letter to her captain for his kind treatment of them.

Brig Criterion, sent into New-York.

Schooner Neptune, by the Revenge—given up to release her prisoners, after the proper formalities.

Schooner Neptune, with salt, oil and fish, by the Revenge.

Schooner — driven ashore and burnt by the Revenge.

Brig Fancy, by the Joel Barlow.

Ship Nelly and Pamela, by the Revenge.

Brig Devonshire with codfish, by the Decatur.

Schooner — by the Retaliation.

Schooner — of 22 guns and full of men, after an engagement of 35 minutes, driven on shore at the mouth of the Demarara river, by the General Armstrong.

Brig Two Brothers, by the Benjamin Franklin.

Brig Active, 10 guns, by the High Flyer.

Brig — by a letter of marque from Portland for France.

Brig Pomona, 8 guns by the letter of marque Leo.

Ship Betsey, with a quantity of specie, by the Revenge.

Brig Dart, 8 guns, with rum, cotton and co-ops, by the America.

Ship Queen of 16 guns and 40 men, with a cargo invoiced at from 70 to 100,000 pounds sterling—captured by the General Armstrong, but unfortunately wrecked off Nantucket. She was perhaps the most valuable prize yet made. This ship was bravely defended the captain, his first officer and 4 of his crew being killed before she was surrendered. The General Armstrong was not much injured by the contest.

Brig James and Charlotte, with coal, dry goods, etc. by the America.

Schooner — 40 guns and 10 men, with dry goods, etc. by the Liberty of Baltimore.

Brig Recovery with fish, staves, etc. by the U. S. brig Argus.

Brig Lucy and Alida with dry goods, by the Revenge.

Three vessels captured and destroyed by the Jack's Favorite of New-York.

Schooner Swift, by the Rolla of Baltimore.

Sloop Reasonable, chased on shore and destroyed by the Liberty.

Schooner Maria, by the Liberty—and ran somers.

Schooner Catharina, 3 guns and 24 men, with provisions and dry goods by the Eagle and Lady Madison of Charleston.

Schooner Maria with dry goods—captured by ditto and released to discharge their prisoners after removing her cargo.

Ship Rio Nouva, 18 guns and 25 men, with dry goods by the Rolla.

Schooner Betsey with sugar and molasses, by the Jack's Favorite.

Ship Hope of 12 guns, 400 tons, with rum, sugar and cotton, by the America.

Ship Ralph with timber, by ditto.

Brig Euphemia, 10 guns with coffee by ditto. A brig and a schooner, by the Deceator.

Schooner Meadow captured by the Sparrow of Baltimore—released after divesting her of a quantity of dry goods.

Ship Mary of 14 guns, with hardware, by the Rolla.

Schooner Erin with dry goods, by the Eagle of Charleston.

The British king's packet Townsend, 9 guns and 28 men, besides several assisting passengers, taken by the Tom after a hard fight in which 7 or 8 were killed and wounded on board the packet—none hurt in the Tom. The Townsend being torn almost to pieces, was ransomed for 200 pounds sterling.

The captain of the packet made very honorable mention of the conduct of Captain Wilson and the crew of the Tom, as well during the fight as for their gentlemanly behaviour after it was ended.

The British king's packet Norton, with 70,000 dollars in specie on board, captured by the U. S. frigate Essex.

The packet has been retained and sent to Bermuda—but the cash was put on board the Essex.

Brig Harossa, six guns, with an assorted cargo by the Rolla.

Brig Recovery, by the United States' brig Argus.

Schooner Mary, with an assorted cargo, by the Eagle.

Brig Peggy, taken from under the convoy of two British sloops of war, by the Hunter of Boston.

Ship Arabella, of 300 tons, 8 guns, with coal, plantation utensils, etc. by the Growler of New London.

Brig Andalusia, of 250 tons, 10 guns, captured on the coast of Africa by the Yankee. The brig had 50 slaves on board, who were relanded on that coast.

A schooner and a sloop, taken on the coast of Africa by the Yankee and released after disposing them of four hundred and fifty-two ounces of gold dust.

The frigate Java of 44 guns taken by the United States' frigate Constitution.

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CHAPTER XII.

Official despatches.....Observations on Hull's capture....Organization of the new army....Relief of fort Wayne....Gen. Payne's expedition.....Col. Wells' expedition....Col. Campbell's expedition....Defeat of Gen. Winchester.

BEFORE we proceed to detail the events of the campaign of 1813, it will be expected that we notice such correspondence between the American and British governments as may have varied the original ground upon which the war had been declared : we therefore subjoin an abstract, containing only such facts as are deemed important.

*Official despatches.....*Mr. Monroe, secretary of state, instructed Mr. Russell, our charge des affaires at the court of St. James, by letter of the 26th June, 1812, that the war had been resorted to from necessity, and of course with reluctance ; that the American government looked forward to the restoration of peace with much interest, and a sincere desire to promote it, on conditions just, equal, and honourable to both parties : that it was in the power of Great Britain to terminate the war on such conditions, and that it would be very satisfactory to the President of the United States, to meet it in an arrangement to that effect.

That there were many just and weighty causes of complaint against Great Britain : that the orders in council, and other blockades, illegal according to the principle of the law of nations, were however considered of the highest importance ; and that therefore Mr. Russell was authorized, if the orders in council were repealed, and no illegal blockades substituted, and orders given to discontinue the impressment of seamen from our vessels, and to restore those already impressed, to stipulate an armistice, to commence from the signature of the instrument providing for it, or at the end of fifty or sixty days, or otherwise the shortest term that the British government would assent to.

As an inducement to the British government to discontinue the practice of impressment, he was further instructed to give assurances that a law would be passed, (to be reciprocal) to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the public or commercial service of the United States.

That indemnity for injuries received under the orders in council and other edicts violating our rights, seemed incident to their repeal ; but that the president was willing that the consideration of that claim should not be pressed at that time, so as to interfere with the preliminary arrangement alluded to.

On the 27th of the same month, Mr. Monroe, after repeating the substance of his first letter, further instructed Mr. Russell, that by authorising him to secure these objects as the grounds of an armistice, it was not intended to restrict him to any precise form in which it should be done. It was not particularly necessary that the several points should be specially provided for in the convention stipulating the armistice. A clear and distinct understanding with the British government on the subject of impressment, comprising in it the discharge of men already impressed, and on future blockades, if the orders in council were revoked, was all that was indispensable. The orders in council being revoked, and the proposed understanding on the other points, that is, on blockades and impressment being first obtained, in a manner, though informal, to admit of no mistake or disagreement thereafter, the instrument providing for the armistice might assume a general form, especially if more agreeable to the British government. It might for example be said in general terms, "that both powers being sincerely desirous to terminate the differences which unhappily subsist between them, and equally so, that full time should be given for the adjustment thereof, agree,

"1st. That an armistice shall take place for that purpose, to commence on the — day of —.

"2d. That they will forthwith appoint on each side commissioners with full power to form a treaty, which shall provide, by reciprocal arrangements, for the security of their seamen from being taken or employed in the service of the other power, for the regulation of their commerce, and all other interesting questions now depending between them.

"3d. The armistice shall not cease without a previous notice by one to the other party of — days, and shall not be understood as having other effect than merely to suspend military operations by land and by sea."

By this he would perceive that the president was desirous of removing every obstacle to an accommodation which consisted merely of form, securing in a safe and satisfactory manner the rights and interests of the United States in these two great and essential circumstances, as it was presumed might be accomplished by the proposed understanding; he was willing that it should be done in a manner the most satisfactory and honourable to Great Britain, as well as to the United States.

On the 28th of the same June, Lord Castlereagh, the British secretary of state, transmitted to Mr. Russell in London, an order in council issued on that day, for the repeal of the orders in council so far as they related to American vessels.

On the 24th of Aug. 1812, Mr. Russell proposed an armistice between the United States and Great Britain, in a letter to Lord

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Castlereagh, upon the terms authorized by his foregoing instructions.

Lord Castlereagh, in his answer bearing date the 29th August, informed Mr. Russell that the prince regent felt himself under the necessity of declining to accede to the propositions contained in his letter of the 24th as being on various grounds absolutely inadmissible. There seemed, from the purport of the letter, to be an exception to the powers of Mr. Russell to negotiate. He therefore declined discussing the propositions brought forward by him. Upon the proposition, however, relating to impressment, he remarked, that he was surprised that the government of the United States should have thought fit to demand that the British government should desist from its ancient and accustomed practice of impressing British seamen from the merchant ships of a foreign state, as a condition preliminary even to a suspension of hostilities, simply on the assurance that a law should thereafter be passed to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the public or commercial service of the United States. And he further remarked, that the British government was ready, as before, to receive from the United States, and amicably discuss any propositions which professed to have in view, either to check abuse in the exercise of the practice of impressment, or to accomplish, by means less liable to revocation, the object for which impressment had heretofore been found necessary.

Several letters afterwards passed, not materially varying the propositions heretofore passed between the governments, which are here omitted.

The following letters discuss the subject more fully, and are inserted at length.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SIR J. B. WARREN AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Nov. 30.

SIR.....The departure of Mr. Foster from America has devolved upon me the charge of making known to you, for the information of the government of the United States, the sentiments entertained by his royal highness the prince regent, upon the existing relations of the two countries.

You will observe, from the enclosed copy of an order in council, bearing date the 23d of June, 1812, that the orders in council of the 7th of January, 1807, and the 26th of April, 1809, ceased to exist nearly at the same time that the government of the United States declared war against his majesty.

Immediately on the receipt of this declaration in London, the order in council, of which a copy is herewith enclosed to you, was issued on the 31st day of July, for the embargo and detention of all American ships.

Under these circumstances, I am commanded to propose to your government the immediate cessation of hostilities between the two countries, and I shall be most happy to be the instrument of bringing about a reconciliation, so interesting and beneficial to America and Great Britain.

I therefore propose to you, that the government of the United States of America shall instantly recall their letters of marque and reprisal against British ships, together with all orders and instructions for any acts of hostility whatever against the territory of his majesty, or the persons or property of his subjects; with the understanding, that immediately on my receiving from you an official assurance to that effect, I shall instruct all the officers under my command to desist from corresponding measures of war, against the ships and property of the United States, and that I shall transmit, without delay, corresponding intelligence to the several parts of the world where hostilities may have commenced. The British commanders in which will be required to discontinue hostilities from the receipt of such notice.

Should the American government accede to the above proposal for terminating hostilities, I am authorized to arrange with you as to the revocation of the laws which interdict the commerce and ships of war of Great Britain from the harbours and waters of the United States; in the default of which revocation, within such reasonable period as may be agreed upon, you will observe by the order of the 23d June, the orders in council of January, 1807, and April, 1809, are to be revived.

The officer who conveys this letter to the American coast has received my orders to put to sea immediately upon the delivering of the despatch to the competent authority; and I earnestly recommend that no time be lost in communicating to me the decision of your government, persuaded as I feel that it cannot but be of a nature to lead to a speedy termination of the present differences.

The flag of truce, which you may charge with your reply will find one of my cruisers at Sandy Hook, ten days after the landing of this despatch, which I have directed to call there with a flag of truce for that purpose.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your most obedient and most faithful humble servant,

JOHN BORLASE WARREN,

Admiral of the Blue, and commander in chief, &c. &c. &c.

MR. MONROE TO SIR J. B. WARREN.

Department of State, Oct. 27, 1812.

SIR.....I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 30th ult. and to submit it to the consideration of the president.

It appears that you are authorized to propose a cessation of hostilities between the United States and Great Britain, on the ground

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of the repeal of the orders in council, and in case the proposition is acceded to, to take measures in concert with this government, to carry it into complete effect on both sides.

You state, also, that you have it in charge, in that event, to enter into an arrangement with the government of the United States for the repeal of the laws which interdict the ships of war and the commerce of Great Britain from the harbours and waters of the United States. And you intimate that if the proposition is not acceded to, the orders in council (repealed conditionally by that of the 23d of June last) will be revived against the commerce of the U. States.

I am instructed to inform you that it will be very satisfactory to the president to meet the British government in such arrangements as may terminate, without delay, the hostilities which now exist between the United States and Great Britain, on conditions honourable to both nations.

At the moment of the declaration of war, the president gave a signal proof of the attachment of the United States to peace. Instructions were given at that early period to the late charge des affairs of the United States at London, to propose to the British government an armistice on conditions which it was presumed would have been satisfactory. It has been seen with regret that the propositions made by Mr. Monroe, particularly in regard to the important interest of impressment, was rejected, and that none was offered through that channel, as a basis on which hostilities might cease.

As your government has authorised you to propose a cessation of hostilities, and is doubtless aware of the important and salutary effect which a satisfactory adjustment of this difference cannot fail to have on the future relations between the two countries, I indulge the hope that it has, ere this, given you full power for the purpose. Experience has sufficiently evinced, that no peace can be durable unless this object is provided for. It is presumed, therefore, that it is equally the interest of both countries, to adjust it at this time.

Without further discussing questions of right, the President is desirous to provide a remedy for the evils complained of on both sides. The claim of the British government is to take from the merchant vessels of other countries, British subjects. In the practice, the commanders of British ships of war often take from the merchant vessels of the United States, American citizens. If the United States prohibit the employment of British subjects in their service, and enforce the prohibition by suitable regulations and penalties, the motive for the practice is taken away. It is in this mode that the President is willing to accommodate this important controversy with the British government, and it cannot be conceived on what ground the arrangement can be refused.

A suspension of the practice of impressment, pending the armistice, seems to be a necessary consequence. It cannot be presumed, while the parties are engaged in a negotiation to adjust amicably this important difference, that the United States would admit the right, or acquiesce in the practice of the opposite party; or that Great Britain would be unwilling to restrain her cruizers from a practice which would have the strongest tendency to defeat the negotiation. It is presumable that both parties would enter into the negotiation with a sincere desire to give it effect. For this purpose it is necessary that a clear and distinct understanding be first obtained between them, of the accommodation which each is prepared to make. If the British government is willing to suspend the practice of impressment from American vessels, on consideration that the United States will exclude British seamen from their service, the regulations by which this compromise should be carried into effect would be solely the object of negotiation. The armistice would be of short duration. If the parties agreed, peace would be the result. If the negotiation failed, each would be restored to its former state, and to all its pretensions, by recurring to war.

Lord Castlereagh, in his note to Mr. Russell, seems to have supposed, that, had the British government accepted the propositions made to it, Great Britain would have suspended immediately the exercise of a right, on the mere assurance of this government that a law would be afterwards passed to prohibit the employment of British seamen in the service of the United States, and that Great Britain would have no agency in the regulation to give effect to that proposition. Such an idea was not in the contemplation of this government, nor is to be reasonably inferred from Mr. Russell's note; lest, however, by possibility such an inference might be drawn from the instructions to Mr. Russell, and anxious that there should be no misunderstanding in the case, subsequent instructions were given to Mr. Russell, with a view to obviate every objection of the kind alluded to. As they bear date on the 27th July, and were forwarded by the British packet *Althea*, it is more than probable that they may have been received and acted on.

I am happy to explain to you thus fully the views of my government on this important subject. The president desires that the war which exists between our countries should be terminated on such conditions as may secure a solid and durable peace. To accomplish this great object, it is necessary that the interest of impressment be satisfactorily arranged. He is willing that Great Britain should be secured against the evils of which she complains. He seeks, on the other hand, that the citizens of the United States should be protected against a practice which, while it degrades the nation, deprives them of their rights as freemen, takes them by

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force from their families and their country, into a foreign service, to fight the battles of a foreign power, perhaps against their own kindred and country.

I abstain from entering in this communication, into other grounds of difference. The orders in council having been repealed, (with a reservation not impairing a corresponding right on the part of the United States) and no illegal blockades revived or instituted in their stead, and an understanding being obtained on the subject of impressment, in the mode herein proposed, the president is willing to agree to a cessation of hostilities, with a view to arrange by treaty, in a more distinct and ample manner, and to the satisfaction of both parties, every other subject of controversy.

I will only add, that if there be no objection to an accommodation of the difference relating to impressment, in the mode proposed, other than the suspension of the British claim to impressment during the armistice, there can be none to proceeding, without the armistice, to an immediate discussion and arrangement of an article on that subject. This great question being satisfactorily adjusted, the way will be open, either for an armistice or any other course leading most conveniently and expeditiously to a general pacification. I have the honour, &c.

JAMES MONROE.

*Observations on Hull's capture.....*The surrender of the north-western army, by Gen. Hull was followed by consequences more easily imagined than described. The whole N. W. frontier was in an unexpected moment, thrown open to the incursions of an enemy, whose rule of warfare is an indiscriminate massacre of all ages and sexes. Imagine, then, a thinly settled frontier of many hundred miles in extent, unexpectedly deprived of all protection, but the mercy of infuriated savages, and you will form but an inadequate idea of a scene of distress, of flight, of cruel apprehension, and more cruel death, the necessary result of the surrender.

Such a scene, however, could not fail to arouse the whole American people. Volunteers in the states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, Kentucky, and Ohio every where presented themselves, and among them some of the most distinguished citizens, and an army was shortly on the march to retrieve our misfortunes.

At the very moment of the surrender, a brigade of Kentucky volunteers, and a few regulars under Gen. Payne, were fortunately on the march to reinforce the N. W. army : but for some reason unknown their movements were extremely tardy. If they could not have prevented the fall of Detroit, as many have supposed, they could at least have prevented in some good measure the incursions of the enemy into Ohio.

On the 4th of September Gen. Harrison having been brevetted a Maj. Gen. by the governor of Kentucky, arrived at Urbana and assumed the command of the north-western army, then concentrating at the rapids of the Miami of the lakes. The several corps were to take the following routes : 2000 Pennsylvania volunteers, under Brig. Gen. Crooks, were to move from Pittsburgh, along the shores of lake Erie. Gen. Tupper's brigade of Ohio volunteers were to take Hull's route from Urbana to the rapids. 1500 Virginians, under Brig. Gen. Leftwich, were to take the same route. Gen. Payne's brigade of Kentucky volunteers, with the 17th United States' regiment, under Col. Wells, were to advance to fort Wayne and descend the Miami. Such was the disposition of the forces which were to constitute the new north-western army.

*Relief of fort Wayne.....*Early in September a large British and Indian force issued from fort Malden to lay waste the frontiers of Ohio. The capture of fort Wayne was one principal object of the expedition. On the 5th they made their appearance before the fort, and immediately invested it. They burnt the United States factory, and many other valuable buildings, and killed a brother of governor Meigs, and two soldiers near the fort.

Gen. Harrison, being apprised of the situation of fort Wayne, marched with the brigade of Gen. Payne and the regulars for its relief, and the enemy, aware of his approach abandoned the expedition and fled.

*Gen. Payne's and Col. Wells' expeditions.....*There was now a favourable moment for making the Indians feel the effects of the war. An expedition was accordingly projected against several towns within two days' march of that place. The whole force was divided and placed under the command of Gen. Payne and Col. Wells. The former was directed to destroy the Miami towns at the forks of the Wabash ; and the latter to go against the Potawatamie villages at Elk Hart.

The commander in chief accompanied Gen. Payne on the expedition ; four of the Miami villages were burnt, three of which were remarkably flourishing. All the corn was cut up and piled, in order that it might rot before the enemy could return to prevent it. Col. Wells was equally successful : he destroyed several villages, and returned to camp without loss.

At this time Gen. Winchester arrived at fort Wayne, and Gen. Harrison resigned the command of the detachment under Gen. Payne and Col. Wells, to him, in obedience to the arrangements of the war department. Considerable discontent and murmuring was observable among the troops when they were informed of the

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change ; but on being addressed by Gen. Harrison they appeared better satisfied. He assured them that if any thing could soften the regret which he felt at parting with men who had so entirely won his confidence and affection, it was the circumstance of his committing them to the charge of one of the heroes of the revolution, a man distinguished as well for the services he had rendered his country, as for the possession of every qualification which constitutes the gentleman.

The conduct of the troops was highly honourable to their character as soldiers ; for ten days, while on active and severe duty, they had scarcely a sufficiency of food to sustain them, and entirely without some articles of the ration. But such was their personal attachment to Gen. Harrison, that they would have suffered almost any fatigue or privation without a murmur.

An order of the secretary of war invested Gen. Harrison with the command of all the troops, excepting the corps of Gen. Winchester. This equality in the authority of the two generals was liable to much collision, and might have produced, between two officers of co-equal powers, and possessing less magnanimity, serious consequences to the nation. The rank of major general was confirmed to Gen. Harrison by the president ; still that of Gen. Winchester possessed priority of date, and Gen. Harrison was to command the largest force. The troops considered Gen. Harrison commander in chief.

The war department, on this occasion at least, performed its duty to the full extent of its ability : every thing requisite for the supply of the army was forwarded with all practicable expedition.

One circumstance, above all, must not be overlooked. The greater part of the volunteers now concentrating under Gen. Harrison, consisted of men whose families and property were not exposed to danger, and who consequently were influenced by the most disinterested patriotism. Col. R. M. Johnson, a member of congress, from Kentucky, who has since so nobly distinguished himself, was among the foremost. Gen. Harrison fixed his headquarters at St. Marys ; Gen. Winchester advanced to fort Defiance. He found the enemy in possession of the ground, and too strong for his force ; he despatched an express to Gen. Harrison, who immediately marched to his assistance with 2000 mounted riflemen and musketeers, all furnished with three days provisions. In the mean time, however, the enemy had suddenly decamped and descended the Miami. Our troops went in pursuit, but could not overtake them. This was the expedition from Malden ; they had several field pieces. Tecumseh commanded the Indians.

The attention of the commanding general was now for some time confined to arranging depots of provisions, ammunition, and clothing, in opening roads, building boats and erecting block hous-

es, preparatory to the march of the army to the object of the campaign. His exertions were indefatigable.

On the 4th of October, Brig. Gen. Tupper received orders to proceed to the rapids with the whole of the mounted force, in condition of service ; but in consequence of the counter orders of Gen. Winchester, the movement was not executed. Gen. Tupper made an exposition of the causes which produced the failure of the expedition. This exposition very clearly proved that both Winchester and Tupper were incapable of command.

Colonel Campbell's expedition.... On the 8th of November, a detachment of six hundred men, commanded by Colonel Campbell, left Franklinton on an expedition against the Miami Indians, living on the head waters of the Wabash. On the 17th of December they arrived at one of the Missassinway villages, surprised, killed five warriors, and took thirty-seven prisoners. They burnt three other villages, three miles further down the river, and then returned to the first town destroyed, and encamped.... About an hour before the dawn of day, they were attacked in the camp. The fire commenced on the right line commanded by Maj. Ball, who sustained and returned it till day light, when the Indians were charged and dispersed with the loss of 30 killed. Our loss was 8 killed, and 25 wounded....several mortally. A great number of horses were killed, and several officers were wounded: lieutenant Waltz, of the Pennsylvania troops, was shot through the arm, but not satisfied, he again attempted to mount his horse, and in making the effort was shot through the head. The prisoners were treated with humanity, even the warrior who ceased to resist, were spared, which is not the usual custom in expeditions against the Indians. The sufferings of the men from cold, hunger and fatigue, on their retreat from Missassinway, were beyond measure. They were in the centre of an Indian country. The terrible Tecumseh was known to be within a few hours march. The sick and wounded were to be carried on litters ; their march was slow, tedious, and circumspect. At night only half of the men could sleep, while the other were on guard. They suffered greatly from the inclemency of the weather ; numbers were frost bitten. Pleurisy and bad colds afflicted almost the whole corps. Why the Indians suffered them to escape total destruction, is unaccountable. Perhaps the death of their celebrated Prophet, who is supposed to have been killed in this affair, was the cause of their not harrassing our men in their retreat.

The officers of Maj. Ball's squadron, who sustained the brunt of the action, and who were complimented by Gen. Harrison, in a general order, for their valour and good conduct, were Maj. Ball, Capts. Hopkins and Garrard, of Kentucky ; Capts. Markle and McClelland, of Pennsylvania.

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On the 14th of December the left wing of the army moved from fort Winchester to the rapids. At this time the Ohio troops were at fort M'Arthur.....the Pennsylvanians at Mansfield, and the Virginians at Delaware. General Harrison fixed his head quarters at Upper Sandusky. The provisions and military stores, and the trains of artillery having reached the different depots, the hopes of the nation that victory would soon crown the efforts of the north western army were cherished in confidence.

On the 14th of January, Col. Lewis advanced towards the river Raisin. On the 18th he found the enemy in force, and disposed to dispute the possession of the place. He attacked them in the town; on the first onset the savages raised their accustomed yell. But the noise was drowned in the returning shouts of the assailants. They advanced boldly to the charge and drove them in all directions. On the first fire sixteen of the Indians fell, about 40 were killed. Col. Lewis' party lost 12 killed and 52 wounded.

*Defeat of General Winchester....*On the eighteenth General Winchester followed with a reinforcement and concentrated his troops, amounting to eight hundred men, at the village of Frenchtown.....six hundred of which were posted behind a picket fence, 200 which composed the right wing were encamped in an open field, entirely uncovered.

On the 22d they were attacked by a combined British force under Tecumseh and Proctor. The attack commenced on the right wing, at beating of reveille. Our troops were immediately ready for the reception of the enemy. The right wing sustained the shock for about 20 minutes, when, overpowered by numbers, they retreated over the river, and were met by a large body of Indians, who had been stationed in their rear. This party, finding their retreat cut off, resolved to sell their lives as dear as possible, and fought desperately.....few of these escaped. The left wing, with Spartan valour, maintained their ground within their pickets. The enemy's regulars made three different charges upon them; they advanced in platoons to charge the pickets, keeping up a brisk fire. Our men within the pickets, with the most determined bravery and presence of mind, reserved their fire until the enemy advanced within point blank shot. They then opened a cross fire upon them; their pieces were leveled, and in this manner mowed down his ranks till he retreated in confusion.

Gen. Winchester and Col. Lewis had been taken prisoners in an early part of the battle, in attempting to rally the right wing. At 11 o'clock a flag arrived from Gen. Winchester to Maj. Madison, who commanded in the pickets, informing our men he had surrendered them prisoners of war, and requested their compli-

ance ; whereupon a capitulation took place, and they were immediately marched off for Malden. The Americans lost nearly 400 men in killed, wounded and missing. Among the officers, Col. Allen, and Captains Hickman, Simpson, (a member of congress) Mead, Edward, Price and M'Cracken.

During the whole of the action a heavy cannonade was kept up by six pieces of artillery. The courage of men was never more severely tested. The party that retreated at the commencement of the battle, were pursued, surrounded, and literally cut to pieces. Some succeeded in getting three miles from the scene of action, but were overtaken and massacred. The snow was crimsoned the whole distance with the blood of the fugitives.

After the capitulation, the American commanding officer remonstrated with Gen. Proctor, on the necessity of protecting the wounded prisoners from the fury of the savages ; that officer pledged himself to attend to it, but he forgot to keep his word ; they were left without the promised protection, and on the morning of the 23d, horrible to relate, the allies of a christian king stripped, scalped, tomahawked and burnt all of them who were unable to walk.

The dead were denied the rites of sepulture ; the living were treated with the greatest indignity. The prisoners were generally stripped of their clothing, rifled of their cash, and the swords of the officers given to the savages. Men, whose education, talents and character, ought to have entitled them to respect, had their feelings grossly outraged.

The advance of Gen. Winchester to the river Raisin was not authorized by the orders of Gen. Harrison : the motives of the general were no doubt good, but to his imprudence is attributed the failure of the campaign. He was induced to make the movement in consequence of the earnest solicitude of the inhabitants of that place, who were threatened with a general massacre by the Indians.

As soon as Gen. Harrison learnt the exposed situation of Gen. Winchester's corps, he ordered a detachment from Gen. Perkins' brigade, under Col. Cofgreaves, to march with all possible expedition to his relief : but so much time was lost in *preparation*, that it only arrived within hearing distance, at the commencement of the battle, and then suddenly retraced its steps.

Why a commanding officer, situated as Gen. Winchester was, within a few hours march of Malden, and liable every moment to be surprised, should suffer his men to be encamped in detached and exposed situations, in the manner they were, is a question not yet explained.

The night before the battle, a Frenchman arrived from Malden, and informed that the enemy had commenced their march. This information, which was made known to Gen. Winchester,

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was disregarded. His quarters were 3 or 400 yards from camp. He did not arrive at the scene of action till the right wing had begun to give way.

We cannot forbear to notice in this place, a circumstance that reflects the greatest lustre on the military character of the Kentuckians. On their march from fort Defiance to the rapids, the horses were worn out and nearly famished for want of forage..... The men themselves were destitute of many articles of the first necessity. Yet these circumstances did not in the least dampen their ardour. When the horses were no longer able to draw, these gallant sons of Mars harnessed themselves to the sleighs, and in this manner, with cheerfulness and alacrity, conveyed their baggage sixty miles through frost and snow; thus manifesting an intrepidity of character which rivals that of Greece or Rome.

Yet these were men, whose homes, for the most part, were seats of elegance and wealth; but their spirits were not to be broken by adversity. Notwithstanding they were compelled to travel on foot, and with scarcely a covering for their backs, in the dead of winter, from Malden to Buffalo, and from thence to Kentucky, a distance of 800 miles, still not a *murmur escaped their lips!* Their honest hearts sprung forward with the elastic hope, that their wrongs would be avenged and the day of retribution arrive.

CHAPTER XIII.

Retreat of Gen. Harrison....Fort Meigs....Expedition to Presque Isle....Attempt upon the Queen Charlotte....Preparations for a fleet on lake Erie....Defeat of the enemy at fort Meigs....Gallant defence of fort Stephenson.

AFTER the defeat of Gen Winchester, Gen. Harrison retreated from the rapids, eighteen miles, and took a position at Portage river. It being found impracticable to remove all the provisions, a considerable quantity was destroyed.

On the 30th of January General Harrison despatched Captain Lamon, Doctor M'Keehan and a Frenchman with a flag of truce to Malden. They encamped the first night near the rapids, and hoisted the white flag; but this was not respected....the Indians fired upon them while asleep, killed Lamon, wounded Doctor M'Keehan and took him and the Frenchman prisoners.

Fort Meigs.... Governor Meigs having promptly ordered out two regiments of Ohio militia, to reinforce Gen. Harrison, the army again advanced to the rapids and commenced building fort Meigs. Gen. Crooks' brigade, in the mean time, were busily employed in fortifying at Upper Sandusky.

Expedition to Presque Isle.... General Harrison having learnt that a body of Indians were collected at Presque Isle near the mouth of the Miami, marched from his camp at the rapids on the 9th of February, at the head of a detachment of his army, to attack them.

The enemy fled, and our troops pursued almost to the river Raisin; but finding it impossible to overtake them, the troops returned to camp much exhausted with fatigue. Such was their desire to come up with the foe that they marched sixty miles in 21 hours.

Attempt upon the Queen Charlotte.... On the 27th of February a detachment of 150 men under Capt. Langham, left the rapids for the purpose of destroying the Queen Charlotte, near Malden; but the ice was found to be too far decayed to accomplish the object of the expedition.

The army were now engaged incessantly in strengthening the posts of fort Meigs, Upper Sandusky and fort Stephenson. Gen. Harrison left the army for the purpose of consulting with Gov. Meigs, and for expediting the march of the reinforcements. No event of moment occurred during the remainder of the winter.

Preparations for a fleet on lake Erie.... In March, workmen began to cut timber at Erie, for the purpose of building two 20 gun brigs; the requisite number of ship carpenters having arrived at that place.

The term of service of the greater part of the militia composing the northwestern army having expired, new levies from Ohio and Kentucky were ordered on to supply their places. But these not arriving in season, the Pennsylvania brigade generously volunteered their services for another month to defend fort Meigs, which was menaced with an attack. This conduct was the more honourable, as this corps had undergone incredible hardships during the winter, in dragging the artillery and stores from Sandusky to the rapids.

Defeat of the enemy at fort Meigs.... On the 20th. of April, Gen. Harrison returned to fort Meigs, and began to prepare for the approaching storm. Patrolling parties were frequently sent

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out to observe the movements of the enemy, who had been discovered on the margin of the lake.

On the 26th the advance of the enemy made its appearance on the opposite shore, and after reconnoitering a few minutes, withdrew. On the 27th they returned, but were soon made to retire by the balls from the fort. From the time of the general's arriving in camp, the greatest diligence was displayed by the officers and soldiers. Fortifications of various descriptions were carried on with unparalleled exertions. Every moment of the general was occupied in directing the works. He addressed the men in a most masterly and eloquent manner, on the situation in which the fortune of war had placed them, and on the importance of every man's being vigilant and industrious at his post. This address converted every man into a hero; it inspired them with a zeal, courage and patriotism never surpassed.

On the 28th the enemy commenced a very brisk fire of small arms; in the evening the Indians were conveyed over the river in boats, and surrounded the garrison in every direction. Several of Col. Ball's dragoons volunteered to reconnoitre the enemy's camp, but before they had got far from the fort they were fired on by the Indians and compelled to return.

On the 29th the siege began in earnest, all communication with the other posts was cut off. The firing was kept up the whole day. The enemy had progressed so far in the construction of their batteries during the night, that they afforded them sufficient protection to work by daylight. A man was this day mortally wounded as he was standing near the general.

April 30....the besieged kept up a well directed fire against the enemies' batteries, which considerably impeded their progress. Boats filled with men were seen to pass to the fort Meigs side of the river....this induced the general to believe that their motive was to draw his attention to their batteries, and to surprize and storm the camp in the rear. Orders were therefore given for one-third of the men to be constantly on guard, and the remaining two-thirds to sleep with their muskets in their arms, and to be constantly prepared to fly to their post at a moment's warning. These orders were strictly obeyed, and every duty performed with cheerfulness. Notwithstanding the incessant fire of the enemy, the men were obliged to go to the river for water every night, the well not being finished. Several of the men were this day wounded, and the general being continually exposed, had several narrow escapes. During the night the enemy towed up a gunboat near the fort, and fired at point blank shot for some time, but without effect. They retired from this position as soon as it was light enough for our gunners to discover them.

The grand traverse was now completed, as well as several small ones in various directions. The fire from the garrison com-

menaced with effect. On the first of May the enemy fired 266 times from their gun batteries. Their 24 pound shot passed thro the pickets without cutting them down. Our gunners silenced one of their pieces several times. They did not fire so rapidly as the enemy, but with a better aim. Eight of the Americans were wounded this day; a bullet struck the seat on which the general was sitting, and a volunteer was at the same time wounded as he stood directly opposite to him.

On the 2d of May both parties commenced firing very early with bombs and balls, and continued it very briskly all day. Our troops had 1 killed and 10 wounded, besides several others slightly touched with Indian bullets. The enemy this day fired 457 cannon shot.

The next day commenced with a very brisk and fierce firing of bombs and cannon balls, which continued at intervals all day. They opened two batteries upon the fort, which they had established on this side of the river, within 250 yards of the rear right angle of the camp, one of which was a bomb battery. An Indian who had ascended a tree, shot one of our men through the head, and six were killed by the enemy's bombs. They fired five hundred and sixteen times during the day, and forty-seven times during the night.

It rained very hard on the 4th, which retarded the fire of the besiegers. A new battery was discovered erecting on this side of the river, in the same direction with the others, and traverses were commenced to guard against them. Several were killed and wounded. Lieut. Gwynn killed a British officer on this side the river with a rifle. Two hundred and twenty-three shot were fired this day.

Gen. Clay was now at fort Winchester with 1200 men, on his way to relieve the garrison.

On the 5th the enemy kept up but a feeble fire, but they killed three men with bombs. An officer arrived with a detachment of Gen. Clay's men, bringing the welcome news that the general was but a few miles up the river, descending in boats. An officer was sent to him with directions for him to land one half of his force on the opposite side of the river, for the purpose of forcing the enemies' batteries and spiking their cannon. Col. Dudley, who was charged with the execution of this movement, performed it in fine style; but his men, elated with their success, continued to pursue the retreating enemy till they were finally drawn into an ambush and overwhelmed by superior numbers; the greater part of this detachment were killed or taken prisoners. Some few effected their escape to the garrison. About forty of these unfortunate men were tomahawked by the Indians, several hours after their surrender. The killed on the field of battle were horribly mutilated. Col. Dudley was among the killed. He dis-

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played, in his last moments, the most heroic firmness, and actually killed one Indian after he was mortally wounded.

The other moiety of Gen. Clay's force, if not less prudent, were more fortunate. When they landed, a little above the fort, they could easily have reached it without loss; but instead of doing this, or securing their sick and baggage, they marched directly into the woods in pursuit of a few Indians that were purposely leading them to their destruction. Gen. Harrison, perceiving their folly, caused Col. Ball to sally out with the cavalry and protect their retreat to the fort. He succeeded in bringing them in; but, in the mean time, a party of Indians had tomahawked their sick, left in the boats, and plundered their baggage.

While Col. Dudley's party were engaged with the enemy on the left bank of the river, several brilliant and successful charges were made on the right. In these charges, Col. Miller, Major Alexander, and Captains Croghan, Longham, Bendford and Neveing, were conspicuous. Our troops conducted with the most determined bravery; all the enemy's batteries on this side were carried, and many prisoners taken.

From the 6th to the 9th, there was no firing. Flags of truce passed and repassed between the two armies. An exchange of prisoners took place. The Kentucky militia, taken at Dudley's defeat, were to be sent to Harrison, in order to return home by that route.

On the morning of the 9th the enemy commenced their retreat down the river, after having been before the place 13 days, during which time he had fired at our works 1800 shells and cannon balls, besides keeping up an almost continual discharge of small arms. The American loss during the siege in the fort and in the different sorties on this side, was 72 killed and 196 wounded..... The loss of Col. Dudley's detachment, was about 200 killed and missing. That of the enemy was about equal.

One reason why our men did not sustain a greater loss in the fort, was because they had contrived a kind of bomb-proof retreat all along the ditch immediately behind the pickets. By this means many valuable lives were saved.

Vast quantities of rain fell during the siege, and the soil within the pickets being clayey, the constant treading of the men and horses caused the whole area of the fort to become a perfect bed of mortar, half leg deep, and the frequent bursting of shells caused it to fly in every direction, covering officers and men with mud.

The army not being sufficiently strong for offensive operations, it became necessary to wait for reinforcements, and for the completion of the vessels of war building at Erie.

The head quarters of Gen. Harrison were transferred to Seneca town on the Sandusky. Gen. Clay was charged with the defence of fort Meigs. Generals M'Arthur and Cass were actively employed in recruiting two regiments of the 12 months regulars in the state of Ohio.

In June the general held a council with a number of Indian chiefs, who had hitherto professed neutral sentiments, to whom he made three propositions :....To take up arms in behalf of the United States....To remove within our settlements and remain neutral....Or, to go to the enemy and seek his protection. After a short consultation among themselves, they accepted the first, and prepared to accompany him in the invasion of Canada.

The hostile Indians continued to make inroads into the settlements and committed frequent murders. A party from Malden coasted down the lake as far as Cold Creek, where they killed, scalped and made prisoners, one man, three women and nine children.

An event took place, however, that had a salutary influence in repressing the audacity of the Indians. As Col. Ball, with 22 of his squadron, were descending the Sandusky, the foremost of his party were fired upon from a thicket by a band of 18 Indians, who had placed themselves in ambush for the purpose of killing the mail carrier. Col. Ball instantly charged upon them and drove them from their hiding place. The ground was favourable for cavalry, and the Indians finding neither mercy nor the possibility of escape, gave a whoop, and fought desperately till the whole party was cut to pieces. Col. Ball was at one time dismounted, opposed in personal contest to an Indian of gigantic stature ; it was a desperate and doubtful struggle, life was at stake, both exerted to the utmost....an officer rode up and rescued the colonel by shooting the Indian through the head. After this terrible example, not an Indian ventured to cross the Sandusky in quest of plunder and blood.

*Gallant defence of fort Stephenson.....*On the first of August Gen. Proctor made his appearance before fort Stephenson, 20 miles above the mouth of the river Sandusky. His troops consisted of 500 regulars and about 700 Indians of the most ferocious kind. There were but 133 effective men in the garrison, and the works covered one acre of ground. Maj. George Croghan commanded the place. The pickets were about ten feet high, surrounded by a ditch with a block house at each angle of the fort, one of which contained a six pounder. This was the exact state of the post at the time the enemy appeared. The first movement made by the enemy, was to make such a disposition of his forces, as to prevent the escape of the garrison, if they

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should be disposed to attempt it. He then sent Col. Elliot with a flag, to demand the surrender of the fort. He was met by Ensign Shipp. The British officer observed that General Proctor had a number of cannon, a large body of regular troops, and so many Indians, whom it was impossible to controul, and if the fort was taken, as it must be, the whole of the garrison would be massacred. Shipp answered, that it was the determination of Major Croghan, his officers and men, to defend the garrison or be buried in it, and that they might do their best. Col. Elliot addressed Mr. Shipp again....“ You are a fine young man, I pity your situation, for God's sake surrender, and prevent the dreadful slaughter which must follow resistance.” Shipp turned from him with indignation, and was immediately taken hold of by an Indian, who attempted to wrest his sword from him. Major Croghan observing what passed, called to Shipp to come into the fort, which was instantly obeyed, and the tragedy commenced. The firing began from the gun boats in the rear, and was kept up during the night.

At an early hour the next morning three 6 pounders, which had been planted during the night, within 250 yards of the pickets, began to play upon the fort, but with little effect. About 4, P. M. all the enemy's guns were concentrated against the northwestern angle of the fort, for the purpose of making a breach. To counteract the effect of their fire, Major Croghan caused that point to be strengthened by means of bags of flour, sand and other materials, in such a manner that the picketing sustained little or no injury. But the enemy, supposing that their fire had sufficiently shattered the pickets, advanced, to the number of 500, to storm the place, at the same time making two feints on different points.

The column which advanced against the northwestern angle, was so completely enveloped in smoke, as not to be discovered until it had approached within eighteen or twenty paces of the lines, but the men being all at their posts, and ready to receive it, commenced so heavy and gallant a fire as to throw the column into confusion ; but being quickly rallied, Lieut. Col. Short, the leader of the column exclaimed, “ come on my brave fellows, we will give the dam'd yankee rascals no quarters,” and immediately leapt into the ditch, followed by his troops ; as soon as the ditch was entirely filled by the assailants, Major Croghan ordered the six pounder, which had been masked in the block house, to be fired. It had been loaded with a double charge of musket balls and slugs. This piece completely raked the ditch from end to end. The first fire levelled the one half in death ; the second or third either killed or wounded every one except eleven, who were covered by the dead bodies. At the same time, the fire of

the small arms was so incessant and destructive, that it was in vain the British officers exerted themselves to lead on the balance of the column; it retired in disorder under a shower of shot, and sought safety in an adjoining wood. The loss of the enemy in killed was about 150, besides a considerable number of their allies. The Americans had but one killed and seven slightly wounded. Early in the morning of the 3d, the enemy retreated down the river, after having abandoned considerable baggage.

The garrison was composed of regulars, all Kentuckians; a finer company of men was not to be found in the United States, perhaps not in the world. They were as humane as courageous. This is proved by their unceasing attention to the wounded enemy after their discomfiture; during the night they kindly received into the fort, through the fatal port hole of the block house, all those who were able to crawl to it; to those unable to move, they threw canteens filled with water. They even parted with their clothes to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded.

Gen. Harrison had ordered Maj. Croghan to destroy the stores and abandon the fort, in case the enemy made his appearance.... He found it expedient to disobey this order, and has thereby immortalized himself.

While Proctor and Dixon were investing fort Stephenson, Tecumseh with a band of 2000 warriors and some British troops, approached fort Meigs. They hovered round the place for several days and then withdrew, without doing any material injury to the garrison.

When the news of the attack on fort Stephenson reached Gov. Meigs, he made a spirited call to the patriotism of Ohio. Such was its effect, that 15,000 men were immediately in motion to repel the invaders. Fortunately their services were not required.

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VOLUME I.....NUMBER 4.

CHAPTER XIV.

*Preparations for the invasion of Canada....Capture of Malden....
Pursuit and capture of the British army....Return of the ar-
my to Detroit, and embarkation for Buffalo.*

THE tide of victory, at this period, began to set with a strong current in favor of the American arms. On the 10th of September, com. Perry captured the whole British force on lake Erie. This victory removed the principal barrier to the conquest of Malden and the recovery of Detroit; of which we shall give a more detailed account hereafter.

At this time gen. Harrison began to concentrate his forces at the mouth of Portage river. The greatest activity was visible in camp, in preparing for the descent on Canada. Boats were collected—beef jerked—the superfluous baggage secured in block houses and a substantial log fence two miles long, extending from Portage river to Sandusky bay, was built to secure the horses during the operations of the army.

On the 17th gen. Shelby with 4000 volunteers, arrived at head quarters. This formidable corps were all mounted; but it was deemed best for them to act as infantry, and leave their horses on the peninsula. On the 20th gen. M'Arthur's brigade, from fort Meigs, joined the main body, after a very fatiguing march of three days down the lake coast.

Col. Johnson's mounted regiment remained at fort Meigs, but had orders to approach Detroit by land and to advance *pari passu* with the commander in chief, who was to move in boats thro' the islands to Malden, and of whose progress, the colonel was to be daily informed by a special express.

The British prisoners, taken in the naval action of the 10th, were sent to Chillicothe, guarded by a part of col. Hill's regiment of Pennsylvania detached militia. The different posts on the

American side of the lake, were left in charge of the Ohio militia. Fort Meigs, which till now had covered eight acres of land, was reduced in its dimensions to one acre. About 500 Kentuckians were to remain at Portage to guard the horses* and stores.

Every thing being now ready, the embarkation of the troops commenced at the dawn of day, on the 21st. For the want of a sufficient number of boats, not more than one third of the army could embark at once.

There is a range of islands extending from the head of the peninsula, to Malden. These islands render the navigation safe, and afford the army convenient dépôts for baggage and stores, as well as halting places.

Put-in bay island, sixteen miles from Portage, was selected by the general as the first point of rendezvous....the first stage in his passage across the lake. The weather was favorable. As soon as the first division of boats reached the island, men were immediately detached to take back the boats for a fresh load. Such was the eagerness of the men to accelerate the embarkation of the whole army, that they, in most cases, anticipated this regulation by volunteering their services to return with boats. Every one courted fatigue.

The fleet of commodore Perry, was busily engaged in transporting the baggage of the army. In the course of the 22d the whole army had gained the island, and encamped on the margin of the bay, which forms nearly a semi-circle.

The Lawrence, and the six prize ships, captured from the enemy, were at anchor in the centre of the bay, and in full view. With what ineffable delight did the troops contemplate this interesting spectacle! Their curiosity was amply indulged: every one was permitted to go on board the prizes to view the effects of the battle. The men were highly pleased with this indulgence of the general and the commodore. The scene was calculated to inflame their military ardor, which was visible in every countenance.

The army was detained at Put-in-bay during the 23d and 24th by unfavorable winds.

On the 25th the army again embarked, partly in boats and partly on board the fleet, to take a nearer position to the Canadian shore. The flotilla arrived a little before sunset at a small island called the Eastern Sister, eighteen miles from Malden, and seven from the coast. This island does not contain more than 3 acres, and the men had scarcely room to sit down.

On the 26th, the wind blowing fresh, it became necessary to haul up the boats to prevent their staving. The general and commodore, in the Ariel, made a reconnoissance of the enemy's

* The number of horses left on the Peninsula, during the absence of the army in Canada, were upwards of five thousand; for the most part, of the first size and condition.

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coast, and approached within a short distance of Malden. Capt. Johnny was despatched to apprise Col. Johnson of the progress of our army. Gen. Cass, Col. Ball and Capt. McClelland were busy in arranging and numbering the boats. At sunset the lake had risen several feet; indeed, such was the violence of the surf, that many entertained serious fears that the greater part of the island would be inundated before morning. However, the wind subsided at 12 o'clock, and relieved their apprehensions.

Capture of Malden.....On the 27th, at 9 in the morning, the army made its final embarkation.

They landed, in perfect order of battle, at 4 P. M. three miles below Malden. The Kentucky volunteers formed the right wing, Ball's legion and the friendly Indians the centre, and the regulars on the left. The troops were almost instantly in line, and shortly commenced their march, *en echelons*, for Malden. The troops had been drilled to marching in and out of boats, and to forming on the beach. Every man knew his place, and so well were they masters of this very necessary piece of service, that a company would march into a boat, debark and form on the beach in less than one minute, and that too without the least confusion.

As they approached Malden, instead of the red coats, and the war whoop of the Indians, a group of well-dressed ladies advanced to meet them, and to implore mercy and protection. They were met by Gov. Shelby, who soon quieted their fears by assuring them that the army came not to make war on women and children, but to protect them.

The army entered Malden by several parallel streets. The ruins of the fort and naval buildings, which the enemy had evacuated and burnt, were still smoking. All the loyal inhabitants followed the British army in its retreat. The fortifications at Malden must have cost the British government a vast sum. The fort was surrounded by a deep ditch and two rows of heavy pickets; the walls were high and the adjacent country very level. What cannon and small arms the enemy had been unable to carry away were sunk in the river.

Opposite the place lies the island of Bois Blanc, on the lower end of which was a heavy battery, which defended the entrance to the harbour. The enemy in their haste had left an 18 pounder on this battery.

Perhaps there is not a place in America that possesses so great convenience for ship building as Malden. The descent of the shore is in proper angle for launching; besides, the water is deep, and the timber can be floated to the spot in any quantity, and at a short distance, except pine, which is found on the Thames, on the St. Clair river, and on the shores of the lakes. They had

collected a considerable quantity of timber, which they attempted to burn, but without success.

The country is settled to the distance of 20 miles below Malden. Three miles above the fort is an Indian village, which had been abandoned so suddenly that many essential articles of Indian furniture, such as brass kettles, were left in the houses.

In the evening after the arrival of the army at Malden, Col. Ball dispatched an officer and twenty men to prevent the enemy's destroying the bridge across the Aux Canards. The enemy were found on the bridge having just set fire to it: Our party fired on them—they dispersed, and the bridge was saved.

On the 28th the army passed the Aux Canards, and encamped two miles beyond the river, in a neat French settlement. A small party of British horse showed themselves at the bridge and then retired.

The next day the army reached Sandwich at 2 o'clock, P. M. At the same time the fleet came up the river to Detroit. The general made dispositions for passing the river. Gov. Shelby's corps remained at Sandwich, while Col. Ball's legion and the brigades of Generals M'Arthur and Cass passed over to Detroit.

The Indians appeared in groupes, on the bank of the river below Detroit; a few shots from the gun boats caused them to disperse.

The Indians did not leave Detroit till the boats containing the troops were half way across the river. Just before the army landed on the American side, the inhabitants hoisted the U. S. flag, amidst the acclamations of thousands. They were received by the inhabitants with demonstrations of unfeigned joy. They had suffered all that civilized and savage tyranny could inflict, save death. The Indians had lived at free quarters for several months. It was natural for them to hail the American army as their deliverers.

The enemy had set fire to the fort, but the walls and picketing remained entire. The public store, a long brick building near the wharf, was injured only in the roof, which our men soon repaired. In the course of the night there was an alarm in camp...the fires were extinguished, and the men ordered to lie on their arms.

On the 30th Col. Johnson's regiment arrived from fort Meigs, and immediately commenced the passage of the river in boats.... Gen. M'Arthur, with the mass of the regular troops, was charged with the defence of Detroit. It was the general opinion of the inhabitants, that there were 1000 Indian warriors, under Marpot and Split-log, lurking in the woods between the rivers Rouge and Huron of Lake St. Clair. The friendly Indians had taken several prisoners in the immediate vicinity of Detroit.

Pursuit and capture of the British army.... On the 2d of October every arrangement was completed for pursuing the retreat

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ing British army up the Thames. The force selected for this service were the mounted regiment of Col. Johnson, three companies of Col. Ball's legion, and the principal part of Gov. Shelby's volunteers.

From Sandwich to the Moravian Towns is 84 miles. The roads, for the most part, being good, and the country perfectly level, the advance of the troops was so rapid that they reached the river Riscum, which is about 25 miles from Sandwich, in the evening of the same day. The enemy had neglected to destroy the bridge.

Early on the morning of the 3d, the general proceeded with Johnson's regiment, to prevent the destruction of the bridges over the different streams that fall into lake St. Clair and the Thames. These streams are deep and muddy, and are unfordable for a considerable distance into the country. A lieutenant of dragoons and 30 privates, who had been sent back by Gen. Proctor, to destroy the bridges, were made prisoners near the mouth of the Thames; from them the general learnt that the enemy had no certain information of their advance.

The baggage of the army was brought from Detroit in boats, protected by a part of Commodore Perry's squadron. In the evening the army arrived at Drake's farm, eight miles from the mouth of the Thames, and encamped. This river is a fine, deep stream, navigable for vessels of considerable burthen, after the passage of the bar at its mouth, over which there is generally 7 feet water. The gun boats could ascend as far as Dalson's, below which the country is one continued prairie, and at once favorable for cavalry movements, and for the co-operation of the gun-boats. Above Dalson's the aspect of the country changes; the river, though still deep, is not more than 70 yards wide, and its banks high and woody.

At Chatham, 4 miles from Dalson's, and 16 from lake St. Clair, is a small deep creek, where the army found the bridge taken up, and the enemy disposed to dispute their passage, and upon the arrival of the advanced guard, commenced a heavy fire from the opposite bank, as well as a flank fire from the right bank of the river. The army halted and formed in order of battle. The bridge was repaired under the cover of a fire from two 6 pounders. The Indians did not relish the fire of our cannon, and retired. Colonel Johnson, being on the right, had seized the remains of a bridge at McGregor's mills, under a heavy fire from the Indians. He lost on this occasion two killed and four wounded. The enemy set fire to a house near the bridge, containing a considerable quantity of muskets; the flames were extinguished and the arms saved. At the first farm above the bridge they found one of the enemy's vessels on fire, loaded with arms and ordnance stores. Four miles higher up, the army took a position for the night. Here they found

two other vessels, and a large distillery filled with ordnance and stores to an immense amount, in flames. Two 24 pounders, with their carriages, were taken, and a large quantity of balls and shells of various sizes.

The army was put in motion early on the morning of the 5th. The general accompanied Col. Johnson, and Gov. Shelby followed with the infantry. This morning the army captured two gun-boats and several batteaux loaded with provisions and ammunition. At 9 they had reached Arnold's mills, where there was a fording place, and the only one for a considerable distance. Here the army crossed to the right bank, the mounted regiment fording, and the infantry in the captured boats. The passage, though retarded for want of a sufficient number of boats, was completed by 12 o'clock.

Eight miles above the ford, they passed the ground where the British force had encamped the night before. The general directed the advance of Col. Johnson's regiment to accelerate their march, for the purpose of ascertaining the distance of the enemy. The officer commanding it, shortly after sent word back that his progress was stopped by the enemy, who were formed across our line of march.

The army was now within three miles of the Moravian town, and within one mile of the enemy. The road passes through a beech forest without any clearing, and for the first two miles, near to the bank of the river. At the distance of 50 rods from the river, is a swamp running parallel to it, and extending all the way to the Indian village. The intermediate ground is dry, the surface level, the trees lofty and thick, with very little underwood to impede the progress of man or horse, if we except that part which borders on the swamp.

Across this narrow strip of land, the British force was drawn up in a line of battle, to prevent the advance of our army. Their left, resting on the river, was defended by four pieces of cannon; near the centre were two other pieces. Near the swamp, the British line was covered by a large Indian force, who also lined the margin of the swamp to a considerable distance. The British troops amounted to 600; the Indians probably to 1200.

As it was not practicable to turn the enemy in flank, it became necessary to attack them in front. Gen. Harrison did not long hesitate in his choice of the mode of attack. It was as novel as it was successful.

The troops at his disposal might amount to 3000 men; yet, from the peculiar nature of the ground, one half of this force could not advantageously engage the enemy.

About 150 regulars, under Col. Ball, occupied the narrow space between the road and river; they were ordered to advance and amuse the enemy; and if an opportunity offered, to seize his

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cannon. A small party of friendly Indians were directed to move under the bank. Col. Johnson's regiment was drawn up in close column, with its right a few yards distant from the road, with orders to charge at full speed as soon as the enemy delivered his fire. The Kentucky volunteers, under Major Gen. Henny, were formed in the rear of the mounted regiment, in three lines extending from the road to the swamp. Gen. Desha's division covered the left of Johnson's regiment. Gov. Shelby was at the crotchet, formed by the front line and Gen. Desha's division.... This was an important point. Gen. Cass and Commodore Perry, volunteered as aids to Gen. Harrison, who placed himself at the head of the front line of infantry, to direct the movements of the cavalry, and to give them the necessary support. Such was the order of battle.

The army moved in this order till the mounted men received the fire of the enemy, at the distance of 200 yards. The charge was beat, and in an instant 1000 horse were in motion at full speed; the right, led on by Col. Johnson, broke through the British lines and formed in their rear. The enemy's pieces were not loaded; their bayonets were not fixed, and they surrendered at discretion. The whole was the work of a minute. In breaking through their ranks, our men killed 12 and wounded 37 of the British regulars. The shock was unexpected. They were not prepared to resist it; some were trampled under the feet of our horses; others were cut down by the soldiers; very few were shot, for the fire was not general. Had the enemy shown the least symptoms of resistance, after their lines were broken through, the greater part would have been destroyed; but they were passive. Never was terror more strongly depicted on the countenances of men. Even the officers were seen with uplifted hands, exclaiming "quarters!" There is no doubt that they expected to be massacred, believing that the Kentuckians would retaliate the bloody scenes of Raisin and Miami; but nothing was farther from their intentions.

On the left the contest was more serious; Col. Johnson, who commanded on that flank of his regiment, received a terrible fire from the Indians, which was kept up for some time. The colonel most gallantly led the head of his column into the hottest of the enemy's fire, and was personally opposed to Tecumseh. At this point a condensed mass of savages had collected. Yet, regardless of danger, he rushed into the midst of them; so thick were the Indians, at this moment, that several might have reached him with their rifles. He rode a white horse, and was known to be an officer of rank; a shower of balls was discharged at him, some of which took effect. His horse was shot under him, and his clothes, his saddle, and his person was pierced with bullets.... At the moment his horse fell, Tecumseh rushed towards him with

an uplifted tomahawk, to give the fatal stroke; but his presence of mind did not forsake him in this perilous predicament; he drew a pistol from his holster, and laid his daring opponent dead at his feet. He was unable to do more, the loss of blood deprived him of strength to stand. Fortunately, at the moment of Tecumseh's fall, the enemy gave way, which secured him from the reach of their tomahawks. He received five shots....three in the right thigh, and two in the left arm. Six Americans and twenty-two Indians fell within 20 yards of the spot where Tecumseh was killed, and the trains of blood almost covered the ground.

The Indians continued a brisk fire from the margin of the swamp, which made some impression on a line of Kentucky volunteers; but Gov. Shelby brought up a regiment to its support, and their fire soon became too warm for the enemy. A part of Col. Johnson's men having gained the rear of a part of the Indian line, the rout became general. A small party of Indians attempted to gain the village by running up the narrow strip of dry land, but they were soon overtaken and cut down. The Indians fought bravely, and sustained a severe loss in killed and wounded. The death of Tecumseh was to them an irreparable loss.*

The American army had 15 killed and 30 wounded. Among the slain was Col. Whitley, of the Kentucky volunteers, a man 70 years of age, and a soldier of the revolution. He was in easy circumstances at home, and possessed an excellent character.

* The celebrated aboriginal warrior, Tecumseh, was in the 44th year of his age, when he fell at the battle of the Thames. He was of the Shawannoe tribe five feet ten inches high, well formed in activity and the endurance of fatigue, which he was capable of sustaining in a very extraordinary degree. His carriage was erect and lofty—his motions quick—his eyes penetrating—his visage stern, with an air of hauteur in his countenance, which arose from an elevated pride of soul—it did not leave him even in death. His eloquence was nervous, concise, impressive, figurative and sarcastic, being of a taciturn habit of speech, his words were few but always to the purpose. His dress was plain—he was never known to indulge in gaudy decoration of his person, which is the general practice of the Indians. He wore on the day of his death a dressed deer-skin coat and pantaloons. It is said he could read and write correctly: of this however, it is doubtful, as he was the irreconcilable enemy of civilization, of course would not be apt to relish the fine arts. He was in every respect a savage, the greatest perhaps since the days of Pontiac. His ruling maxim in war, was to take no prisoners, and he strictly adhered to the sanguinary purposes of his soul—he neither gave nor accepted quarters. Yet, paradoxical as it may seem, to the prisoners made by the other tribes, he was attentive and humane. Now, in one instance he is said to have buried his tomahawk in the head of a Chippewa chief, whom he found actively engaged in massacring some of Dudley's men, after they had been made prisoners by the British and Indians. It had long been a favorite project of this aspiring chief to unite the northern western and southern Indians for the purpose of regaining their country as far as the Ohio. Whether this grand idea originated in his own, or his brother's mind, or was suggested by the British, is not known—but this much is certain, he cherished the plan with enthusiasm and actually visited the Creek Indians to prevail on them to join in the undertaking. He was always opposed to the sale of the Indian lands.—In a council at Vincennes, in 1810, he was found equal to the insidious arts of a diplomatist. In one of his speeches he pronounced General Harrison a liar. He has been in almost every battle with the Americans from the time of Harmer's defeat to that of the Thames. He has been several times wounded, and always sought the hottest of the fire. A few minutes before he received the fatal fire of Col. Johnson, he had received a musket ball in his left arm, yet his efforts to conquer ceased only with life. When a youth, and before the treaty of Greenville, he had so often signalized himself that he was reputed one of the boldest of the Indian warriors. In the first settlement of Kentucky, he was peculiarly active in seizing boats going down the Ohio, killing the passengers and carrying off their property. He made frequent incursions into Kentucky, where he would invariably murder some of the settlers and escape with several horses laden with plunder. He always eluded pursuit, and when too closely pressed, would retire to the Washita. His ruling passion seems to have been glory—he was careless of wealth, and although his plunderings and subsidies must have amounted to a great sum, he preserved little for himself. After his fall on the 5th of October, his person was viewed with great interest by the officers and soldiers of Harrison's army. It was some time before the identity of his person was sufficiently recognized to remove all doubts as to the certainty of his death. There was a kind of ferocious pleasure, in the expression may be allowed, in contemplating the contour of his features, which was majestic even in death. Some of the Kentucky soldiers expressed themselves by committing indignities on his dead body. He was scalped and otherwise defiled.

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Among the trophies of the day, were six brass field pieces that had been surrendered by Hull, on two of which was this motto: "*Surrendered by Burgoyne at Saratoga!*"

The day after the battle, a part of the army took possession of the Moravian town, where they found most kinds of vegetables in abundance; these were acceptable to men who had for several days subsisted on fresh beef, without bread or salt.

The town was found deserted, and so panic struck were some of the women in their flight, that they are said to have thrown their children into the Thames, to prevent their being butchered by the Americans!

This village is situated on the right bank of the Thames, about 40 miles from its entrance into lake St. Clair. The town was built by emigrants from Muskingum, and contained at the time of the battle nearly 100 houses, mostly well built. The Rev. John Scoll, from Bethlehem, (Pa.) was established here as a missionary. Here is a school house and a chapel, and many of the inhabitants speak English. Their gardens were luxurious and cultivated with taste.

The Indians who inhabited this town had been among the foremost in massacring the Americans at the river Raisin; and the town, if spared, would afford a convenient shelter for the British allies during the winter, from which they could easily pass into the Michigan territory to rob and murder the inhabitants. For these reasons the town was destroyed by the troops previous to their leaving it.

Gen. Proctor abandoned his army at the very moment John-son's regiment beat the charge. About 40 dragoons accompanied him as a guard. In 24 hours he was 65 miles from the Moravian town. A few of the mounted men pursued him, and at one time were within 100 yards of him; but they were too weak to attack his guard. His carriage and papers were taken.

Three waggons, loaded with specie, escaped, but might have been overtaken if proper means had been used to pursue the fugitives. A depot of 300 barrels of flour was within a day's march of the Moravian town.

Return of the army.... The army returned to Detroit. Capt. Elliot, of the Niagara, volunteered his services to command a naval expedition against Michillimackinac and fort St. Joseph; but the weather proving unfavourable for a number of days, the season became too far advanced to risk the squadron on lake Huron, till spring.

While Gen. Harrison was pursuing Proctor up the Thames, the Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottowattomies, Miamies and Kikapoos, proposed to Gen. M'Arthur, a suspension of hostilities, and agreed to "take hold of the same tomahawk with the Americans, and

to strike all who were or might be enemies of the United States, whether British or Indians." They brought in their women and children and offered them as hostages for their good behavior.

Lieut. Le Breton arrived at Detroit on the 15th, bearing a flag and a letter from Gen. Proctor to Gen. Harrison. This letter requested humane treatment to the prisoners, and a restoration of certain property and papers taken on the 5th. As the letter was addressed to "the general at Moravian towns," he saw no reason for Le Breton's journey to Detroit, and ordered him to join Gen. Proctor by the way of Buffalo and Fort George.

After the return of the commander in chief to Detroit, Walk-in-the-Water, who had been in the battle of the Thames, came in to implore peace. When he crossed from Sandwich, the white flag which he bore in his hand had attracted a great crowd to the wharf, who were all anxious to get a near view of the distinguished chief, and were struck with admiration at the firmness and apparent nonchalance with which he ascended the bank and passed through the ranks of the Kentucky volunteers, whom he had so gallantly opposed in battle but a few days before. More real dignity of carriage, or a more striking firmness of countenance has seldom been seen. Yet his situation was calculated to depress his spirits and produce humility. His town was in the power of the Americans; the British had all been taken, and the Indians had just suffered a signal defeat. Almost all the other chiefs had submitted, and he was without the means of living or resisting; still his manner was that of a conqueror.

Gov. Shelby's corps and the 12 months volunteers were all honourably discharged. Travelling became safe, and business at Detroit began to assume its wonted course; but the *price current* of the territory was exorbitant for every thing to eat, drink or wear. Whiskey sold at 4 dollars a gallon; beef at 24 cents a pound; cheese 60 do.; butter 75 do.; potatoes 2 dollars a bushel. The army was well supplied with rations, as were also about three hundred of the inhabitants of Michigan, and about two thousand Indians, men, women and children, who had no other means of subsistence. Adventurers soon came on with a sufficient supply of dry goods.

Embarkation for Buffalo.... On the 23d of October, General Harrison, with all his disposable regular troops, embarked on board the fleet and sailed for Buffalo, in obedience to orders from the secretary of war. Previous to his departure, he appointed Gen. Cass provisional governor of Michigan territory, and the civil ordinances, as they stood at Hull's surrender, were proclaimed in force. Gen. Cass was left with about 1000 men, not more than 700 of whom were effective. The men were industriously

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employed in preparing winter quarters at the fort. The schooners Scorpion and Ohio were engaged in transporting supplies from Erie and Cleveland for the troops during the winter. Troops were stationed at Malden and Sandwich; and the campaign closed.*

CHAPTER XV.

Army of the centre....Capture of York....Biography of General Pike.

THE army of the centre for the campaign of 1813, consisted of about 7000 men; 4000 at Sacket's Harbour, and 3000 at Buffalo. The original objects of the campaign were... 1st, the capture of Kingston and destruction of the British fleet in that harbour; 2d, the capture of York and destruction of the vessels there building; and 3d, the capture of forts George and Erie. The first object was, however, afterwards waived, in consequence of the large reinforcements that were sent into Kingston, till the other two should be effected.

*Capture of York....*On the 22d of April, 1800 of the best troops were embarked on board the fleet at Sacket's Harbour, destined for York. The following is Gen. Dearborn's official letter to the secretary of war, detailing the events of the expedition:

H. Q. York, Upper Canada, April 28, 1813.

SIR....After a detention of some days, by adverse winds, we arrived here yesterday morning, and at 8 o'clock commenced landing our troops about three miles westward of the town, and one and a half from the enemy's works. The wind was high and in an unfavourable direction for our boats, which prevented the troops landing at a clear field, (the ancient site of the French fort Tarento.) The unfavourable wind prevented as many of the armed vessels from taking such positions as would as effectually cover our landing as they otherwise would have done; but every thing that could be done was effected. Our riflemen, under Major Forsyth, first landed, under a heavy fire from Indians and other troops. Gen. Sheaffe commanded in person. He had collected his whole force in the woods, near where the wind obliged our troops to land, consisting of about 700 regulars and militia, and 100 Indians. Major Forsyth was supported, as promptly as possible, with other troops; but the contest was sharp and severe

* The foregoing chapter has been copied, with some variations, from *Brown's Views of the Campaigns of the N. W. Army.*

for near half an hour. The enemy was repulsed by a far less number than his own, and as soon as Gen. Pike landed with 7 or 800 men, and the remainder of the troops were pushing for the shore, the enemy retreated to their works; and as soon as the whole of our troops had landed and formed on the clear ground intended for the first landing, they advanced through a thick wood to the open ground near the enemy's works, and after carrying one battery by assault, were moving on in columns towards the main works; when the head of the columns was within about 60 rods of the enemy, a tremendous explosion occurred from a large magazine prepared for the purpose, which discharged such immense quantities of stone as to produce a most unfortunate effect on our troops.

I have not yet been able to collect the returns of our killed and wounded, but our loss by the explosion must, I fear, exceed 100; and among them I have to lament the loss of the brave and excellent officer Brigadier General Pike, who received such a contusion from a large stone as terminated his valuable life within a few hours. His loss will be severely felt. Previous to the explosion the enemy had retired into the town, excepting a party of regular troops, which did not retire early enough to avoid the shock: it is said that upwards of forty of them were destroyed. Gen. Sheaffe moved off with the regular troops, and left directions with the commanding officer of the militia to make the best terms he could. In the mean time, all further resistance on the part of the enemy ceased, and the outlines of a capitulation were agreed on. As soon as I was informed of Gen. Pike's being wounded, I went on shore. I had been induced to confide the immediate command of the troops in action to Gen. Pike, from a conviction that he fully expected it, and would be much mortified at being deprived of the honour, which he highly appreciated. Every movement was under my view. Our troops behaved with great firmness, and deserve much applause, especially those who were first engaged, under circumstances that would have tried the firmness of veterans. Our loss in the action in the morning and in carrying the first battery, was not great, probably about 50 killed and wounded; among them were a full proportion of officers; and although the enemy had a decided advantage in point of numbers and position at the commencement, their loss was greater than ours, particularly in officers.

It was with the greatest exertion that the small vessels of the fleet could work into the harbour against a gale of wind directly ahead; but, as soon as they got in contact with the batteries, a tremendous cannonade commenced from 24 and 32 pounders, and was kept up without intermission, under a heavy fire from two batteries, until the enemy's batteries were carried or blown up by

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I am under the greatest obligations to Commodore Chauncey, for his able and indefatigable exertions in every possible manner that could give facility and effect to the expedition. He is equally estimable for deliberate, sound judgment, bravery and industry. The government could not have made a more fortunate selection for the important trust he holds. Unfortunately, the enemy's armed ship, the Prince Regent, left this place for Kingston, four days before we arrived. A large ship on the stocks, and nearly planked up, with a large quantity of naval stores, were set on fire by the enemy soon after the explosion of the magazine. There are no vessels fit for use in the harbour. A considerable quantity of military stores and provisions remain. We shall not possess the means of transporting the prisoners from this place, and must of course leave them on parole. I hope we shall so far complete the necessary measures at this place in the course of this day as to be able to sail to-morrow for Niagara, by which route I send this by a small vessel, with notice to Gen. Lewis of our approach.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

H. DEARBORN.

Hon. JOHN ARMSTRONG, Secretary of War.

In a letter dated May 3, 1813, the general further remarks:.... "I enclose a return of the killed and wounded. You will observe the loss was very small, excepting that produced by the explosion. As nearly as I have been able to ascertain, the loss of the enemy amounted to from 90 to 100 killed, 200 wounded, and upwards of 300 prisoners. I have not been able to ascertain precisely the number of the militia put on their parole; I presume it could not be less than 500. There was an immense depot of naval and military stores. York was the principal depot for Niagara and Detroit; and notwithstanding the immense amount which was destroyed by them, we found more than we could bring off. Gen. Sheaffe's baggage and papers fell into my hands. These papers are a valuable acquisition; I have not had time for a full examination of them. A scalp was found in the executive and legislative chamber, suspended near the speaker's chair, in company with the mace and other emblems of royalty."

The following is an extract of a letter from an officer present at the capture, and is considered interesting.

"We embarked the 22d and 23d of April, but the weather being stormy we returned into port, and sailed again on the 25th, and arrived at York, in Upper Canada, the 27th, about 7 o'clock A. M. and immediately prepared to land opposite the old site of fort Toronto. A body of British grenadiers were paraded on the shore,



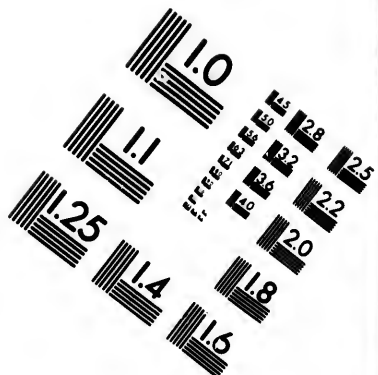
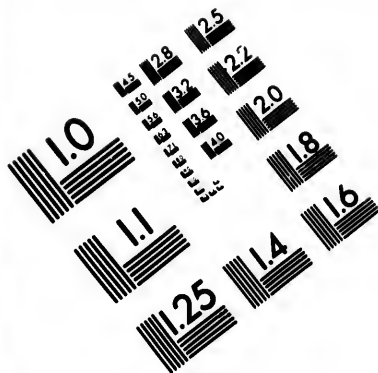
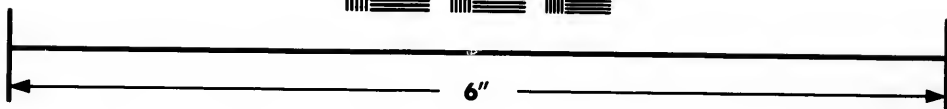
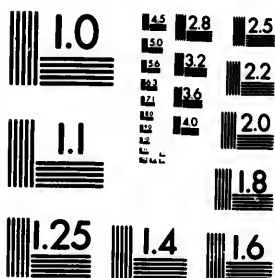


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and the Glengary tencibles, a corps which has been disciplined with great pains for six months past, appeared at another point. Bodies of Indians were perceived in large groups in different directions; and a considerable number in some woods and under-woods on our leeward flank.

About the scite of the old French fort of Toronto, of which scarcely any vestiges at present remain, we could discern a few horsemen, who we perceived afterwards moving into the town, where strong field works had been thrown up to oppose our landing.

As soon as the horsemen had entered the town, we saw the Indians moving in gangs along the skirts of the woods, under the direction of British officers, taking post at stations pointed out to them; apparently calculated with some skill as to the point which the water and the weather must compel us to land.

After these Indians, acting as tirailleurs, were thus disposed, we perceived very distinctly the regulars moving out of their works in open columns of platoons, and marching along the bank in that order; when they reached the plain of the old fort Toronto, they were wheeled off by heads of platoons into the woods, and soon appeared in the same order below the plain, just at the position at which our troops were under the necessity of landing.

Major Forsyth, and his excellent and gallant rifle corps, who had been placed in two large batteaux, pulled undauntedly towards the clear ground, where he had been ordered to land: but he was forced, by the strength of the wind, a considerable distance below his destined point.

The fire of musketry and rifles here commenced from the shore, the enemy being within a few feet of the water, and in a considerable degree masked by the wood and copse.

Here Major Forsyth ordered his men to rest for a few moments upon their oars, and soon opened a galling fire upon the enemy. In the moment when Forsyth's corps were lying on their oars and priming, Gen. Pike was standing on the deck, and impatient at the apparent pause of an instant, and seeing that the rifle corps had been driven by the wind beyond the point at which they were to have disembarked, exclaimed, "By — I can't stay here any longer!" and addressing himself to his staff, "come, jump into the boat," which we immediately did; the commodore having reserved a boat specially for him and his suite; the little coxswain was ordered immediately to steer for the middle of the fray, and the balls whistled gloriously around; probably their number was owing to seeing so many officers in the same boat; but we laughed at their clumsy efforts, as we pressed forward with well pulled oars.

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The infantry had, according to orders, embarked at the same time, and formed platoons as soon as they reached the shore. The general took command of the first platoon he reached, and formed it below, and ordered the whole to prepare for a charge as soon as we reached the top of the bank. We proceeded in high spirits, and mounted the bank under a volley of their musketry and rifle shot; but we had not time to form our platoon completely, when the British grenadiers shewed us their backs. At the very moment of their turning tail upon us, the sound of Forsyth's bugles was heard, with peculiar delight, as it was the indication of his success. The effect of the bugle upon the nerves of the British Indian allies was electric; for they no sooner heard it than they gave a diabolical yell, and fled in all directions.

The Glengary corps skirmished with Forsyth's while the infantry were landing; and Brigade Major Hunter formed the troops for action as they landed and reached the plain.

The volunteer corps commanded by Col. Maclure flanked the reserve, and the light artillery commanded by Major Eustis, acting as infantry, covered the left.

It is proper to state, in this place, the gallant and masterly co-operation of Commodore Chauncey, and the naval squadron under his command. He sent his schooners, mounting heavy metal, to cover the landing, and kept up so well directed and incessant a fire of grape on the woods, as to effectually cover our right flank, and afforded us great facility in forming our platoons; besides producing the utmost consternation among the Indians. A shot from one of the schooners killed a horse under the aid of the British general; but owing to the shallowness of the water, neither the ship nor brig could be brought in to participate in the action; but the commodore himself was through the whole of the action, in his boat, encouraging and giving orders to the different schooners. The navy lost two gallant midshipmen, and about 20 seamen were killed and wounded in the service of landing us.

The troops ordered to land by Gen. Pike when he went on shore, were the three companies of Capt. Hopsock, (who was mortally wounded in the boat) Capt. Scott and Capt. Young, of the 15th regiment U. S. infantry, all under the command of Maj. King of the same regiment, (the same who gallantly distinguished himself at Queenstown); their orders were to reinforce Maj. Forsyth, and effect a landing...and they were forbidden to load or use powder. The riflemen of Forsyth, as the infantry came up, opened a heavy and effective fire upon the enemy, and the three companies landed in the most complete style; the enemy gave way before our troops could come to the bayonet's point, and were pursued up the bank. At the top of the bank, a fresh

body of British grenadiers (said to be the 8th, or king's grenadiers) made a formidable charge upon this column of ours, and compelled us for an instant to retire; but our troops instantly rallied and returned to the charge, and with the most complete success; not a man of the grenadiers escaped our fire or charge, and our troops, just reinforced by the remainder of the 15th, remained undisputed masters of the bank. This reinforcement brought the colours of the 15th, which accompanied the platoon of Capt. Steel. The enemy presenting a fresh front, the troops were instantly formed for the charge by Maj. King, who gave them *Yankee Doodle*; but the enemy did not like our music, nor our pikes, any better than our rifles; they gave way and fled in the utmost disorder.

As soon as our force was all landed and collected, we were formed into platoons, and marched in that order towards the enemy's works, flanked by the rifle corps.

Our march was by the lake road, in sections; but the route was so much intersected by streams and rivulets, the bridges over which had been destroyed by the enemy as they retreated, that we were considerably retarded in our progress; we collected logs, and by severe efforts, at length contrived to pass over one field piece and a howitzer, which were placed at the head of our column, in charge of Capt. Fanning, of the 3d artillery; and thus we proceeded through a spacious wood, as we merged from which we were saluted by a battery of 24 pounders, but excepting some pikes broken and some bayonets bent, these guns gave us no annoyance.

The general then ordered one of his aids (Fraser) and a sergeant to proceed to the right of the battery, in order to discover how many men were in the works; they did so, and reported to him the number, and that they were spiking their own guns towards the shipping.

The general immediately ordered Capt. Walworth, of the 16th, with his company of grenadiers, to make the assault. Walworth gallantly ordered his men to trail arms and advance at the accelerated pace, but at the moment when they were ordered to recover and charge the enemy, the enemy broke in the utmost confusion, leaving several men wounded on the ground which they abandoned.

We then proceeded in admirable order on a gradual ascent, when a fire was opened upon us of round and cannister, from the quarters of the British governor. The general here ordered the troops to lie close, while the artillery battery under Maj. Eustis was brought to the front, and silenced the enemy's battery. The firing very soon ceased altogether, and we were expecting a flag of surrender, at the very moment when a terrible explosion of

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the British magazine took place. The explosion was stupendous and awful, and at the instant the common supposition was a subterranean mine. The general had just aided in removing a wounded man with his own hands, and sat down on a stump with a British sergeant we had taken prisoner, whom the general, with Capt. Nicholson and myself, were examining, when the explosion took place. The general, Captain Nicholson, and the British sergeant, were all mortally wounded, and I was so much bruised in the general crash, that it is surprising how I survived; probably I owe my escape to the corpulency of the British sergeant, whose body was thrown upon mine by the concussion.

Brigade Major Hunt, assisted by Lieutenant Col. Mitchell of the 3d artillery, who acted as a volunteer on the expedition, formed the troops, and we were ready to give or receive a charge in five minutes after the explosion.

The wounds of Gen. Pike were of such a nature as to disable him from all further service, and the command devolved on Col. Pearce of the 16th infantry, as the senior officer, who sent a flag demanding an immediate surrender at discretion; they made only one stipulation, which was granted without hesitation....that is, that private property should be respected.

The British general made his escape, and a body of regular troops with him.

When the surgeons were carrying their wounded general and his aids from the field, our troops, which had just formed, gave a tremendous huzza. The general turned his head, anxiously, to enquire what that was for; a sergeant who accompanied him said...."*The British union jack is coming down, general, the stars are going up*"...he heaved a heavy sigh of extacy, and smiled, even amidst the anguish which must have been inseparable from the state of his wounds. He was carried on board the *Pert* schooner, together with his aid-de-camp, Fraser, and from thence on board the commodore's ship, accompanied by the commodore, who came to attend him. On board the commodore's ship, his gallant spirit fled, another Montgomery in fate; not, indeed, perishing by the valour of a gallant foe in noble combat, but falling, even in the arms of victory, by the barbarian revenge of a baffled and defeated enemy.

Gen. Dearborn, Commodore Chauncey, and indeed every officer and soldier, sees, in the loss of our friend, the loss of one of our country's proudest ornaments, and the military profession, its brightest example and model."

The following is the most correct list of the killed and wounded in this expedition:

Killed in battle....1 subaltern, 2 sergeants, 1 corporal, 2 musicians, 8 privates.

Killed by the explosion....1 captain, 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, 29 privates.

Total killed,

Wounded in battle....2 captains, (one since dead) 1 subaltern, 3 sergeants, 4 corporals, 22 privates.

Wounded by the explosion....1 brig. gen. (since dead) 1 aid-de-camp, 1 acting aid, 1 volunteer aid, 6 captains, 6 subalterns, 11 sergeants, 9 corporals, 1 musician, 185 privates.

Total wounded,

Killed,

Of the navy....2 midshipmen and 1 seaman, killed....11 seamen wounded.

Total killed and wounded,

Biography of Gen. Pike.....ZEBULON MONTGOMERY PIKE

was born at Lambertton, in the state of Newjersey, January 5th, 1779. His father was a respectable officer in the army of the United States. His family had, for several generations resided in Newjersey, and were descended from a capt. John Pike, whose name is preserved by tradition as having been a gallant and distinguished soldier in the early Indian wars of the colony. He entered the army while yet a boy, and served for some time as a cadet in his father's company, which was then stationed on the western frontiers of the United States.

At an early age he obtained the commission of ensign, and some time after, that of lieutenant in the 1st regiment of Infantry. He was thus almost from his cradle trained to the habits of a military life; but he did not, like most of the peaceful veterans of the barracks and the parade, while away his days in inactivity, contented with the mechanical routine of military duty. By a life of constant activity and exposure, he invigorated his constitution, and prepared himself for deeds of hardihood and adventure. At the same time, he endeavoured to supply the deficiency of his early education by most ardent, though, probably, often desultory and ill regulated application to every branch of useful knowledge. He had entered the army with no other education than such as is afforded by the most ordinary village school....reading, writing, and a little arithmetic. By his own solitary exertions he acquired, almost without the aid of a master, the French and Latin languages, the former of which, it appears from his journal, he was

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able to write, and speak with sufficient accuracy for all the purposes of business; to these he afterwards added a competent knowledge of the Spanish. He also studied the elementary branches of mathematics, and became very conversant and even skilful in all the ordinary practical applications of that science. He seems, besides, to have had a general curiosity, to which no kind of knowledge was without interest; he read with avidity every book which fell in his way, and thus, without any regular plan of study, acquired a considerable stock of various information, and some tincture of popular English literature. In most of these literary acquirements, Pike scarcely attained to the accuracy of the scholar, but they were such as became the gentleman, and elevated and adorned the character of the soldier. Nor were these studies directed solely to the improvement of the mind; he endeavoured to make them subservient to a much higher end. From his youth he sedulously cultivated in himself a generous spirit of chivalry; not that punctilious and barren honour which cheaply satisfies itself with the reputation of personal courage and freedom from disreputable vice, but the chivalry of the ancient school of European honour....that habit of manly and virtuous sentiment, that spirit of patriotism and self-devotion, which, while it roots out from the heart every other weakness of our nature, spares and cherishes "that last infirmity of noble minds," the love of glory, and in every great emergency in which man may be called upon to act, sends him forth into the service of his country or his kind, at once obeying the commands of duty, and elevated and animated by the warm impulse of enthusiastic feeling.

Among other habits of mental discipline by which Pike was accustomed to cherish these principles and feelings, was a constant practice of inserting upon the blank pages of some favourite volume, such striking maxims of morality, or sentiments of honour, as occurred in his reading, or were suggested by his own reflections. He had been in the practice of making use of a small edition of Doddsley's "Economy of Human Life," for this purpose. Soon after his marriage, he presented this volume to his wife, who still preserves it as one of the most precious memorials of her husband's virtues. An extract from one of the manuscript pages of this volume was published in a periodical work soon after his death. It was written as a continuation of the article "Sincerity," and is strongly characteristic of the author.

"Should my country call for the sacrifice of that life which has been devoted to her service from early youth, most willingly shall she receive it. The sod which covers the brave shall be moistened by the tears of love and friendship; but if I fall far

from my friends and from you, my Clara, remember that 'the choicest tears which are ever shed, are those which bedew the unburied head of a soldier,' and when these lines shall meet the eyes of our young ———, let the pages of this little book be impressed on his mind as the gift of a father who had nothing to bequeath but his honour, and let these maxims be ever present to his mind as he rises from youth to manhood:

"1. Preserve your honour free from blemish.

"2. Be always ready to die for your country.

"Z. M. PIKE.

"Kaskaskias, Indiana Territory."

Thus gifted with a lofty spirit of honour, and an iron constitution, Pike presents to the imagination no imperfect resemblance of one of the cavaliers of the sixteenth century, the hardy, steel-clad companions of Bayard and Sidney.

In March, 1801, he married Miss Clarissa Brown, of Cincinnati, in the state of Kentucky. By this marriage he had several children, only one of whom, a daughter, survives him.

On the old peace establishment of our army, then composed only of a few regiments, and employed altogether in garrisoning a few frontier posts, promotion was slow, and the field of action limited and obscure. For several years Lieutenant Pike panted in vain for an opportunity of gratifying that "all-ruling passion," which, to use his own words, "swayed him irresistibly to the profession of arms, and the pursuits of military glory."

At length, in 1805, a new career of honourable distinction was opened to this active and aspiring youth. Soon after the purchase of Louisiana, the government of the United States determined upon taking measures to explore their new territory, and that immense tract of wilderness included within its limits. Besides ascertaining its geographical boundaries, it was wished to acquire some knowledge of its soil and natural productions, of the course of its rivers, and their fitness for the purposes of navigation and other uses of civilized life, and also to gain particular information of the numbers, character, and power of the tribes of Indians who inhabited this territory, and their several dispositions towards the United States. With these views, while Captains Lewis and Clarke were sent to explore the unknown sources of the Missouri, Pike was despatched on a similar expedition for the purpose of tracing the Mississippi to its head.

On the 9th of August, 1805, Pike accordingly embarked at St. Louis, and proceeded up the Mississippi, with 20 men, in a stout boat, provisioned for four months, but they were soon obliged to leave their boats and proceed on their journey by land, or in ca-

which they built after leaving their large boat, and carried with them on their march. For eight months and twenty days this adventurous soldier and his faithful band were almost continually exposed to hardship and peril, depending for provisions upon the precarious fortunes of the chase, enduring the most piercing cold, and cheerfully submitting to the most constant and harassing toils. They were sometimes for days together without food, and they frequently slept without cover upon the bare earth, or the snow, during the bitterest inclemency of a northern winter.

During this voyage, Pike had no intelligent companion upon whom he could rely for any sort of advice or aid, and he literally performed the duties of astronomer, surveyor, commanding officer, clerk, spy, guide, and hunter, frequently preceding the party for many miles in order to reconnoitre, or rambling whole days in search of deer or other game for provision, and then returning to his men in the evening, hungry and fatigued, he would sit down in the open air, to copy by the light of a fire, the notes of his journey, and to plot out the courses of the next day.

His conduct towards the Indians was marked with equal good sense, firmness and humanity; he every where, without violence or fraud, induced them to submit to the government of the United States, and he made use of the authority of his country to put an end to a savage warfare which had for many years been carried on with the utmost cruelty and rancour between the Sioux and the Chippeways, two of the most powerful nations of Aborigines remaining on the North American continent. He also every where enforced with effect the laws of the United States against supplying the savages with spirituous liquors. Thus, while he wrested their tomahawks from their hands, and compelled them to bury the hatchet, he defended them from their own vices, and in the true spirit of humanity and honour, rejected with disdain that cruel and dastardly policy which seeks the security of the civilized man in the debasement of the savage.

In addition to the other objects of Pike's mission, as specifically detailed in his instructions, he conceived that his duty as a soldier required of him an investigation of the views and conduct of the British traders, within the limits of our jurisdiction, and an inquiry into the exact limits of the territories of the United States and Great Britain. This duty he performed with the boldness of a soldier and the politeness of a gentleman; and it may justly be added, with the disinterestedness of a man of honour, and the ability and discretion of an enlightened politician. He found that the North-west Company, by extending their establishments and commerce far within the bounds of the United States, and even in the very centre of Louisiana, were thus enabled to

introduce their goods without duty or licence into our territories, to the very great injury of the revenue, as well as to the complete exclusion of our own countrymen from all competition in this trade. He perceived, besides, that these establishments were made subservient to the purposes of obtaining an influence over the savages, dangerous to the peace, and injurious to the honour and character of our government, and he thought it evident that in case of a rupture between the two powers, all these posts would be used as rallying points for the enemy, and as places of deposit for arms to be distributed to the Indians, to the infinite annoyance, if not total ruin, of all the adjoining territories.

An opportunity was now presented to him of enriching himself for life, by merely using the power vested in him by law, and seizing upon the immense property of the company which he found illegally introduced within our territory. But having been hospitably received at one of their principal posts, his high sense of honour would not permit him to requite their hospitality by a rigorous execution of the laws. It is probable, too, that he thought so violent a measure might lead to collisions between the two governments, without tending to produce any permanent beneficial effect, and he cheerfully sacrificed all views of personal interest to what he conceived to be the true interest and honour of his country.

By means of reprimands and threats to the inferior traders, and a frank and spirited remonstrance to the director of the Fond du Lac department, he succeeded in procuring a stipulation, that in future no attempt should be made to influence any Indian on political affairs, or any subjects foreign to trade, and that measures should be immediately taken to prevent the display of the British flag, or any other mark of power, within our dominion; together with a promise that such representations should be immediately made to the company, and such an arrangement effected with regard to duties, as would hereafter set that question at rest.

His conduct with regard to this subject was, at the time, viewed with cold approbation, but the events of the present war have borne ample testimony to his sagacity and foresight.

Within two months after his return from this expedition, Pike was selected by Gen. Wilkinson for a second perilous journey of hardship and adventure. The principal purpose of this expedition was, like that of the former, to explore the interior of Louisiana. He was directed to embark at St. Louis with the Osage captives, (about forty in number,) who had been rescued from their enemies, the Potowatomies, by the interference of our government, and to transport them to the principal village of their nation,

and he was instructed to take this opportunity to bring about interviews between the different savage nations, and to endeavour to assuage animosities, and establish a permanent peace among them.

He was, after accomplishing these objects, to continue his route into the interior, and to explore the Mississippi and its tributary streams, especially the Arkansas and the Red River, and thus to acquire such geographical information as might enable government to enter into definitive arrangements for a boundary line between our newly acquired territory and North Mexico.

In the course of this second journey, our adventurous soldier, after leaving the Osage village, encountered hardships, in comparison of which the severities of his former journey seemed to him ease and luxury.

Winter overtook the party unprovided with any clothing fit to protect them from cold and storms. Their horses died, and for weeks they were obliged to explore their way on foot through the wilderness, carrying packs of sixty or seventy pounds weight, beside their arms, exposed to the bitterest severity of the cold, relying solely on the produce of the chase for subsistence, and often for two or three days altogether without food. This part of his journal contains a narrative of a series of sufferings sufficient to make the "superfluous and lust-dieted" son of luxury shudder at the bare recital. Several of the men had their feet frozen, and all, except Pike and one other, were in some degree injured by the intensity of the cold. He thus relates the history of two of these dreary days:

"18th January, Sunday. The doctor and myself, who, fortunately, were untouched by the frost, went out to hunt something to preserve existence; near evening we wounded a buffalo with three balls, but had the mortification to see him run off notwithstanding. We concluded it was useless to go home to add to the general gloom, and went amongst some rocks, where we encamped, and sat up all night; from the intense cold it was impossible to sleep. Hungry and without cover.

"19th January, Monday. We again took the field, and after crawling about one mile in the snow, got near enough to shoot eight times among a gang of buffaloes, and could plainly perceive two or three to be badly wounded, but by accident they took the wind of us, and to our great mortification, all were able to run off. By this time I had become extremely weak and faint, it being the fourth day since we had received sustenance, all of which we were marching hard, and the last night had scarcely closed our eyes to sleep. We were inclining our course to a point of woods, determined to remain absent and die by ourselves, rather

than to return to our camp and behold the misery of our poor lads, when we discovered a gang of buffaloes coming along at some distance. With great exertions I made out to run and place myself behind some cedars, and by the greatest good luck the first shot stopped one, which we killed in three more shots, and by the dusk had put each of us a heavy load, with which we determined immediately to proceed to the camp, in order to relieve the anxiety of our men, and carry the poor fellows some food. We arrived there about 12 o'clock, and when I threw my load down, it was with difficulty I prevented myself from falling; I was attacked with a giddiness of the head, which lasted for some minutes. On the countenances of the men was not a frown, nor a desponding eye, but all seemed happy to hail their officer and companions, yet not a mouthful had they eat for four days. On demanding what were their thoughts, the sergeant replied, the most robust had determined to set out in search of us on the morrow, and not return unless they found us, or had killed something to preserve the lives of their starving companions."

In the course of this long, toilsome and perilous march, Pike displayed a degree of personal heroism and hardihood, united with a prudence and sagacity which, had they been exerted on some wider theatre of action, would have done honour to the most renowned general. The reader may, perhaps, smile at this remark, as one of the wild exaggerations of a biographer anxious to dignify the character of his hero; but the truth is, that great men owe much of their splendour to external circumstances, and if Hannibal had made his famous march across the Alps at the head of a company of foot, instead of an army, his name, if it had reached us, would have come down to posterity with much less dignity than that of our hardy countryman.

There are passages in Pike's journal of his second expedition, which, had they been found, with proper alterations of place and circumstance, related by Plutarch or Livy of one of their heroes, would have been cited by every school-boy, as examples of military and heroic virtue. Take, for instance, the account of Pike's firm and prudent conduct in repressing the first symptoms of discontent in his little band, and his address upon this occasion to the mutineer, and they will be found to need but little of the usual embellishments of an eloquent historian, to be made worthy of Hannibal himself.

"24th January, Saturday....We rallied out in the morning, and shortly after perceived our little band marching through the snow, (about two and a half feet deep,) silent, and with downcast countenances. We joined them, and learnt that they, finding the snow to fall so thickly that it was impossible to proceed,

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had encamped about one o'clock the preceding day. As I found all the buffaloes had quitted the plains, I determined to attempt the traverse of the mountain, in which we persevered until the snow became so deep it was impossible to proceed, when I again turned my face to the plain, and for the first time in the voyage found myself discouraged, and for the first time I heard a man express himself in a seditious manner; he exclaimed, 'that it was more than human nature could bear, to march three days without sustenance, through snows three feet deep, and carry burdens only fit for horses,' &c. &c.

"As I knew very well the fidelity and attachment of the majority of the men, and even of this poor fellow, and that it was in my power to chastise him when I thought proper, I passed it by for the moment, determined to notice it at a more auspicious time. We dragged our weary and emaciated limbs along until about 10 o'clock. The doctor and myself, who were in advance, discovered some buffaloes on the plain, when we left our loads, and orders, written on the snow, to proceed to the nearest woods to encamp. We went in pursuit of the buffaloes, which were on the move.

"The doctor, who was then less reduced than myself, ran and got behind a hill, and shot one down, which stopped the remainder. We crawled up to the dead one, and shot from him as many as twelve or fourteen times among the gang, when they removed out of sight. We then proceeded to cut up the one we had shot, and after procuring each of us a load of the meat, we marched for the camp, the smoke of which was in view. We arrived at the camp to the great joy of our brave lads, who immediately feasted sumptuously. After our repast, I sent for the lad who had presumed to speak discontentedly in the course of the day, and addressed him to the following effect: 'Brown, you this day presumed to make use of language which was seditious and mutinous; I then passed it over, pitying your situation, and attributing it to your distress, rather than to your inclination to sow discontent amongst the party. Had I reserved provisions for ourselves, whilst you were starving; had we been marching along light and at our ease, whilst you were weighed down with your burden, then you would have had some pretext for your observations; but when we were equally hungry, weary, emaciated and charged with burden, which I believe my natural strength is less able to bear than any man's in the party; when we are always foremost in breaking the road, reconnoitering, and the fatigues of the chase, it was the height of ingratitude in you to let an expression escape which was indicative of discontent; your ready compliance and firm perseverance I had reason to expect, as the leader of men, and my companions in miseries and dan-

gers. But your duty as a soldier demanded your obedience to your officer, and a prohibition of such language, which, for this time, I will pardon, but assure you, should it ever be repeated, I will revenge your ingratitude and punish your disobedience by instant *death*. I take this opportunity, likewise, to assure you, soldiers, of my thanks for the obedience, perseverance and ready contempt of every danger which you have generally evinced; I assure you, nothing shall be wanting on my part to procure you the rewards of our government, and the gratitude of your countrymen.'

"They all appeared very much affected, and retired with assurances of perseverance in duty."

Amidst these distresses, after a three months winter's march, they explored their way to what they supposed to be the Red River. Here they were met by a party of Spanish cavalry, by whom Pike was informed, to his great astonishment, that they were not on the Red River, but on the Rio del Norte, and in the Spanish territory. All opposition to this force would have been idle, and he reluctantly submitted to accompany the Spaniards to Santa Fe, to appear before the governor. Though, to his great mortification, his expedition was thus broken off, all hardship was now at an end. He was treated on the road with great respect and hospitality, though watched and guarded with much jealousy; but he still insisted on wearing his sword, and that his men should retain their arms. Indeed, it was his resolution, had he or any of his people been ill used, to surprise the guard, carry off their horses, and make the best of their way to Apaches.

When he arrived at Santa Fe, his whole dress was a blanket-coat, blue trowsers, mocasons, and a scarlet cloth cap lined with a fox skin; his men were in leather coats, with leggings, &c. and not a hat in the whole party. But he appeared before the governor with his usual spirit, and insisted on being treated with the respect due to an American officer. From Santa Fe he was sent to the capital of the province of Biscay, to be examined by the commandant general, where he was well received and entertained for some time, after which he was sent on his way home, under the escort of a strong party of horse. He arrived with his little band at Natchitoches on the 1st day of July, 1807.

The most vexatious circumstance attending this unexpected sequel to his expedition was the seizure of all his papers, except his private journal, by the Spanish government. He had been fitted out with a complete set of mathematical and astronomical instruments, and had made frequent and accurate observations; he had thus ascertained the geographical situation of the most

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important points with much precision, and had collected materials for an accurate map of a great part of the country which he traversed. The seizure of these papers is a real loss to the cause of science. It is, however, in perfect conformity to that narrow and purblind policy which the old Spanish government uniformly manifested in the administration of its colonies.

Pike, upon his return, received the thanks of the government; a committee of the house of representatives expressed their high sense of his "zeal, perseverance and intelligence," and the administration, much to its honour, bestowed upon him a more solid testimony of approbation, by a rapid promotion in the army. He was immediately appointed captain, shortly after a major, and, upon the further enlargement of the army in 1810, a colonel of infantry.

During the intervals of his military duties, he prepared for the press a narrative of his two expeditions, accompanied by several valuable original maps and charts. This was published in 8vo. in 1810. The work is rather overloaded with unnecessary detail, and the language is careless and often inaccurate; the last fault is, however, in a great measure to be attributed to several disadvantageous circumstances under which the work went to press, while the author was at a distance, engaged in public service.... Still it is sufficiently evident that the volume is not the composition of a scholar. But it bears the strongest marks of an acute, active, busy mind, unaccustomed to scientific arrangement or speculation, but filled with a variety of knowledge, all of a useful, practical kind.

Though entirely unacquainted with botany, zoology and mineralogy, as sciences, Pike had a liberal curiosity, which taught him to look upon every object with the eye of an observer, and to despise no sort of knowledge, though he might not himself perceive its immediate utility. Above all, the narrative has that unstudied air of truth, which is so apt to evaporate away in the process of the book-making traveller; it retains all the clearness and freshness of first impressions, and we are never for a moment left in doubt whether or no the writer and the traveller are the same person.

Immediately after the declaration of war, Pike was stationed with his regiment upon the northern frontier; and upon the commencement of the campaign of 1813, was appointed a brigadier general.

There was a tincture of enthusiasm in Pike's character which communicated itself to his whole conduct; in whatsoever pursuit he engaged, he entered upon it with his whole soul. But the profession of arms had been always his favourite study....his "life's employment, and his leisure's charm." Having served through

every gradation of rank, almost from a private, up to a general, and very often employed in separate and independent commands, he was intimately acquainted with all the minutiae of discipline.

The veteran of a peace establishment is too apt, from the want of greater objects, to narrow his mind down to the little details of a military life, until, at length, every trifle swells up into ideal importance, and the cut of a coat, or the tying of a neckcloth, seems big with the fate of nations. Pike was extremely attentive to all the particulars, even to the most minute points, of discipline and dress, yet he gave them their due importance, and no more.

He did not wish to degrade the soldier into a mere living machine, and while he kept up the strictest discipline, he laboured to make his men feel that this severity arose not from caprice or ill temper, but from principle, and that it had for its sole object their own glory, their ease, their health and safety. Careless of popularity, and negligent of the arts by which good will is often conciliated where there is no real esteem, by the unassuming simplicity and frankness of his manners, and the undeviating honour of his conduct, he bound to himself the hearts of all around; with the strong ties of respect and affection.

Thus self-formed, and thus situated, the eyes of the army were anxiously cast towards him, as the chosen champion who was to redeem their reputation from that disgrace with which it had been stained by a long series of disasters. The day for which his heart had long panted at length arrived....a bright day of glory for the hero, of gloom and sorrow to his country. He was selected for the command of the land forces in an expedition against York, the capital of Upper Canada, and on the 25th of April sailed from Sacket's Harbour in the squadron commanded by Commodore Chauncey.

The day before the expedition sailed, he wrote a letter to his father, which contains these prophetic words:

"I embark to-morrow in the fleet at Sacket's Harbour, at the head of a column of 1500 choice troops, on a secret expedition. If success attends my steps, honour and glory await my name; if defeat, still shall it be said that we died like brave men, and conferred honour, even in death, on the American name.

"Should I be the happy mortal destined to turn the scale of war, will you not rejoice, O my father? May heaven be propitious, and smile on the cause of my country! But if we are destined to fall, may my fall be like Wolfe's....to sleep in the arms of victory."

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On the 27th of April General Pike arrived at York, with about seventeen hundred chosen men, and immediately prepared to land. The spot which was selected for landing, was the scite of an old French fort called Torento, of which scarcely any vestiges now remain. The plan of attack was formed by Gen. Pike himself, and clearly and minutely detailed in his general orders, which were directed to be read at the head of every corps; every field officer was also directed to carry a copy of them, in order that he might at any moment refer to them, and give explanations to his subordinates. Every thing was arranged, and every probable exigency provided for, with admirable method and precision.

There is one paragraph of these orders which breathes so much of its own spirit, that we cannot forbear from extracting it. It is deeply stamped with that unity of character which was visible throughout all his actions, and which is, in truth, one of the strongest marks of a powerful and original mind.

"No man will load until ordered, except the light troops in front, until within a short distance of the enemy, and then charge bayonets; thus letting the enemy see that we can meet them with their own weapons. Any man firing or quitting his post without orders must be put to instant death, as an example may be necessary. Platoon officers will pay the greatest attention to the coolness and aim of their men in the fire; their regularity and dressing in the charge. The field officers will watch over the conduct of the whole. Courage and bravery in the field do not more distinguish the soldier than humanity after victory; and whatever examples the savage allies of our enemies may have given us, the general confidently hopes, that the blood of an unresisting or yielding enemy will never stain the weapons of the soldiers of his column. Property must be held sacred; and any soldier who shall so far neglect the honour of his profession as to be guilty of plundering the inhabitants, shall, if convicted, be punished with death. But the commanding general assures the troops, that should they capture a large quantity of public stores, he will use his best endeavours to procure them a reward from his government."

As soon as the debarkation commenced, a body of British grenadiers was paraded on the shore, and the Glengary fencibles, a local force which had been disciplined with great care, and has repeatedly proved itself fully equal to any regular force appeared at another point. Large bodies of Indians were also seen in different directions, while others filled the woods

which skirted the shore. General Sheaffe commanded in person.

Forsyth's riflemen were the first to land, which they effected under a heavy fire of musketry and rifles from the Indians and British. As soon as the fire from the shore had commenced, Major Forsyth had ordered his men to rest a few moments upon their oars, and return the fire. At this moment Gen. Pike was standing upon the deck of his ship. He saw the pause of his first division, and, impatient at the delay, exclaimed, "I can stay here no longer, come, jump into the boat;" and, springing into it, followed by his staff, was immediately rowed into the thickest of the fire.

The infantry had followed the riflemen, and formed in platoons as soon as they reached the shore. Gen. Pike took the command of the first platoon which he reached, and ordered the whole to prepare for a charge. They mounted the bank, and the enemy, after a short conflict, broke at once, and fled in disorder towards the works.

At that moment the sound of Forsyth's bugles was heard, announcing his success at another point. Its effect upon the Indians was almost electrical; they gave a horrible yell, and fled in every direction.

The whole force, being now landed and collected, was again formed and led on by Gen. Pike in person to attack the enemy's works. They advanced through the woods, and after carrying one battery by assault, in the most gallant manner, moved on in columns towards the main work. The fire of the enemy was soon silenced by our artillery, and a flag of surrender was expected, when a terrible explosion suddenly took place from the British magazine, which had been previously prepared for this purpose.

Pike, after aiding in removing a wounded man with his own hands, had sat down on the stump of a tree with a British sergeant, who had been taken, and was employed with Captain Nicholson and one of his aids, in examining the prisoner. The explosion was tremendous; an immense quantity of large stones were thrown in every direction with terrible force, and scattered destruction and confusion around among our troops. The general, his aid, Captain Nicholson, and the prisoner, fell together, all except the aid mortally wounded. General Pike had been struck on the breast by a heavy stone. Shortly after he received the blow, he said to his wounded aid, "I am mortally wounded... write to my friend D——, and tell him what you know of the battle, and to comfort my ——." In the same broken manner he afterwards added several other requests relating to his private affairs.

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The troops were instantly formed again; as a body of them passed their wounded general, he said, "Push on, brave fellows, and avenge your general." While the surgeons were carrying him out of the field, a tumultuous huzza was heard from our troops; Pike turned his head with an anxious look of inquiry; he was told by a sergeant, "The British union jack is coming down, general....the stars are going up." He heaved a heavy sigh, and smiled. He was then carried on board the commodore's ship, where he lingered for a few hours. Just before he breathed his last, the British standard was brought to him; he made a sign to have it placed under his head, and expired without a groan.

The death of General Pike, at such a period, was a great public misfortune; his countrymen did not know half the extent of their loss. Pike was plain and unimposing in his appearance and manners, and to the world seemed little more than an active and intelligent soldier; but it is not easy to say what height of military excellence may not have been reached by a mind like his, stimulated by high-soaring ambition, braced up by principle to habitual dignity of thought, and constantly expanding its views, enlarging its resources, and unfolding its powers, by its own native and unwearied energy.

Gallant spirit! It was thine to wash out with thy life-blood the foul remembrance of our country's shame....of those disgraces which had blasted her honour, and tarnished the ancient glories of her arms. It was thine, in life, in death, to give to your companions in arms a great example of chivalrous honour and heroic courage; it was thine to lead them to the threshold of the temple of fame, and bid them enter on a long career of glory.

Gallant spirit! Thy country will not forget thee....thou shalt have a noble memory. When a grateful nation confers upon the heroes of Niagara and Erie the laurels they have so nobly earned, she will bid them remember that those laurels were first gathered on the shores of York, and were watered by the blood of a hero; and hereafter, when our children and our children's children shall read the story of patriots and heroes who have greatly fallen in the arms of victory, when their eyes glisten and their young hearts throb wildly at the kindling theme, they will close the volume which tells of Epaminondas, of Sidney, or of Wolfe, and proudly exclaim, "And we, too, had our Montgomery and our Pike."

[*Analectic Magazine.*]

CHAPTER XVI.

*Capture of forts George and Erie....Battle at Stoney Creek...
Defeat of Col. Boerstler....Defeat of the enemy at Sacket's
Harbour.*

*Capture of forts George and Erie....*The army re-embarked at York, and proceeded to Niagara to effect the third object of the expedition, where they arrived on the 8th of May. Some little time was necessary to put the army in condition for the attack of fort George, and also to bring on reinforcements from Sacket's Harbour and other places. On the 27th the attack was made and succeeded most gloriously. The following is an extract from the official account :

“Head-Quarters, Fort George, }
“Upper Canada, May 27, 1813 }

“The light troops under the command of Colonel Scott and Major Forsyth landed this morning at 9 o'clock. Major General Lewis's division, with Colonel Porter's command of light artillery, supported them. General Boyd's brigade landed immediately after the light troops, and Generals Winder and Chandler followed in quick succession. The landing was warmly and obstinately disputed by the British forces; but the coolness and intrepidity of our troops soon compelled them to give ground in every direction. General Chandler with the reserve (composed of his brigade and Col. Macomb's artillery) covered the whole. Commodore Chauncey had made the most judicious arrangements for silencing the enemy's batteries near the landing. The army is under the greatest obligations, to that able naval commander, for his indefatigable exertions, in co-operation in all its important movements, and especially in its operations this day. Our batteries succeeded in rendering fort George untenable; and when the enemy had been beaten from his position, and found it necessary to re-enter it, after firing a few guns, and setting fire to the magazines, which soon exploded, moved off rapidly by different routes. Our light troops pursued them several miles. The troops having been under arms from one o'clock in the morning, were too much exhausted for any further pursuit. We are now in possession of fort George and its immediate dependencies; to-morrow we shall proceed further on. The behavior of our troops, both officers and men, entitles them to the highest praise; and the difference in our loss with that of the enemy, when we consider the advantages his positions afforded him, is astonishing. We had seventeen killed and

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forty five wounded. The enemy had ninety killed and one hundred and sixty wounded, of the regular troops. We have taken one hundred prisoners, exclusive of the wounded. Colonel Meyers, of the 49th, was wounded and taken prisoner. Of ours, only one commissioned officer was killed, Lieutenant Hobart, of the light artillery."

Return of the loss of the army of the United States, in the action of the 27th May, 1813.

The light troops under the command of Lieut. Col. Scott— Capt. Roach of the 23d infantry wounded; Lieut. Swearingen, do.; 23 non-commissioned officers and privates killed; 64 do. wounded—total 89.

*Gen. Lewis's division—*1st. or Boyd's brigade, Lieut. H. A. Hobart killed; rank and file, 1 wounded.

6th regt. of infantry, Capt. Arrowsmith, wounded; rank and file, 6 killed, 16 wounded.

15th regt. inf. Major King, wounded; rank and file, 1 killed, 6 wounded.

16th regt. inf. Capt. Steel, wounded; rank and file, 8 killed, 9 wounded.

New-York volunteers, rank and file, 4 wounded.

2d, or Winder's brigade—Rank and file, 6 wounded.

3d, or Chandler's brigade—None.

Of the wounded, but 61 have been sent to the hospital. The wounds of the others were very slight.

Return of the loss of the enemy in killed, wounded, and taken, in the action of the 27th May, 1813.

*Killed—*108.

Prisoners.—Wounded, 1 colonel, 3 subalterns, 7 sergeants and 152 rank and file—163. *Not wounded,* 1 captain, 1 subaltern, 1 surgeon, 8 sergeants and 102 rank and file—115.

Loss of the enemy in killed and wounded 386

Militia paroled - - - - 507

Total loss - - - - 893

Soon after the capture of fort George, the enemy evacuated fort Erie, (which was immediately occupied by the American army) and retired to a place called the Beaver Dams, where they had large stores of provisions and ammunition. They however, in a few days, retired to the head of the lake, and were pursued by Gens. Chandler and Winder. On the 5th of June they took a position for the night beyond Stony Creek, near the retreating British army. In this position they were attacked about 2 o'clock the next

morning, and succeeded in repulsing the enemy, but with the loss of Gens. Chandler and Winder.

The particulars of this affair will be found in the following extract of a letter from Col. Burn :

"In the afternoon of the 5th our advance guard, consisting of the light infantry, under the command of Captains Hindman, Bidle and Nicholas, a part of the rifle corps under Captain Lytle, and a detachment of the 2d dragoons under Captain Selden, commenced a sharp skirmish with the advance of the enemy, said to be a detachment of the 49th regiment, which soon retreated, covered by a thick woods, having, however, several wounded on both sides, and one dragoon horse killed. In the evening our advance returned behind Stony creek, where the army took a position for the night. The light infantry, and part of the rifle corps on the right of the 25th regiment, formed the right wing. The artillery, under Captains Towson and L. Leonard, the centre. The 5th, 16th, 23d, and some riflemen, the left wing, and the cavalry in the rear. A strong picket guard was posted some distance in front, also strong flank and rear guards in such manner as to surround the whole encampment with sentinels—the troops lay under arms without any covering. Our numbers in the field did not exceed one thousand. Three hundred effectives of the 13th and 14th regiments having encamped on the borders of the lake, about three miles distant, for the protection of the boats. The enemy forced our picket and attacked us about two o'clock in the morning (which was very dark) with their army and Indians, expecting, no doubt, to throw us into confusion. Their views were, in this instance, however, completely frustrated, and when the day dawned, none were to be seen except their killed and wounded, who covered the field of battle. The attack began on our right, and was gallantly repelled by the fire of the light troops and 25th regiment, commanded by Major Smith. In a few minutes it became general along the whole line, and was nobly returned by the artillery of the centre, commanded by Captains Towson and L. Leonard, and again by the troops of the left wing, viz. the 5th, under Lieutenant Colonel Milton, the 23d, commanded by Major Armstrong, and the 16th. The fire continued with little intermission for one hour, during which time the enemy attempted by frequent charges, to break our line, but without effect, being obliged to give way by the well directed fire of our brave troops.

"The 13th and 14th regiments (which had been detached the preceding evening) were active in making prisoners, and advanced with much ardor to the field in hopes of sharing with the gallant 5th and 25th, 23d and light troops, the glory of another combat. But the unfortunate capture of Brigadier Generals Chandler and Winder, who were taken in the action unknown to any part

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of the army, and hurried into the enemy's lines, prevented the future operations from being carried into effect with the promptitude which would assuredly have taken place had either of those officers been present to command.

"You will be surprized to find our loss so small....that of the enemy exceeds ours much; they lost in killed about sixty, many wounded, and upwards of seventy prisoners, all regulars and principally of the 49th regiment. Several of their officers were killed, wounded and missing. A flag was sent by Col. Hervey, asking permission to make enquiries for them; also to be allowed to send a surgeon to attend their own wounded, which I readily granted. On the return of day-light, I found the command of the army had devolved on me, and being at a loss what steps to pursue in the unpleasant dilemma, occasioned by the capture of our generals; finding the ammunition of many of the troops nearly expended, I had recourse to a council of the field officers present, of whom a majority coincided in opinion with me that we ought to retire to our former position at the Forty-mile-Creek, where we could be supplied with ammunition and provisions, and either advance or remain until further orders.

"Every aid was afforded by the staff. The assistant adjutant general, Major Johnson, and Brigade Majors Jones and Wartenby exerted themselves in rendering all the assistance in their power.

"The army, on this occasion, has proved its firmness and bravery, by keeping its position in a night attack, in which the yells of the Indians, mingled with the roar of cannon and musketry, were calculated to intimidate. The enemy charged repeatedly, and so dark was the night that our army could not distinguish friend from foe; in one of those they succeeded in carrying off a six pounder, a howitzer and a caisson, to the great mortification of our brave artillery. I presume it was on that occasion also that we lost our generals, who were distinctly heard encouraging our men to fight. The squadron of dragoons remained formed and steady at their post, but could not act on account of the darkness of the night and the thickness of the adjacent woods. Much credit is due to the troops generally, but too much praise cannot be said of the conduct of the 5th and 25th regiments."

About this time the British fleet on lake Ontario having been increased by the addition of a new vessel, appeared on the lake, and cut off the water communication of that part of the army with fort George. The situation of the army was therefore critical, and it became necessary that it should retreat to fort George. This was conducted by General Lewis, who was about this time invested with the command of the army in consequence of the ill health of General Dearborn, not however without some small loss in baggage and prisoners.

Defeat of Colonel Boerstler ... On the 23d, Colonel Boerstler, with about 600 men, was ordered to march to a place called the Beaver Dams, to attack and disperse a body of the enemy collected there. The following is an extract from the official account, dated June 25th :

"On the 23d, at evening, Lieut. Colonel Boerstler, with 570 men, infantry, artillery, cavalry, and rifle men, in due proportion, was ordered to march, by the way of Queenstown, to a place called the Beaver Dams, on the high ground, about eight or nine miles from Queenstown, to attack and disperse a body of the enemy collected there for the purpose of procuring provisions, and harassing those inhabitants who are considered friendly to the United States: their force was, from the most direct information, composed of one company of the 104th regiment, above 80 strong; from 150 to 200 militia, and from 40 to 60 Indians. At eight o'clock the next morning, when within about two miles of the Beaver Dams, our detachment was attacked from an ambuscade, but soon drove the enemy some distance into the woods, and then retired to a clear field, and sent an express for a reinforcement, saying, he would maintain his position until reinforced. A reinforcement of 300 men marched immediately under the command of Colonel Chrystie, but on arriving at Queenstown, Colonel Chrystie received authentic information that Lieutenant Colonel Boerstler with his command had surrendered to the enemy, and the reinforcement returned to camp. A man who belonged to a small corps of mounted volunteer rifle men, came in on the 25th, who stated, that the enemy surrounded our detachment in the woods, and towards 12 o'clock commenced a general attack; that our troops fought more than two hours, until the artillery had expended the whole of its ammunition, and then surrendered, and at the time of the surrender the informant made his escape."

Subjoined is an account, taken from an authentic source, containing many additional particulars of Col. Boerstler's defeat :

"On the 23d of June, a party of the regular troops (consisting of 500 infantry and 20 light dragoons, under the command of Lieut. Col. Boerstler, together with 44 mounted rifle men, composed of militia from the country, under Major Chapin, were detached from the American encampment at Fort George, for the purpose of cutting off the supplies of the enemy, and breaking up the small encampments they were forming through the country. On the 24th, about 9 miles west of Queenstown, they were attacked by a body of above 500 Indians and nearly a hundred regulars, who lay concealed in the woods near the road they were passing. The attack commenced on the dragoons, who were placed in the rear. The infantry was soon brought into a position

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to return the enemy's fire to advantage, and succeeded in driving them some distance into the woods. In a short time the Indians having taken a circuitous route, appeared in front and opened a fire upon the mounted riflemen, who were stationed there. Here they met with so warm a reception, that they were compelled a second time to retreat in much haste. After this every exertion was made to draw the Indians from the woods, to the open ground, but without much effect. The few who were bold enough to venture, were handled so roughly that they soon returned to their lurking places. In the mean while the enemy were receiving considerable reinforcements, which at length gave them a superiority. A retreat for a short distance was ordered, and effected with very little loss. The Indians soon made their appearance upon our right and left, and the regulars and some militia in front : our troops were formed into close columns for the purpose of opening themselves a way through the enemy, with their bayonets. At this juncture a British officer rode up and demanded the surrender of the American party. The demand was made, he said, to prevent the effusion of blood. He asserted upon his honor, and declared in the most solemn manner, that the British regular force was double that of the American, and that the Indians were 700 in number. Lieut. Col. Boerstler under a belief of these facts, and thinking it impracticable to get off the wounded, whom he was unwilling to abandon to the mercy of the savages, and deeming it extremely uncertain whether a retreat could be effected, thought proper to agree to terms of capitulation, which were at length signed by himself on the one part, and Lieut. Col. Bishop on the other.

"By these it was stipulated that the wounded should be taken good care of, the officers permitted to retain their side arms, private property to be respected, and militia to be paroled and permitted to return home immediately. The articles of capitulation were no sooner signed than they were violated. The Indians immediately commenced their depredations and plundered the officers of their side arms. The soldiers too were stripped of every article of clothing, to which the Indians took a fancy, such as hats, coats, shoes, &c. It is impossible to give any correct account of the killed and wounded, as the enemy did not furnish a list. The loss of the enemy is supposed to be much greater than ours. Between 30 and 40 Indians were counted that lay dead on the field. From their known practice of carrying off their killed and wounded, it is believed they must have suffered severely. The regular troops were in a few days sent to Kingston.

"Major Chapin and his corps were detained under guard at the head of Lake Ontario, and no attention paid to that article which provided for their being paroled. On the 12th July they were ordered down the Lake to Kingston ; for which place they were

embarked in two boats accompanied by a guard of men under the command of a lieutenant. Thirteen of the men with the lieutenant were stationed in the forward boat with Major Chapin, and the other officers, while the remaining two (a serjeant and one man) took the direction of the other boat, which contained the soldiers. An agreement had been entered into previous to their departure, of seizing the first opportunity that offered, to regain their liberty, which they determined to effect or die in the attempt. When they were within about 12 miles of York, the boat which was filled with the prisoners, was rowed by them along side the other, under the pretence of taking something to drink. The signal being given, they sprang upon the guard, who little expected such a manoeuvre, and in a short time disarmed them, and gained possession of the boats. They immediately altered their course from Kingston to fort Niagara, and after rowing hard for most of the night, and escaping with difficulty from one of the enemy's schooners which gave them chase, arrived in safety, with their prisoners."

Defeat of the enemy at Sacket's Harbor..... While the American army and fleet were employed in the expedition against York and fort George, the enemy fitted out an expedition against Sacket's Harbor, hoping, at this moment, from the reduced state of the garrison at that place, to carry it: but they were gallantly met by General Brown, and repulsed. The following is the official account of the battle:

Head Quarters, Sacket's Harbor, }
June 1, 1813. }

SIR—You will have received my despatch of the 29th ult. written from the field of battle, and stating generally, that this post had been attacked by Sir George Prevost, and that we had succeeded in repulsing him, principally owing to the gallantry of Col. Backus and the regular troops under his command. Now I beg leave to offer to you the events of that day more in detail.

On the 25th ultimo, I received a letter from General Dearborn, requesting me to repair to this post for the purpose of taking command. Knowing that Lieut. Col. Backus, an officer of the first regiment of dragoons, and of experience, was here, I hesitated, as I would do no act which might wound his feelings. In the night of the 27th I received a note from this officer, by Major Swan, deputy-quarter-master-general, joining in the request already made by Major-General Dearborn. I could no longer hesitate, and accordingly arrived at this post early in the morning of the 28th. These circumstances will explain how I came to be in command upon this occasion. Knowing well the ground, my arrangements for defence, in the event of an attack, were soon made.

In the course of the morning of the 28th, Lieut. Chauncey, of the navy, came in from the lake, firing guns of alarm. Those of the same character, intended to bring in the militia, were fired from the posts. The enemy's fleet soon after appeared accompanied by a large number of boats. Believing that he would land on the peninsula, commonly called Horse Island, I determined to meet him at the water's edge with such militia as I could collect and the Albany volunteers, under the command of Lieutenant Col. Mills; Lieut. Col. Backus, with the regulars, formed a second line; the care of Fort Tompkins was committed to the regular artillery and some volunteers, and that of Navy Point to Lieut. Chauncey of the navy. If driven from my position, Lieut. Col. Backus was ordered to advance and meet the head of the enemy's column, while rallying my corps. I was to fall on its flanks. If unable here to resist the enemy's attack, Lieut. Chauncey was in that case to destroy the stores, &c. and retire to the south shore of the bay, east of Fort Volunteer, while I proceeded to occupy that fort as our dernier resort.

In the course of the 27th and during the nights of the 28th and 29th ultimo, a considerable militia force came in, and were ordered to the water side near Horse Island, on which was Lieut. Col. Mills and his volunteers. Our strength at this point was now 500 men....all anxious for battle, as far as profession would go. The moment it was light enough to discover the approach of the enemy, we found his ships in line between Horse Island and Stony Point, and in a few minutes afterwards 33 large boats filled with troops, came off to the Larger Indian or Garden Island, under cover of the fire of his gun boats. My orders were, that the troops should lie close and reserve their fire till the enemy had approached so near that every shot might hit its object. It is, however, impossible to execute such orders with raw troops unaccustomed to subordination. My orders were in this case disobeyed. The whole line fired, and not without effect....but in the moment while I was contemplating this, to my utter astonishment, they rose from their cover and fled. Col. Mills fell gallantly in brave but in vain endeavors to stop his men. I was personally more fortunate. Gathering together about 100 militia, under the immediate command of Capt. M'Nitt of that corps, we threw ourselves on the rear of the enemy's flank, and I trust, did some execution. It was during this last movement that the regulars under Col. Backus first engaged the enemy, nor was it long before they defeated him.

Hurrying to this point of action, I found the battle still raging, but with obvious advantage on our side. The result of the action, so glorious for the officers and soldiers of the regular army, has already been communicated in my letter of the 29th. Had not Gen.

Prevost retreated most rapidly under the guns of his vessels, he would never have returned to Kingston.

One thing in this business is to be seriously regretted. In the midst of the conflict, fire was ordered to be set to the navy barracks and stores. This was owing to the infamous conduct of those who brought information to Lieut. Chauncey, that the battle was lost, and that to prevent the stores from falling into the enemy's hands, they must be destroyed.

The enemy's force consisted of 1000 picked men, led by Sir George Prevost in person. Their fleet consisted of the new ship Wolfe, the Royal George, the Prince Regent, Earl of Moira, two armed schooners, and their gun and other boats.

Of the officers who distinguished themselves, I cannot but repeat the name of Lieut. Col. Backus, who, praised be God! yet lives. Capt. McNitt's conduct was noble; he well deserves to be placed in the regular army. Maj. Swann, of the army, served as my adjutant general, and was highly useful. Lieut. Chauncey is a brave and honourable man. To him no blame can attach for what happened at the Navy Point. He was deceived. Lt. Col. Tuttle was in march for this post, but with every exertion was unable to reach it in time to take part in the action. This is felt by the colonel and every officer of his detachment, as a misfortune.

At the moment I am closing this communication, Com. Chauncey has arrived with his squadron. This renders my longer stay there unnecessary. I shall therefore immediately return to my home.

I am, sir, with the highest respect, &c.

JACOB BROWN,

Brig. Gen. of the N. York Militia.

Hon. John Armstrong, Secretary at War.

Report of the killed, wounded and missing in the action of the 29th May, 1813, at Sacket's Harbor.

Killed.....20 privates, regulars, and 1 volunteer.

Wounded.....1 lieut. colonel, 3 second lieutenants, 1 ensign, 7 non-commissioned officers, 1 musician and 68 privates, regulars, and 1 musician and 2 privates volunteers.

Missing.....2 non-commissioned officers, 7 privates, regulars; 1 non-commissioned officer, 1 musician and 15 privates, volunteers.

Aggregate loss....110 regulars and 21 volunteers; number not known, but not to exceed 25 militia. Total 156.

About 400 of the regular troops sustained the heat of the action; these consisted chiefly of the 1st regiment of light dragoons, some of the 9th, 21st, and a few of the 23d infantry, 3d and light artillery.

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Report of the enemy's loss in the action of the 29th May, 1813,
at Sacket's Harbor

Adjutant-General Gray, Col. Moody, Maj. Edwards, 1 captain
and 25 rank and file found dead in the field.

2 captains and 20 rank and file found wounded in the field.

2 captains, 1 ensign and 32 rank and file made prisoners.

In addition to the above, many were killed and wounded in
their boats by the militia and Albany volunteers while effecting a
landing; a number were likewise carried off the field by the en-
emy, previous to the commencement of his retreat.

CHAPTER XVII.

*Expedition down the St. Lawrence.....its progress.....Battle of
Williamsburg.....Abandonment of the expedition.*

FROM the latter part of June to the first of October, the army
lay at Fort George, and the two rival fleets on Lake Ontario were
so nearly equal that neither felt itself able to assume the superiori-
ty. In the mean time, General Wilkinson arrived and took the
command of the army. After considerable discussion between the
secretary of war and the commanding general, it was decided
that the army should move down the St. Lawrence, form a junc-
tion with General Hampton, and attack Montreal.

The army left Fort George the fore part of October, and in a
few days after arrived at Grenadier Island, where it continued till
the 3d of November.

The following extract from Gen. Wilkinson's journal, gives a
history of the progress and termination of the expedition :

" October 25th.....Measures were taken to seize every
pause of the prevailing storms to slip the flotilla into the St.
Lawrence by small detachments. In these deceitful momentary
calms we found it impossible to traverse in safety the arm of the
lake to Gravelly Point, though distant only nine miles. In the
several attempts made, many boats were driven ashore, and much
provision and clothing lost. French Creek, nearly opposite the
point where the enemy expected we should land to attack Kings-
ton, was made the general rendezvous of the troops, and Briga-
dier General Brown ordered on to take the chief command. On
the 2d November Commodore Chauncey, by concert, entered the
St. Lawrence, fell down nearly to French Creek, and took a po-
sition to command the north and south channels. In the evening
of the 1st November our vigilant enemy having observed, even

amid the storms, our movement and position at French Creek, attacked the detachment at that place under General Brown, about sunset, with a squadron of two brigs and two schooners, with many boats loaded with infantry for landing, should their cannonade make a sufficient impression. Very soon Captain M'Pherson of the light artillery erected a battery of three 18 pounders, and returned their fire with such spirit and effect, that they fell down to a harbor below, beyond its range. Next morning the attack was renewed and repelled, and one of the brigs was with great difficulty towed off by the squadron, which put into Kingston Channel behind Grand Island. We lost two killed and four wounded. The enemy were supposed to have suffered severely, from the evident disabled state of their brig, and the deliberate and well directed fire of the gallant Captain M'Pherson.

"November 5th....The flotilla got under way, and without accident fell down and landed early in the night below Morrisville. The general suspecting he would be followed by the enemy, as in the morning his course had been discovered by three of their lookout gun boats and a gig, and knowing that two of their armed schooners could jeopardize his movement, gave orders for the flotilla to pass Prescott, then seven miles below him, in the course of the night. But some confusion occurred arising from the novelty of the movement, and the order was countermanded.

"November 6th....The general ordered the flotilla to descend to a point within three miles of Prescott; and the day being fine, got into his gig, and proceeded to reconnoitre the place. In the mean time the powder and fixed ammunition were debarked and placed in carts, to be transported by land, under cover of the night, beyond the enemy's batteries. As soon as the general returned, orders were issued for the debarkation of every man (except so many as were necessary to navigate the boats) who were directed to march under cover of the night, to save useless exposure to the enemy's cannon, to a bay two miles below Prescott; and arrangements were made at the same time for the passage of the flotilla by that place, the superintendency of which devolved on Brigadier General Brown, the general officer of the day. About 8 o'clock P. M. we had a heavy fog, and it was believed we could pass the British fortress unobserved. Orders were accordingly given for the army to march, and the flotilla to get under way. The general in his gig proceeded ahead, followed by his passage boat and family; but a sudden change of the atmosphere exposed his passage boat to the garrison of the enemy, and near 50 twenty four pound shot were fired at her without effect, while the column on land, discovered by the gleam of their arms, were assailed with shot and shells without injury. Gen. Brown, on hearing the firing, judiciously halted the flotilla until the moon had set, when it got in motion, but was perceived by the ene-

ny, who opened upon it, and continued their fire from front to rear for the space of three hours; and yet, out of more than three hundred boats, not one was touched, and only one man was killed, and two were wounded; and before 10 next morning the whole of the flotilla (except two vessels) reached the place of rendezvous. About noon this day Colonel King, adjutant general of the army of General Hampton, arrived and waited on the commander in chief, whom he informed that he had been to Sacket's Harbor with a despatch from General Hampton to the secretary of war; that he had no communication, written or verbal, from Major-General Hampton to him (the commander in chief,) but that not finding the secretary of war at Sacket's Harbor, he had thought proper, on his return, to call for any communication he (General Wilkinson) might have to make to General Hampton. The general had intended, in the course of this day, to send an express to General Hampton, with an order to him to form a junction of his division with the corps descending the St. Lawrence, and availed himself of the opportunity, presented by Col. King, to send the order.

"*November 7th.*....In passing Prescott, two of our largest vessels, loaded with provisions, artillery and ordnance stores, either through cowardice or treachery, had been run into the river near Ogdensburgh, and opposite Prescott. The enemy kept up so constant a cannonade on them, that we found it difficult, and lost half a day, to get them out. We perceived the militia in arms at Johnson, directly opposite us, and several pieces of field artillery in motion. Understanding that the coast below was lined with posts of musquetry and artillery at every narrow pass of the river, Colonel Macomb was detached about one o'clock with the elite corps of about 1200 men, to remove these obstructions, and the general got under way about half past three o'clock. Four or five miles below we entered the first rapids of the river, and soon after passing them, two pieces of light artillery, which had not been observed by Colonel Macomb, opened a sharp fire upon the general's passage boat, but without any further effect than cutting away some of the rigging. Lieutenant Colonel Eustis, with a part of our light gun barges, came within shot of the pieces of the enemy, and a cannonade ensued, without injury on either side. In the mean time Major Forsythe, who was in the rear of the elite of Colonel Macomb, landed his riflemen, advanced upon the enemy's guns, and had his fire drawn by a couple of videttes, posted in his route, on which their pieces were precipitately carried off. The general came to at dusk about six miles below the town of Hamilton, where he received a report from Col. Macomb, who had routed a party at a block-house about two miles below and captured an officer.

"November 8th....This morning the flotilla fell down to a contraction of the river at a point called the "White house," where the dragoons were assembled to be crossed. Brig. Gen. Brown was ordered this morning to reinforce Col. Macomb with his brigade, and to take the command; and the whole day and following night were devoted to transporting the dragoons. About noon this day we received advice that two armed schooners and a body of the enemy in batteaux, estimated at 1000 or 1500 men, had descended the river from Kingston and landed at Prescott; that they had immediately sent a flag across the river to Ogdensburgh, and demanded the delivery of all public property there under the penalty of burning the town. Not long after, information was received that the enemy had re-embarked at Prescott in their batteaux, and were following us with seven gun-boats.

"November 9th....This morning very early the enemy menaced our rear, and a slight skirmish took place between our riflemen and a party of their militia and Indians, in which we had one man killed and the enemy were driven back. The cavalry, with four pieces of light artillery, under the command of Captain M'Pherson, were attached to the command of Brigadier General Brown, and he was ordered to march to clear the coast below us as far as a point near the head of the long saut. The rapidity of the current obliged us to halt the flotilla several hours, to enable General Brown to make good his march in time to cover our movement. During this period the enemy frequently threatened our rear, but never indicated an intention to make a serious attack. About three o'clock P. M. the flotilla got under way and came to, about five o'clock, at the yellow house, having floated near eleven miles in two hours, where we encamped for the night.

"November 10th.....This morning the following order was issued :

"MORNING GENERAL ORDERS."

"Head-Quarters, Tuttle's Bay, Nov. 10, 1813.

"General Brown will prosecute his march with the troops yesterday under his command, excepting two pieces of artillery and the 2d dragoons, who with all the well men of the other brigades, except a sufficient number to navigate the boats, are to march under the orders of Brigadier General Boyd. This precaution is enjoined by regard to the safety of the men in passing the long saut; and as this rapid is long and dangerous, the general earnestly requests the commanding officers of regiments and corps to examine the boats and see them properly fitted, in order to avoid accidents as much as possible. Brigadier General Boyd will take the necessary precaution to prevent the enemy, who hangs on our rear, from making an advantageous attack, and if attacked, is to turn about and beat them. The boats are to resume the station

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assigned them in the original order respecting the flotilla, and for this the commanding officers of regiments and brigades will be held as responsible. The movement of yesterday was a reproach to the service. The flotilla will come to day at Barnharts, near Crab Island, and two guns from the front will be the signal for landing. In case of an attack in force beyond all expectation, the corps under Brigadier Generals Boyd and Brown are to co-operate with each other promptly and with decision. The general officer of the day will strictly attend and see that the flotilla puts off and moves in the prescribed order, and will arrest any officer who presumes to deviate therefrom."

"Brigadier General Brown marched, and about noon was engaged by a party of the enemy near a block house on the saut, erected to harrass our flotilla in its descent. About the same time the enemy were observed to be advancing on our rear, and their galley and gun boats hove in sight, approached our flotilla then at shore and began to cannonade it. The slender structure of our gun barges made it impossible for them to resist the long twenty-four pounder of the enemy's galley; this obliged the general to order two eighteen pounders to be run on shore and formed in battery, a single shot from which gave such an alarm to the enemy's vessels that they retired up the river accompanied by their troops. But these slight operations so wasted the day that our pilots were afraid to enter the saut (a continued rapid of eight miles) with the flotilla; we therefore fell down within two or three miles of the head of it and came to for the night. By this time the general had become so extremely ill as to be unable to get up, and was confined to his bed in a small birth under the quarter deck of his passage boat.

"November 11th.....Having heard the firing of the cannon yesterday between General Brown and the enemy, being still unapprised of the result, it became necessary that we should hear from him before we committed ourselves to the saut, which allows no retreat, no landing, no turning to the right or left but where the impetuosity of the current impels. About 10 or 11 o'clock, A. M. the commander in chief received advice from General Brown that he had forced the enemy to retire before him, and had arrived near the foot of the saut. Orders were immediately given for the flotilla to prepare to sail, and for General Boyd and his command to commence their march, when some firing took place from the gun boats, and a report was brought to the commander in chief that the enemy was advancing in column; on this he ordered General Boyd to attack them, and the flotilla was directed not to leave the shore. But the report was soon after contradicted. A variety of reports respecting their movements and counter-movements were, after this, successively brought to the general, which impressed him with the conviction that the enemy had determined to attack his rear as soon as the

flotilla should put off and the troops commence their march ; he resolved to anticipate them. He therefore sent Colonel Swift of the engineers, with instructions to Brigadier General Boyd, who had been directed by the order of the preceding day to take command of the detachment on shore, to form that detachment into three columns, to advance upon the enemy, to endeavor to out flank them, and to take their artillery. Soon after this the action commenced, and for the numbers engaged was extremely warm and bloody for upwards of two hours, during which time, in open space and fair combat, the raw undisciplined troops of the United States braved, and frequently drove the best troops of the British army. Descriptions of battles have become too subservient to the gratification of personal vanity and the acquisition of popular applause ; yet every man who has taken part in a great action must know that there is nothing more difficult than to do justice to the merits of a battle in all its parts, where it is hard to find two officers, unless fighting side by side, who agree in opinion as to the propriety of measures and the conduct of men. The fortunes of this day were various ; sometimes one line, sometimes the other giving way. Unfortunately, during the shiftings of the action, by the death of Lieutenant Smith, a young officer of the highest promise, the enemy got possession of a field piece, the only trophy they obtained. It is difficult to speak of the precise numbers engaged on either side, because the detachment under General Boyd consisted of an indefinite number of his own, Covington's and Swartwout's brigades, ordered from on board the boats to lighten them, and save the hazard of the men's lives in descending the saut. Neither Covington nor Swartwout were obliged to have taken part in the action, with this detachment ; yet they both entered the field, taking command of that part of it which belonged to their respective brigades, where they exhibited the same courageous conduct which distinguished General Boyd on the field ; and to the great loss of the service Brigadier General Covington received a mortal wound when encouraging and leading on his detachment. The numbers engaged on our side could not have exceeded sixteen or seventeen hundred men, while those of the enemy are reckoned, by spectators, at from one to two thousand ; but 'tis probable did not exceed 1,500, consisting, as we are informed, of detachments of the 49th, 84th, and 104th, the voltigeurs, and Glengarian regiment.

"With respect to the courage displayed by our officers, it would be useless to enter into details, since they all manifested in their respective stations equal intrepidity. The names of the meritorious dead and wounded will be recorded in another place. The firing ceased by common consent about 4 o'clock P. M. our troops were formed in battalia in front of the enemy, who were also in line, and they separated, the enemy to their camp, and we to our

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boats. The troops being much exhausted, it was considered most convenient that they should embark, and that the dragons with the artillery should proceed by land. The embarkation took place without the smallest molestation from the enemy, and the flotilla made a harbor near the head of the saut, on the opposite shore. The views of the American and British commanders were, on this occasion, precisely opposed. The first being bound by the instructions of his government, and the most solemn obligations of duty to precipitate his descent of the St. Lawrence by every practicable means, and the last by duties equally imperious to retard, and if possible to prevent such descent. If then he found himself victorious on this day, it was certainly in his power to have effected one or the other object; and as he made no attempt to effect either, it follows incontestibly that he had no fair ground on which to claim a victory.

"November 12th.....The flotilla sailed early this morning, and passed down the saut without discovering either the boats or troops of the enemy, and arrived, in the course of the forenoon, at Barnhart's, where the commanding general received a letter from Major General Hampton, by the hands of Colonel Atkinson, his inspector general, which blasted all his hopes and destroyed every prospect of the campaign. A council of war was called upon the receipt of this communication, which was submitted to their consideration, whereupon the council determined that the conduct of Major General Hampton, in refusing to join his division to the troops descending the St. Lawrence to carry an attack against Montreal, rendered it expedient to leave the left bank of the St. Lawrence, and to remove the troops to French Mills, on Salmon river; and on the 13th of November this recommendation was accordingly carried into effect; ample time having been given to the enemy to have tried a second action, if they had dared to run the hazard."

Battle of Williamsburg.... We subjoin the official account of the battle of the 11th November:

Head-quarters, French Mills, adjoining the Province of
Lower Canada, November 16, 1813.

SIR.....I beg leave to refer you to the journal* which accompanies this letter, for the particulars of the movement of the corps under my command down the St. Lawrence, and will endeavour to exert my enfeebled mind to detail to you the more striking and important incidents which have ensued my departure from Grenadier Island, at the foot of lake Ontario on the 3d instant.

The corps of the enemy from Kingston, which followed me, hung on my rear; and in concert with a heavy galley and a few

* See pages immediately preceding this.

gun-boats, seemed determined to retard my progress. I was strongly tempted to halt, turn about and put an end to his teasing; but, alas, I was confined to my bed. Maj. Gen. Lewis was too ill for any active exertion; and, above all, I did not dare suffer myself to be diverted a single moment from the prosecution of the views of government. I had written Maj. General Hampton on the 6th instant, by his adjutant general, Col. King, and had ordered him to form a junction with me on the St. Lawrence, which I expected would take place on the 9th or 10th. It would have been unpardonable had I lost sight of this object a moment, as I deemed it of vital importance to the issue of the campaign.

The enemy deserve credit for their zeal and intelligence, which the active universal hostility of the male inhabitants of the country enabled them to employ to the greatest advantage. Thus, while menaced by a respectable force in the rear, the coast was lined with musketry in front, at every critical pass in the river, which obliged me to march a detachment, and this impeded my progress.

On the evening of the 9th inst. the army halted a few miles from the head of the long saut. In the morning of the 10th, the inclosed order* was issued. General Brown marched agreeably to order, and about noon we were apprized, by the report of his artillery, that he was engaged some distance below us. At the same time the enemy were observed in our rear, and their galley and gun-boats approached our flotilla, and opened a fire upon us, which obliged me to order a battery of 18 pounders to be planted, and a shot from it compelled the vessels of the enemy to retire, together with their troops, after some firing between the advanced parties. But by this time, in consequence of disembarking and re-embarking the heavy guns, the day was so far spent that our pilots did not dare to enter the saut, (eight miles a continued rapid; and therefore we fell down about two miles and came to for the night. Early the next morning, every thing was in readiness for motion; but having received no intelligence from Gen. Brown, I was still delayed, as sound caution prescribed I should learn the result of this affair, before I committed the flotilla to the saut. At half past 10 o'clock A. M. an officer of dragoons arrived with a letter in which the general informed me he had forced the enemy, and would reach the foot of the saut early in the day. Orders were immediately given for the flotilla to sail, at which instant the enemy's gun boats appeared, and began to throw shot among us. Information was brought me at the same time, from Brigadier General Boyd, that the enemy's troops were advancing in column. I immediately sent orders to him to attack them. This report was soon contradicted: Their gun boats how-

* See page 112.

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ever continued to watch us, and a variety of reports of their movements and counter-movements were brought to me in succession, which convinced me of their determination to hazard an attack when it could be done to the greatest advantage, and therefore I determined to anticipate them. Directions were accordingly sent by that distinguished officer, Colonel Swift, of the engineers, to Brigadier General Boyd to throw the detachment of his command, assigned to him in the order of the preceding day, and composed of men from his own, Covington's and Swartwout's brigades, into three columns, to march upon the enemy, out-flank them if possible, and take their artillery. The action soon after commenced with the advanced body of the enemy, and became extremely sharp and galling; and with occasional pauses, was sustained with great vivacity in open space and fair combat, for upwards of two and a half hours, the adverse lines alternately yielding and advancing. It is impossible to say with accuracy what was our number on the field, because it consisted of indefinite detachments taken from the boats to render safer the passage of the saut. Brigadier General Covington and Swartwout voluntarily took part in the action at the head of the detachments from their respective brigades, and exhibited the same courage that was displayed by Brigadier General Boyd, who happened to be the senior officer on the ground. Our force engaged might have reached sixteen or seventeen hundred men, but certainly did not exceed eighteen hundred. That of the enemy was estimated at from twelve hundred to two thousand, but did not probably amount to more than fifteen or sixteen hundred, consisting, as I am informed, of detachments from the 49th, 84th and 104th regiments of the line, with three companies of the voltigeur and Glengary corps and the militia of the country, who are not included in the estimate.

It would be presumptuous in me to attempt to give you a detailed account of this affair, which certainly reflects high honour on the valour of the American soldier, as no example can be produced of undisciplined men, with inexperienced officers, braving a fire of two hours and a half, without quitting the field, or yielding to their antagonists. But, sir, the information I now give you is derived from officers of my confidence, who took active parts in the conflict; for, though I was enabled to order the attack, it was my hard fortune not to be able to lead the troops I commanded. The disease with which I was attacked on the 2d of September, on my journey to fort George, having, with a few short intervals of convalescence, preyed on me ever since; and at the moment of this action, I was confined to my bed, and emaciated almost to a skeleton, unable to set on my horse, or to move ten paces without assistance.

I must, however, be pardoned for trespassing on your time a few remarks in relation to the affair. The objects of the British and American commanders were precisely opposed; the last being bound by the instructions of his government, and the most solemn obligations of duty, to precipitate his descent of the St. Lawrence by every practicable means; because, this being effected, one of the greatest difficulties opposed to the American army would be surmounted. And the first, by duties equally imperious, to retard, and, if possible, prevent such descent: He is to be accounted victorious who effected his purpose. The British commander, having failed to gain either of his objects, can lay no claim to the honours of the day. The battle fluctuated, and triumph seemed at different times inclined to the contending corps. The front of the enemy was at first forced back more than a mile, and, though they never regained the ground thus lost, their stand was permanent and their charges resolute. Amidst these charges, and near the close of the contest, we lost a field-piece by the fall of the officer who was serving it with the same coolness as if he had been at a parade of review: This was Lieut. Smith, of the light artillery, who in point of merit stood at the head of his grade.

The enemy having halted, and our troops being again formed in battalia front to front, and the firing ceased on both sides, we resumed our position on the bank of the river, and the infantry being much fatigued, the whole were re-embarked, and proceeded down the river without further annoyance from the enemy or their gun-boats, while the dragoons, with five pieces of light artillery, marched down the Canada shore without molestation.

It is due to his rank, to his worth and services, that I should make particular mention of Brigadier General Covington, who received a mortal wound directly through the body, while animating his men and leading them to the charge. He fell where he fought, at the head of his men, and survived but two days.

The next morning the flotilla passed through the saut and joined that excellent officer, Brigadier General Brown, at Farnhart, near Cornwall, where he had been instructed to take post and wait my arrival, and where I confidently expected to hear of Major General Hampton's arrival on the opposite shore. But immediately after I halted, Col. Atkinson, the inspector general of the division, under Major General Hampton, waited on me with a letter from that officer, in which, to my unspeakable mortification and surprise, he declined the junction ordered, and informed me he was marching towards lake Champlain, by way of co operating in the proposed attack on Montreal.

This letter, together with a copy of that to which it is an answer, were immediately submitted to a council of war, composed of my general officers, and the colonel commanding the elite,

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the chief engineer, and the adjutant general, who unanimously gave it as their opinion, that "the attack on Montreal should be abandoned for the present season, and the army then near Cornwall should be immediately crossed to the American shore, taking up winter quarters, and that this place afforded an eligible position for such quarters."

I acquiesced in these opinions, not from the shortness of the stock of provisions (which had been reduced by the acts of God) because that of our meat had been increased five days, and our bread had been reduced only two days, and because we could, in case of extremity, have lived on the enemy; but because the loss of the division under Major General Hampton, weakened my force too sensibly to justify the attempt. In all my measures and movements of moment, I have taken the opinions of my general officers, which have been in accord with my own.

I remained on the Canada shore until the next day, without seeing or hearing from the "powerful force" of the enemy in our neighborhood, and the same day reached this position with the artillery and infantry. The dragoons have been ordered to Utica and its vicinity, and I expect are fifty or sixty miles on the march.

You have under cover a summary abstract of the killed and wounded in the affair of the 11th instant. The dead rest in honour, and the wounded bled for their country, and deserve its gratitude.

With perfect respect, I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient humble servant,

JA. WILKINSON.

Hon. John Armstrong, Secretary of War.

Return of the killed and wounded of a detachment of the U. S. army, in an action fought at Williamsburg, in Upper Canada, on the 11th Nov. 1813.

Killed.... 3 subalterns, 7 sergeants, 3 corporals, 1 musician, 88 privates....Total, 102.

Wounded.... 1 brigadier general, 1 assistant adjutant general, 1 aid de camp, 1 colonel, 1 major, 5 captains, 6 subalterns, 9 sergeants, 13 corporals, 1 musician, 198 privates....Total, 237.

Total killed and wounded, 339.

Names of the commissioned officers killed and wounded.

KILLED.

Lieutenant William W. Smith, of the light artillery.

David Hunter, of the 12th regiment infantry.

Edward Olmstead, of the 16th do.

WOUNDED.

Brigadier General Leonard Covington, mortally, (since dead.)
Major Talbot Chambers, assistant adjutant general, slightly.
Major Darby Noon, aid de-camp to Brigadier General Swartwout, slightly.

Colonel James P. Preston, of the 23d regiment infantry, severely, his right thigh fractured.

Major William Cummings, 8th ditto, severely.

Captain Edmund Foster, 9th ditto, slightly.

— David S. Townsend, 9th ditto, severely, (taken prisoner.)

— Mordecai Myers, 13th ditto, severely.

— John Campbell, 13th ditto, slightly.

— John B. Murdoch, 25th ditto, slightly.

Lieut. William S. Heaton, 11th ditto, severely.

— John Williams, 13th ditto, slightly.

— John Lynch, 14th ditto, severely, (taken prisoner.)

— Peter Pelham, 21st ditto, severely, (taken prisoner.)

— James D. Brown, 25th ditto, slightly.

— Archibald C. Crary, 25th ditto, severely, in the skirmish the day before the action.

Colonel Preston commanded the 13th regiment of infantry during the action; and Major Cummings did duty with the 16th regiment of infantry in the action.

CHAPTER XVIII.

*Northern army....Col. Clark's expedition....Battle of Chataugay
....Refusal of Gen. Hampton to join Gen. Wilkinson at St. Regis....Close of the campaign.*

THE northern army, for the campaign of 1813, consisted of about 4000 men, principally new recruits and volunteers, under the command of Gen. Hampton, assembled at Burlington, (Vt.) and in its vicinity. The whole summer was spent in enlisting and collecting the recruits and in disciplining them.

In the fore part of September they embarked at Burlington and took a position at Cumberland Head, near Plattsburgh, where they remained some days, collecting the necessary supplies for a march into Canada.

On the 19th September the army moved to Chazy and attacked the enemy's advanced posts at Odletown, with a view of pushing into Canada by that route; but this was found impracticable for want of supplies of water. The army accordingly fell back on Champlain and took the route by Chataugay, at which place they arrived and took a position on the 25th.

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Col. Clark's expedition.....Gen. Hampton, in order to cover his movements and intentions, and to distract the enemy's attention, despatched Col. Clark, an excellent partizan officer, to Missisquoi bay, with a detachment of riflemen, to attack a small British force at St. Armand. The following is a short though interesting account of the colonel's success, taken from his official letter, dated Oct. 15.

"It is with great pleasure I can inform you of a successful attack upon the enemy at Missisquoi bay on the morning of the 12th inst. (After detailing his approach to the enemy, which evinces an excellent knowledge of the country, the colonel states:) At this time I had only the riflemen with me, the artillery moving slow, and the militia protecting their rear. We proceeded to the village, (Missisquoi) and arrived within fifteen rods of the enemy before we were discovered. We found them drawn up under Major Powell, in a manner that would have annoyed us much had we attacked them by water, but wholly unprepared to defend themselves on the land side; they commenced a fire on the left flank, but in ten minutes after the first attack they laid down their arms and surrendered themselves prisoners of war.

"Understanding that a force of 200 men under Col. Lock was marching to attack us, I despatched Capt. Finch with his company to reconnoitre them and ascertain their course. He proceeded with such promptness and ability as to surprise and capture the advanced guard, consisting of cavalry, excepting one man, who escaped, and, giving information, the enemy retreated.

"The prisoners were then put on board our boats and sent to Burlington. Our whole force engaged was one hundred and two; the number of prisoners taken is one hundred and one, their killed nine and wounded fourteen."

Battle of Chataugay.....About this time the attack on Montreal was determined on, and the army of Gen. Hampton was ordered to co-operate in the expedition.

The army, however, continued in its position at Chataugay for near a month in daily expectation of orders to join General Wilkinson, whose movements down the St. Lawrence were more tardy than had been contemplated. From this circumstance, and probably from the severity of the season, the troops became in some measure dispirited, and seemed also not to have had the necessary confidence in their commander.

On the 21st of October, however, without any information or instructions from General Wilkinson, the army moved down the Chataugay river, for the purpose of placing itself in a situation to form a junction with him. But, from some mismanagement,

the army was met by the enemy, and driven back with considerable loss. We subjoin an extract from General Hampton's official account of this affair, to the secretary of war.

"H. Q. Four Corners, Nov. 1, 1813.

"On the morning of the 21st ultimo the army commenced its movement down the Chataugay, for the purpose of placing itself in a situation which would enable it to fulfil its parts of the proposed combined operations on the St. Lawrence.

"An extensive wood of 11 or 12 miles in front, blocked up with felled timber, and covered by the Indians and light troops of the enemy, was a serious impediment to the arduous task of opening a road for the artillery and stores. Brigadier General Izard with the light troops and one regiment of the line, was detached early in the morning to turn these impediments in flank, and to seize on the more open country below, while the army, preceded by a strong working party, advanced on a more circuitous but practicable route for a road. The measure completely succeeded, and the main body of the army reached the advanced position on the evening of the 22d. The 23d and 24th were employed in completing the road and getting up the artillery and stores.

"I had arranged, at my departure, under the direction of Major Parker, a line of communication as far up the St. Lawrence as Ogdensburgh, for the purpose of hastening to me the earliest notice of the progress of our army down. I had surmounted 24 miles of the most difficult part of the route, and had in advance of me seven miles of open country, but at the end of that distance commenced a wood of some miles in extent, which had been formed into an entire abatis and filled by a succession of wooden breastworks, the rearmost of which were supplied with ordnance. In front of these defences were placed the Indian force and light corps of the enemy, and in the rear all of his disposable force. As the extent of this force depended upon his sense of danger on the St. Lawrence, it was a cause of regret that all communication from yourself or Major Parker seemed to be at an end. As it was, however, believed that the enemy was hourly adding to his strength in this position, if free from the apprehension of danger from above, an effort was judged necessary to dislodge him, and if it succeeded we should be in possession of a position which we could hold as long as any doubts remained of what was passing above, and of the real part to be assigned us.

"Our guides assured us of a shoal and practicable fording place opposite the lower flank of the enemy's defences, and that the wood on the opposite side of the river, a distance of seven or eight miles, was practicable for the passage of the troops. Col. Purdy with the light corps, and a strong body of infantry of the line, was detached at an early hour of the night of the 25th, to

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gain this ford by the morning, and to commence his attack in rear, and that was to be the signal for the army to fall on in front, and it was believed the pass might be carried before the enemy's distant troops could be brought forward to its support.

"I had returned to my quarters from Purdy's column about 9 o'clock at night, when I found a Mr. Baldwin, of the quarter master general's department, who put into my hands an open paper containing instructions to him from the quarter master general, respecting the building of huts for the army in the Chataugay, below the line. This paper sunk my hopes, and raised serious doubts of receiving that efficacious support which had been anticipated. I would have recalled the column, but it was in motion, and the darkness of the night rendered it impracticable. I could only go forward. The army was put in motion on the morning of the 26th, leaving its baggage, &c. on the ground of encampment.

"On advancing near the enemy, it was found that the column on the opposite side was not as far advanced as had been anticipated. The guides had misled it, and finally failed in finding the ford. We could not communicate with it, but only awaited the attack below. About two o'clock the firing commenced, and our troops advanced rapidly to the attack. The enemy's light troops commenced a sharp fire, but Brigadier General Izard advanced with his brigade, drove him every where behind his defences and silenced the fire in his front. This brigade would have pushed forward as far as courage, skill and perseverance could have carried it; but on advancing, it was found that the firing had commenced on the opposite side, and the ford had not been gained.

"The enemy retired behind his defences, but a renewal of his attack was expected, and the troops remained some time in their position to meet it. The troops on the opposite side were excessively fatigued. The enterprise had failed in its main point, and Col. Purdy was ordered to withdraw his column to a shoal four or five miles above, and cross over. The day was spent, and Gen. Izard was ordered to withdraw his brigade to a position three miles in the rear, to which place the baggage had been ordered forward.

"The slowness and order with which Gen. Izard retired with his brigade, could but have inspired the enemy with respect.... They presumed not to venture a shot at him during his movement; but the unguardedness of some part of Purdy's command, exposed him to a rear attack from the Indians, which was repeated after dark, and exposed him to some loss. These attacks were always repelled, and must have cost the enemy as many lives as we lost. Our entire loss of killed, wounded and missing does not exceed 50. In its new position within three miles of the enemy's post, the army encamped on the night of the 26th,

and remained until 12 o'clock on the 28th. All the deserters, of whom there were four, having concurred in the information that Sir George Prevost, with three other general officers, had arrived with the whole of his disposable force, and lay in the rear of these defences, and a letter from Major Parker (by express received on the evening of the 26th) having informed me that no movements of our army down the St. Lawrence had been heard of at (Igdenburgh, and for some distance above; the following questions were submitted to the commanding officers of brigades, regiments and corps, and the heads of the general staff, in a council convened for the purpose: 'Is it advisable, under existing circumstances, to renew the attack on the enemy's position, and, if not, what position is it advisable for the army to take, until it can receive advices of the advance of the grand army down the St. Lawrence?' The opinion of the council was expressed in the following words:

"It is the unanimous opinion of this council, that it is necessary, for the preservation of this army, and the fulfilment of the ostensible views of the government, that we immediately return by orderly marches to such a position (Chataugay) as will secure our communications with the United States, either to retire into winter quarters, or to be ready to strike below."

"In pursuance of this opinion, the army has returned by slow marches to this place, and now awaits the orders of the government."

Refusal of Gen. Hampton to join Gen. Wilkinson..... On the 8th November Gen. Hampton received a letter from Gen. Wilkinson requesting him to join him at St. Regis. This Gen. Hampton declined on account of his own and Gen. Wilkinson's limited supplies of provisions, and retired to Plattsburgh with intentions of opening a communication with Gen. Wilkinson and forming a junction lower down the river, where he might push forward the necessary supplies. But Gen. Wilkinson considered this a refusal on the part of Gen. Hampton to co-operate, and accordingly abandoned the expedition.

We shall not attempt to enter into the merits of the controversy between these two generals, not having that minute and particular knowledge upon the subject which is necessary to form a correct judgment; we may, however, venture to conjecture, that the battles at Williamsburg and Chataugay had greatly abated the ardour of both generals, and that possibly this controversy was produced from that cause. Be this as it may, the expedition was really or pretendedly abandoned for this cause, and the army went into winter quarters at Plattsburgh.

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SKETCHES OF THE WAR.

VOLUME I.....NUMBER 5.

CHAPTER XIX.

*Fort George.....Burning of Newark.....Capture of fort Niaga-
ra.....Burning of Buffalo, &c.*

SUCH part of the army of the centre as was left by General Wilkinson at fort George, was placed under the command of Col. now General Scott, who continued in the command of that post until the 12th of October, when he left it with all the regular troops for Sacket's Harbour....the enemy having previously retired to Burlington heights.

General George M'Clure, with a body of New-York militia and volunteers, occupied fort George after the departure of Colonel Scott; but nothing occurred worthy of notice during their continuance at that post. But upon the term of service of the militia expiring, General M'Clure evacuated fort George after burning the flourishing village of Newark, under a pretence that it was necessary to the security of the frontier.

In the mean time, however, General Harrison arrived at fort George with the north western army, but continued there a few days only, when the regular army was ordered to Sacket's Harbour for the defence of the fleet there moored.

The British army were in full march for fort George when it was evacuated by General M'Clure, and immediately after arrived and took a position at Queenstown, where they prepared for a descent upon the Niagara frontier. They effected their landing at the Five-Mile Meadows, on the 19th of December, from whence Colonel Murray, with a detachment consisting of the 100th regiment, the grenadier companies of the Royals, and the flank companies of the 41st regiment, proceeded to fort Niagara, which they surprised and captured before day light, making a most dreadful, and it is believed unnecessary slaughter among the garrison. General M'Clure's official account of the capture of this fort seems to

have been most of it conjecture. We shall therefore collect such of the facts relating thereto, as seem to be well authenticated.

The garrison, on the day of its capture, consisted of about 350 men under the command of Capt. Leonard of the artillery. He had been ordered by General McClure on the 12th to have every arrangement made as if he expected an immediate attack. But for some reason not yet explained, Capt. Leonard left the garrison about 11 o'clock in the evening previous to its capture, for his family, resident about two miles from the fort. General McClure says, in an official letter to the secretary of war, that Capt. Leonard was intoxicated; and other accounts agree with the general in attributing the conduct of Capt. Leonard to treasonable motives; but we deem it improper to condemn until the accused has been heard, though we are free to say, that the captain's conduct needs explanation, and till then we are compelled to believe him most negligently or treasonably guilty in leaving the fort at such a time. The picket guards and the centuries at the glacis and at the gate were surprized and taken by the enemy, from whom they obtained the watch word, by means whereof they gained entrance into the fort.

The garrison was not alarmed when the enemy entered the fort, but some firing took place immediately after between the guard at the south east block house, and the sick at the red barracks, and the principal resistance was made at these points. But their resistance was vain: they were soon overpowered, and a royal salute announced to the surrounding country the capture of the fort. The British official report of the capture states the American loss in killed at 65, and wounded 15, all with the bayonet; but this is said upon good authority not to include many who were after the issuing of the order, found bayoneted in the cellars of the houses, so that the killed may be estimated at 80. On the part of the enemy, 5 killed and 3 wounded. A few of the garrison escaped by crossing the pickets, but the remainder were made prisoners.

The enemy having learned the success of the detachment under Colonel Murray, proceeded to burn, plunder and destroy the whole frontier from Niagara fort to the falls, which includes the villages of Youngstown, Lewistown, Manchester, and the Indian village of Tuscarora. The inoffensive and unarmed inhabitants who could not escape, were many of them most inhumanly butchered.

These measures and proceedings of the enemy were attempted to be justified by our previous example in the burning of Newark, and we should have been ready to conclude that their vengeance had been satiated, but events proved that nothing within their power was to escape. They accordingly re-crossed the river, leaving a garrison in fort Niagara, and proceeded up the river opposite Black

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Rock, where they immediately made dispositions for again crossing. In the mean time General Hall of the New York militia had arrived at Black Rock with about 1000 volunteers and 1000 militia of his own brigade. But the enemy effected their landing on the 30th and accomplished their diabolical purposes. The following letter from General Hall to Gov. Tompkins gives a lengthy and minute account of their proceedings:

"The confusion into which every thing was thrown by the events of the 30th December, and the imperious necessity of taking precautionary measures against the advances of the enemy, put it out of my power to furnish, at an earlier period, a detailed account of the operations on this frontier, during my hitherto unfortunate and embarrassing command; add to this, the extreme difficulty of collecting authentic facts, relative to our loss, since the forces under my command were of that multiform description, which they necessarily were, being composed almost wholly of volunteer militia and exempts, hastily and confusedly assembled in the moment of alarm, and dissipated by the events of a battle.

"The storming of fort Niagara and the burning of Lewistown, presaging further devastation, threw this whole country into the most violent agitation: on the moment, and without any previous preparation, I hastened to Batavia, with a view to take such measures as might be within my power, to repel the enemy and protect the frontier. I hastily collected from the militia and volunteers of Genessee county and the brigade of General Wadsworth, in Ontario, a considerable force, but generally deficient in arms and ammunition, and the necessary conveniences of a camp. In the evening of the 22d December, Gen. McClure, with the regulars under command of Major Riddle, arrived in Batavia, and on the morning of the 23d, signified by a letter, his desire that I would take the command, during this moment of general alarm. I accordingly proceeded to organize in the best manner in my power the forces then at Batavia, and with the arms and ammunition collected from different sections of the country, and what little could be procured from the arsenals at Canandaigua and Batavia, I was enabled to get under march on the 25th for Lewistown, a body of infantry about 150 strong, under Lieut. Col. Lawrence, supported by one company of cavalry under command of Capt. Marvin, with orders to proceed and join a corps of militia, said to be 200 strong, under command of Lieut. Col. Atchinson, which was stationed at Forsyth's, on the ridge road, fifteen miles east from Lewistown, to collect and save all the ammunition in his power, which had been removed from the arsenal at Lewistown, and was then dispersed on the road and different parts of the country, and with instructions to act as circumstances and the

nature of his force would permit against the enemy ; and if practicable to effect a junction with the main force at Buffalo, by the way of Manchester, Schlosser, and thence up the river to Black Rock ; leaving as a reserve the corps under Col. Atchinson, at their station near Lewistown. I then ordered the remainder of the troops to Buffalo, with the exception of the regular forces, over whom I assumed no command.

"On the morning of the 25th I proceeded to Buffalo, leaving Gen. McClure at Batavia with instructions to organize such detachments of volunteers as might arrive, and direct their march for Buffalo. I arrived in Buffalo on the morning of the 26th, and there found a considerable body of irregular troops of various descriptions, disorganized and confused....every thing wore the appearance of consternation and dismay. On the same day I issued an order to the several commandants of corps, for a return of the number of effective men under their command ; and an order to Capt. Camp, A. D. Q. M. general for the return of the ordnance and ordnance stores, in the quarter-master's department ; a copy of which I have heretofore had the honour to forward to your excellency, and which sufficiently exhibits the destitute condition of that department. On the 27th, I ordered a review of all the troops under my command at Buffalo and the Rock, when I found my numerical force to be as follows :

"At Buffalo under Lieut. Col. Boughton, of the cavalry and mounted volunteers, 129 ; Lieut. Col. Blacklee, of Ontario exempts and volunteers, 433 ; Lieut. Col. Chapin, of the Buffalo militia, 136 ; Lieut. Col. Mallory, of the Canadian volunteers, 97 ; Major Adams, of the Genessee militia, 332. At the Rock were stationed under the command of Brigadier General Hopkins, 382 effective men, composed of the corps commanded by Lieut. Col. Warren and Lieut. Col. Churchill, exclusive of a body of 37 mounted infantry under command of Capt. Ransom ; 83 Indians under command of Lieut. Col. Granger, and one piece of field artillery, a 6 pounder, and 25 men commanded by Lieut. Seely.... making my aggregate nominal force on the 27th, to be 1711 men : add to this a regiment of Chataque militia, under command of Lieut. Col. McMahan, which arrived at Buffalo on the 29th, about 300 men, which swells my force to 2011, which was reduced on the morning of the alarm, by desertions, to less than 1200 ; and so deficient were my supplies of ammunition, that a greater part of the cartridges for Col. McMahan's regiment were made and distributed after they were paraded on the morning of the battle.

"The movements of the enemy already indicated their intention of attacking the village of Buffalo or Black Rock, which left me not a moment's repose from the arduous duty of preparing the most effective means in my power for meeting the enemy with

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the crude force under my command. On the 28th, I was so fortunate as to procure such information as to the enemy's movements, from a citizen who made his escape from Canada, as to leave me no doubt as to their intention.

"In the evening of the 29th, at about 12 o'clock, I received information that our horse patrol had been fired on a short distance below Canjokaties Creek, and one mile below Black Rock. Lieut. Boughton, an enterprising and brave officer, who commanded the patrol, had his horse shot under him. The enemy advanced and took possession of the sailors' battery near Canjokaties creek. The troops were immediately paraded and stood by their arms. I was yet uncertain at what point the enemy would attack me: the darkness of the night was not favourable for making observations. I was apprehensive the enemy designed to make a feigned attack below Black Rock, for the purpose of drawing off my force from the village of Buffalo, preparatory to a landing above the village, intending thereby to take it by surprise....at the same time being anxious to anticipate the enemy's landing, and meet them at the water's edge, I gave orders that the troops at the Rock, commanded by Colonels Warren and Churchill, (Gen. Hopkins being at that time absent from camp) to attack the enemy and endeavour to dislodge them from the battery and drive them to their boats. The attempt failed through the confusion into which the militia were thrown, on the first fire of the enemy and the darkness of the night: they were dispersed and not again embodied under their proper officers through the day. I then ordered the corps under Major Adams and the corps under Col. Chapin to make the attack. This was attended with no better effect. The men were thrown into confusion by the enemy's fire, and after skirmishing a short time, fled, and were not again embodied through the day. I then ordered the corps under Col. Blakeslie to advance to the attack; and at the same time I put the remainder of my troops in motion for the same point and proceeded by the hill road to Black Rock. On approaching the village at Black Rock, I discovered a detachment of the enemy's boats crossing to our shore and bending their course towards the rear of Gen. Porter's house. The day was now beginning to dawn. I immediately countermanded the order given to Col. Blakeslie to attack the enemy's left, and directed him to form and attack the enemy's centre at the water's edge.

"I now became satisfied as to the disposition and object of the enemy, which I ascertained to be as follows:

"Their left wing composed of about 800 regular troops and incorporated militia, and 150 or 200 Indians, were disposed below Canjokaties creek, and had been landed under cover of the night. With this force the enemy designed to cover their left, out-flank

our right and cut off our retreat by the woods. With their centre, consisting of about 400 of the royal Scots commanded by Colonel Gordon, the battle was commenced. Their right, which was purposely weak, was landed near our main battery, under cover of a high bank, and was merely calculated to divert our force from the principal attack; the whole under the command of Lieut. General Drummond, conducted to the attack by Major General Riell. I thereupon ordered the enemy's left wing, which was discovered to be wheeling upon our right, to be attacked by the Indians under command of Lieutenant Colonel Granger and the Canadian volunteers under command of Colonel Mallory. At the same time I posted the regiment under command of Colonel M'Mahan at the battery, as a reserve, to act as emergencies should require. The attack was commenced by a fire from our 6 pounder under Lieutenant Seely, below General Porter's house, and one 24 and two twelve pounders at the battery under command of Lieutenant Farnum, of the 21st U. S. infantry, acting as a volunteer. At the same time the enemy opened a heavy fire from their batteries on the opposite side of the river, of shells, spherical and hot shot, and ball. The regiment under command of Colonel Blakeslie, about 400 strong, were regularly in a line, together with detached bodies from other corps, amounting, according to the best estimate I can make, in all about 600 men. These few but brave men, commenced the attack with musketry upon the enemy in their boats and poured upon them a most destructive fire. Every inch of ground was disputed with the steady coolness of veterans, and at the expense of many valuable lives. Their bravery, at the same time that it casts a lustre over their names, reflects equal disgrace on those who fled at the first appearance of danger, and whom neither intreaties nor threats could turn back to the support of their comrades. Perceiving that the Indians on whom I had relied for attacking the enemy's flank, were offering us no assistance, and that our right was endangered by the enemy's left, I gave directions for the reserve, under command of Colonel M'Mahan, to attack the enemy in flank on our right. But terror had dissipated this corps, and but few of them could be rallied by their officers and brought to the attack. Of this corps there were some who merit well of their country, but more who covered themselves with disgrace. The defection of the Indians and of my reserve, and the loss of the services of the cavalry and mounted men, by reason of the nature of the ground on which they must act, left the forces engaged, exposed to the enemy's fire in front and flank.

"After standing their ground for one half hour, opposed to veteran and highly disciplined troops, overwhelmed by numbers and nearly surrounded, a retreat became necessary to their safety, which was accordingly made. I then made every effort to rally

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the troops, with a view to renew the attack on the enemy's columns on their approach to the village of Buffalo. But every effort proved ineffectual....and experience proves, that with militia, a retreat becomes a flight, and a battle once ended, the army is dissipated. Deserted by my principal force, I fell back that night to the Eleven Mile Creek, and was forced to leave the flourishing villages of Black Rock and Buffalo a prey to the enemy, which they have pillaged and laid in ashes. At the Eleven Mile Creek I collected between two and three hundred men who remained faithful to their country. With those I preserved the best show of defence in my power, to cover the fleeing inhabitants and check the advances of the enemy. The enemy have gained but little plunder from the public stores. The chief loss has fallen upon the individual sufferers. Eight pieces of artillery fell into the hands of the enemy, of which but one was mounted on a travelling carriage. What little remained of the public stores, capable of being moved, is preserved through the exertions of Capt. Camp, of the quarter-master's department, whose bravery is only equalled by his active zeal for the public service. It is not in my power to give a particular account of our loss in killed and wounded, as the wounded were generally got off by their friends and taken to their homes, and our dead were mostly buried by the enemy. But from the best information I can collect, our loss is about 30 killed and perhaps 40 wounded. In prisoners our loss is ascertained to be 69....twelve of whom are wounded. The enemy's loss must be much greater, as many were killed in their boats before landing. Their loss may reasonably be presumed in killed and wounded, at not less than 200. Lieutenant Colonel Boughton, of the light dragoons, is among our slain. He was a good officer and a valuable citizen. I regret that it is not in my power to do justice to all those who were engaged on this day. The veteran Blakeslie and his corps were pre-eminently distinguished. There were of the broken remains of other corps many officers and soldiers whose bravery and conduct merits my warmest praise; but having fought irregularly and in detachments, I cannot designate to do them that justice they deserve. The good conduct of Lieutenant Seely and Lieutenant Farnum, who had charge of the artillery, was particularly noticed. The cavalry under Col. Boughton, and mounted volunteers under Major Warner, receive my thanks for their prompt obedience of orders, and the valuable services rendered in the fatiguing duties of patrolling: And, it is a matter of regret, that the nature of the ground on which we contended, deprived me of that support which I might confidently expect from their bravery. To Lieutenant Frasier, of the U. S. infantry, I tender my thanks for the voluntary services which he rendered me as one of my staff. To my two aids-de-camps, Majors Hosmer and Norton, I cannot withhold my warmest thanks

for their cool deliberate bravery, and the alacrity with which they executed my orders from the first movements of the troops in the morning to the close of the day."

The events which have been delineated in this chapter are of a nature to call forth the indignation of every American, nay, of every christian. It is in vain that the enemy endeavour to justify these barbarities as retaliatory measures for the burning of Newark. They are not defensible upon any such ground either in their extent or in the manner of their accomplishment.

We are not about to justify the burning of Newark....on the contrary, we feel as the whole of the American people felt and expressed themselves upon that occasion. We condemn the act as barbarous and savage. Yet we would, at the same time, compare it with the conduct of the enemy, and frankly state the result of the comparison. Newark was burnt by Gen. McClure about the time of the evacuation of fort George, after 24 hours' notice being given to the inhabitants* then there, that the town would be burned, and that they must remove with their effects elsewhere. The object in burning the town was to deprive the enemy of a cover for their troops on that river through the winter, and to protect the Niagara frontier, then in a defenceless situation, from the inroads of the enemy. However unjustifiable the measure upon these grounds, let us for a moment compare it with the ravages of the enemy; and first the deliberate butchery of the garrison at Niagara is not only substantiated by the oaths of persons present, but the enemy's official report of the capture contains irresistible evidence that no quarters were given. Who before ever heard of a battle where the list of the killed bore a four fold proportion to the wounded? And that the massacre was pursued after all resistance had ceased is also proved by the same report: how else can we account for the disproportion in the loss of the garrison and the enemy. There was no advantage in the position of the enemy to which such a result is attributable; on the other hand the walls of the barracks, we should have supposed, would have been a breastwork for the garrison.

Can this measure be justified as a measure of retaliation?... Where can the enemy point to a like measure in the American troops? It may, we think, be boldly asserted that it is not to be found.

What previous notice had the inhabitants of Lewistown, Youngstown, Manchester and Buffalo to secure themselves and their transportable effects from the general conflagration of that frontier? None. How can it be justified, then, as a retaliatory measure for the burning of Newark?

* The inhabitants of Newark had most of them abandoned the town upon the capture of fort George by the Americans.

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Again, many of the unarmed inhabitants were most barbarously murdered; and will this be justified as a retaliatory measure? Surely not. In vain will they seek for a previous example, unless it be found in the history of the British army.

We must here claim the indulgence of the reader, while we compare the retaliation which a distinguished officer of the American army deemed proper to take for that inhuman warfare which Gen. Proctor, with his Indian allies, had exercised at the river Raisin, at Frenchtown, at fort Meigs, and upon many other occasions. That officer, instead of leaving the prisoners and wounded of that very army who had either partook in the scenes above alluded to, or coldly witnessed them, and who fell into his hands upon the Thames, and whose fears upon that occasion show how little they were conscious to themselves of deserving quarters, to the fate they so justly merited, treated them with the greatest humanity and tenderness; and upon his arrival at Erie, communicated to a British officer, who was afterwards one who desolated the Niagara frontier, the ground he had taken, and solicited a return on the part of the British army to the known rules of civilized warfare.

Had the British army adopted the example given them by Gen. Harrison, how differently would they have appeared to the world, and even to themselves. Instead, however, of placing themselves on that proud eminence, they have confirmed all in the belief of their inhumanity and barbarity, and shown themselves worthy of the alliance they had formed with the savages.

CHAPTER XX.

*Greek war.....Preliminary observations.....Massacre at fort Mims.
Battle at Tallushatches.....Battle at Talledega.....Battle at
 Hillabee-towns.*

THE enemy pursuing the system of enlisting the savages in the war, as early as 1812, dispatched emissaries to several of the Indian tribes in the Mississippi territory, generally known by the names of Creeks, Choctaws and Chickesaws, to hurry them on to hostilities against the United States. These tribes are almost wholly surrounded by the populous states of Georgia and Tennessee and by the American settlements in the Mississippi territory. The most friendly relations had subsisted between these tribes and the U. States for many years; and the latter, by a most be-

nevolent and generous policy, had succeeded in introducing among them many of the improvements of civilized society.... But such is unfortunately the strong propensity of the Indian character for war, that many were by these emissaries induced to commit the most wanton acts of barbarity and murder upon their American neighbours and friends.

Yet the more experienced chiefs were so well aware of the evils such a war must produce upon the tribes, that they made use of their best endeavours to suppress and punish these hostile acts, and for a time succeeded. But many of the Creeks would not listen to the dictates of discretion or wisdom, and a most bloody civil war broke out among them, which ended in the entire destruction and dispersion of the American or peace party.... The Creeks now received of their allies the necessary arms and munitions of war, and commenced open and avowed hostilities against the United States, by one of the most horrid massacres recorded in the history of Indian warfare. The following account of it is extracted from a letter of Judge Toulmin, dated September 7th, 1813.

"The dreadful catastrophe which we have been some time anticipating has at length taken place. The Indians have broken in upon us, in numbers and fury unexampled. Our settlement is overrun, and our country, I fear, is on the eve of being depopulated. The accounts which we received led us to expect an attack about the full moon of August; and it was known at Pensacola, when the ammunition was given to the Indians who were to be the leaders of the respective parties destined to attack the different parts of our settlement. The attempt was made to deprive them of their ammunition (issued by the Spaniards on the recommendation of a British general) on their way from Pensacola (and in which it was said the Indians lost more than 20 men, although only one third of our people stood their ground) it is highly probable in some measure retarded their operations; and the steady succession of rain contributed to produce the same effect. Had their attempt been conducted with more judgment and supported with more vigor, there would have been an end, for a time of Indian warfare. In consequence of the delay, our citizens began to grow careless and confident; and several families who had removed from Tensaw to fort Stoddert, returned again and fell a sacrifice to the merciless savages.

"Our whole plan of defence was erroneous. It was adopted by the citizens under an imperfect view of their danger. From the best accounts which I can obtain, I suppose that there must have been twenty forts erected on the two sides of the river between Fort Stoddert and the upper settlements, a distance of about 70 miles, which in a country so thinly settled as ours, could not

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be maintained, even if they had been better constructed. About the 20th of August, intelligence was communicated to us by the Choctaw Indians, that in eight or ten days an attack would be made by distinct bodies of Creeks on Mim's Fort, in the Tensaw settlement, which is on the east side of Alabama, nearly opposite to Fort Stoddert....on the forks of Tombigby and Alabama....on Easley's fort, near the Choctaw line on the Tombigby, and finally on the Fort and United States' trading house at H. Hopkins. A very valuable officer, Major Beasley of the Mississippi Territory volunteers, commanded at Fort Mims. About a mile or two from it was another fort, at Pierce's mills; and a few miles below that place, at another mill a small party of soldiers was also stationed. Mims, however, where were the greatest number of families and property collected, seems to have been the sole object of attack in that quarter.

"A few days before the attack, some negroes of Mr. M'Girt's, who lived in that part of the Creek territory which is inhabited by halfbreeds, had been sent up the Alabama to his plantation for corn; three of them were taken by a party of Indians. One escaped and brought down news of the approach of the Indians. The officer gave but little credit to him; but they made some further preparation to receive the enemy. On the next day Mr. James Cornels, a half-breed, and some white men, who had been out on the late battle ground, and discovered the trail of a considerable body of Indians going towards Mr. M'Girt's, came to the fort and informed the commanding officer of the discovery. Though their report did not appear to receive full credit, it occasioned great exertions; and Saturday and Sunday, considerable work was done to put the fort in a state of defence. Sunday morning three negroes were sent out to attend the cattle, who soon returned with an account that they had seen 20 Indians. Scouts were sent out to ascertain the truth of the report. They returned and declared that they could see no signs of Indians. One of the negroes belonging to Mr. Randon was whipped for bringing what they deemed a false report....He was sent out again on Monday, and saw a body of Indians approaching; but afraid of being whipped he did not return to Mim's, but to Pierce's fort; but before his story could be communicated, the attack was made. The commanding officer called upon Mr. Fletcher, who owned another of the negroes, to whip him also....He believed the boy and resisted two or three applications; but at length they had him actually brought out for the purpose, when the Indians appeared in view of the fort. The gate was open. The Indians had to come through an open field 150 yards wide, before they could reach the fort, and yet they were within thirty steps of the fort, at 11 in the morning, before they were noticed. The sentry then gave the cry of 'Indians!' and they immediately set up a most terrible

war-whoop and rushed into the gate with inconceivable rapidity, and got within it before the people of the fort had any opportunity of shutting it. This decided their fate. Major Beasely was shot through the belly near the gate. He called to the men to take care of the ammunition and to retreat to the house. He went himself to a kitchen where it is supposed he must have been burnt.

"The fort was originally square. Major Beasely had it enlarged, by extending the lines of two sides about 50 feet, and putting up a new side into which the gate was removed. The old line of pickets stood: and the Indians upon rushing into the gate, obtained possession of this additional part, and through the port holes of the old line of pickets fired on the people who held the interior. On the opposite side of the fort, an offset or bastion was made round the back gate, which being open on the outside was also taken possession of by the Indians, who with the axes that lay scattered about immediately began to cut down the gate. There was a large body of Indians, though they probably did not exceed 400. Our people seemed to sustain the attack with undaunted spirit. They took possession of the port holes in the other lines of the fort, and fired on the Indians who remained in the field. Some of the Indians got on the block house, at one of the corners: but after firing a good deal down upon the people they were dislodged. They succeeded however in setting fire to a house near the pickets from which it was communicated to the kitchen and from thence to the main dwelling house. They attempted to do it by burning arrows, but failed. When the people in the fort saw the Indians retained full possession of the outer court, that the gate continued open, that their men fell very fast, and that their houses were in flames, they began to despond. Some determined to cut their way through the pickets and escape. Of the whole number of white men and half-breeds in the fort, it is supposed that not more than 25 or 30 escaped, and of these many were wounded. The rest and almost all the women and children fell a sacrifice either to the arms of the Indians or to the flames. The battle terminated about an hour or an hour and a half before sunset.

"The information thus far, was given to me by a person of character and credibility, who was present during the whole scene, and who escaped through the opening made in the pickets. The women and children took refuge in an upper story of the dwelling house: and it is said that the Indians when the buildings were in flames, danced round them with savage delight. The helpless victims perished in the flames. It is also reported, that when the buildings were burning and the few who remained were exposed to the heavy fire of the enemy, they collected as many as they could of the guns of the deceased, and threw both

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them and the remaining stock of ammunition into the flames, to prevent their becoming subservient in the hands of the Indians, to the destruction of their fellow citizens. Surely this was an instance of determined resolution and benevolent foresight of which there are not many examples.

"But notwithstanding the bravery of our fellow citizens, the Indians carried all before them, and murdered the armed and the helpless without discrimination. Our loss is 7 commissioned officers and about 100 non commissioned officers and privates, of the first regiment of Mississippi Territory volunteers. There were about 24 families of men, women and children in the fort, of whom almost all have perished, amounting to about 160 souls. I reckon, however, among them about six families of half breeds, and seven Indians. There were also about 100 negroes, of whom a large proportion were killed. The half-breeds have uniformly done themselves honor, and those who survive will afford great assistance in the prosecution of the war. Some of the most respectable among them were at Pierce's fort, and are ready with all their dexterity and all their courage, to avenge the death of their friends, and the destruction of their property. It was principally through them that we learnt that the real object of the Indians, in obtaining ammunition at Pensacola, was to make immediate war on the white people, and that the idea entertained in the eastern part of the Creek Nation, that this was only a secondary and remote object, was not founded in fact, and was probably suggested for the purpose of putting us off our guard, and keeping out of sight the real intention of their revolt against the constituted authorities of their nation."

Other accounts state the Indian force employed upon this occasion at 700 warriors, and the whole number of souls in the garrison at 308, of whom only 18 escaped, and that all the adjacent country was burned and plundered.

The hostility of the Creeks had been anticipated by the United States and the governments of Georgia and Tennessee, and measures were taken to have forces prepared for any event. As early as July, a brigade of Georgia militia were detached and put in readiness for the expected attack, under the command of Brig. Gen. Floyd; but from some defect or omission in the commissary department, this force was unable to act efficiently until the latter part of the season. The militia and volunteers from Tennessee, under Gen. Jackson, were ready immediately to take vengeance for the massacre at fort Mims.

We have no authentic account of the amount of the force under Gen. Jackson, but it may be estimated at between three and four thousand men. They were assembled at the ten islands in the river Coosey in the latter part of September.

Battle at Tallushatches.....On the 2d of November, General Jackson learned that a considerable force of hostile Creeks were concentrated at Tallushatches. He immediately detached Gen. John Coffee with a part of his brigade to attack and destroy the place, which was most completely effected on the 3d.

The following account of the expedition is from Gen. Coffee's official report to Gen. Jackson :

" Pursuant to your order of the 2d, I detailed from my brigade of cavalry and mounted riflemen, 900 men and officers, and proceeded directly to the Tallushatches towns, crossed Coosey river at the Fish-Dam ford, three or four miles above this place. I arrived within one and a half miles of the town on the morning of the 3d, at which place I divided my detachment into two columns, the right composed of the cavalry commanded by Col. Allcorn, to cross over a large creek that lay between us and the towns, the left column was of the mounted riflemen under the command of Col. Cannon, with whom I marched myself. Col. Allcorn was ordered to march up on the right and encircle one half of the town, and at the same time the left would form a half circle on the left, and unite the head of the columns in front of the town ; all of which was performed as I could wish. When I arrived in half a mile of the town, the drums of the enemy began to beat, mingled with their savage yells, preparing for action. It was after sun-rise an hour, when the action was brought on by Capt. Hammond's and Lieut. Patterson's companies, who who had gone on within the circle of alignment for the purpose of drawing out the enemy from their buildings, which had the most happy effects. As soon as Capt. Hammond exhibited his front in view of the town (which stood in open woodland) and gave a few scattering shot, the enemy formed and made a violent charge on him ; he gave way as they advanced, until they met our right column, which gave them a general fire and then charged ; this changed the direction of the charge completely.... The enemy retreated, firing, until they got around and in their buildings, where they made all the resistance that an overpowered soldiery could do ; they fought as long as one existed, but their destruction was very soon completed ; our men rushed up to the doors of the houses, and in a few minutes killed the last warrior of them. The enemy fought with savage fury, and met death with all its horrors, without shrinking or complaining, not one asked to be spared, but fought so long as they could stand or sit. In consequence of their flying to their houses and mixing with the families, our men, in killing the males, without intention killed and wounded a few of the squaws and children, which was regretted by every officer and soldier of the detachment, but which could not be avoided.

"The number of the enemy killed was one hundred and eighty six that were counted, and a number of others that were killed in the weeds and not found. I think the calculation a reasonable one, to say two hundred of them were killed, and eighty-four prisoners of women and children were taken. Not one of the warriors escaped to carry the news, a circumstance unknown heretofore.

"I lost five men killed and forty-one wounded, none mortally, the greater part slightly, a number with arrows; two of the men killed was with arrows; this appears to form a very principal part of the enemy's arms for warfare; every man having a bow with a bundle of arrows, which is used after the first fire with the gun, until a leisure time for loading offers.

"It is with pleasure I say that our men acted with deliberation and firmness; notwithstanding our numbers were far superior to that of the enemy, it was a circumstance to us unknown, and from the parade of the enemy we had every reason to suppose them our equals in number, but there appeared no visible traces of alarm in any; but, on the contrary, all appeared cool and determined, and no doubt when they face a foe of their own or of a superior number, they will show the same courage as on this occasion."

Battle at Talledega....On the 7th November General Jackson learned that a friendly part of the Creeks, at the fort at Talledega (about thirty miles distant) were threatened with an attack from a large force of hostile Creeks; he accordingly marched to their relief in the evening, and arrived within six miles of the fort the next day, where he encamped for the night, and the next morning at 4 o'clock resumed his march to attack the enemy, who were encamped within a quarter of a mile from the fort, and succeeded in dispersing them with great slaughter.

The following is an extract from the general's official letter, giving the particulars of the battle:

"At sun-rise we came within half a mile of them, and having formed my men, I moved on in battle order. The infantry were in three lines....the militia on the left and the volunteers on the right. The cavalry formed the extreme wings; and were ordered to advance in a curve, keeping their rear connected with the advance of their infantry lines, and enclose the enemy in a circle. The advanced guard whom I sent forward to bring on the engagement, met the attack of the enemy with great intrepidity; and having poured upon them four or five very gallant rounds, fell back as they had been previously ordered, to the main army. The enemy pursued, and the front line was now ordered to advance and meet him; but owing to some misunderstanding, a few companies of militia, who composed a part of it, commen-

ced a retreat. At this moment a corps of cavalry commanded by Lieut. Col. Dyer, which I had kept as a reserve, was ordered to dismount and fill up the vacancy occasioned by the retreat.... This order was executed with a great deal of promptitude and effect.

"The militia, seeing this, speedily rallied, and the fire became general along the first line, and on that part of the wings which was contiguous. The enemy, unable to stand it, began to retreat, but were met at every turn and pursued in every direction. The right wing chased them with a most destructive fire to the mountains, a distance of about three miles; and had I not been compelled by the *faux pas* of the militia in the onset of the battle, to dismount my reserve, I believe not a man of them would have escaped. The victory however was very decisive....290 of the enemy were left dead; and there can be no doubt but many more were killed who were not found. Wherever they ran, they left behind traces of blood; and it is believed that very few will return to their villages in as sound a condition as they left them. I was compelled to return to this place to protect the sick and wounded, and get my baggage. In the engagement we lost 15 killed and 15 wounded, two of whom have since died. All the officers acted with the utmost bravery, and so did all the private, except that part of the militia who retreated at the commencement of the battle; and they hastened to atone for their error.... Taking the whole together, they have realized the high expectations I had formed of them, and have fairly entitled themselves to the gratitude of their country."

*Battle at Hillabee-towns....*Another detachment of Tennessee militia was assembled at fort Armstrong under Maj. Gen. John Cocke early in November. On the 11th, Gen. White was detached and sent against the Hillabee towns, with a view of punishing the hostile Creeks in that quarter.

The following is Gen. White's official letter to Gen. Cocke, giving a detailed account of the expedition:

"Under your order of the 11th November, I immediately marched with the mounted infantry under the immediate command of Col. Burch, the cavalry under the command of Major Porter, and a few of the Cherokee Indians under the command of Col. Morgan, with very short rations for four days only. We continued our march to Little Oakfuskie, when we fell in with and captured five hostile Creek warriors, supposed to be spies.... Finding no other Indians at that place, we burned the town, which consisted of 30 houses. We then proceeded to a town called Genalga, and burned the same, consisting of 93 houses; thence we proceeded to Nitty Chaptos, consisting of about 25

houses, which I considered it most prudent not to destroy, as it might possibly be of use at some future period. From thence we marched to the Hillabee town, consisting of about 20 houses, adjoining which was Grayson's farm. Previous to our arrival at that place, I was advised that a part of the hostile Creeks were assembled there. Having marched within six or seven miles of it on the 17th, I dismounted a part of the force under my command, and sent them under the command of Col. Burch, with the Cherokees under the command of Col. Morgan, in advance, to surround the town in the night, and make the attack at daylight on the 18th. Owing to the darkness of the night, the town was not reached until after daylight; but so complete was the surprise, that we succeeded in surrounding the town, and killing and capturing almost (if not entirely) the whole of the hostile Creeks assembled there, consisting of about 310, of which number about sixty warriors were killed on the spot, and the remainder made prisoners. Before the close of the engagement, my whole force was up and ready for action, had it become necessary; but owing to the want of knowledge, on the part of the Indians, of our approach, they were entirely killed and taken before they could prepare for any effectual defence. We lost not one drop of blood in accomplishing this enterprize. We destroyed this village, and in obedience to your orders, commenced our march for this post, which we were unable to reach until yesterday. I estimate the distance from this to Grayson's farm, at about 100 miles. The ground over which we travelled, is so rough and hilly as to render a passage very difficult. Many defiles it was impossible to pass in safety, without the greatest precaution. For a part of the time, the weather was so very wet, being encumbered with prisoners, and the troops and their horses having to subsist in a very great degree upon such supplies as we could procure in the nation, rendered our march more tardy than it otherwise would have been.

"The troops under my command have visited the heart of that section of the Creek nation where the red sticks were first distributed.

"In justice to this gallant band, I am proud to state, that the whole of the officers and men under the command of Col. Burch performed their duty cheerfully and without complaint; that from the cool, orderly and prompt manner in which Major Porter and the cavalry under his command, formed and conducted themselves in every case of alarm, I had the highest confidence in them. Col. Morgan and the Cherokees under his command, gave undeniable evidence that they merit the employ of their government. In short, the whole detachment under my command, conducted in such a manner as to enable me to assure you that

they are capable of performing any thing to which the same number of men are equal.

"It gives me pleasure to add, that Mr. M'Corry, who acted as my aid in this expedition, rendered services that to me were indispensable, to his country very useful, and to himself highly honourable."

CHAPTER XXI.

*Creek war continued.....Battle at Autosse.....Attack upon camp
Defiance.....Expedition to the bend of the Tallapoosa.*

IN the latter part of November, the Georgia militia under Gen. Floyd, had surmounted the difficulties attending their first efforts, and on the 29th succeeded in defeating a large body of hostile Creeks at Autosse. The following is Gen. Floyd's official letter to Gen. Pinckney, detailing the particulars of the battle.

"Having received information that numbers of the hostile Indians were assembled at Autosse, a town on the southern bank of the Tallapoosa, about eighteen miles from the hickory ground, and twenty above the junction of that river with the Coosa, I proceeded to it with 950 of the Georgia militia, accompanied by between 3 and 400 friendly Indians. Having encamped within 9 or 10 miles of the point of destination the preceding evening, we resumed the march a few minutes before one, on the morning of the 29th, and at half past 6 were formed for action in front of the town.

"Booth's battalion composed the right column, and marched from its centre. Watson's battalion composed the left, and marched from its right; Adams' rifle company, and Merriwether's, under Lieut. Hendon, were on the flanks; Capt. Thomas' artillery marched in front of the right column in the road.

"It was my intention to have completely surrounded the enemy, by *appuying* the right wing of my force on Canlebee creek, at the mouth of which I was informed the town stood, and resting the left on the river bank below the town; but to our surprise, as day dawned we perceived a second town, about 500 yards below that which we had first viewed, and were preparing to attack. The plan was immediately changed; three companies of infantry on the left, were wheeled to the left, into *echelon*, and were advanced to the low town, accompanied by Merriwe-

her's rifle company, and two troops of light dragoons under the command of Captains Irwin and Steele.

"The residue of the force approached the upper town, and the battle soon became general. The Indians presented themselves at every point, and fought with the desperate bravery of real fanatics. The well directed fire, however, of the artillery, added to the charge of the bayonet, soon forced them to take refuge in the out-houses, thickets and copses in the rear of the town; many, it is believed, concealed themselves in caves, previously formed for the purpose of secure retreat, in the high bluff of the river which was thickly covered with reed and brushwood. The Indians of the friendly party, who accompanied us on the expedition, were divided into four companies, and placed under the command of leaders of their own selection. They were, by engagement entered into the day previous, to have crossed the river above the town, and been posted on the opposite shore during the action, for the purpose of firing upon such of the enemy as might attempt to escape, or keep in check any reinforcements which might probably be thrown in from the neighbouring towns, but owing to the difficulty of the ford, and coldness of the weather, and the lateness of the hour, this arrangement failed, and their leaders were directed to cross Canlebee creek and occupy that flank, to prevent escapes from the Tallisee town. Some time after the action commenced, our red friends thronged in disorder in the rear of our lines. The Cowetaws, under M^lIntosh, and the Tookabatchians, under Mad-Dog's-Son, fell in our flanks, and fought with an intrepidity worthy of any troops.

"At nine o'clock the enemy was completely driven from the plain, and the houses of both towns wrapped in flames. As we were then 60 miles from any depot of provisions, and our 5 days' rations pretty much reduced, in the heart of the enemy's country, which in a few moments could have poured from its numerous towns hosts of the fiercest warriors; as soon as the dead and wounded were disposed of, I ordered the place to be abandoned and the troops to commence their march to Chatahouche.

"It is difficult to determine the strength of the enemy, but from the information of some of the chiefs, which it is said can be relied on, there were assembled at Autosse, warriors from eight towns for its defence, it being their beloved ground, on which they proclaimed no white man could approach without inevitable destruction. It is difficult to give a precise account of the loss of the enemy; but from the number which were lying scattered over the field, together with those destroyed in the towns, and the many slain on the banks of the river, which respectable officers affirm they saw lying in heaps at the water's edge, where they had been precipitated by their surviving friends, their loss in killed, independent of their wounded, must have been at least

200, (among whom are the Autosse and Tallisee kings) and from the circumstance of their making no efforts to molest our return, probably greater. The number of buildings burnt, some of a superior order for the dwelling of savages, and filled with valuable articles, is supposed to be 400.

"Adjutant General Newman rendered important services during the action, by his cool and deliberate courage. My aid, Maj. Crawford, discharged with promptitude the duties of a brave and meritorious officer. Maj. Pace, who acted as field aid, also distinguished himself; both these gentlemen had their horses shot under them, and the latter lost his. Dr. Williamson, hospital surgeon, and Dr. Clopton, were prompt and attentive in discharge of their duty towards the wounded during the action.

"Maj. Freeman, at the head of Irwin's troop of cavalry and part of Steele's, made a furious and successful charge upon a body of Indians, sabred several, and completely defeated them. Capt. Thomas and his company, Capt. Adams, and Lieut. Hendon's rifle companies killed a great many Indians, and deserve particular praise. Capt. Barton's company were in the hottest of the battle, and fought like soldiers. Captains Myrick, Little, King, Broadnax, Cleveland, Cunningham and Lee, with their companies, distinguished themselves. Brigade Major Sharklesford was of great service in bringing the troops into action, and Adjutant Broadnax and Major Montgomery, who acted as assistant adjutant, showed great activity and courage. Major Booth used his best endeavours in bringing his battalion to action, and Major Watson's battalion acted with considerable spirit. Irwin's, Patterson's, and Steele's troops of cavalry, whenever an opportunity presented, charged with success. Lieut. Strong had his horse shot and narrowly escaped, and quarter-master Tennal displayed the greatest heroism and miraculously escaped, though badly wounded, after having his horse shot from under him. The topographical engineer was vigilant in his endeavours to render service.

"The troops deserve the highest praise for their fortitude in enduring hunger, cold and fatigue without a murmur, having marched 120 miles in seven days.

"The friendly Indians lost several killed and wounded, the number not exactly known."

Attack upon camp Defiance..... On the 27th January, General Floyd was attacked by a large body of hostile Creeks in his encampment 48 miles west of Colahoochie; but succeeded in repelling them after a very bloody conflict; the detail of which will be found in the following letter of the general to Major General Pinckney, dated on the day of the engagement:

"This morning at 20 minutes past 5 o'clock, a very large body of hostile Indians made a desperate attack upon the army under my command. They stole upon our centinels, fired on them, and with great impetuosity rushed upon our line. In twenty minutes the action became general, and our front, right and left flanks were closely pressed, but the brave and gallant conduct of the field and line officers, and the firmness of the men, repelled them at every point.

"The steady firmness and incessant fire of Capt. Thomas' artillery, and Capt. Adams' riflemen, preserved our front lines; both of these companies suffered greatly. The enemy rushed within 30 yards of the artillery, and Capt. Broadnax, who commanded one of the piquet guards, maintained his post with great bravery, until the enemy gained his rear, and then cut his way through them to the army. On this occasion, Timpooche Barnard, a half breed, at the head of the Uchies, distinguished himself, and contributed to the retreat of the piquet guard: the other friendly Indians took refuge within our lines, and remained inactive, with the exception of a few who joined our ranks. As soon as it became light enough to distinguish objects, I ordered Majors Watson's and Freeman's battalions to wheel up at right angles with Majors Booth's and Cleveland's battalions, (who formed the right wing,) to prepare for the charge. Capt. Duke Hamilton's cavalry (who had reached me but the day before) was ordered to form in the rear of the right wing, to act as circumstances should dictate. The order for the charge was promptly obeyed, and the enemy fled in every direction before the bayonet. The signal was given for the charge of the cavalry, who pursued and sabred fifteen of the enemy, who left 37 dead on the field. From the effusion of blood, and the number of head dresses and war clubs found in various directions, their loss must have been considerable, independent of their wounded.

"I directed the friendly Indians, with Merriwether's and Ford's rifle companies, accompanied by Capt. Hamilton's troop, to pursue them through Canlebee swamp, where they were trailed by their blood, but they succeeded in overtaking but one of the wounded.

"Col. Newman received three balls in the commencement of the action, which deprived me of the services of that gallant and useful officer. The Assistant Adjutant General Hardin was indefatigable in the discharge of his duty, and rendered important services; his horse was wounded under him. The whole of the staff were prompt, and discharged their duty with courage and fidelity. Their vigilance, the intrepidity of the officers, and the firmness of the men, meet my approbation, and deserve the praise of their country.

"I have to regret the death of many of my brave fellows, who have found honourable graves, in the voluntary support of their country.

"My aid-de-camp, in executing my orders, had his horse killed under him; Gen. Lee and Maj. Pace, who acted as additional aids, rendered me essential services, with honour to themselves, and usefulness to the cause in which they have embarked. Four waggon horses, and several others, were killed, and two of the artillery horses wounded. While I deplore the loss sustained on this occasion, I have the consolation to know, that the men whom I have the honour to command have done their duty."

Expedition to the bend of the Tallapoosa..... Gen. Jackson had been prevented from carrying on offensive measures for a considerable time, in consequence of the term of service of the militia and volunteers having expired; but on the 14th of January he was reinforced by about 800 volunteers, when he immediately commenced his march in search of the enemy upon the Tallapoosa river, with a view of making a diversion in Gen. Floyd's favour.

The objects and particulars are fully disclosed in the following letter from Gen. Jackson to Maj. Gen. Pinckney, who was the commander in chief of the forces engaged against the Creeks.

"Head Quarters, Fort Strother, Jan. 29.

"SIR—I had the honor of informing you in a letter of the 31st ult. forwarded by Mr. McCandles [express] of an excursion I contemplated making still further into the enemy's country, with the new raised volunteers from Tennessee. I had ordered those troops to form a junction with me on the 10th inst. but they did not arrive until the 14th. Their number, including officers, was about 800; and on the 15th I marched them across the river to graze their horses. On the next day I followed with the remainder of my force, consisting of the artillery company, with one 6 pounder, one company of infantry of 48 men, two companies of spies, commanded by Captains Gordon and Russel, of about 30 men each, and a company of volunteer officers, headed by General Coffee, who had been abandoned by his men, and who still remained in the field awaiting the order of the government; making my force exclusive of Indians, 930.

"The motives which influenced me to penetrate still further into the enemy's country, with this force, were many and urgent. The term of service of the new raised volunteers was short, and a considerable part of it was expired; they were expensive to the government, and were full of ardor to meet the enemy. The ill effects of keeping soldiers of this description long stationary and idle, I had been made to feel but too sensibly already....other causes

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concurred to make such a movement not only justifiable but absolutely necessary. I had received a letter from Captain M'Alpin of the 5th instant, who commanded at Fort Armstrong in the absence of Colonel Snodgrass, informing me that 14 or 15 towns of the enemy, situated on the Tallapoosa, were about uniting their forces and attacking that place, which had been left in a very feeble state of defence. You had in your letter of the 24th ult. informed me that General Floyd was about to make a movement to the Tallapoosa near its junction with the Coossee; and in the same letter had recommended temporary excursions against such of the enemy's towns or settlements as might be within striking distance, as well to prevent my men from becoming discontented as to harass the enemy. Your ideas corresponded exactly with my own, and I was happy in the opportunity of keeping my men engaged, distressing the enemy, and at the same time making a diversion to facilitate the operations of General Floyd.

"Determined by these and other considerations, I took up the line of march on the 17th instant, and on the night of the 18th encamped at Talledega fort, where I was joined by between 2 and 300 friendly Indians: 65 of whom were Cherokees, the balance Creeks. Here I received your letter of the 9th inst. stating that General Floyd was expected to make a movement from Cowetau the next day, and that in 18 days thereafter he would establish a firm position at Tuckabotchee; and also a letter from Colonel Snodgrass, who had returned to Fort Armstrong, informing me that an attack was intended soon to be made on that fort by 900 of the enemy. If I could have hesitated before, I could now hesitate no longer. I resolved to lose no time in meeting this force, which was understood to have been collected from New Yorcau, Oakfuskee and Ufauley towns, and were concentrated in the bend of the Tallapoosa, near the mouth of the creek called Emuckfau, on an island below New Yorcau.

"On the morning of the 29th your letter of the 10th instant, forwarded by Mr. M'Candles, reached me at the Hillabee Creek, and that night I encamped at Entochapco, a small Hillabee village about twelve miles from Emuckfau. Here I began to perceive very plainly how little knowledge my spies had of the country, of the situation of the enemy, or of the distance I was from them. The insubordination of the new troops and the want of skill in most of their officers, also became more and more apparent. But their ardor to meet the enemy was not diminished; and I had a sure reliance upon the guards: and a company of old volunteer officers, and upon the spies, in all about 125. My wishes and my duty remained united, and I was determined to effect, if possible, the objects for which the excursion had been principally undertaken.

"On the morning of the 21st, I marched from Enotachopee, as direct as I could for the bend of the Tallapoosa, and about 2 o'clock, P. M. my spies having discovered two of the enemy, endeavored to catch them but failed. In the evening I fell in upon a large trail, which led to a new road, much beaten and lately travelled. Knowing that I must have arrived within the neighborhood of a strong force, and it being late in the day, I determined to encamp, and reconnoitre the country in the night. I chose the best scite the country would admit, encamped in a hollow square, sent out my spies and piquets, doubled my centinels and made the necessary arrangements before dark, for a night attack. About 10 o'clock at night, one of the pickets fired at three of the enemy and killed one, but he was not found until the next day. At 11 o'clock, the spies whom I had sent out returned with the information, that there was a large encampment of Indians at the distance of about three miles, who from their whooping and dancing seemed to be apprized of our approach. One of these spies, an Indian in whom I had great confidence, assured me that they were carrying off their women and children, and that the warriors would either make their escape, or attack me before day. Being prepared at all points, nothing remained to be done but await their approach, if they meditated an attack, or to be in readiness, if they did not, to pursue and attack them at day light. While we were in this state of readiness, the enemy about 6 o'clock in the morning commenced a vigorous attack on my left flank, which was vigorously met; the action continued to rage on my left flank, and on the left of my rear for about half an hour. The brave General Coffee, with Colonel Sittler, the adjutant general, and Colonel Carroll, the inspector-general, the moment the firing commenced, mounted their horses and repaired to the line, encouraging and animating the men to the performance of their duty. So soon as it became light enough to pursue, the left wing having sustained the heat of the action and being somewhat weakened, was reinforced by Captain Ferrill's company of infantry, and was ordered and led on to the charge by General Coffee, who was well supported by Colonel Higgins and the inspector-general, and by all the officers and privates who composed that line. The enemy was completely routed at every point, and the friendly Indians joining in the pursuit, they were chased about two miles with great slaughter.

"The chase being over, I immediately detached General Coffee with 400 men and all the Indian force to burn their encampment; but it was said by some to be fortified. I ordered him, in that event, not to attack it, until the artillery could be sent forward to reduce it. On viewing the encampment and its strength, the general thought it most prudent to return to my encampment and guard the artillery thither. The wisdom of this step was

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soon discovered....in half an hour after his return to camp, a considerable force of the enemy made its appearance on my right flank, and commenced a brisk fire on a party of men who had been on picket guard the night before, and were then in search of the Indians they had fired upon, some of whom they believed had been killed. General Coffee immediately requested me to let him take 200 men and turn their left flank, which I accordingly ordered; but, through some mistake, which I did not then observe, not more than 54 followed him, among whom were the old volunteer officers. With these, however, he immediately commenced an attack on the left flank of the enemy; at which time I ordered 200 of the friendly Indians to fall in upon the right flank of the enemy, and co-operate with the general. This order was promptly obeyed, and in the moment of its execution, what I expected was realized. The enemy had intended the attack on the right as a feint, and, expecting me to direct all my attention thither, meant to attack me again, and with their main force on the left flank, which they hoped to find weakened and in disorder...but they were disappointed. I had ordered the left flank to remain firm to its place, and the moment the alarm gun was heard in that quarter I repaired thither, and ordered Capt. Ferril, with part of my reserve to support it. The whole line met the approach of the enemy with astonishing intrepidity, and having given a few fires, they forthwith charged with great vigour.... The effect was immediate and inevitable. The enemy fled with precipitation, and were pursued to a considerable distance, by the left flank and the friendly Indians, with a galling and destructive fire. Col. Carroll, who ordered the charge, led on the pursuit, and Colonel Higgins and his regiment again distinguished themselves.

"In the mean time Gen. Coffee was contending with a superior force of the enemy. The Indians whom I had ordered to his support, and who had set out for the purpose, bearing the firing on the left had returned to that quarter, and when the enemy were routed there entered into the chase. That being now over, I forthwith ordered Jim Fife, who was one of the principal commanders of the friendly Creeks, with 100 of his warriors, to execute my first order; so soon as he reached Gen. Coffee, the charge was made and the enemy routed; they were pursued about three miles, and 45 of them slain, who were found. Gen. Coffee was wounded in the body, and his aid-de-camp, A. Donaldson, killed, together with three others. Having brought in and buried the dead, and dressed the wounded, I ordered my camp to be fortified, to be the better prepared to repel any attack which might be made in the night; determined to commence a return march to fort Strother the following day. Many causes concurred to make such a measure necessary, as I had not set out prepared, or with

a view to make a permanent establishment, I considered it worse than useless to advance and destroy an empty encampment.

"I had indeed hoped to have met the enemy there, but having met and beaten them a little sooner, I did not think it necessary or prudent to proceed any further: not necessary, because I had accomplished all I could expect to effect by marching to their encampment; and because if it was necessary to contend with and weaken their forces still farther, this object would be more certainly attained by commencing a return, which, having to them the appearance of a retreat, would inspire them to pursue me.... Not prudent, because of the number of my wounded; of the reinforcements from below, which the enemy might be expected to receive; of the starving condition of my horses, they having had neither corn nor cane for two days and nights; of the scarcity of supplies for my men, the Indians who joined me at Talledaga having drawn none, and being wholly destitute; and because, if the enemy pursued me, as it was likely they would, the diversion in favour of Gen. Floyd would be the more complete and effectual. Influenced by these considerations, I commenced my return march at half after ten on the 23d, and was fortunate enough to reach Enotachopco before night, having passed without interruption a dangerous defile, occasioned by a hurricane. I again fortified my camp, and having another defile to pass in the morning, across a deep creek, and between two hills, which I had viewed with attention as I passed on, and where I expected I might be attacked, I determined to pass it at another point, and gave directions to my guide and fatigue men accordingly. My expectation of an attack in the morning was increased by the signs of the night, and with it my caution. Before I moved the wounded from the interior of my camp, I had my front and rear guards formed, as well as my right and left columns, and moved off my centre in regular order, leading down a handsome ridge to Enotachopco creek, at a point where it was clear of reed, except immediately on its margin. I had previously issued a general order, pointing out the manner in which the men should be formed in the event of an attack on the front or rear, or on the flanks, and had particularly cautioned the officers to halt and form accordingly, the instant the word should be given.

"The front guard had passed with part of the flank columns, the wounded were over, and the artillery in the act of entering the creek, when an alarm gun was heard in the rear. I heard it without surprise, and even with pleasure, calculating with the utmost confidence on the firmness of my troops, from the manner in which I had seen them act on the 22d. I had placed Colonel Carroll at the head of the centre column of the rear guard; its right column was commanded by Colonel Perkins, and its left by Colonel Stump. Having chosen the ground, I expected there to

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have entirely cut off the enemy by wheeling the right and left columns on their pivots, recrossing the creek above and below, and falling in upon their flanks and rear. But to my astonishment and mortification, when the word was given by Col. Carroll to halt and form, and a few guns had been fired, I beheld the right and left columns of the rear guard precipitately give way. This shameful retreat was disastrous in the extreme; it drew along with it the greater part of the centre column, leaving not more than 25 men, who being formed by Col. Carroll, maintained their ground as long as it was possible to maintain it, and it brought consternation and confusion into the centre of the army, a consternation which was not easily removed, and a confusion which could not soon be restored to order. There was then left to repulse the enemy, the few who remained of the rear guard, the artillery company, and Capt. Russell's company of spies..... They however realized and exceeded my highest expectations. Lieut. Armstrong, who commanded the artillery company in the absence of Capt. Deadrick, (confined by sickness,) ordered them to form and advance to the top of the hill, while he and a few others dragged up the 6 pounder. Never was more bravery displayed than on this occasion. Amid the most galling fire from the enemy, more than ten times their number, they ascended the hill and maintained their position until their piece was hauled up, when, having levelled it, they poured upon the enemy a fire of grape, reloaded and fired again, charged and repulsed them.

"The most deliberate bravery was displayed by Constantine Perkins and Craven Jackson of the artillery, acting as gunners.... In the hurry of the moment, in separating the gun from the limbers, the rammer and picker of the cannon were left tied to the limber. No sooner was this discovered, than Jackson, amidst the galling fire of the enemy, pulled out the ramrod of his musket and used it as a picker, primed with a cartridge and fired the cannon. Perkins, having pulled off his bayonet, used his musket as a rammer, drove down the cartridge; and Jackson, using his former plan, again discharged her. The brave Lieut. Armstrong, just after the first fire of the cannon, with Capt. Hamilton, of E. Tennessee, Bradford and M'Govock, all fell, the lieutenant exclaiming as he lay, "*my brave fellows, some of you may fall, but you must save the cannon.*" About this time, a number crossed the creek and entered into the chace. The brave Capt. Gordon, of the spies, who had rushed from the front, endeavoured to turn the left flank of the enemy, in which he partially succeeded, and Col. Carroll, Col. Higgins, and Captains Elliot and Pipkins pursued the enemy for more than two miles, who fled in consternation, throwing away their packs and leaving 26 of their warriors dead on the field. This last defeat was decisive, and we were no more disturbed by their yells. I should do injustice to

my feelings if I omitted to mention that the venerable Judge Cocke, at the age of 65, entered into the engagement, continued the pursuit of the enemy with youthful ardour, and saved the life of a fellow soldier by killing his savage antagonist.

"Our loss in this affair was — killed and wounded; among the former was the brave Capt. Hamilton, from East Tennessee, who had, with his aged father and two others of his company, after the period of his engagement had expired, volunteered his services for this excursion, and attached himself to the artillery company. No man ever fought more bravely, or died more gloriously; and by his side fell with equal bravery and glory, Bird Evans, of the same company. Capt. Quarles, who commanded the centre column of the rear guard, preferring death to the abandonment of his post, having taken a firm stand in which he was followed by 25 of his men, received a wound in his head of which he has since died.

"In these several engagements our loss was 20 killed and 75 wounded, 4 of whom have since died. The loss of the enemy cannot be accurately ascertained; 189 of their warriors were found dead; but this must fall considerably short of the number really killed. Their wounded can only be guessed at.

"Had it not been for the unfortunate retreat of the rear guard in the affair of the 24th inst. I think I could safely have said that no army of militia ever acted with more cool and deliberate bravery; undisciplined and inexperienced as they were, their conduct in the several engagements of the 22d, could not have been surpassed by regulars. No men ever met the approach of an enemy with more intrepidity, or repulsed them with more energy. On the 24th, after the retreat of the rear guard, they seemed to have lost all their collectedness, and were more difficult to be restored to order than any troops I have ever seen. But this was no doubt owing in a great measure, or altogether, to that very retreat, and ought rather to be ascribed to the want of conduct in many of their officers, than to any cowardice in the men, who, on every occasion, have manifested a willingness to perform their duty so far as they knew it.

"All the effects which were designed to be produced by this excursion, it is believed have been produced. If an attack was meditated against fort Armstrong, that has been prevented. If Gen. Floyd is operating on the east side of the Tallapoosa, as I suppose him to be, a most fortunate diversion has been made in his favour. The number of the enemy has been diminished, and the confidence they may have derived from the delays I have been made to experience, has been destroyed. Discontent has been kept out of my army, while the troops who would have been exposed to it have been beneficially employed. The enemy's country has been explored, and a road cut to the point

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where their force will probably be concentrated when they shall be driven from the country below. But in a report of this kind, and to you who will immediately perceive them, it is not necessary to state the happy consequences which may be expected to result from this excursion. Unless I am greatly mistaken, it will be found to have hastened the termination of the Creek war, more than any measure I could have taken with the troops under my command."

CHAPTER XXII.

Conclusion of the Creek War.....Brilliant and decisive victory at the bend of the Tallapoosa..... Draft of the scene of action..... Termination of hostilities with the Creeks.....Geographical description of the Creek country.

GENERAL JACKSON being determined to pursue the work of extermination among the Creeks, as a just vengeance for their atrocious conduct at Fort Mims, penetrated into their country, in March, 1814, as far as the bend of the Tallapoosa ; where a most splendid and successful attack was made on the 27th, in which a total destruction of the nation was nearly accomplished. While the sigh of humanity will escape for this profuse effusion of human blood, which resulted from the savage principle of our enemy, either to give nor accept quarter ; yet justice will point to the event, as a necessary retaliation for the indiscriminate murder of our citizens, and as a precursor of the future repose of our frontier settlements. Subjoined is General Jackson's official account of the brilliant achievement, in a letter to his Excellency Governor Blount :

Fort Williams, March 31, 1814.

SIR....I have just returned from the expedition which I advised in my last I was about to make to the Tallapoosa ; and then to acquaint you with the good fortune which attended it. I took up the line of march from this place on the morning of the 21st inst. and having opened a passage of fifty-two and a half miles over the ridges which divide the waters of the two rivers, I reached the bend of the Tallapoosa three miles beyond where I had the engagement of the 22d of January, and at the southern extremity of New-Youka, on the morning of the 27th. This bend resembles in its curvature that of a horse-shoe, and is thence

called by that name among the whites. Nature furnishes few situations so eligible for defence, and barbarians have never rendered one more secure by art. Across the neck of the bend which leads into it from the north they had erected a breastwork of the greatest compactness and strength, from five to eight feet high, and prepared with double port-holes, very artfully arranged. The figure of this wall manifested no less skill in the projection of it, than its construction; an army could not approach it without being exposed to a double and cross fire from the enemy, who lay in perfect security behind it. The area of this peninsula, thus bounded by the breastwork, includes I conjecture, eighty or an hundred acres.

In this bend the warriors from Oakfuska, Oakehagu, New-Youka, Hillabee, the Fish Ponds, and Eufatua towns, apprised of our approach, had collected their strength. Their exact number cannot be ascertained; but it is said by the prisoners we have taken to have been a thousand. It is certain they were very numerous, and that relying with the utmost confidence upon their strength, their situation and the assurances of their prophets, they concluded on repulsing us with great ease.

Early on the morning of the 27th, having encamped the preceding night at the distance of five miles from them....I detailed General Coffee with the mounted men and nearly the whole of the Indian force, to cross the river at a ford about three miles below their encampment, and to surround the bend in such a manner that none of them should escape by attempting to cross the river. With the remainder of the forces I proceeded along the point of land which leads to the front of their breastwork; and at half past ten o'clock A. M. I had planted my artillery on a small eminence, distant from its nearest point about 80 yards, and from its farthest about two hundred and fifty; from whence I immediately opened a brisk fire upon its centre. With the muskets and rifles I kept up a galling fire wherever the enemy shewed themselves behind their works, or ventured to approach them. This was continued with occasional intermissions for about two hours, when Captain Russell's company of spies, and a party of the Cherokee force, headed by their gallant chieftain, Colonel Richard Brown, and conducted by the brave Colonel Morgan, crossed over to the peninsula in canoes, and set fire to a few of their buildings there situated. They then advanced with great gallantry towards the breastwork, and commenced firing upon the enemy who lay behind it.

Finding that this force, notwithstanding the determination they displayed, was wholly insufficient to dislodge the enemy, and that General Coffee had secured the opposite banks of the river, I now determined on taking possession of their works by storm. Never were men better disposed for such an undertaking than those

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whom it was to be effected. They had entreated to be led to the charge with the most pressing importunity, and received the order which was now given with the strongest demonstrations of joy. The effect was such as this temper of mind foretold. The regular troops, led on by their intrepid and skilful commander, Colonel Williams, and by the gallant Major Montgomery, were presently in possession of the nearer side of the breastwork; and the militia accompanied them in the charge with a vivacity and firmness which could not have been exceeded, and has seldom been equalled by troops of any description. A few companies of General Doherty's brigade on the right, were led on with gallantry by Colonel Russell...the advance guard, by the adjutant-general, Colonel Sisler, and the left extremity of the line by Captain Gordon of the spies, and Captain M'Murry of General Johnson's brigade of West Tennessee militia.

Having maintained for a few minutes a very obstinate contest, musket to musket, through the port holes, in which many of the enemy's balls were welded to the bayonets of our muskets, our troops succeeded in gaining possession of the opposite side of the works. The event could no longer be doubtful. The enemy, although many of them fought to the last, with that kind of bravery which desperation inspires, were at length entirely routed and cut to pieces. The whole margin of the river which surrounds the peninsula was strewn with the slain. Five hundred and fifty seven were found by officers of great respectability, whom I had ordered to count them; besides a great number who were thrown into the river by their surviving friends, and killed in attempting to pass it, by General Coffee's men, stationed on the opposite banks. Captain Hammonds, who with his company of spies occupied a favorable position opposite the upper extremity of the breastwork, did great execution....and so did Lieutenant Bean, who had been ordered by General Coffee to take possession of a small island pointing to the lower extremity.

Both officers and men, who had the best opportunities of judging, believe the loss of the enemy in killed, not to fall short of eight hundred; and if their number was as great as it is represented to have been, by the prisoners, and as it is believed to have been by Colonel Carroll and others, who had a fair view of them, as they advanced to the breastworks, their loss must even have been more considerable....as it is quite certain that not more than twenty can have escaped. Among the dead was found their famous Prophet, Monahell....shot in the mouth by a grape shot, as if heaven designed to chastise his impostures by an appropriate punishment. Two other prophets were also killed....leaving no others, as I can learn, on the Tallapoosa. I lament that two or three women and children were killed by accident. I do not

know the exact number of prisoners taken, but it must exceed three hundred....all women and children except three.

The battle may be said to have continued with severity for about five hours; but the firing and slaughter continued until it was suspended by the darkness of the night. The next morning it was resumed, and sixteen of the enemy slain, who had concealed themselves under the banks. Our loss was twenty-six white men killed, and one hundred and seven wounded. Cherokees eighteen killed, and thirty-six wounded....friendly Creeks, five killed and eleven wounded.

The loss of Colonel Williams' regiment of regulars, is seventeen killed, fifty-five wounded, three of whom have since died. Among the former were Major Montgomery, Lieutenant Sommerville and Lieutenant Moulton, who fell in the charge which was made on the works. No men ever acted more gallantly, or fell more gloriously.

Of the artillery commanded by Captain Parish, 11 were wounded; one of whom, Samuel Garner, has since died. Lieutenants Allen and Ridley were both wounded. The whole company acted with its usual gallantry. Captain Bradford of the 39th U. S. infantry, who acted as chief engineer, and superintended the firing of the cannon, has entitled himself, by his good conduct, to my warmest thanks. To say all in a word, the whole army who has achieved this fortunate victory, have merited by their good conduct the gratitude of their country. So far as I can, or could learn, there was not an officer or soldier who did not perform his duty with the utmost fidelity. The conduct of the militia, on this occasion, has gone far towards redeeming the character of that description of troops. They have been as orderly in their encampment, and on their line of march, as they have been signally brave in the day of battle.

In a few days I shall take up the line of march for the Hickory ground, and have every thing to hope from such troops.

Enclosed I send you General Coffee's original report.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient humble servant,

ANDREW JACKSON, Maj. Gen.

Report from General Coffee, to General Jackson, dated April 1.

SIR....Agreeably to your order of the 27th ult. I took up the line of march at half past 6 o'clock A. M. of the same day with a detachment of seven hundred cavalry and mounted gunmen, and about six hundred Indians, five hundred of which were Cherokees and the balance friendly Creeks. I crossed the Tallapoosa river at the little island ford, about three miles below the bend, in which the enemy had concentrated, and then turned up the river bearing away from its cliffs....when within half a mile of the village the savage yell was raised by the enemy, and I supposed he had

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discovered and was about to attack me. I immediately drew up my forces in line of battle in an open hilly woodland, and in that position moved on towards the yelling of the enemy....previous to this had ordered the Indians, on our approach to the bend of the river, to advance secretly and take possession of the bank of the river, and prevent the enemy from crossing on the approach of your army in his front....when within a quarter of a mile of the river, the firing of your cannon commenced, when the Indians with me immediately rushed forward with great impetuosity to the river bank...my line was halted and put in order of battle, expecting an attack on our rear from Oakfuakee village, which lay down the river about eight miles below us....the firing of your cannon and small arms in a short time became general and heavy, which animated our Indians, and seeing about one hundred of the warriors and all the squaws and children of the enemy running about among the huts of the village, which was open to our view, they could no longer remain silent spectators, while some kept up a fire across the river (which is about 120 yards wide) to prevent the enemy's approach to the bank, others plunged into the water and swam the river for canoes that lay at the other shore in considerable numbers, and brought them over, in which crafts a number of them embarked, and landed on the bend with the enemy. Colonel Gideon Morgan who commanded the Cherokees, Captain Keer, and Captain William Russell with a part of his company of spies was among the first that crossed the river; they advanced into the village and very soon drove the enemy from the huts up the river bank to the fortified works from which they were fighting you....they pursued and continued to annoy during your whole action. This movement of my Indian forces left the river bank unguarded and made it necessary that I should send a part of my line to take possession of the river bank: I accordingly ordered about one third of the men to be posted around the bend on the river bank, while the balance remained in line to protect our rear. Captain Hammond's company of rangers took post on the river bank on my right, and during the whole engagement kept up a continued and destructive fire on those of the enemy that attempted to escape into the river, and killed a very large proportion of those that were found dead under the bank as well as many others sunk under water. I ordered Lieutenant Bean to take possession of the island below with forty men, to prevent the enemy's taking refuge there, which was executed with promptitude and which had a very happy effect, as many of the enemy did attempt their escape to the island, but not one ever landed....they were sunk by Lieutenant Bean's command ere they reached the bank. Attempts to cross the river at all points of the bend was made by the enemy, but not one ever escaped, very few ever reached the bank and that few was killed the in-

stant they landed. From the report of my officers as well as from my own observation, I feel warranted in saying that from two hundred and fifty to three hundred of the enemy was buried under water and was not numbered with the dead that were found."

The following letter from Colonel Morgan to Governor Blount, dated at Fort Williams, contains many incidents of an interesting nature, in addition to the foregoing :

"You have been informed of our departure from fort Strother, and arrival at this place on the 21st March. On the 24th General Jackson took up his line of march for Tohopiska, or fortified town on the Tallapoosa, commonly called the Horse Shoe. On the evening of the 28th, he encamped about six miles north-west of it....the army next morning was divided into two divisions. The horse and Indians commanded by General Coffee, crossed the river two miles below the town, with directions to line the bank in the whole extent of the bend, by the Cherokees and friendly Creeks, while the horse acted as a guard upon the high ground, to defend our rear from an attack from the Oakfuskee Indians, who were expected from below. This precaution was, however, unnecessary, as their whole force had been concentrated the day before. General Coffee had arrived on the opposite shore, about half a mile below the town, when General Jackson's approach before the fortification was announced by the discharge of artillery, and in quick succession that of a brigade of infantry. The Cherokees immediately rushed to the point assigned them, which they did in regular order, and in a manner honorable to themselves, that is, the bank was in no place left vacant, and those fugitives who had taken to flight, fell an easy prey to their vengeance.

"The breast-work was composed of five large logs, with two ranges of port-holes well put together; artillery had no effect, more than to bore it wherever it struck; nature had done much, but when completed by art, the place was formidable indeed: the high ground which extended about mid way from the breast-work to the river, was in some manner open, but the declivity and flat which surrounded it, was filled with fallen timber, the growth of which was very heavy, and had been so arranged, that every tree afforded them a breast-work, forming a communication or cover to the next, and so on to the river bank, in which caverns had been dug for their security, and our annoyance. The breast work in its whole extent was lined by savages, made desperate from their situation. The 39th was drawn up on the left, in a line extending from the centre to the river bank, the right was occupied by the militia. The artillery on an eminence two hundred yards in rear of the breast-work, on which it kept up a steady and well

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directed fire, though without effect. In this manner the battle became stationary for some time, say one hour, when the Cherokees crossed the river by swimming, and brought from the opposite shore a number of canoes, in which they crossed under cover of the town, and their own guns; they halted under cover of the bank, and the canoes were sent back for a reinforcement. Understanding General Jackson was about charging the breast works in its whole extent, I rode with all possible dispatch to inform Major Montgomery who commanded the left of the 39th, on the river above. On my return, about 150 or 200 Cherokees had crossed, and were then warmly engaged with the hostile Creeks. I then crossed with Major Walker and 30 others, and ascended the high ground, which the Cherokees were then in possession of....we were warmly assailed on every quarter, except our rear, where we only kept open by the dint of hard fighting. The Cherokees were continually crossing, and our number increased in about the proportion in which the Creeks were diminished, who laid prostrate in every quarter....their numbers were vastly superior to ours, but were occupied in maintaining their breast-work, which they appeared determined never to surrender; about one hour after my arrival on the summit, I received a wound in the right side of my head, which had like to have terminated my existence....I however in a short time recovered, and heard the heavenly intelligence that the 39th had charged, and were then in possession of the breast works. This was an arduous undertaking, and the cool deliberate manner in which it was effected, reflects the highest credit on this bulwark of our army.

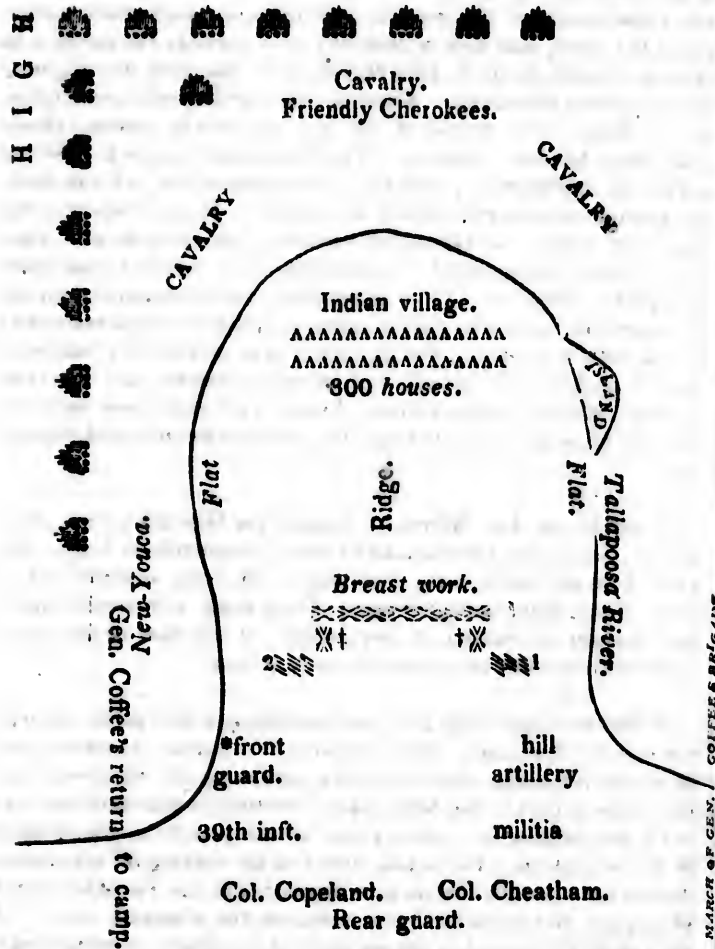
"The fight commenced 17 minutes after 10, and continued without intermission until dark; the next morning some were killed, who it appears were determined never to quit their enchanted ground. On counting their dead, 557 were found on the field, many I know perished in crossing, and numbers were sunk in the river. The whole loss in killed could not be less than 7 or 800. The loss of the 39th, 72 killed and wounded. Major Montgomery, Lieutenant Somerville, and Lieutenant Moulton were among the former. The loss of the Cherokees, 18 killed and 35 wounded, many badly. The Cherokees have been permitted to return to their homes."

*Draft of the scene of action....*The following draft of the scene of action at the bend of the Tallapoosa, was taken by an officer on the spot. We copy it with as much accuracy as the nature of letter-press printing will admit. It will be found to throw considerable light on the official details. The bend of the river at this place is circular, resembling the form of a horse-shoe, and the breastwork was thrown across the mouth or entrance of the peninsula.

PLAN OF A BATTLE

At the Bend of the Tallapoosa, March 27th, 1814.

G R O U N D.



REFERENCES.

- * Moulton,
- † Montgomery, } Killed.
- ‡ Somerville,
- River Tallapoosa.
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MARCH OF GEN. COFFEY'S BRIGADE.

Termination of hostilities with the Creeks.... The dreadful chastisement inflicted by Gen. Jackson, and his brave followers, upon the Creeks, induced many of the survivors of the war party to surrender themselves and sue for peace. A few, however, just before the arrival of the general at Tallapoosa, made their escape across the river, and fled in consternation towards Pensacola; as likewise a small number, after the battle of the 27th March, who fled in various directions. Many of the negroes, who were taken at fort Mims, were delivered up, and one white woman (Polly Jones) with her two children. The Tallapoosa king was arrested and put in confinement; and the Tostahatchee king of the Hickory ground surrendered himself a prisoner. Peter McQuin, a distinguished chief, was taken, but escaped; and Hillinbagee, their great prophet, absconded. Wetherford, their speaker, had been, through the war, one of the most active and enterprising chiefs. As a partizan leader, he had frequently opposed his enemy where he was little expected. Seeing that it was in vain any longer to resist, he voluntarily came in and delivered himself up; but Gen. Jackson declined confining him. In a private interview with the general, he made the following short though forcible and bold address:

"I fought at fort Mims....I fought the Georgia army....I did you all the injury I could....had I been supported, as I was promised, I would have done you more. But my warriors are all killed....I can fight you no longer. I look back with sorrow that I have brought destruction on my nation. I am now in your power, do with me as you please....I am a soldier."

Wetherford, although bold and intrepid, had previously been defeated. In December, 1813, General Claiborne, having under his command a considerable force, consisting of volunteers from the southern part of the Mississippi Territory, which had been raised for the purpose of resisting any attack which might be made by the enemy upon the coast, and also for cutting off all communication between the Creeks and Spaniards in the Floridas, marched against the inimical Creek towns on the Alabama river. On the 23d of December, a detachment of his troops commanded by Colonel Carson came in view of a town called Eccanachaca (or holy ground) which was immediately and vigorously attacked by the enemy, who had been apprized of its approach, and had chosen their field of action accordingly. Wetherford commanded the Indians, and fought with bravery. Colonel Carson, however, succeeded in defeating him, before the remainder of our troops, who had been ordered to the charge, could have time to arrive. The enemy fled in every direction, many of them casting away their arms. Thirty were killed and many wounded. The loss on

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TALLAPOOSA RIVER.

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MARCH OF GEN. CLAIBORNE'S BRIGADE.

our part was one corporal killed, and one ensign, two sergeants, one corporal and two privates wounded. A pursuit was immediately ordered; but from the nature of the country, nothing was effected. The town was nearly surrounded with swamps and deep ravines, which rendered the approach of our troops difficult, and facilitated the escape of the enemy. In the town was found a large quantity of provisions and immense property of various kinds, which the enemy, flying precipitately, were obliged to leave behind, and which, together with 200 houses, were destroyed. They had barely time to remove their women and children across the Alabama, upon which the town stood. The next day was occupied in destroying a town consisting of sixty houses, eight miles higher up the river, and in taking and destroying the enemy's boats. At the town last described, three Indians of some distinction were killed. The town first destroyed was built after the commencement of hostilities, and was established as a place of security for the inhabitants of several villages. The leader Wetherford, and two others, who were principal prophets, resided here. Three Shawnese were among the slain. A letter from the Governor of Pensacola to the Creek Indians, was found in the house of Wetherford by General Claiborne, showing the friendship that existed between the Creeks and Spaniards, and the hostility of the latter towards the Americans.

In the latter part of April General Jackson withdrew his forces from the Creek country, after having made known to the nation the terms upon which he would make peace, and appointing commissioners therefor. In these terms, the United States were to retain as much of the conquered territory as might appear to the government to be a just indemnity for the expenses of the war, and as a retribution for the injuries sustained by its citizens and the friendly Creek Indians. The United States were likewise to retain the right of establishing military posts and trading houses, and to make and use such roads as they might think necessary, and freely to navigate all the rivers and water courses in the Creek country. The Creeks, on their part, were to surrender their prophets, and such other instigators of the war as might be designated by the government of the United States; and were to agree to such restrictions upon their trade with foreign nations, as should be established by the American government.

The Tallissee king, who was reported to have been killed in one of Gen. Floyd's battles with the Creeks, was afterwards taken prisoner. He remained, for a time, with a detachment of our army stationed at fort Jackson, (on the site of old fort Toulouse.) He had been regarded as a great prophet, and was upwards of a hundred years of age when taken, with a head as white as snow. He was an object of peculiar vengeance among

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the friendly Creeks; and although he was nearly bent double with age, yet were they anxious to destroy him; but Wetherford moved unmolested among them, and they trembled in his presence.

*Geographical description of the Creek country.....*The following is copied, with some variations, from Morse's *Gazeteer* :

"The Muskogulge, or, as they are more commonly called, Creek Indians, inhabit the eastern parts of the Mississippi Territory. The Creek, or Muskogulge language, which is soft and musical, is spoken throughout the confederacy, (although consisting of many nations, who have a speech peculiar to themselves) as also by their friends and allies the Natchez. The Chicasaw and Chactaw language, the Muskogulges say, is a dialect of theirs. The Muskogulges eminently deserve the encomium of all nations, for their wisdom and virtue, in expelling the greatest, and even the common enemy of mankind, viz. *spirituous liquors*. The first and most cogent article in all their treaties with the white people is, that "there shall not be any kind of spirituous liquors sold or brought into their towns." Instances have frequently occurred, on the discovery of attempts to run kegs of spirits into their country, of the Indians striking them with their tomahawks, and giving the liquor to thirsty sand, not tasting a drop themselves.... It is difficult to account for their excellent policy in civil government; it cannot derive its efficacy from coercive laws, for they have no such artificial system. Some of their most favourite songs and dances they have from their enemies, the Chactaws; for it seems that nation is very eminent for poetry and music.... The Muskogulges allow of polygamy in the utmost latitude; every man takes as many wives as he pleases, but the first is queen, and the others her handmaids and associates. The Creek or Muskogulge confederacy have 55 towns, besides many villages. The powerful empire of the Muskogulges established itself upon the ruin of that of the Natchez. The *Oakmulge Fields* was the first settlement they sat down upon, after their emigration from the west, beyond the Mississippi, their original native country. They gradually subdued their surrounding enemies, strengthening themselves by taking into confederacy the vanquished tribes. Their whole number, some years since, was 17,280, of which, 5860 were fighting men. Later accounts say 6000 fighting men, and 20000 souls in all. Every town and village has one established white trader in it, and generally a family of whites, who have fled from some part of the frontiers. They often, to have revenge, and to obtain plunder that may be taken, use their influence to send out predatory parties against the settlements in their vicinity. The Creeks were formerly very badly armed, having a

few rifles, but mostly armed with muskets. For near fifty years past, the Creek Indians have had little intercourse with any other foreigners but those of the English nation. Their prejudice in favour of every thing English has been carefully kept alive. Most of their towns have kept in their possession British drums with the arms of the nation and other emblems painted on them; and some of their squaws preserve the remnants of British flags. They still believe that "the great king over the water" is able to keep the whole world in subjection. The land of the country is a common stock; any individual may remove from one part of it to another, and occupy vacant ground where he can find it. The country is naturally divided into three districts, viz. the Upper Creeks, Lower and Middle Creeks, and Seminoles. The upper district includes all the waters of the Tallapoosa, Coosahatchee, and Alabama rivers, and is called the Abbacoes. The lower or middle district includes all the waters of the Chattahoochee and Flint rivers, down to their junction, and although occupied by a great number of different tribes, the whole are called Cowetaulgas, or Coweta people, from the Cowetan town and tribe, the most warlike and ancient of any in the whole nation. The lower or southern district takes in the river Apalachicola, and extends to the point of E. Florida, and is called the country of the Seminoles. Agriculture is as far advanced with the Indians, as it can well be, without the proper implements of husbandry.... A very large majority of the nation being devoted to hunting in the winter, and to war or idleness in summer, cultivate but small parcels of ground, barely sufficient for subsistence. But many individuals (particularly on Flint river, and among the Chehaws, who possess numbers of negroes) have fenced fields, tolerably well cultivated; having no ploughs, they break up the ground with hoes, and scatter the seed promiscuously over the ground, in hills but not in rows. They raise horses, cattle, fowls and hogs. The only articles they manufacture are earthen pots and pans, baskets, horse-ropes or halters, smoaked leather, black marble pipes, wooden spoons, and oil from acorns, hickory nuts and chesnuts. They consist of the Appalachies, Alabamies, Abecses, Cawittaws, Coosas, Conshacks, Coosactees, Chacsihoomas, Natchez, Oconies, Oakmulgies, Okohoyas, Pakanas, Taensas, Tallapoosas, Weetumkas, and some others. Their union has rendered them victorious over the Chactaws, and formidable to all the nations around them. They are a well made, expert, hardy, sagacious, politic people, extremely jealous of their rights, and averse to parting with their lands. They have abundance of tame cattle and swine, turkies, ducks and other poultry; they cultivate tobacco, rice, Indian corn, potatoes, beans, peas, cabbage, melons, and have plenty of peaches, plums, grapes, strawberries, and other fruits. They are faithful friends, but inveterate enemies;

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hospitable to strangers, and honest and fair in their dealings. The country which they claim is bounded northward by about the 34th degree of latitude; and extends from the Tombeckbee, or Mobile river, to the Atlantic ocean, though they have ceded a part of this tract on the sea coast, by different treaties, to the state of Georgia. Their principal towns lie in lat. 32 and long. 11 20 from Philadelphia. They are settled in a hilly but not mountainous country. The soil is fruitful in a high degree, and well watered, abounding in creeks and rivulets, from whence they are called the *Creek Indians*."

In addition to the foregoing, the following is from the MS. Journal of an intelligent traveller:

"Coosa river, and its many branches, form the western line of settlements or villages of the Creeks, but their hunting grounds extend 200 miles beyond, to the Tombigbee, which is the dividing line between their country and that of the Chactaws.... The smallest of their towns have from twenty to thirty houses in them, and some of them contain from 150 to 200, that are wholly compact. The houses stand in clusters of four, five, six, seven and eight together, irregularly distributed up and down the banks of the rivers or small streams. Each cluster of houses contain a clan, or family of relations, who eat and live in common. Each town has a public square, hot house and yard near the centre of it, appropriated to various public uses. The following are the names of the principal towns of the Upper and Lower Creeks, that have public squares; beginning at the head of the Coosa or Coosahatcha river, viz. Upper Ufalas, Abbacoochees, Natchez, Coosas, Oteetoocheenas, Pinc, Catchas, Pocuntullahases, Weeokees, Little Tallassie, Tuskegees, Coosadas, Alabamas, Tawasas, Pawactas, Autobas, Auhoba, Weelumpkees Big, Weelumpkees Little, Wacacoys, Wecksoy, Ochees. The following towns are in the central, inland and high country, between the Coosa and Tallapoosa rivers, in the district called the Hillabees, viz. Hillabees, Killeegko, Oakchoys, Slakagulgus, and Wacacoys. On the waters of the Tallapoosa, from the head of the river downward, the following, viz. Tuckabatchee, Tehassa, Totacaga, New Youka, Chalaacpauley, Loguspogus, Oakfuskee, Ufala Little, Ufala Big, Sogahatches, Tuckaabatchees, Big Tallassee, or half-way-house, Clewaieys, Coosahatches, Coolamies, Shawanese or Savanas, Kenhulka, and Muckeleses. The towns of the Lower Creeks, beginning on the head waters of the Chattahoosee, and so on downwards, are Chelu Ninny, Chattahoosee, Hohtatoga, Cowetas, Cussitas, Chalagatscor, Broken Arrow, Euchees several, Hitchatees several, Palachuolo, Chewackala. Beside twenty towns and villages of the Little and Big Chehaus, low down on Flint and

Chattahoosee rivers. From their roving and unsteady manner of living, it is impossible to determine with much precision, the number of Indians that compose the Creek nation. Gen. McGillivray estimates the number of gun men to be between 5 and 6000, exclusive of the Seminoles, who are of little or no account in war, except as small parties of marauders, acting independent of the general interest of the others. The whole number of individuals may be about 25 or 26000 souls."

Of the manners and customs of the Creeks, in addition to the foregoing, the following extract, written by Benj. Hawkins, esq. may not be unamusing :

"There is a practice called *Hoithlekillissowau*, (or war physic,) which is described in the following terms :...When young men are going to war, they go into the "hot house" of the town. This is called *Thlucco*, (or the rotunda.) It is near the great square, is of an octagonal shape, 30 feet wide and 12 feet high. In the middle, on a small elevation, fire is kindled. It is the assembly-room, where the men, women and children gather together every evening to recreate themselves with singing, dancing and conversation; and in it, sometimes in very cold weather, the old and naked sleep. It is walled and clayed up on the outside, and the entrance is through a small door. In the hot-house the warriors remain four days. They drink the *Micco hoyonijau*, and the *possau*, and they eat the *souwatcheu*, a very bitter root, which has the power of intoxicating or maddening. On the fourth day they come out, have their knapsack ready, and march. This knapsack is an old blanket, containing some parched corn, flour, and leather to patch moccasins. They carry in their shot-bags a charm, like Ohi, a protection against all ills, called "war-physic," composed of *Chitto-Yabby* and *Istepeupau*, or the bones of the snake and of the lion.

"The tradition of this physic is, that in old times the lion [*istepaupru*] devoured the people. They dug a pit, and caught him in it just as he had killed one of them. They covered him with light wood knots, and burned him, but preserved his bones. The snake was in the water. The old people sang, and he showed himself. They sang again, and he showed himself a little out of the water. The third time he showed his horns, and they cut off one. Again he showed himself a fourth time, and they cut off the other horn.

"A piece of these horns, and the bones of the lion, is the great war physic of the Creeks."

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CHAPTER XXIII.

Naval.....Lake Erie.....Battle with and capture of the British fleet.....Interesting anecdotes of the battle.....Biography of Commodore Perry.

PREVIOUS to a detail of the affairs on the ocean in 1813, we shall notice such events as transpired on the respective lakes during that year, as being more immediately connected with the operations of the land forces.

Towards the latter end of March, Capt. Perry arrived at the port of Erie, to take command of the fleet there fitting out. The American force at that time on the lake consisted but of several small vessels; two of the best of which had recently been captured from the enemy in a gallant style by Capt. Elliot, from under the very batteries of fort Erie. The British force was greatly superior, and commanded by Commodore Barclay, an able and well-tryed officer. Commodore Perry immediately applied himself to increase his armament, and having ship carpenters from the Atlantic coast, and using extraordinary exertions, two brigs of 20 guns each were soon launched at Erie, the American port on the lake.

While the vessels were constructing, the British squadron hovered off the harbour, but offered no molestation. At length, his vessels being equipped and manned, on the 4th of August, Commodore Perry succeeded in getting his squadron over the bar at the mouth of the harbour. The water on the bar was but five feet deep, and the large vessels had to be buoyed over; this was accomplished in the face of the British, who fortunately did not think proper to make an attack. The next day he sailed in pursuit of the enemy, but returned on the 8th, without having encountered him. Being reinforced by the arrival of the brave Elliot, accompanied by several officers and 89 sailors, he was enabled completely to man his squadron, and again set sail on the 12th, in quest of the enemy. On the 15th he arrived at Sandusky Bay, where the American army, under Gen. Harrison, lay encamped. From thence he cruised off Malden, where the British squadron remained at anchor, under the guns of the fort.... The appearance of Perry's squadron spread great alarm on shore; the women and children ran shrieking about the place, expecting an immediate attack. The Indians, we are told, looked on with astonishment, and urged the British to go out and fight. Finding the enemy not disposed to venture a battle, Commodore Perry returned to Sandusky.

Nothing of moment happened until the morning of the 10th of September. The American squadron were, at that time, lying at anchor in Put-in Bay, and consisted of brigs *Lawrence*, Commodore Perry, 20 guns; *Niagara*, Capt. Elliot, 20 do.; *Caledonia*, Purser McGrath, 3 do.; schooners *Ariel*, Lieut. Packet, 4 do.; *Scorpion*, Sailing-Master Champlin, 2 do.; *Somers*, Almy, 2 do. and 2 swivels; *Tigress*, Lieut. Conklin, 1 do.; *Porcupine*, Midshipman G. Senat, 1 do.; sloop *Trippe*, Lieut. Smith, 1 do.; in all 54 guns.

At sunrise they discovered the enemy, and immediately got under way and stood for him with a light wind at southwest. The British force consisted of ship *Detroit*, 19 guns, 1 on pivot, and 2 howitzers; *Queen Charlotte*, 17 do. 1 on pivot; schooner *Lady Prevost*, 13 do. 1 on pivot; brig *Hunter*, 10 do.; sloop *Little Belt*, 3 do; schooner *Chippeway*, 1 do. 2 swivels; in all 63 guns.

At 10 A. M. the wind haled to the southeast and brought our squadron to windward. Commodore Perry then hoisted his union jack, having for a motto, the dying words of the valiant *Lawrence*, "Don't give up the ship!" It was received with repeated cheerings by the officers and crews. And now having formed his line he bore for the enemy; who likewise cleared for action, and haled up his courses. It is deeply interesting to picture to ourselves the advances of these gallant and well-matched squadrons to a contest, where the strife must be obstinate and sanguinary, and the event decisive of the fate of almost an empire.

The lightness of the wind occasioned them to approach each other but slowly, and prolonged the awful interval of suspense and anxiety that precedes a battle. This is the time when the stoutest heart beats quick, "and the boldest holds his breath;" it is the still moment of direful expectation; of fearful looking out for slaughter and destruction; when even the glow of pride and ambition is chilled for a while, and nature shudders at the awful jeopardy of existence. The very order and regularity of naval discipline heighten the dreadful quiet of the moment. No bustle, no noise prevails to distract the mind, except at intervals, the shrill piping of the boatswain's whistle, or a murmuring whisper among the men, who, grouped around their guns, earnestly regard the movements of the foe, now and then stealing a wistful glance at the countenances of their commanders. In this manner did the hostile squadrons approach each other, in mute watchfulness and terrible tranquillity; when suddenly a bugle was sounded from on board the enemy's ship *Detroit*, and loud huzzas immediately burst forth from all their crews.

No sooner did the *Lawrence* come within reach of the enemy's long guns, than they opened a heavy fire upon her, which, from

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the shortness of her guns, she was unable to return. Commodore Perry, without waiting for his schooners, kept on his course in such gallant and determined style that the enemy supposed it was his intention to board. In a few minutes, having gained a nearer position, he opened his fire. The length of the enemies' guns, however, gave them vastly the advantage, and the Lawrence was excessively cut up without being able to do any great damage in return. Their shot pierced her sides in all directions, killing our men on the birth deck and in the steerage, where they had been taken down to be dressed. One shot had nearly produced a fatal explosion ; passing through the light room it knocked the snuff of the candle into the magazine ; fortunately the gunner happened to see it, and had the presence of mind to extinguish it immediately with his hand.

Indeed, it seemed to be the enemy's plan to destroy the commodore's ship, and thus throw the squadron into confusion. For this purpose their heaviest fire was directed at the Lawrence, and blazed incessantly upon it from their largest vessels. Finding the hazard of his situation, Perry made sail, and directed the other vessels to follow for the purpose of closing with the foe. The tremendous fire, however, to which he was exposed, soon cut away every brace and bowline, and the Lawrence became unmanageable.

Even in this disastrous plight, she sustained the action for upwards of two hours, within canister distance, though for a great part of the time he could not get more than three guns to bear upon her antagonists. It was admirable to behold the perfect order and regularity that prevailed among her valiant and devoted crew, throughout this scene of horror. No tripidation, no confusion occurred, even for an instant ; as fast as the men were wounded they were carried below and others stepped into their places ; the dead remained where they fell until after the action.... At this juncture the fortune of the battle trembled on a point, and the enemy believed the day their own. The Lawrence was reduced to a mere wreck ; her decks were streaming with blood, and covered with mangled limbs and the bodies of the slain ; nearly the whole of her crew was either killed or wounded ; her guns were dismounted, and the commodore and his officers helped to work the last that was capable of service.

Amidst all this peril and disaster, the youthful commander is said to have remained perfectly composed, maintaining a serene and cheerful countenance, uttering no passionate or agitated expression, giving out his orders with calmness and deliberation, and inspiring every one around him by his magnanimous demeanour.

At this crisis, finding the Lawrence was incapable of further service, and seeing the hazardous situation of the conflict, he

formed the bold resolution of shifting his flag. Giving the ship, therefore, in charge to Lieut. Yarnall, who had already distinguished himself by his bravery, he haled down his union, bearing the motto of Lawrence, and taking it under his arm, ordered to be put on board of the Niagara, which was then in close engagement. In leaving the Lawrence he gave his pilot choice either to remain on board, or accompany him; the faithful fellow told him "he'd stick by him to the last," and jumped into the boat. He went off from the ship in his usual gallant manner, standing up in the stern of the boat, until the crew absolutely pulled him down among them. Broad-sides were levelled at him, and small arms discharged by the enemy, two of whose vessels were within musket shot, and a third one nearer. His brave shipmates who remained behind, stood watching him, in breathless anxiety; the balls struck around him and flew over his head in every direction; but the same special providence that seems to have watched over the youthful hero throughout this desperate battle, conducted him safely through a shower of shot, and they beheld with transport his inspiring flag hoisted at the mast head of the Niagara. No sooner was he on board, than Capt. Elliot volunteered to put off in a boat and bring into action the schooners which had been kept astern by the lightness of the wind; the gallant offer was accepted, and Elliot left the Niagara to put it in execution.

About this time the commodore saw, with infinite regret, the flag of the Lawrence come down. The event was unavoidable; she had sustained the whole fury of the enemy, and was rendered incapable of defence; any further show of resistance would but have been most uselessly and cruelly to have provoked carnage among the relics of her brave and mangled crew. The enemy, however, were not able to take possession of her, and subsequent circumstances enabled her again to hoist her flag.

Commodore Perry now made signal for close action, and the small vessels got out their sweeps and made all sail. Finding that the Niagara was but little injured, he determined, if possible, to break the enemy's line. He accordingly bore up and passed ahead of the two ships and brig, giving them a raking fire from his starboard guns, and also to a large schooner and sloop from his larboard side at half pistol shot. Having passed the whole squadron, he luffed up and laid his ship along side the British commodore. The smaller vessels under the direction of Capt. Elliot, having, in the mean time, got within grape and cannister distance, and keeping up a well-directed fire, the whole of the enemy struck excepting two small vessels which attempted to escape, but were taken.

The engagement lasted about three hours, and never was victory more decisive and complete. The captured squadron, as has been shown, exceeded ours in weight of metal and number of

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gus. Their crews were also more numerous; ours were a motley collection, where there were some good seamen, but eked out with soldiers, volunteers and boys, and many were on the sick list. More prisoners were taken than we had men to guard. The loss on both sides was severe. Scarcely any of the Lawrence's crew escaped unhurt. Among those slain was Lieut. Brooks of the marines, a gay and elegant young officer, full of spirit, of amiable manners, and remarkable for his personal beauty. Lieut. Yarnall, though repeatedly wounded, refused to quit the deck during the whole of the action. Commodore Perry, notwithstanding that he was continually in the most exposed situations of the battle, escaped uninjured; he wore an ordinary seaman's dress, which, perhaps, prevented him from being picked off by the enemy's sharpshooters. He had a younger brother with him on board the Lawrence, as midshipman, who was equally fortunate in receiving no injury, though his shipmates fell all round him. Two Indian chiefs had been stationed in the tops of the Detroit, to shoot down our officers, but when the action became warm, so panic struck were they with the terrors of the scene, and the strange perils that surrounded them, that they fled precipitately to the hold of the ship, where they were found after the battle in a state of utter consternation. The bodies of several other Indians are said to have been found the next day on the shores of the lake, supposed to have been slain during the engagement and thrown overboard.

The loss of the British, in killed and wounded, is estimated at 160, and that of the Americans at 123. On board the British fleet, the captain and first lieutenant of the Queen Charlotte were killed. Com. Barclay, of the Lady Prevost, was severely wounded and lost his hand. He, however, did himself honour by the brave and obstinate resistance which he made. He is a fine looking officer, of about 36 years of age. He has seen much service, having been desperately wounded in the battle of Trafalgar, and afterwards losing an arm in another engagement with the French. In the present battle he was twice carried below, on account of his wounds, and had the misfortune to have his remaining hand shot away. While below the second time, his officer came down and told him that they must strike, as the ships were cut to pieces, and the men could not be kept to their guns. Com. Barclay was then carried on deck, and after taking a view of their situation, and finding all chance of success was over, reluctantly gave orders to strike.

Interesting anecdotes of the battle on lake Erie..... It is a trite remark, that general descriptions of battles present no images to the mind. We read with little emotion of broadsides discharged, ships cut to pieces, and numbers killed and wounded; but when

particulars are given us, when the imminent risks, or piteous disasters of individuals are detailed, we fancy ourselves in their situation, and in a manner mingle personally in the conflict. In addition to the account before given of the engagement on lake Erie, several circumstances have reached us, which give a more vivid idea of the nature of the fight, and show the incessant and thickening perils with which the gallant Perry was surrounded.

It was his lot repeatedly to see men swept away from his side; some even while conversing with him. One of these instances displays the coolness and presence of mind that prevailed among the officers, and indeed throughout the ship, enabling them even to jest with present dangers. The second lieutenant of the Lawrence, while standing beside Commodore Perry, was struck in the breast by a chain shot. The shot having passed through the bulwark, had no other effect than to knock him down, and lodge in the bosom of his waistcoat. He fell with an exclamation, and remained for a moment stunned by the violence of the blow. Perry raised him up, and seeing no marks of a wound, gave him some cheering words, and told him he could not be hurt. The lieutenant coming to himself, put his hand into his bosom, pulled out the shot and exclaiming, "No, no, but this is my shot," thrust it, with great sang froid, into his pocket.

In the course of the action Perry noticed a prime and favorite sailor, who was captain of one of the guns, very much embarrassed with his piece, which in consequence of the firelock being broken was rather unmanageable and rebounded. Perry approached him, and in his usual encouraging manner, asked him what was the matter. The honest tar, who had been showing signs of infinite vexation, turned round, and as if speaking of a mistress, exclaimed reproachfully, "sir, my gun behaves shamefully—shamefully!" He then levelled, and having taken aim, raised up and squared himself in a fine martial style; when suddenly a cannon ball struck him in the breast, passed through him, and he fell dead without a groan!

Lieutenant Yarnall, of the Lawrence, behaved throughout with great bravery and coolness. He was dressed as a common seaman, a red bandana handkerchief was tied round his neck, and another round his head, to stanch two wounds which he had received. From these the blood trickled down his face, and a splinter having passed through his nose it had swelled to a hideous magnitude. In this frightful plight, looking like the very genius of carnage and ill luck, he came up to Perry, in the hottest and bloodiest of the fight, and announced to him that all the officers of his division were killed. Perry ordered others in their place. Shortly after, Yarnall returned with a repetition of the dismal tidings that all the officers were shot down! Then sir, said Perry,

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One circumstance which Perry relates, deserves particular mention. It has in it something of sentiment that is above common life, and absolutely belongs to poetry. When in the sweeping havoc that was sometimes made, a number of men were shot away from around a gun, the survivors *looked silently round to Perry...* and then stepped into their places. Whenever he looked at the poor fellows that lay wounded and weltering on the deck, he always found *their faces turned towards him, and their eyes fixed on his countenance.* It is impossible for words to heighten the simple and affecting eloquence of this anecdote. It speaks volumes in praise of the heroism of the commander, and the loyal affection of his followers.

When Perry went off from the Lawrence to shift his flag to the Niagara, he stood up in the boat gallantly waving his sword, and was heard cheerfully to exclaim, '*pull away my brave boys!*' So earnest was he, that though the balls whistled around him, he could scarcely be made to take a seat, and an old sailor, who had been in both battles of the Constitution, absolutely held him down.

Just after he had got on board the Niagara, and was on the quarter deck, a sailor who commanded one of the guns, seeing all his men shot down, turned with eagerness to Perry, and laying both hands upon his shoulders, exclaimed, '*for God's sake, sir, give me some more men!*' Such was the vivid animation that prevailed among all ranks, they had lost all sense of personal danger, and thought of nothing but victory.

When the Niagara dashed through the enemy's line, as she passed the Lady Prevost, Lieutenant Buchan, the commander of that vessel, was shot through the face by a musket ball...The vessels were then within half pistol shot so that every thing could be seen distinctly from one to the other. The crew of the Lady Prevost, unable in their crippled state to stand the fire of the Niagara, ran below; but their unfortunate commander remained on deck, and Perry saw him leaning on the companion way, with his face on his hand, looking with fixed stare at his enemies. Perry immediately silenced the marines on the quarter deck, and running forward ordered the men to cease firing. He afterwards learnt that the strange conduct of Lieutenant Buchan was owing to sudden derangement, caused by his wound. He was a brave officer, and had distinguished himself in the battle of the Nile.

While Perry was engaged at close quarters in the Niagara, Lieutenant Turner, a fine brave young sailor, who commanded the brig Caledonia of three guns, spreading every sail, endeavored to get into the action. His foresail interfered between him and the enemy, but rather than take in an inch of canvass, he ordered his men to fire through it. Seeing the commodore enga-

ged in the thickest of the fight, he proposed to the commander of another small vessel, to board the *Detroit*; the other however prudently declined the rash, but gallant proposal.

It has been mentioned that two Indians were on board the *Detroit*, stationed in the tops, to pick off our officers with their rifles. No sooner however did the ships come into close action, than they were dismayed by this new and tremendous species of battle, and slunk into the hold. When the ship was taken they anticipated cruel treatment, if their station was discovered, and borrowed sailors clothes that they might pass for Englishmen. Thus disguised, they lay in close concealment for two days, when word was brought to commodore Perry, that two Indians were concealed below who had not tasted food for eight and forty hours. He had them brought up on deck, where they made a most uncouth and ludicrous appearance, with their borrowed garments bagging about them. They expected nothing less than to be butchered and scalped; but notwithstanding, preserved the most taciturn inflexibility of muscle. Perry however after putting a few good humored questions to them, ordered them to be taken away and fed; a degree of lenity which seemed to strike them with more surprise than their stoic natures are apt to evince.

The only time that the coolness and self-command of Perry experienced any thing of a shock, was on seeing his young brother knocked down by a hammock, which had been driven in by a ball. In the momentary agony of mind he gave him up as slain, but had the delight to see him rise up perfectly unhurt.

We shall close these few particulars of this gallant and romantic affair, with the affecting fate of Lieutenant Brookes of the marines. It presents an awful picture of the scenes which the warrior witnesses in battle....his favorite companions suddenly cut down before his eyes....those dreadful transitions from the flush of health and the vivacity of youth, to the ghastliness of agonizing death....from the cheering and the smile, to the shriek and the convulsion.

Brookes was a gay, animated young officer, remarkable for his personal beauty. In the midst of the engagement he accosted Perry in a spirited tone with a smile on his countenance, and was making some observations about the enemy, when a cannon ball struck him in the thigh, and dashed him to the opposite side of the deck. The blow shattered him dreadfully, and the sudden anguish, forced from him the most thrilling exclamations. He implored Perry to shoot him and put an end to his torture....the latter directed some of the mariners to carry him below and consign him to the surgeon. The scene was rendered more affecting, by the conduct of a little mulatto boy of twelve years of age, a favorite of Brookes....He carried cartridges to one of the guns, but on seeing his master fall, he threw himself upon the deck,

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with the most frantic gesticulations and piercing cries, exclaiming that his master was killed; nor could he be appeased until orders were given to take him below; when he immediately returned to carrying cartridges.

Mr. Hamilton, the purser, who had worked at a gun like a common sailor, being wounded, was carried below and laid on the same mattress, with Brookes. The wound of the latter was stanchd, and he lay composed, calmly awaiting his approaching death. Hamilton observes, that he never looked so perfectly beautiful as at this moment, when the anguish of his wound had imparted a feverish flush over his usually blooming countenance. He asked with great solicitude after Perry, and how the battle went. He gave a few directions about his own affairs, and while his voice was growing weaker and weaker, recommended his little mulatto to kindness and protection, directing into whose hands he should be placed. While he was yet talking, Hamilton's attention was suddenly attracted by some circumstance which occasioned him to look another way for a moment; the voice of his companion died away upon his ear, and when he turned his face again, poor Brookes had expired.

Biography of Commodore Perry..... OLIVER HAZARD PERRY is the eldest son of Christopher Raymond Perry, Esq. of the U. States' navy. He was born at Newport, (R. I.) in August, 1785, and being early destined for the navy, he entered the service in 1793, as midshipman, on board the sloop of war General Green, then commanded by his father. When that ship went out of commission he was transferred to a squadron destined to the Mediterranean, where he served during the Tripolitan war. His extreme youth prevented his having an opportunity of distinguishing himself; but the faithfulness and intelligence with which he discharged the duties of his station, recommended him greatly to the favour of his superior officers; while his private virtues, and the manly dignity of his deportment, commanded the friendship and respect of his associates.

On returning from the Mediterranean he continued sedulously attentive to his profession, and though the reduction of the navy, and the neglect into which it fell during an interval of peace, disheartened many of the officers, and occasioned several to resign, yet he determined to adhere to its fortunes, confident that it must at some future period rise to importance. It would be little interesting to enumerate the different vessels in which he served, or to trace his advances through the regular grades. In 1810, we find he was ordered to the U. S. schooner *Revenge*, as lieutenant commandant. This vessel was attached to the squadron of Commodore Rodgers, at Newlondon, and employed in cruising in the Sound, to enforce the embargo act. In the following spring he



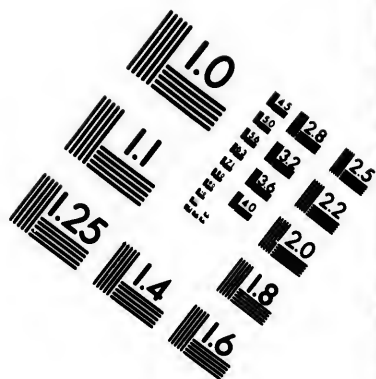
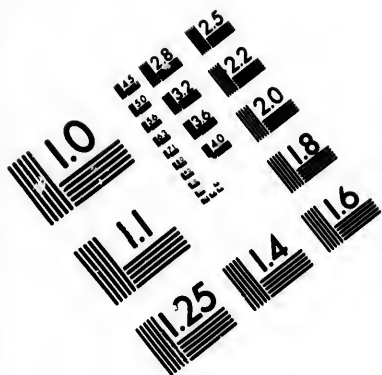
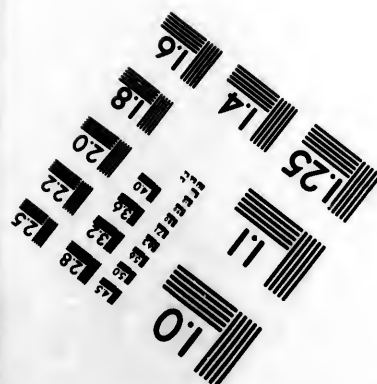
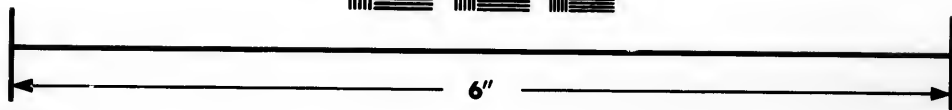
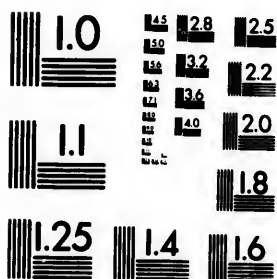


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had the misfortune to lose the *Revenge* on Watch Hill Reef, opposite Stoney Town. He had sailed from Newport, late in the evening, for New London, with an easterly wind, accompanied by a fog. In the morning he found himself enveloped in a thick mist, with a considerable swell going. In this situation, without any possibility of ascertaining where he was, or of guarding against surrounding dangers, the vessel was carried on the reef, and soon went to pieces. On this occasion Perry gave proofs of that admirable coolness and presence of mind for which he is remarkable. He used every precaution to save the guns and property, and was in a great measure successful. He got off all the crew in perfect safety, and was himself the last to leave the wreck. His conduct in respect to this disaster underwent examination by a court of inquiry, at his own request, and he was not merely acquitted of all blame, but highly applauded for the judgment, intrepidity and perseverance he had displayed. The secretary of the navy, Mr. Hamilton, also wrote him a very complimentary letter on the occasion.

Shortly after this event he returned to Newport, being peculiarly attracted thither by a tender attachment for Miss Mason, daughter of Dr. Mason, and niece of the Honourable Christopher Champlin of the United States' senate; a lovely and interesting young lady, whom he soon after married.

At the beginning of 1812 he was promoted to the rank of master and commander, and ordered to the command of the flotilla of gun-boats stationed at the harbour of New York. He remained on this station about a year; during which time he employed himself diligently in disciplining his crew to serve either as landsmen or mariners; and brought his flotilla into an admirable state of preparation for active operations.

The gun-boat service, however, is at best but an irksome employ. Nothing can be more dispiriting for ardent and daring minds than to be obliged to skulk about harbours and rivers, cramped up in these diminutive vessels, without the hope of exploit to atone for present inconvenience. Perry soon grew tired of this inglorious service, and applied to the secretary of the navy to be ordered to a more active station, and mentioned the lakes as the one he should prefer. His request was immediately complied with, and he received orders to repair to Sacket's Harbour, lake Ontario, with a body of mariners to reinforce the squadron under Commodore Chauncey. So popular was he among the honest tars under his command, that no sooner was the order known than nearly the whole of the crews volunteered to accompany him.

In a few days he was ready to depart, and tearing himself from the comforts of home, and the endearments of a young and beautiful wife and blooming child, he set off at the head of a

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large number of chosen seamen, on his expedition to the wilderness. The rivers being completely frozen over, they were obliged to perform the journey by land, in the depth of winter. The greatest order and good humour, however, prevailed throughout the little band of adventurers, to whom the whole expedition seemed a kind of frolic, and who were delighted with what they termed a land cruise.

Not long after the arrival of Perry at Sacket's Harbour, Commodore Chauncey, who entertained a proper opinion of his merits, detached him to lake Erie, to take command of the squadron on that station, and to superintend the building of additional vessels.

The manner of his executing this trust, and the distinguished part he took in the battle of the 10th of September, 1813, will be found in the preceding pages.

In this battle, we trust, incontrovertible proof is given, if such proof were really wanted, that the success of our navy does not arise from chance, or superiority of force; but from the cool, deliberate courage, the intelligent minds and naval skill of our officers, the spirit of our seamen, and the excellent discipline of our ships; from principles, in short, which must insure a frequency of prosperous results, and give permanency to the reputation we have acquired. We have been rapidly adding trophy to trophy, and successively driving the enemy from every excuse in which he sought to shelter himself from the humiliation of defeat; and after having perfectly established our capability of fighting and conquering in single ships, we have now gone further and shown that it is possible for us to face the foe in squadron, and vanquish him even though superior in force.

In casting our eye over the details of this engagement, we are struck with the prominent part which the commander takes in the contest. We realize in his dauntless exposure and individual prowess, what we have read in heroic story, of the warrior, streaming like a meteor through the fight, and working wonders with his single arm. The fate of the combat seemed to rest upon his sword; he was the master spirit that directed the storm of battle, moving amid flames, and smoke, and death, and mingling wherever the struggle was most desperate and deadly. After sustaining in the Lawrence the whole blaze of the enemy's cannonry; after fighting until all around him was wreck and carnage; we behold him looking forth from his shattered deck, with unruffled countenance, on the direful perils that environed him, calculating with wary eye the chances of the battle, and suddenly launching forth on the bosom of the deep, to shift his flag on board another ship, then in the hottest of the action. This was one of those master strokes by which great events are achieved, and great characters stamped, as it were, at a single blow....which

bespeak the rare combination of the genius to conceive, the promptness to decide, and the boldness to execute. Most commanders have such glorious chances for renown, some time or another, within their reach; but it requires the nerve of a hero to grasp the perilous opportunity. We behold Perry following up his daring movement with sustained energy....dashing into the squadron of the enemy....breaking their line....raking starboard and larboard....and in this brilliant style achieving a consummate victory.

But if we admire his presence of mind and dauntless valour in the hour of danger, we are no less delighted with his modesty and self command amidst the flush of triumph. A courageous heart may carry a man stoutly through the battle, but it argues some strong qualities of head, to drain unmoved the intoxicating cup of victory. The first care of Perry was to attend to the comfort of the suffering crews of both squadrons. The sick and wounded were landed as soon as possible, and every means taken to alleviate the miseries of their situation. The officers who had fallen, on both sides, were buried on Sunday morning, on an island in the lake, with the honours of war. To the surviving officers he advanced a loan of one thousand dollars, out of his own limited purse....but, in short, his behaviour in this respect is best expressed in the words of Commodore Barclay, who, with generous warmth and frankness, has declared, that "the conduct of Perry towards the captive officers and men, was sufficient, of itself, to immortalize him!"

The letters which he wrote, announcing the intelligence, were remarkably simple and laconic. To the secretary of the navy he observes, "It has pleased the Almighty to give to the arms of the United States a signal victory over their enemies on this lake.... The British squadron, consisting of two ships, two brigs, one schooner, and one sloop, have this moment surrendered to the force under my command, after a sharp conflict." This has been called an imitation of Nelson's letter after the battle of the Nile; but it was choosing a noble precedent, and the important national results of the victory justified the language. Independent of the vast accession of glory to our flag, this conquest insured the capture of Detroit and the British army upon the Thames. Well might he say, "it had pleased the Almighty," when, by this achievement, he beheld immediate tranquillity restored to an immense extent of country. Mothers no longer shrunk aghast, and clasped their infants to their breasts, when they heard the shaking of the forest or the howling of the blast; the aged sire no longer dreaded the shades of night, lest ruin should burst upon him in the hour of repose, and his cottage be laid desolate by the fire-brand and the scalping knife; Michigan was rescued from

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the dominion of the sword, and quiet and security once more settled on the harassed frontiers, from Huron to Niagara.

But we are particularly pleased with his subsequent letter, giving the particulars of the battle. It is so chaste, so moderate and perspicuous; equally free from vaunting exultation and affected modesty; neither obtruding himself upon notice, nor pretending to keep out of sight. His own individual services may be gathered from the letter, though not expressly mentioned; indeed, where the fortune of the day depended so materially upon himself, it was impossible to give a faithful narrative without rendering himself conspicuous.

We are led to notice these letters thus particularly, because that we find the art of letter writing is an accomplishment as rare as it is important among our military gentlemen. We are tired of the valour of the pen and the victories of the inkhorn.... There is a common French proverb, "Grand parleur, mauvais combatant," which we could wish to see introduced into our country, and engraven on the swords of our officers. We wish to see them confine themselves, in their letters, to simple facts, neither swaggering before battle, nor vaunting afterwards. It is unwise to boast before, for the event may prove disastrous....and it is superfluous to boast afterwards, for the event speaks for itself. He who promises nothing, may with safety perform nothing, and will receive praise if he perform but little; but he who promises much will receive small credit unless he perform miracles. If a commander have done well, he may be sure the public will find it out, and their gratitude will be in proportion to his modesty. Admiration is a coin, which, if left to ourselves, we lavish profusely, but we always close the hand when dunned for it.

Commodore Perry, like most of our naval officers, is yet in the prime of youth. He is of a manly and prepossessing appearance; mild and unassuming in his address, amiable in his disposition, and of great firmness and decision. Though early launched among the familiar scenes of naval life, (and nowhere is familiarity more apt to be licentious and encroaching,) yet the native gentility and sober dignity of his deportment, always chastened, without restraining the freedom of intimacy. It is pleasing thus to find public services accompanied by private virtues; to discover no drawbacks on our esteem; no base alloy in the man we are disposed to admire; but a character full of moral excellence, of high-minded courtesy, and pure unsullied honour.

Were any thing wanting to perpetuate the fame of this victory, it would be sufficiently memorable from the scene where it was fought. This war has been distinguished by new and peculiar characteristics. Naval warfare has been carried into the interior of a continent, and navies, as if by magic, launched from among

the depths of the forest. The bosoms of peaceful lakes, which, but a short time since, were scarcely navigated by man, except to be skimmed by the light canoe of the savage, have all at once been ploughed by hostile ships. The vast silence that had reigned for ages on those mighty waters, was broken by the thunder of artillery, and the affrighted savage stared with amazement from his covert, at the sudden apparition of a sea-fight amid the solitudes of the wilderness.

The peal of war has once sounded on that lake, but probably will never sound again. The last roar of cannonry that died along her shores, was the expiring note of British domination.... Those vast internal seas will, perhaps, never again be the separating space between contending nations; but will be embosomed within a mighty empire; and this victory, which decided their fate, will stand unrivalled and alone, deriving lustre and perpetuity from its singleness.

In future times, when the shores of Erie shall hum with busy population; when towns and cities shall brighten where now extend the dark and tangled forest; when ports shall spread their arms, and lofty barks shall ride where now the canoe is fastened to the stake; when the present age shall have grown into venerable antiquity, and the mists of fable begin to gather round its history; then will the inhabitants of Canada look back to this battle we record, as one of the romantic achievements of the days of yore. It will stand first on the page of their local legends, and in the marvellous tales of the borders. The fisherman, as he loiters along the beach, will point to some half buried cannon, corroded with the rust of time, and will speak of ocean warriors that came from the shores of the Atlantic....while the boatman, as he trims his sail to the breeze, will chaunt in rude ditties the name of Perry....the early hero of lake Erie.*

* For the foregoing chapter we are indebted, chiefly, to the *Analectic Magazine*.

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THE WAR.

VOLUME I.....NUMBER 6.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Lake Ontario....Comparative view of the American and British forces in 1813....Co-operation of the American fleet in the captures of York and fort George....Commodore Chauncey's first cruise....Loss of the Growler and Julia....Chauncey's second and third cruise....His fourth cruise....Capture of five British transports....Lake Champlain....Loss of the Growler and Eagle....Descent of the enemy on Plattsburgh....American naval force on the lake, &c.

Lake Ontario.....In the spring of the year 1813, the Americans had the following vessels equipped on lake Ontario. Ship Madison, 24 guns; Brig Oneida, 18 do.; schooner Governor Tompkins, 6 do.; Hamilton, 9 do.; Julia, 2 do.; Elizabeth, 2 do.; Lady of the Lake, 3 do.; Conquest, 1 do.; Growler, 5 do.; Pert, 3 do.; Fair American, 4 do.; Ontario, 1 do.; Scourge, 8 do.; in all 93 guns....Also, the Mary, bomb vessel. During the summer, the General Pike, of thirty-two guns, was added to the fleet.

The British fleet in the spring consisted of the following vessels. Frigate General Wolfe, 36 guns; ship Royal George, 22 do.; Prince Regent, 16 do.; brig Earl Moira, 12 do.; seven schooners of from four to eight guns each.

Co-operation of the fleet in the captures of York and fort George.....On the 25th of April the American fleet under Com. Chauncey, left Sacket's Harbour for the purpose of conveying the troops under the command Gen. Dearborn, against the British post at York. At this place the fleet arrived on the 27th. The landing of the troops was covered in a masterly manner by

the commodore. The Americans succeeded in their attack upon the town. A midshipman and some seamen of the fleet were killed.

Commodore Chauncey, after having returned to Sacket's Harbour from York, again sailed, on the 22d of May, for the purpose of co-operating in the reduction of the British fort George. This place was attacked on the 28th. The vessels of the American squadron were judiciously stationed to cover the landing of the troops, and to silence the land batteries of the British; in the latter they soon succeeded; when a landing was effected, and the fort taken by the Americans.

Capt. Perry had come down from lake Erie, and was in this engagement. He rendered particular service to the commodore, by assisting in arranging and superintending the debarkation of the troops. On board the fleet only one man was killed and two wounded.

On the 29th of May, during the absence of the American fleet, the British fleet, consisting of the General Wolfe, Royal George, Prince Regent, Earl Moira, two armed schooners, and a number of gun boats, with a detachment of the British army, from Kingston, attacked Sacket's Harbour; they were, however, gallantly repulsed by the troops under the command of Brigadier General Brown. A few days after this affair the American fleet returned to Sacket's Harbour.

Commodore Chauncey's first cruise.....In the latter part of July, Commodore Chauncey left Sacket's Harbour with his fleet, and on the 27th of the same month arrived off Niagara. Having there taken about 250 infantry on board, he set sail. It had been resolved to attack an encampment of the British; but the latter being in greater force than had been supposed, the attempt was abandoned; and the fleet proceeded to York, where the marines and soldiers were landed under Col. Scott. A very considerable quantity of British stores were either destroyed or conveyed on board the fleet. The barracks and public store houses were burnt. The fleet then returned to Niagara.

On the 7th of August, at daylight, the British fleet, consisting of two ships, two brigs, and two large schooners, were discovered bearing W. N. W. They were about 5 or 6 miles distant, and the wind at west. Commodore Chauncey, having passed the leeward of the British line, and abreast of their van ship, the Wolfe, hoisted American colours, and fired a few guns to ascertain whether the British vessels could be reached by his shot.... But discovering that they fell short, he wore and haled upon a wind on the starboard tack. The rearmost of the American schooners was then about six miles astern. The British wore in

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succession, and haled upon a wind on the same tack; but perceiving the Americans would be enabled to weather them upon the next tack, they tacked and made all sail to the northward. As soon as the rear vessels of the American squadron could reach the wake of the British, they tacked and made all sail in chase. In the afternoon the wind became very light, and towards night a calm succeeded. The American schooners used their sweeps all the afternoon, in endeavours to close with the British, but without success. Late in the afternoon Commodore Chauncey made the signal of recall, and formed in close order. During the night the wind was from the westward, and after midnight squally. All hands in the American squadron were kept at quarters, and the vessels beat to windward, in expectation of gaining the wind of the British. During the night the two best American schooners were upset, in a heavy squall of wind, and sunk. Only 16 persons were saved from them; all the rest perished. The names of the schooners were the Hamilton and Scourge, mounting together 19 guns. This accident gave the British a decided superiority. Commodore Chauncey expected the British would take the advantage of this superiority; and the more so, as by a change of wind they were brought to windward of him. He accordingly formed his line upon the larboard tack, and hove to. Soon after, the British bore up and set studding sails, apparently with the intention of bringing the Americans to action. When they had approached within four miles, they brought to on the starboard tack. The Americans then wore and brought to on the same tack. Commodore Chauncey, perceiving the British did not intend bringing him to action, edged away towards the shore, in order to take advantage of the land breeze in the afternoon. It soon after became calm, when the commodore directed his schooners to sweep up and engage the British. About noon a light breeze blew from the eastward. The commodore then took the Oneida in tow, and made sail towards the British. When the van of the American schooners was within one and a half or two miles of the rear of the British, the wind shifted to the westward, which again brought the latter to windward; when they bore up to the American schooners, in order to cut them off before they could be rejoined by Commodore Chauncey. But the schooners succeeded in returning to their station. The British being thus foiled in their attempt upon the schooners, haled their wind and hove to. The weather becoming very squally, Chauncey resolved to run in towards Niagara. The crews of the squadron were nearly forty-eight hours at quarters. A detachment of 150 soldiers were received on board the American fleet, from Niagara, to act as marines.

On the following morning the British fleet was discovered bearing north. The American commodore immediately weighed

anchor and stood for them. The winds were light and variable, and by 12 o'clock were quite calm. At 5 a fresh breeze blew from the north, the British fleet then bearing north, about 4 or 5 leagues distant. The vessels of the American fleet wore in succession, and haled upon a wind on the larboard tack. At sunset the British bore N. W. by N. on the starboard tack. The wind changing towards the westward, the American commodore stood to the northward all night, in order to gain the north shore. At daybreak he tacked to the westward, the wind having then changed to N. N. W.; soon after which he discovered the British fleet, bearing S. W. The commodore made all sail in chase, with the *Asp*, *Madison* and *Fair American* in tow. To his great disappointment, the wind, about 12 o'clock changed to W. S. W. which again brought the British to windward. The commodore tacked to the northward; but at 3 o'clock, the wind inclining to the north, he wore to south and west, and made signal for the fleet to make all sail. At 4 the British bore S. S. W.; the Americans steered after them. At 5 the former were becalmed under the land, while the latter neared them very fast, with a fine breeze from N. N. W. At 6 the Americans formed in line within 4 miles of the British, the wind being then very light. At 7 the wind changed to S. W. and blew a fresh breeze. This placed the British to windward. The American commodore then tacked and haled upon a wind on the larboard tack, under easy sail, the British standing after him. At 9 in the evening the British were within double gun shot of the rear of the Americans. They then wore to the southward. The American commodore stood to the north under easy sail, with his fleet formed in two lines; a part of the schooners formed the weather line. They were ordered to commence the fire upon the British, as soon as the shot of the latter should take effect; and, as they approached, to edge down upon the American line to leeward, pass thro' the intervals and form to leeward. At half past 10 the British tacked and stood for the Americans. At 11 o'clock the rear of the American line opened a brisk fire upon the British, and in the course of fifteen minutes, the fire became general along the weather line of the Americans. At half past 11 this line bore up, and passed to leeward, except the *Growler* and *Julia*. These two vessels tacked to the south, which brought the British between them and their commodore. The latter filled his main-topsail, and edged away two points, to lead the British down; this he did in order to engage them to greater advantage, and to lead them from the *Growler* and *Julia*. They however kept their wind until they separated these two last mentioned vessels from the rest of the American squadron. As they passed the *General Pike* a few shots were exchanged without doing any injury.... While the British were in chase of the two schooners, the com-

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variable, breeze blew out 4 or 5 miles in succession. At sunset the wind shifted to the north. The commodore stood by. At then changed the British in chase, to his great advantage. W. S. W. the commodore inclining to sail for the night; the Americans calmed under a fine line with light. At 7 This commodore then under easy sailing the British Americans. commodore med in two line. They as soon as they approached, pass through the British the rear of, and in the evening the weather bore up. These two British between main-top-sail, down; this he and to lead kept their vessels from the General by injury.... rs, the com-

commodore tacked and stood after them until midnight, when he was forced to give over the pursuit to rejoin his squadron, then to leeward. Their line was now formed on the starboard tack. The firing continued between the two American schooners and the British fleet until one o'clock, when the former were captured. Soon after this, the American fleet, being nearly destitute of provisions, returned to Sacket's Harbour.

Commodore Chauncey's second cruise..... During a cruise in the early part of September, Commodore Chauncey fell in with the British fleet, and chased them all round the lake, when they put into Amherst bay, after having received considerable injury from the fire of the Americans. This bay was so little known to the American pilots, that they were unwilling to take the fleet in. Sir James Yeo, commander of the British fleet, had a superiority over the American commodore, both in guns and men. His vessels also sailed better than the American.

Commodore Chauncey blockaded the British fleet in Amherst bay for 4 days, when the wind blowing heavy from the westward, they succeeded in getting into Kingston; upon which the commodore returned to Sacket's Harbour, where he remained only a few hours, and on the 18th of September sailed for Niagara, where he arrived on the 24th.

Commodore Chauncey's third cruise..... Commodore Chauncey having ascertained that the British squadron was in York bay, sailed from Niagara. On the 27th, in the evening, owing to the extreme darkness of the night, a part of his squadron separated, and did not join him until next morning. On the same day, the British fleet was discovered under way in York bay. The American squadron sailed for them, with three schooners in tow. But on the British perceiving the design of the Americans to engage them, they tacked and stood out of the bay, the wind being then at east. The American commodore formed his line, and ran down for their centre. As soon, however, as he had approached within 3 miles, they made all sail to the southward. The vessels of the American squadron wore in succession, and stood on the same tack with the British, and edged down gradually in order to close. At 10, P. M. the British perceiving the Americans closing fast with them, and that they must either risk an action, or suffer their two rear vessels to be cut off, they tacked in succession, beginning at the van, hoisted their colours, and commenced a well directed fire at the Pike. This they did with view to cover their rear: and, while passing to leeward, to attack the rear of the Americans. This commodore Chauncey frustrated, by bearing up in succession, with the line preserved, at the centre of the British, as soon as their leading ship, the

Wolfe, had passed the centre of her line, and was abeam of the American. This manœuvre not only covered the American rear, but also threw the British into confusion. They immediately bore away; but the Americans had closed so near as to be enabled to bring their guns to bear with effect, and in 20 minutes after, the main and mizen topmasts and the main yard of the British frigate Wolfe were shot away. This vessel immediately put before the wind, with all sail set upon her foremast. The American commodore made signal for the fleet to crowd all sail in pursuit: but as the Wolfe kept before the wind, she was enabled to out-sail the American squadron, and experienced no retardiment from the loss of her main and mizen-topmasts. The Americans continued the chase until near 3 o'clock. The Pike, with the Asp in tow, kept within point blank shot of the British during the chase, and sustained the whole of their fire. Prudence forbade any further pursuit on the part of the Americans. The Pike was much injured, owing to her being so long exposed to the fire of the whole British fleet. The most serious injury, however, she received from the bursting of a gun, which killed and wounded 22 men. The Governor Tompkins lost her foremast. The American fleet returned to Niagara.

Commodore Chauncey's fourth cruise..... On the 2d of October, Commodore Chauncey again proceeded in quest of the British fleet. He discovered them steering a course for Niagara, with studding sails, and all sails set, the wind being from the south and westward. The commodore made all sail in chase, but as soon as his vessels were discovered by the British, they took in studding sails and haled upon a wind to the westward, and made all sail from the Americans. The wind being light all day, little progress was made against the current. By sundown the British were off Twenty Mile Creek, and had got considerable distance from the Americans. At daylight the British were perceived at anchor; but as soon as they saw the American squadron, they weighed and made all sail to the west. The wind was from south to southwest and squally. The American commodore made all sail in chase, and continued it the whole day. At sundown the British could scarcely be perceived from the mast head of the American vessels.

On the following morning the British fleet was out of sight. Commodore Chauncey then steered for the Ducks, with a view of intercepting the British fleet on its return, should it have gone down the lake. The wind increased to a strong gale from the northward and westward, and continued during the whole day.

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On the 2d of October, 1812, the British fleet, consisting of the Niagara, with a number of smaller vessels, sailed from the south and entered the lake, but as soon as they took in sight the American fleet, and made all day, little progress. The British were perceived at a considerable distance, and a squadron, they were from Commodore made. At sundown the mast head of the

Lake Champlain.....During the summer of the year 1812, preparations were made on lake Champlain, to oppose the naval force that might be sent by the British from Isle au Noix. Nothing very interesting occurred, however, until the 3d of June, 1813.

* The Hamilton and Constance had not long been captured from the Americans, as already related, and had been, in the American service, called the Growler and Julia.

a superior force ; the action continued above four hours. The shores were lined with British soldiers, who, from the narrowness of the channel, were enabled to do considerable execution.

Descent on Plattsburgh.... On the 30th of July, the British, in two large sloops of war, three gun boats, and about 40 batteaux, loaded with troops, sailors and marines, about 1400 in all, crossed the line at Champlain, and on the day following landed at Plattsburgh ; where they immediately begun the work of destruction.

On the first information of the approach of the enemy, an order was issued by General Mooers, for calling out the militia ; and when the enemy arrived, about 300 from Plattsburgh and the neighboring towns had collected. This force, however, being considered incompetent to oppose the enemy, retired a few miles from the town, where it was afterwards joined by the residue of the regiment to which it belonged, and a regiment from the county of Essex ; but at too late a period to prevent the depredations committed by the invader.

Although the officer who had command of the expedition, assured the civil authority of Plattsburgh, that private property should be respected, and that citizens not found in arms should remain unmolested ; yet these promises were no sooner made than violated. The enemy not being satisfied with destroying the public buildings, such as the block-house, arsenal, armory, hospital, and military cantonment, wantonly burnt two store houses, belonging to Peter Saily, Esq. and one belonging to Major Z. N. Platt ; and took and carried off several thousand dollars worth of hard-ware, which had been stored with Mr. Saily. The destruction of private property was not limited to such as they could eat, drink, or carry away ; but furniture, which could have been of no use to the plunderers, was wantonly destroyed.

The dwelling houses of Peter Saily, Henry Delord, and John Palmer, Doctors Miller and Davidson, Henry Powers, and Mrs. Peabody, a poor woman, with a large family of children, and many others, were stripped of every thing valuable, which could be carried away or destroyed. A gentleman (J. Griffith, esq.) removed his furniture about a mile out of the village to his farm-house ; where the enemy sent a piquet guard, and compelled him, with his two children, to take refuge in the woods....scattered his property about in different directions, and committed many other atrocious acts. The citizens of Plattsburgh were compelled to procure horses, carts, &c. to carry off the spoil of the invader, and to suffer other indignities alike humiliating. The Masonic hall was robbed of its records, refreshments, and jewels, (the latter of which were returned.)

The foregoing, together with many other outrages having been perpetrated, the enemy embarked on the 1st of August ; and so

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precipitate was their retreat, that they left their picket guards behind them, twenty one of whom were made prisoners. After their retreat, they proceeded to Burlington, and fired a few shot; but retired as soon as our cannon began to play upon them.

The whole of the public stores had been removed from Plattsburgh to Burlington previous to the descent of the enemy. The barracks destroyed were computed to be worth 25,000 dollars, and had been built by the soldiers.

*Naval force, &c....*The American naval force on Lake Champlain consisted, on the 20th of August, of the President, 12 guns; Com. Preble, 11 do; Montgomery, 11 do; Frances, 6 do; two gunboats, of one 18 pounder each; and six scows of one 12 pounder each; amounting in all to 48 guns.

In the month of September, Captain Macdonough sailed from Burlington to the lines, and offered the British battle; this they refused, and sailed out of the lake to the northward.

On the 4th of December, the enemy made his appearance on the lake, with six heavy galleys, manned apparently with upwards of 400 men, following close after our look out boat, which was bringing the intelligence. He set fire to a small shed which had been in public use, the smoke of which gave the first intimation of his approach. It being calm, four of our galleys, under Lieutenant Cassin, weighed, and were ordered in pursuit of him. They were directed to bring him to action if possible, and thereby enable the sloops to get up. The chase continued three hours without effect. It is presumed the enemy expected our forces had gone into winter quarters, and that Plattsburgh was the object of his visit.

CHAPTER XXV.

Naval events on the Ocean....Cruise of the Hornet and capture of the Peacock....Return of the Hornet to the United States....Appointment of Captain Lawrence to the command of the Chesapeake....Action with the Shannon and loss of the Chesapeake....Biography of Captain Lawrence....Funeral obsequies of Lawrence and Ludlow.

We noticed in page 123, the sailing of the Constitution, Captain Bainbridge, accompanied by the Hornet, Captain Lawrence, and of the cruise of the former along the Brazil coast. After the Constitution parted with the Hornet, Captain Lawrence continued for 14 days off the harbour of St. Salvadore, blockading the Bonne Citoyenne, without being able to bring her to an engagement. On the 24th January, he was obliged to shift his cruising ground,

by the arrival of the Montague 74, which had sailed from Rio Janeiro for the express purpose of relieving the Bonne Citoyenne, and a British packet of 12 guns, which likewise lay at St. Salvador. He therefore haled by the wind to the westward, with the intention of cruising off Pernambuco.

On the 10th of February he captured the English brig Resolution, of 10 guns, bound to Maranham, from Rio Janeiro, laden with coffee, jerked beef, flour, fustic, butter, and about 25,000 dollars in specie. As this vessel sailed dull, and as Capt. Lawrence could not spare hands to man her, he took out the money and set her on fire.

He then ran down the coast for Maranham, and cruised there for a short time. Thence he ran off Surinam. After cruising off that coast from the 15th to the 23d of February, without meeting with a vessel, he stood for Demarara; and intended, should he not be fortunate on that station, to run through the West Indies on his way to the United States.

Capture of the Peacock..... On the 24th of Oct. in the morning, Captain Lawrence discovered a brig to leeward; to which he immediately gave chase. Not having a pilot on board, he was obliged to haul off. The fort at the entrance of Demarara river bore southwest, distant about two and a half leagues. Previous to giving up the chase, Capt. Lawrence discovered a vessel at anchor without the bar, with English colours flying. She appeared to be a brig of war. In beating round Carobana bank, in order to get to her, at half past 3, P. M. he discovered another sail on his weather quarter, edging down for him. At 20 minutes past 4, she hoisted English colours. She was now discovered to be a large man of war brig.

Capt. Lawrence immediately ordered his men to quarters, and had the ship cleared for action. He kept close by the wind, in order, if possible, to get the weather gage of the approaching vessel. At 10 minutes past 5, finding he could weather the enemy, he hoisted American colours and tacked. About a quarter of an hour after this, the ships passed each other, and exchanged broadsides within half pistol shot. Captain Lawrence, observing the enemy in the act of wearing, bore up, received his starboard broadside, and ran him close on board on the starboard quarter. From that position he kept up a most severe and well-directed fire. So great was its effect, that, in less than 15 minutes, the British vessel struck. She was almost cut to pieces, and hoisted an ensign, union down, from her fore rigging as a signal of distress. Shortly after, her mainmast went by the board.

Lieutenant Shubrick was despatched on board. He soon returned with her first lieutenant, who reported her to be his Bri-

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tannic majesty's brig Peacock, commanded by Captain William Peake, who fell in the action; that a number of her crew were killed and wounded; and that she was sinking very fast, having then six feet water in her hold. The boats of the Hornet were immediately despatched for the wounded. Both vessels were brought to anchor. The shot holes in the Peacock, that could be got at, were then plugged, and her guns thrown overboard. Every exertion was used to keep her afloat, until the prisoners could be removed, by pumping and bailing, but without effect. She unfortunately sunk in five and a half fathoms water, with thirteen of her own crew and three of the Hornet's. Lieutenant Connor, Midshipman Cooper, and the remainder of the men employed in removing the prisoners, with difficulty saved themselves by jumping into a boat that was lying on the booms, as the vessel went down. Four men, of the Peacock's crew, who were on board when she went down, and were so fortunate as to gain the fore-top, were afterwards taken off by the Hornet's boats. Previous to the Peacock's sinking, four of her men took to her stern boat, which had been much damaged during the action. There was little or no prospect of their reaching the land. They, however, arrived safe at Demarara.

Captain Lawrence could not ascertain from the officers of the Peacock, the exact number of killed. Captain Peake and four men were found dead on board. The master, one midshipman, carpenter, captain's clerk, and twenty-nine seamen of the Peacock, were wounded; most of them severely....three died after being removed....nine were drowned.

The Hornet had only one man killed, and two slightly wounded. Two men were also severely burnt by the explosion of a cartridge, one of whom died a few days after. The rigging and sails of the Hornet were much cut. A shot passed through the foremast; the bowsprit was slightly injured; but her hull received very little injury.

At the time Captain Lawrence brought the Peacock to action, the *Espiegle*, the brig mentioned as being at anchor, lay within six miles of the Hornet, between her and the shore, and could plainly see the whole of the action. She mounted eighteen guns. Supposing that she would beat out to the assistance of her consort, great exertions were used by the officers and crew of the Hornet, to repair her damages. By 9 o'clock her boats were stowed, a new set of sails bent, and the ship completely ready for action.

At 2 o'clock, A. M. the Hornet got under way, and stood by the wind to the northward and westward, under easy sail. On mustering, next morning, 270 souls were found to be on board the Hornet. As the crew of the latter had been for some time

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brig *Resolução*, laden about 25,000 pt. Lawrence money and set

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on short allowance, Captain Lawrence resolved to make the best of his way to the United States.

The Peacock was deservedly styled one of the finest vessels of her class in the British navy. She was about the tonnage of the Hornet. Her beam was greater by five inches: but her extreme length not so great by four feet. She mounted sixteen 24 pound carronades, 2 long nines, a 12 pound carronade on her top gallant fore-castle as a shifting gun, and a four or six pounder, and two swivels aft. By her quarter-bill, her crew consisted of 134 men, four of whom were absent in a prize, besides four men and a boy, who were not on her quarter bill.

Of the Hornet's crew, the sailing-master and seven men were absent in a prize; and Lieut. Stewart and six men on the sick list.

The conduct of Captain Lawrence towards his prisoners, was such as deserved the highest applause. So sensibly affected were the officers of the Peacock by the treatment they received, that on their arrival at Newyork, they made a grateful acknowledgment in the public papers. To use their own expressive phrase, "they ceased to consider themselves prisoners." Nor must we omit to mention a circumstance highly to the honour of the brave tars of the Hornet. Finding that the crew of the Peacock had lost all their clothing, by the sudden sinking of the vessel, they made a subscription, and from their own wardrobes supplied each man with two shirts and a blue jacket and trowsers. Such may rough sailors be made, when they have before them the example of high-minded men. They are beings of but little reflection, open to the impulse and excitement of the moment; and it depends, in a great measure, upon their officers, whether, under a Lawrence, they shall ennoble themselves by generous actions; or, under a Cockburn, be hurried away into scenes of unpremeditated atrocity.

On the return of Captain Lawrence to the United States, he was received with great distinction and applause; and various public bodies conferred on him peculiar tokens of approbation.

Appointment of Captain Lawrence to the command of the Chesapeake... Shortly after he arrived at Newyork, Captain Lawrence was appointed to command the Chesapeake frigate. It was with reluctance he accepted the command of this vessel, for she was considered the worst ship in the navy. The Chesapeake then lay at Boston, whither Captain Lawrence repaired. When nearly ready for sea, the British frigate Shannon appeared off the harbour, and made signals expressive of a challenge. A written challenge is also stated to have been sent by Cap-

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tain Broke, the commander of the Shannon, but which Captain Lawrence never received. Favourable circumstances, and superiority of force, were on the side of the Shannon. The Chesapeake, on the contrary, laboured under particular disadvantages. Her commander was very slightly acquainted with his crew; the greater part of whom were new recruits. She, as has been already observed, was but an indifferent vessel; and, at the moment the Shannon appeared, was not in complete order for an engagement. But Lawrence had himself challenged a British vessel; the sight of one riding in defiance before him, was too much for his pride to bear. He, in consequence, put to sea on the first of June, having hoisted a white flag with "*Free trade and sailor's right*." He addressed his men in a short discourse, but it was received with no marks of approbation. Discontent was apparent among a part of the crew, and complaints were muttered of not having received their prize money. The boatswain, a Portuguese, was the principal instigator of this disaffection. Lawrence, unacquainted with his crew, resolved to remove the cause of their complaint. He ordered the purser to give prize checks to those who had received none. On perceiving the Chesapeake coming out, the Shannon bore away. The Chesapeake followed until 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when she hauled up and fired a gun. On this the Shannon hove to. The two vessels continued manœuvring in silence until 6, when they were within pistol shot of each other. The action then commenced by a tremendous and destructive broadside from each vessel, which, on board the Chesapeake, killed the sailing-master, Mr. White, and mortally wounded the fourth lieutenant, Mr. Ballard. A musket ball struck Captain Lawrence in his leg, and inflicted a painful wound. He, however, leaned on the companion way, and continued to command and encourage his crew. A second and third destructive broadside was discharged from each ship, in which the Chesapeake had evidently the advantage; but unfortunately her first lieutenant, Ludlow, was severely wounded and carried below. Three men, in the course of 12 minutes, had been successively shot down from her helm. A shot also disabled her foresail, and she could no longer answer her helm. In this state, her anchor caught in one of the after ports of the Shannon. Thus was the Chesapeake thrown into a position in which her guns could not be brought to bear, while the Shannon was enabled to rake her upper decks, by which numbers of the crew of the Chesapeake were killed and wounded. A hand grenade, thrown on the quarter deck, caused a great explosion, and set fire to some musket cartridges, but did no other injury. As soon as Captain Lawrence perceived that the Chesapeake was falling to leeward, and that by the Shannon's filling

she would fall on board, he called to the boarders, and was in the act of giving orders respecting the foresail, when he received a musket ball in his body. At the call for boarders, Lieutenant Coxe, who commanded the second division, ran on deck; but arrived just in time to receive his falling commander, whom he immediately carried below.

The bugleman, who should have called the boarders, as ordered by Captain Lawrence, did not do his duty. The Shannon had sustained so much injury that her commander, Commodore Broke, was preparing to repel any attempt of boarding from the Chesapeake. But at this moment, Broke, perceiving the havoc his fire had occasioned on the deck of the Chesapeake, jumped on board her with about 20 men. They would soon have been driven back, but all the officers on deck were either killed or wounded. The second lieutenant, Budd, who commanded the first division below, led up the boarders; but only fifteen or twenty men followed him. With these he defended the ship until disabled by a wound. Lieutenant Ludlow, though wounded, hurried on deck where he soon received a mortal sabre wound. Sixty additional men being thrown on board from the Shannon, the crew of the Chesapeake, who now had no officer to direct and rally them, were overpowered. The Chesapeake, however, was not surrendered by an act of submission, but was taken possession of by force that overwhelmed all opposition.

As Captain Lawrence was conveyed below, he perceived the disabled state of the Chesapeake; but exclaimed, "Don't give up the ship." He lay in the ward room in the most excruciating pain. When the noise and bustle of combat ceased above, he ordered the surgeon to go on deck and tell the officers to fight on to the last, and never to strike the colours. "They shall said he, "wave as long as I live." But the struggle had ceased and the British were in possession of the ship. Captain Lawrence lingered in great pain for four days, when he expired.

The Chesapeake had 47 men killed and 93 wounded. The British acknowledged that the killed and wounded of the Shannon amounted to 88 men, among the latter of whom was Commodore Broke. The greater part of the Americans were killed and wounded by the British boarders. The loss of the Shannon was principally occasioned by the cannon of the Chesapeake. The latter received little injury in her hull; whereas the former had several shots between wind and water; and had her crew been repelled in the attempt to board, she would in all probability have been captured.

The Shannon mounted fifty-three guns; the Chesapeake forty-nine.

The treatment of the Americans, in the present instance, was nearly the reverse of that humanity and generosity they had

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all similar occasions shown to the British. Even the private stores of Captain Lawrence were taken from him.

His remains were interred at Halifax, with great solemnity. Mr. Crowinshield, of Salem, some time after, obtained a flag of truce for the purpose of conveying to the United States the bodies of Lawrence and Ludlow, which he performed. They were interred in Newyork with all the honours due to brave men, sacrificed in the heroic defence of their country.

*Biography of Captain Lawrence....*To speak feelingly, yet temperately, of the merits of those who have bravely fought and gloriously fallen in the service of their country, is one of the most difficult tasks of the biographer. Filled with admiration of their valour, and sorrow for their fate, we feel the impotency of our gratitude, in being able to reward such great sacrifices with nothing but empty applause. We are apt, therefore, to be hurried into a degree of eulogium, which, however sincere and acknowledged at the time, may be regarded as extravagant by the dispassionate eye of after years.

We feel more particularly this difficulty, in undertaking to give the memoirs of one, whose excellent qualities and gallant deeds are still vivid in our recollection, and whose untimely end has excited, in an extraordinary degree, the sympathies of his countrymen. Indeed, the popular career of this youthful hero has been so transient, yet dazzling, as almost to prevent sober investigation. Scarce had we ceased to rejoice in his victory, before we were called to deplore his loss. He passed before the public eye like a star, just beaming on it for a moment, and falling in the midst of his brightness.

Captain James Lawrence was born on the 1st of October, 1781, at Burlington, in the state of New-Jersey. He was the youngest son of John Lawrence, Esq. an eminent counsellor at law of that place. Within a few weeks after his birth his mother died, and the charge of him devolved on his sisters, to whom he ever showed the warmest gratitude for the tender care they took of his infant years. He early evinced that excellence of heart by which he was characterized through life; he was a dutiful and affectionate child, mild in his disposition, and of the most gentle and engaging manners. He was scarce twelve years of age when he expressed a decided partiality for a seafaring life; but his father disapproving of it, and wishing him to prepare for the profession of the law, his strong sense of duty induced him to acquiesce. He went through the common branches of education, at a grammar school, at Burlington, with much credit to himself, and satisfaction to his tutors. The pecuniary misfortunes of his father prevented his receiving a finished education, and between

the age of thirteen and fourteen he commenced the study of the law with his brother, the late John Lawrence, Esq. who then resided at Woodbury. He remained for two years in this situation, vainly striving to accommodate himself to pursuits wholly repugnant to his taste and inclinations. The dry studies of statutes and reporters, the technical rubbish, and dull routine of a lawyer's office, were little calculated to please an imagination teeming with the adventures, the wonders, and variety of the seas. At length, his father being dead, and his strong predilection for the roving life of a sailor being increased by every attempt to curb it, his brother yielded to his solicitations, and placed him under the care of Mr. Griscomb, at Burlington, to acquire the principles of navigation and naval tactics. He remained with him for three months, when, his intention of applying for a situation in the navy being generally known, several of the most distinguished gentlemen of the state interested themselves in his behalf, and wrote to the navy department. The succeeding mail brought him a midshipman's warrant; and between the age of sixteen and seventeen he entered the service of his country.

His first cruise was to the West Indies in the ship *Ganges*, commanded by Captain Thomas Tingey. In this and several subsequent cruises, no opportunity occurred to call forth particular services; but the attention and intelligence which he uniformly displayed in the discharge of his duties, the correctness of his deportment, and the suavity of his manners, gained him the approbation of his commanders, and rendered him a favourite with his associates and inferiors.

When the war was declared against Tripoli, he was promoted to a lieutenantancy, and appointed to the command of the schooner *Enterprise*. While in this command he volunteered his services in the hazardous exploit of destroying the frigate *Philadelphia*, and accompanied Decatur as his first lieutenant. The brilliant success of that enterprise is well known; and for the gallantry and skill displayed on the occasion, Decatur was made post captain, while Lawrence, in common with the other officers and crew, were voted by congress two months' extra pay....a sordid and paltry reward, which he immediately declined.

The harbour of Tripoli appears to have been the school of our naval heroes. In tracing the histories of those who have lately distinguished themselves, we are always led to the coast of Barbary as the field of their first experience and young achievement. The concentration of our little navy at this point, soon after its formation, has had a happy effect upon its character and fortunes. The officers were most of them young in years, and young in arms, full of life, and spirits, and enthusiasm. Such is the time to form generous impressions and strong attachments. It was there

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they grew together in habits of mutual confidence and friendship; and to the noble emulation of so many young minds newly entering upon an adventurous profession, may be attributed that enterprising spirit and defiance of danger that has ever since distinguished our navy.

After continuing in the Mediterranean about three years and a half, Lawrence returned to the United States with Commodore Preble, and was again sent out on that station, as commander of Gun boat No. 6, in which he remained for sixteen months. Since that time he has acted as first lieutenant of the Constitution, and as commander of the Vixen, Wasp, Argus and Hornet. In 1808 he was married to a daughter of Mr. Montauvert, a respectable merchant of New-York, to whom he made one of the kindest and most affectionate of husbands.

At the commencement of the present war he sailed in the Hornet sloop of war, as part of the squadron that cruised under Commodore Rodgers. While absent on this cruise Lieutenant Morris was promoted to the rank of post captain, for his bravery and skill as first lieutenant of the Constitution in her action with the Guerriere. This appointment, as it raised him two grades, and placed him over the heads of older officers, gave great offence to many of the navy, who could not brook that the regular rules of the service should be infringed. It was thought particularly unjust, as giving him rank above Lawrence, who had equally distinguished himself as first lieutenant of Decatur, in the destruction of the frigate Philadelphia, and who, at present, was but master and commander.

On returning from his cruise, Captain Lawrence, after consulting with Commodores Rodgers and Bainbridge, and with other experienced gentlemen of the navy, addressed a memorial to the senate, and a letter to the secretary of the navy, wherein, after the fullest acknowledgments of the great merits and services of Captain Morris, he remonstrated in the most temperate and respectful, but firm and manly language, on the impropriety of his promotion, as being contrary to the rules of naval precedence, and particularly hard as it respected himself. At the same time, he frankly mentioned that he should be compelled, however reluctant, to leave the service, if thus improperly outranked.

The reply of the secretary was singularly brief; barely observing, that if he thought proper to leave the service without a cause, there would still remain heroes and patriots to support the honour of the flag. There was a laconic severity in this reply calculated to cut a man of feeling to the heart, and which ought not to have been provoked by the fair and candid remonstrance of Lawrence.

Where men are fighting for honour rather than profit, the utmost delicacy should be observed towards their high-toned feelings. Those complaints which spring from wounded pride, and the jeal-

ousy of station, should never be regarded lightly. The best soldiers are ever most tenacious of their rank; for it cannot be expected that he who hazards every thing for distinction, will be careless of it after it is attained. Fortunately, Lawrence had again departed on a cruise before this letter arrived, which otherwise might have driven from the service one of our most meritorious officers.

This second cruise was in company with Captain Bainbridge, who commanded the *Constitution*; and terminated in the capture of the *Peacock*, by Lawrence....which is detailed in the preceding pages.

On the return of Captain Lawrence to his native country, every mark of attention and applause which a grateful people could bestow, were conferred on him. While absent, the rank of post captain had been given him, and shortly after his return he received a letter from the secretary of the navy, offering him the command of the frigate *Constitution*, provided neither Captains Porter or Evans applied for it, they being older officers. Captain Lawrence respectfully declined this conditional appointment, for satisfactory reasons which he stated to the secretary. He then received an unconditional appointment to that frigate, and directions to superintend the navy-yard in New-York in the absence of Captain Ludlow. The next day to his great surprise and chagrin, he received counter-orders, with instructions to take command of the frigate *Chesapeake*, then lying in Boston, nearly ready for sea. This appointment was particularly disagreeable to him. He was prejudiced against the *Chesapeake*, both from her being considered the worst ship in our navy, and from having been in a manner disgraced in the affair with the *Leopard*. The last circumstance had acquired her the character of an unlucky ship....the worst of stigmas among sailors, who are devout believers in good and bad luck; and so detrimental was it to this vessel, that it has been found difficult to recruit crews for her.

The extreme repugnance Captain Lawrence felt at this appointment, induced him to write to the secretary of the navy, requesting to be continued in the command of the *Hornet*. Besides it was his wish to remain some short time in port, and enjoy a little repose in the bosom of his family; particularly as his wife was in that delicate situation that most calls forth the tenderness and solicitude of an affectionate husband. But though he wrote four letters to the secretary, he never received an answer, and was obliged reluctantly to acquiesce.

While laying in Boston roads, nearly ready for sea, the British frigate *Shannon* appeared off the harbour, and made signals expressive of a challenge. The brave Lawrence immediately determined on accepting it, though conscious at the time of the great disparity of the two ships.

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The most earnest endeavours were used by Commodore Bainbridge and other gentlemen of nice honour and sound experience, to dissuade Captain Lawrence from what was considered a rash and unnecessary exposure. He felt and acknowledged the force of their reasons, but persisted in his determination. He was peculiarly situated: he had formerly challenged the *Bonne Citoyenne*, and should he decline a similar challenge, it might subject him to sneers and misrepresentations. Among the other unfortunate circumstances that attended this ill-starred battle, was the delay of a written challenge from Captain Broke, which did not arrive until after Captain Lawrence had sailed. It was couched in the most frank and courteous language; minutely delineating the force of his ship; and offering, if the *Chesapeake* should not be completely prepared, to cruise off and on, until such time as she made a specified signal of being ready for the conflict. It is to be deeply regretted that Captain Lawrence did not receive this gallant challenge, as it would have given him time to put his ship in proper order, and spared him the necessity of hurrying out in his unprepared condition, to so formidable and momentous an encounter.

It was on the morning of the first of June that the *Chesapeake* put to sea. The *Shannon* on seeing her came out, bore away, and the other followed. Shortly after an engagement of the most destructive nature took place; which ended in the loss of the *Chesapeake* and the death of her gallant commander, as more minutely given in the preceding pages.

Thus terminated one of the most remarkable combats on naval record. From the peculiar accidents that attended it, the battle was short, desperate and bloody. So long as the cannonading continued, the *Chesapeake* is said to have clearly had the advantage; and had the ships not ran foul, it is probable she would have captured the *Shannon*. Though considerably damaged in her upper works, and pierced with some shot-holes in her hull, yet she had sustained no injury to affect her safety; whereas the *Shannon* had received several shots between wind and water, and, consequently, could not have sustained the action long. The havoc on both sides was dreadful; but to the singular circumstance of having every officer on the upper deck either killed or wounded, early in the action, may chiefly be attributed the loss of the *Chesapeake*.

The two ships presented dismal spectacles after the battle. Crowded with the wounded and the dying, they resembled floating hospitals sending forth groans at every roll. The brave Broke lay delirious from a wound in the head, which he is said to have received while endeavouring to prevent the slaughter of some of our men who had surrendered. In his rational intervals he always spoke in the highest terms of the courage and skill of Law-

rence, and of "the gallant and masterly style" in which he brought the Chesapeake into action.

The wounds of Captain Lawrence rendered it impossible to remove him after the battle, and his cabin being very much shattered, he remained in the wardroom. Here he lay, attended by his own surgeon, and surrounded by his brave and suffering officers. He made no comment on the battle, nor indeed was heard to utter a word, except to make such simple requests as his necessities required. In this way he lingered through four days, in extreme bodily pain, and the silent melancholy of a proud and noble heart, and then expired. His body was wrapped in the colours of his ship and laid on the quarter-deck of the Chesapeake, to be conveyed to Halifax, for interment.

At the time of his death he was but thirty-two years of age, nearly sixteen of which had been honourably expended in the service of his country. He was a disciplinarian of the highest order, producing perfect obedience and subordination without severity. His men became zealously devoted to him, and ready to do through affection what severity would never have compelled. He was scrupulously correct in his principles, delicate in his sense of honour; and to his extreme jealousy of reputation he fell a victim, in daring and ill-matched encounter, which prudence would have justified him in declining. In battle, where his lofty and commanding person made him conspicuous, the calm collected courage, and elevated tranquility, which he maintained in the midst of peril, imparted a confidence to every bosom. In the hour of victory he was moderate and unassuming; towards the vanquished he was gentle, generous and humane. But it is on the amiable qualities that adorned his private character, that his friends will hang with the fondest remembrance....that bland philanthropy that emanated from every look, that breathed forth in every accent, that gave a grace to every action. His was a general benevolence, that, like a lambent flame, shed its cheering rays through the sphere of his influence, warming and gladdening every heart, and lighting up every countenance into smiles. But there is one little circle on whose sacred sorrows even the eye of sympathy dares not intrude. His brother being dead, he was the last male branch of a family, who looked up to him as its ornament and pride. His fraternal tenderness was the prop and consolation of two widowed sisters, and in him their helpless offspring found a father. He left, also, a wife and two young children to whom he was fervently attached. The critical situation of the former was one of those cares which preyed upon his mind at the time he went forth to battle. The utmost precautions had been taken by her relatives, to keep from her the knowledge of her husband's fate. Their anxiety has been relieved by the birth of a son, who, we trust, will inherit the virtues, and emulate the actions of his father.

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There is a touching pathos about the death of this estimable officer, that endears him more to us than if he had been successful. The prosperous conqueror is an object of admiration, but in some measure of envy : whatever gratitude we feel for his services, we are apt to think them repaid by the plaudits he enjoys. But he who falls a martyr to his country's cause excites the fulness of public sympathy. Envy cannot repine at laurels so dearly purchased, and gratitude feels that he is beyond the reach of its rewards. The last sad scene of his life hallows his memory ; it remains sacred by misfortune, and honoured, not by the acclamations, but the tears of his countrymen. The idea of Lawrence, cut down in the prime of his days, stretched upon his deck, wrapped in the flag of his country....that flag which he had contributed to ennoble, and had died to defend, is a picture that will remain treasured up in the dearest recollections of every American. His will form one of those talismanic names which every nation preserves as watchwords for patriotism and valour.

Deeply, therefore, as every bosom must lament the fall of so gallant and amiable an officer, there are some reflections consoling to the pride of friendship, and which may sooth, though they cannot prevent, the bitter tear of affection. He fell before his flag was struck. His fall was the cause, not the consequence, of defeat. He fell covered with glory, in the flower of his days, in the perfection of mental and personal endowment, and the freshness of reputation ; thus leaving in every mind the full and perfect image of a hero. However we may deplore the stroke of death, his visits are occasionally well timed for his victim : he sets a seal upon the fame of the illustrious, fixing it beyond the reach of accident or change. And where is the son of honour, waiting for distinction, who would not rather, like Lawrence, be snatched away in the brightness of youth and glory, than to dwindle down to what is termed a good old age, wear his reputation in the shreds, and leave behind him nothing but the remembrance of decrepitude and imbecility.

With feelings that swell our hearts do we notice the honours paid to the remains of the brave Lawrence at Halifax. When the ships arrived in port, a generous concern was expressed for his fate. The recollection of his humanity towards the crew of the Peacock was still fresh in every mind. His funeral obsequies were celebrated with appropriate ceremonials, and an affecting solemnity. His pall was supported by the oldest captains in the British service that were in Halifax ; and the naval officers crowded to yield the last sad honours to a man who was late their foe, and now their foe no longer. There is a sympathy between gallant souls that knows no distinction of clime or nation. They honour in each other what they feel proud of in themselves....the group that gathered round the grave of Lawrence present-

ed a scene worthy of the heroic days of chivalry. It was a complete triumph of the nobler feelings over the savage passions of war. We know not where most to bestow our admiration... on the living, who showed such generous sensibility to departed virtue, or on the dead, in being worthy of such obsequies from such spirits. It is by deeds like these that we really feel ourselves subdued. The conflict of arms is ferocious, and triumph does but engender more deadly hostility; but the contest of magnanimity calls forth the better feelings, and the conquest is over the affections.

As to the event of this battle, deeply as we mourn the loss of so many valuable lives, we feel no further cause of lamentation. Brilliant as the victory undoubtedly was to the conquerors, our nation lost nothing of honour in the conflict. The ship was gallantly and bloodily defended to the last; and was lost, not through want of good conduct or determined bravery, but from the unavoidable chances of battle. It was a victory "over which the conqueror mourned....so many suffered."*

*Funeral obsequies....*A short time after the interment of Captain Lawrence and Lieutenant Ludlow in Halifax, Captain Crowning-shield, of Salem, originated the idea of bringing their bodies to their own country. He obtained a cartel of the president of the United States, fitted out a vessel for the purpose, and proceeded to Halifax at his own expense. He was politely treated by the British, and had no difficulty in effecting the object of his voyage. On his return to Salem, the remains of the departed heroes were conveyed, with the most impressive ceremonies, from the cartel to the shore.

From the time the boats left the brig, until the bodies were landed, minute guns were fired from vessels in the harbour. On their being placed upon the hearses, they were covered with the colours which they had so lately and so signally honoured, and conveyed at a suitable distance for the procession to form; which moved to slow and solemn music to the Rev. Mr. Spaulding's meeting-house; where the corpses were taken from the funeral cars, and placed in the centre of the church, by the seamen who rowed them on shore, and who stood, during the whole of the performance, leaning upon them in an attitude of mourning. The church was most tastefully hung with cypress and evergreen. The names of "*Lawrence*" and "*Ludlow*" appeared in letters of gold, encircled by festoons of evergreen, immediately on the front of the desk. The rites of sepulchre were performed with great solemnity. An eulogy, pronounced by the Hon. Judge Story, was such an one as made veterans weep. After the performances were concluded in the meeting-house, the faithful se-

men conveyed the remains into the quiet tomb, and the masonic societies and military corps paid the last ritual homage to the immortal LAWRENCE and LUDLOW.

The bodies of the deceased, at the request of their relatives, were afterwards carried to Newyork by land, (the commander of the British squadron off Newlondon having hesitated to grant them a passage by water from Salem,) and there finally interred with all the honours due to valiant countrymen. On no similar occasion had been witnessed a testimonial of respect so universal and sincere. It was indeed a day of mourning. The hearts of hoary patriots and youthful heroes, beat in solemn unison, and the bright eye of beauty glistened with a tributary tear.

It would fill a volume to insert an account of all the civic, military and masonic honours in memory of Lawrence and Ludlow. They extended from Maine to Georgia. An universal sympathy for the fate of the youthful warriors, appeared manifest in the conduct of every citizen. Short, indeed, was their career of glory; but while it existed it shone with unrivalled splendour.... Their memories will long be cherished; and when the present generation shall have passed away, posterity will delight to read the story of their valiant deeds.

CHAPTER XXVI.

Cruise of the Enterprise.....Capture of the Boxer.....Biography of Lieutenant Burrows.

ON the 1st of September, 1813, the U. S. schooner Enterprise, of 12 guns, commanded by Lieutenant Burrows, sailed from Portsmouth on a cruise. Early in the morning of the 5th, a brig was discovered in shore getting under way. While Lieutenant Burrows was reconnoitring her, she hoisted three British ensigns, and fired a shot as a challenge. The Enterprise immediately haled upon a wind, stood out of the bay she was in, and prepared for action. A calm then prevailed; but a breeze springing up from S. W. gave the Enterprise the weather gage. The latter, after manœuvring for some time to windward, in order to try her sailing with the enemy, and to ascertain her force, shortened sail and hoisted three ensigns, fired a gun, tacked, and then ran down, with the design of closing with her antagonist. When the Enterprise had got within half pistol shot, the crew of the British vessel gave three cheers, and commenced the action by a discharge of her starboard broadside, which was returned in the like manner by the Enterprise. The action then became general. About five minutes after its commencement, the gallant

Burrows received a musket ball in his body, and fell: but he refused to be carried below. The active part of the command then devolved upon Lieutenant M'Call, who conducted himself with great skill and self-possession. The British vessel was outmanœuvred, and cut up; her main topmast and topsail yards were cut away. The Enterprize having gained a position on the starboard bow of the British vessel, kept up a raking fire on her, until her guns were silenced, and her crew cried for quarters, saying, that their colours being nailed to the mast, could not be hauled down. The vessel proved to be his Britannic majesty's brig Boxer, of 14 guns.

The Enterprize was much injured in her spars and rigging.... She had 1 man killed and 13 wounded; among the latter was her gallant commander, Burrows, who expired a few hours after the engagement. While lying on the deck, previous to the capture of the Boxer, he raised his head and desired that his flag might never be struck. When the sword of his vanquished enemy was presented to him, he clasped his hands, and exclaimed, "I die contented."

The Boxer was very much damaged in her spars and rigging, and received several shot between wind and water. The crew of this vessel could not be exactly ascertained, but is supposed to have been nearly 100. The killed were thrown overboard. Sixty-four persons were on board when she was taken possession of, 17 of whom were wounded. The commander, Captain Blythe, was killed early in the action. The Boxer was in every respect superior to the Enterprize.

Biography of Lieutenant Burrows.... There are few events more calculated to raise the mingled sensations of admiration and sorrow, than the death of a victor in the moment of his glory. When defeat is attended with death, the bereaved mourners have at least one consolation. The grave covers, with its sable pall, the fame of the unfortunate man, and protects his mouldering remains from persecuting envy. He who, while living, might have been doomed to encounter the assault of detraction and insult, acquires a sort of sanctity from the shadows of the tomb, where even malice does not penetrate. But how interesting is the character which dies in the moment of his fame! Death, which was, in the former instance, a protection, now robs the victor of his glory; and of all mankind, the conqueror himself is the only party cold and insensible to the history of his fame. When every eye sparkles, and every cheek is flushed with delight; when we anticipate the warrior's return with kind greetings and cordial salutations; when we are preparing the laurels, and every social feeling is kindled into action, we find all the rays of his glory are gleaming on the temples of a cold and in-

sensible corpse: Death obtrudes his obnoxious front in the midst of these gay and exhilarating images, and this union presents a chastened feeling; a temperate sobriety of joy.

WILLIAM BURROWS was born at Kenderson, near Philadelphia, on the 6th day of October, in the year 1785. His father, then in possession of a large property, did not wish to confine the genius of his son to any particular pursuit, apprehending that the paternal estate would be amply sufficient to his support in the style and character of a gentleman. Accordingly, at the age of thirteen, a season too early for any decided indications of character to present themselves, his youthful curiosity was left to its own guidance; and he dallied with books as he would with other toys, regarding them rather as matters of amusement than as objects of serious concern. In one respect only did his parent interfere with these pleasures. Knowing how essential to the character of a gentleman it was to become familiar with the living languages, he warmly exhorted his son to turn his attention to these, and in this he but partially succeeded.

To the French, for which the father was more than usually solicitous for his success, knowing how indispensable that accomplishment was, the son, at that time, betrayed an insurmountable reluctance. In the acquisition of the German, which was, with his parent, a secondary object only, Burrows was more successful; and at the age of thirteen, he would converse in that language as fluently as in his native tongue.

This may be considered as the broad outlines of his early years, so far as regards those pursuits which often have an important bearing in the formation of the future character of the man. Certain traits now began to present themselves that distinguished his future life; a warm and benevolent heart was concealed behind a cold and repulsive exterior, and a cautious guardedness of reserve. On the subject of his own merits he maintained a severe and inflexible silence, while he conversed freely and fluently on the merits of his youthful comrades and associates.

In a boy so amiable, and withal so retired and reserved, little did his parents believe that the flame of ambition was burning strong and intense. He would be often found musing and solitary, as if in the act of conversing with his own thoughts; but so ignorant was his parent of his predominant passion, that he laboured to arouse him from what he apprehended was lethargy.... This passion, guarded by such jealous and scrupulous reserve, at length developed itself by an accident that fortune threw in his way. He had undertaken to learn the art of drawing; but amidst all the instructions of his preceptor, none seemed to arrest the attention of his pupil in that science *but the delineation of a ship of war*. His constitutional reserve availed him no longer, this incident afforded an outlet to those passions

which had so long occupied his musing and solitary hours. With astonishment and regret his father discovered the cause of his contemplation in retirement, and of that indifference which he discovered to his allotted studies and pursuits. He laboured to give his ambition another turn; but the passion of ocean chivalry was now too deeply rooted, and all his efforts were unavailing. He could now do nothing but to lend his aid to the gratification of a passion he was incapable of repressing; and he accordingly seconded his application to the secretary of the navy for an office, and Burrows was appointed a midshipman in November, 1799.

He now eagerly embraced every opportunity to qualify himself for the service, and devoted his hours exclusively to the study of navigation. But the time was too short for him to make the requisite proficiency in such studies. He was speedily summoned to more active duty; for in January, 1800, less than 3 months after his appointment, he received orders to repair on board the sloop of war *Portsmouth*, under the command of Captain M'Neil, which was then bound to France. At this time it was with great difficulty that he could be persuaded to wear the uniform of the navy. He said, that he was as yet a raw and inexperienced hand, a mere novice in the naval service, and that he had done nothing to entitle him to such honour. His conception was, that the badges of his country's honour should be worn only by those who had signalized themselves in her service. He professed his utter contempt for those whose ambition extended to nothing more than a uniform, and was fearful if he adopted it, that his own pretensions would be measured by that standard. Nevertheless, the injunctions were too imperative to be disregarded.... The anecdote may be thought incompatible with the gravity of biography; but let it be remembered, that no anecdote which portrays character can possibly be unimportant; and in this we see indications of a future hero, at a period before he himself was conscious of the fact.

The *Portsmouth* did not return to the United States until December, 1800. Burrows now became sensible of the necessity of becoming better acquainted with his preparatory studies. He applied for a furlough, and devoted himself, with renewed ardor, to the study of navigation. In this short interval allowed him, he was eminently successful; for he had, in his first cruise, amassed much practical skill and knowledge, which he was able to systematize when he became more familiar with the rudiments and elements of his art. This cruise was attended with another benefit: A residence in France had conquered his own antipathy, and convinced him of the necessity of the repeated injunctions of his parent, to become master of that language. He now availed himself of such opportunities as he had formerly slighted; and

In the end, he was able to converse in that tongue with fluency and grace.

From the year 1800 to 1803 he served on board different ships of war, in cruises some of a long and some of a shorter date, unimportant so far as regards the glory of the navy. This was, notwithstanding, a necessary school, which prepared him for more important services. During these periods, when no occasion was presented for the exercise of the high and heroic qualities, his habits of constitutional reserve were his predominant characteristics. It was a reserve not cold and repulsive. He mingled in all the mirth, conviviality, and good humour of his comrades, and was the delight and charm of their society. Still his heart, in the midst of such indulgencies, remained as locked and guarded as ever, and those with whom he associated could boast no more of his confidence than those who were strangers to his company. It at length became a proverb among his associates, that of a person whose character was inscrutable, as little could be known as of the character of Burrows.

In the year 1803 he was ordered to go on board the frigate *Constitution*, bound to the Mediterranean, commanded by Commodore Preble. This gallant officer was allowed to possess an almost intuitive sagacity in the discernment of character. Under this cold and repellant exterior, his penetrating eye discerned higher qualities. He saw in that reserve a character of noble and intrepid daring, which was only waiting a proper season to break forth in all its resplendence. Under these impressions, Burrows was appointed an acting lieutenant, in which character he served during the Tripoline war. This period was an important era in our naval service. In proportion to the smallness of the force we employed, the exercise of personal skill and bravery became more indispensable. We have to regret that the particular part acted by Lieutenant Burrows in this warfare is not known: but even this deficiency of information forms another trait in the character of this officer. He maintained, on the subject of his personal exploits, a silence the most guarded and pertinacious. He never could condescend to become the herald of his own fame. While he was just to the merits of his brother officers, he was unjust to his own; and very rarely, indeed, could he be induced to open his lips upon the subject.

As every thing connected with the Tripoline war has now become interesting, the following anecdote may be pardoned, although not immediately pertinent to the subject of the present biography.

After the burning of the United States' frigate *Philadelphia*, by our brave countrymen, the cannon belonging to her were afterwards weighed up by the Tripolitans, and planted on their batteries. After three or four times firing, they split asunder, directly

in the breech, leaving part of the pan belonging to the touch-hole, on each side, and were thus rendered perfectly useless ever after.

The following anecdotes are not destitute of amusement :

While our countrymen were prisoners at Tripoli, an American sailor, who waited on the Bashaw, took a peculiar fancy to a gold cup, from whence that officer drank his sherbert. He watched the first favourable moment, seized the cup, secreted it in his bosom, and, as he was departing, he was detected in the theft.... When he was examined in the presence of the bashaw, he coolly replied, "Your excellency must know that I have sworn, in every possible manner to distress the enemies of my country." The bashaw was so struck with his cold intrepidity, that he suffered him to depart without punishment. Another of the American tars having done some slight service for a Jew, received a draught of wine from a large jug, by way of compensation. Honest Jack was so enamoured with the wine, that he seized the first favourable moment to carry off the jug. He related the adventure to Hassan, the commander of the guard, who, for a stipend, as usual, (which was nothing more than the empty jug,) agreed to protect him. The Jew discovered the theft, applied to Hassan, with a description of the person on whom his suspicion alighted. The officer swore by the beard of Mahomet to punish the felon, and ordered all the American slaves to pass in review before the Jew. Jack, meanwhile, had shifted his hat and jacket with a messmate, and partly shutting one eye, turned the back part of the iris under his lid. With the greatest unconcern of physiognomy he passed the Jew, who seized him, examined him cautiously, turning him round several times, and finally dismissed him ; saying that this was not the culprit, as he only had *one eye* : but the Jew was ready to swear, upon the Pentateuch, that the real culprit was the *brother* of this sailor. No such person was found notwithstanding, and the righteous judge ordered three hundred lashes to be inflicted on the Jew, for thus daring to *inculpate the character of an innocent man*.

One of the crew of the Philadelphia having obtained a piece of Tripolitan money, made a mould, into which copper was cast, taken from the bottom of that frigate. This was rubbed over with quicksilver, and coin to the amount of three or four hundred dollars was cast before the deception was discovered. One of the pieces was brought to the bashaw, who declared that he could do nothing with the Americans, and that he verily believed them to be devils !

It is a remarkable truth, that whatever was known of Burrows, was known from other sources than himself ; in confirmation of which remark, we will mention the striking fact, that none are more ignorant of the personal exploits of this officer, than his own immediate relatives. He professed, on all occasions, his con-

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tempt of those officers who embraced every opportunity to proclaim their own merits, and fearing, lest he should be guilty himself of the vice he so severely reprobated in others, he renounced conversation on such subjects, altogether.

In 1807, Lieutenant Burrows returned from Tripoli to his native country; and in the following year he was attached to the Philadelphia station, and employed in the bay and river Delaware, and commander of gun boat No. 119. It became then his duty to enforce a rigid observance of the embargo law. In a service at once so delicate and invidious, he exhibited traits of character, which insured him universal applause.

In 1809 he was ordered to join the frigate *President*, under Captain Bainbridge. From this ship he was transferred to the sloop of war *Hornet* as first lieutenant, under Captain Hunt. In a dangerous and heavy gale, his brother officers have reported, that by his superior skill and intrepidity, as an officer, the ship and crew were both preserved from what they deemed inevitable destruction.

In his promotion to a lieutenantancy, he had the mortification to find himself out-ranked by his junior officers. This was so severely wounding to his pride, that he remonstrated to the proper department in very feeling terms. He stated that he was now commanded by lieutenants who had served under him in the Tripoline war. Errors of this kind it is exceedingly difficult to redress, however just may be the subject of complaint. To withdraw a commission from an individual on whom it is conferred, to declare an officer unworthy of the honour thus bestowed, is an outrage of the same character as to wantonly place a junior over a senior officer. Whether objections of this nature weighed with the government we know not; but certain it is, the remonstrances of Lieutenant Burrows for redress proved ineffectual. Finding that there was no prospect of having his complaints listened to, with a favourable ear, he was induced to tender his resignation to Mr. Secretary Hamilton, at the time of that gentleman's going out of office. This resignation was not accepted by government, and Lieutenant Burrows had now no other resource left, than to bear with fortitude what he was unable to remedy. He applied to the government, in March 1812, for the purpose of prosecuting a voyage to India, which was granted. He found this indispensable, as his circumstances were, at this time, somewhat embarrassed; and he accordingly went on board the ship *Thomas Penrose*, bound to Canton from Philadelphia, under the command of Captain Ansley of that city. On the return passage the ship was captured and carried into Barbadoes. Lieutenant Burrows arrived in the United States on his parole, in June 1813, and in the succeeding month was regularly exchanged.

Shortly after this exchange, Lieutenant Burrows was ordered by government to repair to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and to take the command of the United States' sloop of war *Enterprize*, then in a state of readiness for sea. His mind was still sore with a sense of his unredressed grievance, on the subject of his rank. But the prospect of active service gratified his master passion, the love of glory, which suspended, for a season, all other considerations.

The *Enterprize* left the harbour of Portsmouth on the 5th of September. On the next day she fell in with and captured his Britannic majesty's brig *Boxer*, commanded by Captain Blyth; and the action terminated in the death of the commanders of both vessels, as detailed in the preceding pages.

Soon after the arrival of the *Enterprize* and *Boxer* at Portland, the bodies of the two commanding officers, Lieutenant Burrows and Captain Blyth, were brought on shore in barges, rowed at minute strokes by masters of ships, accompanied by most of the barges and boats in the harbour, while minute guns were fired from the two vessels. A grand procession was then formed, the corpse of Burrows preceding; and the interment took place with all the honours that the civil and military authorities of the place, and the great body of the people could bestow. The crew of the *Boxer* were permitted to march in the procession.

This pride of lofty courtesy, between nations at war, served in some measure to abate the miseries with which it was attended. It produced an elevation of feeling, and every American participated in such dignity, when he contemplated the spectacle.

Republics have been reproached with ingratitude. Let us fondly cherish the hope that such an imputation will not alight upon us. The following resolution was unanimously passed by both houses of congress:

"Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, That the president of the United States be requested to present to the nearest male relation of Lieutenant William Burrows, and to Lieutenant Edwin R. McCall, of the brig *Enterprize*, a *gold medal*, with suitable emblems and devices; and a *silver medal*, with like emblems and devices, to each of the commissioned officers of the aforesaid vessel; in testimony of the high sense entertained by congress, of the gallantry and good conduct of the officers and crew, in the conflict with the British sloop *Boxer*, on the 4th of September, 1813. And the president is also requested to communicate to the nearest male relation of Lieutenant Burrows, the deep regret which congress feel for the loss of that valuable officer, who died in the arms of victory, nobly contending for his country's rights and fame."

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It is rare to find a character more distinctly defined. High-minded men usually betray their predominant passion by a proud and repellant dignity of deportment. They manifest, by a cold and distant reserve, that they are not, as Shakespeare says, enumerated in the list of ordinary men. A certain jealous sense of this dignity prevents colloquial freedom, and renders their characters inaccessible to all but those who aspire to their friendship. Lieutenant Burrows, with all his habits of reserve, appears to have had nothing of this. He could accommodate himself to the circumstances in which he was placed, and suspend the exercise of his darling passion, when the season would admit of its indulgence. At such times, by a happy mixture of humour and whim, he was able to extract amusement from the most painful and reluctant duty. This was manifest by his conduct while enforcing the provisions of the embargo act. His higher qualities then availed him nothing, and he laid them aside. Those who frequented his society at that time, beheld in him nothing but the amiable and facetious companion, abounding with original humour and wit. As the hour of danger approximated, all these levities were thrown aside, and the hero was left in his proper colours, sparkling and luminous. His orb, emerging from the light and sportive clouds that fitted over his disk, acquired, from the surrounding shadows of death, more majesty and grandeur of lustre. His heroism maintained a long and obstinate contest with the king of terrors; and he was only cold and insensible to the charms of glory, when he was invested with the coldness and insensibility of death.

[Port Folio.]

CHAPTER XXVII.

*Cruise of Commodore Rodgers.....Cruise of the Congress.....
Cruise and loss of the Argus.....Biography of Captain Allen.*

ON the 23d of April, Commodore Rodgers put to sea from Boston, in the President frigate, with the Congress in company. It was the 3d of May before he got clear of the bay. In the afternoon of that day, while in chase of a British brig of war, near the shoal of George's Bank, he passed to windward of three sail, one of which was supposed to be the La Hogue 74, the other the Nymph frigate, and the third, a merchant brig. He continued in the direction of the southern edge of the Gulph stream until the 6th of May, in long. 60, W. lat. 39 deg. 30 min. N. when he parted from the Congress. After which he shaped his course as nearly as the wind would permit, to intercept the British West India vessels, passing to the southward of the Grand Bank. Not

meeting with any thing, he changed his course to the northward. Having reached the 48th degree of N. lat. he steered for the Azores, off which he continued in different directions till the 6th of June, without meeting any British vessels. Being informed by an American vessel, that four days previous she had passed a British convoy from the West Indies, the commodore crowded all sail in chase to N. E. Though disappointed in falling in with the convoy, he nevertheless captured four vessels.

Being then in lat. 46 N. long. 28 W. he determined to proceed to the North Sea. He however did not meet with a single vessel until off the Shetland Islands, and those he there met with were Danish, under British licence. His water and provisions being now nearly exhausted, he put into North Bergen, in Norway, on the 27th of June. A scarcity in the country prevented his obtaining provisions. After having filled his casks with water, he departed on the 2d of July, towards the Orkney Islands, and thence toward the North Cape, for the purpose of intercepting a convoy of 25 or 30 sail, which, it was said, would leave Archangel about the middle of July, under the protection of two sloops of war. This was confirmed by two vessels he captured on the 18th of the same month. In this, however, the commodore was disappointed by a 74 and frigate making their appearance off North Cape on the 19th of July, just as he was in momentary expectation of meeting the convoy. On first discovering these two vessels, owing to the haziness of the weather, he could not ascertain their character with precision. He accordingly stood towards them until he discovered their strength, when he haled by the wind on the opposite tack to avoid them. But owing to faint variable winds, and light for an entire day, for in that latitude and season the sun appeared above the horizon at midnight, the British vessels were enabled to continue the chase upwards of 80 hours. At times, owing to changes of the wind in favour of the British vessels, they were brought near to the President. When these vessels gave chase to the President, the privateer Scourge of New-York was in company, but so intent were the British in their chase of the former, that the latter escaped.

Having but a very small quantity of provisions on board his vessel, Commodore Rodgers determined to proceed to a more westerly station after having escaped from the superior British force that so long chased him. He accordingly steered to intercept the trade passing out of and into the Irish channel, where on the 25th of July and 2d of August he made three captures; but receiving information that the British had a superior force in the vicinity, he deemed it expedient to change his cruising ground. After having made a circuit round Ireland, and having come into the latitude of Cape Clear, he steered for the Banks of Newfoundland, near to which he captured two more vessels: from one of

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these he obtained information that the *Bellerophon*, a 74, and the *Hyperion* frigate, were on the eastern part of the bank, only a few miles to the westward of him. He however did not fall in with them. From this place the Commodore directed his cruise to the United States, without seeing a single vessel until the 22d of September, when, being near the south shoal of Nantucket, he met with a Swedish brig, and American cartel. By this time the provisions, and particularly the bread on board the *President*, were so nearly expended, that it became indispensably necessary for the commodore to put into the first convenient port, after obtaining information of the position of the British cruisers. This he obtained by the capture of his Britannic Majesty's schooner *High Flyer*, on the 23d, with which vessel he arrived safe at Newport.

During this cruise Commodore Rodgers captured 12 vessels, of which the crews amounted to 271 persons. He rendered very effectual service to his country by harrassing the British commerce, and forcing them to detach a great number of their vessels of war in an unsuccessful pursuit.

Cruise of the Congress.... Captain Smith, of the *Congress*, after parting with Commodore Rodgers, on the 8th of May, proceeded in a circuitous direction, to the south-east, crossing the equator, passing the north-east coast of Brazil, and thence homeward. During his cruise, a number of neutral vessels were brought to and examined, and three valuable vessels of the enemy captured; two of which were destroyed, after taking out the most valuable part of their cargoes; and the other given up to the prisoners, who were paroled. Captain Smith arrived in Portsmouth harbour on the 14th December.

Cruise and loss of the Argus.... In May, 1813, Captain Allen of the United States' brig *Argus* sailed from this country for France, having on board Mr. Crawford, our minister to that court; where he arrived in the short passage of 23 days....during which time he captured and destroyed a valuable British schooner of 6 guns.

After having remained at L'Orient a few days, he proceeded on a cruise in the British channel, where he captured 20 English vessels; the crews of which, Capt. Allen treated with humanity and generosity. On the 14th of August, being in lat. 52 deg. 15 min. north, long 5. 50. west, he discovered at 4 o'clock A. M. a large brig of war standing down under a press of sail upon the weather quarter of the *argus*, the wind being at the south, and the *Argus* close haled on the starboard tack. Captain Allen immediately prepared to receive her; and being unable to get the weathergage, he shortened sail and gave her an opportunity of closing. At 6 o'clock, the brig having displayed English col-

ours, the *Argus* hoisted the American flag, wore round, and gave her the larboard broadside, (being at this time within grape distance) which was returned, and the action commenced within the range of musketry. At a few minutes past 6, Captain Allen was wounded, and being much exhausted by the loss of blood, was taken below; at which time, the *Argus* had lost her main braces, main spring-stay, gaff, and try-sail-mast, and shortly after her sprit-sail-yard and the principal part of the rigging on the larboard side of the fore-mast. At this time, Lieut. Watson, upon whom the command of the *Argus* then devolved, after Captain Allen was carried below, received a wound on the head from a grape shot, which for a time rendered him incapable of attending to duty, and he was also carried below. The command, at this time, devolved on Lieut. Allen; and the enemy being on the weather quarter of the *Argus*, edged off for the purpose of getting under her stern; but the *Argus* frustrated his attempt, by giving him a broad-side. At about half past 6, the *Argus* having lost the use of her after-sails, fell before the wind, when the enemy succeeded in passing her stern, and ranged up on the starboard side. At this time, the wheel-ropes and rigging of every description, being shot away, the *Argus* became unmanageable; and the enemy not having sustained any apparent damage, had it completely in his power to choose a position. By this advantage he profited, and continued to play upon her starboard quarter, occasionally shifting his situation, when Lieut. Watson returned to the deck, and prepared to board the enemy: but, in consequence of the shattered condition of the *Argus*, was unable to effect it. After this, the enemy continued a raking fire, which the *Argus* could but faintly oppose; her guns being much disabled, and seldom brought to bear; and having suffered much in hull and rigging, as also in killed and wounded; and being exposed to a galling fire, which from the enemy's ability to manage, she could not avoid, Lieut. Watson deemed it necessary to surrender: and was taken possession of by the British sloop *Pelican*, of 21 carriage guns, viz. sixteen 32 pound carronades, four long 6's, and one 12 pound carronade, commanded by Capt. Maples. The *Argus* carried eighteen 24 pounders, and two long 12's.

The loss on board the *Argus* was 6 killed and 12 wounded... 5 of whom have since died, including her brave commander, who lost his leg at the second broadside, and died the next day.

The loss on board the *Pelican*, as stated in the British official account, was eight, in killed and wounded.

The *Pelican* was, in every respect, a superior vessel to the *Argus*: she was of 485 tons burden. Her shot in pounds was 660. The burden of the *Argus* was 298 tons; her shot in pounds 402.

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Biography of Captain Allen..... WILLIAM HENRY ALLEN, whom it has become our painful duty to notice, was born at Providence, Rhode-Island, on the 21st day of October, 1784. His father, William Allen, on the breaking out of the revolutionary troubles, was appointed a lieutenant in the army. He continued in the army until the restoration of peace, and commanded the Rhode-Island line of troops at the battle of Saratoga, when he was advanced to the rank of major. He was present and actively engaged in most of the battles which were fought during our revolutionary war; and, in 1786, was appointed by congress, senior officer of the legionary corps raised in Rhode-Island. In the year 1799, he was appointed, by the legislature of that state, brigadier-general of militia.

Although it is not a subject immediately connected with the present biographical sketch, it may not be improper to state, that Major Allen had, for a short time, the charge of the unfortunate Andre. He sat up with him the whole night previous to his execution. Andre conversed with him on a variety of subjects, in which he uniformly spoke of the American character in terms of the strongest respect, and expressed his gratitude for the kindness and delicacy with which he was treated during his confinement. So affecting was the interview to Major Allen, that to this day, he cannot relate the circumstances without great emotion.

The mother of William Henry Allen was the sister of the present governor of Rhode-Island. It was the intention of his parents, that Henry should have received a liberal education; and he went through the preparatory studies. He panted, however, for more active life; and, notwithstanding the pressing remonstrances of his parents, he entered the navy, as a midshipman, in May, 1800.

In three months after his appointment, he was ordered on board the frigate George Washington, commanded by Captain Bainbridge, to carry presents to the dey of Algiers. On his departure he writes to his father, "I now bid you a short adieu; but should it be the last, you shall have the satisfaction to hear of my good conduct in my station as an officer and as a gentleman." This cruise was attended with peculiarity of incident. The demand of the dey of Algiers, that the frigate should be employed in carrying his presents to the grand geignior of Constantinople, and the unavailing reluctance and remonstrances of Captain Bainbridge, are circumstances generally known. It was the first time that the flag of an American frigate had waved in the harbour of Constantinople. The fine order of the ship, and the excellent discipline observed among the officers and men, tended to impress very high ideas of the American character, in a quarter of the world where, before, it was unknown.

Com. Bainbridge returned to America on the 19th of April, 1801, when a reduction of the navy ensued. In eight days after the return of the subject of the present memoir, and while he was solacing himself in the hope of once more visiting his family and friends, he was ordered on board the *Philadelphia*, under the command of Captain Barron, to scour the Mediterranean sea again. He bade to his friends a cordial adieu, and entered on the service with that promptitude that ever distinguished him. Nothing material transpired during the cruise. The ship returned to the United States on the 27th of June, 1802. For the first time, after his entry into the service of his country, was he now enabled to enjoy the society of his friends, and to visit his paternal abode. This, however, was but a short repose allowed him for the fatigues and naval service, for in October, 1802, he sailed in the frigate *John Adams*, commanded by Captain Rodgers, to visit, for the third time, the shores of the Mediterranean. From his letters, during this period, we shall make only two extracts:

"During our stay at Malta, we had an opportunity of visiting most of the public buildings; and amongst the rest, the superb church of St. John. The floor is laid in different coloured marble, in Mosaic, representing tomb-stones of the different knights, who distinguished themselves in fighting and in falling in defence of Christianity, against the infidels. On every side there is a Latin inscription, describing his death. The walls are hung with the most superbly embroidered tapestry, representing the birth, crucifixion and ascension of our Saviour. The death of the saints is likewise represented in the same manner, and they appear like the most beautiful paintings. The wings are divided into chapels, and here they show us crosses and saints in abundance, and the rich attire of the bishops and clergy, embroidered with gold. In an inner chapel we were shown a number of relics, one of which they declared was a fragment of the cross on which our Saviour was crucified; another was the palm of the hand of St. John. The body of St. Clement was exposed, lying in state.... This was a room that the French soldiers did not penetrate: it is said that they robbed this church of half a million."

During this voyage, he was informed, by his correspondent, of a report, which afterwards proved unfounded, that a younger officer was advanced over his head. This was the manly reply of a boy of seventeen: "I am too well grounded in old principles to mind such assaults now. If the government decide thus, I can say amen, with all my heart."

Commodore Rodgers returned from his cruise in December, 1803.

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Early in the year 1804, Allen was ordered on board the frigate Congress, lying at Washington, of which he was appointed sailing master. This frigate sailed on the first of July, under the command of Captain Rodgers, for the Mediterranean. On the outward bound passage, while the ship was lying to, in a violent gale, Allen was on the foreyard assisting the sailors in taking in a reef. Letting fall that part of the sail on which he had hold, he was precipitated head-long into the sea, to the depth of twenty feet, passing in his fall very near the anchor on the bow. Fortunately he arose near the mizen chains, and by taking hold of them, narrowly escaped inevitable death, as the ship was then drifting very fast. While cruising off the coast of Tripoli, Capt. Rodgers intended, if the command should have devolved on him, in consequence of the illness of Commodore Barron, an attack on that place. He took Allen with him in the schooner to take the soundings, preparatory to the anticipated assault. They entered the harbour with muffled oars; and, after taking a sounding, and complete survey, they passed so near the Tripoline gun-boats, that they distinctly heard the men conversing below. They also heard the sentinels on the walls of the battery conversing together. As they were returning from the harbour, a heavy gale sprang up, and they had a narrow escape to the Nautilus, which vessel was then in the very act of leaving her position. During this cruise, which extended from 1804 to 1806, Allen thus writes to his correspondent :

"I was, while at Lisbon, witness to a very ludicrous ceremony. My ears were saluted by the hoarse chaunting of some Portuguese sailors, and I perceived about twenty in number approaching, bearing a large topsail, barefoot, with their hats in their hands, into which the multitude would, now and then, drop a sixpence, to save their souls from purgatory. On inquiry, I was informed, that it was a custom amongst them, when overtaken by a violent gale at sea, instead of trusting to their own exertions, to offer up their prayers to their guardian saint, and to promise him the best sail in the ship, if he would condescend to protect them from the dangers of the element. The topsail was then taken to the church, in the manner described, laid at the foot of the altar, and dedicated to the saint. It was then appraised by an old friar, who, unwilling to distress the votaries of old mother Church, accepted, as an equivalent, in money, one half of its nominal value. The saint has, by this time become perfectly well acquainted with the value of sail cloth."

In the month of October, 1805, Captain Rodgers removed to the frigate Constitution, and assumed the command of the squadron, in consequence of the return of Captain Barron to the U.

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States. Mr. Allen also removed to the *Constitution*, and was promoted to a lieutenantcy. In a cruise off Capanea, Lieutenant Allen, in company with Commodore Rodgers, visited Mount *Ætna*. Ascending the south side of the mountain, the wind, while blowing from the north, covered that side of their bodies exposed to its violence, with frost, while the other remained perfectly free. Descending, they lost their way amongst fields of lava, but were found by the monks in the convents below. Lieutenant Allen likewise visited Mount *Vesuvius*, and the cities of *Herculanum* and *Pompeia*. He served as third lieutenant on board the *Constitution*, and returned in that frigate to the United States in the year 1806.

During these several cruises to the Mediterranean, although nothing transpired on board the frigates where Lieutenant Allen was stationed, that might fairly be denominated naval glory, still a peculiarity of circumstances gave a lofty and elevated tone to the feelings of all the officers. An American squadron in the waters of the Mediterranean, was itself a novelty. That squadron was small, and it was destined to pass under the review and strict scrutiny of English ships of war, occasionally stationed in those seas, and passing the straits of *Gibraltar*. Personal courage, skill and correctness of discipline, could alone ensure them respect in a company so illustrious; and to these points all their efforts were directed. They felt the high responsibility attached to their station; and knowing how important the first impression of a national character was, they acted up to that dignity which the occasion required.

After this long and fatiguing cruise, he was permitted, for a short time, to visit his friends and relations in *Providence*. In February, 1807, he received orders from government to join the frigate *Chesapeake*, commanded by Captain *Barron*, then fitting out for the straits. He remained at *Philadelphia* while the ship was preparing for sea, during which time he was busily employed in recruiting men for the service, and then entered as third lieutenant.

The circumstances preceding and succeeding the attack on the *Chesapeake*, by the *Leopard*, were handsomely delineated by Lieutenant Allen, in a letter to a correspondent. In this letter he expressed his abhorrence at the conduct of the officer having command of the *Chesapeake*, in tamely submitting to the indignities offered by the *Leopard*. He drew up a letter to the secretary of the navy, demanding a court of inquiry to be called upon the captain; which was signed by four other lieutenants and the sailing-master. The secretary replied, "that their communication did them honour, and their request should be properly attended to." It is difficult to conceive of the excoiated state of Lieutenant Allen's mind at this time. Words seemed hardly ad-

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quate to express the indignation he felt at the scenes he had witnessed. To have the flag of his nation disgraced; and to suffer the wrongs of his bleeding countrymen to go unavenged, was too humiliating for his noble spirit to brook. In a letter to his father, he says, "If I am acquitted honourably, (in other words, if Commodore Barron is condemned,) you may see me again; if not, never." "We lay here," says he, in another letter, "ready, at a moment's warning, to wipe from our flag that disgrace that has been detailed upon it by our blood. When I suffer my memory to dwell on this, I feel that I can trifle with my existence at pleasure." At length this question was put to rest by the condemnation of Barron, on which Lieutenant Allen makes this dry remark: "How the court can reconcile some of the passages of their opinion with others, I know not, unless cowardice can be divided into two kinds, personal and official."

Intrepidity, however, exposes only a part of the character of Lieutenant Allen; his private affections were as warm as his public. While his mind was inflamed by a sense of indignant sensibility, he was pouring into the ear of masculine confidence the complaints of his lacerated mind; letters of the same date, to a female friend, are replete with domestic tenderness and affection. With this correspondence all is quiet and serenity; he enters into all the levity of ordinary converse, and seems as anxious to veil his heroic and indignant passions, as if this indulgence was criminal in such intercourse.

Not one of the subordinate officers was more decidedly opposed to the conduct of Commodore Barron, than Lieutenant Allen; yet such was the uniform correctness, propriety and delicacy of his conduct, that he commanded the esteem of that officer's most sanguine adherents. With the officers on board the Chesapeake, he was a peculiar favourite.

During the time of the embargo, the Chesapeake, to which he was still attached, cruised off Block Island, and captured several vessels violating that law. From motives of delicacy he desired to be excused, and was excused from boarding any vessel belonging to his native state. In a letter on this subject, he says, "I knew that I should be compelled to detain such vessels for the most trivial article, and this would have wounded my feelings.... Even had I met those which I could have suffered to pass, I might have laboured under unjust suspicions, when other officers might be equally just without such imputations."

Lieutenant Allen remained in the Chesapeake, in this service, until February, 1809, when he was ordered, by the government, to join the frigate United States, while lying at Washington, under the command of Commodore Decatur. The commodore was himself absent, and the equipping of the frigate was a duty that devolved on the first lieutenant, who was not, for the space of

two months, absent from the navy yard. This ship lay a part of the time at Norfolk, and the remainder of the time was engaged in short cruises on the coast, until the declaration of war against Great Britain in 1812.

Shortly after, the frigate United States sailed upon a cruise, which resulted in the capture of the Macedonian. In the action between the two vessels, Lieutenant Allen bore a conspicuous part. His share in the glorious conflict cannot be better expressed than in the words of Commodore Decatur himself. "It would be unjust in me, (says this gallant officer,) to discriminate, where all met my fullest expectations. Permit me, however, to recommend to the particular notice of the secretary, my first lieutenant, William H. Allen, who has served with me upwards of five years; and to his unremitted exertions, in disciplining the crew, is to be imputed the obvious superiority of our gunnery, exhibited in this contest."

To Lieutenant Allen was entrusted the honourable charge of bringing the prize into port, and she safely arrived in the harbour of Newyork, amid the enthusiastic gratulations of our countrymen. The corporation and citizens of the city honoured him and his commander with a splendid and superb festival; and the legislatures of Rhode-Island and Virginia presented him with a sword, as a testimonial of their sense, in commemoration of his gallant services.

After this, Lieutenant Allen was allowed some little respite from the naval service; he visited his native land, and received the kind congratulations of his relatives and friends, in the bosom of his paternal abode. This report was, however, but of short duration; the strong and imperious calls of his country once more summoned him to active duty.

Shortly after the arrival of the Macedonian at Newyork, the Argus returned to that port commanded by Captain Sinclair. He obtained leave to visit his friends; and by order of Com. Decatur, Lieutenant Allen took the command. He thoroughly repaired the vessel, and received an order from the commodore to go in quest of a British brig of war, reported to be in the sound. The whole crew of the Hornet, commanded by Lieutenant Shubrick, volunteered their services. He remained in the sound for the space of a week, without meeting with the enemy, when he received the orders of the commodore to return.

On the death of Mr. Barlow, our minister to the court of France, our government deemed it expedient to renew the negotiation. Mr. Crawford was appointed as his successor; and the subject of the present memoir, now advanced to the rank of master and commander, was directed to take command of the Argus, and to conduct our minister to his place of destination. He accepted the appointment with his usual promptitude, and sailed

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with our new minister for France. He was so fortunate as to elude the vigilance of the blockading squadron, and arrived at the port of L'Orient in twenty-three days. He informs the secretary of the navy, in his letter bearing date June 12, 1813, that "he shall immediately proceed to put in execution his orders as to the ulterior purposes of his destination."

The business here, which, from prudential motives, is so darkly hinted at, was undoubtedly, as appears from the sequel, to sail in the Irish channel, and annoy the English commerce. This service was extremely perilous; and there seemed scarcely a possibility of escape. It was a service to a man fond of glory, peculiarly invidious. Such conquests were attended with no honour; and Captain Allen, in compliance with his orders, seemed peculiarly solicitous, in the discharge of this unthankful office, to make the enemy feel and confess the motives by which he was guided. The injury which he did to the British commerce is, in some of their papers, estimated to the amount of two millions. While thus employed in burning, sinking and destroying the enemy's property, Captain Allen was peculiarly careful to distinguish his character from those who depredated for selfish purposes only. The property of the passengers was sacred from hostility; not an article of that kind would he suffer to be touched. The passengers were allowed to go below, and to take what they claimed as their own, and no hands belonging to the *Argus* were permitted to inspect them while they were employed in so doing.

On one occasion, when a passenger had left his surtout behind him, it was sent after him in the boat: on another occasion, Captain Allen ordered one of his hands, who was detected in the act of some petty plunder of this kind, to be flogged at the gangway: The English papers, while they were writhing under the severe injuries thus inflicted, were unanimous in their testimonials of respect to the conduct of this gallant officer, for the humanity and delicacy with which he performed a service so invidious. Probably no action of his life could more plainly distinguish his character than this: he loved danger as much as he abhorred to plunder the defenceless.

It appeared very evident, that if prudence was consulted, it was his imperious duty to avoid an engagement. The damage which he might have done the enemy, by another species of warfare, was beyond all comparison greater than by risking a battle, even if fortune had decided the controversy in his favour. Even a victory ensured capture; for alone and unsupported as he was, his own ship would, in all human probability, suffer material injury, and both the captured and the captor become the prize of one of the many frigates then swarming in the English channel. These considerations, however, would have but little weight with him. He declared, previous to his setting out, that he would run

from no two-masted vessel. Anxious to quit himself of a business which he so much disliked, he sought an opportunity to act in a situation more congenial to his feelings.

Accordingly, on the 14th of August, he fell in with his Britannic majesty's sloop of war Pelican: and, after a severely contested action, the Argus was compelled to surrender; her commander having received a severe wound, in the early part of the engagement, which finally terminated his valuable life.

The following letter from John Hawker, esq. cidevant American vice-consul, will speak for itself:

Plymouth, August 19th, 1813.

SIR....The station I have had the honour to hold for many years past, of American vice-consul, calls forth my poignant feelings in the communication I have to make to you of the death of your son, Captain Allen, late commander of the United States' brig of war Argus, which vessel was captured on Saturday last, in the Irish channel, after a very sharp action of three quarters of an hour, by his Britannic majesty's ship Pelican.

Early in the action he lost his left leg, but refused to be carried below, till from loss of blood he fainted. Messrs. Edwards and Delphy, midshipmen, and four seamen were killed; and Lieut. Watson, the carpenter, boatswain, boatswain's mate, and seven men wounded. Captain Allen submitted to amputation above the knee, while at sea. He was yesterday morning attended by very eminent surgical gentlemen, and removed from the Argus to the hospital, where every possible attention and assistance would have been afforded him had he survived; but which was not, from the first moment, expected, from the shattered state of his thigh. At eleven, last night, he breathed his last! He was sensible, at intervals, until within ten minutes of his dissolution, when he sunk exhausted, and expired without a struggle! His lucid intervals were very cheerful, and he was satisfied and fully sensible that no advice or assistance would be wanting. A detached room was prepared by the commissary and chief surgeon, and female attendants engaged, that every tenderness and respect might be experienced. The master, purser, surgeon, and one midshipman, accompanied Captain Allen, who was also attended by his two servants.

I have communicated and arranged with the officers respecting the funeral, which will be in the most respectful, and at the same time economical manner. The port admiral has signified that it is the intention of his Britannic majesty's government, that it be publicly attended by officers of rank, and with military honours. The time fixed for procession is on Saturday, at 11, A. M. A lieutenant-colonel's guard of the royal marines is also appointed. A wainscoat coffin has been ordered; on the breast plate of which

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will be inscribed as below.* Mr. Delphy, one of the midshipmen, who lost both legs, and died at sea, was buried yesterday in St. Andrew's churchyard. I have requested that Captain Allen may be buried as near him, on the right (in the same vault, if practicable,) as possible.

I remain, respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

(Signed)

JOHN HAWKER,

Cidevant American vice-consul.

To Gen. Allen, &c. &c. &c. Providence, R. I.

Agreeably to previous arrangement, the remains of the departed Allen were interred at Plymouth, on the 21st of August, with military honours, and every mark of respect due to his rank. The flag of his country, under which he fought, was placed on his coffin, as a testimonial of the valour with which he had so nobly strove to defend it; and his body was deposited at the right of the gallant Delphy, who had bled and suffered with him.

Thus lived and thus died William Henry Allen.

By the company and conversation of the elegant and polite, the hard and severe duties of the sailor acquired a sort of polish, and his character presented that combination of gallantry, grace and intrepidity, that so irresistibly attracts. In the hour of danger, he was calm, intrepid and persevering; in private intercourse, guarded, affable and delicate. Entering into the navy with large and expanded ideas of honour, the perils he encountered, and the hard services he endured, consolidated his romantic and floating visions into rules and principles of action. By never lowering his lofty standard amidst the jostle of contending difficulties, he at length arrived at it; and new trials served only to call into exercise new and unexplored resources of fortitude. He had so long forsaken every other consideration for glory, that he finally measured his life by this standard, and felt a repulsive antipathy to whatever fell short of that measure.

There has seemed a sort of compact among our naval commanders, never to quit their station on deck. Allen, in his mutilated state, refused to be carried below, and fainted on the deck from loss of blood. Lawrence showed the same determined spirit, and never left his station until he was too far exhausted by his wounds to animate his men by his example. Burrows, although mortally wounded at his quarters, still remained at his post, survived the action, and there received the sword of his gallant and intrepid antagonist.

* Tablet, whereon will be recorded the name, rank, age and character of the deceased, and also of the midshipman, will be placed (if it can be conveyed) as I have suggested; both having lost their lives in fighting for the honor of their country.

The following extract from Captain Allen's letter, addressed to his sister, will show the character of this intrepid officer in an amiable light :

"When you shall hear that I have ended my earthly career, that I only exist in the kind remembrance of my friends, you will forget my follies, forgive my faults, call to mind some little instances dear to reflection, to excuse your love for me, and shed one tear to the memory of

[*Port Folio.*]

HENRY."

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Blockade of the Chesapeake and Delaware bays.....Loss of the schooner Lottery.....Loss of the privateer Dolphin.....Burning of Frenchtown, Havre-de-Grace, &c.....Com. Cassin's Expedition.....Outrages at Hampton.....Attack on the schooner Asp.... Attempt to blow up a British 74.....Attack on Lewistown.... Blockade of Com. Decatur's squadron.....Capture of the Eagle.....Private armed vessels.....List of British vessels captured during the year 1813.

In the early part of 1813, the British government declared the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays to be in a state of blockade ; and a squadron under the command of Admiral Warren, was accordingly sent to the entrance of the Chesapeake, to enforce this blockade.

*Loss of the schooner Lottery.....*The first interesting event which arose from the blockade, was the affair of the letter of marque schooner *Lottery*, of Baltimore. This vessel mounted 6 guns, and had a crew of 35 men. In sailing out of the Chesapeake in the month of February, she was attacked by nine large British boats, having on board 240 well armed men. She sustained their united attack upwards of an hour and an half ; when the British succeeded in boarding her, and pulled down her colours. The British in this affair, lost more men than the whole crew of the *Lottery*.

*Loss of the privateer Dolphin.....*On the 3d of April, the privateer *Dolphin*, of Baltimore, Captain Stafford, of 10 guns, was attacked by 17 tenders and launches from the British squadron, manned with from 40 to 50 men each. The contest continued two hours, when the enemy succeeded in boarding. They were gallantly met by the crew of the *Dolphin*, and an action of 15

minutes ensued on her deck; when her crew was overpowered, and she compelled to surrender.

About the middle of May, a party of the British blockading squadron sailed up to the head of the Chesapeake bay, where they captured and destroyed a number of small vessels.

Burning of Frenchtown, Havre-de-Grace, &c..... About the commencement of May, a large party of British marines and sailors, under the command of Rear Admiral Cockburn, successfully attacked the villages of Frenchtown, Havre-de-grace, Georgetown and Fredericktown. These places were situated near the head of the Chesapeake, and contained but few inhabitants. They of course could make but little resistance against a numerous body of assailants. The destruction committed by the British in these places was wanton in the extreme. The houses were set on fire. The furniture and other property of the inhabitants were either destroyed or conveyed on board their vessels. The squadron soon after returned down the Chesapeake.

On the 20th of June, Commodore Cassin fitted out an expedition against some of the blockading frigates then in the vicinity of Crany Island. Fifteen gun boats were selected for this purpose, and put under the command of Captain Tarbell. The attack was commenced from the gun-boats upon a frigate about three quarters of a mile distant. Two other British frigates were in sight. The frigate sustained considerable injury, and would have been captured by the gun boats had not a breeze sprung up which enabled the other two vessels to come to her assistance. The action however continued an hour and an half with the three frigates. Only one American was killed, and some others slightly wounded.

On the 22d of June, about three thousand British attempted to land on Crany Island, but were repulsed. Three of their barges were sunk: one of them, belonging to Admiral Warren's ship had 75 men in her, the greater part of whom were drowned; a number of prisoners were taken. Many of the enemy also deserted. The American troops on the island consisted of about 500 land troops under the command of Lieut. Colonel Beaty; and 150 marines and sailors, under the command of Lieutenants Neale, Shubrick, Saunders and Brackenridge.

On the 25th of June, about 2500 British attacked the town of Hampton. The American force stationed there amounted to about 400, under the command of Major Crutchfield. This small body of Americans opposed the very superior British force, with the utmost gallantry for a considerable time, when, overcome by numbers, they retreated, and the British took possession of Hampton, where the most inhuman and shocking acts were committed by them. Several of the defenceless and unfortunate females

that remained in the place suffered every indecency and violence. Property to a large amount was most wantonly destroyed.

On the 14th of July the U. S. schooner *Asp*, of three guns and 21 men, in the Chesapeake bay, being attacked by several British vessels, run up a creek, whither she was pursued by three boats, well manned and armed; but the assailants were soon compelled to retreat. After the lapse of an hour, the *Asp* was again attacked by five boats, the crews of which succeeded in boarding her. The crew of the *Asp* retreated on shore. The British set fire to the vessel and left her. The fire however was extinguished by the Americans. The loss of the latter in killed and wounded amounted to ten.

On the 18th of July, an attempt was made in the Chesapeake bay, to blow up the *Plantagenet*, a 74, by means of a torpedo. Mr. Mix, the projector of the scheme, had approached within 40 fathoms of her, and dropped the torpedo; when he was hailed by one of the British guard boats. He instantly drew his machine into the boat and escaped. On the following night he made a second attempt, but was again discovered. In the night of the 20th, he made a third attempt, and got within 15 yards of the ship's bow, and directly under her jib-boom, where he continued 15 minutes making preparations, when a sentinel from the fore-castle hailed "boat ahoy!" The sentinel not being answered, fired his musket at the now retreating adventurer, to which a rapid discharge of small arms succeeded. Blue lights were resorted to in order to find out the position of the boat, but failed. Rockets were then thrown which illumined the water to a considerable extent, and discovered the boat. A heavy discharge of cannon immediately commenced. The *Plantagenet* slipped her cable, and made some sail, while her boats were sent in pursuit. But the daring American escaped unhurt. Unsuccessful attempts were made the three following nights. But on the 24th Mr. Mix took his position within 100 yards of the *Plantagenet*, and in a direction with her larboard bow. The machine was dropped into the water, and the same moment the sentinel cried "all's well:" the tide swept it towards the vessel, but it exploded a few seconds too soon. A column of water 50 feet in circumference was thrown up 30 or 40 feet. Its appearance was a vivid red, tinged with purple at the sides. The summit of the column burst with a tremendous explosion, and fell on the deck of the *Plantagenet* in torrents, while she rolled into the yawning chasm below, and nearly upset. She however received but little injury.

In the month of July, the blockading squadron again sailed up the Chesapeake and entered the Potomac: they however effected nothing. Soon after returning out of the river they sailed toward the head of the Chesapeake. They landed on Kent Island

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where they remained for some time, when they again returned down the bay.

On the 6th of April the blockading squadron in the Delaware bay commenced a cannonade on Lewistown, the inhabitants of which had refused complying with an order of the English commodore, to supply the squadron with provisions. The cannonade lasted about twenty two hours; a number of 18 and 32 pound shot were fired, likewise shells and Congreve rockets; but produced little or no effect....not a life was lost. The inhabitants of the place were prompt in repelling every attempt to land.

On the 27th of July, one of the U. S. gun boats was captured in the Delaware by a superior force, after a very gallant defence, in which the British had 7 men killed and 12 wounded.

*Blockade of Commodore Decatur's squadron....*In the early part of the summer of 1813, Commodore Decatur, in the frigate United States, accompanied by the Macedonian, Captain Jones, and the sloop of war Hornet, put to sea from New-York. But a very superior force, consisting of line of battle ships and frigates, hove in sight and gave chase immediately after he left port. The American squadron was fortunate enough to reach the harbour of New-London, where, for the remainder of the summer, they were blockaded, without any thing interesting occurring except an attempt made to blow up some of the English vessels by a fireship. The fireship was called the Eagle, and fitted out for the purpose by John Scudder. It was supposed that on her being captured, she would be taken alongside one of the vessels of war, when, in attempting to unlade her, a considerable quantity of powder and other combustibles would have been set on fire. The attempt was made in the month of June. She was taken possession of by the British; but blew up before she got along side any of their large vessels. At the time of explosion, four boats were seen along side, which were all, with the men on board them, destroyed. It is supposed that upwards of 100 of the British perished.

*Capture of the Eagle....*In the month of July a fishing smack was sent by Commodore Lewis of New-York, for the purpose of capturing by stratagem the sloop Eagle, a tender of the Poictiers, a British vessel of 74 guns. The smack was borrowed of some fishermen. A calf, a sheep and a goose, were put on board. Between 30 and 40 men well armed with muskets were secreted in the cabin and forepeake of the smack. Thus prepared she stood out to sea as if going on a fishing voyage to the banks. Only three men appeared on deck, dressed as fishermen. The Eagle, on perceiving the smack, gave chase. After coming along side, and discovering live stock on board, she ordered the smack down

to the commodore, then about five miles off. The helmsman of the smack answered, "aye, aye, sir;" and apparently put up the helm for that purpose, which brought the smack along side the Eagle, not more than three yards distant. The watch-word *Lawrence*, was then given, and the armed men rushed on deck from below; and poured a volley of musketry into the tender: which drove her crew below with so much precipitancy, that they had not time to strike her colours. As soon as sailing master Percival who commanded the smack, perceived the deck of the British vessel cleared, he ordered his men to cease firing. Upon which one of the Eagle's crew appeared on deck, and struck her colours. The Eagle was safely taken into New-York.

Private armed vessels..... We notice the following, as some of the most prominent features of enterprise and gallantry manifested by our privateers during 1813:

The Hazard, of Charleston, of 57 tons, 3 guns, and 38 men, commanded by Placide le Chartier, while at anchor off the Island of Davie, discovered a man of war brig convoying five merchantmen. One of these last, having lost her mizen mast, could not keep up with the rest of the convoy. As soon as they were out of sight, the Hazard pursued her, to which, after some resistance, she struck. She proved to be the Albion, of London, copper-bottomed, and of 300 tons burden, navigated by 15 men, and mounting 12 guns.

While the Hazard was lying off Charleston, in a fog, her prize was separated from her, and recaptured by a British cutter, the Caledonia, of 8 guns and 38 men. Three days after, on the 22d of February, the Hazard discovered her prize in company with the above mentioned British cutter. The Hazard commenced a pursuit of them both. As soon as the Hazard came within musket shot, she commenced firing at the ship and cutter, which was returned by them with spirit, and apparent determination. At 3 o'clock, the second lieutenant, carpenter, and five men of the Hazard, were severely wounded. At 5, the cutter hauled off to repair the damages she had sustained. At half past five, the Hazard came close to the cutter, the crew of the former having determined to lose their lives sooner than give up so valuable a prize. At half past six the British cutter again hauled off, and continued to fire at a distance. Taking advantage of this, the Hazard bore down on the prize, and after a brisk fire caused her to strike her colours. She was then ordered to lie to.

The British cutter having shot ahead, Le Chartier instantly gave chase, keeping up a brisk fire. He pursued her until 8 o'clock. The cutter then ceased firing, and hailed, saying she had struck, and signified the same by hoisting and lowering a lantern three times. The Hazard having then but 21 men, including the cap-

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tain, on board, it was not thought advisable to take possession of her. She bore down for the prize, of which she took possession, leaving a prize master and six men on board of her, so that there only remained 14 men on board of the Hazard. Both the Hazard and her prize arrived safe at St. Mary's.

The Comet, of Baltimore, Captain Boyle, of 12 guns and 120 men, being on a cruise, discovered, on the 14th of January, 1813, four sail standing out of Pernambuco. She lay by to give them an opportunity of getting off shore, with a view of then cutting them off. At 3 P. M. they were upon a wind standing S. E. and about six leagues from land. The *Comet* bore up, and made sail in chase. At 6, one of them was discovered to be a large man of war brig. All hands were immediately called to quarters on board the *Comet*; the guns were loaded with round and grape shot; and the ship cleared for action. At 7, being close to the chase, she hoisted her colours, and came close to the man of war brig, which had hoisted Portuguese colours. The commander hailed, and sent an officer on board the *Comet*, who informed Captain Boyle, that the brig was a Portuguese national vessel, mounting twenty 32 pounders and 165 men; that the three others were strongly armed English vessels; and that he must not molest them. Capt. Boyle informed him that he certainly should make use of every exertion to capture them. The Portuguese said he was ordered to protect them, and certainly should.

The English vessels were ahead of the *Comet*. They consisted of a ship of 14 guns, and two brigs of 10 guns each. So that including the Portuguese vessel, the *Comet* had a force of 54 guns to oppose. Captain Boyle immediately made sail for them; came up with the ship, hailed her, and ordered the captain to have the mainsail backed. He gave little or no answer. The *Comet* having shot ahead, Captain Boyle informed him, that he should be along in a few minutes, when if he did not obey his orders, he would pour a broadside into the ship. In a few minutes the *Comet* tacked, the Portuguese sloop of war being close after her, and ran along side of the ship, one of the brigs being close to her. The *Comet* opened a broadside on them both. It was now about half past 8 P. M. All the vessels were carrying a press of sail. The *Comet*, from her superior sailing, was frequently obliged to tack. From this she would have profited very much, had not the Portuguese sloop of war been so close. The latter now opened a heavy fire on the *Comet*, with round and grape shot, which she returned. The *Comet* had now the whole force of the 4 vessels to contend with. She, however, kept as closely as possible to the English vessels. They frequently separated, to give the sloop of war an opportunity of firing into the *Comet*. The latter as frequently poured whole broadsides into them; at times also into the sloop of war.

About 11 P. M. the ship surrendered....she was cut to pieces,

and rendered unmanageable. Soon after the brig Bowes struck... she also was much injured. A boat was sent to take possession of her; as it passed the sloop of war, a broadside was fired by her, which nearly sunk it, and obliged it to return. The Comet then commenced a brisk fire at the sloop of war, which sheered off to some distance. After following her a short distance, she obliged the third English vessel to strike. The latter was very much cut to pieces. The Comet now again proceeded to take possession of the Bowes, when she spoke the ship that had first surrendered... her captain being ordered to follow, informed Captain Boyle that his ship was in a sinking condition, having many shot-holes between wind and water, and every rope on board of her being cut away. At half past 1, A. M. the Bowes was taken possession of and manned. The sloop of war then fired a broadside into the prize, and passed her. The moon was now down, and it became quite dark and squally. This caused the Comet to separate from the other vessels, excepting the sloop of war, with which broadsides were frequently exchanged. At 2, she stood to the south. Captain Boyle now thought it most prudent to take care of one of the prizes until day-light, the other two being out of sight. At day-break, the sloop of war, and the two other prizes, a ship and brig, were discovered. The Comet immediately hove about, and stood for them. The sloop tacked, and made signals for her convoy to make for the first port. Capt. Boyle, knowing the situation of the ship and brig, determined not to take possession of them, but to watch their manœuvres. Great exertions appeared to be made to keep them from sinking.

Captain Boyle was afterwards informed that the sloop of war was much injured...she had five men killed, and a number wounded. The ship's mast scarcely lasted to carry her into Pernambuco. Her cargo was nearly all damaged. It was with difficulty the brig was kept from sinking before she reached Pernambuco harbour.

After capturing the Aberdeen, of 8 guns, two vessels of 10 guns each, in sight of a sloop of war, and a schooner, Capt. Boyle returned to the United States. He passed the blockading squadron in the Chesapeake, and arrived safe at Baltimore.

The General Armstrong, a schooner of 18 guns, commanded by Captain Champlain, was cruising off Surinam, on the 11th March, 1813. At 7 A. M. she discovered a sail, which at half past eight, fired three guns, and hoisted English colours. About 9, the Armstrong fired a gun, and hoisted American colours. At half after 9, the British vessel tacked, and stood as near the Armstrong as the wind would permit, keeping up a brisk fire from her main-deck guns. At half past 10, the Armstrong bore down, intending to pour her starboard broadside into her, then wear ship, discharge the larboard broadside, and then board. This was done, except the boarding. The English vessel was now discovered to

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be a frigate, pierced for 24 guns. She kept up a constant fire on the *Armstrong*, which lay for ten minutes like a log. The fore-top-sail and mizen-gaff halyards of the frigate were shot away. This brought down her colours. The crew of the *Armstrong*, thinking she had struck, ceased firing. But they were soon again seen flying, and the action was renewed. The frigate lay for a few minutes apparently unmanageable. She soon, however, recovered, and opened a heavy fire from her starboard broadside and main top; apparently with the intention of sinking the *Armstrong*. The latter lay for the space of forty-five minutes within pistol-shot of the frigate. Captain Champlin was standing by the centre gun, in the act of firing his pistol, when he was wounded by a musket-ball from the main-top of the frigate. The *Armstrong* luffed to windward, and fore-reached the frigate.

The *Armstrong* had six men killed, and sixteen wounded, and was very much injured in her rigging, masts, and hull....she, however, succeeded in escaping from the frigate.

The Young Teazer, Captain Dobson, of New-York, was chased into Halifax by the *Sir John Sherbroke*, a vessel of superior force. When within the Light House she hoisted English colours over the American, and was chased nearly up to the forts, when the *Sir John Sherbroke* supposing her to be a prize, hove about, and put to sea. As soon as the latter was out of sight, the *Young Teazer* hauled down her English colours, and effected her escape.

The Decatur, of Charleston, mounting 7 guns, with a crew of 103 men, and commanded by Captain Diron, being on a cruise in the month of August, discovered a ship and schooner. She immediately stood towards them to reconnoitre. At half past 12, the *Decatur* was abreast of the schooner, which hoisted English colours. At one the *Decatur* wore round; and half an hour after the schooner fired a shot without effect. The captain of the *Decatur* immediately gave orders to prepare for action. At 2 o'clock the schooner fired another shot, which passed over the *Decatur*. At a quarter past 2, the latter fired her large gun, and hoisted American colours at the peak: two more discharges were made from the same piece, which were answered by two guns from the British schooner. The two vessels were now within half gun shot distance. Captain Diron, observing that the schooner was preparing to bear away, haled upon the larboard tack, in order to present the bow of his vessel to his antagonist. Soon afterwards the latter fired her whole broadside, which only slightly damaged the *Decatur's* rigging. This was returned from the 18 pounder of the *Decatur*. Her captain, at the same time, ordered every one of the crew to his post, in order to carry the British vessel by boarding, as soon as the necessary preparations for the purpose should be made. It was now three quarters of an hour past two, and the vessels were within pistol shot of each other. A

severe fire of musketry commenced from the Decatur. The British schooner bore away to prevent being boarded; and fired a broadside into the Decatur, which killed two of her men, and injured her rigging and sails. The Decatur closely followed her antagonist in her manœuvres, and again endeavoured to board, which the schooner once more avoided, and fired another broadside. A third attempt was made by the captain of the Decatur to board. The jib boom of the Decatur was run into the main-sail of the schooner, and the latter not being able to disengage herself, dropped along side. During this manœuvre the fire from the cannon and musketry on both sides was extremely severe and destructive. While the two vessels lay in this position Captain Diron ordered his whole crew, armed with pistols, sabres, &c to board, which was performed with the greatest promptness. The resistance of the English was desperate. Fire arms soon became useless, and the contest was carried on with the cutlass. The captain and principal officers of the British vessel being killed, and her deck covered with dead and wounded, her colours were hauled down by the crew of the Decatur, when the two vessels were separated, having their rigging and sails cut to pieces.

The English vessel was his Britannic Majesty's schooner Dominica, of 15 guns, with a crew of 88 men. The Decatur had 4 men killed and 16 wounded; the Dominica 13 killed, and 47 wounded. Among the killed of the Dominica was her brave commander, who, as long as he lived, refused to surrender his vessel, and declared his determination not to survive her loss.

The King's packet Princess Charlotte, remained an inactive spectator of this bloody contest, which lasted an hour. As soon as the vessels were disengaged, she tacked about and stood to the southward. She had sailed from St Thomas, under convoy of the Dominica. The Decatur and her prize arrived safe in port.

The Saratoga, of 4 guns and 116 men, belonging to New-York, while cruising off Surinam river, in the month of September, discovered the British Packet, brig Morgiana, of 18 guns, with a crew of about 50 men, commanded by James Cunningham. Capt. Aderton, the commander of the Saratoga, immediately gave chase: when within musket shot, the Morgiana hoisted English colours, and the action commenced: part of the time the vessels were within pistol shot: the remainder, they were close along side of each other. After an action of an hour and a quarter the Saratoga succeeded in capturing the British vessel by boarding. The action was extremely severe. Both vessels were almost reduced to wrecks. The Saratoga had almost all her stays, shrouds, &c. cut away. In her main-sail there were upwards of a hundred shot holes. A number of shot also struck her masts, spars, and hull. The crew of the Morgiana fought with desperation. She had 2 men killed, and 8 wounded. The Saratoga had 2 men killed and 5 wounded. Both arrived safe in port.

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List of British vessels captured during the year 1813—extracted from Niles' Weekly Register.

Brig —, captured by the Growler, and released after dispossessing her of many valuables.
 Ship Diligence, 12 guns, a government transport with valuable military stores, wrecked near Machias, and set on fire by the British. Col. Cline commanding the U. S. volunteers on the eastern frontier, recovered from the wreck in pieces a 34 lb. cannon, 15 of 12, 4 of 9, with the carriages for the large pieces &c.
 Schooner — by the Gallinipper—ransomed.
 Ship Neptune, 10 guns, with brandy, wine, and dry goods, by the Decatur.
 Ship — with timber, comprising the whole frame of a 74 gun ship by the America of Salem.
 Ship Volunteer, 12 guns, 400 tons, with dry goods and copper, by the U. S. frigate Chesapeake, said to be worth 150,000 sterling.
 Ship —, burnt by the Chesapeake after taking out of her goods worth 200,000 dollars.
 Schooner Ellen, with dry goods worth 250,000 dollars, by the U. S. sloop of war Hornet.
 Ship June, 20 guns, with mahogany and logwood, by the Spy of New-Orleans.
 Schooner Pierce of Wales, by the Growler, released after taking out a few pipes of Madeira, &c.
 Ship Aurora, 12 guns with dry goods worth 30,000 dollars, by the Holkar of New-York.
 Two vessels, by the Mars, and sent to England as carrels.
 Brig Pelican, with iron and fish, by do.
 Sloop —, with hides, by the — of Newbern.
 Brig Emu, 10 guns, with 49 female convicts, by the Holkar.
 Brig Ann, 10 guns, with dry goods and crates worth 100,000 dollars, by the Growler.
 Brig —, 10 guns, with a valuable cargo of dry goods, by the "United we stand" and "Divided we fall".
 Transport ship Lord Keith, 4 guns, by the Mars.
 Schooner Saline, with valuable cargo, taken up in lake Erie, on her way to Malden. She was discovered and taken possession of by a few persons from the town of Erie.
 Transport ship Canada, 14 guns, 100 soldiers, and 23 horses, by the Paul Jones, and ransomed for 10,000 sterling, after disarming the men.
 Brig John and Isabella, by ditto, and given up to discharge her prisoners.
 Brig Three-Brothers, 12 guns, with sumac, sulphur, oil, &c. by the Dolphin.
 Sloop Mary-Ann, with gold dust, &c. worth 5,000 dollars—cargo taken out and vessel burnt in the coast of Africa, by the Yankee.
 Ship Andalusia, 10 guns, 100 men, (81 free blacks) worth 34,000 dollars, by ditto.
 Schooner George, by ditto, part of her cargo taken out, and given up to discharge her prisoners.
 Ship Albion, 12 guns, 25 men, with sugar, rum, cotton and coffee, by the Hazard of 3 guns.
 Brig Harriot and Matilda of eight 12 and 18 pounders—232 tons, with an assorted cargo, and some dry goods, by the Yankee.
 Ship Nelson, a large three deck vessel, of 600 tons, with an immensely valuable cargo, by the Decatur.
 Ship Neptune of like burden, by the Saratoga.
 Ship —, 9 guns by privateer.
 Brig —, 12 guns, with an assorted cargo, by the Dolphin.
 Schooner —, by the Lovely Lass of Wilmington.
 Brig —, by the Paul Jones.
 Ship Shannon, 12 guns, by the Yankee.
 Ship Mentor with a cargo invoiced at 60,000 sterling, by the Saucy Jack.
 Schooner Thycar with turtle, etc. by the Liberty of Baltimore.
 Brig Resolution, 6 guns, with coffee, etc. burnt by the U. S. sloop of war Hornet, after taking out 10,000 dollars in specie.
 Sloop of war Peacock, 22 guns, 134 men, attacked and taken to pieces by the Hornet in fifteen minutes—sunk before all the prisoners could be removed.

Brig Antrim, with dry goods, etc. by the Saucy Jack.
 Brig Fly—valuable, by the Yankee.
 Schooner —, 100 tons, with bees-wax and red-wood, by the Yankee.
 Brig Earl Percy, with dry goods and salt, by the Chesapeake frigate.
 Brig Liverpool Hero, with dry goods, hardware and jewelry, by the Chesapeake frigate, and burnt after removing the cargo.
 Brig Rover, 8 guns, with rum, by the Alfred.
 Schooner Alder, 6 guns, with an assorted cargo taken on the coast of Africa by the Yankee.
 Brig Return, by the Paul Jones.
 Brig Thames, 8 guns, with red-wood, etc. by the Yankee.
 Three vessels, by the Snap-Drum of Newbern, divested of their valuables and burnt.
 Three vessels taken by ditto and given up to release prisoners.
 Sloop — by ditto, and fitted out as a tender.
 Two vessels, by the Divided we Fall—ransomed.
 One do. by do. and sunk.
 Three do. by do. and given up.
 Caledonia, 8 guns by the U. S. schooner Non-such, after 7 minutes battle.
 Brig Tartar, with rum, by the Gen. Armstrong.
 Schooner Fox 3 guns by the Hero.
 Brig London Packet, by the Paul Jones.
 Schooner Farmer with cotton, by the Sparrow of Baltimore—given up.
 Schooner —, by the Wasp of Salem.
 Schooner Crown, by a sloop.
 Ship —, by the "True blooded Yankee".
 Brig Matvina, 10 guns, with wine, etc. by the Ned of Baltimore.
 Brig Charlotte, with dye-wood, etc. by the Montgomery of Salem.
 Brig Duke of Gloucester, 10 guns, taken at York, by the squadron under Com. Chauncey.
 Schooner Richard, — guns, by the Holkar.
 Sloop Dorcas, by do.—given up.
 Brig Edward, 8 guns, with 150 tons of cotton, etc. by the Alexander of Salem.
 Schooner —, by the Alexander—given up.
 Brig —, with rum, by the Fox.
 Ship Nancy, by the York-Town, of New-York.
 Schooner — of 8 guns, by the squadron under Com. Chauncey.
 Schooner Delight, with wine and silks, by the Fame.
 King's packet Mary Ann, 12 guns, by the Gen. Tompkins of New-York.
 Ship Drama, 12 guns, by the Thomas of Portsmouth.
 Brig — by do.
 Corvette ship Invincible Napoleon, 16 guns, by the Young Fræzer. This ship was originally a French privateer: captured by the British sloop of war Mutine, re-captured by the Alexander of Salem: re-captured by the British frigates Shannon and Penedes; and a third time re-captured by the Fræzer.
 Packet Ann, 10 guns, by do.
 Schooner Greyhound with fish and oil, by do.
 Brig — by the Governor Plumer of Portsmouth.
 Packet — with 80,000 dollars in specie, by the Anacanda of New-York.
 Ship Mary with wine by ditto.
 Ship William 10 guns, with dry goods, crates, wine, etc. by the Grand Turk of Salem.
 Brig Harriot with hides and tallow, by the Anacanda.
 Brig Mars with hides and rum, by the Fox.
 Schooner Pearl with corn meal, etc. by the Liberty of Baltimore.
 A privateer sloop by do.
 Brig — by the Governor Plumer.
 Brig — with cotton, by the Sabine of Baltimore.

The Brig — and fired a shot, and in- followed her to board, other broad- to the main- disengage the fire from severe and tion Captain abres, &c to tness. The icon became utlass. The g killed, and rs were haul- vessels were s.
 Schooner Domi- Decatur had 4 led, and 47 as her brave surrender his her loss.
 an inactive ur. As soon d stood to the convoy of the in port.
 o New-York, ptember, dis- guns, with a gham. Capt. diately gave isted English e the vessels close along a quarter the by boarding. re almost re-ays, shrouds, s of a hum- masts, spars, desperation. a had 2 men

Brig Kingston Packet with rum, by the Globe of Baltimore.

Schooner Britannia, by the Grand Turk.
Ship Loyal Sam with specie and indigo, by the Siro of Baltimore.

Ship Venus, 14 guns, by the Globe
Ship David, with provisions, by the Governor Plumer.

Brig Ajax, 2 guns, by the Gov. Tompkins.
Brig Bartley, 2 guns, by do. and burnt.

Transport ship — by the Bellona of Philadelphia—prisoners paroled, and vessel redeemed.

Brig Gen. Prevost, by the Rolla of Baltimore.
Schooner Brown, by the Bellona—ransomed.

Brig Thames, 3½ tons, with cotton, by the Yankee.

Schooner Liverpool Packet, by the Thomas of Portsmouth.

Brig — with hides, tallow, etc. by the Yorktown.

Ship Susan, by an American letter of marque.
Ship Seaton, by the Paul Jones—burnt.

Schooner Elizabeth, by the Globe—burnt.
Ship Pelham, with rum, by do —burnt.

Brig Margaret, 220 tons, 10 guns, with salt, by the American.

Schooner Lady Murray, 21 men, with military stores, by the Lady of the Lake on Ontario.

Brig Morton, 12 guns, by the Yorktown.
Three schooners, one with salt—the others with rum and mahogany by the Young Teazer.

Brig Sally, 4 guns, in ballast, by the Benjamin Franklin.

Brig — by the Teazer.
Brig Hero, by do.

Brig Resolution with flour, by the Nancy.
Brig Hero, in ballast, by the Essex—burnt.

Brig James and Sarah, by do —ransomed.
Brig — with wine, by the Vengeance.

Brig — 6 guns, with West-India produce, by the Gen. Armstrong.

Brig — with salt.
Brig — by the John.

Brig Ann, by the Teazer.
Brig Thomas, 2 guns, in ballast, by the Decatur.

Brig Tulip British property under American colours, by the Atlas.

Brig — 14 guns, by the Holkar.
Barque — by the Dolphin—burnt.

Ship — in ballast, with specie, by the Revenge.

Ship Eliza Ann, by the Yankee.
Schooner Success, with salmon by the Benj. Franklin.

Schooner Lady Clark, by the Bunker Hill.
Schooner Sally, by the Wiley Heynard.

Schooner Blonde, by the John.
Schooner — with rum, by do.

Arm'd schooner Dorcas, by the Liberty.
Sloop Eagle, by a fishing smack.

Brig Union, with provisions, by the True Blooded Yankee.

Ship Aurora, by do.
Ship — 20 guns, by the Rambler.

Ship Integrity, by the True Blooded Yankee.
Brig Avery, 12 guns, with gums, almonds, beavens, skins, etc by the Yorktown.

Ship Susan, by —
Ship Fox, by —; sunk after a running fight of about an hour.

Schooner Leonard, sunk by the True Blooded Yankee.

Brig Betsey, with wine, raisins etc. by the Jack's Favourite.

Three vessels, by the America; given up to discharge prisoners.

Schooner — with skins, by the Fox.
Brig — by the Yankee.

A gun boat mounting a 24 pounder, with 14 battaux and 4 officers and 64 men; captured on Lake Ontario.

Schooner Three Sisters, with flour, by the Saury Jack.

Schooner General Horseford, of 210 tons, by the Decatur.

Brig Betsey, with wine, by the Jack's Favorite.
Brig Nelly, by the Fox—burnt.

Sloop Peggy, by do —ransomed.
Schooner Brother and Sister, by do.—burnt.

Brig Louisa, by do —ransomed.
Sloop Fox, by do.

Sloop William and Ann, by do.
Sloop James and Elizabeth, by do.—ransomed.

Brig Chance, by do.
Brig Mary, by do —burnt.

Ship Venus—an American vessel, with enemy's property, by the Dolphin.

Brig Morton, with dry goods, hardware and bar iron, by the Yorktown.

Schooner Dominica, 15 guns and 88 men, by the Decatur of 7 guns and 103 men, after a desperate action.

Ship London Trader, 2 guns, with sugar, molasses, rum, coffee, cotton, etc. by do.

Brigs Good Intent, Venus, Happy, barque Reprisal and schooner Elizabeth, by the Snap-Drum.

Privateer Fly, by the U. S. Brig Enterprize.
Schooner Ceres, by the Yankee.

Barque Henrietta, by the Snap-Drum.
Brig Ann, with dry goods worth 500,000 dol., by do.

Schooner Flying Fish, by the Saury Jack.
Sloop Catherine, with salt, by do.

Schooner Kate with fish by do.
Ship Louisa 10 guns with coffee by do—burnt.

Brig Three Brothers, 10 guns, with coffee, by ditto.

Brig Earl of Moira, by the Industry.
Schooner — with rum by the boat Terrible.

Two vessels by the Holkar and Swiftsure.
Schooner Louisa 202 tons gun and 20 men,

with rum and sugar, by the Expedition of Baltimore.

Privateer King of Rome by the U. S. brig Argus—destroyed.

A ship with fish by the U. S. frigate President.
A schooner by do.

Three vessels by the True Blooded Yankee.
Two vessels by the Leo—carried into France.

An Italianian, by do. worth 500,000—retaken but the specie she had on board, to the amount of 600,000 was carried into France.

Brig — by the Brutus—ransomed. The Brutus also captured another vessel.

Schooner — by the Gen. Armstrong—burnt. His majesty's fine brig or war Boxer 18 guns, by the U. S. Brig Enterprize of 16 guns.

Schooner — with sugar and coffee, by the mate (an American) and some of the crew.

Schooner — with salt, by the Terrible.
Brig — with dry goods worth 369,520 dollars, by the Snap Dragon.

Ship Reprisal by the Frolic of Salem—burnt.
Brig Friends by do —burnt.

Brig Betsey by do.
Brig — with fish, by the Pilot.

Four vessels by the Lovely Cordelia of Charlotte—burnt.

Schooner — by a privateer boat.
Galliot Gutte Holling, by the Frolic—burnt.

Brig Jane Gordon 8 guns and 20 men by do—burnt.

Schooner Hunter by do and converted into a cartel.

Ship Grotius by do.
Schooners Vigilant and Susan by do—given up.

Sloop — with dry goods, by a privateer boat.
His Britannic majesty's ship Detroit, 9 guns and 2 howitzers, captured on Lake Erie by Com. Perry.

Ship Queen Charlotte 17 guns and 1 howitzer captured on do by do.

Schooner Lady Prevost by do on do.
Brig Hunter by do on do.

Sloop Little Belt by do on do.
Schooner Chippeway by do on do.

Brig — campus.

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and, of 210 tons, by the Jack's Favorite—burnt.
 Brig Mary Ann, with rum and molasses by do and ransomed.
 Brig — by the Gen. Armstrong—burnt.
 A brig and a sloop, by the Industry.
 Packet Lapwing, by the Rattlesnake.
 Two ships by the True Blooded Yankee.
 Sloop Traveller with dry goods, wine, crockery, copperas, allum and sugar, by the Lark.
 Packet Duke of Montrose by the President
 rigate and sent to England as a cartel.
 Brig Jane and Ann, by do and sunk.
 Brig Daphne by do and sunk.
 Ship Liza 8 guns by do and ransomed.
 Brig Alert, by do—burnt.
 Barque Lion, 8 guns, by do—ransomed.
 Schooner Highflyer, 5 guns, by do.
 Ship Industry, by the True Blooded Yankee.
 Ship London Packet, 1 guns, with hides, etc. by the letter of marque brig Argus.
 Brig Atlantic, with sugar indigo, etc. by do.
 Brig Jane, by do—ransomed, to dispose of prisoners.
 Brig Jane, in ballast, by the Snap Dragon—given up to dispose of prisoners.
 Brig Venus, by do.
 Schooner Elizabeth, by do—given up.
 Brig Happy and Barque Reorisa by do.
 Privateer schooner Dart six 9 pound carronades and six swivels by the U. S. revenue cutter vigilant captain Cahoon. She had committed many depredations off Newport.
 Schooner Salamanca by — and destroyed.
 Brig Susannah by — cargo destroyed, vessel sent to England with prisoners.
 Schooner Matilda by the Lion—since recaptured.
 Brig Richard, by — and destroyed.
 Brig Powey, with provisions, by — and destroyed.
 Sloop lady Francis, with provisions—destroyed.
 Ship Barbadoes, a transport, in ballast—destroyed.
 Brig Alliance, transport in ballast—destroyed.
 Schooner Cordelia—destroyed.
 Ship Betsey—recaptured.
 Ship Mariner—destroyed.
 Sloop — with clay, destroyed.
 Brig Helena, with clay—sent to England with prisoners.
 Brig — with slates—destroyed.
 Cutter Diana and Betty with bullocks—destroyed.
 Ship Defiance—destroyed.
 Brig Baltic—destroyed.
 Sloop — with slates, iron etc—cargo destroyed—vessel sent as a cartel.
 Brig Belloni with linen—destroyed.
 A pilot boat—liberated.
 Another vessel—destroyed.
 The 21 vessels last mentioned were captured by the Argus.
 Schooner Julia by Com. Chauncey on Lake Ontario.
 Schooner Growler by do.
 Three gun vessels on Lake Ontario.
 Gun vessel—burnt on do.
 His majesty's packet Morgiana, 18 guns, 9 pounders, two of them long brass pieces, 50 men, 40 tons burden, by the Saratoga of 4 guns and 15 men by boarding.
 Ship — by do—burnt.
 Brig — by do—burnt.
 Schooner — 130 tons by the Gen. Stark.
 Twenty-two ships, to wit: the Economy, Pax, Diligence, Liberty, Betsey, Hope, Jolly Bachelor, Experiment, Ruby, Britannia, Prosperous, Burton, Latona, Friends Adventure, Nottingham, Westmoreland, Brothers, Perseverance, Harford, Thetis, Lynn and Brunswick, with grain and naval stores, by the Rattlesnake and Scourge.

Thirteen merchant vessels on the coast of Spain by the Leo—burnt.
 Gun-boat carrying 1 long 32 pounder and 80 men driven near the shore by a storm on Lake Ontario, and captured by Capt. Morgan's rifle corps.
 Ship Brutus by the Scourge and Rattlesnake—given up to dispose of prisoners.
 Schooner Fame with wine by the Saratoga—wrecked on Long Island—crew and cargo saved.
 Ship St. Lawrence with valuable British goods worth from 1 to 400,000 dollars, by an Eastern privateer.
 Two vessels by the Yankee and given up to discharge prisoners.
 Fifteen vessels by the Lovely Cordelia—guttled and destroyed.
 Brig by do and manned for the United States—wrecked on the coast of Florida.
 Brig President with sugar, molasses and rum by the Polly.
 Brig Mary with salt, coal and crockery by the Yankee.
 Two ships by the Scourge.
 Schooner Katy with wine, dry goods, etc. by the Yankee.
 An American schooner with flour, bound for Halifax, by the Water Witch of Bristol, N. I.
 Schooner — by the Gen. Stark.
 Sloop Eliza Ann
 Brig Dart
 A sloop richly laden with dry goods, by the garrison of the fort at East-port.
 Sloop Gen. Hodgkinson, with salt and some specie by the Saratoga.
 Seven small craft, with merchandize worth 5000 pounds sterling.
 Brig Edward, with oil and fish by the Fox.
 Swedish brig Janstoft with dry goods by the Washington.
 Brig Lloyd with camwood, muskets and pistols taken out and burnt by the Saratoga.
 Ship Vesta, 10 guns, by the Saratoga; divested of her guns and all her valuables, and suffered to proceed with a little "friendly advice," not being worth sending in.
 Schooner Fame with the mail and a quantity of government stores, by the Saratoga.
 Schooner Joseph with government stores by the Saratoga—cargo taken out and vessel ransomed.
 Schooner Lady Cockburn, with indigo and coffee—took out the cargo and let her pass.
 Brig — with fish and oil by the Sancy Jack.
 This brig is the Sir John Sherbrooke of 10 guns and 40 men taken after a fight of 20 minutes, in which she had 2 men killed and 5 wounded. The Sancy Jack sustained but little injury, and had three men slightly wounded.
 Ship Manly, 4 guns, with wine, oil, etc. by the Revenge.
 Brig with sugar and molasses, by the Caroline—retaken and burnt.
 Schooner Messenger, with rum and molasses by the Comet.
 Ship Montezuma, 270 tons, 2 guns, 21 men, by the Essex frigate in the south sea.
 Ship Policy, 27 tons, 10 guns, 16 men, by do.
 Ship Georgiana, 280 tons, 6 guns, 23 men, by do.
 Ship Atlantic, 317 tons 8 guns, 24 men, by do.
 Ship Greenwich, 338 tons, 10 guns, 25 men, by do.
 Ship Hector, 270 tons, 11 guns, 25 men, by the Essex Junior.
 Ship Catharine 270 tons 8 guns 29 men, by do.
 Ship Rose, 220 tons, 8 guns, 21 men, by do.
 These vessels are estimated as worth to the enemy two millions of dollars.
 Brig Jean 10 guns 17 men with hides, tallow and copper by the Congress frigate—copper taken out and vessel destroyed.
 Brig Diana 10 guns 14 men with hides, tallow etc. by do—vessel and cargo destroyed as before.

would permit, and then converted into a cartel to release the prisoners.

Ship Rose by do with wine—cargo taken out and vessel destroyed.

Brig — with rum by the Eliza.

Brig Agnes in ballast by the Saucy Jack—burnt.

Sloop John with dry goods and provisions by do, divested of her cargo and given up.

Several small vessels by do—given up.

Brig Aba I with rum and sugar by the Caroline.

The valuable brig Atlantic with sugar and cotton, by the Congress frigate.

Schooner — with molasses by the Caroline.

Brig Silena by the Revenge—burnt.

Schooner — with sugar and molasses, by the Caroline.

Brig — with sugar, by do.

Sloop Resolution with linen and paper, by the Gen. Armstrong—dispossessed of cargo and given up.

Brig Phœbe with butter and potatoes, by do, and scuttled.

Brig Commerce with rum and molasses, by the Flirt of New-York—burnt.

Schooner Fanny with sugar, by the Revenge.

Brig Victoria with rum sugar and coffee, by the Rapid at Charleston.

Tryal, 200 tons, by the Grand Turk—burnt.

Brig — by do, and ransomed.

Brig — with lumber by do—burnt. Besides the above vessels the Grand Turk captured and manned 2 valuable ships, 1 brig and 1 schooner.

Schooner — with sugar, coffee, etc by the Patapoco of Baltimore.

Pink Stern boat with English goods worth 20,000 dollars, by a row-boat privateer.

British packet Lapwing, 10 guns and 40 men, by the Fox of 7 guns and 70 men after a desperate resistance, by boarding, in which 14 of the enemy were killed and 6 or 8 wounded. On board the Fox one man killed and three slightly wounded. The Packet has since been recaptured, but she had been divested of her valuables.

Ten enemy's vessels by the Caroline—divested of their valuable articles, and burnt, sunk, etc.

Sloop Osiris with molasses, having a British license, by the Caroline.

Hermaphrodite brig Cossack with sugar, by the letter of marque schooner General Stark 2 guns and 12 men, of Salem. The letter of marque had previously re-captured an American vessel.

Schooner Jasper with coffee, sugar and rum by the Caroline. It is stated that this vessel would have been wrecked and lost on the bar, but for the meritorious exertions of Lieutenant Mork of the navy.

Schooner Rebecca with live stock and provisions, by the Grand Turk.

Schooner Agnes with fish.

Brig Criterion, a traitor vessel, with rum, by the Caroline. This vessel has been tried and condemned for the use of the captors.

Schooner Fanny with sugar, by the Revenge.

Schooner Henry with fish, by the Roger.

Schooner Maria by ditto—burnt.

Ship Nereid with an assorted cargo worth seventy five thousand pounds sterling, by the Governor Tompkins.

Eighteen vessels by the True Blooded Yankee—burnt.

The Castor by do—divested of her valuable articles and given up.

The Active, Watson, Cora and Eliza by do.

Schooner Traveller with sugar and coffee, by the Frolic.

Schooner George with dry goods, etc. by the Fly.

Sloop Experiment with dry goods, hard ware and lumber, by do.

Several vessels with dry goods, etc. by the Fox.

The Vigilant, a tender, by the Comet.

Schooner — with sugar and coffee, by the Patapoco.

The valuable brig Youngusband with dry goods and hard ware, by the Governor Tompkins.

Nine vessels by the Comet—divested of their valuable articles and sunk. Besides these she captured and manned four prizes. She had a terrible battle with the ship Hibernia of 800 tons, 22 guns and a large complement of men, but was beaten off.

Brig Tullock, 200 tons, 10 guns, with an assorted cargo, by the Fox.

The rich ship Minerva with dry goods, hardware, etc. by do.

Ship — a whaleman, by the Gov. Tompkins—given up to release prisoners.

Brig Isabella, by the U. S. brig Rattlesnake.

Sloop — by the Gen. Stark—cast away on Cape Cod.

Schooner Harmony, with rum, by the Terrible.

Boat Humbird, with crockery, rum, sugar, etc. by the Surprise.

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SKETCHES

OF

THE WAR.

VOL. II.....No. 1.

WHOLE NUMBER 7.

CHAPTER XXIX.

Northern army....Battle at La Cole....Attack on Oswego....Geographical description of Oswego fort and village....Capture of a British force at Sandy Creek....Death of Colonel Forsyth, &c.

IN the latter part of March, 1814, the army of the north, under the command of General Wilkinson, was in motion on various parts of the frontier. Nothing, however, of consequence took place until the 29th; when the army having concentrated at Champlain, General Wilkinson determined upon attempting a diversion in favour of the corps under Major General Brown, who had marched for the Niagara frontier. He accordingly moved with his whole force, amounting to between 3 and 4000 men, on the Odletown road, with a view of attacking a body of the enemy at La Cole Mills. The army unfortunately missed the road, and proceeded about two miles beyond the small passage that led to the mills; but after a trifling skirmish with the enemy beyond Odletown, the army entered the proper route, drove the enemy's light troops before them, and reached the mills about 3 o'clock, P. M. The enemy's force at this place consisted of about 1500 regulars, which was increased during the action, by reinforcements from the Isle-aux Noix. Many were posted in the mill, the walls of which were impregnable to every thing but the heaviest artillery; others in a block-house and surrounding buildings, which served to protect them, for a time, from the impression of our musquetry. General Wilkinson so disposed his troops as nearly to encircle the mill, and brought up a howitzer and one 12 pounder to batter the walls; but after firing a considerable time, it was found little effect was produced. The enemy kept up a

galling fire during the whole time our troops lay before the place, from the loop holes cut in the mill, and directed a great portion of it on the two pieces of artillery: our troops returned the fire with great coolness and deliberate aim. The enemy made two sallies, and charged the left, commanded by Brigadier General Smith; but were repulsed with considerable loss. Towards evening a British regiment arrived, and made a charge on part of a brigade commanded by Brigadier General Bissel; but they were so warmly received, that they instantly fell back, leaving fifteen men dead on the field, besides a number wounded.

The advantageous position of the enemy in their strong holds, the inefficacy of 12 and 6 pounders on a stone building whose walls were between 3 and 4 feet thick, and the utter impossibility of bringing up an 18 pounder through obstructed roads, swamps and forests, induced General Wilkinson to order the return of the troops to Odletown; which order was executed without molestation from the enemy.

Our loss was 8 men killed, and 66 wounded, among the latter were 6 officers. That of the enemy, if general opinion is a test of truth, must have been more. The whole of Brigadier General Macomb's command was in the reserve, and not at all engaged. Maj. Forsyth's riflemen, Col. Clark's detachments, and Generals Smith and Bissel's brigades, with their detachments, formed a line round the mill.

The American troops fought with bravery, and many individuals particularly distinguished themselves. We notice the following acts of heroism:

Captain M'Pherson, who was military secretary to General Wilkinson, asked permission to take part in the operations of the day. His request was granted; and the command of the artillery, which followed the advance and formed the battery, was given him. Captain M'Pherson stood by his pieces with firmness, until a second shot from the enemy laid him low. The first shot passed through the fleshy part of his neck; with the intrepidity of a veteran, he tore off his handkerchief, bound it round his wound and went on with his work of duty: but the second passed thro' the upper part of his thigh bone, fractured it, and he was borne from the field, exhorting his remaining officer and men to support the honour of the command and persevere. This battery was placed in a strong and commanding position, within about 250 yards of the stone building of the enemy, against which its strong fire was levelled. Lieutenant Larrabee, an officer of real merit, attached to this battery, had received a ball through his breast, and was taken from the field before the wounded M'Pherson. While passing some persons who pitied his misfortune, he asked, "have you never seen a man die?" and meeting some of his brother officers, he addressed them with "good bye, my

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friends, they have hit me." He, however, soon after recovered. While the soldiers were bearing Captain M'Pherson from the field, some of the officers of the army offered their personal services to carry him to Plattsburgh, distant 21 miles. He paused a few moments, and then replied, "I thank the gentlemen for the interest and regard they have manifested in this kind offer, but I shall be sufficiently honoured when they bear me to my grave." His recovery since, has relieved the anxious solicitude of his friends.

After Captain M'Pherson and Lieutenant Larrabee were wounded, the command of the battery devolved on Lieutenant Sheldon, who, in the early part of the action, manifested the greatest firmness; but afterwards, being reduced to only one or two men to aid him, his valour and activity were strikingly conspicuous....he was compelled to assist in loading and discharging his pieces with his own hands, which he performed until ordered to retire.

Lieutenant Parker was wounded by a random shot; he fell, and the sword dropped from his grasp: he desired that it might be given him, for he would defend himself. He survived his wounds for several days, and expressed a most sincere and heartfelt regret that he had not fallen in close action. "Hard is my lot," he exclaimed, "that I should have received this wound at such a distance from the enemy, and where I was wholly inactive."

*Attack on Oswego.....*On the 5th of May, the enemy, to the amount of 3000 men, attacked fort Oswego, at the mouth of Oswego river, which empties into lake Ontario, with a view of removing obstacles which existed to the attainment of our naval and military stores at the falls, 13 miles in the rear of the fort. This force was gallantly met, however, by a small band of heroes under the command of Colonel Mitchell, who maintained an unequal contest, against ten times their number, for nearly two days; when the enemy succeeded in destroying the old barracks and a small amount of other public property; after which he retreated. The following report, from Colonel Mitchell to General Brown, gives a more minute detail of this affair:

"I informed you of my arrival at fort Oswego on the 30th April. This post being but occasionally and not recently occupied by regular troops, was in a bad state of defence. Of cannon we had but five old guns, three of which had lost their trunnions. What could be done in the way of repair was effected; new platforms were laid, the gun carriages put in order, and decayed pickets replaced. On the 5th instant, the British naval force, consisting of four large ships, three brigs, and a number of gun and other boats were descried at reveille-beating, about seven

miles from the fort. Information was immediately given to Captain Woolsey, of the navy, (who was at Oswego village,) and to the neighbouring militia. It being doubtful on what side of the river the enemy would attempt to land, and my force (290 effective) being too small to bear division, I ordered the tents in store to be pitched on the village side, while I occupied the other with my whole force. It is probable that this artifice had its effect, and determined the enemy to attack where, from appearance, they expected the least opposition. About one o'clock the fleet approached. Fifteen boats, large and crowded with troops, at a given signal, moved slowly to the shore. These were preceded by gun-boats sent to rake the woods and cover the landing, while the larger vessels opened a fire upon the fort. Captain Boyle and Lieutenant Legate, (as soon as the debarking boats got within range of our shot) opened upon them a very successful fire from the shore battery, and compelled them twice to retire. They at length returned to the ships, and the whole stood off from the shore for better anchorage. One of the enemy's boats, which had been deserted, was taken up by us, and some others by the militia. The first mentioned was 60 feet long, carried 36 oars and three sails, and could accommodate 150 men. She had received a ball through her bow, and was nearly filled with water.

Piquet guards were stationed at different points, and we lay on our arms during the night.

At daybreak, on the 6th, the fleet appeared bearing up under easy sail. The Wolfe, &c. took a position directly against the fort and batteries, and for three hours kept up a heavy fire of grape, &c. Finding that the enemy had effected a landing, I withdrew my small disposable force into the rear of the fort, and with two companies (Romayne's and Melvin's) met their advancing columns, while the other companies engaged the flanks of the enemy. Lieutenant Pearce of the navy, and some seamen, joined in the attack, and fought with their characteristic bravery. We maintained our ground about 30 minutes, and as long as consistent with my further duty of defending the public stores deposited at the falls, which no doubt formed the principal object of the expedition on the part of the enemy. Nor was this movement made precipitately. I halted within 400 yards of the fort. Captain Romayne's company formed the rear guard, and, remaining with it, I marched to this place in good order, destroying the bridges in my rear. The enemy landed 600 of De Watteville's regiment, 600 marines, two companies of the Glengary corps and 350 seamen.

General Drummond and Commodore Yeo were the land and naval commanders. They burned the old barracks and evacuated the fort about 3 o'clock in the morning of the 7th.

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Our loss was, in killed, 6 ; wounded, 38 ; and in missing, 25. That of the enemy, according to their own statement, was 19 killed and 75 wounded.

I cannot conclude this despatch without speaking of the dead and the living of my detachment. Lieutenant Blaney, a young man of much promise, was unfortunately killed. His conduct, in the action, was highly meritorious. Captain Boyle and Lieutenant Legate merit my highest approbation ; and, indeed, I want language to express my admiration of their gallant conduct. The subalterns, McComb, Ansart, Ring, Robb, Earle, McClintock and Newkirk, performed well their several parts.

It would be injustice were I not to acknowledge and report the zeal and patriotism evinced by the militia, who arrived at a short notice, and were anxious to be useful."

Geographical.... Oswego fort and village stand in the township of Scriba, a post-town of Oneida county, 178 miles from Albany. The fort is an ancient fortress, and was of much importance in the early wars. It was one of the military posts surrendered by the British in 1796, conformable to the conditions of Jay's treaty. The fort is a three-sided figure, with bastions, &c. and contains 3 or 4 acres of ground within the ditches. The site is elevated about 50 feet above the level of the lake and Oswego river, and situated just at the mouth of the river. The history of this fortress is intimately connected with that of the early settlements and wars of the colony now state of Newyork. A trading house was erected here by the governor of Newyork in 1722, and a fort erected in 1727, rebuilt and enlarged in 1755. This, together with fort Ontario, erected on an adjoining eminence in 1755, was invested by the French under Montcalm in 1756, with 3000 men, aided by two armed vessels. Fort Ontario was abandoned after the first day of assault, on the 13th day of August ; and on the 14th, Oswego capitulated, with a garrison of 1600 men. It had then 21 pieces of cannon, fourteen mortars, and great stores of munitions of war ; besides two armed sloops and 200 boats.... These forts were immediately dismantled, and the French retired with their booty within their own lines ; and the settlements on the Mohawk were soon left entirely exposed. Oswego is in lat. 43 28, N. and long. 2 34, W. from Newyork. The Oswego river has a strong rapid one mile from its mouth, where the waters may be taken out, at a moderate expense, for mills. The village of Oswego contains about 30 houses, and the trade of this port is very considerable and increasing. There are 15 schooners, from 15 to 80 tons burthen, and a great number of batteaux of from 5 to 12 tons. In 1809, the whole amount of property shipped here was 535,000 dollars. A village is also laid out on the south shore

of Oswego river, opposite this place, which is known by the same name, though in Hannibal, Onondaga county.

[*Spafford's N. Y. Gaz.*

Capture of a British force at Sandy Creek....On the 30th of May, Major Appling, of the first U. S. rifle regiment, with 120 riflemen and a few Oneida warriors, was detached to protect the cannon and naval stores at Oswego, destined for Commodore Chauncey's fleet. They were embarked on board a flotilla of boats, in charge of Captain Woolsey of the navy, and arrived safely in Sandy Creek, 16 miles south-west of Sacket's Harbour, when Maj. Appling, apprehending an attack from the enemy, very judiciously placed the riflemen and Indians in the woods, on each side of the creek, a short distance below Captain Woolsey's boats, at a place where it was narrow and shoal. He then sent a few raw militia with a show of opposing the enemy's landing. The plan succeeded. The militia retreated on the first fire, pursued by the enemy; but as soon as the latter had passed the Indians and riflemen, who were in ambush, these last attacked them in rear, while a battery of four field pieces opened upon them in front. Thus cut off in their retreat, after a smart action of 20 minutes, in which they had 13 men killed, and 2 officers and 28 men wounded, the residue, consisting of 10 officers and 133 men, surrendered and were taken prisoners; together with their boats and barges, consisting of two of the former, and five of the latter; some of which carried heavy pieces of ordnance. Not one of the American party was wounded.

Major Appling speaks in the highest terms of the courage and good conduct of his officers and men. The officers were Lieutenants M'Intosh, Colhoun, M'Farland, Armstrong, and Smith, and Ensign Austin.

Death of Colonel Forsyth.....On the 28th of June a skirmish took place near Odletown, Upper Canada, between a small body of troops under Colonel Benjamin Forsyth, of the rifle corps, an officer of distinguished merit, and a detachment of the enemy; which resulted in the death of the colonel.

He had been ordered by General Smith to attempt to draw the enemy into an ambuscade, by offering him battle, and keeping up a retreating fire, until this object should be effected. In pursuance of this order the colonel detached a lieutenant and 18 men, who proceeded sufficiently far to discover the enemy. The riflemen fired a few shot at them, and commenced their retreat. The enemy pursued, and were decoyed along as far as the line, where Colonel Forsyth with the residue of his detachment had remained. At this time, when the plan was nearly consummated, the colonel, instead of falling back agreeably to orders, directed his

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men to make a stand. Totally regardless of all personal danger, he remained within 16 rods of the enemy, and being distinguished by his uniform coat, was a conspicuous mark for them to shoot at. He received a ball near the collar bone, which brought him to the ground. He immediately expressed a conviction that he must die, and exclaimed, "Boys, rush on!" The colonel was the only person killed on our side....two were slightly wounded. The loss of the enemy in killed was supposed to be 17.

On the day following, the remains of Colonel Forsyth were interred at Champlain, with all the solemnities and honours of war. On the 30th June, the following regimental order was issued :

"Colonel Clark having received intelligence of the death of Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin Forsyth, of the 26th infantry, who bravely fell at Odletown on the 28th instant, fighting in defence of the rights and liberties of his country : The officers of the regiment will wear crape on the left arm 30 days, in testimony of their regret for the loss of that valuable and distinguished officer."

Colonel Forsyth was succeeded in command by Major Appling, famous for his brilliant achievement at Sandy Creek.

CHAPTER XXX.

Capture of fort Erie....Battle at Chippewa....Draft of the scene of action....Death of General Swift....Army movements and battle at Bridgewater....Biography of General Scott.

IN the month of June, Major General Brown, who had previously been ordered to Sacket's Harbour, returned to Buffalo with reinforcements, and assumed the command of the army, then under Brigadier General Scott. Early in the morning of the 3d of July, the army, amounting to about 3000, crossed the Niagara river, and landed on the Canada shore. The brigade of General Scott, and the artillery corps of Major Hindman, landed nearly a mile below fort Erie, between 2 and 3 o'clock, while General Ripley, with his brigade, made the shore about the same distance above. The enemy was perfectly unapprised of these movements. General Scott led the van and was on shore before the enemy's piquet, which was stationed at this point, had fired a gun ; the guard discharged their guns and retreated.

A small Indian force was also crossed over, and the fort was approached on the right and left, the Indians skirting the woods

in the rear. General Brown now demanded a surrender of the garrison, and gave the commander two hours for consideration. In the mean time, a battery of long 18's was planted in a position which commanded the fort. Shortly after the enemy surrendered prisoners of war, marched out of the fort, stacked their arms, and were immediately set across the river to the American shore. The prisoners amounted to 137; among whom were 1 major, (Burke,) 1 captain, and 3 lieutenants.

During the morning, the enemy fired two or three cannon from the fort, which wounded four of the 25th regiment.

Battle at Chippewa..... On the evening of the 4th of July, the army proceeded to the plains one and a half miles west of Chippewa, when arrangements were made to move against Chippewa on the morning of the 6th; but in the afternoon of the 5th, the enemy, under command of Major General Riall, having concentrated his forces in the peninsula, came from his works east of the creek* and offered battle. He was gallantly met by Gen. Scott, with his brigade and corps of artillery, and a most sanguinary conflict ensued, which terminated in the defeat of the enemy. The following extracts from the official account of General Brown, dated on the plains of Chippewa, the 7th of July, detail the events of the battle:

"On the morning of the 4th, Brigadier General Scott, with his brigade and corps of artillery, was ordered to advance towards Chippewa, and be governed by circumstances; taking care to secure a good military position for the night. After some skirmishing he selected this plain with the eye of a soldier, his right resting on the river, and a ravine being in front. At 11 at night, I joined him with the reserve under General Ripley, our field and battering train, and corps of artillery under Major Hindman. General Porter arrived the next morning with a part of the New York and Pennsylvania volunteers, and some of the warriors of the Six Nations.

"Early in the morning of the 5th, the enemy commenced a petty war upon the pickets, and, as he was indulged, his presumption increased: by noon he showed himself on the left of our exterior line, and attacked one of our pickets as it was returning to camp.

"Captain Treat, who commanded it, retired disgracefully, leaving a wounded man on the ground. Captain Biddle, of the artillery, who was near the scene, impelled by feelings highly honourable to him as a soldier and officer, promptly assumed the command of this picket, led it back to the wounded man, and brought

* See draft of the scene of action, in a subsequent page.

him off the field. I ordered Captain Treat, on the spot, to retire from the army; and as I am anxious no officer shall remain under my command who can be suspected of cowardice, I advise that Captain Treat and Lieutenant *—, who was also with the picket, be struck from the rolls of the army.

"At 4 in the afternoon, agreeably to a plan I had given Gen. Porter, he advanced from the rear of our camp, with the volunteers and Indians (taking the woods in order to keep out of view of the enemy,) with the hope of bringing his pickets and scouting parties between his [Porter's] line of march, and our camp. As General Porter moved, I ordered the parties advanced in front of our camp to fall back gradually under the enemy's fire, in order to draw him, if possible, up to our line. About half past 4, the advance of General Porter's command met the light parties of the enemy in the woods, upon our extreme left: The enemy were driven, and Porter, advancing near Chippewa, met their whole column in order of battle. From the cloud of dust rising, and the heavy firing, I was led to conclude that the entire force of the enemy was in march, and prepared for action. I immediately ordered General Scott to advance with his brigade and Towson's artillery, and meet them upon the plain in front of our camp. The general did not expect to be gratified so soon with a field engagement. He advanced in the most prompt and officer-like style, and in a few minutes was in close action upon the plain, with a superior force of British regular troops. By this time, General Porter's command had given way, and fled in every direction, notwithstanding his personal gallantry, and great exertions to stay their flight. The retreat of the volunteers and Indians caused the left flank of General Scott's brigade to be greatly exposed.

"Captain Harris, with his dragoons, was directed to stop the fugitives, behind the ravine fronting our camp; and I sent Col. Gardner to order General Ripley to advance with the 21st regiment, which formed part of the reserve, pass to the left of our camp, skirt the woods so as to keep out of view, and fall upon the rear of the enemy's right flank. This order was promptly obeyed, and the greatest exertions were made by the 21st regiment to gain their position and close with the enemy, but in vain...for such was the zeal and gallantry of the line commanded by General Scott, that its advance upon the enemy was not to be checked. Major Jessup, commanding the left flank battalion, finding himself pressed in front and in flank, and his men falling fast around him, ordered his battalion to "support arms and advance;" the order was promptly obeyed, amidst the most deadly and destructive fire. He gained a more secure position, and re-

* The name omitted in the letter.

turned upon the enemy so galling a discharge, as caused them to retire. By this time their whole line was falling back, and our gallant soldiers pressing upon them as fast as possible. As soon as the enemy had gained the sloping ground descending towards Chippewa, and distant a quarter of a mile, he broke and ran to regain his works. In this effort he was too successful, and the guns from his batteries opening immediately upon our line, checked in some degree the pursuit. At this moment I resolved to bring up all my ordnance, and force the place by a direct attack, and gave the order accordingly. Major Wood, of the corps of engineers and my aid, Captain Austin, rode to the bank of the creek towards the right of their line of works, and examined them. I was induced by their report, the lateness of the hour, and the advice of General Scott and Major Wood to order the forces to retire to camp.

"My most difficult duty remains to be performed....I am depressed with the fear of not being able to do justice to my brave companions in arms; and apprehensive that some who had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves, and promptly embraced it, will escape my notice.

"Brigadier General Scott is entitled to the highest praise our country can bestow: to him, more than any other man, am I indebted for the victory of the 5th July. His brigade covered itself with glory. Every officer and every man of the 9th and 22d, 11th and 25th regiments did his duty, with a zeal and energy worthy of the American character. When every officer stands so pre-eminently high in the path of duty and honour, it is impossible to discriminate; but I cannot deprive myself of the pleasure of saying that Major Leavenworth commanded the 9th and 22d, Major Jessup the 25th, and Major M'Neil the 11th.... Colonel Campbell was wounded early in the action, gallantly leading on his regiment.

"The family of General Scott were conspicuous in the field; Lieutenant Smith of the 6th infantry, major of brigade, and Lieutenants Worth and Watts, his aids.

"From General Ripley and his brigade, I received every assistance that I gave them an opportunity of rendering. I did not order any part of the reserve into action, until General Porter's command had given way, and then General Scott's movements were so rapid and decisive, that General Ripley could not get up in time with the 21st, to the position as directed.

"The corps of artillery under Major Hindman, were not generally in action; this was not their fault....Captain Towson's company was the only one that had a full opportunity of distinguishing itself, and it is believed that no company ever embraced an opportunity with more zeal, or more success.

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"A detachment from the 2d brigade, under the command of Lieutenant M'Donald, penetrated the woods with the Indians and volunteers, and for their support. The conduct of M'Donald and his command reflects high honour upon the brigade to which they belong.

"The conduct of General Porter has been conspicuously gallant. Every assistance in his power to afford, with the description of force under his command, has been rendered. We could not expect him to contend with the British column of régulars which appeared upon the plains of Chippewa. It was no cause of surprize to me, to see his command retire before this column.

"Justice forbids that I should omit to name my own family.... They yield to none in honourable zeal, intelligence and attention to duty. Colonel Gardner, Major Jones, and my aids, Captains Austin and Spencer, have been as active and as much devoted to the cause, as any officers of the army. Their conduct merits my warmest acknowledgments.

"Major Camp, deputy quarter-master-general, deserves my particular notice and approbation. By his great exertion I was enabled to find the means of crossing. Captain Deliza, of the ordnance department, has rendered every service in his power."

The regular troops of the enemy greatly exceeded ours in numbers,* and his loss according to his own statement, amounted to 148 killed, (among whom were 3 captains) 320 wounded, and 44 missing....total 514.

The American loss was 60 killed, 316 wounded, and 19 missing....total 328.†

Two days after the action of the 5th July, the army took a position on Queenston heights, with a view of reducing the enemy's force in that quarter. The following reports from Gen. Scott and Maj. Hindman, dated at the heights, designating the individuals who mostly distinguished themselves in the battle of Chippewa, were made by order of General Brown :

Queenston, U. C. July 15, 1814.

SIR—By the general order of the 13th inst. a methodical and detailed report is called for, designating the names of such per-

* Major General Riall had in his front line 1,700 men, all regular troops supported by the 8th regiment 180 strong. The 100th regiment, which was on the left of the British line, commanded by the marquis of Tweedale, late aid-de-camp to Lord Wellington, brought into action 700 men, and paraded the next day but 364. The other regiments engaged suffered proportionably. General Brown has had in his possession the most unequivocal evidence of these facts.

General Porter's command was never engaged after their first retreat, consequently the whole action was sustained by Scott's brigade: which, including Towson's artillery, consisted of but 1,300 men fit for duty: 150 were on the different guards and pickets and therefore not in the action; so that the American force actually engaged, did not exceed 1,200 men.

† Names and rank of American officers wounded.—Col. Campbell, 11th infantry, severely; knee fractured (since dead.) Capt. King, 2d do. severely; shot wound in the abdomen. Capt. Read, 25th do. badly; flesh wound in the thigh. Capt. Harrison, 42d doing duty in the 9th do. severely; shot in the shoulder. Lieut. Barron, 11th do. severely; shot below the knee, and bone fractured. Lieut. De Witt, 25th do. severely. Lieut. Patchin, 25th do. badly; flesh wound in the thigh. Lieut. Brimhall, 9th do. slightly.

sons, whether commissioned officers or others, who in the action of the 5th, contributed in a particular manner to the successful result of that day.

I am not asked for an account of the dispositions made of the troops under my command, during the action ; I will, therefore, confine myself strictly to the general order.

A severe action has been fought, and a signal victory gained. The general order of the 6th inst. attributes that victory to the 1st brigade of infantry, and Capt. Towson's company of artillery under my command. It was believed at the time, and has since been clearly ascertained, that of the forces engaged, the enemy were greatly superior in numbers. Under such circumstances, victory could not have been obtained, without a very general participation of all ranks and grades in the event.

I have the satisfaction of being assured by every commanding officer, (which is confirmed by my own personal observation) that every man and of every grade in action, evinced an ability to meet even a greater shock than that encountered, with like success.

The truth of this observation was most conspicuous in the very crisis of the action. Conduct, universally good, leaves but little room for discrimination. Accordingly, but few names are reported to me by the several commandants of battalion, as entitled to a select mention, (in respect to their gallant comrades) and those cases are noticed principally from accidental circumstances of good or bad fortune....As in the instance of Captain Ketchum of the 25th infantry, whose good fortune it was to be detached with his company, by order of Major Jessup, to attack a much superior force whilst the battalion was engaged with another body of the enemy. Captain Ketchum gallantly sustained himself in the execution of his orders, till the battalion had cleared its own front in order to march to his support.

The good conduct of Captain Harrison, commanded by Major Leavenworth, and observed by myself, was of another kind. A cannon ball shattered and carried away part of his leg. The captain preserved a perfect serenity under the tortures of his wound, and utterly refused any assistance from the ranks until the enemy should be beaten. So glorious a display of fortitude had the happiest effect.

Of the three battalions of infantry composing the 1st brigade, the first consisted of the 9th and a detachment of the 22d regt. under command of Major Leavenworth. The 2d battalion, or the 11th regt. was gallantly conducted towards its place, in order of battle, by Col. Campbell, who being early wounded, was succeeded by Major McNeil. Major Jessup commanded the 25th regiment, or the remaining battalion of the brigade. Of these three excellent officers, it would be difficult to say which was the most meri-

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orious, or most conspicuously engaged. The 25th regiment having been detached to my left, to turn the enemy's right wing, was rested in a wood, Major Jessup was less under my personal observation than the other commanders; but I had every evidence of the able dispositions he made of his corps, as well by the report of my aids, as by the effect he produced on that part of the enemy's line, immediately opposed to him; and which contributed very much to the general success of the day. Major Jessup had his horse shot under him.

The other two battalions, with an enlarged interval between them, received the enemy in open plain....that under Major Leavenworth, parallel to the attack....that under Major M'Neil, with his left wing thrown forward to take the enemy in front, and flank at the same time. Captain Towson, who commenced the fire before the troops were in the order of battle, immediately after advanced to the front of the extreme right with 3 pieces of artillery, and took post on the river. Majors Leavenworth and M'Neil made prompt dispositions to receive the charge....The fire of these corps, (including the artillery) produced a prodigious effect in the enemy's ranks. That of Major M'Neil was the most effective, from the oblique position which his corps judiciously occupied. The enemy's batteries were also admirably served; to the fire of which all the corps were exposed....that of Major Leavenworth more particularly. This cannonade, however, did not prevent the latter from preserving his corps in the most excellent order, at all times prepared, to advance or to fire, to give, or to receive the charge.

Captain Towson finally silenced the enemy's most effective battery, by blowing up an ammunition waggon, which produced great confusion. Turning next a heavy discharge of cannister on the enemy's infantry, now nearly in contact with our line, advancing to the charge....the enemy could not long sustain this accumulation of fire....he broke, and fled to his strong works beyond Chippewa. All the corps pursued with promptitude.

To mention them in order of their rank, (I know of no other in this case) Majors Jessup, Leavenworth, and M'Neil, and Capt. Towson, deserve, in my humble opinion, every thing which conspicuous skill and gallantry can wish from a grateful country.

I cannot close this account of meritorious conduct, without mentioning the great services rendered me by those two gallant young soldiers, Lieuts. Worth and Watts, my aids.

There was no danger they did not cheerfully encounter, in communicating my orders; and by their zeal and intrepidity, won the admiration, as they had before the esteem, of the whole brigade. They both rendered essential service at critical moments, by assisting the commandants of corps in forming the troops, under circumstances which precluded the voice from being heard.

This conduct has been handsomely acknowledged by the officers of the line, who have joined in requesting that it might be particularly noticed.

My brigade major, Lieut. Smith, rendered me every assistance which his accidental situation on foot permitted; he is entitled to my thanks.

During the action, Major Wood, of the engineers, and Captain Harris of the dragoons, whose troop could not act, came up, and very handsomely tendered their services. The latter had his horse shot under him. It is proper that I should take this opportunity to mention the case of Captain Crooker, of the 9th regiment of infantry, in the affair of the 4th of July, on the same ground on which the action of the 5th was fought.

I have already had the honor of mentioning this verbally to the commanding general.

It is due to the gallant individual more particularly concerned, that his conduct should be formally noticed.

My brigade constituted the advance of the army....in descending on the left bank of the Niagara, from Fort Erie, we met an advanced corps of the enemy at Black Creek, strongly posted behind that stream. Captain Towson, who was with the advance, obliged the enemy to fall back, who, on retreating, took up the bridge over the creek. Captain Crooker, who flanked out to the left of our march, had crossed this stream some distance above the bridge, and was pursuing the enemy, just as the head of the brigade column arrived at the bridge, which could not be passed until the pioneers had replaced the boards which the enemy had hastily removed. Whilst this operation was going on, Captain Crooker immediately within my view, was suddenly enveloped by a troop of the 19th light dragoons, composing a part of the enemy's rear guard. He fought his way to a house, then near to him, turned upon the enemy, and put them to flight. Captains Hull and Harrison, and Lieutenant Randolph, with a small party, were at the same time marching to the support of Captain Crooker, and arrived just as the enemy were put to flight. I have witnessed nothing more gallant in partizan war, than was the conduct of Captain Crooker and his company.

I am, sir, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

W. SCOTT, Gen. 1st brigade.

Agreeably to general orders, I transmit the following report:

At the commencement of the action of the 5th July, Captain Towson's company of artillery, with the first brigade, was solely engaged with the enemy....he maintained his position on the right and kept up a spirited and destructive fire during the advance of the enemy. Amidst the fire and charge of the enemy, the captain and his subalterns, Lieutenants Campbell and Schmuck and

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Lieutenant Randolph of the infantry, commanding the reserve of artillery, behaved with great gallantry....and I am proud to say, tended greatly to check the impetuosity of the enemy.

At an early part of the battle, the captain's piece was thrown out of action by a twenty-four pound shot from the enemy; yet his zeal and exertions were given with his characteristic spirit to the remaining pieces, and he reports handsomely of the conduct of his officers, non-commissioned officers and men.

About the time the enemy commenced their charge, and at the moment they broke, Captain Ritchie's company of artillery, and one piece (a twelve pounder) of Captain Biddell's company of artillery under Lieutenant Hall, participated in the action. The captains, officers, non-commissioned officers and men, conducted themselves as brave and faithful soldiers, and the whole artillery when on the field pursued, under the fire of the enemy's batteries, with rapidity, and saw them precipitate themselves within their works. At this period of the action two eighteen pounders under Captain Williams, and the remainder of Captain Biddell's artillery were brought upon the field; but those officers reluctantly quitted the ground without being permitted to open battery upon the enemy's works.

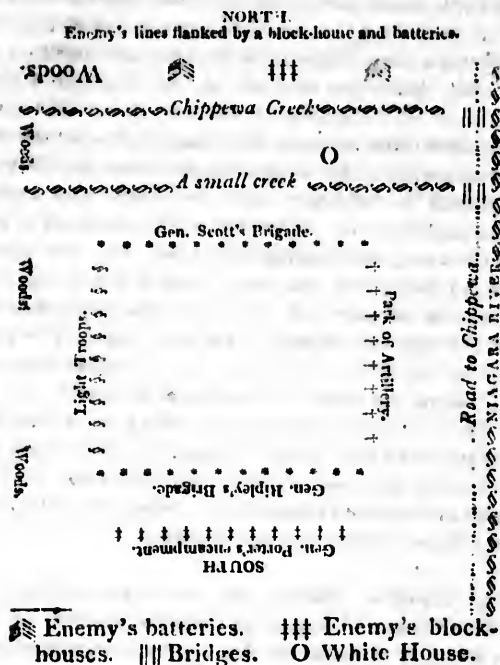
To particularize, if all had been engaged from first to last, would be invidious, but in this case, Captain Towson and company deserve particular mention. The captain, being so fortunate as to be ordered in advance with his company of artillery, only had an opportunity of shewing his gallantry and distinguishing himself, officers and soldiers, above others. With due respect,
yours, &c.

J. HINDMAN, Maj. Com. Bat. Art.

C. K. Gardner, Adj. Gen.

*Draft of the scene of action....*The following additional particulars, together with the draft of the scene of action at Chippewa, will throw considerable light on the official details.

On the 3d of July, Gen. Scott advanced upon Chippewa, and with Capt. Towson's division of artillery drove the enemy's pickets across the bridge. In the afternoon, General Ripley with the field and park artillery under Major Hindman, took the same route and encamped on the ground with General Scott's advance. The subjoined sketch shews the order of encampment, and will illustrate the events which subsequently occurred.



On the morning of the 4th of July, the British Indians had filled the woods contiguous to the American encampment, and commenced firing at our piquets. Reconnoitering parties from Chippewa were frequently observed during the day, along the river road and information was received that reinforcements had arrived.

On the 5th, the same course was pursued. The Indians were discovered almost in the rear of our camp. At this moment General Porter arrived with his volunteers and Indians. General Brown immediately directed them to enter the woods and effectually scour them. Gens. Brown, Scott, and Ripley were at the white house marked O, reconnoitering. General Porter's corps seemed sweeping like a torrent every thing before them until they almost debouched from the woods opposite Chippewa. At a moment's volley of musquetry convinced General Brown that the whole British force had crossed the Chippewa bridge, and that the action must become general. He gave immediate orders to General Scott to advance and *feel* the enemy, and to General Ripley to be in readiness to support. In a few minutes the British line was discovered formed and rapidly advancing...their right (the Royal Scots) upon the woods, and the left (the prince regent's) on the river, with the king's own for their reserve. Their object was to gain the bridge across the creek in front of our camp.

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ment, which if done, would have compelled us to retire. Gen. Brown fearing a flank movement of the enemy through the woods on the left of our camp, and with a view to seize our reserve of artillery, directed Gen. Ripley not to advance until he gave him orders. At the same time he rode to the first line with his staff and an escort of 30 dragoons, in order to direct the whole movements of the field, and animate the troops by his presence. Meanwhile General Scott, under a most tremendous fire of the enemy's artillery crossed the bridge which the enemy had endeavored to gain, and formed his line. The enemy's orders were to give one volley at a distance, and immediately charge. But such was the warmth of our musketry that they could not withstand it. At this moment General Brown sent orders to General Ripley to make a movement through the woods upon the enemy's right flank.... With the 21st regiment he passed a ravine in his front where the men had to wade up to their chins, and advanced as rapidly as possible. But before he commenced filing from the woods into the open land under the enemy's batteries, they had been completely broken by the cool bravery and discipline of Gen. Scott's brigade, and precipitated themselves across the Chippewa bridge, which they broke down on their retreat.

Death of General Swift.... On the 12th of July, Brigadier General Swift (late of Palmyra, Ontario county, N. Y.) volunteered his services to General Brown, to reconnoitre the enemy's position and works at fort George, accompanied by a party of 120 volunteers; and having, by the most judicious arrangements, succeeded in capturing, without the discharge of a gun, an out-post, a picket with a corporal, and 5 men, from whom he expected to obtain important information, he was assassinated by one of the prisoners, who, after begging for and receiving quarters, shot the general through the breast.

The alarm occasioned by the discharge of the gun, immediately brought towards the ground a patrolling party of the enemy, about 50 or 60 strong; Gen. Swift immediately formed his men, advanced at their head upon the patrol, and commenced a successful engagement, when he fell exhausted by his wounds. The other officers of his command, animated by the example of heroism and fortitude which had been set them, fought, beat, and drove the enemy into fort George, from which they were not more than half a mile distant, and then returned, bearing their wounded and expiring general with them.

The loss sustained in the fall of this excellent officer was severely felt. After serving his country for seven years in the war of the revolution, he again stepped forward as a volunteer, to give the aid of his experience in support of the violated rights of

his country; and never was that country called upon to lament the loss of a firmer patriot or a braver man.

He was interred on the American side of the Niagara river, on the 13th of July, with military honours.

Army movements and battle at Bridgewater.... On the 20th of July the army under General Brown moved from Queenston Heights, and encamped in the rear of fort George. Before the main body of the army came up, General Scott, with the van, had some skirmishing; but as the enemy kept close to their works, nothing important occurred. General Brown had determined upon this movement with a view of inducing the enemy to re-occupy the heights, or close in nearer, so as to bring on an engagement out of his works. After remaining encamped for two days, and finding no prospect of effecting his object, General Brown returned, and found a body of militia and a few regulars in and about the heights. General Porter pursued them with his command and a few regulars, and was so fortunate as to come up with and capture 7 officers and 10 privates.

On the 23d of July, General Brown received information by express, that a number of heavy guns which he had previously ordered from Sacket's Harbour, to enable him to operate against forts George and Niagara were blockaded in that port, together with a rifle regiment that had been ordered up with them; and that no prospect then remained of effecting their conveyance to him. In consequence of this disappointment, he deemed it expedient to change his position, with a view to other objects. He accordingly, on the 25th of July, moved and encamped above Chippewa, near the battle ground of the 5th.

The following extracts from a letter to the secretary of war, written by the general, give a detailed account of subsequent events:

"You are already apprised that the army had, on the 25th July taken a position at Chippewa. About noon of that day, Colonel Swift, who was posted at Lewiston, advised me by express, that the enemy appeared in considerable force in Queenstown, and on its heights; that four of the enemy's fleet had arrived during the preceding night, and were then lying near fort Niagara, and that a number of boats were in view, moving up the streight. Within a few minutes after this intelligence had been received, I was further informed by Capt. Demon of the quarter-master's department that the enemy was landing at Lewistown, and that our baggage and stores at Schlosser, and on their way thither, were in danger of immediate capture. It is proper here to mention, that having received advices as late as the 20th from General Gaines that our

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fleet was then in port, and the commodore sick, we ceased to look for co-operation from that quarter, and determined to disencumber ourselves of baggage, and march directly for Burlington Heights. To mask this intention, and to draw from Schlosser a small supply of provisions, I fell back upon Chippewa. As this arrangement, under the increased force of the enemy, left much at hazard on our own side of the Niagara, and as it appeared by the before stated information, that the enemy was about to avail himself of it, I conceived that the most effectual method of recalling him from this object, was to put myself in motion towards Queenstown. General Scott, with the first brigade, Towson's artillery, and all the dragoons and mounted men,* were accordingly put in march on the road leading thither, with orders to report if the enemy appeared, and to call for assistance if that was necessary.

"On the general's arrival at the falls, he learned that the enemy was in force directly in front....a narrow piece of woods alone intercepting his view of them. Waiting only to give this information, he advanced upon them. By the time the assistant adjutant general [Jones] had delivered his message, the action began, and before the remaining part of the division had crossed the Chippewa, it became close and general between the advanced corps. Though General Ripley, with the second brigade, Major Hindman with the corps of artillery, and General Porter at the head of his command, had respectively pressed forward with ardour, it was not less than an hour before they were brought to sustain General Scott, during which time his command most skilfully and gallantly maintained the conflict. Upon my arrival I found that the general had passed the wood and engaged the enemy on the Queenstown road and on the ground to the left of it, with the 9th, 11th and 22d regiments, and Towson's artillery. The 25th had been thrown to the right to be governed by circumstances. Apprehending that these corps were much exhausted, and knowing that they had suffered severely, I determined to interpose a new line with the advancing troops, and thus disengage General Scott, and hold his brigade in reserve. Orders were accordingly given to General Ripley. The enemy's artillery at this moment occupied a hill which gave him great advantages, and was the key of the whole position. It was supported by a line of infantry. To secure the victory, it was necessary to carry this artillery and seize the height. This duty was assigned to Colonel Miller, while, to favour its execution, the 1st regiment under the command of Colonel Nicholas, was directed to menace and amuse the infantry. To my great mortification this regiment, after a discharge or two, gave way and retreated some distance before it could be rallied

* This force amounted to 1050 men.

though it is believed the officers of the regiment exerted themselves to shorten this distance. In the mean time, Colonel Miller, without regard to this occurrence, advanced steadily and gallantly to his object, and carried the height and the cannon. Gen. Ripley brought up the 23d (which had also faltered) to our support, and the enemy disappeared from before them. The 1st regt. was now brought into line on the left of the 21st, and the detachments of the 17th and 19th, General Porter occupying with his command, the extreme left. About the time Colonel Miller carried the enemy's cannon, the 25th regiment, under Major Jessup, was engaged in a more obstinate conflict with all that remained to dispute with us the field of battle. The Major, as has been already stated, had been ordered by General Scott, at the commencement of the action, to take ground to his right. He had succeeded in turning the enemy's left flank....had captured (by a detachment under Captain Ketchum) General Riall and sundry other officers, and showed himself again to his own army in a blaze of fire, which defeated or destroyed a very superior force of the enemy.

"He was ordered to form on the right of the 2d regiment.... The enemy rallying his forces, and as it is believed, having received reinforcements, now attempte" to drive us from our position, and regain his artillery. Our line was unshaken and the enemy repulsed. Two other attempts having the same object had the same issue. General Scott was again engaged in repelling the former of these; and the last I saw of him on the field of battle, he was near the head of his column, and giving to its march a direction that would have placed him on the enemy's right. It was with great pleasure I saw the good order and intrepidity of General Porter's volunteers from the moment of their arrival, but during the last charge of the enemy, those qualities were conspicuous. Stimulated by the examples set them by their gallant leader, by Major Wood of the Pennsylvania corps, by Colonel Dobbin of Newyork, and by the officers generally, they precipitated themselves upon the enemy's line, and made all the prisoners which were taken at this point of the action.

"Having been for some time wounded, and being a good deal exhausted by loss of blood, it became my wish to devolve the command on General Scott, and retire from the field; but on enquiry, I had the misfortune to learn, that he was disabled by wounds. I therefore kept my post, and had the satisfaction to see the enemy's last effort repulsed. I now consigned the command to General Ripley.

"While retiring from the field, I saw and felt that the victory was complete on our part, if proper measures were promptly adopted to secure it. The exhaustion of the men, was however such as made some refreshment necessary. They particularly re-

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quired water. I was myself extremely sensible of the want of this necessary article. I therefore believed it proper that General Ripley and the troops should return to camp, after bringing off the dead, the wounded and the artillery; and in this I saw no difficulty, as the enemy had entirely ceased to act. Within an hour after my arrival in camp, I was informed that General Ripley had returned without annoyance and in good order.

"I feel most sensibly how inadequate are my powers in speaking of the troops, to do justice either to their merits or to my own sense of them.

"From the preceding detail you have new evidence of the distinguished gallantry of Generals Scott and Porter, of Col. Miller and Major Jessup.

"Of the 1st brigade, the chief, with his aid-de-camp, Worth, his major of brigade, Smith, and every commander of battalion, were wounded.

"The 2d brigade suffered less; but as a brigade, their conduct entitled them to the applause of their country. After the enemy's strong position had been carried by the 21st, and the detachments of the 17th and 19th, the 1st and 23d assumed a new character. They could not again be shaken or dismayed. Major M'Farland, of the latter, fell nobly at the head of his battalion.

"Under the command of General Porter, the militia volunteers of Pennsylvania and Newyork stood undismayed amidst the hottest fire, and repulsed the veterans opposed to them. The Canadian volunteers, commanded by Colonel Wilcox, are reported by General Porter as having merited and received his approbation.

"The corps of artillery commanded by Major Hindman, behaved with its usual gallantry. Captain Towson's company, attached to the 1st brigade, was the first and the last engaged; and, during the whole conflict, maintained that high character which they had previously won by their skill and their valour. Captains Biddle and Ritchie were both wounded early in the action, but refused to quit the field. The latter declared that he never would leave his piece; and, true to his engagement, fell by its side, covered with wounds.

"The staff of the army had its peculiar merit and distinction. Colonel Gardner, adjutant-general, though ill, was on horseback, and did all in his power: his assistant, Major Jones, was very active and useful. My gallant aids-de-camp, Austin and Spencer, had many and critical duties to perform, in the discharge of which the latter fell; I shall ever think of this young man with pride and regret; regret, that his career has been so short; pride, that it has been so noble and distinguished. The engineers, Majors M'Ree and Wood, were greatly distinguished on this day, and their high military talents exerted with great effect....they were

much under my eye, and near my person, and to their assistance a great deal is fairly to be ascribed; I most earnestly recommend them as worthy of the highest trust and confidence. The staff of Generals Ripley and Porter discovered great zeal and attention to duty. Lieutenant E. B. Randolph, of the 20th regiment, is entitled to notice; his courage was conspicuous."

The force of the British engaged, according to their own account, amounted to nearly 4500 regulars, besides Indians, &c. commanded by Lieutenant General Drummond and Major General Riell. The American force did not exceed 2800; no Indians being employed. The loss of the enemy, according to his official statement, was 84 killed, 559 wounded, 193 missing, and 42 prisoners....total, 878.* The American loss was 171 killed, 572 wounded, and 177 missing....total 860.†

The following letter from a surgeon of the 21st regiment, written the day after the engagement, will be found to contain many interesting particulars:

* Other accounts state the loss of the enemy to exceed 1000. From the official account of the American inspector-general, it appears that we took 169 prisoners; among whom were Maj. Gen. Riell, who was severely wounded in the arm; aid to Gen. Drummond 6 captains, and 11 subalterns.
† American officers killed.—Maj. McFarland, 23d infantry; Capt. Ritchie, corps of artillery; Capt. Hull, 9th infantry; Capt. Kinney, 25th do.; Capt. Goodrich, 11th do.; First lieutenant Bigelow, 21st do.; First lieutenant Turner, 9th do.; Second lieutenant Burghard, 9th do.; Ensign Hunter, 25th do.; Captain Cooper, New-York volunteers; Adjutant Poe, Pennsylvania volunteers.

Officers wounded.—Major-General Brown, severely wounded through the thigh, and in the side; Captain Spencer, aid to the major-general, through the body mortal. Artillery—Captain Biddell, slightly, shot wounds in the neck and arm; Second lieutenant Campbell, badly, through the leg; Second lieutenant Schmuck, severely. First Brigade—Brigadier-General Scott, severely, shoulder fractured and wound in the side; Lieutenant J. D. Smith, 6th infantry, brigade-major, badly through the leg; Lieut. Worth, 2d infantry, aid-de-camp, severely, grape shot in the thigh. 9th infantry—Major Leavenworth, slightly, contusion in the side; Capt. W. L. Foster, slightly, in the shoulder; Lieut. and pay-master Fowle, slightly, shot in the foot; Lieut. and quarter-master Browning, slightly, shot in the face; Second Lieut. Fisher, severely, shot in the head and wrist; Third Lieut. Cushman, slightly, in the thigh and shoulder; Ensign G. Jacobs, severely, shot wound in the knee; Ensign J. P. Jacobs, slightly, in the shoulder; Ensign Blake, slightly, in the knee. 11th infantry—Major McNeil, severely, cannister shot in the thigh; Capt. Bliss, badly, shot in the leg; First Lieut. Hale, slightly, shot in the thigh; Secd. Lieut. Cooper, slightly, contusion in the breast; Third Lieut. Stephenson, slightly, in the thigh; Ensign Bedford, slightly hurt in the abdomen by a splinter. Ensign Thompson, (26th, doing duty in the 11th) severely, shot wound in the side. 22d infantry—Colonel Brady, severely, shot wound in the side and hip; Capt. Pentland, severely wounded and a prisoner; Capt. Foulk, severely, shot wound in the side. First Lieut. Culbertson, severely, shot wound in the leg; First Lieut. Ferguson, severely, shot in the hand from a cannister; Second Lieut. Armstrong, dangerously, shot wound in the shoulder. Third Lieut. Bean, slightly, shot in the foot. 25th infantry—Major Jessup, severely, shot wound in the hand and shoulder; Lieutenant and Adjutant Shayler, severely, shot wounds in the arm and side; Lieut. and quarter-master McGowan, badly, shot wounds in the shoulder; Third Lieut. Gifford, severely, shot wounds in the hip. Second Brigade—1st infantry—First Lieut. Vasquez, slightly, shot in the thigh, and bayonet in the leg; First Lieut. Blood, slightly, in the leg. 21st infantry—Capt. Burbank, severely, shoulder fractured; First Lieut. Gilley, severely, thigh fractured; Second Lieut. Fink (of the 10th attached) slightly, in the breast; Ensign Jones, slightly, flesh wound in the wrist; Ensign Camp (ad rifle regiment serving with the regiment attached) flesh wound in the ankle; Ensign Thomas, slightly, contusion in the back. 23d infantry—Capt. Odell, severely, shot wound in the arm; First Lieut. H. Whiting, severely, in the neck; Second Lieut. Ingersoll, slightly, in the foot. Second Lieut. Tappan, slightly, in the head. Third Lieut. Abell, slightly, in the leg; Third Lieut. Dietrich, slightly, in the arm; Third Lieut. Lamb, severely, in the leg. Brigadier-General Porter's command—New-York volunteers—Lieutenant-Colonel Dolbin, slightly, shot in the breast; Lieut. O. Fling, slightly, spent cannon shot in the shoulder. Pennsylvania volunteers—Major Wood, severely, musket shots in the arm and foot, and bruised by his horse being shot and falling on him. Quarter-master Macleay, severely, musket shot in the head and twice through the leg; Lieut. Dick, severely, shot in the hand. Brig. Gen. Porter was slightly wounded, but declined being reported.

Officers missing.—First Lieut. Perry, 9th infantry—a prisoner; Third Lieut. Webster, 11th infantry, severely shot in the head and taken prisoner; Lieuts. Sturges Keps and Davidson, 22d infantry, supposed to be killed. Volunteers—Brigade Maj. Stanton of New-York taken prisoner. Captain Roberts of Pennsylvania, taken prisoner; Lieut. Hunt of New-York, supposed to be killed.

"Last night was fought the most sanguinary action the annals of this country record.

"In the afternoon the enemy advanced towards Chippewa with a powerful force. At 6 o'clock General Scott was ordered to advance with his brigade and attack them. He was soon reinforced by General Ripley's brigade; they met the enemy in great force below the falls. They had selected their ground for the night, intending to attack our camp before daylight. The action began just before 7, and an uninterrupted stream of musketry continued till half past 8, when there was some cessation, the British falling back. It soon began again with some artillery, which, with slight interruptions, continued till half past 10, when there was a charge, and a tremendous stream of fire closed the conflict. Both armies fought with a desperation bordering on madness; neither would yield the palm, but each retired a short distance, wearied out with fatigue. Such a constant and destructive fire was never before sustained by American troops without falling back.

"The enemy had collected their whole force in the peninsula, and were reinforced by troops from Lord Wellington's army, just landed from Kingston. For two hours the two hostile lines were within 20 yards of each other, and so frequently intermingled, that often an officer would order an enemy's platoon. The moon shone bright; but part of our men being dressed like the Glengarry regiment caused the deception. They frequently charged, and were as often driven back. Our regiment, under Colonel Miller, was ordered to storm the British battery. We charged, and took every piece of the enemy's cannon. We kept possession of the ground and cannon until 12 o'clock at night, when we all fell back to camp, distant more than two miles. This was done to secure our camp, which might otherwise have been attacked in the rear. Our horses being most of them killed, and there being no ropes to the pieces, we got off but two or three. The men were so excessively fatigued they could not drag them. We lost one howitzer, the horses being on full gallop toward the enemy, to attack them, the riders were shot off and the horses ran through the enemy's line. We lost one piece of cannon, which was too much advanced, every man being shot that had charge of it, but two. Several of our caissons were blown up by their rockets, which did some injury, and deprived our cannon of ammunition. The lines were so near that cannon could not be used with advantage.

"This morning Gen. Ripley marched our whole force to the battle ground, to bury our dead and secure what wounded were left. The enemy had gotten many who were badly wounded and left on the ground. He marched near their army, but neither were disposed to engage. We took about 200 non-commissioned offi-

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cers and privates prisoners, and 21 officers, including Major Gen. Riall, who was wounded in the shoulder. They acknowledge Colonel Gordon, of the 100th, and many other British officers killed."

Biography of General Scott......WINFIELD SCOTT was born June 13th, 1785, near Petersburg, Dinwiddie county, Virginia. He was early intended for the bar, and went through the usual course of classical and other preparatory studies, which he concluded at William and Mary College. He soon after settled at Petersburg, and, in 1806, commenced the practice of the law, with flattering indications of future success. The attack upon the frigate Chesapeake, which kindled into a flame every young and active spirit in the nation, roused him from the calm pursuits of peace; and the measures taken by congress at their next session, making it probable that a war with Great Britain would ensue, he accepted, in 1808, a captaincy in the regiment of light artillery, which was raised on the first enlargement of our military establishment. In this situation he continued to serve, until the declaration of war in 1812, a period of about four years, sometimes ardently prosecuting military, sometimes legal studies, according as the probabilities of war or peace seemed to predominate.

In March, 1812, he acted as judge advocate upon the trial of Col. Cushing, a report of which he afterwards published. His able management of this interesting cause, and his eloquent and well-argued replication to the prisoner's defence, afford honourable proofs of his legal acquirements and talents.

About this period, considering himself injured by General Wilkinson, Captain Scott expressed himself upon the subject with freedom and boldness. The commanding general did not think proper to overlook this offence, and Captain Scott was arrested, on the Mississippi, where he was then stationed, and brought to trial. We have repeatedly heard his defence spoken of as admirable, both for its eloquence and its biting sarcasm. But the court would not travel out of the record to take cognizance of the original wrong, nor admit his plea of justification. The law was considered as imperative; Captain Scott was accordingly found guilty (under the 5th article of the Rules and Articles of War) of speaking with contempt and disrespect of his commanding officer, and was suspended for twelve months. He left the camp, followed by the good wishes of every officer to whom he was personally known; every one saw that the sedition, if any, had been committed by the *Senate*, and not by the *Gracchi*.

In 1812 Captain Scott was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the 2d, or Izard's regiment of artillery. Early in the autumn of that year he arrived on the Niagara, with two com-

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panies of his regiment, and took post at Black-rock, to protect the navy yard. On the 8th of October, Captain Elliot, of the navy, made an application to Colonel Scott for assistance in men, to execute an enterprize which he had projected against two British brigs, then lying at anchor under the guns of fort Erie. On the morning of the 9th, both vessels were carried in a most gallant manner...the Adams by Captain Elliot in person, the Galedonia by Captain Towson, of the artillery, who had been detached with a part of his company to the assistance of Elliot. In dropping the Adams down the Niagara, she became unmanageable by reason of a calm, took the wrong channel, and drifted aground immediately under the guns of the British batteries..... Finding it impossible to get the vessel off, Captain Elliot reluctantly abandoned her, under a most heavy fire from the British shore, having previously secured the prisoners. An active scene now ensued. The enemy sent off his boats to the brig, hoping to secure her by the next change of wind. Colonel Scott, on his side, was as active and eager to dispossess them of the contested prize, in which he finally succeeded, and held her until she was subsequently burnt by order of an officer of superior rank, who had now arrived; the Galedonia was preserved.

In this spirited little affair Scott first "fleshed his maiden sword." Like the hero of Sweden, he had heard the bullets whistle around him, and had determined that from thenceforth that should be his music.

Early on the morning of the 13th October, Colonel Scott arrived, by forced marches, through mud, rain and sleet, at Lewistown, to join in the attack contemplated by Major General Van Rensselaer, of the Newyork militia, against Queenston Heights. In the action which ensued, Colonel Scott bore a conspicuous part, and exposed his person in the most fearless manner. After obstinately fighting, he was however compelled to surrender, and was sent a prisoner to Quebec; thence, about a month after, embarked for Boston, and was exchanged in January following.

The campaign of 1813 opened with the capture of York, a victory which was dearly purchased by the loss of General Pike. Shortly after, Colonel Scott joined General Dearborn at fort Niagara, in the capacity of adjutant general to the northern army. This office was then new to our service, and it devolved on Col. Scott to regulate its details, and to establish its importance to the army. He succeeded to the full satisfaction of the commanding general and the troops, and to the incalculable future benefit of the service.

In the reduction of fort George, (May 27th,) Colonel Scott particularly distinguished himself. He was selected to take command of the advanced guard of the army, in its embarkation on Lake Ontario, followed by Colonel Porter, of the field train, the

brigades of Boyd, Winder and Chandler, and a reserve under Colonel Macomb.

Commodore Chauncey was present with his squadron, and favoured his descent by the fire of his small schooners; and Capt. Perry, who was then serving under Commodore Chauncey, volunteered to conduct the divisions, which was an operation of some nicety, in consequence of the winds and a strong current, together with the early-roused fire of the enemy. In the discharge of this duty, he was present at every point where he could be useful, under showers of musketry, and rendered very essential services to the advance guard, which he accompanied nearly to its point of attack. General Scott has since spoken in high terms of his skill and conduct on that occasion. This was, indeed, comparatively, but a small affair, and its little lustre has been completely lost in the broad blaze of glory which has since surrounded the name of the Nelson of lake Erie; yet there is to us something extremely gratifying in being able to trace the progress of a favourite hero, and to see those talents first exerted on a smaller scale, which were so soon to shine forth, the pride and the bulwark of his native land.

At nine in the morning, Colonel Scott effected his landing, in good order, under a heavy fire of musketry and artillery, about a mile and a quarter from the village of Newark, and the same distance west of the mouth of the Niagara. He formed his line on the beach of the lake, covered by a bank of 12 or 15 feet in height, which served as a parapet against the enemy's fire. This bank was to be scaled against the bayonets of the enemy, who had now drawn up his force 1500 strong, immediately on its brow. They were soon driven from their ground by a brisk and vigorous charge, but rallied, and took a second position behind a ravine, at a little distance. An action, of some 20 minutes ensued; it was short and desperate, and ended in the total rout of the enemy at every point. During the last five minutes, Boyd had landed in the rear of the advance guard, and a part of his brigade participated in the action. Colonel Scott pursued the rout as far as the village, where he was joined by the 6th regiment, under Colonel Miller; from thence the enemy was closely pressed at a distance of five miles up the river, until Scott was recalled from the pursuit by order of General Lewis. As our troops approached towards fort George, it was perceived that the garrison were in the act of abandoning the work. Two companies were instantly detached from the head of the pursuing column, to prevent this movement, and some prisoners were made. They were at the distance of about 80 paces from the fort, when one of its magazines blew up with a tremendous explosion. The front gate was instantly forced by our men; Scott was the first to enter, and took with his own hands the British flag yet waving

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In these several affairs, the total loss of the American army, in killed and wounded, amounted to 120, of which 89 were of Colonel Scott's command; 107 of the enemy were killed at the point of ascent from the bank, and the whole number of prisoners was 264.

Colonel Scott was not present at the affair of the 6th of June, at Stony Creek, in which Brigadier Generals Chandler and Win- der were taken prisoners. The army remained inactive at fort George for the remainder of the campaign, under Generals Dearborn, Lewis, Boyd and Wilkinson, who successively commanded. Nevertheless, Colonel Scott was frequently engaged in skirmishes and other small affairs, in all of which he displayed his usual gallantry, though none of them afforded any particular opportunity of distinction. During the summer of this year, he volunteered his services, in an expedition under Commodore Chauncey, against Burlington Heights, where a large deposit of provisions and stores had been made. The enemy having received considerable reinforcements, the expedition failed, as to the principal object; but upon his return, Chauncey landed the marines and soldiers, under the command of Colonel Scott, at York, where the new barracks and public storehouses were burnt, and some pieces of cannon, eleven armed boats, a quantity of ammunition, and a large magazine of flour were taken.

On being promoted to a regiment, Colonel Scott resigned the office of adjutant general, in the month of July, 1813.

It had been determined, as all our readers well remember, to collect a large force at Sacket's Harbour, with a view to an enterprize against Kingston or Montreal, towards the close of the campaign. The force under General Wilkinson accordingly embarked at fort George on the 2d of October, and proceeded down the lake. Colonel Scott was left in command of a garrison of some 7 or 800 men, regulars and militia, for the defence of fort George. The British army, in the mean while, remained inactive in the position which it had held for some time, at the distance of four miles from the fort, until October 9th, when General De Rottenburgh suddenly broke up his encampment, and retreated to Burlington Heights, a distance of 53 miles, abandoning the whole Niagara frontier. During the seven days in which he was kept in suspense by the threatening aspect of De Rottenburg, Colonel Scott made the greatest exertions to strengthen his defences, which were very incomplete at the time he was left in command. The enemy, however, did not think it prudent to attack him.

Colonel Scott had instructions which provided for the contingency that now occurred. He was accordingly relieved in the command of fort George by Brigadier General McClure, of the New York militia, and marched his garrison towards Sacket's Harbour, to join the expedition under General Wilkinson, which was then preparing to descend the St. Lawrence. After a forced march of 19 days, through rain and mud, during the whole of which time the sun was not visible for 12 hours, he learned, to his great mortification, upon his arrival in the neighbourhood of Sacket's Harbour, that the expedition had already taken its departure. He therefore left his column, and by a forced effort of two days and one night, came up with the army, and joined it just above Ogdensburg and Prescott. He was immediately assigned to the command of a handsome battalion in the corps *d'élite*, under Colonel Macomb. In the subsequent descent of the St. Lawrence, he commanded the van of the army, and was therefore not present at the action of the 11th of November, which took place 15 miles in the rear. How this campaign terminated, is yet fresh in the recollection of all.

Colonel Scott spent a great part of the following winter at Albany. Early in March, he was promoted to the rank of brigadier general, and joined Major General Brown there, on his route to the Niagara frontier, early in April. Soon after, General Brown was recalled to Sacket's Harbour, and the command, in consequence, devolved on Brigadier General Scott, who immediately assembled the army, and established a camp of instruction at Buffalo. In this camp were taught those tactics which gave to our army an accuracy and celerity of movement, which had never been displayed on this continent, either by British or American troops. The French *tactique* of the battalion and the line was adopted. Without regard to rank, all the officers were rigorously drilled by the commanding general in person; these then instructed the rank and file; companies were then formed and subjected to the same process; next battalions, which were also instructed by General Scott in person; and finally, the troops were carried through the evolutions of the brigade and the line, with the same strict attention to science and method. For two months and a half, these exercises were continued from 7 to 9 hours a day. The effect was astonishing. Four full battalions were brought to advance in brigade line, 1000 paces in quick time, in accurate *alignement*. The same line was made to change front perpendicular, on a central point, in *three minutes and a half*. During this period of discipline and instruction, the army was perfectly organized; and, by the unwearied exertions and example of the commanding general, the strictest routine and discipline were established throughout the whole.

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In June, Major General Brown returned to Buffalo with reinforcements, and assumed the command of the army. The battles of Chippewa and Bridgewater succeeded; and the result of either was sufficient to immortalize the valiant Scott.

The battle of Chippewa has been described as one of the most brilliant spectacles which could well be conceived. The day was clear and bright; the sun still high in the heavens. The plain was such as might have been selected for a parade or a tournament; the troops on both sides, though not numerous, admirably disciplined; the generals leading on their columns in person; the glitter of the arms in the sun, and the precision and distinctness of every movement, were all calculated to carry the mind back to the scenes of ancient story or poetry....to the plains of Latium or of Troy, and all those recollections which fill the imagination with images of personal heroism and romantic valour.

This victory, slight as were its immediate results, was yet attended by the most important consequences. It gave to the army a confidence in their own skill and prowess, and dissipated at once the dread or doubts which had been inspired by the military reputation of their veteran antagonists. It was to the army, what the victory of Captain Hull had been to the navy; and the confidence which it thus inspired, was surely most justly founded, for every man felt that the victory had been gained by superior skill and discipline: it was not the fruit of any accidental mistake or confusion in the enemy's army; or of one of those moments of temporary panic on one side, or excitement on the other, which sometimes give a victory to irregular courage over veteran and disciplined valour.

No higher praise could be given to General Scott, than that which he has unintentionally bestowed upon himself, when, in his report to General Brown, he says, "I have the satisfaction of being assured by every commanding officer, (which is confirmed by my own personal observation) that every man, and of every grade, evinced an ability to meet even a greater shock than that encountered, with like success. This was most conspicuous in the very crisis of the action. Conduct, universally good, leaves but little room for discrimination. To mention them in the order of rank, (I know of no other in this case,) Majors Jessup, Leavenworth, and McNeil, and Captain Towson, deserve every thing which conspicuous skill and gallantry can hope from a grateful country," &c.

The battle of Bridgewater, which was fought near the mighty cataract of Niagara, and within the sound of its thunders, was, in proportion to the numbers engaged, the most sanguinary, and decidedly the best fought, of any action which ever took place on the American continent. "We had no such fighting in our war," has one of the bravest soldiers of the revolution often said to the

writer of this article. The repeated charges and actual contest with the bayonet, are alone sufficient to render this battle remarkable. The actual fight with the bayonet is, in fact, a thing of very rare occurrence. We have heard, on good authority, that General Moreau has said, that he never saw it to any extent more than twice, one side or the other almost always breaking before the bayonets crossed. Some of the captive officers of the enemy have declared, that there our troops exhibited, not only the most undaunted bravery, but a proficiency in tactics and military skill which would have done honour to veterans. In particular, the charge of Colonel Miller has been represented by one of these gentlemen, who had served in Spain, as having surpassed any thing of the kind he ever saw, except the storming of St. Sebastians.

On the very day in which this action took place, by a singular coincidence, Brigadier General Scott was appointed, by the president, a major-general by brevet. His wounds were for some time exceedingly dangerous and painful, and obliged him to retire for a time from active service. As soon as he was convalescent, he was appointed to the command of the 10th military district. Beside his military rank, he has received every testimonial of respect and gratitude which his country could bestow; among these are a vote of thanks, and a medal, from congress; a sword presented by the citizens of his native place, Petersburg; a sword and vote of thanks from the legislature of Virginia, and his name has been given to a new county of that state. In addition to these civil honours, he has lately received a literary one from Princeton College, which was conferred in a manner equally flattering to himself, and honourable to the institution.

At a commencement of that college, held in September, 1814, whilst the customary collegiate exercises were performing, the trustees were accidentally informed that General Scott had that moment alighted at the opposite tavern, on his way to Baltimore. It was instantly proposed to invite him to the commencement; a deputation of the trustees was accordingly sent over, who soon returned with the general. He was respectfully received by the trustees, and seated among them on the stage; the audience expressed the strongest symptoms of a disposition to break forth into tumultuous applause, which was with difficulty restrained, by a sense of the decorum due to the place and the occasion. The valedictory orator now ascended the stage; it happened the subject of his oration was the character of a patriotic and heroic soldier, in which he had introduced an apostrophe to an imaginary personage, whom he depicted as a bright example of military virtue. With admirable presence of mind, and great elegance of manner, the young orator suddenly turned and addressed this to Scott:

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The effect was electrical ; bursts of long, reiterated, and unrestrainable applause, broke forth on all sides. Even grave and learned divines, men whose studies and habits of mind were little in unison with feelings of this nature, were hurried away and overcome by the animating and kindling sympathy which surrounded them. With some difficulty the tumult of applause was hushed, and the president rose to confer the doctorates in law and divinity, and other honorary degrees.

In the mean while, one of the trustees had proposed to the rest that an honorary degree should be conferred on their illustrious visitant. It was asked whether General Scott's literary acquirements were such as to render this compliment appropriate. A gentleman from Virginia, to whom he was personally known, replied, (as is the fact,) that beside possessing the general information of a well educated man, he was remarkable for accurate and extensive acquaintance with English literature. The proposal was instantly assented to, and communicated to the president, who concluded the list of literary honours, by announcing that the honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon Maj. General Winfield Scott. It is unnecessary to add that the building again rang with the enthusiastic applause of the audience..... This compliment, so spontaneous, so appropriate, so well-timed, was worthy of a college which can boast of numbering in the long list of her sons, many of the most brilliant and distinguished men of their country, in every walk of public life.*

CHAPTER XXXI.

Repulse of the enemy at Conjocketa creek, &c.....Bombardment and battle at fort Erie.....Splendid sortie against the enemy's batteries.....Arrival of General Izard on the Niagara frontier.....Action at Lyon's creek.....Evacuation of fort Erie.

AFTER the action of the 25th July, Generals Brown and Scott were conveyed to Buffalo, in consequence of their wounds, and the command of the army devolved on General Ripley, who soon after retired to fort Erie. Nothing of importance occurred until the 3d of August, when Major Morgan, with a small detachment of riflemen, gallantly repulsed the enemy at Conjocketa creek, as given in the following report to Gen. Brown :

Fort Erie, August 5, 1814.

SIR—Having been stationed, with the 1st battalion of the 1st Regiment of riflemen, at Black Rock, on the evening of the 2d

* The foregoing biographical sketch has been taken, with some variations, from the *Analectic*.

instant, I observed the British army moving up the river on the opposite shore, and suspected they might make a feint on Fort Erie, with an intention of a real attack on the Buffalo side. I immediately moved and took a position on the upper side of Con-jocketa creek, and that night threw up a battery of some logs, which I found on the ground, and had the bridge torn away.

About 2 o'clock the next morning, my piquets from below gave me information of the landing of 9 boats full of troops, half a mile below. I immediately got my men (240 in number) to their quarters, and patiently waited their approach. At a quarter past 4 they advanced upon us, and commenced the attack; sending a party before to repair the bridge, under the cover of their fire. When they had got at good rifle distance, I opened a heavy fire on them, which laid a number of them on the ground, and compelled them to retire. They then formed in the skirt of the wood, and kept up the fight at long shot, continually reinforcing from the Canada shore, until they had 23 boat loads, and then attempted to flank us, by sending a large body up the creek to ford it; when I detached Lieutenants Ryan, Smith and Armstrong, with about 60 men, to oppose their left wing, where they were again repulsed with considerable loss....after which they appeared disposed to give up their object, and retreated by throwing six boat loads of troops on Squaw Island, which enfladed the creek, and prevented me from harrassing their rear. Their superior numbers enabled them to take their killed and wounded off the field, which we plainly saw, and observed they suffered severely. We found some of their dead thrown into the river, and covered with logs and stones, and some on the field. We also collected a number of muskets and accoutrements, with clothing that appeared to have been torn to bind their wounds. We took 6 prisoners, who stated the British force opposed to us to consist of from 12 to 1500 men, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Tucker, of the 41st regiment. They also state that their object was to re-capture Gen. Riall, with the other British prisoners, and destroy the public stores deposited at Buffalo. The action continued about two hours and a half. I am happy to state they were completely foiled in their attempt. Our loss is trifling compared with theirs. We had 2 killed and 8 wounded. I am sorry to inform you that Captain Hamilton, and Lieutenants Wadsworth and M^cIntosh, are among the latter. Their gallantry, in exposing themselves to encourage their men, I think entitles them to the notice of their country. My whole command behaved in a manner that merited my warmest approbation; and, in justice to them I cannot avoid mentioning the names of the officers, which are as follows:— Captain Hamilton, Lieutenants Wadsworth, Ryan, Calhoun, M^cIntosh, Arnold, Shortridge, M^cFarland, Tipton, Armstrong, Smith, Cobbs, Davidson and Austin, with Ensign Page.

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If, sir, you believe we have done our duty, we shall feel highly gratified.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

L. MORGAN, Maj. 1st rifle regt.

The loss of the enemy in this affair was supposed to exceed 50 in killed, wounded and missing. Our loss was two killed and eight wounded.

On the 4th of August Brigadier General Gaines arrived from Sacket's Harbour, and assumed the command at fort Erie. The British army, at this time amounting to between 4 and 5000, under Lieutenant General Drummond, was strongly posted opposite Black Rock, two miles east of the fort, a skirt of thick woods intervening.

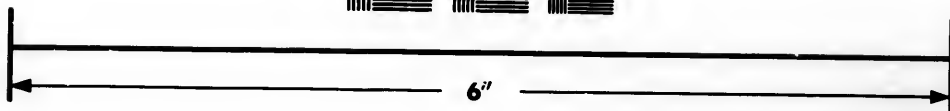
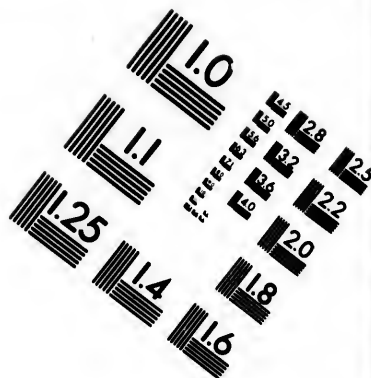
On the 5th, General Gaines attempted to draw out the enemy's forces, by sending the rifle corps through the woods, with orders to amuse the enemy's light troops, until his strong columns should get in motion; and then to retire slowly to the plain on the American side, where a strong line was posted ready to receive him. Our riflemen met and drove the enemy's light troops into their lines, where they remained. After keeping their position in the woods for nearly two hours, the riflemen were ordered in, not being able to effect the object of their expedition.

Major Morgan, who had command of the corps, reports that his officers and men acted with their usual gallantry. The enemy left 11 dead and 3 prisoners in our hands; and deserters have stated their loss to be much more. Among their killed were 5 Indians. Our loss was 5 killed and 4 wounded.

On the 11th of August the enemy had constructed two batteries with two embrasures each, and had erected a wooden breastwork, from 12 to 1400 yards in rear of the American army. In examining their works on the 10th, Captain Birdsall of the 4th rifle regiment, with a detachment of the 1st, and his company, amounting in all to 160 men, beat in two of their strong piquets, with a loss on their part of 10 killed. Capt. B. had 1 killed and 3 wounded.

On the 12th, Major Morgan, of the 1st rifle regiment, fell, at the head of his corps, in an affair with the enemy, after a display of gallantry worthy of the corps and meriting the gratitude of his country. General Gaines had desired him to send a detachment of from 80 to 100 men to cut off a working party, supported by a guard of the enemy's light troops, engaged in opening an avenue for a battery in rear of our army, and directed him to have his corps ready to support in case the enemy should be reinforced. The detachment was commanded by Captain Birdsall, who attacked and drove the enemy; but when about to return to camp, he discovered a large force approaching. The firing





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having continued longer than the major had expected, he moved up the moment the enemy's reinforcement made their appearance. A warm conflict ensued, in which they were forced back; but discovering additional reinforcements, and having received orders to fall back on the appearance of a large force, the major gave the signal with his bugle to retire. At this moment he received a ball in the head; and was brought from the field, together with his men who were killed and wounded. Of the former were 2 riflemen and 1 Newyork volunteer, who, unsolicited accompanied the riflemen, with a small party of his corps, under the command of Lieutenant Goodfellow, who had distinguished himself on several similar occasions.

On the 13th, the remains of Major Morgan were conveyed to Buffalo, and interred with military honours.

Battle of fort Erie..... On the 15th of August the enemy made a descent upon fort Erie; and, after a most sanguinary conflict, were defeated with great loss, by the American troops under General Gaines. The following official report of the general to the secretary of war, gives the particulars of the engagement:

Fort Erie, U. C. August 23, 1815.

SIR—I have the honour to communicate for the information of the department of war, the particulars of the battle fought at this place on the 15th inst. between the left wing of the 2d division of the northern army, under my command, and the British forces in the peninsula of Upper Canada, commanded by Lieutenant General Drummond, which terminated in a signal victory in favour of the United American arms.

Our position on the margin of the lake at the entrance of the Niagara river, being nearly a horizontal plain, 12 to 15 feet above the surface of the water, possessing few natural advantages, had been strengthened in front by temporary parapet breastworks, entrenchments and abattis, with two batteries and six field pieces. The small, unfinished fort, Erie, with a 24, 18 and 12 pounders, forms the north-east; and the Douglass battery, with an 18 and 6 pounder near the edge of the lake, the south-east angle of our right. The left is defended by a redoubt battery, with 6 field pieces thrown up on a small ridge. Our rear was left open to the lake, bordered by a rocky shore of easy ascent. The battery on the left was defended by Captain Towson; fort Erie by Captain Williams, with Major Trimble's command of the 19th infantry; the batteries on the front by Captains Biddle and Fanning; the whole of the artillery commanded by Major Hindman. Parts of the 11th, 9th and 22d infantry (of the late veteran brigade of Major General Scott) were posted on the right, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Aspinwall. General

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Ripley's brigade, consisting of the 21st and 23d, defended the left. General Porter's brigade of Newyork and Pennsylvania volunteers, with our distinguished riflemen, occupied the centre.

I have heretofore omitted stating to you, that during the 13th and 14th. the enemy had kept up a brisk cannonade, which was sharply returned from our batteries, without any considerable loss on our part. At 6, P. M. one of their shells lodged in a small magazine in fort Erie, which was fortunately almost empty. It blew up with an explosion more awful in appearance than injurious in its effects, as it did not disable a man or derange a gun. It occasioned but a momentary cessation of the thunders of the artillery on both sides: it was followed by a loud and joyous shout by the British army, which was instantly returned on our part, and Captain Williams, amidst the smoke of the explosion, renewed the contest by an animated roar of his heavy cannon.

From the supposed loss of our ammunition, and the consequent depression such an event was likely to produce upon the minds of our men, I felt persuaded that this explosion would lead the enemy to assault, and made my arrangements accordingly.

The night was dark, and the early part of it rainy, but the faithful centinel slept not; one third of the troops were up at their posts. At half past 2 o'clock the right column of the enemy approached, and though enveloped in darkness *black as his designs and principles, was distinctly heard on our left, and promptly marked by our musquetry under Major Wood, and cannon under Captain Towson. Being mounted at the moment, I repaired to the point of attack, where the sheet of fire rolling from Towson's battery and the musquetry of the left wing of the 21st infantry, under Major Wood, enabled me to see the enemy's column of about 1500 men approaching on that point; his advance was not checked until it had approached within 10 feet of our infantry. A line of loose brush, representing an abbattis, only intervened; a column of the enemy attempted to pass round the abbattis through the water, where it was nearly breast deep.... Apprehending that this point would be carried, I ordered a detachment of riflemen and infantry to its support; but, having met with the gallant commander, Major Wood, was assured by him that he could defend his position without reinforcements. At this moment the enemy were repulsed, but instantly renewed the charge and were again repulsed.

My attention was now called to the right, where our batteries and lines were soon lighted by a most brilliant fire of cannon and musquetry; it announced the approach of the centre and left columns of the enemy, under Colonels Drummond and Scott; the

* I several times heard, and many of our officers heard, orders given "to give the damned yankees no quarters."

latter was received by the veteran 9th, under the command of Captain Foster, and Captains Boughton and Harding's companies of New York and Pennsylvania volunteers, aided by a 6 pounder, judiciously posted by Major M'Kee, chief engineer, who was most active and useful at this point; they were repulsed. That of the centre, led by Colonel Drummond, was not long kept in check; it approached at once every assailable point of the fort, and with scaling ladders ascended the parapet, but was repulsed with dreadful carnage. The assault was twice repeated, and as often checked; but the enemy having moved round in the ditch covered by darkness added to the heavy cloud of smoke which had rolled from our cannon and musquetry, enveloping surrounding objects, repeated the charge, re-ascended the ladders; their pikes, bayonets and spears fell upon our gallant artillerymen. The gallant spirits of our favourite Capt. Williams and Lieuts. Macdonough and Watmough, with their brave men, were overcome... The two former, and several of their men, received deadly wounds. Our bastion was lost. Lieutenant Macdonough, being severely wounded, demanded quarter. It was refused by Col. Drummond. The lieutenant then seized a handspike, and nobly defended himself until he was shot down with a pistol by the monster who had refused him quarter, who often reiterated the order, "give the damned Yankees no quarter." This officer, whose bravery, if it had been seasoned with virtue, would have entitled him to the admiration of every soldier...this hardened murderer soon met his fate. He was shot through the breast, while repeating the order to "give no quarter."

The battle now raged with increased fury on the right, but on the left the enemy was repulsed and put to flight. Thence, and from the centre, I ordered reinforcements. They were promptly sent by Brigadier General Ripley and Brigadier General Porter. Captain Fanning, of the corps of artillery, kept up a spirited and destructive fire, with his field pieces, on the enemy attempting to approach the fort. Major Hindman's gallant efforts, aided by Major Trimble, having failed to drive the enemy from the bastion with the remaining artillerymen and infantry in the fort, Capt. Birdsall, of the 4th rifle regiment, with a detachment of riflemen, gallantly rushed in through the gateway to their assistance, and with some infantry charged the enemy; but was repulsed, and the captain severely wounded. A detachment from the 11th, 19th and 22d infantry, under Captain Foster of the 11th, was introduced over the interior bastion, for the purpose of charging the enemy. Major Hall, assistant inspector general, very handsomely tendered his services to lead the charge. The charge was gallantly made by Captain Foster and Major Hall, but owing to the narrowness of the passage up to the bastion admitting only two or three men abreast, it failed. It was often repeated, and

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as often checked. The enemy's force in the bastion, was, how-
 ever, much cut to pieces and diminished, by our artillery and
 small arms. At this moment, every operation was arrested by
 the explosion of some cartridges deposited in the end of the stone
 building adjoining the contested bastion. The explosion was tre-
 mendous....it was decisive; the bastion was restored. At this
 moment Captain Biddle was ordered to cause a field piece to be
 posted so as to enfilade the exterior plain and salient glacis. The
 captain, though not recovered from a severe contusion in the
 shoulder, received from one of the enemy's shells, promptly took
 his position, and served his field piece with vivacity and effect....
 Captain Fanning's battery likewise played upon them at this time
 with great effect. The enemy were in a few moments entirely
 defeated, taken or put to flight, leaving on the field 221 killed,
 174 wounded, and 186 prisoners, including 14 officers killed, and
 7 wounded and prisoners. A large portion are so severely wound-
 ed that they cannot survive; the slightly wounded, it is pre-
 sumed, were carried off.

To Brigadier General Ripley much credit is due for the judi-
 cious disposition of the left wing previous to the action, and for
 the steady disciplined courage manifested by him and his imme-
 diate command, and for the promptness with which he complied
 with my orders for reinforcement during the action. Brigadier
 General Porter, commanding the Newyork and Pennsylvania vo-
 lunteers, manifested a degree of vigilance and judgment in his
 preparatory arrangements, as well as military skill and courage
 in action, which proves him to be worthy the confidence of his
 country, and the brave volunteers who fought under him. Of
 the volunteers, Captains Boughton and Harding, with their de-
 tachments, posted on the right and attached to the line, com-
 manded by Captain E. Foster of the veteran 9th infantry, hand-
 somely contributed to the repulse of the left column of the ene-
 my under Col. Scott.

The judicious preparations and steady conduct of Lieutenant
 Colonel Aspinwall, commanding the first brigade, merit approba-
 tion.

To Major M'Kee, chief engineer the greatest credit is due for
 the excellent arrangement and skilful execution of his plans for
 fortifying and defending the right, and for his correct and season-
 able suggestions to regain the bastion. Major Wood, of the en-
 gineers, also greatly contributed to the previous measures of de-
 fence. He had accepted the command of a regiment of infantry,
 (the 21st.) for which he has often proved himself well qualified,
 but never so conspicuously as on this occasion.

Towson's battery emitted a constant sheet of fire. Wood's
 small arms lighted up the space, and repulsed five terrible charges
 made between the battery and the lake.

Brigadier General Ripley speaks in high terms of the officers and men engaged, particularly Captains Marston and Ropes; Lieutenants Riddle (of the 15th, doing duty with the 21st,) and Hall; Ensigns Benn, Jones, Cummings and Thomas, of the 21st, and Keally and Green of the 19th.

Major Hindman, and the whole of the artillery under the command of that excellent officer, displayed a degree of gallantry and good conduct not to be surpassed. The particular situation of Captain Towson, and the much lamented Captain Williams and Lieutenant Macdonough, and that of Lieutenant Watmough, as already described, with their respective commands, rendered them most conspicuous. The courage and good conduct of Lieutenants Zantzinger and Childs, is spoken of in high terms by Major Hindman and Captain Towson, as also that of Serjeant-Major Denhon. Captains Biddle and Fanning, on the centre and right of their entrenchments, threw their shot to the right, left and front, and annoyed the Indians and light troops of the enemy approaching from the woods. Lieutenant Fontaine, in his zeal to meet the enemy, was unfortunately wounded and made prisoner. Lieutenant Bird was active and useful; and, in fact, every individual of the corps did their duty.

The detachment of Scott's gallant brigade, consisting of parts of the 9th, 11th and 22d infantry, did its duty in a manner worthy the high reputation the brigade had acquired at Chippewa and at the falls of Niagara. The 9th, under the command of Capt. Edmund Foster, was actively engaged against the left of the enemy, and with the aid of Lieutenant Douglass' corps of bombardiers, commanding the water battery, and of that of the volunteers, under Captains Boughton and Harding, effected their repulse. The good conduct of Lieutenants Childs, Cushman and Foot, and Ensign Blake, deserves commendation.

The officers killed are Captain Williams and Lieutenant Macdonough of the artillery; wounded, Lieutenant Watmough of the artillery; Ensign Cisma, 19th; Lieutenant Bushnell, 21st; Lieutenants Brown and Belknap, 23d; and Captain Birdsall, 4th rifle regiment....all severely.

Lieutenant Fontaine, of the artillery, writes from the British camp, that he fortunately fell into the hands of the Indians, who, after taking his money, treated him kindly. It would seem then, that these savages had not joined in the resolution to give no quarter.

To Major Jones, assistant adjutant-general; Major Hall, assistant inspector-general; Captain Harris, of the dragoons, volunteer aid-de-camp; and Lieutenant Belton, aid-de-camp, much credit is due for their constant vigilance and strict attention to every duty previous to the action, and the steady courage, zeal and activity which they manifested during the action.

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The surgeons, Doctors Fuller, 23d, and Troubridge, 21st, with their mates, Doctors Gale of the 23d, and Everitt and Allen of the 21st, deserve the warmest approbation for their indefatigable exertions and humane attention to the wounded of our army, as well as to the prisoners who fell into their hands.

I have the honour to be, sir, your very obedient servant,

E. P. GAINES, Brig. gen. commanding.

The American loss in this affair was 17 killed, 56 wounded, and 11 missing...total 84.*

The British loss, according to their official statement, was 51 killed, (among whom were Colonel Scott and Lieutenant Colonel Drummond,) 262 wounded, and 468 missing...total, 799.†

General Gaines, in a letter to the secretary of war, dated the 28th of August, states, that in the battle of the 15th he inadvertently omitted the names of Captain Chunn, of the 19th, Lieuts. Bowman and Larned, of the 21st, and Lieutenant Jewett, of the 11th infantry; as also his brigade Major, Lieutenant Gleason... each of whom bore a conspicuous part in the action, and were recommended to the secretary's notice. Lieutenants Bowman and Larned commanded companies in the 21st, which so gallantly beat the enemy's right column. Captain Chunn, with his company, was doing duty in the same regiment. This regiment pursued the enemy's right upwards of a mile, and took nearly 100 prisoners; his left was likewise pursued, and more than a hundred prisoners were taken beyond our works.

During the cannonade and bombardment of the fort by the enemy, on the 13th and 14th of August, the American loss was 9 killed and 36 wounded. The bombardment commenced at sunrise on the morning of the 13th, and continued until 8 o'clock in the evening. At daylight, on the 14th, it re-commenced with increased warmth, and continued until within one hour of the commencement of the action of the 15th.

Splendid sortie against the enemy's batteries..... On the 2d of September, General Brown having recovered from his wounds, re-assumed the command of the army at fort Erie. From the 2d, until the 16th, skirmishes frequently took place between the contending troops, in which the losses of both were trifling.

* Names of officers killed and wounded—Artillery—Capt. Williams and Lieut. Macdonough, killed defending the bastion; Lieut. Watmough, wounded do. severely; Lieut. Fontaine missing, thrown from the bastion.

Infantry—Ensign Ciann, 19th regiment, dangerously in defence of the fort; Lieut. Bushnell, 19th do. severely do.; Lieut. Brown, 23d do. severely do.; Lieut. Belknap, 23d do. severely in defending the picket guard, which he commanded.

4th Rifle Regiment—Capt. Birdsall, accidentally wounded, whilst defending the fort, by one of his own soldiers.

† The American Inspector General reports, that the enemy left on the field 282 killed, and 174 wounded. The prisoners taken amounted to about 400.

On the 17th, a splendid sortie was made against the enemy's batteries, (which he had been busily employed in erecting for a number of days, within a short distance of fort Erie,) and which eventuated in a great slaughter of his troops, and almost total destruction of his works. General Brown, in a letter to the secretary of war, dated the 18th, gives a hasty sketch of this brilliant achievement; but in a subsequent letter, of which the following is a copy, he enters more minutely into a detailed account:

Fort Erie, September 29, 1814.

SIR—In my letter of the 18th instant, I briefly informed you of the fortunate issue of the sortie which took place the day preceding. But it is due to the gallant officers and men, to whose bravery we are indebted for our success on this occasion, that I should give you a more circumstantial and detailed account of this affair.

The enemy's camp I had ascertained to be situated in a field surrounded by woods, nearly two miles distant from their batteries and entrenchments, the object of which was to keep the parts of the force which was not upon duty, out of the range of our fire from fort Erie and Black Rock. Their infantry was formed into three brigades, estimated at 12 or 1500 men each. One of these brigades, with a detail from their artillery, was stationed at their works, (these being about 500 yards distant from old fort Erie, and the right of our line.) We had already suffered much from the fire of two of their batteries, and were aware that a third was about to open upon us. Under these circumstances, I resolved to storm the batteries, destroy the cannon, and roughly handle the brigade upon duty, before those in reserve could be brought into action.

On the morning of the 17th, the infantry and riflemen, regulars and militia, were ordered to be paraded and put in readiness to march precisely at 12 o'clock. General Porter, with the volunteers, Colonel Gibson with the riflemen, and Major Brooks with the 23d and 1st infantry, and a few dragoons acting as infantry, were ordered to move from the extreme left of our position, upon the enemy's right, by a passage opened through the woods for the occasion. General Miller was directed to station his command in the ravine which lies between fort Erie and the enemy's batteries, by passing them by detachments through the skirts of the wood; and the 21st infantry, under General Ripley, was posted as a corps of reserve between the new bastions of fort Erie; all under cover, and out of the view of the enemy.

About 20 minutes before 3, P. M. I found the left columns, under the command of General Porter, which were destined to turn the enemy's right, within a few rods of the British entrenchments. They were ordered to advance and commence the at-

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tion. Passing down the ravine, I judged from the report of mus-
quetry, that the action had commenced on our left; I now has-
tened to General Miller, and directed him to seize the moment,
and pierce the enemy's entrenchments between batteries No. 2
and 3. My orders were promptly and ably executed. Within
30 minutes after the first gun was fired, batteries No. 2 and 3,
the enemy's line of entrenchments, and his two block houses were
in our possession.

Soon after, battery No. 1 was abandoned by the British. The
guns in each were spiked by us, or otherwise destroyed, and the
magazine of No. 3 was blown up.

A few minutes before the explosion, I had ordered up a reserve
under General Ripley. As he passed me, at the head of his co-
lumn, I desired him, as he would be the senior in advance, to as-
certain, as near as possible, the situation of the troops in general,
and to have a care that not more was hazarded than the occa-
sion required: that, the object of the sortie effected, the troops
would retire in good order, &c. General Ripley passed rapidly
on....soon after, I became alarmed for General Miller, and sent
an order for the 21st to hasten to his support, towards battery
No. 1. Col. Upham received the order, and advanced to the aid of
Gen. Miller. Gen. Ripley had inclined to the left, where Maj. Brooks'
command was engaged, with a view of making some necessary
enquiries of that officer, and, in the act of doing so, was unfor-
tunately wounded. By this time the object of the sortie was ac-
complished beyond my most sanguine expectations. General
Miller had consequently ordered the troops on the right to fall
back; observing this movement, I sent my staff along the line,
to call in the other corps. Within a few minutes they retired
from the ravine, and from thence to camp.

Thus 1000 regulars, and an equal portion of militia, in one
hour of close action, blasted the hopes of the enemy, destroyed
the fruits of 50 days labour, and diminished his effective force
1000 men at least. I am at a loss how to express my satisfaction at the
gallant conduct of the officers and men of this division, whose valour
has shone superior to every trial. Gen. Porter, in his official re-
port, herein enclosed, has very properly noticed those patriotic citi-
zens who have done so much honour to themselves, by freely and
voluntarily tendering their services at a dangerous and critical pe-
riod.

As the scene of action was in a wood, in advance of the posi-
tion I had chosen for directing the movements of the whole, se-
veral reports of the commandants of corps must guide me in no-
ticing individuals.

Gen. Miller mentions Lieut. Cols. Aspinwall and Beedle, Maj.
Trimble, Captain Hull, Captain Ingersoll, Lieutenant Crawford,

Lieutenant Lee, and particularly Ensign O'Fling, as entitled to distinction.

Lieutenant Colonel McDonald, upon whom the command of the rifle corps devolved, upon the fall of the brave and generous Gibson, names Adjutants Shortridge of the 1st, and Ballard of the 4th regiment, as deserving the highest applause for their promptness and gallantry in communicating orders. Of the other officers of the corps, he reports generally, that the bravery and good conduct of all was so conspicuous as to render it impossible to discriminate.

Major Brooks, to whom much credit is due for the distinguished manner in which he executed the orders he received, speaks in high terms of Lieutenants Goodell, Ingersoll and Livingston, and Ensigns Brant and O'Fling, of the 23d...particularly of the latter. Also of Captain Simms, Lieutenants Bissell, Shore and Bridnot, of the 1st infantry, and Lieutenant Watts, of the dragoons.

Lieutenant Colonel Upham, who took command of the reserve after General Ripley was disabled, bestows great praise upon Major Chambers of the 4th regiment of riflemen, attached to the 21st infantry, as also upon Capt. Bradford and Lieut. Holding of that regiment.

My staff, Colonel Snelling, Colonel Gardner, Major Jones, and my aids-de-camp, Major Austin and Lieutenant Armstrong, were, as usual, zealous, intelligent and active; they performed every duty required of them, to my entire satisfaction.

Major Hall, assistant inspector-general, led a battalion of militia, and conducted with skill and gallantry. Lieutenant Kirby, aid-de-camp to General Ripley, was extremely active and useful during the time he was in action.

Lieutenants Frazer and Riddle were in General Porter's staff; their bravery was conspicuous, and no officers of their grade were more useful.

The corps of artillery, commanded by Major Hindman, which has been so eminently distinguished throughout this campaign, had no opportunity of taking a part in the sortie. The 25th infantry, under Colonel Jessup, was stationed in fort Erie, to hold the key of our position.

Colonel Brady, on whose firmness and good conduct every reliance could be placed, was on command at Buffalo, with the remains of the 22d infantry. Lieutenant Colonel McBee and Lieutenant Colonel Wood of the corps of engineers, having rendered to this army services the most important, I must seize the opportunity of again mentioning them particularly. On every trying occasion I have reaped much benefit from their sound and excellent advice. No two other officers of their grade could have con-

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tributed more to the safety and honor of this army. Wood, brave, generous and enterprising, died as he had lived, without a feeling but for the honour of his country and the glory of her arms..... His name and example will live to guide the soldier in the path of duty, so long as true heroism is held in estimation. M'Bee lives to enjoy the approbation of every virtuous and generous mind, and to receive the reward due to his services and high military talents.

It is proper here to notice, that although but one third of the enemy's force was on duty when his works were carried, the whole were brought into action while we were employed in destroying his cannon. We secured prisoners from seven regiments, and know that the 6th and 82d suffered severely in killed and wounded; yet these regiments were not upon duty.

Lieutenant General Drummond broke up his camp during the night of the 21st, and retired to his entrenchments behind Chipewawa. A party of our men came up with the rear of his army at Frenchman's creek; the enemy destroyed part of their stores, by setting fire to the buildings from which they were employed in conveying them. We found in and about their camp, a considerable quantity of cannon ball, and upwards of 100 stand of arms.

I send you, enclosed herein, a return of our loss. The return of prisoners enclosed, does not include the stragglers that came in after the action.

I have the honour to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient humble servant,

JACOB BROWN.

The following is the report from Brigadier General Porter to Major General Brown, alluded to in the foregoing letter:

Fort Erie, September 22, 1814.

SIR—In executing the duty you have imposed on me, of reporting the conduct of the officers and men composing the left column, which you was pleased to place under my command in the sortie of the 17th instant, the pleasure I derive in representing to you the admirable conduct of the whole, is deeply chastened by sorrow for the loss of many brave and distinguished men.

Being obliged, from the nature of the ground, to act on foot, it was impossible that my own personal observation should reach to every officer. Some part of this report must therefore rest upon the information of others.

It is the business of this communication, to speak of the conduct of individuals; yet you will permit me to premise, although well known to yourself already, that the object of the left co-

column was to penetrate, by a circuitous rout, between the enemy's batteries, where one third of his force was always kept on duty, and his main camp, and that it was subdivided into 3 divisions....the advance of 200 riflemen and a few Indians, commanded by Colonel Gibson, and two columns, moving parallel to, and 30 yards distant from each other. The right column was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Wood, headed by 400 infantry under Major Brook of the 23d, and followed by 500 volunteers and militia, being parts of Lieutenant Colonel Dobbin's, M'Burney's and Flemming's regiments, and was intended to attack the batteries. The left column, of 500 militia, was commanded by Brigadier General Davis, and comprised the commands of Lieutenant Colonels Hopkins, Churchill and Crosby, and was intended to hold in check any reinforcements from the enemy's camp; or both columns (circumstances requiring it, which frequently happened) to co-operate in the same object.

After carrying by storm, in the handsomest style, a strong block house in the rear of the third battery, making its garrison prisoners, destroying the three 24 pounders and their carriages in the third battery, and blowing up the enemy's magazine, and after co-operating with General Miller in taking the second battery, the gallant leaders of the three divisions all fell nearly at the same time....Colonel Gibson at the second battery, and General Davis and Lieutenant Colonel Wood in an assault upon the first.

Brigadier General Davis, although a militia officer of little experience, conducted on this occasion with all the coolness and bravery of a veteran, and fell while advancing upon the enemy's entrenchments. His loss, as a citizen as well as a soldier, will be severely felt in the patriotic county of Genessee. Colonel Gibson fully sustained the high military reputation which he had before so justly acquired. You know how exalted an opinion I have always entertained of Lieutenant Colonel Wood of the engineers. His conduct on this day was, what it uniformly has been on every similar occasion, an exhibition of military skill, acute judgment and heroic valour. Of the other regular officers, Lieutenant Colonel M'Donald and Major Brooks, senior in command, will report to you in relation to their respective divisions. Permit me, however, to say of these two officers, that much as was left to them by the fall of their distinguished leaders, they were able to sustain their parts in the most admirable manner, and they richly deserve the notice of the government.

Of the militia, I regret that the limits of a report will not permit me even to name all of those who on this occasion established claims to the gratitude of their fellow citizens; much less to particularize individual merit. Lieut. Colonels Hopkins, M'Burney, Churchill and Crosby, and Majors Lee, Marcle, Wilson,

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Lawrence, Burr, Dunham, Kellogg, and Ganson, are entitled to the highest praise for their gallant conduct, their steady and persevering exertions. Lieutenant Colonel Dobbin being prevented by severe indisposition from taking the field, Major Hall, assistant inspector general, volunteered his services to join Major Lee in the command of the volunteer regiment; and Major Lee and every other officer speaks in the highest terms of the gallant and good conduct of this young officer.

Captain Fleming who commanded the Indians, was as he always is, in the front of the battle. There is not a more intrepid soldier in the army. I should be ungrateful were I to omit the names of Captains Knapp and Hull of the volunteers, and Captain Parker and Lieutenant Chatfield of the militia, by whose intrepidity I was, during the action, extricated from the most unpleasant situation. Captains Richardson, Buel and Kennedy, Lieutenants Parkhurst and Brown, and Adjutants Dobbin, Bates and Robinson, particularly distinguished themselves. The patriotic conduct of Captain Elliot with twenty young gentlemen, who volunteered from Batavia, and of Major Hubbard with fourteen men exempted by age from military duty, should not be omitted.— They were conspicuous during the action.

You will excuse me, if I am partial in speaking of my own family consisting of my brigade Major Frazer, my volunteer aide-de-camp Riddle, (both lieutenants in the 13th infantry.) Captain Bigger, of the Canadian volunteers. Messrs. Williams and Delapierre, volunteer aids for the day, all of whom except Mr. Williams were wounded.

Lieutenants Frazer and Riddle were engaged for most of the preceding day with fatigue parties; cutting roads for the advance of the column through the swamp, and falling timber to the rear, and within 150 yards of the enemy's right; which service they performed with so much address as to avoid discovery; and on the succeeding day they conducted the two columns to the attack. Frazer was severely wounded by a musket ball, whilst spiking a gun on the 2d battery. Riddle, (with quarter master Greene, of the volunteers, whose good conduct deserves much praise,) after the first battery was carried, descended into the enemy's magazine, and after securing a quantity of fixed ammunition, blew up the magazine, and suffered severely from the explosion. I must solicit, through you, sir, the attention of the general government to these meritorious young men. Captain Bigger is an excellent officer, and has rendered me much assistance, but was dangerously wounded. The other young gentlemen are citizens, and deserve much credit for their activity, and for having voluntarily encountered danger. My aid-de-camp Major Dox, was confined at Buffalo by sickness.

On the whole, sir, I can say of the regular troops attached to the left column, and of the veteran volunteers of Lieutenant Colonel Dobbin's regiment, that every man did his duty, and their conduct on this occasion reflects a new lustre on their former brilliant achievements. To the militia the compliment is justly due, and I could pay them no greater compliment than to say that they were not surpassed by the heroes of Chippewa and Niagara in steadiness and bravery.

The studied intricacy of the enemy's defences, consisting not only of the breast-works connecting their batteries, but of successive lines of entrenchments for a hundred yards in the rear, covering the batteries and enfilading each other, and the whole obstructed by abattis, brush and felled timber, was calculated to produce confusion among the assailants, and led to several contests at the point of the bayonet. But by our double columns any temporary irregularity in the one was always corrected by the other. Our success would probably have been more complete, but for the rain which unfortunately set in soon after we commenced our march, rendering the fire of many of our muskets useless, and by obscuring the sun, led to several unlucky mistakes. As an instance of this, a body of 50 prisoners who had surrendered, were ordered to the fort in charge of a subaltern and fourteen volunteers; the officer mistaking the direction, conducted them towards the British camp in the rout by which we had advanced, and they were retaken with the whole of the guard, excepting the officer and one man, who fought their way back. Several of our stragglers were made prisoners by the same mistake. But, sir, notwithstanding these accidents, we have reason to rejoice, at our signal success in inflicting a vastly disproportionate injury on the enemy, and in wholly defeating all his plans of operation against this army.

I have the honor to be, with very great respect, your obedient servant.

P. B. PORTER, Brig. Gen.

Commanding volunteers and militia.

The following particulars of an extraordinary adventure and escape of Major General Porter, in the sortie of the 17th September, are derived from an authentic source, and are deemed interesting:

"General Porter's command, on that day, consisted of two columns. The right column was to attack the batteries in the rear. The left, which was stationed directly back of it, was kept in reserve to meet the reinforcements which were expected from the enemy's main army. General Porter was with the right column until the block-house and third battery were carried; he then set out, accompanied by two or three persons, to go to the left column, where some skirmishing had already commenced with

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the reinforcements. He had proceeded but a short distance in the woods, when he found himself within a few yards of a party of 60 or 80 of the enemy, who had just emerged from a ditch, and who, discovering probably that our troops were in their rear, stood formed in two lines, with their arms at rest, apparently hesitating which way to go, or how to act. General Porter finding himself within their power, and seeing that the occasion required resolution and decision, instantly left his company, and running to them with the greatest boldness, exclaimed, "that's right, my good fellows, surrender, and we will take care of you"—and coming up to the man on the left, he took his musket out of his hand and threw it on the ground, at the same time pushing him forward towards the fort. In this way he proceeded nearly through the first line, most of the men voluntarily throwing down their arms and advancing to the front; when, on a sudden, a soldier, whose musket he was about to take, stepped back, and presenting his bayonet to General Porter's breast, demanded his surrender. The general seized the musket and was wresting it from him, when he was assaulted by an officer who stood next in the ranks, and three or four soldiers, who, after a short scuffle, brought him to the ground. He however soon recovered his feet, when he found himself surrounded by 15 or 20 men with their guns presented to him, demanding his surrender. By this time several of our officers were advancing with some of their men to the scene of action, and General Porter assuming an air of composure and decision, told the enemy that they were surrounded and prisoners, and that if they fired a gun they should all be put to the sword. Without venturing to fire, they still continued to vociferate, "surrender, you are my prisoner," when Lieutenant Chyfield, of the Cayuga riflemen, who had got near the spot, ordered his men to fire. This drew their attention from the general, and after a momentary scene of confusion and carnage, the enemy were all either killed or taken prisoners. In this affair Captain Knapp, of the Newyork volunteers, was badly wounded by a musket ball in the side, and General Porter in the hand by the cut of a sword.*

The loss of the enemy, on the 17th September, was computed at 1000 men; 385 were taken prisoners, and the remainder either killed or wounded. Among the prisoners were 2 majors, 4 captains, 4 lieutenants, 1 ensign and 1 assistant surgeon.

The American loss was 79 killed, 216 wounded, and 216 missing....total, 511.*

* Names and rank of officers killed, wounded, and missing:

Killed—Lieut. Col. E. D. Wood, captain and brevet lieutenant-colonel of engineers; Capt. L. Bradford, 21st infantry; Capt. H. Hale, 11th infantry; Capt. L. G. A. Armistead, 1st riflemen.
Wounded.—Staff, Brig. Gen. Ripley, 2d brigade dangerously, shot through the neck; 1st. Lieut. Crawford, 11th infantry, brig. maj. 1st brigade, slightly, shot in the arm; 5th infantry, Lieut. Col.

On the 21st of September, the British forces under General Drummond retreated from their encampment near fort Erie, and fell back on fort George. They were pressed in the retreat by troops from the fort, and were obliged to destroy a bridge at Frenchman's creek, and burn what stores they had at that place.

Arrival of General Izard on the Niagara frontier..... On the 16th of September, General Izard, who had previously been stationed at Plattsburgh, arrived at Sacket's Harbour, at the head of his army; about the 1st of October he proceeded up the lake, and landed at Batavia; on the 3d he had a conference with General Brown; and on the 11th he crossed the Niagara at Black Rock. He was soon afterwards joined by the army at fort Erie; Gen. Brown having gone to Sacket's Harbour to assume the command of the land forces in that quarter.

On the 14th of October, General Izard advanced with his army as far as Chippewa plains, having to replace the bridges which the enemy had destroyed, and succeeded in driving on his out-posts, after some sharp skirmishing with our light corps.

On the 15th, the enemy appeared in force at the village of Chippewa, but showed no disposition to give battle. A bridge, which had been destroyed, left no means of annoying him except by artillery. The guns under command of Captains Towson and Archer were accordingly brought up; and being well directed soon disabled his batteries and nearly silenced his artillery; after which the army returned to its encampment.

On the 16th our army again showed the enemy its front, in order of battle; and although he had been reinforced, he was not disposed to hazard a contest.

On the 17th the enemy changed his position, and retired seven miles up the Niagara.

Action at Lyon's creek..... On the 18th of October, General Bissell was ordered, with a detachment of his brigade, encamped at Black Rock, to attempt the seizure of some provisions intended

Aspinwall, severely, left arm amputated; Capt. Ingersoll, slightly, in the head; 1st Lieut. E. Childs, severely, bayonet wound through the thigh; 11th infantry, 1st Lieut. W. F. Hale, dangerously, shot in the body; 2d Lieut. I. Clark, severely, in the body; 3d Lieut. Stevenson, severely, through the thigh; 3d Lieut. Davis, dangerously, through the body. 19th infantry, Maj. Trimble, dangerously, shot through the body; Ensign Neely, slightly, shot in the thigh. 30th infantry, Ensign Gamble, severely, in the arm. 33d infantry, 1st Lieut. Brown, slightly, in the arm; Ensign O'Flaherty, mortally, since dead. 1st Riflemen, Capt. Ramsey, severely, in the groin; 3d Lieut. Cobb, severely, in the body. 4th Riflemen, Colonel James Gilson, mortally, since dead; 1st Lieut. Grant, severe wounds in the arm and side.

Missing—1st Lieut. Ballard, adjutant 4th Riflemen, prisoner. *Of the militia*—Killed—Brig. Gen. Davis, of volunteer brigade; Capt. Buell, of Lieut. Col. Crossby's regt.; Lieut. Brown, of Lieut. Col. M'Burney's regt.; Lieut. W. Balknap, of Lieut. Col. Fleming's regt.; Ensign Blakerley, of Lt. Col. M'Burney's regt.

Wounded—Staff. Maj. Gen. F. B. Porter, sword wound in the hand; 1st Lieut. Frazer, 13th inf. brig. maj. severely in the leg; 1st Lieut. Riddle, 16th inf. acting as aid de-camp, slight contusion. Capt. Bigger, N. Y. vol. acting aid, severely through the breast and shoulder. Lt. Col. Dobbin's regt.—Capt. Knapp, in the hip; Lt. Bailey, in the side. Lieut. Col. M'Burney's regt.—Capt. 11th wounded and prisoner. Lt. Col. Hopkins' regt.—Lt. Gillet, through the thigh.

Missing—Lt. Col. W. L. Churchill, Maj. E. Wilson, Qr. Mast. O. Wilcox, Capt. Crouch, Captain Case, Lt. Case, Ens. Chambers, Ens. Clark, Ens. Church, prisoners.

for the British troops. He marched with parts of the 5th, 14th, 15th and 16th infantry, a small party of dragoons and a company of riflemen, the whole about 900 men...after driving before him the piquet, of which they made the commanding officer prisoner, they encamped for the night, after throwing beyond Lyon's creek two infantry companies under the command of Captain Dorman of the 5th, Lieutenant Horrell of the 16th infantry, and the riflemen under Captain Irvine. A piquet on the Chippewa road, commanded by Lieutenant Gassaway, was attacked by two companies of Glengary light infantry, which were beaten back with loss.

On the morning of the 19th, the detachment was attacked by select corps of the enemy, not less than 1200 strong. The light infantry, under Captain Dorman, and Irvine's riflemen, sustained the whole of the fire of the enemy for fifteen minutes, during which time, the 5th and 14th were formed.

The 5th was ordered to turn the enemy's left flank while the 14th charged him in front. This was executed in a most gallant manner by Colonel Pinkney of the 5th and Major Barnard of the 14th infantry, who greatly distinguished himself in the officer like style in which he conducted his battalion. The enemy were compelled to a precipitate retreat and hid themselves once more behind their fortifications. Brigadier General Bissell particularly mentions the skill and intrepidity of Colonel Snelling, inspector general; Colonel Pinkney, commanding the 5th; Major Barnard, 14th; Major Barker, 45th, acting with the 5th; Captain Irvine of the riflemen; Captain Dorman; Captain Allison whose horse was shot under him; and Brigade Major Lieut. Prestman, 5th infantry.

Lieutenant Anspack of the light dragoons was conspicuous for his alertness in communicating the brigadier general's orders during the action.

A number of prisoners was taken among whom a piquet of dragoons with their horses. A large quantity of grain also fell into our hands. The brigadier, after completing the orders he had received, and burying the few of our brave soldiers who fell in the action, and the dead of the enemy who were left on the ground by the latter, returned to the camp on Black Creek.

The American loss in this affair, was 12 killed, and 55 wounded and missing—total 67. That of the British, in killed, wounded and prisoners, was estimated at nearly 200.

Nothing of importance occurred on the Niagara frontier, after this action, until the 5th of November; when fort Erie, according to previous arrangements, was blown up, and the whole American force recrossed the Niagara, for winter quarters.

Biography of General Brown......Jacob Brown is by birth a Pennsylvanian. He was born in Bucks county, a few miles below Trenton, where his father was for many years a respectable farmer. His ancestors both paternal and maternal, had been for several generations of the society of Quakers, some of them conspicuous in the circle wherein they moved for good sense, piety, and moral worth: the former were among the earliest settlers of the colony, having emigrated from England with William Penn, and followed his fortunes to his infant establishment planted amidst the wilds and savages of the new world. Like Washington, therefore, and Green, Wayne and Putman, and the other distinguished heroes of the revolution, the subject of this memoir is purely American.

Of the early years of young Brown we know but little. All we are given to understand is, that, considering his opportunities, which were very limited, he pursued learning with zeal and perseverance, and acquired it with facility.

At the age of 23, he removed to New-York, where he casually became acquainted with a land agent, whose concern lay on the waters and in the vicinity of Lake Ontario. Having negotiated with that gentleman a contract for a few thousand acres of what was then a wilderness, he set out in the year 1799 to form a settlement on his new purchase. By this arrangement a foundation was laid for the eminence and honours he has since attained, and the substantial benefits he has conferred on his country.

Among many acquirements, and having distinguished himself as an enlightened and practical farmer, Mr. Brown was elected in the year 1808, a member of the Agricultural and Philosophical society of the state of New-York. From about this period may be dated the commencement of his public character. In the course of the succeeding year, he was appointed to the command of a regiment of militia, the first military station he had ever filled. Applying himself now to the study of arms with the same ardour which had hitherto marked his peaceful pursuits, he soon manifested talents conclusive of the fact, that he was calculated for an officer of no ordinary standing. He was, accordingly, in the spring of 1811, promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

The present war having commenced in the year 1812, the country around lake Ontario being a frontier and important situation, was necessarily destined to become a theatre of early and active military operations. Arrangements were consequently made by government to meet the pressure of expected events.... Of the first detachment of New-York militia called into the service of the United States, General Brown had the command of a brigade. It is but justice to him to state, that he was selected to this arduous and responsible situation, from the well known firmness and efficiency of his character, connected with his accurate

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knowledge of the country that was likely to become in a short time the theatre of war. He was not regarded as a sun-shine patriot, a mere parade-day officer, whose ruling passion was the vanity of being gazed at in military dress. He was considered as one qualified to meet the shock of battle, with the intelligence of a commander and the gallantry of a soldier. Nor was it long till events occurred to prove the correctness of public opinion.

The general's first command, being by far too extensive for the number of his troops, was, in an eminent degree, laborious and embarrassing. It embraced the whole line of frontier from Oswego to St. Regis, a distance of more than three hundred miles.... Within this line was included the important post of Sackett's Harbor, the security of which, being essential to the success of ulterior operations, constituted the first object of his attention. Having fortified this in the best manner his time and scanty means would allow, he reconnoitered in person the shores of the St. Lawrence, and, with equal promptness and skill, provided as far as practicable, for the defence of the country. His transportation, a short time afterwards, of a party of four hundred men from Sackett's Harbor to Ogdensburgh, manifested a firmness of purpose and an intrepidity of spirit, which but few even of the hardest soldiers possess. The roads were impassible for baggage and artillery, and the enemy were in undisputed possession of the lake and river. On the subject of a passage by water, there existed but one opinion; an attempt at it was considered as fraught with destruction. The general, however, having been ordered to proceed, was bent on obedience, and neither the front of danger, nor the voice of remonstrance could shake his resolution. He, accordingly, embarked with his troops in the best flotilla he could provide for the purpose, and determined to fight his way through whatever might oppose him, arrived in safety at his place of destination. In this daring enterprize he actually achieved what the boldest might well have hesitated to attempt. While stationed at Ogdensburgh, he so galled and harassed the enemy, in their navigation of the St. Lawrence, that, impatient of further annoyance, they fitted out a formidable expedition for his capture or destruction. The number of men they despatched on this enterprize was upwards of 800, commanded by some of their best officers, and provided with every thing deemed necessary to insure success. The American force opposed to them was less than 400. Notwithstanding this vast numerical difference, so judicious were the arrangements of General Brown, and so deadly the fire with which he received the enemy, that he forced him to retreat precipitately with considerable loss in boats and men, not one of his party having received even a wound. No further attempts were made to dislodge him during his continuance at that post.

His term of service having soon afterwards expired, the general returned to his family at Brownville, and resumed, as hereto-

fore, his agricultural pursuits. But with the talents and qualifications for war which he had recently exhibited, it was not to be expected that, in a time of danger, and on a frontier establishment, he would be suffered to remain in the enjoyment of repose. He was oftentimes consulted on military matters by the officers commanding in the district wherein he resided, to whom his advice was essentially serviceable, and who never failed to regard it with respect and deference. But on occasions of emergency, warriors must act as well as counsel. We accordingly, in the spring of 1813, find General Brown again in the field, and once more entrusted with the defence of Sacket's Harbour, which was menaced by a serious attack from the enemy.

All the regular troops, except about 400, who, from their recent arrival on the spot, were but little better than fresh recruits, had been removed from the harbour, to co-operate in the meditated reduction of fort George. The furniture of the cannon having been carried off to complete the outfit for the same service, the batteries were nearly in a dismantled state. Nor could any efficient aid be derived from the co-operation of the fleet, in as much as that, with the exception of two small schooners, was all employed in the expedition up the lake. In fact, considering its exposed situation, and the vital importance of the post, Sacket's Harbour had been, to the astonishment of all military men, left in a most unprotected and perilous condition. To aid in its defence, General Brown embodied, with all practicable promptitude, a few hundred militia from the adjacent district, who had scarcely arrived when the enemy made his appearance. The general's situation was critical in itself, and to the heart of a soldier trying in the extreme. It was his duty to meet the fire, perhaps the bayonets, of veterans, with a handful of raw, undisciplined troops, many of them but a few days from the bosom of their families, their domestic feelings still awake....and their habits of civil life perfectly unbroken, and none of whom had ever before faced an enemy in the field. But his own activity, valour and skill, aided by the determined bravery of Lieutenant Colonel Backus, of the regular army, supplied all deficiencies. Arrangements were made to receive the enemy with a warm and galling fire at his place of landing, and to contest the ground with him in his advance towards the fort.

The regiment of United States' troops were stationed in the rear, while General Brown, at the head of his new levies, occupied in person the first post of danger. On the second fire the militia broke and fled in disorder, but were rallied again by the exertions of their commander. During the remainder of the conflict, which was warm, and continued some time with varying success, the presence of the general was every where felt, applauding the brave, encouraging the timid and rallying the flying.

his efforts were ultimately crowned with victory. In consequence of the firm front presented by the regulars, and the judicious disposition of a body of militia threatening his rear, the enemy without accomplishing his object, was compelled to relinquish the contest, and retreat in great haste, and in some disorder, to his place of embarkation.

The annals of warfare afford but few instances where the success of a battle was more justly attributed to the talents and conduct of the commander in chief, than on the present occasion. To General Brown, in person, did the whole army concur in ascribing the merit and honor of the victory. His valor, activity, and skill, during the action had rendered him conspicuous in every eye.... This affair, although diminutive in itself, when compared with the gigantic battles of Europe, was, notwithstanding, important in its consequences, inasmuch as it saved from destruction our great naval depot on the lakes, and compelled the enemy to respect our arms.

General Brown, returning once more to private life, amidst the plaudits and congratulations of his fellow citizens, and accompanied by a pleasing consciousness of having contributed, not ineffectually, to the interests of his country, was offered, in reward of his services, and as an acknowledgment of his worth, the command of a regiment in the regular army. This offer, the general unhesitatingly declined, from motives which were perfectly correct and honourable. The acceptance of it would have necessarily contracted his sphere of action, placed him below officers whom he might then command, and, as the regiment in his offer was yet to be raised, a considerable time must have elapsed before he could possibly have taken the field. In plain terms, being possessed of the pride and ambition of a soldier, he felt himself entitled to a higher rank. Nor was it long till the government of his country concurred with him in opinion, and appointed him a brigadier general in the army of the United States.

The first service in which General Brown was engaged under a new appointment, was novel and arduous, and required for its accomplishment the exertions of not only a man of ample resources of mind, but of one accustomed to the management of important concerns. It was the superintendence and direction of the arrangements for transporting, from Sackett's Harbour, down the St. Lawrence, the army commanded by General Wilkinson, in the autumn of the year 1813, in the abortive expedition for the reduction of Montreal. For the completion of these arrangements from the time of their commencement, only three weeks were allowed; a space which would seem utterly insufficient for the performance of a service so complicated and extensive. But talents, system and industry combined, are competent to every thing short of a miracle: and it was such a combination

that enabled General Brown to perform satisfactorily this eminently difficult and responsible duty, in even less than the allotted time:

In the expedition down the St. Lawrence, and during the course of the winter that succeeded, the duties and services in which General Brown was engaged were of the utmost importance to the operations and well-being of the army, and in all of them he acquitted himself with distinguished reputation.

In the winter of 1813-4, the enemy having gained possession of fort Niagara, and being in considerable force on the opposite shore, a determination was formed to remove once more the seat of war to that frontier. Perceiving that the conflict would be arduous and sanguinary, and that the master spirits of the army alone could encounter it with any reasonable prospect of success, the executive appointed General Brown to lead the expedition, associating with him, Scott, Gaines, Miller and others, whose names had become conspicuous for all that is noble in the profession of arms.

The preceding campaign being darkened by disasters, and having failed, as many supposed, from the inability of those by whom it had been conducted, General Brown and his officers were fully sensible of the deep stake which both themselves and their country held on the issue of the present. Their hearts and minds were prepared, accordingly, to meet with firmness the force of the crisis. They went resolved to conquer or fall, the glory or the grave might cover them from censure.

This campaign being destined to form a fresh epoch in the history of the war, presented from its commencement a new aspect. The movements of the army were conducted with a celerity, silence, and a vigour, which had not been observed on any former occasion. Accordingly, General Brown had advanced on his march almost to Buffalo, before it was generally known that he had left his encampment at Sacket's Harbour.

The first achievement of General Brown, on entering the enemy's territory, was the reduction of fort Erie, the garrison of which surrendered with but little resistance. He then declared martial law, and made known his views in a proclamation essentially different from those that had been issued by some of his predecessors. Instead of being marked with empty boasting and threats which he was utterly unable to execute, it breathed the principles and sentiments of an upright man and an honourable warrior.

No sooner had the general made the necessary arrangements in relation to the occupancy and security of fort Erie, than he marched to attack the enemy, who lay entrenched in his works at Chippewa. This was by every one considered as a daring, by many, as a rash and hazardous measure. But something signally being necessary to redeem the reputation which had been lost

the events of former campaigns, difficulties and dangers and remonstrances were disregarded. They even increased the anxiety for action, inasmuch as they would add to the glory of victory..... The general's plans and determinations were formed, and nothing but human resolution, aided by all the means in his power, was capable of surmounting, could restrain him from boldly attempting their execution. The wished-for moment at length arrived.... The enemy venturing from behind his entrenchments, the battle was fought on an open plain, and, though not of long duration, was severe and sanguinary. The result is known. The soldiers and officers of Wellington, who had wrested the laurels from the veterans of France, were defeated by a detachment from the American army. The only troops engaged, on the part of General Brown, were General Scott's brigade, and a corps of volunteers commanded by General Porter. The remainder of the army, although burning for combat, had no opportunity of coming into action.

From Queenston where he had been for a short time afterwards stationed, Gen. Brown marched with a part of his army down towards fort George. His object in this movement, besides reconnoitering the enemy, was to be near to the shores of lake Ontario, hoping that he might there receive some intelligence respecting Commodore Chauncey and the fleet. Being disappointed in this expectation, he returned after a few days to his station at Queenstown. The enemy, in the mean time, were not inactive. Having received large supplies and no inconsiderable addition to their numbers, they concentrated their forces in the peninsula between Burlington and Erie, and felt themselves in a condition to offer battle. The proposal was eagerly accepted by the American general and his brave associates. The battle of Bridgewater succeeded.....the result of which is already known.

General Brown having been severely wounded in the engagement, was compelled to a temporary retirement from service.... But in the space of a few weeks, we find him again at the head of his army, no longer indeed in the field, but within the walls of fort Erie. In the interim our troops in that fortress had been much harassed and pressed by the enemy, now become superior in a still higher degree by reinforcements, and exasperated to madness by their late defeats. An assault of the works had been attempted, but was gallantly repelled by the American forces then under the command of General Gaines. Not long afterwards, that excellent officer received a serious wound from the bursting of a shell, which obliged him to retire, for a time, from the service of his country.

Menaced in front by a powerful enemy, and having a river of difficult passage in their rear, the troops in fort Erie began to be considered in a very perilous situation; but while General Drum-

mond was engaged in formidable arrangements intended for the destruction of the American forces, General Brown was still more actively and sagaciously employed in devising means for their safety and glory.

By the middle of September, the enemy had nearly completed a line of batteries to command the fort, which, when in full operation, would have rendered the position of the Americans at least unsafe, if not untenable. But General Drummond, while erecting this extensive work of annoyance, was little aware of the disaster and mortification, he was preparing for himself and the laurels he was cultivating for the brow of his adversary. On the 17th of September, the day before the fire from the batteries was to commence, another scene of glory opened on the American commander and his brave associates. His plan being matured, and his troops in readiness, their spirits wound up to the hardest enterprize, General Brown made a sortie, not in the form of a "night attack," of which a distinguished British officer had so bitterly complained, but in the face of day, drove the enemy from his strong hold with the loss of more than eight hundred men, spiked his cannon, and destroyed his works. Thus was the labor of thousands, continued unintermittingly for many weeks, frustrated in an hour by the skilful and well timed enterprize of a commander, and the valour and heroism of a few gallant soldiers.

For brilliancy and effect, this sortie challenges a comparison with any thing recorded in the annals of war. It is of itself sufficient to gain for a commander a name in arms.

Shortly after the destruction of his works, General Drummond retreated from before fort Erie, and fell back on fort George, leaving the American army in the enjoyment of security and repose, as the reward of their valor. The conflict in that quarter being now apparently at an end, General Brown was transferred from the Niagara frontier to the command of Sacket's Harbor.

The achievements of the American army during the campaign of 1814, in Upper Canada, considering the circumstances under which they were effected, need no comment. They are their own best interpreters, speaking in a language which cannot be misunderstood. They announce in the commander, talents, perseverance and daring enterprize, and in his brave associates, patience and gallantry, invincible firmness and military discipline in its highest style. They will be selected hereafter by the hand of history, to enrich and emblazon some of her choicest pages. To triumph with inferior numbers, and in open conflict, over troops that had defeated the veteran legions of France, is of itself sufficient to consummate the glory of any commander: and such has been the fortune of General Brown....[*Port Folio*.]

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CHAPTER XXXII.

Lake Ontario.....Michigan Territory.....Captain Holmes' expedition.....Michillimackinac.....Lake Huron.....General M'Arthur's expedition.

On the 24th of April, the *Lady of the Lake*, which had been kept cruising by Commodore Chauncey as a look-out vessel, run close into Kingston harbour and showed her colours, which were answered by the enemy's fleet and batteries; and after taking a view of his naval force, stood for Sacket's Harbour.

On the night of the 25th two American guard boats fell in with three of the enemy's boats in the bay. Lieutenant Dudley, (the officer of the guard,) hailed and was answered "guard boats;" this, however, not being satisfactory, he repeated the hail, but was not answered. Finding that the strange boats were attempting to cut him off from the shore, he fired upon them; the enemy laying upon their oars a short time, pulled in towards Bull Rock Point, without returning the fire. Lieutenant Dudley returned to the fleet, and got a reinforcement of boats; but nothing more was seen of the enemy that night. On the morning of the 26th, Commodore Chauncey directed both shores of Sheremont bay to be examined, to see whether the enemy had not secreted himself in some of the small creeks. Nothing, however, was discovered, but six barrels of powder, found in the water near the shore, where our guard-boats fired upon the enemy. These barrels were all slung in such a manner that one man could take two across his shoulders and carry them. Each barrel had a hole bored in the head of about an inch in diameter, with a wooden plug in it. These barrels of powder were evidently fitted for the purpose of blowing up our large ship, if the enemy could have got in undiscovered, by placing them under the ship's bottom, and putting a piece of slow match or short fire in the hole in the head, which would burn a sufficient time to allow the party to escape before the fire could communicate to the powder. This also accounts for the enemy not returning the fire of our boats; for, having so much powder in, he was apprehensive of accidents, which no doubt induced him to heave it overboard, to be prepared to return the fire if he was pursued.

On the evening of the 12th of May, a part of the British fleet was discovered standing towards Charlotte, near the mouth of the Genessee river, where about 160 volunteers were stationed, with one piece of artillery. Captain Stone, the commanding officer, immediately despatched expresses with the information to Colonel Hopkins at Boyle, to General Hall at Bloomfield, and to General Porter at Canandaigua. On the 13th, at 12 o'clock, the

commodore's new ship came to anchor off the mouth of the river and sent an officer ashore with a flag, demanding a surrender of the place: and promising to respect private property in case no resistance should be made, and all public property faithfully disclosed and given up. General Porter (who left Canandaigua, 32 miles distant, at 7 o'clock in the morning, with Major Noon,) arrived while the flag was on shore, and returned for answer to this disgraceful proposal, that the place would be defended to the last extremity. On the return of the flag, two gun-boats with from two to three hundred men on board, advanced to the mouth of the river, which is about a mile from the town and battery, and commenced a heavy cannonade directed partly to the town, and partly to bodies of troops who had been placed in ravines near the mouth of the river, to intercept the retreat of the gun-boats in case they should enter.

At the expiration of an hour and a half, during which time they threw a great number of rockets, shells, and shot of various descriptions from grape to 68 pounds, a second flag was sent from the commodore's ship, requiring, in the name of the commander of the forces, an immediate surrender, and threatening, that if the demand was not complied with, he would land 1200 regular troops and 400 Indians....that if he should lose a single man, he would raze the town, and destroy every vestige of property....and that it was his request that the women and children might be immediately removed, as he could not be accountable for the conduct of the Indians. He was told that the answer to this demand had already been explicitly given....that we were prepared to meet him, our women and children having been disposed of....and that if another flag should be sent on the subject of a surrender, it would not be protected. The flag returned with the gun-boats to the fleet, the whole of which came to anchor about a mile from shore, where they lay until 8 o'clock on the morning of the 14th, and then left the place.

General Porter speaks in the highest terms of the good conduct of the officers and men composing the volunteer corps, and of Colonel Hopkins, and the militia who had rallied for the occasion, and were placed under his command. The American force at 12 o'clock on the 14th, was 300, and was increased to 500 during the night. Dispositions were so made, that if the gun-boats had entered the river as was expected, they must have been cut off before they could have been reinforced. Every man was at his post during the night, in constant expectation of an attack. The British squadron consisted of four ships, two brigs, and five gun-boats.

About the middle of June, Commodore Chauncey dispatched Lieutenant Gregory, with three gigs, having only their crew and one settie in each boat, with orders to proceed down the St. Law-

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tence, secrete himself in some of the islands, and watch a fa-
vourable opportunity to surprize a brigade of store-boats belong-
ing to the enemy, and either bring them off or destroy them. In
complying with these orders, the lieutenant saw two brigades of
boats, one up the river with troops, of course too strong for his
little party....the other down the river, empty, and not worth
taking.

On the 10th of June, Lieutenant Gregory found he had been
discovered by the enemy's look-out boats, and that a gun-boat had
been sent in pursuit, which was then close upon him. He instant-
ly formed the bold design to board her, which he did, and carried
her without losing a man, one of the enemy being badly wound-
ed. She proved to be a fine gun-boat, mounting one 18 pounder,
and manned with 18 men, chiefly royal marines. Lieutenant
Gregory manned his prize and proceeded up the St. Lawrence,
but was soon discovered and pursued by a very large gun-boat,
mounting two heavy guns, and rowed with upwards of 40 oars,
which overhauled him fast. He kept possession of his prize until
the enemy threw their shot over him: he then very reluctantly
took all his prisoners out, and scuttled the gun-boat, which sunk
instantly, and escaped the enemy, although so heavily loaded....
The lieutenant arrived safe at Sacket's Harbour, with all his pri-
soners, on the day following.

On the 28th of June, Lieutenant Gregory again performed a
brilliant exploit. Having under his command, two large gigs,
with their crews, he succeeded in destroying, by stratagem, the
frame of a large schooner on the stocks at Presque-Isle, belonging
to the enemy. She was a stout, well-built vessel, to mount 14
guns, and would probably have been launched in ten days. Lieu-
tenant Gregory afterwards arrived safely in port.

On the 7th of August, Commodore Chauncey gave chase to,
and ran one of the enemy's vessels ashore, about 4 miles from
Niagara. The wind being fresh, the fleet lay off with the inten-
tion of getting her when the wind lulled. The enemy probably
anticipating the design, set fire to her, and in a little time she
blew up. She was a brig formerly called the Prince Regent,
carrying 14 guns, and laden with supplies for the garrison of Ni-
agara.

On the 28th of September, Commodore Chauncey discovered
two of the enemy's ships standing out of Kingston under a great
press of sail. He immediately stood for them; when the enemy
discovering that Chauncey neared him, made all sail, and beat in-
to his anchorage.

On the 30th of September, a gig belonging to the American
squadron, with an officer and 4 men, captured near the mouth of
the St. Lawrence, 6 boats, manned with 35 men, (armed) and la-

den with wine, brandy, crates and dry goods, bound to Kingston, and brought them safe into port. The boats and their cargoes were estimated at 12,000 dollars.

*Michigan Territory....Captain Holmes' expedition.....*On the 21st of February, General Harrison dispatched Captain Holmes, of the 24th regiment of United States' infantry, with a detachment of troops, to pursue the enemy on his retreat up the river Thames. They were overtaken on the 4th of March, about 20 miles from the Delaware towns; when an engagement ensued, which terminated in their total defeat. Captain Holmes' force consisted of 160 rangers and mounted infantry. The enemy, from his own acknowledgment, had 236. His fine light company of royal Scots was totally destroyed; they led the attack most gallantly, and their commander fell within ten paces of our front line. In killed, wounded and prisoners, the enemy lost upwards of 80. The American loss in killed and wounded was 7. This great disparity in the loss on each side, is to be attributed to the very judicious position occupied by Captain Holmes, who compelled the enemy to attack him at great disadvantage. Captain Holmes was afterwards brevetted a major.

*Michillimackinac.....*About the commencement of July, an expedition was fitted out from Detroit, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Croghan and Major Holmes, with a view of recapturing Michillimackinac. On the 20th of July, the troops were landed at St. Joseph's and the fort, which had been evacuated, set on fire. Major Holmes was then ordered to the Sault St. Mary's, for the purpose of breaking up the enemy's establishment at that place. He arrived the day after; but the Northwest agent had received notice of his approach, and succeeded in escaping with a considerable amount of goods, after setting fire to a vessel above the falls: the design of this latter measure was frustrated. The vessel was brought down the falls on the 25th, but having bilged, was destroyed. Considerable property belonging to the enemy was taken.

On the 4th of August, a landing of the troops under Croghan and Morgan was effected at Mackinac; but the strength of the enemy's works rendered it impossible to carry the place, with a small number of troops only, by storm; and after a severe conflict, a retreat became indispensable, and was accordingly effected.

This affair, which cost many valuable lives, leaves us to lament the fall of that gallant officer, Major Morgan. Captain Vanhorn of the 19th, and Lieutenant Jackson of the 24th infantry, both brave, intrepid young men, fell mortally wounded at the head of their respective commands.

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Although this expedition proved unsuccessful in its issue, its failure was not ascribable to any misconduct on the part of the commanding officer. Every thing was done that vigilance, bravery and perseverance could achieve.

The American loss was 13 killed, 51 wounded, and 2 missing—loss of the enemy not known.

After this affair, Colonel Croghan determined to remain on lake Huron for a time, with three companies, for the purpose of breaking up any depots which the enemy might have on the east side of the lake.

He was fortunate enough to learn, that the only line of communication from York to Mackinac, &c. was by the way of lake Simicoe and Nautauwasaga river, which empties into lake Huron about 100 miles S. E. of Cabot's Head.

On the 13th of August, the fleet anchored off the mouth of that river, and the troops were quickly disembarked on the peninsula formed between the river and lake, for the purpose of fixing a camp.

On reconnoitering the position thus taken, it was discovered that the enemy's schooner Nancy was drawn up in the river a few hundred yards above, under cover of a block-house, erected on a commanding situation on the opposite shore.

On the following morning, a fire for a few minutes was kept up by the shipping upon the block-house, but with little effect.... At 12 o'clock two howitzers being placed within a few hundred yards, commenced a fire, which lasted but a few minutes, when the block-house blew up; at the same time fire was communicated to the Nancy, (by the bursting of one of our shells,) which was so quickly enveloped in flames as to render any attempts which might have been made to save her, unavailing, giving the enemy barely time to make his escape, before an explosion took place.

The loss of the Nancy was severely felt by the enemy; her cargo consisting (at the time of her being on fire) of several hundred barrels of provisions, intended as a six months' supply for the garrison at Mackinac.

Colonel Croghan afterwards returned to Detroit.

During the month of August, Captain Sinclair had succeeded in destroying the whole of the enemy's naval force on lake Huron; but owing to the negligence of the officer who was entrusted with the command of the fleet in the absence of the captain, the enemy succeeded in capturing, in the month of October, with their boats, two small American vessels, (the Tygress and Scorpion) after a warmly contested action.

General M'Arthur's expedition..... On the 22d of October, General M'Arthur, with 600 volunteers, 50 rangers and 70 Indians,

left Detroit and proceeded on a secret expedition against the enemy. The troops crossed the St. Clair river, and proceeded down the Scotch settlement on the Beldoon, up Bear creek about thirty miles, and crossed to the Moravian towns, a few miles above the lower settlement on the Thames, where they arrived on the 30th of October.

On General M'Arthur's arrival at this place, he was fortunate in taking a British sergeant, who was proceeding to Burlington Heights with the information that the detachment had passed into the enemy's territory. This enabled our troops to reach Delaware undiscovered. On approaching the Thames, the rangers were detached to move across below the settlement, pass in the rear of it, and guard the different roads leading into the interior, while the troops were engaged in swimming their horses and transporting their baggage on rafts. They were thus enabled to arrive at the town of Oxford, 150 miles distant from Detroit, before the inhabitants knew that a force was approaching.

On the succeeding day, (the 5th November,) the detachment proceeded to Burford. A few hours before its arrival, the enemy had retreated to Malcom's mills, ten miles distant. It was the intention of General M'Arthur to have crossed Grand river, without regarding the force at the mills, and attack Burlington: but upon arriving at that river, it was found impossible to ford it. It was therefore determined to attack and disperse the militia at Malcolm's mills.

The enemy was found to consist of 4 or 500 militia and a few Indians, fortified on a commanding ground beyond a creek, deep and difficult of passage, except at a bridge immediately in their rear. The Ohio troops, with the advance guard of Indians, were accordingly thrown across the creek, under cover of a thick wood, to approach the enemy in rear, while the Kentucky troops were to attack in front as soon as the attention of the enemy was engaged by the attack in the rear. The enemy would probably have been completely surprized and captured, had not an unfortunate yell by one of our Indians, announced the approach of the detachment destined to attack their rear: they were, however, defeated and dispersed with the loss of 1 captain and 17 privates killed, 9 privates wounded, and three captains, 5 subalterns, and 103 privates made prisoners; while our loss was only 1 killed and 6 wounded. After this, a number of the enemy were made prisoners in the march of our army on the road to Dover, and five valuable mills, employed for the use of their army in the peninsula, destroyed.

On the 8th of November the army commenced its return, and arrived without accident at Detroit on the 17th.

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CHAPTER XXXIII.

Lake Champlain....Repulse of the enemy at the mouth of Otter Creek....Gallant exploit....Siege of Plattsburgh....Capture of the British fleet, &c.

ON the 10th of May, 1814, the British flotilla, consisting of five sail and eight row gallies, manned with about 1000 sailors and marines, passed Cumberland head. On the 14th, they appeared off the mouth of Otter Creek, and commenced a cannonade. The fire was returned with great bravery and skill, by Captain Thornton of the artillery, and Lieutenant Cassin of the navy; and after a cannonade of two hours and a half, during which time their gallies suffered very considerably, the enemy retired from their position, and returned to their own posts.

The American force consisted of 140 infantry and 50 artillerymen, placed in a position surrounded by water, and assailable by any part of the enemy's fleet, at all points except at the battery. Commodore Macdonough's fleet could not be got in readiness in time to aid the battery.

No damage was done on our side, except the dismounting of one gun in the battery, by which two men were slightly wounded.

Gallant exploit.... On the 18th of July, at 2 o'clock in the morning, one of the piquet guards of the army at Plattsburgh, under the command of Lieutenant Shelburne, consisting of 20 men, was attacked by about 70 voltigeurs and Indians. The latter commenced the attack by surprising and shooting a sentinel; upon which Lieutenant Shelburne paraded his guard and received the fire of the whole British force, and returned it with great bravery. On the first fire, two Americans were killed, and Lieut. S. received a wound in the hip; he nevertheless kept up a well directed fire, and stood his ground until he received two other wounds, one in the neck and the other in the right breast; he then made a retrograde movement, but continued his fire on the enemy until a reinforcement arrived to his assistance from camp: when a charge was made, Lieutenant S. still accompanying his men, until, being faint with the loss of blood, he fell. The enemy were driven from their position, and two prisoners taken, from whom it was learnt that Lieut. S. had killed 20 of their number, and wounded 6, including one lieutenant: 15 were afterwards found dead on the field, and 3 wounded. Our loss was 3 killed and 4 wounded, including Lieutenant Shelburne.

It is worthy of remark, that while Lieutenant Shelburne was in pursuit of the enemy, and after he had received his three

wounds, he was attacked by an Indian, who sprung upon him from the bushes, and gave him a slight cut with his tomahawk, upon the head. After a skirmish, Lieutenant S. succeeded in dispatching him with his sword, by a thrust through the body. He then fell for want of blood, and was carried from the field. He has since, we understand, recovered.

Siege of Plattsburgh..... Nothing of importance occurred, after this, either with the land or naval forces in the vicinity of Champlain, until the latter part of August; when the advance of the British army, under General Brisbane, entered Champlain and encamped on the north side of the Great Chazy, where he soon began offensive operations.

The following letter from General Macomb, commanding the American force at Plattsburgh, to the secretary of war, details the events which transpired subsequent to the enemy's invasion:

H. Q. Plattsburgh, Sept. 15, 1814.

SIR....I have the honor to communicate for the information of the war department, the particulars of the advance of the enemy into the territory of the United States, the circumstances attending the siege of Plattsburgh; and the defence of the posts entrusted to my charge.

The Governor General of the Canadas, Sir George Prevost, having collected all the disposable force in Lower Canada, with a view of conquering the country as far as Crown Point and Ticonderoga, entered the territory of the United States on the first of the month, and occupied the village of Champlain; there avowed his intentions, and issued orders and proclamations tending to dissuade the people from their allegiance and inviting them to furnish his army with provisions. He immediately began to impress the waggons and teams in the vicinity, and loaded them with his heavy baggage and stores. From this I was persuaded he intended to attack this place. I had but just returned from the lines, where I had commanded a fine brigade, which was broken up to form the division under Major General Izard, ordered to the westward. Being senior officer he left me in command, except the four companies of the 6th regiment, I had not an organized battalion among those remaining. The garrison was composed of convalescents and recruits of the new regiments....all in the greatest confusion, as well as the ordnance and stores, and the works in no state of defence.

To create an emulation and zeal among the officers and men in completing the works, I divided them into detachments, and placed them near the several forts; declaring in orders, that each detachment was the garrison of its own work, and bound to defend it to the last extremity.

The enemy advanced cautiously and by short marches, and our soldiers worked day and night ; so that by the time he made his appearance before the place, we were prepared to receive him.

General Izard named the principal work fort Moreau, and to remind the troops of the actions of their brave countrymen, I called the redoubt on the right fort Brown, and that on the left fort Scott. Besides these three works, we have two block houses strongly fortified.

Finding, on examining the returns of the garrison, that our force did not exceed fifteen hundred effective men for duty, and well informed that the enemy had as many thousands, I called on General Mooers, of the New York militia, and arranged with him plans for bringing forth the militia *en masse*. The inhabitants of the village fled with their families and effects, except a few worthy citizens and some boys, who formed themselves into a party, received rifles, and were exceedingly useful. By the fourth of the month, Gen. Mooers collected about 700 militia, and advanced seven miles on the Beekmantown road, to watch the motions of the enemy, and to skirmish with him as he advanced ; also to obstruct the roads with fallen trees, and to break up the bridges.

On the lake road at Dead Creek bridge, I posted 200 men under Captain Sproul of the 13th regiment, with orders to *abbatis* the woods, to place obstructions in the road, and to fortify himself ; to this party I added two field-pieces. In advance of this position, was Lieut. Col. Appling with 110 riflemen, watching the movements of the enemy, and procuring intelligence. It was ascertained that before day-light on the 6th, the enemy would advance in two columns on the two roads before-mentioned, dividing at Sampson's, a little below Chazy village. The column of the Beekmantown road proceeded most rapidly ; the militia skirmished with his advanced parties, and, except a few brave men, fell back most precipitately in the greatest disorder, notwithstanding the British troops did not deign to fire on them, except by their flankers and advanced patrols. The night previous I ordered Major Wool to advance with a detachment of 250 men to support the militia, and set them an example of firmness. Also Capt. Leonard, of the light artillery, was directed to proceed with two pieces, to be on the ground before day, yet he did not make his appearance until 8 o'clock, when the enemy had approached within two miles of the village ; with his conduct, therefore, I am not well pleased. Major Wool, with his party, disputed the road with great obstinacy, but the militia could not be prevailed on to stand, notwithstanding the exertions of their general and staff officers ; although the fields were divided by strong stone walls, and they were told that the enemy could not possibly cut them off. The state dragoons of New-York wear red coats, and they being on

the heights to watch the enemy, gave constant alarm to the militia, who mistook them for the enemy, and feared his getting in their rear.

Finding the enemy's columns had penetrated within a mile of Plattsburgh, I dispatched my aid-de-camp, Lieut. Root, to bring off the detachment at Dead Creek, and to inform Lieut. Appling, that I wished him to fall on the enemy's right flank. The colonel fortunately arrived just in time to save his retreat and to fall in with the head of a column *debouching* from the woods. Here he poured in a destructive fire from his riflemen at rest, and continued to annoy the column until he formed a junction with Major Wool. The field pieces did considerable execution among the enemy's columns. So undaunted, however, was the enemy, that he never deployed in his whole march, always pressing on in column. Finding that every road was full of troops crowding on us on all sides, I ordered the field pieces to retire across the bridge and form a battery for its protection, and to cover the retreat of the infantry, which was accordingly done, and the parties of Appling and Wool, as well as that of Sproul, retired alternately, keeping up a brisk fire until they got under cover of the works. The enemy's light troops occupied the houses near the bridge, and kept up a constant firing from the windows and balconies, and annoyed us much. I ordered them to be driven out with hot shot, which soon put the houses in flames, and obliged these sharpshooters to retire. The whole day, until it was too late to see, the enemy's light troops endeavoured to drive our guards from the bridge; but they suffered dearly for their perseverance. An attempt was also made to cross the upper bridge, where the militia handsomely drove them back.

The column which marched by the lake road was much impeded by the obstructions, and the removal of the bridge at Dead Creek, and, as it passed the creek and beach, the gallees kept up a lively and galling fire.

Our troops being now on the south side of the Saranac, I directed the planks to be taken off the bridges, and piled up in the form of breastworks, to cover our parties intended for disputing the passage, which afterwards enabled us to hold the bridges against very superior numbers.

From the 7th to the 11th, the enemy was employed in getting on his battering train, and erecting his batteries and approaches, and constantly skirmishing at the bridges and fords. By this time the militia of New-York, and the volunteers of Vermont, were pouring in from all quarters. I advised General Moores to keep his force along the Saranac to prevent the enemy's crossing the river, and to send a strong body in his rear to harrass him day and night, and keep him in continual alarm.

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The militia behaved with great spirit after the first day, and the volunteers of Vermont were exceedingly serviceable. Our regular troops, notwithstanding the skirmishing and repeated endeavours of the enemy to cross the river, kept at their work day and night, strengthening the defences, and evinced a determination to hold out to the last extremity.

It was reported that the enemy only waited the arrival of his flotilla to make a general attack. About eight in the morning of the 11th, as was expected, the flotilla appeared in sight round Cumberland Head, and at nine bore down and engaged our flotilla at anchor in the bay off the town. At the same instant the batteries were opened on us, and continued throwing bomb-shells, shrapnells, balls and congreve rockets until sun-set, when the bombardment ceased; every battery of the enemy being silenced by the superiority of our fire. The naval engagement lasted but two hours, in full view of both armies. Three efforts were made by the enemy to pass the river at the commencement of the cannonade and bombardment, with a view of assaulting the works, and had prepared for that purpose an immense number of scaling ladders. One attempt to cross was made at the village bridge, and another at the upper bridge, and a third at a ford about three miles from the works. At the two first he was repulsed by the regulars....at the ford by the brave volunteers and militia, where he suffered severely in killed, wounded and prisoners; a considerable body having crossed the stream, but were either killed, taken, or driven back. The woods at this place were very favourable to the operations of the militia. A whole company of the 76th regt. was here destroyed....the three lieutenants and twenty seven men prisoners, the captain and the rest killed.

I cannot forego the pleasure of here stating the gallant conduct of Captain McGlassin, of the 15th regiment, who was ordered to ford the river, and attack a party constructing a battery on the right of the enemy's line, within 500 yards of Fort Brown, which he handsomely executed at midnight, with 50 men; drove off the working party, consisting of 150, and defeated a covering party of the same number....killing one officer and six men in the charge, and wounding many.

At dusk the enemy withdrew his artillery from the batteries, and raised the siege....and at 9, under cover of the night, sent off in a great hurry all the baggage he could find transport for, and all his artillery. At 2 the next morning the army precipitately retreated, leaving the sick and wounded to our generosity; and the governor left a note with a surgeon, requesting the humane attention of the commanding general.

Vast quantities of provisions were left behind and destroyed, also an immense quantity of bomb-shells, cannon balls, grape shot, ammunition, flints, &c. &c. intrenching tools of all sorts, also tents

and marquees. A great deal has been found concealed in the ponds and creeks, and buried in the ground, and a vast quantity carried off by the inhabitants. Such was the precipitancy of his retreat, that he arrived at Chazy, a distance of eight miles, before we discovered he had gone. The light troops, volunteers and militia pursued immediately on learning of his flight; and some of the mounted men made prisoners five dragoons of the 19th regt. and several others of the rear guard. A continual fall of rain, and a violent storm prevented further pursuit. Upwards of three hundred deserters have come in, and many are hourly arriving.

We have buried the British officers of the army and navy with the honors of war, and shown every attention and kindness to those who have fallen into our hands.

The conduct of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers of my command, during this trying occasion, cannot be represented in too high terms, and I feel it my duty to recommend to the particular notice of government, Lieut. Col. Appling of the 1st rifle corps; Maj. Wool, of the 29th; Maj. Totten of the corps of engineers; Capt. Brooks of the artillery; Capt. M'Glasin of the 15th; Lieuts. De Russy and Trescott of the corps of engineers; Lieuts. Smyth, Mountford, and Cromwell, of the artillery; also my aid-de-camp, Lieut. Root, who have all distinguished themselves by their uncommon zeal and activity, and have been greatly instrumental in producing the happy and glorious result of the siege.

I have the honor to be, with sentiments of profound respect, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

ALEXANDER MACOMB.

The loss of the enemy in killed, wounded, prisoners and deserters, since his first appearance, cannot fall short of 2500....including many officers, among whom is Col. Wellington of the Buffs.

The American loss, from the 6th to the 11th of September, was 37 killed, 62 wounded, and 20 missing....total, 119.*

By an official statement given, it appears that the enemy brought into the field, at the siege of Plattsburgh, 14,000 men, commanded by Sir George Prevost, and seconded in command by Lieutenant General De Rottenburgh. The commanders of brigades consisted of Major Generals Robertson, Powers and Brisbane.

The following interesting particulars of the movements of the British army, and the American measures of defence, from the

* *Commissioned Officers.*—Lieut. G. W. Runk of the 6th regt. wounded on the 7th and died on the 8th September; Lt. R. M. Harrison, of the 13th regiment, wounded in the shoulder; Lieut. H. Taylor of the 34th regiment, wounded in the knee.

direct invasion to the retreat of the enemy, are derived from an authentic source :

On the 31st. of August the advance of the British army under General Brisbane, entered Champlain, and encamped on the north side of the Great Chazy river, and on the same day Maj. Gen. Mooers ordered out the militia of the counties of Clinton and Essex. The regiment from Clinton county, under Lieut. Col. Miller, immediately assembled, and on the 2d Sept. took a position on the west road near the village of Chazy ; and on the 3d General Wright with such of his brigade as had arrived, occupied a position on the same road about eight miles in advance of Plattsburgh. On the 4th the enemy having brought up his main body to Champlain, took up his line of march for that place. The rifle corps under Lieut. Col. Appling, on the lake road, fell back as far as Dead Creek, blocking up the road in such manner as to impede the advance of the enemy as much as possible. The enemy advanced on the 5th within a few miles of Lieut. Col. Appling's position, and finding it too strong to attack, halted and caused a road to be made west into the Beekmantown road, in which the light brigade under Gen. Powers advanced, and on the morning of the 6th, about 7 o'clock, attacked the militia, which had at this time increased to nearly 700, under Gen. Mooers, and a small detachment of regulars under Maj. Wool, about 7 miles from Plattsburgh. After the first fire, a considerable part of the militia broke and fled in every direction. Many, however, manfully stood their ground, and, with the small corps of Major Wool, bravely contested the ground, against five times their number, falling back gradually and occupying the fences on each side the road, till they arrived within a mile of the town, when they were reinforced by two pieces of artillery under Captain Leonard, and our troops occupying a strong position behind a stone wall, for some time stopped the progress of the enemy: being at length compelled to retire, they contested every inch of ground until they reached the south bank of the Saranac, where the enemy attempted to pursue them but was repulsed with loss. The loss of the British in this skirmish was Colonel Wellington and a Lieutenant of the 3d Buffs, and two lieuts. of the 58th killed, and one captain and one lieut. of the 58th light company wounded, together with about 100 privates killed and wounded ; while that on our part did not exceed twenty-five. The corps of riflemen under Colonel Appling, and detachment under Captain Sproul, fell back from their position at Dead Creek in time to join the militia, &c. just before they entered the village, and fought with their accustomed bravery. The British got possession of that part of the village north of the Saranac about 11 o'clock, but the incessant and well directed fire of our artillery and musketry from the forts and opposite bank com-

pelled them to retire before night beyond the reach of our guns. The enemy arrived towards night with his heavy artillery and baggage on the lake road and crossed the beach, where he met with a warm reception from our row-gallies, and it is believed suffered a heavy loss in killed and wounded. On our side, Lieutenant Duncan, of the navy, lost an arm by a rocket and 3 or 4 men were killed by the enemy's artillery. The enemy encamped on the ridge west of the town, his right near the river, and occupying an extent of nearly three miles, his left resting on the lake about a mile north of the village. From the 6th, until the morning of the 11th, an almost continual skirmishing was kept up between the enemy's pickets and our militia stationed on the river; and in the mean time both armies were busily engaged...ours in strengthening the works of the forts, and that of the enemy in erecting batteries, collecting ladders, bringing up his heavy ordnance, and making other preparations for attacking the fort. On the morning of the 7th, a body of the enemy under Captain Noadie, attempted to cross at the upper bridge, about 7 miles west of Plattsburgh, but were met by Captain Vaughan's company of about 25 men, and compelled to retire with the loss of two killed and several wounded, (one officer shot in the ankle.) On the morning of the 11th, the enemy's fleet came round the head with a light breeze from the north, and attacked ours, which lay at anchor in Cumberland bay, two miles from the shore, east of the fort. The action was long and bloody, but decisive; and the event such as we believe it will always be (except by accident) when our navy contends with any thing like an equal force. The enemy commenced a simultaneous bombardment of our works from seven batteries, from which several hundred shells and rockets were discharged, which did us very little injury, and our artillery had nearly succeeded in silencing all before the contest on the lake was decided. The enemy attempted at the same time to throw his main body in rear of the fort, by crossing the river 3 miles west of the town, near the site of Pike's cantonment. He succeeded in crossing, after a brave resistance by the Essex militia and a few of the Vermont volunteers, in all about 350, stationed at that place, who retired back a mile and a half from the river, continually pouring in upon them an incessant fire from behind every tree, until Lieutenant Sumpter brought up a piece of artillery to their support, when the enemy commenced a precipitate retreat. The Vermont volunteers, who had hastened to the scene of action on the first alarm, fell upon the enemy's left flank and succeeded in making many prisoners, including three officers. Had the British remained on the south side of the river 30 minutes longer, they must have lost nearly the whole detachment that crossed. Our loss in this affair was 5 killed and 8 or 10 wounded, some mortally. Immediately on ascertaining the loss of the

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feet, Sir George ordered preparations to be made for the retreat of the army, and set off himself with a small escort, for Canada, a little after noon. The main body of the enemy, with the artillery and baggage, were taken off in the afternoon and night, and the rear guard, consisting of the light brigade, started at daybreak, and made a precipitate retreat, leaving their wounded and a large quantity of provision, fixed ammunition, shot, shells and other public stores in the different places of deposit about their camp. They were pursued some distance by our troops, and many prisoners taken; but owing to the very heavy and incessant rain, we were compelled to return. The enemy have lost, upon land, more than 2000 men in killed, wounded, prisoners and deserters; while our aggregate loss does not exceed 150.

Among the many acts of valour performed by the Vermont volunteers, we notice the following brave exploit:

The inhabitants of Orwell, to the amount of 240, had marched, on the first report of approaching danger, to Plattsburgh, and tendered their services to the commanding general. Among this number was a small but brave corps of cavalry of about 20 men, raised principally through the exertions of Captain A. Scovell of Orwell, and Captain Ketchum of Sudbury, in which many distinguished citizens were enrolled. The corps selected for their commander, Captain Scovell; and on their arrival at Plattsburgh, finding the enemy had decamped, they did not wait for general orders, or to be joined by other forces, but pursued the enemy, surprised his rear guard at Chazy, captured 7 dragoons with their horses and equipments, took the contents of two baggage wagons, and returned with the loss of only one horse killed.

*Capture of the British fleet.....*The following letter from Commodore Macdonough to the secretary of the navy, contains the particulars of the capture of the British fleet on lake Champlain:

U. S. Ship Saratoga, Plattsburgh Bay, Sept. 13, 1814.

SIR....I have the honour to give you the particulars of the action, which took place on the 11th inst. on this lake.

For several days the enemy were on their way to Plattsburgh by land and water; and it being well understood that an attack could be made at the same time by their land and naval forces, I determined to await at anchor the approach of the latter.

At 8, A. M. the look-out boat announced the approach of the enemy. At 9 he anchored in a line ahead, at about 300 yards distance from my line; his ship opposed to the Saratoga, his brig the Eagle, Captain Robert Henly, his gallies (13 in number) to the schooner, sloop, and a division of our gallies. Our remaining gallies with the Saratoga and Eagle.

In this situation, the whole force on both sides became engaged; the *Saratoga* suffered much from the heavy fire of the *Confiance*: I could perceive, at the same time, however, that our fire was very destructive to her. The *Ticonderoga*, Lieutenant Commandant Cassin, gallantly sustained her full share of the action. At half past 10 o'clock, the *Eagle*, not being able to bring her guns to bear, cut her cable and anchored in a more eligible position, between my ship and the *Ticonderoga*, where she very much annoyed the enemy, but unfortunately leaving me exposed to a galling fire from the enemy's brig. Our guns, on the starboard side, being nearly all dismounted, or not manageable, a stern anchor was let go, the bower cable cut, and the ship wind- ed with a fresh broadside on the enemy's ship, which soon after surrendered. Our broadside was then sprung to bear on the brig, which surrendered in about 15 minutes after.

The sloop that was opposed to the *Eagle*, had struck some time before, and drifted down the line; the sloop which was with their gallies having struck also. Three of their gallies are said to be sunk, and the others pulled off. Our gallies were about obeying with alacrity the signal to follow them, when all the vessels were reported to me to be in a sinking state: it then became necessary to annul the signal to the gallies, and order their men to the pumps.

I could only look at the enemy's gallies going off in a shattered condition, for there was not a mast in either squadron that could stand to make sail on; the lower rigging, being nearly all shot away, hung down as though it had been just placed over the mast heads.

The *Saratoga* had 55 round shot in her hull; the *Confiance* 105. The enemy's shot passed principally just over our heads, there were not 20 whole hammocks in the nettings at the close of the action, which lasted, without intermission, 2 hours and 15 minutes.

The absence and sickness of Lieutenant Raymond Perry, left me without the services of that excellent officer; much ought, fully to be attributed to him for his great care and attention in disciplining the ship's crew, as her first lieutenant. His place was filled by a gallant young officer, Lieutenant Peter Gamble, who I regret to inform you, was killed early in the action. Acting Lieutenant Valette worked the 1st and 2d divisions of guns with not- able effect. Sailing-master Brum's attention to the springs, and in the execution of the order to wind the ship, and occasionally at the guns, meets my entire approbation; also Captain Youmans, commanding the acting marines, who took his men to the guns. Mr. Beale, purser, was of great service at the guns, and in ob- obeying my orders throughout the ship, with Midshipman Mon- mery. Master's Mate Joshua Justin, had command of the

division; his conduct, during the action, was that of a brave and correct officer. Midshipmen Monteath, Graham, Williamson, Platt, Thwing, and acting midshipman Baldwin, all behaved well, and gave evidence of their making valuable officers.

The *Saratoga* was twice set on fire by hot shot from the enemy's ship.

I close, sir, this communication with feelings of gratitude for the able support I received from every officer and man attached to the squadron which I have the honour to command.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,
T. MACDONOUGH.

Hon. Wm. Jones, secretary of the navy.

The following is a comparative view of the force and loss of the British and American fleets:

BRITISH.

	Guns.	Men.	Killed.*	Wounded.
Large ship,	39	300	50	60
Brig <i>Linnæa</i> ,	16	120	20	30
Sloop, formerly <i>Growler</i> ,	11	40	6	10
Sloop, do. <i>Eagle</i> ,	11	40	8	10
13 Gun-boats,	18	550	2 probably sunk.	
Total,	95	1050	84	110

AMERICAN.

	Guns.	Men.	Killed.	Wounded.
<i>Saratoga</i> , ship,	26	210	28	20
<i>Eagle</i> , brig,	20	120	13	20
<i>Conqueror</i> , schooner,	17	110	6	6
<i>Reble</i> , sloop,	7	30	2	0
10 Gun-boats,	16	350	3	3
Total,	86	820	52	58

The British officers killed, were Commodore Downey, and 3 lieutenants. The American officers killed, were Lieutenants Gamble and Stansbury; the latter of whom was knocked overboard and not found. Commodore Macdonough escaped without injury.

The British officers taken were Captain Fring and 6 or 8 lieutenants. The wounded were paroled and sent by a flag to the *gale-aux-Noix*.

This is a statement of what were found on board the British vessels. Many were thrown overboard during the action; and it was supposed the whole number of killed and wounded amounted to 260.

The British large ship proved to be a fine vessel of her class, having two gun-decks in her bow and stern, and mounting, among her guns, 28 long 24 pounders, a battery which few frigates of the British navy can boast.

On the 13th of September, the interment of the American and British officers, who fell in the memorable battle of the 11th, took place at Plattsburgh, in a manner to do honour to the bravery with which they defended their respective flags. The coffins of the American officers, covered with the flags of their vessels, were taken on board a boat from the commodore's ship, and followed by him and his officers, in another boat, to the British ship, where they took on board the deceased British officers, covered with the flags of their own vessels, and proceeded to the shore, followed by their surviving officers. During the procession, minute guns were fired from the commodore's ship.

At the land they were received by an escort of infantry and artillery, and joined by a large number of the officers of the army; and while they proceeded to the public burying ground, minute guns were also fired from the fort. At the grave, a discharge of musquetry and artillery closed the scene.

Commodore Macdonough is the son of Doctor Macdonough, of Newcastle county, state of Delaware. He was a midshipman under Decatur at Tripoli, and one of the gallant band that destroyed the Philadelphia frigate. At the time of the engagement on lake Champlain, he was about 28 years of age. In this action he had frequently to work his own guns, when his men at them were shot; and three times he was driven across the deck by splinters. At one time all the guns, excepting two, on one side of his ship were dismantled, when he wore ship; the enemy endeavoring to do the same, failed, and gave Macdonough an opportunity to rake him.

The following amount of property was said to have been taken from on board the enemy's fleet, at the time of, and subsequent to its capture :—17,000 wt. of powder, exclusive of fixed ammunition for the ships; between 80 and 90,000 wt. of balls, &c. 600 muskets; 600 suits of sailor's clothing; and the winter clothing for the whole of the land army.

In the beginning of November, six tons of 8 inch shells were taken out of the lake at Chazy by the Americans, which had been secreted by the enemy in his incursion. A transport sloop was also raised at Isle la Motte, which had been sunk by the enemy loaded with naval stores and various instruments of war.

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SKETCHES

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THE WAR.

VOL. I. No. 2.

WHOLE NUMBER 8.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Predations of the enemy in Connecticut, Massachusetts and the District of Maine.... Burning of vessels at Pettipaug, Wareham and Scituate.... Attack upon Stonington.... Capture of Eastport.... Capture of Castine, &c. and loss of the U. S. frigate Adams.... Chesapeake bay.... Battle at Bladensburgh, and capture of Washington City.... Surrender of Alexandria.... Repulse of the enemy at Baltimore.

On the 7th of April, 1814, a force consisting of two launches, carrying 9 or 12 pound carronades, and about 50 or 60 men each, and 4 barges with about 25 men each, from the enemy's blockading squadron, entered the mouth of Connecticut river, and early on the morning of the 8th, arrived at Pettipaug point, about 6 miles above Saybrook, (Con.) where they immediately commenced the burning of a number of merchant vessels. The inhabitants had no knowledge that the enemy were near before some of the vessels were on fire; and before a force could be collected to prevent the destruction of property, the enemy had succeeded in destroying 4 ships, 4 brigs, 4 schooners, and 9 sloops, valued at 150,000 dollars. Having accomplished this, and committed other acts of outrage, they left the place at 10 o'clock A. M. and proceeded down the river.

On the 13th of June, the enemy, in 6 barges, to the number of 220, landed with a flag at Wareham, in Plymouth county, Mass. about 60 miles from Boston; but without respecting the flag, they proceeded to destroy the vessels in the harbour, as also a cotton factory. They succeeded in burning 5 merchant vessels; but the fire which had been communicated to the factory was extinguished, after the departure of the enemy, by the inhabitants.

About this time the enemy entered the harbour of Scituate, 28 miles S. E. of Boston, and burnt 9 small vessels.

On the afternoon of the 9th of August, a British ship of 74 guns, a frigate, a sloop of war, and an armed brig, arrived off Stonnington harbour, (Con.) and soon commenced bombarding the town.

The means of defence at Stonnington were small; but such as could be had were employed to the best advantage. A battery which consisted of two 18 pounders and a 4 pounder, with a slight breast-work four feet high, was manned by volunteers, and returned the fire of the enemy occasionally, which lasted until midnight.

On the morning of the 10th, the approach of the enemy was announced by a discharge of congreve rockets from several barges and a launch, which had taken their station at the east side of the town, and out of reach of the battery. Several volunteers with small arms and the 4 pounder, hastened across the point, supposing the enemy were attempting a landing. Col. Randall, who at the time was moving towards the battery with a detachment of militia, ordered them to assist the volunteers in drawing over one of the 18 pounders to the extreme end of the point; the fire of which, in a few minutes, compelled the barges to seek safety in flight. During this time, the brig was working up towards the point, and soon came to anchor, short of half a mile from the battery; but our ammunition being soon exhausted, the guns were spiked, and the men who fought them being only 15 or 20, retired, leaving them behind, for want of strength to drag them off.

The brig now continued to pour her 32 pound shot and grape into the village for an hour; when a fresh supply of ammunition having been obtained, the 18 pounder was withdrawn from the breast-work, the vent drilled, and the piece taken back again.... A well directed fire being now kept up, the brig was compelled to slip her cable and haul off, with her pumps going, having received several shots below her water line, and considerable damage in her spars.

The enemy after this, continued the bombardment from their other vessels, occasionally, until the 13th; when they relinquished the hope of burning the town, weighed anchor, and stood off.

During this time, 5 or 6 of the militia were slightly wounded, and a few buildings injured. The loss of the enemy was supposed to have been 8 or 10 killed.

Capture of Eastport..... On the evening of the 11th of July, the enemy succeeded in capturing Eastport, in the District of Maine, by surprise. His force consisted of 8 sail, having on board 2000 land troops. The fort at Eastport contained six 24 pounders

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and about 40 men, under the command of Major Putman, of the 48th regiment, and was surrendered without firing a gun, which might be justified from the overwhelming force sent against it, particularly as it was situate on an island, and surrounded by the enemy. The vessels in the harbour were immediately confiscated; and the inhabitants allowed 4 days either to take the oath of allegiance to the king of England, or remove from the island. The British soon after commenced fortifying the place.

Eastport is on an island (called Moose Island) five miles long and one mile broad, containing about 1000 inhabitants, is situated on the western side of the Passamaquoddy bay, and is the most remote town on the eastern territory of the United States, opposite the province of Newbrunswick. The principal ship channel is between Moose Island and the Indian Island, (the latter is in the British territory) about half a mile wide. The water, on the western side is not sufficient for the passage of large vessels at low tide.

Toward the latter part of August, the enemy, in several barges, attacked Newharbour, (Maine,) but were beaten off with considerable loss.

Capture of Castine, &c.... On the 1st of September, between 20 and 30 sail of the enemy's vessels, having on board between 2 and 3000 troops entered the Penobscot river. The small garrison in the fort at Castine discharged their guns, blew up the fort and retired. The enemy then took possession without opposition. They next sent 600 men to Belfast, which place submitted. The following day they proceeded up the river to Hampden, where the U. S. frigate Adams lay, distant 35 miles. Captain Morris prepared himself to receive them as well as he could, by landing his guns and erecting batteries. A considerable militia force had by this time assembled; but they disgracefully fled on the approach of the enemy. He, therefore, after a few fires, spiked his guns, burnt his stores and prize goods, and blew up the ship. He fortunately succeeded in effecting the escape of himself and crew, without loss.

The British afterwards took possession of a number of other towns in the District of Maine, without much opposition; and remained in quiet possession of all until after the treaty of peace.

Chesapeake bay.... During the spring and summer of 1814, the enemy, who had constantly kept a blockading squadron in the Chesapeake bay, committed many depredations on the shores of the bay and the numerous rivers and creeks which empty into it; often plundering inoffensive inhabitants of the necessaries of life, destroying private property, and committing other acts of aggres-

sion, of a wanton and barbarous nature. These proceedings were sanctioned by the British commander, Cockburn, and he was often found at the head of parties entering the country for plunder and rapine.

Attempts were repeatedly made by British vessels to capture a flotilla of gun-boats, &c. under Commodore Barney; and altho' engagements frequently took place, yet the efforts of the enemy proved unsuccessful....the flotilla at times running up small creeks, out of the reach of the enemy's guns, and at other times compelling him to abandon his object, by its superior gunnery.

Battle at Bladensburg and capture of Washington..... On the 16th and 17th of August, the British fleet in the Chesapeake was reinforced by a formidable squadron of ships and vessels of various sizes. A large portion of these entered the Patuxent river, and landed their troops and marines chiefly about Benedict (the head of navigation for frigates) about 40 miles south-east of Washington city. Others entered the Potomac, on the banks of which Georgetown, Alexandria, Washington, &c. stand. Its mouth is from 15 to 20 miles distant from that of the Patuxent. Brigadier General Winder, who had been appointed to the command of the 10th military district, and of the respective quotas of militia which had been ordered to be held in readiness in the states of Pennsylvania and Maryland, immediately made requisitions on the governors of these states, on various officers of the militia; and the militia of the District of Columbia were ordered out en masse. On the 19th, Colonel Monroe, with Colonel Thornton's troop of horse, proceeded to find and reconnoitre the enemy; on the same day the militia of Georgetown and the city of Washington were mustered. On the 20th, about 1 o'clock, P. M. this and some other forces commenced their line of march towards Benedict, and encamped that night about 4 miles from the eastern branch bridge of the Potomac, on the road to Upper Marlborough. On this day, Colonel Monroe communicated the intelligence of the arrival of the enemy at Benedict in force.... Same day, Captain Tilghman and Captain Caldwell, with their commands of horse, were ordered and despatched to annoy the enemy, to impede his march, to remove and destroy forage and provisions before him.

On the morning of the 21st, the troops under General Winder were mustered. At 12 o'clock, a body of marines under Captain Miller joined the army; the regulars of the 36th and 38th regiments also joined at the Wood Yard, 7 miles in advance (and 12 miles from Washington) to which the main body of our troops were marched and encamped at night. Two letters from Colonel Monroe, on the 21st, one stating that he had viewed the enemy near Benedict, enumerating 27 square-rigged vessels, some

day craft and barges; and the other dated from Nottingham (on the Patuxent, 20 miles south-east from Washington) stating the advance of the enemy upon that place by land and water, and recommending the commanding general to dispatch 5 or 600 men to fall upon the enemy. Colonel Monroe and Colonel Beall both joined the army at night, and gave an account that the enemy had been viewed by them. Early on the morning of the 22d a light detachment, composed of regulars, cavalry and militia, under Lieutenant Colonel Scott and Major Peter, was ordered to meet the enemy. This detachment marched on the road to Nottingham about 9 o'clock; the remainder of the army marched about a mile in advance to an elevated position: the commanding general, with his staff, accompanied by Colonel Monroe, proceeded in advance to reconnoitre the advance of the enemy. Commodore Barney had joined the army with his flotilla men, besides the marines under Captain Miller; the horse preceded the advance of a detachment of our forces, met the enemy and retired before them. This induced the advance corps to take a position to impede the march of the enemy; but the advance detachment was ordered to retrograde and join the main body of the army that had remained some hours in line of battle, expecting the enemy to come that rout to the city; but who took the road to Upper Marlborough, turning to his right, after having come within a few miles of our forces; upon which the commanding general fell back with his whole forces to the Battalion Old Fields, about 8 miles from Marlborough, and the same distance from the city of Washington. At this time, heavy explosions in the direction of Marlborough announced the destruction of the flotilla under command of Commodore Barney. The enemy arrived at Upper Marlborough about 2 o'clock, and remained there until late next day, to be joined, it is presumed, by a detachment which had been sent against the flotilla.

The commanding general proceeded to Marlborough and found the enemy encamped; and, after making observations till the close of the day, he returned to the army. Late in the evening of this day, the president, with the secretaries of war and navy, and attorney-general, joined General Winder at the Battalion Old Fields, and remained with him till the evening of the 23d. In the morning the troops were drawn up and reviewed by the president. The most contradictory reports prevailed as to the movements and force of the enemy, and it was doubtful in camp whether Annapolis, fort Washington, (with a view to co-operate with his naval forces) or the city of Washington was his object. As to numbers, rumours vibrated from 4 to 12,000; the best opinion was from 5 to 7000. Our forces at this time, at the Old Fields, were upwards of 3000 men, in the following corps: 400 horse under the command of Lieutenant Col.

Iavol, Colonel Tilghman, Captains Caldwell, Thornton, Hubert, Williams, &c. ; 400 regular troops under the command of Lieut. Colonel Scott, viz. the 36th, 38th, and Captain Morgan's company of the 12th infantry ; 600 marines and flotilla men, under Commodore Barney and Captain Miller, with five pieces of heavy artillery (two 18 pounders and three 12 pounders) ; 1800 militia and volunteers, consisting of General Smith's brigade of Georgetown and city militia, and Maryland militia under Colonel Kramer, of which there were two companies of artillery under Captain Burch and Major Peter, with six 6 pounders each, making an aggregate of 3,200, with 17 pieces of artillery. The enemy was without cavalry, and had two small field pieces and one howitzer, drawn by men ; and the whole country well calculated for defence, skirmishing, and to impede the march of an enemy.

The enemy remained at Upper Marlborough till after 12 o'clock, about which time General Winder again ordered the detachment under Lieutenant Colonel Scott and Major Peter to advance and meet the enemy, if he should be found advancing, or to attack his positions. About this time, [12 o'clock,] some prisoners were taken, and from information given by them and the observations of the videts, General Winder was induced to believe that the enemy intended to remain stationary for the day, which induced him to think of uniting with the forces at Bladensburg, and despatched others to General Stansbury, and other corps at Bladensburg, to move direct for Upper Marlborough, and proceeded himself towards Bladensburg, to meet and hurry on the forces to form a junction. When General Winder left the command with General Smith, and proceeded towards Bladensburg, with several troops of cavalry, he left orders that the advanced corps should march upon the enemy, and annoy him by every possible means if in march, or if not, then in his positions ; and if he advanced upon Bladensburg, General Smith, with the main body, should fall upon his flank, or be governed by circumstances in other movements.

Captain Cadwell joined the advanced corps at 2 o'clock, P. M. An express brought intelligence that the enemy had left Upper Marlborough ; that our advance had met the enemy about six miles in advance of our forces, and after a skirmish, in which Captain Stall's company had about 4 or 5 rounds, was compelled to retreat, and that the enemy was advancing. One of the aids of General Smith was despatched for General Winder : the whole army was placed in a favorable attitude of defence, in which position it continued until about sunset, when General Winder, who had arrived some time previous, ordered the army to march to the city of Washington. The enemy were about three miles distant, and remained there that night. Having remained till the going down of the sun, the retreat to the city was induced by several considerations, stated by the commanding general. 1st, To

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effect an union of his whole forces. 2d, The fear of a night attack, from the superiority of the enemy, and want of discipline in his troops. And 3d, In a night attack his superiority in artillery could not be used. The march of our army to the city was extremely rapid and precipitate, and orders occasionally given to the captains of companies to hurry on the men, who were extremely fatigued and exhausted before the camping ground was reached, near the Eastern branch bridge, within the District of Columbia.

General Stansbury had arrived at Bladensburg on the 22d, and the 5th Baltimore regiment, including the artillery and rifle corps, on the evening of the 23d; and at 12 o'clock at night, Colonel Monroe, in passing through Bladensburg to the city of Washington, advised General Stansbury to fall upon the rear of the enemy forthwith, as it was understood that he was in motion for the city. General Stansbury having been ordered to take post at Bladensburg, did not think he was at liberty to leave it; but, independent of this consideration, the fatigue of the troops under Colonel Sterret made it impracticable.

On the morning of the 24th, General Winder established his head quarters near the Eastern Branch bridge; detachments of horse were out in various directions as videttes and reconnoitering parties, and arrangements made to destroy the Eastern Branch bridge. In the mean time various reports were brought into head quarters, as to the movements and intentions of the enemy; and the president and heads of departments had collected at head-quarters. Colonel Monroe had left there upon a rumour that gained ground, that the enemy was marching upon the city by the way of Bladensburg, with a view of joining General Stansbury, advising him of the rumour, and to aid him in the formation of a line of battle to meet the enemy.

General Stansbury, as a precautionary measure, had marched from his position in advance of Bladensburg, and occupied the ground west of that village, on the banks of the eastern branch of the Potomac. Here the front line of battle was formed by General Stansbury and his officers, with the aid of Colonel Monroe, which consisted of Stansbury's brigade, and the command of Colonel Sterret, including the command of Major Pinkney and Baltimore artillery.

There is a bridge over the Eastern branch at Bladensburg, and a large turnpike road leading direct to the city of Washington. About 400 yards from this bridge, some small distance to the left of the road, the Baltimore artillery, six pieces of six pounders, occupied a temporary breast-work of earth, well calculated to command the pass over the bridge. Part of the battalion of riflemen, under Major William Pinkney, and one other company,

took position on the right of the artillery, partly protected by a fence and brush; and on the left of the battery, leading to the rear of a barn, two companies, from the regiment under Col. Shutz, and the other part of the riflemen from Baltimore. Col. Regan was posted in the rear of Major Pinkney, his right resting on the road; Col. Shutz continuing the line on the left, with a small vacancy in the centre of the two regiments; and Col. Sterret formed the extreme left flank of the infantry. At this moment, Cols. Beall and Hood entered Bladensburg, with the Maryland militia from Annapolis, crossed the bridge and took a position on a most commanding height, on the right of the turnpike, about three hundred yards from the road, to secure the right flank. In the mean time, (about 11 o'clock) certain intelligence was received at head quarters, that the enemy was in full march towards Bladensburg, which induced General Winder to put in motion his whole force, except a few men and a piece of artillery left at the Eastern branch bridge to destroy it. The day was hot, and the road dusty...the march was rapid to Bladensburg. The cavalry and mounted men arrived, and were placed on the left flank, and some small distance in its rear. General Winder now arrived, and told Gen. Stansbury and Colonel Monroe, that his whole force was marching for Bladensburg, and approved the dispositions which had been made of the troops; at which moment, it had become impracticable in the opinion of the officers, to make any essential change; for the two armies were now coming to the battle ground in opposite directions; and the enemy appeared on the opposite heights of Bladensburg, about a mile distant, and halted 15 or 20 minutes. This was about 12 o'clock. The troops from the city were disposed of as they arrived. Captain Burch, with three pieces of artillery, was stationed on the extreme left of the infantry of the first line; and a rifle company, armed with muskets, near the battery to support it. About this time the secretary of war arrived, and in a few minutes after the president and the attorney general, and proceeded to examine the disposition of the troops. In the mean time, as the enemy advanced into Bladensburg, the officers were forming rapidly the second line. The command of Commodore Barney came up in a trot; and formed his men on the right of the main road, in a line with the command under Cols. Beall and Hood, with a considerable vacancy, owing to the ground. The heavy artillery Commodore Barney planted in the road; the three 12 pounders to the right under Captain Miller, who commanded the flotilla men and marines, as infantry to support the artillery. Lieut. Col. Kramer, with a battalion of Maryland militia, was posted in a wood, in advance of the marines and Cols. Beall and Hood's command. The regiment under the command of Col. Magruder, was stationed on the left of Commo-

dore Barney, in a line with him and Col. Beall. The regiment under command of Col. Brent, and Major Waring's battalion, and some other small detachments, formed the left flank of this second line, and in the rear of Major Peter's battery; and Lieut. Col. Scott, with the regulars, was placed in advance of Col. Ma-gruder, and to the left, forming a line towards Major Peter's battery, but in such a manner as not to mask it; other small detachments in various directions.

About half past 12 o'clock, while the second line was forming, the enemy approached, and the battle commenced: the Baltimore artillery opened a fire and dispersed the enemy's light troops now advancing along the street of the village, who took a temporary cover behind the houses and trees, in loose order, and presented objects only occasionally for the fire of the cannon. The enemy commenced throwing his rockets, and his light troops began to concentrate near the bridge, and to press across it and the river which was fordable above. The battalion of riflemen under Maj. Pinkney, now united gallantly with the fire from the battery. For some minutes the fire was continued with considerable effect; the enemy's column was not only dispersed while in the street, but while approaching the bridge they were thrown into some confusion, and the British officers were seen exerting themselves to press the soldiers on. Having now gained the bridge, it was passed rapidly, and as the enemy crossed, flanked, formed the line and advanced steadily on, which compelled the artillery, and battalion of riflemen to give way, after which Major Pinkney was severely wounded. He exerted himself to rally his men, and succeeded at a small distance in the rear of his first position, and united with the 5th Baltimore regiment.

It appears from reports of several officers, Stansbury, Pinkney, Law, Sterret, &c. that the command of General Stansbury was 3 or 400 yards in the rear of the battery, and Major Pinkney's riflemen and some other small corps to the left of the battery; of course this small party had to fight with the whole force of the enemy until they retired, and the enemy occupied the ground they left without any considerable resistance, as the enemy marched on without halting after the bridge was passed. Capt. Burch and Col. Sterret were about the same distance, when Col. Sterret was ordered to advance to support the first line. One of the pieces of artillery was abandoned, but spiked previously. The enemy soon took advantage of the trees of an orchard which was occupied or held by the force which had just retreated, and kept up a galling fire on part of our line. Captain Burch's artillery and a small detachment near it now opened a cross fire upon the enemy. Col. Sterret, with the 5th Baltimore regiment, was ordered to advance, and made a prompt movement until ordered to

halt, as at this movement the rockets assuming a more horizontal direction and passing near the heads of Col. Schultz and Ragan's regiments, the right gave way, which was followed in a few minutes by a general flight of the two regiments, in defiance of all the exertions of Generals Winder, Stansbury and other officers. Burch's artillery and the 5th regiment remained with firmness: the orchard obstructed their fire; but notwithstanding, the enemy's light troops were, for a moment, driven back by them, the enemy having gained the right flank of the 5th, which exposed it, Burch's artillery and Col. Sterret, who commanded the 5th, were ordered by Gen. Winder to retreat, with a view of forming at a small distance in the rear; but, instead of retiring in order, the 5th, like the other two regiments under Gen. Stansbury, in a very few minutes were retreating in disorder and confusion, notwithstanding the exertions of Colonel Sterret to prevent it. From reports of various officers, exertions were made to rally the men and to bring them again to the battle, which partly succeeded in the first instance, but ultimately, and in a short time, all attempts were vain, and the forces routed; and the first line, together with the horse, were totally routed, and retreated in a road which forked in three directions; one branch led by Rock Creek Church, to Tanleytown and Montgomery court house, another led to Georgetown, and a third to the city of Washington. It does not appear that any movement was made or attempted by the cavalry or horsemen, although the enemy to the left were in open and scattered order, as they pursued or pressed upon our lines, and a most fortunate moment presented itself for a charge of cavalry and horsemen.

It may be proper here to observe, that General Winder states his exertions to direct the retreating line to the capitol, with a view of rallying. This intention is corroborated by Colonel Sterret; but it appears that this determination was not generally understood by the officers or men. Colonel Kramer, posted on the right of the road and in advance of Commodore Barney, was next drawn from his position after having maintained his ground with considerable injury to the enemy, and retreated upon the command of Colonels Beall and Hood, on a commanding eminence to the right. After the retreat of the militia under Colonel Kramer from his first position, the enemy's column in the road was exposed to an animated discharge from Major Peter's artillery, which continued until they came in contact with Commodore Barney: here the enemy met the greatest resistance and sustained the greatest loss, advancing upon our retreating line. When the enemy came in full view, and in a heavy column in the main road, Commodore Barney ordered an 18 pounder to be opened upon them, which completely cleared the road, scattered and repulsed

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the enemy for a moment. In several attempts to rally and advance, the enemy was repulsed, which induced him to flank to the right of our lines in an open field.—Here Captain Miller opened upon him with the three 12 pounders, and the flotilla men acting as infantry, with considerable effect. The enemy continued flanking to the right and pressed upon the command of Ccls. Beall and Hood, which gave way after three or four rounds of ineffectual fire, at a considerable distance from the enemy, while Colonel Beall and other officers attempted to rally the men on this high position. The enemy very soon gained the flank and even the rear of the right of the second line. Commodore Barney, Captain Miller and some other officers of his command being wounded, his ammunition waggons having gone off in the disorder, and that which the marines and flotilla men had being exhausted ; in this situation a retreat was ordered by Com. Barney, who fell himself into the hands of the enemy.

The second line was not exactly connected, but posted in advantageous positions in connection with and supporting each other. The command of General Smith, including the Georgetown and city militia, still remained in order and firm without any part having given away, as well as the command of Lieut. Col. Scott of the regulars, and some other corps. The enemy's light troops had in the mean time advanced on the left of the road, and had gained a line parallel with Smith's command, and in endeavouring to turn the flank, Colonel Brent was placed in a position calculated to prevent it ; the enemy also advanced and came within long shot of part of Colonel Magruder's command, which opened a partial fire, but without much effect ; and at this moment and in this situation General Winder ordered the whole of the troops, then stationary, to retreat, which was effected with as much order as the nature of the ground and the occasion would permit : these troops after retreating 5 or 600 paces, were halted and formed, but were again ordered to retreat by Gen. Winder. General Winder then gave orders to collect and form the troops on the heights west of the turnpike gate, about one mile and a half from the capitol, which order was in part executed, and the forces formed by General Smith and the other officers, when Colonel George Minor came up with his regiment of Virginia volunteers, and united his forces with General Smith's command, having been detained, in obtaining arms, ammunition, &c. ; but, while in the act of forming, Gen. Winder gave orders to retire to the capitol, with an expectation of being united with the troops of the first line. Colonel Minor was ordered to take a certain position and disposition, and cover the retreat of all the forces by remaining until all had marched for the capitol. The troops were again halted at the capitol while Gen.

Winder was in conference with Colonel Monroe and General Armstrong.

The first line and the cavalry, except one troop of Col. Laval's, had taken a route which did not bring them to the capitol; the most of them had proceeded north of the district of Columbia, and others dispersed and returned home, and sought refreshment in the country. The commanding general represented the diminution of his force, the dispersion of a large proportion of it, the want of discipline, the great fatigue of the troops, and believed that it would be impossible to make effectual resistance to the invasion of the city: nor did he think it would be proper to attempt to defend the capitol, the troops being without provisions, and which would leave every other part of the city to the mercy of the enemy, and the prospect of losing his army. In this consultation the secretaries of state and war, it appears, concurred in their views with General Winder, and advised him to retire and rally the troops upon the heights of Georgetown; this produced an order for the whole forces to retreat from capitol hill thro' Georgetown. On receiving this order the troops evinced the deepest anguish, and that order which had been previously maintained was destroyed. General Smith in his report uses this language... "When the order for a retreat from capitol hill was received, the troops evinced an anguish beyond the power of language to express." The troops were halted at Tenleytown, and an attempt was made to collect them together, which only partially succeeded. Some returned home; some went in pursuit of refreshments, and those that halted gave themselves up to the uncontrolled feelings which fatigue, exhaustion, privation and disappointment produced.

A small party of the enemy, with Admiral Cockburn and General Ross, entered the city. The male population was chiefly in arms under General Winder, and many of the women and children had left it. The navy-yard, with all its shipping and stores, and the magazine at Greenleaf's Point* had been destroyed by our own people. The capitol, and president's house, with all the public offices except the post-office, (which they thought a private building) with several private buildings, were fired by the enemy.† Cockburn personally went to have the office of the National Intelligencer burnt; but was prevailed upon by some ladies

* This magazine was but partially destroyed by our people: the British soldiers afterwards more effectually completed its destruction. In a dry well belonging to the barracks, our soldiers had thrown many barrels of powder for concealment; and the British soldiers, after exploding the magazine, usually threw into it one or two of their lighted matches, which communicated to the powder deposited there. The effect was terrific. Every one of the soldiers near, was blown into eternity many at a great distance wounded, and the excavation remains an evidence of the great force of the explosion.

† All the public papers, with the specie of the banks, &c. had been previously removed by the inhabitants.

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of the adjoining houses to abandon his design. A number of his accomplices, however, entered and destroyed every thing in it.... Mr. Gallatin's house was burnt, some person having fired on General Ross from the windows, by which his horse was killed.

After committing numerous depredations, the enemy privately and precipitately retired on the night of the 25th. They had buried some of their killed in the morning; but left many lying on the field, and also nearly 100 wounded at Bladensburg, with 30 men to take care of them. Among the former were two colonels and one major: the latter died soon after. They took off as many wounded as could be made to walk, and all that they could convey on about 40 horses, and in a number of carts, waggons, &c.

The force of the enemy landed, was estimated at 6000; his loss in killed, at Bladensburg and in the city, 180; wounded at both places, 300; prisoners and deserters, 400....total, 880.

The American force, under Winder, amounted to about 5000, (including several hundreds that arrived just as the battle of Bladensburg commenced, and joined the army after the general's retreat,) but only about 1500 of this number were actually engaged. Our loss was 20 killed, 40 wounded, and 120 prisoners....total, 180.

Surrender of Alexandria.....The city of Alexandria, in the district of Columbia, lies on the southern bank of the Potomac, and five miles S. W. from the city of Washington. At the time of the capture of the latter place, the channel of the Potomac, near Alexandria, was commanded by Fort Washington, and it was considered the British vessels would not attempt to pass it. After the defeat of General Winder at Bladensburg, however, the corporation of Alexandria, by committee, waited on the British commander at Washington, to know what treatment was to be expected provided Alexandria should fall into his hands, thus shamefully opening the way for the disgrace which followed. Admiral Cockburn assured the deputation that private property would be respected; that probably some fresh provisions and flour might be wanted, but for which they should be paid.

On the 27th of August, several of the enemy's vessels appeared in sight of Alexandria down the river, and towards evening fort Washington was blown up by the commanding officer, Captain Dyson, without firing a gun, and abandoned. He has since been dismissed from the service of the United States, by sentence of a court-martial.

On the 28th, the enemy's squadron passed the fort, and the corporation, by deputation, proceeded to the commander's ship, (Captain Gordon,) and requested to know his intentions in regard to

Alexandria ; which he proposed to communicate when he should come opposite the town, but promised that the persons, houses, and furniture of the citizens should be unmolested, if he met with no opposition. Next day (the 29th) the British squadron was drawn up in line of battle so as to command the whole town..... The commander then sent the following articles of capitulation to the corporation of the city :

H. M. Ship Sea-Horse, off Alexandria, Aug. 29th, 1814.

GENTLEMEN....In consequence of a deputation yesterday received from the city of Alexandria, requesting favourable terms for the safety of the city, the undernamed are the only conditions in my power to offer.

The town of Alexandria, with the exception of public works, shall not be destroyed, unless hostilities are commenced on the part of the Americans ; nor shall the inhabitants be molested in any manner whatever, or their dwelling houses entered, if the following articles be complied with :

Article 1. All naval and ordnance stores, (public or private,) must be immediately delivered up.

2. Possession will be immediately taken of all the shipping, and their furniture must be sent on board by the owners without delay.

3. The vessels that have been sunk must be delivered up in the state they were on the 19th of August, the day of the squadron passing the Kettle Bottoms.

4. Merchandize of every description must be instantly delivered up, and to prevent any irregularity that might be committed in its embarkation, the merchants have it at their option to load the vessels generally employed for that purpose, when they will be towed off by us.

5. All merchandize that has been removed from Alexandria since the 19th inst. is to be included in the above articles.

6. Refreshments of every description to be supplied the ships, and paid for at the market price, by bills on the British government.

7. Officers will be appointed to see that articles No. 2, 3, 4 and 5, are strictly complied with ; and any deviation or non-compliance on the part of the inhabitants of Alexandria, will render the treaty null and void.

JOHN A. GORDON, Captain
of his majesty's ship Sea-Horse, and
senior officer of his majesty's ships off
Alexandria.

To the common council of the town of Alexandria.

One hour was allowed the corporation to decide whether they would accede to the terms of surrender or not. It was stated to the British officer, that the common council had no power to compel the return of merchandize carried into the country, nor to compel the citizens to aid in raising the sunken vessels: these two points were yielded by the enemy. The terms being thus *modified*, the enemy commenced their work of plunder, which was indiscriminate, and not confined to any particular class of individuals; non-residents and inhabitants being alike included.

The vessels taken from Alexandria by the enemy, were 14, laden with from 15 to 18,000 bbls. flour, 800 hbds. tobacco, 150 bales cotton, some small quantities of sugar, and a medley of other articles.

While the enemy were employed in loading a vessel, Captains Porter and Creighton, of the United States' navy, made a dash into Alexandria on horseback, rode up to a midshipman who was superintending the loading of a boat, and Captain C. seized him by the cravat and endeavoured to take him off; but his cravat gave way and he escaped. The officers immediately galloped off, leaving the inhabitants in great consternation.

The signal of alarm was immediately given on shore to all those employed on the wharves, who promptly embarked, and all hands were ordered to prepare for action. The inhabitants apprehended an immediate destruction of the town; but, a deputation being sent from the corporation to state that the act was unauthorised by them, nor done by any inhabitant of the place, and promising that they would place guards at the intersection of each street leading to the water, to prevent a similar occurrence, the commanding officer said he would overlook it, and the town was again quieted.

We have been thus minute in stating the particulars of the surrender of Alexandria, that the present and future generations may forever behold a monument of the eternal disgrace, infamy and humiliation of its inhabitants in thus inviting and quietly submitting to the degrading terms and insults of an enemy. Nothing but the most sunken depravity or cowardly disposition could have induced the government of the city to have thus debased itself.

A series of desperately daring exertions were made by Commodores Rodgers, Porter and Perry, with the men of the two former, and some of the Virginia militia, to prevent the escape of the frigates from Alexandria with their great booty. All that men could do, with the means they had, by fire-ships, barges, and hastily erected batteries was done....but the enemy got off, with some loss, taking all the property with him. About 12 men were killed and several wounded at Porter's battery....at Perry's only

one was wounded: Rodgers suffered no loss. A great misfortune was that all the artillery that could be collected for the sudden occasion were too light.

*Repulse of the enemy at Baltimore.....*After the affair at Bladensburg and capture of Washington, an attack upon Baltimore was confidently expected, and considerable additions were accordingly made to the defences of the place. Some of the troops of General Winder's command had repaired to the place, and a considerable number of volunteers from the adjacent towns had flocked in; the Baltimore brigade was taken *en masse* into the service of the United States; and the whole submitted to the direction of Major General Smith of the Maryland militia.

On Saturday the 10th of September, information was received that the enemy was ascending the bay, and on Sunday morning his ships were seen at the mouth of the Patapsco river, (which communicates with the basin on which Baltimore stands) in number from 40 to 50. Some of his vessels entered the river, while others proceeded to North Point, (at the mouth of the Patapsco,) 14 miles from Baltimore, and commenced the debarkation of their troops in the night, which was finished early next morning. The following extracts of a letter from General Smith to the secretary of war, give an account of the events which followed:

"Baltimore, September 19, 1814.

"I have the honour of stating, that the enemy landed between 7 and 8000 men on Monday the 10th instant, at North Point, 14 miles distant from this town. Anticipating this debarkation, Gen. Stricker had been detached on Sunday evening with a portion of his brigade on the North Point road. Major Randal, of the Baltimore county militia, having under his command a light corps of riflemen and musquetry taken from General Stanbury's brigade and Pennsylvania volunteers, was detached to the mouth of Bear Creek, with orders to co-operate with General Stricker, and to check any landing which the enemy might attempt in that quarter. On Monday, Brig. Gen. Stricker took a good position at the junction of the two roads leading from this place to North Point, having his right flanked by Bear Creek, and his left by a marsh. He here awaited the approach of the enemy, having sent on an advance corps under the command of Major Heath of the 5th regiment. This advance was met by that of the enemy, and after some skirmishing it returned to the line, the main body of the enemy being at a short distance in the rear of their advance. Between two and three o'clock, the enemy's whole force came up and commenced battle by some discharges of rockets, which were succeeded by the cannon from both sides, and soon after the action

became general along the line. General Stricker gallantly maintained his ground against a great superiority of numbers during the space of an hour and 20 minutes, when the regiment on his left (the 51st) giving way, he was under the necessity of retiring to the ground in his rear, where he had stationed one regiment as a reserve. He here formed his brigade; but the enemy not thinking it advisable to pursue, he, in compliance with previous arrangements, fell back and took post on the left of my entrenchments, and a half mile in advance of them.

"In this affair the citizen soldiers of Baltimore, with the exception of the 51st regiment, have maintained the reputation they so deservedly acquired at Bladensburg, and have given their country and their city an assurance of what may be expected from them when their services are again required. I cannot dismiss the subject without expressing the heartfelt satisfaction I experience in thus bearing testimony to the courage and good conduct of my fellow townsmen. About the time General Stricker had taken the ground just mentioned, he was joined by Brigadier General Winder, who had been stationed on the west side of the city, but was now ordered to march with General Douglass' brigade of Virginia militia and the U. S. dragoons under Capt. Bird, and take post on the left of General Stricker. During these movements, the brigades of Generals Stansbury and Foreman, the seamen and marines under Commodore Rodgers, the Pennsylvania volunteers under Colonels Cobean and Findley, the Baltimore artillery under Colonel Harris, and the marine artillery under Captain Stiles, manned the trenches and the batteries....all prepared to receive the enemy. We remained in this situation during the night.

"On Tuesday, the enemy appeared in front of my entrenchments, at the distance of two miles, on the Philadelphia road, from whence he had a full view of our position. He manoeuvred during the morning towards our left, as if with the intention of making a circuitous march, and coming down on the Hartford and York roads. Generals Winder and Stricker were ordered to adapt their movements to those of the enemy, so as to baffle this supposed intention. They executed this order with great skill and judgment, by taking an advantageous position, stretching from my left across the country, when the enemy was likely to approach the quarter he seemed to threaten. This movement induced the enemy to concentrate his forces (between one and two o'clock) in my front, pushing his advance to within a mile of us, driving in our videttes, and shewing an intention of attacking us that evening. I immediately drew Generals Winder and Stricker nearer to the left of my entrenchments, and to the right of the enemy, with the intention of their falling on his right or rear,

should he attack me ; or if he declined it, of attacking him in the morning. To this movement and to the strength of my defences, which the enemy had the fairest opportunity of observing, I am induced to attribute his retreat, which commenced at half past one o'clock on Wednesday morning. In this he was so favoured by the extreme darkness and a continued rain, that we did not discover it until daylight. I consented to General Winder's pursuing with the Virginia brigade and the U. S. dragoons ; at the same time Major Randal was dispatched with his light corps in pursuit of the enemy's right, whilst the whole of the militia cavalry was put in motion for the same object. All the troops were, however, so worn out with continued watching, and with being under arms during three days and nights, exposed the greater part of the time to very inclement weather, that it was found impracticable to do any thing more than pick up a few stragglers. The enemy commenced his embarkation that evening, and completed it the next day at one o'clock. It would have been impossible, even had our troops been in a condition to act offensively, to have cut off any part of the enemy's rear guard during the embarkation, as the point where it was effected was defended from our approach by a line of defences extending from Back River to Humphrey's Creek on the Patapsco, thrown up by ourselves previous to their arrival.

"I have now the pleasure of calling your attention to the brave commander of fort M'Henry,* Major Armstead, and to the operations confined to that quarter. The enemy made his approach by water at the same time that his army was advancing on the land, and commenced a discharge of bombs and rockets at the fort as soon as he got within range of it. The situation of Major Armstead was peculiarly trying...the enemy having taken his position at such a distance as to render offensive operations on the part of the fort entirely fruitless, while their bombs and rockets were every moment falling in and about it...the officers and men being at the same time entirely exposed. The vessels, however, had the temerity to approach somewhat nearer...they were as soon compelled to withdraw. During the night, whilst the enemy on land was retreating, and whilst the bombardment was the most severe, two or three rocket vessels and barges succeeded in getting up the Ferry Branch ; but they were soon compelled to retire, by the forts in that quarter, commanded by Lieutenant Newcomb of the navy, and Lieutenant Webster of the flotilla. These forts also destroyed one of the barges, with all on board. The barges and battery at the Lazaretto, under the command of Lieutenant Rutter of the flotilla, kept up a brisk and it is

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believed a successful fire during the hottest period of the bombardment. The loss in fort M'Henry was 4 killed and 24 wounded, amongst the former I have to lament the fall of Lieutenants Claggett and Clamm, who were both estimable citizens and useful officers.

"Of General Stricker's brigade, the number of killed and wounded amounts to about 150....among the former this city has to regret the loss of its representative in the state legislature, James Lowry Donaldson, esquire, adjutant of the 27th regiment. This gentleman will ever be remembered by his constituents for his zeal and talents, and by his corps for his bravery and military knowledge.

"I cannot conclude this report without informing you of the great aid I have derived from Commodore Rodgers. He was ever present and ever ready to afford his useful counsel, and to render his important services. His presence, with that of his gallant officers and seamen, gave confidence to every one.

"The enemy's loss, in his attempt on Baltimore, amounts, as near as we can ascertain, to between 6 and 700 killed, wounded and missing....Gen. Ross is certainly killed."

Soon after his repulse at Baltimore, the enemy withdrew the greater part of his squadron from the Chesapeake, leaving however a sufficient number of vessels to maraud and harrass the inhabitants contiguous to the shores of the bay and rivers which empty into it. In the depredations of the enemy, (although not so numerous as formerly) a degree of brutality was oftentimes exhibited, wholly unworthy the character of civilized beings. Perhaps a great share of this conduct was attributable to the commander of the squadron, Cockburn. From various sources, we have observed statements of the unprincipled actions of this man. He has appeared, in every situation in which our countrymen have seen him, totally devoid of honour or honesty; and as one possessing a savage and ferocious disposition, more fit to be ranked with beasts of prey, than with human beings.

*Enemy in the Rappahannock.....*About the 1st of December, 1814, a British 74 and 5 frigates appeared off the mouth of the Rappahannock, a large navigable river in Virginia, which enters into the Chesapeake bay. They manned a number of barges and other small vessels, and proceeded up the river with all their disposable force, consisting of about 2000. The next day they took possession of the village of Tappahannock, without much opposition, the militia coming in too slowly for the rapid movements of the enemy. At this village the enemy burnt the court-house, jail, collector's office, clerk's office, a large ware-house, and

destroyed a large amount of private property; they also committed many acts of barbarism and violence upon the holy sanctuary and the depository of the dead. On the 4th they returned down the river, and had several brushes with the militia in the passage, in one of which, near Franham Church, they acknowledged a loss of 15 killed and 31 wounded. The militia had only two killed....In another, it was supposed that every man in one of their barges, except two, were killed. Ten or twelve prisoners also were taken, and several of their men deserted. Captain Shackleford, then of the house of delegates of Virginia, with about 60 of his artillerists, encountered 400 of the enemy, with the utmost intrepidity. He gave them several fires with his two pieces of ordnance, and drove them from the plain. Eventually Captain Shackleford was wounded and taken prisoner. The enemy paroled him, with compliments on his conduct.

The whole loss of the enemy in this excursion was upwards of 100 in killed, wounded and prisoners. Our loss was 5 or 6 killed and wounded.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Naval....Cruise of the Essex....Action at Valparaiso, and loss of the Essex....The Alligator....Cruise of Com. Rodgers.... Capture of the British brig Epervier....Cruise of the Wasp.... Capture of the Reindeer and Avon....Cruise of the Peacock.... Gun-boat action....Private armed vessels....Destruction of the General Armstrong....British vessels captured during the year 1814.

*The Essex....*Capt. Porter of the U. S. frigate *Essex*, proceeded to sea from the Delaware, on the 27th of October, 1812, and repaired, agreeably to instructions from Commodore Bainbridge, to the coast of Brazil, where different places of rendezvous had been arranged between them. In the course of his cruise on this coast he captured his Britannic majesty's packet *Nocton*, and after taking out of her about 11,000 pounds sterling in specie, ordered her for America. Hearing of Commodore Bainbridge's victorious action with the *Java*, which would oblige him to return to port, and of the capture of the *Hornet* by the *Montague*, and learning that there was a considerable augmentation of British force on the coast, and several ships in pursuit of him, he abandoned his hazardous cruising ground; and stretched away to the southward, scouring the coast as far as Rio de la Plata. From thence he shaped his course for the Pacific Ocean, and, after suffering great

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ly for want of provisions and heavy gales off Cape Horn, arrived at Valparaiso, on the 14th of March, 1819. Having victualled his ship, he ran down the coast of Chili and Peru, and fell in with a Peruvian corsair, having on board twenty-four Americans, as prisoners, the crews of two whaling ships, which she had taken on the coast of Chili. The Peruvian captain justified his conduct on the plea of being an ally of Great Britain, and the expectation likewise of a speedy war between Spain and the United States. Finding him resolved to persist in similar aggressions, Captain Porter threw all his guns and ammunition into the sea, liberated the Americans, and wrote a respectful letter to the viceroy explaining his reasons for so doing, which he delivered to the captain. He then proceeded to Lima, and luckily recaptured one of the American vessel as she was entering the port.

After this he cruised for several months in the Pacific, inflicting immense injury on the British commerce in those waters. He was particularly destructive to the shipping employed in the spermaceti whale fishery. A great number with valuable cargoes were captured; two were given up to the prisoners; three sent to Valparaiso and laid up; three sent to America; one of them he retained as a storeship, and another he equipped with twenty guns, called the *Essex junior*, and gave the command of her to Lieutenant Downes. Most of these ships mounted several guns, and had numerous crews; and as several of them were captured by boats or by prizes, the officers and men of the *Essex* had frequent opportunities of showing their skill and courage, and of acquiring experience and confidence in naval conflict.

Having now a little squadron under his command, Captain Porter became a complete terror in those seas. As his numerous prizes supplied him abundantly with provisions, clothing, medicine, and naval stores of every description, he was enabled for a long time to keep the sea, without sickness or inconvenience to his crew; living entirely on the enemy, and being enabled to make considerable advances of pay to his officers and crew without drawing on government. The unexampled devastation achieved by his daring enterprizes, not only spread alarm throughout the ports of the Pacific, but even occasioned great uneasiness in Great Britain.

Numerous ships were sent out to the Pacific in pursuit of him; others were ordered to cruise in the China seas, off New Zealand, Timor and New Holland, and a frigate sent to the river La Plata. The manner in which Captain Porter cruised, however, completely baffled pursuit. Keeping in the open seas, or lurking among the numerous barren and desolate islands that form the Gallipagos groupe, and never touching on the American coast, he left no traces by which he could be followed; rumour, while it magni-

ed his exploits, threw his pursuers at fault; they were distracted by vague accounts of captures made at different places, and of frigates supposed to be the *Essex* hovering at the same time off different coasts and haunting different islands.

In the mean while Porter, though wrapped in mystery and uncertainty himself, yet received frequent and accurate accounts of his enemies, from the various prizes which he had taken. Lieut. Downer, also, who had convoyed the prizes to Valparaiso, on his return, brought advices of the expected arrival of Commodore Hillyar in the *Phoebe* frigate rating thirty-six guns accompanied by two sloops of war. Glutted with spoil and havoc, and sated with the easy and inglorious captures of merchantmen, Captain Porter now felt eager for an opportunity to meet the enemy on equal terms, and to signalize his cruise by some brilliant achievement. Having been nearly a year at sea, he found that his ship would require some repairs, to enable her to face the foe; he repaired, therefore, accompanied by several of his prizes, to the island of Nooabeevah, one of the Washington groupe, discovered by a Captain Ingraham of Boston. Here he landed, took formal possession of the island in the name of the government of the United States, and gave it the name of Madison's Island. He found it large, populous and fertile, abounding with the necessaries of life; the natives in the vicinity of the harbour which he had chosen received him in the most friendly manner, and supplied him with abundance of provisions. During his stay at this place he had several encounters with some hostile tribes on the island, whom he succeeded in reducing to subjection. Having calked and completely overhauled the ship, made for her a new set of water casks, and taken on board from the prizes provisions and stores for upwards of four months, he sailed for the coast of Chili on the 12th December, 1813. Previous to sailing he secured the three prizes which had accompanied him, under the guns of a battery erected for their protection, and left them in charge of Lieut. Gamble of the marines and twenty-one men, with orders to proceed to Valparaiso after a certain period.

After cruising on the coast of Chili without success, he proceeded to Valparaiso, in hopes of falling in with Commodore Hillyar, or, if disappointed in this wish, of capturing some merchant ships said to be expected from England. While at anchor at this port Commodore Hillyar arrived, having long been searching in vain for the *Essex*, and almost despairing of ever meeting with her. Contrary to the expectations of Capt. Porter, however, Commodore Hillyar, beside his own frigate, superior in itself to the *Essex*, was accompanied by the *Cherub* sloop of war, strongly armed and manned. These ships, having been sent out expressly to seek for the *Essex*, were in prime order and equipment, with picked crews,

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and hoisted flags bearing the motto "God and country, British sailors' best rights: *traitors offend both.*" This was in opposition to Porter's motto of "Free trade and sailors' rights," and the latter part of it suggested doubtless, by error industriously cherished, that our crews are chiefly composed of English seamen. In reply to this motto Porter hoisted at his mizen, "God, our country, and liberty: tyrants offend them." On entering the harbour the *Phoebe* fell foul of the *Essex* in such manner as to lay her at the mercy of Captain Porter; out of respect, however, to the neutrality of the port, he did not take advantage of her exposed situation. This forbearance was afterwards acknowledged by Commodore Hillyar, and he passed his word of honour to observe like conduct while they remained in port. They continued therefore, while in harbour and on shore, in the mutual exchange of courtesies and kind offices that should characterise the private intercourse between civilized and generous enemies. And the crews of the respective ships often mingled together and passed nautical jokes and pleasantries from one to the other.

On getting their provisions on board, the *Phoebe* and *Cherub* went off the port, where they cruised for six weeks, rigorously blockading Captain Porter. Their united force amounted to 81 guns and 500 men, in addition to which they took on board the crew of an English letter of marque lying in port. The force of the *Essex* consisted of but 46 guns, all of which, excepting six long twelves, were 22 pound carronades, only serviceable in close fighting. Her crew, having been much reduced by the manning of prizes, amounted to but 255 men. The *Essex* junior being only intended as a storeship, mounted ten 18 pound carronades and ten short sixes with a complement of only 60 men.

This vast superiority of force on the part of the enemy prevented all chance of encounter, on any thing like equal terms, unless by express covenant between the commanders. Captain Porter, therefore, endeavoured repeatedly to provoke a challenge, (the inferiority of his frigate to the *Phoebe* not justifying him in making the challenge himself,) but without effect. He tried frequently also to bring the *Phoebe* into single action; but this Commodore Hillyar warily avoided, and always kept his ships so close together as to frustrate Captain Porter's attempts.

Finding it impossible to bring the enemy to equal combat; and fearing the arrival of additional force, which he understood was on the way, Captain Porter determined to put to sea the first opportunity that should present. A rendezvous was accordingly appointed for the *Essex* junior, and having ascertained by repeated trials that the *Essex* was a superior sailer to either of the blockading ships, it was agreed that she should let the enemy chase her off; thereby giving the *Essex* junior an opportunity of escaping.

On the next day, the 28th March, the wind came on to blow fresh from the southward, and the *Essex* parted her larboard cable and dragged her starboard anchor directly out to sea. Not a moment was lost in getting sail on the ship; but perceiving that the enemy was close in with the point forming the west side of the bay, and that there was a possibility of passing to windward, and escaping to sea by superior sailing, Captain Porter resolved to hazard the attempt. He accordingly took in his top-gallant-sails and braced up for the purpose, but most unfortunately on rounding the point a heavy squall struck the ship and carried away her main-top-mast, precipitating the men who were aloft into the sea, who were drowned. Both ships now gave chase, and the crippled state of his ship left Porter no alternative but to endeavour to regain the port. Finding it impossible to get back to the common anchorage, he ran close into a small bay about three quarters of a mile to leeward of the battery, on the east of the harbour, and let go his anchor within pistol shot of the shore. Supposing the enemy would, as formerly, respect the neutrality of the place, he considered himself secure, and thought only of repairing the damages he had sustained. The wary and menacing approach of the hostile ships, however, displaying their motto flags and having jacks at all their masts' heads, soon showed him the real danger of his situation. With all possible despatch he got his ship ready for action, and endeavoured to get a spring on his cable, but had not succeeded, when, at 54 minutes past 3 P. M. the enemy commenced an attack.

At first the *Phoebe* lay herself under his stern and the *Cherub* on his starboard bow; but the latter soon finding herself exposed to a hot fire, bore up and ran under his stern also, where both ships kept up a severe and raking fire. Captain Porter succeeded three different times in getting springs on his cables, for the purpose of bringing his broadside to bear on the enemy, but they were as often shot away by the excessive fire to which he was exposed. He was obliged, therefore, to rely for defence against this tremendous attack merely on three long 12 pounders, which he had run out of the stern ports; and which were worked with such bravery and skill, as in half an hour to do great injury to both the enemy's ships, and induce them to haul off and repair damages. It was evidently the intention of Commodore Hillyar to risk nothing from the daring courage of his antagonist, but to take the *Essex* at as cheap a rate as possible. All his manoeuvres were deliberate and wary; he saw his antagonist completely at his mercy, and prepared to cut him up in the safest and surest manner. In the mean time the situation of the *Essex* was galling and provoking in the extreme; crippled and shattered, with many killed and wounded, she lay awaiting the convenience of the enemy, to renew the scene of slaughter, with scarce a hope of

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escape or revenge. Her brave crew, however, in place of being disheartened, were aroused to desperation, and by hoisting ensigns in their rigging, and jacks in different parts of the ship, evinced their defiance and determination to hold out to the last.

The enemy having repaired his damages, now placed himself, with both his ships, on the starboard quarter of the *Essex*, out of reach of her carronades, and where her stern guns could not be brought to bear. Here he kept up a most destructive fire, which it was not in Captain Porter's power to return; the latter, therefore, saw no hope of injuring him without getting under way and becoming the assailant. From the mangled state of his rigging, he could set no other sail than the flying jib; this he caused to be hoisted, cut his cable, and ran down on both ships, with an intention of laying the *Phœbe* on board.

For a short time he was enabled to close with the enemy, and the firing on both sides was tremendous. The decks of the *Essex* were strewn with dead, and her cockpit filled with wounded; she had been several times on fire, and was in fact a perfect wreck; still a feeble hope sprung up that she might be saved, in consequence of the *Cherub* being compelled to hale off by her crippled state; she did not return to close action again, but kept up a distant firing with her long guns. The disabled state of the *Essex*, however, did not permit her to take advantage of this circumstance; for want of sail she was unable to keep at close quarters with the *Phœbe*, who, edging off, chose the distance which best suited her long guns, and kept up a tremendous fire, which made dreadful havoc among our crew. Many of the guns of the *Essex* were rendered useless, and many had their whole crews destroyed....they were manned from those that were disabled, and one gun in particular was three times manned; 15 men were slain at it in the course of the action, though the captain of it escaped with only a slight wound. Captain Porter now gave up all hope of closing with the enemy, but finding the wind favourable, determined to run his ship on shore, land the crew, and destroy her. He had approached within musket shot of the shore, and had every prospect of succeeding, when, in an instant, the wind shifted from the land and drove her down upon the *Phœbe*, exposing her again to a dreadful raking fire. The ship was now totally unmanageable; yet as her head was toward the enemy, and he to leeward, Captain Porter again perceived a faint hope of boarding. At this moment Lieutenant Downes, of the *Essex* junior, came on board to receive orders, expecting that Captain Porter would soon be a prisoner. His services could be of no avail in the deplorable state of the *Essex*, and finding from the enemy's putting his helm up, that the last attempt at boarding would not succeed, Captain Porter directed him, after he had been ten minutes on board, to return to his own ship, to be prepared for de-

fending and destroying her in case of attack. He took with him several of the wounded, leaving three of his boat's crew on board to make room for them. The Cherub kept up a hot fire on him during his return. The slaughter on board of the *Essex* now became horrible; the enemy continued to rake her, while she was unable to bring a gun to bear in return. Still her commander, with an obstinacy that bordered on desperation, persisted in the unequal and almost hopeless conflict. Every expedient that a fertile and inventive mind could suggest was resorted to, in the forlorn hope that they might yet be enabled by some lucky chance to escape from the grasp of the foe. A halser was bent to the sheet anchor, and the anchor cut from the bows, to bring the ship's head round. This succeeded; the broadside of the *Essex* was again brought to bear; and as the enemy was much crippled and unable to hold his own, Captain Porter thought she might drift out of gunshot before she discovered that he had anchored. The halser, however, unfortunately parted, and with it failed the last lingering hope of the *Essex*. The ship had taken fire several times during the action, but at this moment her situation was awful. She was on fire both forward and aft; the flames were bursting up each hatchway; a large quantity of powder below exploded, and word was given that the fire was near the magazine. Thus surrounded by horrors, without any chance of saving the ship, Captain Porter turned his attention to rescuing as many of his brave companions as possible. Finding his distance from the shore did not exceed three quarters of a mile, he hoped many would be able to save themselves should the ship blow up. His boats had been cut to pieces by the enemy's shot, but he advised such as could swim to jump overboard and make for shore. Some reached it...some were taken by the enemy, and some perished in the attempt; but most of this loyal and gallant crew preferred sharing the fate of their ship and their commander.

Those who remained on board now endeavoured to extinguish the flames, and having succeeded, went again to the guns and kept up a firing for a few minutes; but the crew had by this time become so weakened that all further resistance was in vain. Captain Porter summoned a consultation of the officers of divisions, but was surprised to find only acting Lieutenant Stephen Decatur McKnight remaining; of the others some had been killed, others knocked overboard, and others carried below disabled by severe wounds. The accounts from every part of the ship were deplorable in the extreme; representing her in the most shattered and crippled condition, in imminent danger of sinking, and so crowded with the wounded that even the birth deck could contain no more, and many were killed while under the surgeon's hands. In the mean while the enemy, in consequence of the smoothness of the water and his secure distance, was enabled to keep up a delibe-

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rate and constant fire, aiming with coolness and certainty as if firing at a target, and hitting the hull at every shot. At length, utterly despairing of saving the ship, Captain Porter was compelled, at 20 minutes past 6 P. M. to give the painful order to strike the colours. It is probable the enemy did not perceive that the ship had surrendered, for he continued firing; several men were killed and wounded in different parts of the ship, and Captain Porter thinking he intended to show no quarter, was about to rehoist his flag and to fight until he sunk, when the enemy desisted his attack ten minutes after the surrender.

The foregoing account of this battle is taken almost verbatim from the letter of Captain Porter to the secretary of the navy. Making every allowance for its being a partial statement, this must certainly have been one of the most sanguinary and obstinately contested actions on naval record. The loss of the *Essex* is a sufficient testimony of the desperate bravery with which she was defended. Out of 255 men which comprised her crew, fifty-eight were killed; thirty-nine wounded severely; twenty-seven slightly; and thirty-one missing, making in all 154. She was completely cut to pieces, and so covered with the dead and dying, with mangled limbs, with brains and blood, and all the ghastly images of pain and death, that the officer who came on board to take possession of her, though accustomed to scenes of slaughter, was struck with sickening horror, and fainted at the shocking spectacle.

Thousands of the inhabitants of Valparaiso were spectators of the battle, covering the neighbouring heights: for it was fought so near the shore that some of the shot even struck among the citizens, who, in the eagerness of their curiosity, had ventured down upon the beach. Touched by the forlorn situation of the *Essex*, and filled with admiration at the unflagging spirit and persevering bravery of her commander and crew, a generous anxiety ran throughout the multitude for their fate: bursts of delight arose when, by any vicissitude of battle, or prompt expedient, a chance seemed to turn up in their favour; and the eager spectators were seen to wring their hands, and uttered groans of sympathy, when the transient hope was defeated, and the gallant little frigate once more became an unresisting object of deliberate slaughter.

Though, from the distance and positions which the enemy chose, this battle was chiefly fought on our part by six twelve pounders only, yet great damage was done to the assailing ships. Their masts and yards were badly crippled, their hulls much cut up; the *Phoebe*, especially, received 18 twelve pound shot below her water line, some three feet under water. Their loss in killed and wounded was not ascertained, but must have been severe; the first lieutenant of the *Phoebe* was killed, and Captain Tucker, of the *Cherub*, was severely wounded. It was with some diffi-

culty that the *Phoebe* and the *Essex* could be kept afloat until they anchored the next morning in the port of Valparaiso.

Much indignation has been expressed against Commodore Hillyar for his violation of the laws of nations, and of his private agreement with Captain Porter, by attacking him in the neutral waters of Valparaiso; waving all discussion of these points, it may barely be observed, that his cautious attack with a vastly superior force, on a crippled ship, which, relying on his forbearance, had placed herself in a most defenceless situation, and which for six weeks previous had offered him fair fight, on advantageous terms, though it may reflect great credit on his prudence, yet certainly furnishes no triumph to a brave and generous mind.

Captain Porter and his crew were paroled, and permitted to return to the United States in the *Essex* junior, her armament being previously taken out. On arriving off the port of New-York, they were overhauled by the *Saturn* razee, the authority of Commodore Hillyar to grant a passport was questioned, and the *Essex* junior detained. Captain Porter then told the boarding officer that he gave up his parole, and considered himself a prisoner of war, and as such should use all means of escape. In consequence of this threat the *Essex* junior was ordered to remain all night under the lee of the *Saturn*, but the next morning Captain Porter put off in his boat, though thirty miles from shore; and, notwithstanding he was pursued by the *Saturn*, effected his escape, and landed safely on Long Island. His reception in the United States has been such as his great services and distinguished valour deserved. The various interesting and romantic rumours that had reached this country concerning him, during his cruise in the Pacific, had excited the curiosity of the public to see this modern Sinbad; on arriving in New-York his carriage was surrounded by the populace, who took out the horses, and dragged him, with shouts and acclamations, to his lodgings.

The Alligator.....Towards the latter part of January, 1814, the U. S. schooner *Alligator*, mounting 8 or 10 guns, with a complement of 40 men, was attacked in Stono river (six miles south of the channel of Charleston, S. C.) by 6 boats from the enemy's squadron off the mouth of the river, having on board 140 men, and succeeded in beating them off, after a warm action of 30 minutes, in which the enemy suffered very severely. The loss on board the *Alligator* was 2 killed and 2 wounded. Great credit is due to her commander, Sailing-Master Dent, and crew, for defeating a force so greatly superior in numbers.*

* The *Alligator* was afterwards lost in a severe gale, and 23 of her men drowned.

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Cruise of Commodore Rodgers..... On the 18th of February, Commodore Rodgers arrived at Sandy Hook, off New York, after a cruise of 75 days, during which he captured a number of British merchant vessels, and narrowly escaped at different times, a very superior force of the enemy.

Capture of the Epervier..... On the 20th of April, in lat. 27 47, long. 80 9, the U. S. sloop of war Peacock, Captain Warrington, of 20 guns and 160 men, captured, after an action of 42 minutes, the British brig Epervier of 18 guns and 128 men, having on board 120,000 dollars in specie. The loss on board the Epervier was 8 killed and 13 wounded; among the latter was her 1st lieutenant, who lost an arm and received a severe splinter wound on the hip. Not a man in the Peacock was killed, and only two wounded; and the injury sustained by the vessel was so trifling that in 15 minutes after the Epervier struck, she was ready for another action.

When the enemy struck, he had five feet of water in his hold, his main topmast was over the side, his main boom shot away, his foremast cut nearly in two and tottering, his bowsprit badly wounded, and 45 shot holes in his hull, 20 of which were within a foot of his water line. By great exertions, the Epervier was got in sailing order in the course of the day.

On the 1st of May, the Epervier arrived at Savannah; and on the 4th, the Peacock reached the same place, after having been separated from her prize and chased for four or five days by a superior force of enemy's vessels.

Cruise of the Wasp..... On the 1st of May, the U. S. sloop of war Wasp, of 18 guns and 173 men, Captain Blakely commander, sailed from Portsmouth, N. H. on a cruise, and on the 28th of June, in lat. 48 36, long. 11 15, after having made several captures, she fell in with, engaged, and after an action of 19 minutes, captured his Britannic majesty's sloop of war Reindeer, William Mannors, esquire, commander. The Reindeer mounted sixteen 24 pound carronades, two long 6 or 9 pounders, and a shifting 12 pound carronade, with a complement on board of 118 men. She was literally cut to pieces in a line with her ports; her upper works, boats and spare spars were one complete wreck, and a breeze springing up the day after the action, her foremast went by the board; when the prisoners having been taken on board the Wasp, she was set on fire and soon blew up.

The loss on board the Reindeer was 23 killed and 42 wounded, her captain being among the former. On board the Wasp 5 were killed and 21 wounded. More than one half of the wounded enemy were, in consequence of the severity and extent of their wounds, put on board a Portuguese brig and sent to England.....

The loss of the Americans, although not as severe as that of the British, was owing, in a degree, to the proximity of the two vessels during the action, and the extreme smoothness of the sea, but chiefly in repelling boarders.

On the 8th of July, the *Wasp* put into L'Orient, France, after capturing an additional number of prizes, where she remained until the 27th of August, when she again sailed on a cruise. On the 1st of September she fell in with the British sloop of war *Avon*, of 20 guns, commanded by Captain Abuthnot, and after an action of 45 minutes, compelled her to surrender, her crew being nearly all killed or wounded. The guns were then ordered to be secured, and a boat lowered from the *Wasp* in order to take possession of the prize. In the act of lowering the boat, a second enemy's vessel was discovered astern and standing towards the *Wasp*. Captain Blakely immediately ordered his crew to their quarters, prepared every thing for action, and awaited her coming up. In a few minutes after, two additional sail were discovered bearing down upon the *Wasp*. Captain Blakely stood off with the expectation of drawing the first from its companions; but in this he was disappointed. She continued to approach until she came close to the stern of the *Wasp*, when she haled by the wind, fired her broadside, (which injured the *Wasp* but triflingly,) and retraced her steps to join her consorts. Captain Blakely was now necessitated to abandon the *Avon*, which had by this time become a total wreck, and which soon after sunk, the surviving part of her crew having barely time to escape to the other enemy's vessels.

On board the *Avon* 40 were killed and 60 wounded. The loss sustained by the *Wasp* was 2 killed and 1 wounded.

The *Wasp* afterwards continued her cruise, making great havoc among English merchant vessels and privateers, destroying an immense amount of the enemy's property. From the 1st of May until the 20th of September, she had captured 15 vessels, most of which she destroyed.

The Peacock, Captain Warrington, arrived at Newyork toward the latter part of October, from a cruise of 147 days, having made 14 prizes, valued at 494,222 dollars; 12 of which were burnt or sunk, and 2 made cartels for prisoners.

Gun-boat action.....On the 19th of May, Commodore Lewis, commanding the U. S. flotilla on the Newyork station, discovered the enemy in pursuit of a brig under American colours, standing for Sandy Hook; when he ordered a detachment of 11 gun-boats to proceed to sea and pass between the chase and the enemy, by which means to bring him to action, and give opportunity to the

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chase to escape....all which was effected; and the enemy, after receiving the fire of the boats bore away.

On the 23d, Commodore Lewis engaged the enemy before Newlondon, and opened a passage for 40 sail of coasting vessels: the action lasted 3 hours, in which the flotilla suffered very little, and night coming on, the action ceased. The enemy's force consisted of two ships and a sloop of war, and from appearance suffered severely, as he was unwilling to renew the action next morning.

The schooner Santee, Captain Leavens, on her way to Amelia Island, with cotton, was captured by the boats of the British frigate *Lacedemonian*, on the 8th of August, and ordered for Bermuda. On the 10th, at 10 o'clock at night, while under way, Captain Leavens conceived the bold idea of re-capturing his vessel alone. He accordingly took the precaution to put out of the way the axe and whatever else there was at hand that could be made use of against him. He then armed himself with a brace of pistols and sword which were concealed on board, and commenced the daring enterprise, by wounding two of the crew, one severely in the leg, when the other three surrendered to that valour which they dare not withstand. Having secured his prisoners, Captain Leavens put about his vessel and stood for Charleston, which (with the assistance of his prisoners, whom he obliged to assist him one at a time,) he reached on the 12th of August, amid the cheerings and acclamations of the citizens.

The General Armstrong....The following letter from John D. Dabney, esquire, American consul at Fayal, (Portugal,) gives the particulars of a flagrant violation of the neutrality of that port, in an attack upon the privateer *General Armstrong*, by the enemy. The *Armstrong* belonged to Newyork, and mounted 8 long 9's and a 24 pounder.

Fayal, October 5, 1814.

SIR....I have the honour to state to you that a most outrageous violation of the neutrality of this port, in utter contempt of the laws of civilized nations, has recently been committed here, by the commanders of his Britannic majesty's ships *Plantagenet*, *Rota* and *Carnation*, against the American private armed brig *General Armstrong*, Samuel C. Reid, commander; but I have great satisfaction in being able to add, that this occurrence terminated in one of the most brilliant actions on the part of Captain Reid, his brave officers and crew, that can be found on naval record.

The American brig came to anchor in this port in the afternoon of the 26th of September, and at sunset of the same day, the

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above named ships suddenly appeared in these roads; it being nearly calm in the port, was rather doubtful if the privateer could escape if she got under way, and relying on the justice and good faith of the British captains, it was deemed most prudent to remain at anchor. A little after dusk Captain Reid seeing some suspicious movements on the part of the British, began to warp his vessel close under the guns of the castle, and while doing so, he was at about 8 o'clock, P. M. approached by four boats from the ships filled with armed men. After hailing them repeatedly and warning them to keep off, he ordered his men to fire upon them and killed and wounded several men. The boats returned the fire and killed one man and wounded the first lieutenant of the privateer, and returned to their ships; and, as it was now light moonlight, it was plainly perceived from the brig as well as from the shore, that a formidable attack was premeditating. Soon after midnight, 12 or more large boats, crowded with men from the ships, and armed with carronades, swivels and blunderbusses, small arms, &c. attacked the brig; a severe contest ensued which lasted about 40 minutes and ended in the total defeat and partial destruction of the boats, with a most unparalleled carnage on the part of the British. It is estimated by good judges that near four hundred men were in the boats when the attack commenced, and no doubt exists in the minds of the numerous spectators of the scene, that more than one half of them were killed or wounded; several boats were destroyed; two of them remained along side of the brig literally loaded with their own dead. From these two boats only seventeen reached the shore alive; most of them were severely wounded. The whole of the following day the British were occupied in burying their dead; among them were two lieutenants and one midshipman of the Rota...the first lieutenant of the Plantagenet, it is said, cannot survive his wounds, and many of the seamen who reached their ships were mortally wounded and have been dying daily. The British, mortified at this signal and unexpected defeat, endeavoured to conceal the extent of the loss; they admit however that they lost in killed and who have died since the engagement, upwards of 120 of the flower of their officers and men. The captain of the Rota told me he lost 70 men from his ship. Two days after this affair took place the British sloops of war *Thais* and *Calypso* came into port, when Capt. Lloyd immediately took them into requisition to carry home the wounded officers and seamen. They have sailed for England, one on the 2d and the other on the 4th inst. each carried 25 badly wounded. Those who were slightly wounded, to the number, as I am informed, of about 30, remained on board of their respective ships, and sailed last evening for Jamaica. Strict orders

were given that the sloops of war should take no letters whatever to England, and those orders were rigidly adhered to.

In face of the testimony of all Fayal, and a number of respectable strangers, who happened to be in this place at the moment, the British commander endeavors to throw the odium of this transaction on the American captain, Reid, alledging that he sent the boats merely to reconnoitre the brig, and without any hostile intentions; the pilots of the port did inform them of the privateer the moment they entered the port. To reconnoitre an enemy's vessel in a friendly port, at night, with four boats, carrying, by the best accounts, 120 men, is certainly a strange proceeding! The fact is, they expected, as the brig was warping in, that the Americans would not be prepared to receive them, and they had hopes of carrying her by a "coup de main." If any thing could add to the baseness of this transaction on the part of the British commander, it is the want of candour openly and boldly to avow the facts. In vain can he expect by such subterfuge to shield himself from the indignation of the world, and the merited resentment of his own government and nation for thus trampling on the sovereignty of their most ancient and faithful ally; and for the wanton sacrifice of British lives.

On the part of the Americans the loss was comparatively nothing; 2 killed and 7 wounded: of the slain we have to lament the loss of the 2d lieutenant, Mr. Alexander O. Williams, of Newyork, a brave and meritorious officer.

Among the wounded are Messrs. Worth and Johnson, 1st and 3d lieutenants; Captain Reid was thus deprived, early in the action, of the services of all his lieutenants; but his cool and intrepid conduct secured him the victory.

On the morning of the 27th ult. one of the British ships placed herself near the shore and commenced a heavy cannonade on the privateer. Finding further resistance unavailing, Captain Ried ordered her to be abandoned after being partially destroyed, to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy who soon after sent their boats and set her on fire.

At 9 o'clock in the evening (soon after the first attack) I applied to the governor, requesting his excellency to protect the privateer, either by force or by such remonstrance to the commander of the squadron as would cause him to desist from any further attempt. The governor indignant at what had passed, but feeling himself totally unable with the slender means he possessed, to resist such a force, took the part of remonstrating, which he did in forcible but respectful terms. His letter to Captain Lloyd had no other effect than to produce a menacing reply insulting in the highest degree. Nothing can exceed the indignation of the public authorities, as well as of all ranks and descriptions of persons

here, at this unprovoked enormity. Such was the rage of the British to destroy this vessel, that no regard was paid to the safety of the town; some of the inhabitants were wounded, and a number of houses were much damaged. The strongest representations on this subject are prepared by the governor for his court.

Since this affair the commander, Lloyd, threatened to send on shore an armed force, and arrest the privateer's crew; saying, there were many Englishmen among them; and our poor fellows, afraid of his vengeance, have fled to the mountains several times, and have been harassed extremely. At length, Captain Lloyd, fearful of losing more men if he put his threats in execution, adopted this stratagem: he addressed an official letter to the governor, stating that in the American crew were two men who deserted from his squadron in America, and as they were guilty of high treason, he required them to be found and given up. Accordingly a force was sent into the country, and the American seamen were arrested and brought to town, and as they could not designate the said pretended deserters, all the seamen here passed an examination of the British officers, but no such persons were to be found among them. I was requested by the governor and British consul to attend this humiliating examination, as was also Captain Reid; but we declined to sanction by our presence any such proceedings.

Captain Reid has protested against the British commanders of the squadron for the unwarrantable destruction of his vessel in a neutral and friendly port, as also against the government of Portugal for their inability to protect him.

No doubt this government will feel themselves bound to make ample indemnification to the owners, officers and crew of this vessel, for the great loss they have severally sustained.

I shall, as early as possible, transmit a statement of this transaction to our minister at Rio Janeiro, for his government.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant.

JOHN B. DABNEY.

To the secretary of state of the U. S. Washington.

List of British vessels captured during the year 1814—extracted from Niles' Weekly Register.

Brig — with provisions, by the Fox.
Schooner Mary by the Macedonian—ransomed.

Sloop — by the Hope—divested of a quantity of dry goods and given up.

Ship, Wanderer, 7 guns, with plantation stores, by the President frigate, deprived of her light articles and sunk.

Ship Edward by do—sunk.

Schooner Jonathan with dry goods and rum, by do. divested of her cargo and sunk.

Brig Britannia with spirit, etc. by the Mars.

Schooner Curlew with fish and oil, by the Alfred.

Brig Tereilla with fish, by do. and burnt.

Ship — of 600 tons, by the Chasseur of Baltimore, with a full cargo of crockery, hardware, white lead, dry goods, etc. she was under Swedish colours, but the property was unquestionably British.

Ship — 400 tons, 18 long twelve pounders, with an immensely valuable cargo of Turkish goods, by the True Blooded Yankee.

Ship — 400 tons, 16 guns, nine pounders, with hides, tallow, etc. by do.

Two vessels by the Frigate—one destroyed, the other made a cartel of.

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vateer Elbridge Gerry, with fish and oil, by a
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Ship — with dry goods, etc. by the letter of
marque schooner Deille of Baltimore, and sunk.
The Deille had previously captured and man-
and a very valuable vessel, and could not spare
hands to man the second prize.

Ship — with a full cargo of drugs, oil, paints,
etc. by the U. S. brig Enterprise.

Brig Superb, with salt, by the Mars.

British privateer Mars, 14 guns, by the U. S.
brig Rattlesnake and Enterprise.

Brig Juno, with oil, fish, etc. by the Grand
Turk.

Brig Friends of Hall Wax, with rum, by the Di-
omedes of Salem.

Schooner Sea Flower, by the Tuckahoe of
Baltimore—burnt.

Schooner Hazard by do. and given up.

Brig Sovereign, 30 tons with an assorted
cargo, by the America.

Ship Diana with spars, by do. and burnt.

Schooner William with sugar, coffee and mo-
lasses, by the Diomedes.

Schooner Mary and Joseph with rum and su-
gar, by do.

Brig Byker with earthen ware, hollow ware,
etc. by the Fox.

Schooner Hope with rum, sugar and lime-
juice, by the Diomedes.

Brig Rambler with coffee, by the Rattlesnake
and Enterprise—burnt.

Schooner Eliza with salt, by do.

Ship Lady Prevost in ballast, by the Invinc-
ible of Salem.

Schooner Susan and Eliza, with coffee, by the
Mars.

Schooner — called a Spaniard, but with a
British licence and good prize, by the Viper.

Schooner —, valuable with dry goods and
provisions, by the Fairy of Baltimore.

Brig Falcon, 200 tons, 10 guns, with dry goods
worth 50,000l. sterling, by the America.

Brig Superb by the Mars.

Schooner — with rum and sugar, by the
Viper.

Ship — under Russian colours, with cotton,
by the Saucy Jack—cargo supposed to be Brit-
ish.

Brig Brothers by the America.

Ship Victory, 13 guns, by the Viper, with
cotton, coffee, indigo, Nicaragua and logwood—
immensely valuable.

Four valuable ships by the Rattlesnake.

Ship — worth a million of francs, by do.

Brig Elizabeth in ballast, with some valuable
dry goods which she was divested of by the Car-
oline.

Ship Annette Catharine, called a Swede, by
the Saucy Jack. This vessel was from Boston
with a clearance for the West Indies, in ballast,
but appears to have had on board a cargo of
provisions.

Schooner Nimble with logwood, by do.

Schooner Jason with dry goods, by the Caro-
line—divested of her cargo and burnt.

Schooner — with dry goods and other valu-
able articles, by the Kemp of Baltimore.

Schooner Trinitaria, by the Saucy Jack.

Nine valuable British vessels, by the Neufchat-
el (belonging to New-York) on the enemy's
coast, and sent into France or destroyed.

Nine vessels by the Comet—divested of their
valuables and destroyed.

Four vessels by do. and ransomed—money
paid.

Two vessels by do.

Brig Apollo, 300 tons, 6 guns with salt, by
the America.

Brig Ann by do. and given up to release the
prisoners.

Cutter Patty by do.—sunk.

Brig — by do.—sunk.

Brig Henry, 6 guns, 200 tons, with dry goods
and other valuable articles worth 40,000l. ster-
ling by the Governor Tompkins.

Brig Abel with sugar, etc.

Ship — in ballast, by the Invincible.

Schooner Encouragement with sugar, molas-
ses and rum, by the Froile—destroyed.

Brig Two Sisters with wine, fruits, etc. by the
Wasp.

Schooner Hope with lumber, beef, oil, etc.
by the America—burnt.

Schooner Sylph with fish, oil, etc. by do. and
burnt.

Schooner Eclipse with salt by the Wasp.

Schooner Cobham by the Jonguilla of N. Y.

Brig Louisa with oil and fish, by the Kemp.

Ship Hebe with coal, lumber, etc. by the Sur-
prise.

His majesty's schooner Pieton, by the frigate
Constitution—destroyed.

Ship Lovely Ann by do. and given up to dis-
charge prisoners.

Schooner Phoenix by do. cargo removed and
vessel destroyed.

Brig Nimble with West-India produce, by the
Invincible.

Brig Ceres in ballast, by the Grampus—burnt.

Schooner — with sugar, by the Saratoga.

Schooner Friends' Adventure with rum, mo-
lasses, sugar, etc. by the Fox.

Brig Fanny with fish, by the Galloway of
New-York.

Brig — with lumber, by the Fox—burnt.

Schooner — with mahogany, by the Snap
Dragon.

Schooner Kentish with sugar, by the Sara-
toga.

Schooner Prince Regent, 10 guns, by the In-
vincible—divested of her armament, etc. and
given up.

Cutter Lyon with dry goods, hardware, etc.
by do.—divested of the most valuable of her
goods and given up.

Brig Portsea, 8 guns, by do.—divested etc. and
given up.

Brig Conway, 10 guns with dry goods, by do.
—manned and ordered for the United States.

Schooner Francis and Lucy with fish, oil and
lumber by do. and given up to the prisoners.

Brig Margaretta with wine by do.—given up
as having been taken within the Spanish juris-
diction.

Brig James by the Young Wasp—divested of
part of her cargo, manned and ordered into port.

Two vessels by do.—one destroyed, the other
given up to release prisoners.

A vessel with furs, on Lake Champlain, by
the Alert of Burlington.

Ship Union with sugar and coffee, by the
Rambler—re-captured, but lost.

Brig Fair Stranger with fish, oil, etc. by the
Fox.

The Mary, a British transport, with 62 French
prisoners to England from Sicily, by the Rat-
tlesnake. The enemy made battle, but was
soon compelled to haul down his colours, the
captain and two seamen being killed, and three
wounded. The officers who have arrived in
England greatly extol the gentlemanly conduct
of Captain Moffitt: He gave them their personal
property.

Brig — with provisions, by the Expedition
—destroyed.

Schooner Miranda, by the Chasseur, divested
of some dry goods and burnt.

Sloop Martha, with government stores, by do.
divested of the valuable part of her cargo, the
other being destroyed—then made a cartel of to
release prisoners.

Two other vessels by do. and destroyed: one
of them had on board a quantity of money in
gold.

Brig Experience by the Caroline, but lost—crew saved.

Ship Experience, with a full cargo of dry goods, glass ware, etc. worth \$60,000 dollars, by the Rapid.

Schooner — with rum, cocoa, etc. by the Perry of Baltimore.

Schooner Francis with bullocks, by the Miles of Baltimore—burnt.

Schooner Appalladore with fruit, by do. and sunk.

Schooner William and sloop Irwin, by do. and sent in as cartels with prisoners.

Brig Bellona, with wine and fruit, by the Globe.

Schooner Prince Regent with fruit, wine and oil by the U. S. ship Adams, and burnt—worth 17,000 dollars.

Schooner Industry worth 13,000 dollars, by do. and burnt.

Sloop — with rice by do—divested of her cargo and given up.

Brig Roebuck by do. worth \$1,000 dollars; a quantity of ivory taken out and the rest of her cargo destroyed—then given up to parole prisoners.

Ship Equity by the Rattlesnake—burnt.

Ship Adson by do—sunk.

Schooner — by the Saratoga.

Sloop — by the heels of the Saratoga—sunk.

Schooner — by do. and ransomed.

British sloop of war Espervier, 18 guns, by the U. S. sloop of war Rescock of the same rate.

Sloop Cygnus with rum, by the Saratoga.

Schooner Diligence by the York of Baltimore, and destroyed.

Sloop Benita, by the Delisle—destroyed.

Brig Robert with fish and lumber, by the Xebec Uxor of Baltimore.

Brig Favorite by the David Porter of New-York—divested of her valuable articles and given up.

A ship under Portuguese colours with English goods British property, by do and given up.

A brig under Swedish colours, with do. by do. and do.

Ship Doris, do. do. do.

Brig Curlew full of wine, by do. divested, etc. and burnt.

Brig — with rum and sugar, by the Rattlesnake.

Ship James by the Young Wasp—divested of \$4,000 dollars in specie, but afterwards recaptured.

Brig Swift 4 guns and 15 men, with sundries, by the Xebec Uxor.

Brig Camellion with rum and molasses, by the Mammoth of Baltimore.

Two vessels by the Caroline—divested of their valuables and destroyed. The Caroline captured three other vessels which were mauled and ordered into port.

Ten valuable vessels by several privateers, sent in, sunk or divested.

Schooner Hope with fish, by the Pike.

Schooner Pickrel with dry goods, tea, etc. by do. divested and destroyed.

Ship Askew by the True Blooded Yankee.

Ship Pelham, 500 tons, 13 guns, with an assorted cargo of India and British goods, captured after a smart action by boarding, by the Saucy Jack.

Ship Fortuna, Russian colours, with regalia, by the Roger of Norfolk—cargo enemy's property.

Schooner Thosie with rum and molasses, by the Hawk of Washington.

Brig Kutooff, of guns, with coffee, cocoa and hides, after a very severe action and carried by boarding, by the Surprise—worth 50,000 dollars.

Schooner Young Farmer with indigo, worth

40,000 dollars, by the Henry Gilder of New-York.

Schooner Miranda with dry goods, by the Chasseur—divested and burnt.

Sloop Martha with government stores, by do. divested of some of the cargo, the rest destroyed—vessel made a cartel for the exchange of prisoners.

Schooner Ann Maria with provisions, by do. and burnt.

American schooner William with a quantity of cash in gold by do. divested of her precious metal and burnt.

Schooner ship Joanna with wheat and barley worth 30,000 dollars by do and sunk.

Two vessels by the James Monroe—burnt.

Schooner Brilliant, 6 guns, 157 tons, with oil, cotton and logwood, by the Scourge.

Ship Symmetry, of 350 tons, with salt, crates and hardware, by do—burnt.

Ship — schooner of 400 tons, with a full cargo of crates, porter, etc. by do—burnt.

Brig Union of 400 tons, with tobacco, by do—burnt.

A new ship in ballast, by do—burnt.

Sloop — by do. and made a cartel of.

Ship Caledonia of 300 tons, by do. and do.

Brig — by do—sunk.

Brig Dove with lumber, by the Fox—burnt.

Ship Jane in ballast, divested and given up to release prisoners.

Brig Balise with dry goods, hard and glass ware, worth 50,000/ sterling, by do.

Ship Alernaid with salt and coal, by the Gen. Pike.

Ship Commerce with barley and oats, by the Lawrence of Baltimore.

Ship Upton, 270 tons, 10 guns, 104 men, with a valuable cargo, after a pretty warm action, in which she had one killed and one wounded, by the Diomed.

Letter of marque ship Hero, by the prize ship Upton, after a fight of 30 minutes, and given up after being divested, etc. The Hero had many more men than the Upton.

Brig Providence by the Diomed—sunk.

Brig Harmony by do. and sunk.

Brig Recovery driven ashore by do. and destroyed.

Brig Melpomene, 6 guns, with wine, by the Chasseur.

Brig Britannia with wine, by do.

Brig — with rum and sugar, by the Roger Schooner — by a Baltimore privateer.

Ship Henry Dundas by the Rattlesnake, and released.

Brig Indian Lass by the Grand Turk—divested of dry goods worth 65,000 dollars and 30 prisoners—ordered in.

Brig Catharine by do.—recaptured by the British, and again captured by the Grand Turk and burnt.

Sloop Caroline with dry goods, etc. by do. divested and given up. The Grand Turk captured several other vessels.

Three heavy gun-boats, one carrying a long 24 and a 68 lb. carronade—each of the others two heavy guns.—and two cutters, with about 100 men in all, and some smaller boats, by the ruffians under Major Appling at Sandy Creek.

Schooner Traveller with rum, etc. by the Diomed.

Brig Ceres with 400 tons of hides and tallow, by the Lawrence.

Ship Cod Hook with salt, dry goods, crates, flour, bread and iron, by the Diomed.

Schooner Vittoria by the Hero of New-York.

Valuable cargo of the Russian ship Joachim, by the Caroline—condemned as British property.

Schooner Robert Hartwell with sugar and molasses, worth 20,000 dollars, by the Hero.

erry Guller of New.

th dry goods, by the
urnt.
ument stores, by do.
argo, the rest destroy-
for the exchange of

with provisions, by do.
William with a quantity
vested of her precious

with wheat and barley
do. and sunk.
es Monroe—burnt.
me 157 tons, with oil,
e Seacrage.

tons, with salt, crates
rats.
cons, with a full car-
y do.—burnt.
with tobacco, by do.—

by do.—burnt.
made a cartel of,
oni, by do. and dor

by the Fox—burnt.
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goods, hard and glass
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Hero, by the prize ship
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Grand Turk—divest-
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Grand Turk cap-

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at Sandy Creek.

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t; dry goods, crates,
e Diomedes

Hero of New-York.
Asian ship Joachim,
ed as British prop-

well with sugar and
N. by the Hero.

Brig Liddell with salt, by the Amelia of Bal-
more, and made a cartel of.
Brig Jessie, 6 guns, with bread, porter, etc.
by do. and burnt.

Schooner Ann with dry goods, by do. divest-
ed of her effects, and sent as a cartel to Halifax.

Two vessels by the Hero, and ransomed.
Schooner Octava by the Harrison of Baltimore.

Brig Little Fox and a schooner by the U. S.
sloop of war Frolic, and destroyed.

Schooner Funchall with rum and sugar, by
the Hero.

Ship London Packet, 11 guns, with brandy
and wine, by the Chasseur.

Brig Astron, 14 guns, with fish, by the Midas
of Baltimore.

Privateer schooner Dash, 1 long and several
small guns and 40 men, by do.

Schooner Union, with fish oil, by the Am-
elia of Baltimore.

Gun boat Hlak Snake, on the St. Lawrence,
by Lieut. Gregory of the U. S. navy—destroy-
ed.

Sloop Friendship, with dry goods and specie
(7000 dollars) by the Revenge—divested and
destroyed.

Schooner Alert by do. and do.
Schooner Mary Ann by do.—divested and given
up.

Sloop Active, with lumber by the Fairy, and
burnt.

Brig Lord Nelson, with Beef, by the Xebec
Ulton—burnt.

Schooner Nancy, in ballast, by do. and do.
Schooner — with sugar, by do. divested in
part and burnt.

Schooner — with sugar, by do. and burnt.
Schooner — in ballast, by do. and made a
cartel of.

Two small vessels, by do. and burnt. The Ul-
ton manped a brig of 14 guns, and ordered for
France; and two others for the U. S.

Portuguese ship St. Jose with dry goods, hard
ware, etc. worth \$ or 600,000 dollars, under-
stood to be British property, by the Yankee.

Privateer schooner Amnesty, 1 gun, 24 men,
by the Xebec Ulton—burnt.

Sloop Ticker, by do.
Schooner Rambler with dry goods, by the
Ferry.

Schooner Fairy, 2 guns mounted and 6 in the
hold, with flour, by do.

Schooner Balaboo, 6 guns and 30 men, by do.
Eighteen small vessels by do.—divested of their
valuables and destroyed.

Ship Friendship under Swedish colours—car-
go worth 100,000 sterling, supposed to be Bri-
tish property, by the Herald of N. Y.

Bomb vessel, burnt at Fretque Isle by two
boats from Sacket's Harbour.

Ship Hugh Jones, by the Yankee—divested
of many bales of valuable goods.

Schooner Fox by the Surprise, and made a
cartel of.

Brig James and David in ballast by do.—cut
away her masts and let her go.

Brig Fidelity by do. and burnt.
A tender of the British frigate Tenedos, 1
brass gun, 3 officers and 10 men by gunboat No.
22.

Schooner Ellen with beef, pork and lard, by
the Herald.

Brig Duke of York by the General Armstrong,
and burnt.

Sloop George with pork, by do.—sunk.
Brig Swift in ballast, by do. and made a car-
tel of.

Brig Defiance with whiskey, butter and bread,
by do. and burnt.

Brig Friendship with do. by do. and do.
Brig Stag, with a full cargo of dry goods, by
do.—divested in part and burnt.

Ship Dorcas by the boats of do. and sunk.
Sloop Henrietta with stores, by do.

Ship Berry Castle, 6 guns, with barilla and
some wine, by the Yankee—divested and per-
mitted to pass.

Schooner Linnet with fish and oil, by the Snap
Dragon.

Schooner — by do.—divested and burnt.
Six vessels captured in the English channel
and sent into Havre-de-Grace (France) by the
Prince of Neufchatel.

Brig — by the Rambler of Boston—divested
of a quantity wine and given up.

A brig and a schooner by the late U. S. brig
Rattlesnake—sunk.

Brig Fortitude with hides, coffee, dye-wood,
etc. by the Surprise.

Schooner George Canning with Merino wool
and fruit, by the General Armstrong.

Ship Pizarro with dry goods, crates, copper
and salt, by the Midas of Baltimore.

Brig Espiranza with cotton, rice and flour, by
do.

Brig Elsinore with salt, by do.
Four vessels by the Harrison of Baltimore—
divested of goods to the value of 18,000 sterling
and given up or destroyed.

Schooner — with specie, by do. and man-
ned for the U. S.

Brig Betsey with fish, by the York of Balti-
more.

Ship Alfred in ballast, by the Harry.

Ship Antonia with dry goods, brandy and
hardware by do.

Two brigs in ballast by ditto—burnt.
Schooner Henry with fish by the saratogs.

Packet Princess Elizabeth, 6 guns (two long
brass 9's and six 12 lb gunnades) and 38 men;
captured by the Harpey after a warm defence,
in which she had some killed and wounded and
was much cut up. She had on board a Turkish
ambassador for England; an aid to a British ge-
neral; and the second officer of a 74. She was
ransomed for 3000 dollars, after being divested
of 10,000 dollars in specie, her two brass and two
other guns, (the rest being thrown overboard)
five pipes of wine, etc. The privateer had one
man killed.

Ship Hero with codfish by the Ida.
East India Company's ship Countess of Har-
court, 210 tons, 6 heavy guns and 90 men, with
dry goods and liquors, by the babins.

Packet, the cutter Landraile, — guns, 33 men,
after a hard battle in the English channel, by
the Syren—divested, etc. and prisoners brought
to New-York.

Two brigs by do. one burnt, the other divest-
ed and released.

Fourteen vessels in the English channel by
the Governor Tompkins—divested of their valu-
ables and burnt.

Brig Betsey and Mary with wool, etc. by the
Kemp—divested of 10s bales merino wool, and
burnt.

Ship Calypso under Swedish colours, with
Dutch papers, by do.—divested of some of her
cargo and permitted to proceed.

Brig Caledonia under Swedish colours, but
with British papers, by do.—divested of some dry
goods and 5000 dollars in specie, and permitted
to proceed.

Brig New-Frederick by do.—permitted to pro-
ceed out of humanity to an Italian lady.

Schooner Contract with salt, by the Roger.
Transport brig Doris, by the Grampus.

Ship Hoppet, and brig Eliza, with cotton, by
the Saucy Jack.

Two merchantmen by the U. S. brig Syren
and burnt.

Brig Melville 14 guns, with valuable stores
beached ashore on lake Ontario and destroyed..

Schooner Mary with dry goods worth \$8000 sterling, by the shark of New-York.

Brig Hunter 10 guns and 20 men with fish, by the U. S. corvette Adams and destroyed.

Brig Mary by do. and do.

Schooner Favorite with salt, by do.

Ship Paris with lumber and skins by do. and do—skins worth 20 000 dollars taken out.

Schooner Maria with lumber, by do. and do.

Brig Maria Wirman with sugar, by the Yau-lee.

Cutter Wasp by the Rattlesnake—burnt.

Brig Dover by do. and do.

Brig Pickle by the Pike, and burnt.

Schooner — by do—diverted and made a cartel of.

Schooner Industrious Bee by do—burnt.

Schooner Venus by do. and do.

Schooner Lord Nelson by do. and do.

Schooner Hope by do. and do.

Brig Jane with provisions and dry goods, by do—diverted in part and made a cartel of.

Brig Orient with dry goods, by do—diverted and scuttled.

Brig John by do. and burnt within gun shot of a British man of war brig.

Brig Kingston Packet with oil and fish, by the Fox.

A brig and a schooner with fish, by the Herald.

Ship Samuel Cummings, 400 tons, with sugar and coffee, by the Pike—wrecked on the southern coast, but part of the cargo saved.

Ship Five sisters, by the letter of marque schr. Dash, diverted of 200 punchons of Jamaica rum and permitted to proceed.

Seven vessels, viz. bark Neptune, 207 tons;

Brig William with barley, brig Pallas, 2 guns, 121 tons, richly laden with skins, etc.; galliot

Menretta with provisions; ship Orange Boven 8 guns, 115 tons, with sugar and coffee; brig

Regulator 112 tons, with port wine; schooner Jenny, 121 tons, with sweet oil—all captured by the U. S. sloop of war Wasp, on the British coast, and burnt or scuttled, except the Menretta made a cartel of.

Sloop of war Heindrick, 21 guns, 112 men, by do. after a short but sharp action, and burnt.

Schooner — by the Leach of Salem, and razed.

Brig — of 200 tons with rum, sugar, molasses, lime-juice and lignum-vita, worth 30,000 dollars, by the Hero.

Brig Diana by the David Porter—diverted in part.

Brig Cornwallis with barilla, by do—diverted and made a cartel.

Ship Vester, 6 guns, by do—diverted of her valuables.

Brig Horatia with hides and tallow—ransomed for a bill of 20,000 dollars.

Ship Liddle by the Amelia—diverted and given up to release prisoners.

Ship Jesse by do. and burnt.

Schooner Mink with flour, on lake Huron, by the squadron under Com. Sinclair.

Schooner Petrevarance with provisions, on lake Superior by do. and destroyed.

Schooner Nancy, 3 guns, with valuable stores by do. on lake Huron—destroyed.

Brig Endeavor with salt, anchors, army stores and coal, by the Surprise.

Cutter Jubilee with wine, by the Whig—diverted in part and made a cartel of.

Schooner Alexander in ballast, by do—burnt.

Brig Irish Silver with coal, by do. and made a cartel of.

Brig Princess Mary with provisions, and destroyed.

Brig Eliza with do. by do—cargo thrown overboard and vessel made a cartel of.

Schooner Esperance by do. and destroyed.

Ship London with timber, by do. and burnt.

Ship Postethwell in ballast, by do. and burnt.

Brig Nancy with dry goods, by the Portsmouth of Portsmouth—diverted of goods worth 27 000 sterling.

Sloop — by do—diverted of her valuables, and given up.

Schooner Columbia with fish and lumber, by do.

Brig Fire Fly, with drugs, wines and silks, by the Sabine.

Brig Mary and Eliza with lumber, by the Argo.

Schooner — with provisions, by the Portsmouth.

Brig Argo with Irish whiskey port wine and provisions, by the Surprise.

Brig — with molasses & rum by the Grampus.

Privateer La Confiance, 29 guns, captured on lake Champlain by Commodore McDonough.

Brig Linnet, 10 guns, on do. by do.

Sloop Chub, 11 guns, on do. by do.

Sloop Finch, 1 gun, on do. by do.

Three row-galleys, 4 great guns each, on do. by do.—sunk.

Sloop Farmer with provisions, by the Mammoth of Baltimore—sunk.

Brig Britannia with lumber, by do—burnt.

Three brigs in ballast, by do. and do.

Privateer Fortune of War, 2 guns, 40 men, by two U. S. gun-boats.

East India company's ship Coromandel, 2 guns, 64 men, with coffee, sugar, silks, etc.—diverted of her rich goods, by the York.

Brig Ceres with brandy, etc. by do—diverted and given up to release prisoners.

Four vessels richly laden, by do.

Brig Queen Charlotte—diverted in part, and destroyed, by the Surprise.

Ship Milnes, 2 guns, 15 men, in ballast, by do. and burnt.

Brig Lively with lumber, by do. and do.

Schooner Prince Regent with lumber, by do. and do.

Ship Doris in ballast, by do. and do.

Brig Willing Maid by do. and do.

Brig Polly, 4 guns, 13 men, by do. and do.

Schooner Sally, by do. and do.

Privateer Lively, 2 guns, 17 men, by do.

Ship Castondis with dry goods, rum, etc. worth 20,000 dollars, by do—diverted.

Four brigs by do. and made cartels of or given up to release prisoners.

Transport ship Stranger with 60 pieces of cannon, 300 boxes ammunition, and a great quantity of plankets, etc. designed for the enemy's fleet on lake Ontario, by the Fox.

Three vessels by the Spark of New-York—given up. Two others were manned and ordered for the U. S.

Ketch Expedition with wine and barilla, by the Grampus.

Schooner Charlotte Ann with sugar, wine, etc. by the Surprise.

Schooner — with dry goods, etc. by the Viper.

Brig Eclipse, 14 guns, with hides, nutskins, iron, horns, and specie, by the Chasseur.

Brig Catharine and William with dry goods, by the Grampus—lost.

Schooner Retrieve with fish, by the Fox, and burnt.

Three vessels by the U. S. sloop Peacock, and sunk.

Cutter Flying Fish with sweet oil, etc. by the Sabine.

Brig Aaron with wine and fish, by do.

Brig Harvest with fish, oil, etc. by the Yankee.

Two ships by the Syren—destroyed.

Two vessels by the Prince of New-England and burnt.

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Ballast
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by do. and burnt.
 by do. and burnt.
 by the Portsmouth
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 wines and silks, by
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 lions, by the Man-
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 by the Fox, and
 sloop Peacock, and
 veet oil, etc. by the
 fish, by do.
 etc. by the Yankee
 destroyed.
 of Neu-chatel and

1600 Coaliers with provisions, by the Amelia,
 and burnt.
 Brig Harmony with salt and some wine, by
 do. divested of the latter and made a cartel of.
 Brig Elizabeth by do. and burnt.
 Ship — 8 guns, with dry goods, coat ar-
 wine, by do. divested of her dry goods and rean-
 ned. She also captured two other vessels, with
 one of which (ship Neptune) she had a smart
 engagement but nobody hurt.
 Princess Mary by the Whig, and burnt.
 — Eliza, by do—cargo thrown overboard,
 and vessel made a cartel of.
 Brig Stranger, by the U. S. sloop Peacock,
 and burnt.
 Schooner — by the Leach—divested and
 given up.
 British ship Hermes, 28 guns, blown up in
 Mobile bay.
 Sloop Jane, 70 tons, with lumber, by the
 Newcastle, and burnt.
 Brig Triton, 127 tons, 2 guns, with coffee and
 wine, by do—divested in part and sunk.
 Transport brig Aaron, 143 tons, 4 guns, in
 ballast, by do. and burnt.
 Brig Apollo, 135 tons, with salt, by do. and do.
 Cutter General Doyle, 27 tons, with oil, by
 do. and do.
 Sloop George, 50 tons, with coal, by do—sunk.
 Brig Barewick Packet, in ballast, with pas-
 sengers, by do. and made a cartel of.
 Brig Siburn 200 tons, 4 guns, in ballast, by
 do—sunk.
 Brig Nymph, 180 tons, with dry goods, etc—
 divested of the dry goods, the remainder of the
 cargo thrown overboard, and given up to prison-
 ers.
 Brig Albion, 155 tons 4 guns, with dry goods,
 etc. by do. divested of her richest articles and
 burnt.
 Ship Harmony, 290 tons, 4 guns, with dry
 goods, etc. by do. and divested.
 Brig Charlotte 190 tons, 8 guns, with hides,
 by do. and burnt.
 Brig Mary Ann, 103 tons, with lumber, by do.
 and do.
 Ship Douglas, 10 guns, with sugar, rum, mo-
 lasses, cotton, coffee, ginger, and mahogany, by
 do.
 Brig Steady, 107 tons, 4 guns, with provisions
 and bale goods, by do. divested and burnt.
 Ship Neptune, 450 tons, 2 guns, with sea-coal,
 dry goods, gin, wine, pork, beef, rope, and flour,
 by the Amelia.
 Six boats, with 37 armed men, by a gig of the
 U. S. ship Superior with six men, on lake On-
 tario, with wine, brandy, crates, etc. worth
 12,000 dollars.
 Schooner Ann, with sugar and molasses, by 4
 American seamen which she had on board.
 Brig Susan and Jane, by the Fox, and burnt.
 Ship James, with dry goods, etc. by the Port-
 mouth—divested of goods worth 2 or 300,000
 dollars.
 Brig — with rum, by the Dash—divested
 and given up.
 Schooner — with fish, by a letter of marque
 schooner of Wilmington, N. C.
 Brig Concord, by do—divested and made a
 cartel of.
 Brig Speculation, by the Grampus—divest-
 ed and given up to the prisoners.
 Brig Sir John Sherbrooke, 13 guns, with fish
 and oil, by the Syren—burnt.
 Ship Adventure, by the U. S. brig Syren.
 Ship Farmer, by the Mammoth—destroyed.
 Ann and Eliza, by do. and do.
 Ship Urania, by do. and do.
 Ship Anisby, by do. and do.
 Eliza, by do. and given up.
 Ship Doreen, by do. and burnt.
 Ballast, by do. and made a cartel of.
 Sloop Christians, by the Chasseur and made a
 cartel of.

Brig Prudence with barrels and wine, by do.
 and burnt.
 Sloop Favorite, with do. by do. and do.
 Brig Marquis Cornwallis by do. and made a
 cartel of.
 Brig Allen with timber, by do. and burnt.
 Brig Harmony by do. and made a cartel of.
 Ship Caribury with an immense cargo of cot-
 ton, cocoa, hides, indigo, etc. by do. divested of
 indigo worth 50,000 dollars.
 Fourteen vessels by the U. S. sloop of war
 Peacock—all sunk or burnt except two of little
 value that were made cartels of.
 Privateer Think-I-to-myself, 2 guns, 20 men,
 by the Dash.
 Schooner Britannia in ballast, by the Hussy,
 and burnt.
 Brig Halifax Packet with dry goods, hand-
 ware, etc. by do—divested.
 Brig Harvest with fish, furs, etc. by the York.
 Schooner Prince Regent with fish, by the
 Dash.
 Privateer Retaliation, 4 guns, 20 men, by the
 Two Friends.
 Brig Commerce with fish and oil, by the
 Chasseur.
 Sloop Farmer with flour and wheat, by the
 Mammoth, and sunk.
 Brig Britannia with lumber, by do—burnt.
 Schooner Two Brothers, with fish, by do. and
 made a cartel of.
 Brig Ann Eliza in ballast, by do. and burnt.
 Brig Uniza, in do. by do. and do.
 Brig Analey with horses and lumber, by do.
 and scuttled.
 Brig Sarah with flour, by do. and burnt.
 Brig Sir Home Popham, with fruit, by do. and
 do.
 Schooner Rapid with fish, by do. and do.
 Ship Champion with dry goods, by do—divest-
 ed and made a cartel of.
 Two other vessels by do. and destroyed.
 Schooner — from Halifax, with dry goods,
 by a custom-house barge.
 British sloop of war Aven, 18 guns, sunk by
 the U. S. sloop of war Wasp of the same rate.
 Brig Atlanta, 250 tons, with wines, brandy,
 silks, cambricks, and dry goods, by do.
 The valuable brig Europa, eight 18-pound
 carronades, 8 long 9's, and 24 men, with 175 tons
 of sweet oil, by the Fatapico.
 Brig Canada, 10 guns, with rum, by the Law-
 rence.
 Schooner Fox,—a tender of the Ramilies.
 Brig William with gum worth 50 or 60,000
 dollars, by the — of Baltimore.
 Brig Lutice, 7 men, 50 tons, with pork, by the
 U. S. sloop Wasp—burnt.
 Brig Bon Accord, 121 tons, 7 men, with me-
 rino wool, fruits and wine, by do. and sunk.
 Transport brig Mary, 10 men, 2 guns, 151
 tons, with ordnance and military stores, by do.
 Brig Three Brothers, 7 men, 114 tons, with
 lime, by do. and burnt.
 Brig Bacchus, 11 men, 2 guns, 160 tons, with
 fish, by do. and destroyed.
 Ship Ann Dorothy, with hides, tallow, etc.
 by the Saratoga—valuable.
 Brig Hiram with dry goods, crockery, cord-
 age, etc. by the David Porter—divested of goods
 worth 100,000 dollars and given up.
 Brig Nancy with silks, oil, sulphur, marble,
 etc. by the Scourge.
 Ship Lord Hood by do. and burnt.
 Brig Trident, by do. and do.
 Brig Hallock, by do. and do.
 Brig Belkield, by do. and do.
 Brig Susan and James, by the Fox, and burnt.
 Schooner Retrieve by do. and do.
 Brig Concord by do. and made a cartel of.
 Brig Cosack, with wine, by the Surprise.
 Schooner Pink, by the Grand Turk—sunk.
 Brig Brothers, with lumber, by do. and do.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Arrival of General Jackson at Mobile....Splendid defence of fort Bowyer....Destruction of the pirates of Bonaria....Entrance of Gen. Jackson into Pensacola....His arrival at New Orleans....Arrival of the enemy off Ship Island....Capture of the American gun-boats near the bay of St. Louis....Landing of the enemy below New Orleans....Actions of the 23d and of the 28th December.

IN the early part of August, 1814, General Jackson (who had been stationed at fort Jackson, upon the lower part of the Alabama river, after the conclusion of the Creek war) dispatched a courier to the governor of Pensacola, demanding the surrender of the Creek chiefs M'Queen and Francis, [who, it was stated, had sought shelter under Spanish authority] and the reason why they and their adherents had received succour and assistance from the subjects of his Catholic majesty, between whose government and that of the United States, he conceived there were existing relations of amity and good will. The governor, on receiving this, it is stated, became highly exasperated at the peremptory manner of the demand....returned an insulting and ambiguous answer....said that he knew nothing of Francis and M'Queen....and that Jackson should hear from him shortly.

Upon the receipt of this answer, delivered verbally, and which General Jackson no doubt supposed to bear something of a threatening appearance, he immediately left fort Jackson, for the purpose of occupying Mobile, at which place he shortly arrived and established his head-quarters, where he soon had under his command 1500 regulars and some militia.

On the 27th of August, General Jackson received information by express, that three British vessels (the *Hermes*, *Orpheus* and *Charon*,) had arrived at Pensacola on the 25th, and disembarked on the following day an immense quantity of arms, ammunition, munitions of war and provisions; and that between 2 and 300 troops of the enemy landed from the vessels, had marched into the Spanish fort. The express also brought information that 13 sail of the line, with a large number of transports, having on board 10,000 troops, were daily expected at that place.

General Jackson immediately addressed a letter to the governor of Tennessee, requesting him, without delay, to organize, equip and bring into the field, the whole of the quota of the militia of that state, agreeably to the requisition of the war department of the preceding July, amounting to 2500 infantry. This request was promptly complied with; and in a short time the state's quo-

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tu, and many volunteers from Tennessee and Kentucky, were daily arriving at the encampment of the commanding general.

Preparations were also making, at the same time, for the defence of New Orleans.

Fort Bowyer....This small fort was erected in 1812, by Lieutenant Colonel Bowyer, and consists only of common logs filled in with sand. It stands on the eastern point, forming the Mobile bay, 33 miles nearly south from the city of Mobile, and at the time of General Jackson's encampment at Mobile, was commanded by Major William Lawrence, of the 2d infantry.

On the 15th of September, at 4 o'clock, P. M. the fort was attacked by a superior naval and land force. The naval force consisted of two ships from 24 to 28 guns, mounting 32 pound carronades, two brigs from 16 to 18 guns, mounting 24 pound carronades, with three tenders, all under the command of Commodore Sir W. H. Percy. The land forces of the enemy consisted of 100 marines, under the command of Colonel Nicholls; 300 Indians, under the command of Captain Woodbine of the British army; and a battery of a 12 pounder and a howitzer, under the direction of a British captain of the royal artillery. Our effective force opposed to the enemy was about 120 men, of whom not more than 90 were engaged.

The leading ship, called the *Hermes*, Commodore Percy, having approached within reach of the guns, Major Lawrence opened his battery upon her from the fort, the guns of which were fired in succession as they could be brought to bear; and at 20 minutes past 4, P. M. the other vessels having come up, the engagement became general. About this time the enemy's land forces, with his battery, were put to flight, by two discharges of grape and cannister from a 9 pounder. At seven o'clock, one ship and two brigs were compelled to retire. The *Hermes*, having anchored nearest our guns, was so much disabled, her cable being cut by our shot, that she drifted on shore, within 600 yards of the battery, and the other vessels having got out of reach, a tremendous fire was kept upon her. In a short time she was enveloped in flames, and abandoned by the few of her crew who survived; and at 10, P. M. she exploded. The loss of lives on board must have been immense, as no boats left her, excepting three which had previously gone to her assistance, and one of these was afterwards sunk. Her original crew was said to have been 170; of this number, 20 only escaped.

The other vessels suffered greatly. On board of one, (the *Charon*), 85 were killed and wounded....the loss of the other two was not ascertained, but must have been very severe, from the circumstance of one of them being infinitely more exposed than the *Charon*.

The American loss was 4 killed and 5 wounded.

During the hottest part of the action, the flag staff of the fort was shot away; but the flag was immediately regained under a heavy fire of grape and cannister, hoisted on a sponge staff, and planted on the parapet.

Between 4 and 500 guns were fired from the fort during the engagement, most of them double-shotted, and after the first half hour but few missed effect.

On the 16th of September, the enemy's fleet made sail and stood to sea.

Pirates of Barataria....On the 11th of September, Commodore Patterson, commanding the American flotilla, &c. on the Neworleans station, sailed from Neworleans with 3 barges, and was joined at the Balize (mouth of the Mississippi river) by 6 gun boats and the schooner Carolina; from whence he proceeded by sea, while a detachment from the 44th regiment under Colonel Ross, of about 80 men, went down by land, to attack a gang of pirates on an island in lake Barataria, (about 30 miles S. W. from Neworleans) who had long committed great depredations on the coast.

On the 1st of October, Commodore Patterson returned to Neworleans, having succeeded, without much resistance, in capturing the pirates, to the number of 1000 of all nations, and their vessels, consisting of 7 schooners and feluccas, armed and unarmed. The land forces under Colonel Ross, also succeeded in destroying their establishments on the islands of Grand Terre, Grand Isle, and Cheniere Caminada, in the lake.

The capture of these pirates and their vessels was doubtless considered by the enemy as disastrous to himself, having calculated on their assistance in his attempt upon Neworleans.

Pensacola, which had, for some time been notoriously a harbour for the enemy, British as well as Indians, had, in the opinion of the American people, thus forfeited its neutral character. It had become, to all intents and purposes, an enemy's post. Indeed, the enemy had been found and driven on the Spanish soil. General Jackson, indignant at the conduct thus pursued by a nation professing neutrality, determined to enter the place and seize upon the enemy and his works. He accordingly marched with about 3000 troops, the beginning of November, and arrived in Pensacola on the evening of the 6th. The following letter of the general to the governor of Tennessee, particularizes subsequent events:

H. Q. 7th Military District, Tensaw, Nov. 14, 1814.

SIR....On last evening I returned from Pensacola to this place: I reached that post on the evening of the 6th. On my approach I sent Major Pierre with a flag to communicate the object of my visit to the governor of Pensacola. He approached fort St. George

with his flag displayed, and was fired on by the cannon from the fort....he returned and made report thereof to me. I immediately went with the adjutant general and the major, with a small escort, and viewed the fort and found it defended by British and Spanish troops. I immediately determined to storm the town, retired and encamped my troops for the night, and made the necessary arrangements for carrying my determination into effect the next day.

On the morning of the 7th, I marched with the effective regulars of the 3d, 39th and 44th infantry, part of General Coffee's brigade, the Mississippi dragoons, and part of the West Tennessee regiment, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Hammonds (Colonel Lowry having deserted and gone home) and part of the Choctaws led by Major Blue of the 39th and Major Kennedy of the Mississippi territory. Being encamped on the west of the town, I calculated they would expect the assault from that quarter, and be prepared to rake me from the fort, and the British armed vessels, 7 in number, that lay in the bay. To cherish this idea I sent out part of the mounted men to show themselves on the west, whilst I passed in rear of the fort undiscovered to the east of the town. When I appeared within a mile I was in full view. My pride was never more heightened than viewing the uniform firmness of my troops, and with what undaunted courage they advanced, with a strong fort ready to assail them on the right, 7 British armed vessels on the left, strong block-houses and batteries of cannon in their front; but they still advanced with unshaken firmness, entered the town, when a battery of two cannon was opened upon the centre column composed of the regulars, with ball and grape, and a shower of musketry from the houses and gardens. The battery was immediately stormed by Captain Levall and company, and carried, and the musketry was soon silenced by the steady and well-directed fire of the regulars.

The governor met Colonels Williamson and Smith, who led the dismounted volunteers, with a flag, begged for mercy, and surrendered the town and fort unconditionally; mercy was granted and protection given to the citizens and their property; and still Spanish treachery kept us out of possession of the fort until 12 o'clock at night.

Never was more cool, determined bravery displayed by any troops; and the Choctaws advanced to the charge with equal bravery. On the morning of the 8th I prepared to march and storm the Barancas; but before I could move, tremendous explosions told me that the Barancas, with all its appendages, was blown up. I dispatched a detachment of 200 men to explore it, who returned with the information that it was blown up, all the combustible parts burnt, the cannon spiked and dismounted, except two: this being the case, I determined to withdraw my

troops; but before I did I had the pleasure to see the British depart. Col. Nichols abandoned the fort on the night of the 6th, and betook himself to his shipping, with his friend, Captain Woodbine and his red friends.

The steady firmness of my troops has drawn a just respect from our enemies....it has convinced the Red Sticks that they have no strong hold or protection, only in the friendship of the United States. The good order and conduct of my troops whilst in Pensacola, has convinced the Spaniards of our friendship, and our prowess, and has drawn from the citizens an expression, that our Chactaws are more civilized than the British.

In great haste, I am respectfully, sir,

ANDREW JACKSON,

Maj. Gen. commanding.

On the 27th of December, General Jackson arrived at New Orleans with his army, where he immediately began the inspection of the different forts and works down the Mississippi river. Expecting the daily arrival of a powerful enemy's force in that quarter, the militia and volunteers from Tennessee, Kentucky, &c. were hourly pouring into the head-quarters of the commanding general.

On the 12th of December, intelligence reached New Orleans, that a very formidable force of enemy's vessels, consisting of from 35 to 40 sail, having on board a large body of troops, had appeared off Ship Island, near the bay of St. Louis, in the Gulf of Mexico, and about 70 miles N. E. of New Orleans. On the 13th, the enemy landed at Pass Christianne (a channel 8 feet deep, leading from the bay of St. Louis to Mobile bay) with 106 barges from the squadron; and in a few hours got under weigh, directing their course towards the United States's gun vessels, commanded by Lieutenant Jones, then lying at anchor off the bay of St. Louis. The following extracts of a letter from the lieutenant to Commodore Patterson, give an interesting account of events which followed:

"On the 12th of December, 1814, the enemy's fleet off Ship Island had increased to such a force as to render it no longer safe or prudent for me to continue in that part of the lakes with the small force which I commanded. I therefore determined to gain a station near the Malheroux Islands as soon as possible, which situation would better enable me to oppose a further penetration of the enemy up the lakes, and at the same time afford me an opportunity of retreating to the Petite Coquilles if necessary.

"At 10 A. M. on the 13th, I discovered a large flotilla of barges had left the fleet, (changing their course towards the Pass Christian) which I supposed to be a disembarkation of troops intending

to land at that place. About 2 P. M. the enemy's flotilla having gained the Pass Christian, and continuing their course to the westward, convinced me that an attack on the gun-boats was their design. At this time the water in the lakes was uncommonly low, owing to the westerly wind which had prevailed for a number of days previous, and which still continued from the same quarter. Nos. 156, 162, and 163, although in the best channel, were in 12 or 18 inches less water than their draught. Every effort was made to get them afloat by throwing overboard all the articles of weight that could be dispensed with. At 3 30 the flood tide had commenced; got under weigh, making the best of my way towards the Petite Coquille. At 3 45, the enemy dispatched three boats to cut out the schooner Sea-Horse, which had been sent into the bay of St. Louis that morning to assist in the removal of the public stores, which I had previously ordered. There finding a removal impracticable, I ordered preparations to be made for their destruction, least they should fall into the enemy's hands. A few discharges of grape shot from the Sea-Horse compelled the three boats which had attacked her to retire out of the reach of her gun, until they were joined by four others, when the attack was recommenced by the seven boats. Mr. Johnson (commander of the Sea-Horse) having chosen an advantageous position near the two 6 pounders mounted on the bank, maintained a sharp action for near 30 minutes, when the enemy hauled off, having one boat apparently much injured, and with the loss of several men killed and wounded. At 7 30, an explosion at the bay, and soon after a large fire, induced me to believe the Sea-Horse was blown up and the public store house set on fire, which has proved to be the fact.

"About 1 A. M. on the 14th, the wind having entirely died away, and our vessels become unmanageable, came to anchor in the west end of Malheraux Island's passage. At day-light next morning, still a perfect calm, the enemy's flotilla was about nine miles from us at anchor, but soon got in motion and rapidly advanced towards us. The want of wind, and the strong ebb tide which was setting through the Pass, left me but one alternative, which was to put my vessels in the most advantageous position, to give the enemy as warm a reception as possible. The commanders were all called on board and made acquainted with my intentions, and the position which each vessel was to take, the whole to form a close line abreast across the channel, anchored by the stern with springs on the cables, &c. &c. Thus we remained, anxiously awaiting an attack from the advancing foe, whose force I now clearly distinguished to be composed of 42 heavy lanches and gun-barges, with 3 light gigs, manned with upwards of 1000 men and officers. About 9 30, the Alligator (tender) which was to the southward and eastward, and endeavouring to

join the division, was captured by several of the enemy's barges, when the whole flotilla came too, with their prapples, a little out of reach of our shot, apparently making arrangements for the attack. At 10 39, the enemy weighed, forming a line abreast in open order, and steering direct for our line, which was unfortunately in some degree broken by the force of the current driving Nos. 156 and 163 about 100 yards in advance. As soon as the enemy came within reach of our shot, a deliberate fire from our long guns was opened upon him, but without much effect, the objects being of so small a size. At 10 minutes before 11 the enemy opened a fire from the whole of his line, when the action became general and destructive on both sides. About 11 49, the advance boats of the enemy, three in number, attempted to board No. 156, but were repulsed with the loss of nearly every officer killed or wounded, and two boats sunk. A second attempt to board was then made by four other boats, which shared almost a similar fate. At this moment I received a severe wound in my left shoulder, which compelled me to quit the deck, leaving it in charge of Mr. George Parker, master's mate, who gallantly defended the vessel until he was severely wounded, when the enemy, by his superior numbers, succeeded in gaining possession of the deck, about 10 minutes past 12 o'clock. The enemy immediately turned the guns of his prize on the other gun-boats, and fired several shot previous to striking the American colours. The action continued with unabating severity until 40 minutes past 12 o'clock, when it terminated with the surrender of No. 23, all the other vessels having previously fallen into the hands of the enemy.

"In this unequal contest our loss in killed and wounded has been trifling, compared to that of the enemy, which amounts to nearly 400."

The British force, in the above engagement, consisted of 42 launches and barges mounting one heavy gun each, and 3 gigs with small arms; the whole manned with 1200 men and officers, commanded by Capt. Lockyer, who received three severe wounds in the action.

The American force engaged with the British flotilla, consisted of 5 gun-boats, mounting 23 guns, manned with 182 men. The schooner *Sea-Horse* (in the bay of St. Louis) had one 6 pounder and 14 men, none of which were killed or wounded. The sloop *Alligator* (tender) had one 4 pounder and 8 men.

On the 16th of December General Jackson declared the city of New Orleans and its environs under strict martial law.

On the 18th, the general reviewed the militia of the city, a battalion commanded by Major Blanche, and part of a regiment of men of colour. Being drawn up on their respective parades, the general caused to be read to them addresses containing the

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most patriotic sentiments, and well calculated to inspire them with zeal, courage, and military ardour.

On the 23d, Generals Coffee and Carroll, with between 3 and 4000 Tennessee and Kentucky troops, arrived at Neworleans..... Detachments of these troops were immediately posted in different directions to guard the defences of the city.

On the 23d, the enemy having entered lake Bourgne, surprized a piquet at the mouth of the bayou Bienvenu, discharging its waters into the lake, and immediately commenced ascending the creek in boats, directing his course towards the Mississippi. For an account of this movement, and events immediately subsequent, we give the following official and other accredited documents :

Camp below Neworleans, Dec. 27, in the morning.

SIR....The loss of our gun-boats near the pass of the Rigolets, having given the enemy command of lake Bourgne, he was enabled to choose his point of attack. It became therefore an object of importance to obstruct the numerous bayous and canals leading from that lake to the highlands of the Mississippi. This important service was committed in the first instance, to a detachment of the 7th regiment, afterwards to Colonel De Laronde, of the Louisiana militia, and lastly, to make all sure, to Major Genaral Villere, commanding the district between the river and the lakes, and who, being a native of the country, was presumed to be best acquainted with all those passes. Unfortunately, however, a piquet which the general had established at the mouth of the bayou Bienvenu, and which, notwithstanding my orders, had been left unobstructed, was completely surprized, and the enemy penetrated through a canal leading to his farm, about two leagues below the city, and succeeded in cutting off a company of militia stationed there. This intelligence was communicated to me about 12 o'clock of the 23d. My force consisted of parts of the 7th and 44th regiments, not exceeding 600 together, the city militia, a part of General Coffee's brigade of mounted gunmen, and the detached militia from the western division of Tennessee under the command of Major General Carroll : these two last corps were stationed 4 miles above the city. Apprehending a double attack by way of Chief Menteur, I left General Carroll's force, and the militia of the city, posted on the Gentilly road ; and at 5 o'clock, P. M. marched to meet the enemy, whom I was resolved to attack in his first position, with Major Hind's dragoons, General Coffee's brigade, parts of the 7th and 44th regiments, the uniform companies of militia under the command of Major Planche, 200 men of colour, chiefly from St. Domingo, raised by Colonel Savary, and acting under the command of Major Dagwin, and a detachment of artillery under the direction of Colonel M'Rea, with

3 M.

two 6 pounders under the command of Lieutenant Spots; not exceeding in all 1500 men. I arrived near the enemy's encampment about 7, and immediately made my dispositions for the attack. His forces, amounting at that time on land to about 2000, extended half a mile on the river, and in the rear nearly to the wood. General Coffee was ordered to turn their right, while with the residue of the force I attacked his strongest position on the left, near the river. Commodore Patterson having dropped down the river in the schooner *Carolina*, was directed to open a fire upon their camp, which he executed at about half past 7. This being the signal to attack, General Coffee's men, with their usual impetuosity, rushed on the enemy's right, and entered their camp, while our right advanced with equal ardour. There can be but little doubt, that we should have succeeded on that occasion with our inferior force in destroying or capturing the enemy, had not a thick fog, which arose about 8 o'clock, occasioned some confusion among the different corps. Fearing the consequences, under this circumstance, of further prosecution of a night attack, with men acting together for the first time, I contented myself with lying on the field that night; and at 4 in the morning assumed a stronger position, about two miles nearer the city. At this position I remain encamped, waiting the arrival of the Kentucky militia and other reinforcements. As the safety of the city will depend on the fate of this army, it must not be incautiously exposed.

In this affair the whole corps under my command deserve the greatest credit. The best compliment I can pay to General Coffee and his brigade, is to say they behaved as they always have done when under my command. The 7th, led by Major Pierre, and the 44th, commanded by Colonel Ross, distinguished themselves. The battalion of city militia, commanded by Maj. Plache realized my anticipations, and behaved like veterans. Savary's volunteers manifested great bravery; and the company of city riflemen, having penetrated into the midst of the enemy's camp, were surrounded, and fought their way out with the greatest heroism, bringing with them a number of prisoners. The two field pieces were well served by the officer commanding them.

All my officers in the line did their duty, and I have every reason to be satisfied with my field and staff. Colonels Butler and Platt, and Major Cotard, by their intrepidity, saved the artillery. Colonel Haynes was every where that duty or danger called. I was deprived of the services of one of my aids, Captain Butler, whom I was obliged to station, to his great regret, in town. Captain Reid, my other aid, and Messrs. Livingston, Duplissis and Davizac, who had volunteered their services and faced danger

* This was
been upward

† Crookes

wherever it was to be met, and carried my orders with the utmost promptitude.

We made 1 major, 2 subalterns and 63 privates, prisoners; and the enemy's loss in killed and wounded must have been at least ——. * My own loss I have not as yet been able to ascertain, with exactness, but suppose it to amount to 100 in killed, wounded and missing. Among the former I have to lament the loss of Colonel Lauderdale, of General Coffee's brigade, who fell while bravely fighting. Colonels Dyer and Gibson of the same corps were wounded, and Major Kevenagh taken prisoner.

Colonel De Laronde, Major Villere, of the Louisiana militia, Major Latour, of the engineers, having no command, volunteered their services, as did Doctors Kerr and Hood, and were of great assistance to me.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

ANDREW JACKSON,

Major General commanding.

Hon. James Monroe, secretary of war.

After the enemy had landed on the 23d December from the canal, they were in General Villere's yard, above and near the canal, before any one knew that they had even attempted to land. Villere's son was a prisoner by them in his father's house; but under some pretence, he got leave to go into the yard, made his escape, and was the first to give the news in Neworleans, at about 2 o'clock, P. M. Our videttes at the mouth of the bayou Bien-venu, had been before made prisoners, supposed to have been betrayed by some fishermen, who were in the habit of transporting fish from the lake through the bayou to the Neworleans market.... In the action which succeeded on this day, young Villere, the fortunate herald of the enemy's approach, had been placed at the head of a company of Creole† volunteers, formed on the spur of occasion, and was again made a prisoner. All the American prisoners were sent on board the enemy's fleet. The Creoles were first ordered to be released, on condition of their taking with them a proclamation from the British commanding general to the inhabitants of Louisiana: this they every one refused to do....they were, nevertheless, released on parole.

A letter entitled to authority, mentions, that when the British were attacked, on the evening of the 23d, they were leisurely preparing to cook their suppers, but that they got much hotter COFFEE than they expected; and that though the capture of the enemy

* This was left blank by General Jackson; the enemy's loss was afterwards ascertained to have been upwards of 100.

† Creoles are those born in the country, of European ancestors.

was desirable, the protection of the city was infinitely to be preferred, and gives the opinion that Jackson would not risque its safety. The writer observes, that the stores were all shut up, and that an idler was not permitted to walk in the streets of the city.

On the 24th of December, Commodore Patterson and Captain Henley, commanding the U. S. vessels Louisiana and Carolina, in the Mississippi, kept up a brisk fire on the enemy, and compelled him to retire one mile from the embankment of the river into the Cypress Swamp. But afterwards the enemy erected a battery of 5 guns on the shore, when Commodore Patterson, commanding the Louisiana, ascended the river on the 26th; and Captain Henley, in pursuance of orders, used every possible exertion to move the schooner Carolina higher up, and nearer General Jackson's camp, but without success....the wind being at N. N. W. and blowing fresh, but too scant to get under way, and the current too rapid to move her by warping, which was in vain attempted by the whole crew.

At daylight, on the morning of the 27th, the enemy opened upon the Carolina their battery, from which they threw shells and hot shot. The Carolina returned the fire with a long 12 pounder, the only gun on board which could reach a mile and a quarter, the distance across the river, the remainder of her battery being light 12 pound carronades. The second shot fired by the enemy lodged in the schooner's main hold, under her cables, in such a situation as not to be approached. This shot set fire to the vessel; the fire rapidly progressed, and hot shot were passing through her cabin and filling room, which contained a considerable quantity of powder. The bulwarks being all knocked down by the enemy's shot, the vessel in a sinking condition, the fire increasing, and Capt. Henley, expecting every moment that she would blow up, at a little after sunrise reluctantly gave orders for the crew to abandon her, which was effected, with the loss of one man killed and six wounded. Soon after the crew were on shore, the Carolina blew up.

Emboldened by this event, the enemy, on the 28th, marched his whole force up the level (behind the embankment of the river) in the hope of driving our army, under General Jackson, from their position. With this view, the enemy opened, at the distance of about half a mile, his bombs and rockets. He was repulsed, however, with considerable loss, not less, as is believed, than 120 killed. Ours was inconsiderable, not exceeding 7 killed and 8 wounded.

Commodore Patterson describes, officially, the naval part of this battle, in the following terms:

*U. S. Ship Louisiana, four miles below
New Orleans, December 29, 1814.*

SIR....I have the honour to inform you, that on the morning of the 28th instant, at about half past 7, I perceived our advanced guard retreating towards our lines, the enemy pursuing; fired shot, shells and rockets, from field artillery, with which they advanced on the road behind the levee; sprung a ship to bring the starboard guns to bear upon the enemy. At 25 minutes past 8, A. M. the enemy opened their fire upon the ship with shells, hot shot and rockets, which was incessantly returned with great spirit and much apparent effect, and continued without intermission, till 1, P. M. when the enemy slackened their fire, and retreated with a part of their artillery from each of their batteries, evidently with great loss. Two attempts were made to screen one heavy piece of ordnance, mounted behind the levee, with which they threw hot shot at the ship, and which had been a long time abandoned before they succeeded in recovering it, and then it must have been with very great loss, as I distinctly saw, with the aid of my glass, several shot strike in the midst of the men (seamen) who were employed in dragging it away. At 3, P. M. the enemy were silenced; at 4, P. M. ceased firing from the ship, the enemy having retired beyond the range of her guns. Many of their shot passed over the ship, and their shells burst over her decks, which were strewed with their fragments; yet after an incessant cannonading of upwards of 7 hours, during which 800 shot were fired from the ship, one man only was wounded slightly, by the piece of a shell, and one shot passed between the bowsprit and heel of the jib boom.

The enemy drew up his whole force, evidently with an intention of assaulting General Jackson's lines under cover of his heavy cannon, but his cannonading being so warily returned from the lines and ship Louisiana, caused him, I presume, to abandon his project, as he retired without making the attempt. You will have learned by my former letters, that the crew of the Louisiana is composed of men of all nations, (English excepted) taken from the streets of New Orleans not a fortnight before the battle; yet I never knew guns better served, or a more animated fire than was supported from her.

Lieutenant C. C. B. Thompson deserves great credit for the discipline to which in so short a time, he had brought such men, two thirds of whom do not understand English.

General Jackson having applied for officers and men to work the heavy cannon on his lines, furnished by me, Lieutenants Norris and Crowley, of the late schooner Carolina, instantly volunteered, and with the greater part of her crew, were sent to man

those cannon, which they served during the action herein detailed. The enemy must have suffered a great loss in that day's action, by the heavy fire from the ship and General Jackson's lines, where the cannon was of heavy calibre, and served with great spirit.

I have the honour to be, with great consideration and respect,
your obedient servant,

DANIEL T. PATTERSON.

Hon. Secretary of the Navy.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Action of the 1st of January.....Burning of a British transport, &c.....Arrival of British reinforcements.....Great battle of the 8th of January.....Retreat of the British.....Purser Shield's expedition, &c.

AFTER the battle of the 28th of December, the main body of Gen. Jackson's army remained quiet until the morning of the 1st of January, when the enemy had advanced within 600 yards of our breast-works, under cover of night and a heavy fog, and erected three different batteries, mounting in all 15 guns, from 6's to 32's. About 8 o'clock, when the fog cleared off, they commenced a most tremendous fire, which was amply returned by our men, and a heavy cannonading was kept up, without the least interval on either side, except that occasioned by the explosion of too small magazines, owing to their congreve rockets. At 4 o'clock P. M. we had dismounted all their guns but two. During the night the enemy retreated to their strong holds, about a mile and a quarter from our lines. Our loss was 11 killed and 23 wounded: that of the enemy must have been much more. A 32 pounder from a battery commanded by Com. Patterson, killed 15 at one shot. The Louisiana this day fired 700 shot.

On the 2d of January, Gen. Jackson received at Neworleans and its vicinity, reinforcements from Kentucky and Tennessee, amounting to 3 or 4000, which, with his former force, gave him an army of between 7 and 8000, of whom not more however, than one half were armed. In consequence of the great number of men arriving with their arms in bad order, and of the scarcity of good muskets with bayonets, four companies of U. S. troops, gave up theirs, amounting to about 500, to arm the men at the camp, and armed themselves with fowling pieces and pikes.

On the 6th of January, Sailing-master Johnson of the U. States navy, with a launch and three small boats, manned with 38 men, succeeded in burning a British transport brig on Lake Borgne, and in capturing a number of prisoners. The brig was laden with provisions and clothing. On the same day, 21 sail of British vessels arrived off Cat Island, upon the coast opposite the bay of St. Louis, with large reinforcements of troops, commanded by Gen. Lambert. On the 7th, these troops were disembarked at the bayou Bienvenu: and Lieut. Gen. Sir Edward Pakenham, (brother-in-law of Lord Wellington) assumed command of the whole British army, amounting to 12,000 men.

For two or three days previous to this, part of the forces of the enemy had been employed in preparing scaling ladders and collecting fascines (made of sugar canes) for their intended assault upon our lines; while others were widening and deepening the canal which leads from the bayou Bienvenu toward the Mississippi, and which, on the evening of the 7th, was cut through to admit the river. Through this canal they floated or dragged twenty-four of their smaller boats, containing 25 men each, and thus transported about 600 men to the opposite side of the river. Some distance above the spot where they landed, two batteries had been constructed and placed under the direction of Com. Patterson. The enemy's troops which had thus crossed, were intended to attack the commodore's batteries and create a diversion on that side of the river, while the main attack was carried on on the other side. Accordingly on the morning of the 8th, they silently drew out a large force to storm our lines, their columns advancing unperceived in the obscurity of the morning, to within about half a mile of our camp, where they met and drove in our piquet guard. About day-break they advanced with great vivacity to the entrenchment, led gallantly on by their officers; when the intrepid Jackson and his brave men opened a most tremendous and deadly fire upon them from our works, which ended in a dreadful slaughter and total defeat of the enemy. Gen Jackson officially reports to the secretary at war an account of this battle in the following words:

Camp, four miles below Orleans, January 9th, 1815.

SIR—During the days of the 6th and 7th, the enemy had been actively employed in making preparations for an attack on my lines. With infinite labour they had succeeded on the night of the 7th in getting their boats across from the lake to the river, by widening and deepening the canal on which they had effected their disembarkation. It had not been in my power to impede these operations by a general attack; added to other reasons, the nature of the troops under my command, mostly militia, rendered it too



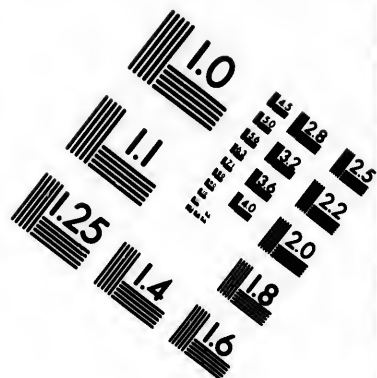
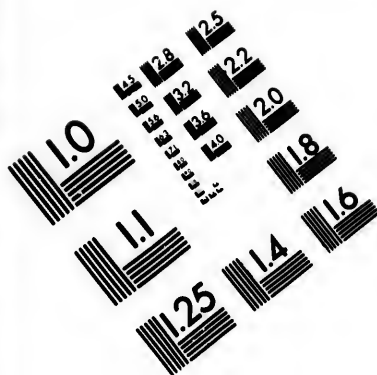
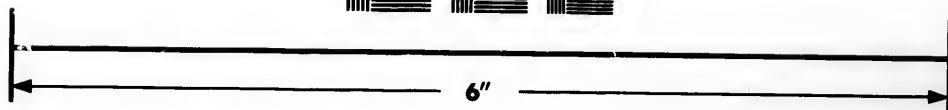
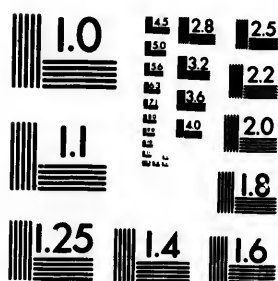


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hazardous to attempt extensive offensive movements in an open country, against a numerous and well disciplined army. Altho' my forces, as to number, had been increased by the arrival of the Kentucky division, my strength had received very little addition; a small portion only of that detachment being provided with arms. Compelled thus to wait the attack of the enemy, I took every measure to repel it when it should be made, and to defeat the object he had in view. Gen. Morgan with the Orleans contingent, the Louisiana militia and a strong detachment of the Kentucky troops, occupied an entrenched camp on the opposite side of the river, protected by strong batteries on the bank, erected and superintended by commodore Patterson.

In my encampment every thing was ready for action, when, early on the morning of the 8th, the enemy after throwing a heavy shower of bombs and congreve rockets, advanced their columns on my right and left, to storm my entrenchments. I cannot speak sufficiently in praise of the firmness and deliberation with which the whole line received their approach....more could not have been expected from veterans inured to war....For an hour, the fire of the small arms was as incessant and severe as can be imagined. The artillery, too, directed by officers who displayed equal skill and courage, did great execution. Yet the columns of the enemy continued to advance with a firmness which reflects the greatest credit. Twice the column which approached me on my left, was repulsed by the troops of Gen. Carroll, those of Gen. Coffee, and a division of the Kentucky militia, and twice they formed again and renewed the assault. At length, however, cut to pieces, they fled in confusion from the field leaving it covered with their dead and wounded.

The loss which the enemy sustained on this occasion, cannot be estimated at less than 1500 in killed, wounded and prisoners. Upwards of three hundred have already been delivered over for burial; and my men are still engaged in picking them up within my lines and carrying them to the point where the enemy are to receive them....This is an addition to the dead and wounded whom the enemy have been enabled to carry from the field, during, and since the action, and to those who have since died of the wounds they received. We have taken about 500 prisoners, upwards of 300 of whom are wounded, and a great part of them mortally. My loss has not exceeded, and I believe has not amounted to ten killed and as many wounded. The entire destruction of the enemy's army was now inevitable, had it not been for an unfortunate occurrence which at this moment took place on the other side of the river. Simultaneously with his advance upon my lines, he had thrown over in his boats a considerable force to the other side of the river. This having landed, was hardly enough to ad-

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vance against the works of Gen. Morgan; and, what is strange and difficult to account for, at the very moment when its entire discomfiture was looked for with a confidence approaching to certainty, the Kentucky reinforcements, in whom so much reliance had been placed, ingloriously fled, drawing after them by their example, the remainder of the forces; and thus yielded to the enemy that most fortunate position. The batteries which had rendered me, for many days, the most important service, though bravely defended, were of course now abandoned; not however until the guns had been spiked.

This unfortunate route had totally changed the aspect of affairs. The enemy now occupied a position from which they might annoy us without hazard, and by means of which they might have been enabled to defeat, in a great measure, the effects of our success on this side the river. It became therefore an object of the first consequence to dislodge him as soon as possible. For this object, all the means in my power, which I could with any safety use, were immediately put in preparation. Perhaps, however, it was owing somewhat to another cause that I succeeded even beyond my expectations. In negotiating the terms of a temporary suspension of hostilities to enable the enemy to bury their dead and provide for their wounded, I had required certain propositions to be acceded to as a basis; among which this was one—that although hostilities should cease on *this* side the river until 12 o'clock of this day, yet it was not to be understood that they should cease on the *other* side; but that no reinforcements should be sent across by *either* army until the expiration of that day. His excellency Maj. Gen. Lambert begged time to consider of these propositions until 10 o'clock of to day, and in the meantime recrossed his troops. I need not tell you with how much eagerness I immediately regained possession of the position he had thus hastily quitted.

The enemy having concentrated his forces, may again attempt to drive me from my position by storm. Whenever he *does*, I have no doubt my men will act with their usual firmness, and sustain a character now become dear to them.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant.

ANDREW JACKSON,
Maj. Gen. commanding.

In a subsequent letter, Gen. Jackson states the loss of the enemy to have been much greater than what he had at first computed. Upon information which was believed to be correct, Col. Haynes, reported it to have been in total 2600, viz. 700 killed, 1400 wounded, and 500 prisoners, including 1 major, 4 captains, 11 lieutenants and 1 ensign, who were among the latter. The

American loss, on both sides of the Mississippi was 13 killed, 39 wounded, and 19 missing—total 71. Of this number 6 were killed and 7 wounded in the action on the eastern bank of the river, and the residue in a sortie after the action and in the action on the western bank. Among the British officers killed were Sir Edward Pakenham, lieutenant-general and commander in chief, (cut asunder by a cannon ball) Maj. Gen. Gibbs, Col. Reynier, Majors Pringle, Whitaker and Wilkinson. Among their wounded was Maj. Gen. Keane, severely.

Numerous accounts official as well as unofficial, represent this battle to have been the greatest ever fought on the American continent. For disparity of loss a parallel can scarcely be found in ancient or modern history. So determined were the enemy to carry our works, that many came up to the very muzzles of our guns, and some penetrated into our lines, where they were either killed or taken prisoners. Many fell mounting the breast-works; others were slain upon the works; and the ditch in front was, in many places, literally filled with dead and wounded. The roar of artillery from our lines was incessant, while an unintermitted rolling fire was kept up from our muskets. The atmosphere was filled with sheets of fire and volumes of smoke. For an hour and a quarter the enemy obstinately continued the assault; fresh men constantly arriving to fill up their lines thinned by our fire. Their determined perseverance and steady valour, were worthy of a better cause; nor did their troops falter, until almost all the officers who had led them to the attack had fallen. At one time, a body of the enemy succeeded in gaining possession of a bastion on our right with 3 pieces of cannon in it; but so destructive was our fire, that every man who entered was either killed by our riflemen or disabled before they could spike the guns. Our men soon returned to the charge and regained the bastion. So intent were the enemy in getting over our works, that they pulled off their shoes for the purpose of climbing them; but nearly all who made the attempt were either killed or taken prisoners.

The guns of Commodore Patterson's batteries, on the opposite side of the river, did great execution, until the retreat of the Kentucky troops, who had been posted near them. The commodore, finding himself thus deserted, was compelled, with a handful of brave men, to retire, after spiking his guns. The British afterwards burnt the gun carriages, being foiled in their expectations of using the guns to annoy our troops on the opposite shore.

Previous to the battle of the 8th of January, the pirates of Baratavia, who had been held in custody, were released by order of General Jackson, upon condition that they would assist in defending the city of New Orleans. In the battle of that day they proved themselves excellent artillerymen, and were, together with a few Frenchmen, successfully employed in serving the pieces. They

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were afterwards released from any further confinement, having received (at the request of the general assembly of Louisiana) a full pardon from the president of the United States.

Soon after the battle, the enemy sent in a flag of truce, and 24 hours were allowed them to remove and bury their dead. In one small spot alone, on the left of our lines, they found 368 dead bodies. In the course of the day 40 carts and 10 boats arrived at Neworleans, loaded with wounded prisoners, who were put into the barracks, which were converted into temporary hospitals; about 150 unwounded prisoners were also put in confinement.... To the wounded every attention was paid by the citizens; the nuns of the convent took the glorious lead. They, under the immediate superintendence of the Abbe Douburg, threw open their doors and converted all their houses, separated from their main building, into a hospital, where they themselves, at their own expense, and with their own hands, took care of the sick and wounded. The ladies of Neworleans were also employed in the same charitable acts of benevolence, as likewise in making clothes for our soldiers. The future historian will delight to contrast the destroying and brilliant virtues of the one sex, with the preserving and not less attracting virtues of the other.

Immediately after their repulse, the enemy commenced active operations for a re-embarkation of their troops. Nearly the whole of the sick and wounded were sent on board their vessels, together with such baggage and munitions of war as could be safely spared. During these operations, the enemy kept up a menacing attitude....frequent indications were given of an intention to renew the attack on our lines, and vigorous works of defence were thrown up in front of our camp. The rear of their army retired first, while they displayed a numerous body of men to the view of our troops, and at night their fires seemed rather to increase than diminish. They had erected batteries to cover their retreat, in advantageous positions, from their original encampment, to the bayou through which they entered lake Bourgne. The cannon placed on these batteries could have raked a pursuing army in every direction, and any attempt to storm them would have been attended with very great slaughter. Having made the necessary arrangements, the whole British army precipitately retreated on the night of the 18th of January; an account of which was officially given by General Jackson to the secretary of war, as follows:

Camp, four miles below Neworleans, Jan. 19, 1815.

Last night at 12 o'clock, the enemy precipitately decamped, and returned to his boats, leaving behind him, under medical attendance, 80 of his wounded, including two officers, 14 pieces of his heavy artillery, and a quantity of shot, having destroyed much

of his powder. Such was the situation of the ground which he abandoned, and of that through which he retired, protected by canals, redoubts, entrenchments and swamps on his right, and the river on his left, that I could not, without encountering a risk, which true policy did not seem to require or to authorise, attempt to annoy him much on his retreat. We took only eight prisoners.

Whether it is the purpose of the enemy to abandon the expedition altogether, or renew his efforts at some other points, I do not pretend to determine with positiveness. In my own mind, however, there is but little doubt that his last exertions have been made in this quarter, at any rate for the present season, and by the next I hope we shall be fully prepared to meet him. In this belief I am strengthened not only by the prodigious loss he has sustained at the position he has just quitted, but by the failure of his fleet to pass fort St. Philip.

His loss on this ground, since the debarkation of his troops, as stated by all the last prisoners and deserters, and as confirmed by many additional circumstances, must have exceeded 4000, and was greater in the action of the 8th, than was estimated from the most correct data then in his possession, by the inspector general, whose report has been forwarded to you.

Since the action of the 8th, the enemy have been allowed very little respite....my artillery from both sides of the river being constantly employed till the night, and indeed until the hour of their retreat, in annoying them. No doubt they thought it quite time to quit a position in which so little rest could be found.

I am advised by Major Overton, who commands at fort St. Philip, in a letter of the 18th, that the enemy having bombarded the fort for 8 or 9 days from 13 inch mortars, without effect, had, on the morning of that day, retired. I have little doubt that we would have been able to have sunk their vessels had they attempted to run by.

Giving the proper weight to all these considerations, I believe you will not think me too sanguine in the belief that Louisiana is now clear of its enemy. I hope, however, I need not assure you that wherever I command, such a belief shall never occasion any relaxation in the measures for resistance. I am but too sensible that the moment when the enemy is opposing us, is not the most proper to provide for them.

I have the honour to be, &c.

ANDREW JACKSON.

P. S. On the 18th our prisoners on shore were delivered to us, an exchange having been previously agreed to. Those who are on board the fleet will be delivered at Petit Coquille; after which shall still have in my hands an excess of several hundreds.

A. J.

On the 24th of January, Mr. Shields, purser in the navy returned from an expedition which had been fitted out to annoy the enemy in their embarkation on lake Bourgne, having burnt one transport, captured two large boats, (one of which he sunk) and taken 78 prisoners, together with three slaves, which had been stolen by the enemy. Owing to the violence of the wind and tide, two prizes which had been taken from the enemy, in addition to the above, (having on board 20 prisoners and 3 of our own men) were driven from their anchorage and re-captured by the prisoners. This was the only loss Mr. Shields met with.

It will have been seen by General Jackson's official account, bearing date the 19th of January, in a preceding page, that the whole loss of the enemy from the time of their landing on the island of Orleans until their decampment, was rising of 4000 in killed, wounded and prisoners. Add to this, enemy's loss after decampment, and on ship-board, (including about 300 drowned while passing to and from their shipping,) 400, and the whole number will probably amount to 4800.*

The American loss in the several engagements, was 55 killed, 185 wounded, and 93 missing....total, 333. Of our forces actually engaged (including marines as well as land troops) the following is a correct statement :....In the action of the 28th of December, 3282; 1st of January, 3961; 8th of January, 4698. The enemy's force previous to the 6th of January, was 9000; after that time it was increased to 12,000.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Address and general orders of General Jackson to the troops under his command, after the retreat of the enemy....Apostolic mandate....Address of the administrator of the diocese of Louisiana to General Jackson, and the general's answer....Capture of fort Bowyer....Cessation of hostilities....Biographical sketch of General Jackson....Description of New Orleans and the surrounding country.

ON the 21st of January, General Jackson directed the following address to be read at the head of each of the corps, composing the lines below New Orleans:

* A number of British deserters and prisoners have stated their loss to have exceeded 5000; and it is worthy of remark, that the British official account of the action of the 8th of January represents it as very considerably surpassing the statement given by General Jackson.

CITIZENS AND FELLOW-SOLDIERS,

The enemy has retreated, and your general has now leisure to proclaim to the world what he has noticed with admiration and pride....your undaunted courage, your patriotism and patience, under hardships and fatigue. Natives of different states, acting together for the first time in this camp: different in habits and in language, instead of viewing in these circumstances, the germ of distrust and division, you have made them the source of an honourable emulation, and from the seeds of discord itself have reaped the fruits of an honourable union.

This day completes the fourth week since fifteen hundred of you attacked treble your number of men who had boasted of their discipline, and their services under a celebrated leader, in a long and eventful war, attacked them in their camp, the moment they had profaned the soil of freedom with their hostile tread, and inflicted a blow which was a prelude to the final result of their attempt to conquer, or the poor contrivance to divide us. A few hours was sufficient to unite the gallant band, though at the moment they received the welcome order to march they were separated many leagues in different directions from the city; the gay rapidity of the march, the cheerful countenances of the officers and men, would have induced a belief that some festive entertainment, not the strife of battle, was the object to which they hastened with so much eagerness and alacrity. In the conflict that ensued, the same spirit was supported, and my communications to the executive of the United States have testified the sense I entertained of the merits of the corps and officers that were engaged. Resting on the field of battle, they retired in perfect order on the next morning to these lines, destined to become the scene of future victories, which they were to share with the rest of you, my brave companions in arms. Scarcely were your lines a protection against musket shot, when, on the 29th, a disposition was made to attack them with all the pomp and parade of military tactics, as improved by those veterans of the Spanish war.

Their batteries of heavy cannon kept up an incessant fire; their rockets illuminated the air, and under their cover two strong columns threatened our flanks. The foe insolently thought this spectacle was too imposing to be resisted, and in the intoxication of his pride he already saw our lines abandoned without a contest....how were these menacing appearances met?

By shouts of defiance, by a manly countenance, not to be shaken by the roar of his cannon, by the glare of his fire-work rockets; by an artillery served with superior skill and with deadly effect. Never, my brave friends, can your general forget the testimonials of attachment to our glorious cause, of indignant hatred to our foe, of affectionate confidence in your chief, that resound-

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ed in every rank as he passed along your line. This animating and unexpected scene damped the courage of the enemy; he dropped his scaling ladders and fascines, and the threatened attack dwindled into a *demonstration*, which served only to show the emptiness of his parade, and inspire you with a just confidence in yourselves.

The new year was ushered in with the most tremendous fire his whole artillery could produce; a few hours only, however, were necessary for the brave and skilful men who directed our own, to dismount his cannon, destroy his batteries, and effectually silence his fire. Hitherto, my brave friends, in the contest on the lines, your courage has been passive only; you stood, with calmness, a fire that would have tried the firmness of veterans, and you anticipated a nearer contest with an eagerness which was soon to be gratified.

On the 8th of January the final effort was made. At the dawn of day the batteries opened and the columns advanced. Knowing that the volunteers from Tennessee and militia from Kentucky were stationed on your left, it was there they directed their chief attack.

Reasoning always from false principles, they expected little opposition from men whose officers even were not in uniform, who were ignorant of the rules of dress, and who had never been caned into discipline....fatal mistake! a fire incessantly kept up, directed with calmness and with unerring aim, strewed the field with the brave officers and men of the column, which slowly advanced, according to the most approved rules of European tactics, and was cut down by the untutored courage of the American militia. Unable to sustain this galling and unceasing fire, some hundreds nearest the entrenchments called for quarters, which was granted....the rest, retreating, were rallied at some distance, but only to make them a surer mark for the grape and cannister shot of our artillery, which, without exaggeration, mowed down whole ranks at every discharge; and at length they precipitately retired from the field.

Our right had only a short contest to sustain with a few rash men, who, fatally for themselves, forced their entrance, into the unfinished redoubt on the river. They were quickly dispossessed, and this glorious day terminated with the loss to the enemy of their commander in chief, and one major general killed, another major general wounded, the most experienced and bravest of their officers, and more than three thousand men killed, wounded and missing; while our ranks, my friends, were thinned only by the loss of six of our brave companions killed, and seven disabled by wounds....wonderful interposition of Heaven! unexampled event in the history of war!

Let us be grateful to the God of battles who has directed the arrows of indignation against our invaders, while he covered with the protecting shield the brave defenders of their country.

After this unsuccessful and disastrous attempt, their spirits were broken, their force was destroyed, and their whole attention was employed in providing means of escape. This they have effected; leaving their heavy artillery in our power, and many of their wounded to our clemency. The consequences of this short but decisive campaign, are incalculable important. The pride of our arrogant enemy humbled, his forces broken, his leaders killed, his insolent hopes of our disunion frustrated, his expectations of rioting in our spoils, and wasting our country, changed into ignominious defeat, shameful flight, and a reluctant acknowledgment of the humanity and kindness of those whom he had doomed to all the horrors and humiliations of a conquered state.

On the other side, unanimity established, disaffection crushed, confidence restored, your country saved from conquest, your property from pillage, your wives and daughters from insult and violation, the union preserved from dismemberment, and perhaps a period put, by this decisive stroke, to a barbarous and savage war. These, my brave friends, are the consequences of the efforts you have made, and the successes with which they have been crowned by heaven.

These important results have been effected by the united courage and perseverance of the army; but which the different corps, as well as the individuals that compose it, have vied with each other in their exertions to produce. The share they have respectively had will be pointed out in the general order accompanying this address. But the gratitude, the admiration of their country, offers a fairer reward than that which any general can bestow, and the best is that of which they can never be deprived, the consciousness of having done their duty, and of meriting the applause they will receive.

GENERAL ORDERS.

*H. Q. 7th Military District, Camp below Neworleans,
Adjutant General's office, Jan. 12, 1815.*

Before the camp at these memorable lines shall be broken up, the general thinks it a duty to the brave army which has defended them, publicly to notice the conduct of the different corps which compose it...The behaviour of the regular troops, consisting of parts of the 7th and 44th regiments of infantry, and the corps of marines, all commanded by Col. Ross, has been such as to merit his warm approbation. The 7th regiment was led by Major Peyre, and the 44th by Captain Baker, in the action of the 23d, in a manner that does those officers the highest honour. They have continued through the campaign to do their duty with the same zeal and abi-

lity with which it was commenced. On that occasion the country lost a valuable officer in the death of Lieutenant M'Clellen of the 7th infantry, who fell while bravely leading his company.... Lieutenant Dupy of the 44th, although severely wounded in this action, returned in time to take a share in all subsequent attacks.

To the Tennessee mounted riflemen, to their gallant leader, Brigadier General Coffee, the general presents his warmest thanks, not only for their uniform good conduct in action, but for the wonderful patience with which they have borne the fatigue, and the perseverance with which they have surmounted the difficulties of a most painful march in order to meet the enemy; a diligence and zeal to which we probably owe the salvation of the country. Ordinary activity would have brought them too late to act the brilliant part they have performed in the defeat of our invaders. All the officers of that corps have distinguished themselves; but the general cannot avoid mentioning the name of Lieutenant Colonel Lauderdale, who fell on the night of the 23d; and those of Colonels Dyer, Gibson and Elliot, who were wounded, but disdaining personal considerations, remained firm to their duty.

The cavalry from the Mississippi territory, under their enterprising leader, Major Hinds, was always ready to perform every service which the nature of the country enabled them to execute. The daring manner in which they reconnoitred the enemy on his lines excited the admiration of one army, and the astonishment of the other.

Major General Carroll, commanding the detachment of West Tennessee militia, has shown the greatest zeal for the service, a strict attention to duty, and an ability and courage that will always recommend him to the gratitude of his country. His troops have, since the lines were formed, occupied and defended the weakest part of them, and borne without a murmur, an encampment on a marshy and unhealthy soil. In the memorable action of the 8th January, the chief effort of the enemy was directed against them; but their valour, and that of the brave men who supported them, (General Coffee's brigade on the left, and a part of the Kentucky troops on the right) soon made it clear that a rampart of high minded men is a better defence than the most regular fortification. General Adair, who, owing to the indisposition of General Thomas, brought up the Kentucky militia, has shown that troops will always be valiant when their leaders are so. No men ever displayed a more gallant spirit than these did under that most valuable officer. His country is under obligations to him.

The general would be ungrateful or insensible to merit, if he did not particularly notice the conduct of the officers and men who so bravely supported, and so skilfully directed his artillery.... Colonel M'Rea, in the action of the 23d, showed, as he always

does, great courage. Lieutenant Spotts, under whose immediate direction our artillery had been placed, led it to action with a daring courage worthy of admiration. Captain Humphrey commanded the first battery on our right; the service is greatly indebted to that officer, not only for the able and gallant manner in which he directed his fire, but for the general activity he displayed in his department.

Lieutenant Norris of the navy, with Mr. Walkers Martin, and a detachment of seamen, were stationed at the second battery; and Lieutenant Grawley, with Mr. W. Livingston (master's mate) with a similar detachment, were stationed at a 32 pounder, which was remarkably well directed; they performed their duty with the zeal and bravery which have always characterized the navy of the United States. Captains Dominique and Belluche, formerly commanding privateers at Baratavia, with part of their former crews, and many brave citizens of New Orleans, were stationed at Nos. 3 and 4. The general cannot avoid giving his warmest approbation of the manner in which these gentlemen have so ably conducted themselves while under his command, and of the gallantry with which they have redeemed the pledge they gave at the opening of the campaign to defend the country. The brothers of Lafitte have exhibited the same courage and fidelity; and the general promises that the government shall be duly apprized of their conduct. Colonel Perry, deputy quarter-master-general, volunteered his services at No. 6; he was ably aided by Lieutenant Kerr, of the artillery; his battery was well served, bravely supported, and greatly annoyed the enemy. Nos. 8 and 9 were directed by Lieutenant Sparks, with his usual skill and bravery, assisted by Mr. Cheanvean.

The general takes the highest pleasure in noticing the conduct of General De Flaquier, commanding one of the brigades of militia of this state, and member of the senate. His brigade not being in the field, as soon as the invasion was known, he repaired to the camp and offered himself as a volunteer for the service of a piece of artillery, which he directed with the skill which was to be expected from an experienced artillery officer; disdaining the exemption afforded by his seat in the senate, he continued in his subordinate but honourable station, and by his example, as well as his exertion, has rendered essential service to his country. Mr. Sebastian Hiriart, of the same body, set the same example, served a considerable time in the ranks of the volunteer battalion, and afterwards as adjutant of coloured troops. Mr. Planche's battalion of volunteers, though deprived of the valuable services of Major Carmac, who commanded them, by a wound which that

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officer received in the attack of the 28th December, have realized all the anticipations which the general had formed of their conduct. Major Planche and Major St. Geme, of that corps, have distinguished themselves by their activity, their courage and their zeal; and the whole corps have greatly contributed to enable the general to redeem the pledge he gave, when at the opening of the campaign he promised the country not only safety, but a splendid triumph over an insolent invader. The two corps of coloured volunteers have not disappointed the hopes that were formed of their courage and perseverance in the performance of their duty. Majors Lacoste and Daquin who commanded them, have deserved well of their country. Captain Savary's conduct has been noted in the account rendered of the battle of the 23d, and that since continued to merit the highest praise. Captain [] of the city riflemen has sustained by its subsequent conduct the reputation it acquired in the action of the 23d. Col. de la [] Louisiana militia, has been extremely serviceable in the [], and has shown great courage, and uniform attachment to the cause of the country. General Humbert, who offered himself as a volunteer, has continually exposed himself to the greatest dangers with his characteristic bravery, as has also the Mexican Field Marshal Don Juan de Anavar, who acted in the same capacity. The general acknowledges the important assistance he has received from Commodore Patterson as to his professional action, as the zealous co-operation of [] during the whole course of the campaign. Captain Henry, on board the [], and afterwards in directing the erection of batteries at the Bayou and on the right bank of the river, [] of great [] to the army. Lieut. Alexis of the army, stationed in the [] was indefatigable for exertions to forward to the army [] that could facilitate its operations; his zeal and activity [] the notice of the government. Major Nicks, who, by an accidental wound was deprived of the pleasure of commanding the 7th regiment during the campaign, was continually employed in the fort, and furnished the ammunition and artillery that were wanted, with the greatest activity and promptitude.

To the volunteers of the Mississippi Territory, and to the militia of the remoter part of this state, who have arrived since the decisive action of the 8th, the general tenders his thanks, and is convinced that nothing but opportunity was wanting to entitle them to the praise that have been merited by the rest of the army. Captain Ogden's troop of horse was peculiarly useful by their local knowledge of the ground on which they acted, and the small detachment of Attakapas dragoons, stationed near head-quarters, were indefatigable in performing all the duties which devolved on them.

The general would not do justice to his staff if he did not bestow deserved praise on the adjutant general, Colonel Butler, and his assistant Major Chotard, for the zeal and activity in the important department of service confined on them, and for the bravery which led them wherever danger or duty required their presence. The vigilance, courage and attention to duty exhibited during the campaign by Colonel Haynes, and his two assistants, Majors Davis and Hampton have been appreciated as they deserve to be by the general.

The general's aids-de-camp, Thomas D. Butler and Captain John Reed, as well as his volunteer aids, Messrs. Livingston, Duncan, Grymes, Duplessis and Major Davezac de Castera, the judge advocate, have merited the thanks of the general by the calm and deliberate courage they have displayed on every occasion, and in every situation that called it forth. The topographical engineer, Maj. Tatum, exhibited all the ardour of youth in the hour of peril, united to the experience acquired by his long service. The chief engineer, Major Lacarriere de la Tour, has been useful to the army by his talents and bravery. The same praises are due to his assistants, Captain Lewis Livingston and Mr. Latrobe. The medical staff has merited well of the country, and the general would not do justice to his own feelings were he to withhold from Doctor Kerr, hospital surgeon, who volunteered his services, and Doctor Flood, the just tribute of applause deserved by them for their medical skill and personal bravery. The quarter master's department tho' deprived of the personal exertions of Col. Platt, who was wounded in the night action of the 23d, performed well all their duties. Major General Villere and Brigadier General Morgan have merited the approbation of the general by their unwearied attention since they took the field.

The large mortar was ably directed by Captain Lefebvre and by Mr. Gilbert. Captain Planchard was very useful as an engineer, and merits the general's praise for the celerity and skill with which he erected the battery which now commands the river, on the right of the camp. Mr. Bosquet and Mr. Decoin, of Major St. Geme's company displayed great knowledge and dexterity as artillerists. To the whole army the general presents the assurance of his official approbation, and of his individual regard. This splendid campaign will be considered as entitling every man who has served in it to the salutation of his brother in arms.

By command, **ROBERT BUTLER,**
Adjutant General.

Adjutant General's office, New Orleans, Jan. 31, 1815.

The major general in justice to his own feelings, and as a tribute to merit, takes this opportunity of mentioning a few officers, omitted in the general order.

Captains M'Mahan and Pace, and Lieutenant Cromford, of General Coffee's brigade, in the action of the 23d December, fell like freemen, worthy the name, nobly contending with the enemy. Colonel Anderson of Major General Carroll's division, fell in a sortie on the 29th at the head of his command. The army were witnesses to, and admirers of his bravery.

Lieutenant Leach of the 7th U. S. infantry, was severely wounded in the side on the 23d, and refused to leave the ground until compelled the next day from extreme pain; but returned in time to perform his duty in the subsequent engagements.

Captain Smith and his brave troops from bayou Sarah, were believed to be part of the Mississippi dragoons, and were included as such in the mention made of that corps. The major general tenders to him and his brave troops, an expression of entire approbation of their conduct. Captain Griffin, and that part of his company of mounted gunmen with him in the action of the 23d, did their duty.

Midshipman Erasmus Watkins of the U. S. navy, from mistake is given as Mr. W. Martin in the general orders; to him therefore is meritedly due the mention made of said Martin.

Judge Lewis, who disdained to shield himself under his judicial cloak, volunteered his services in Captain Beal's rifle company, and performed his duty in a manner highly honourable to himself.

By command,

R. BUTLER, Adj't. Gen.

General Jackson afterwards addressed letters to Commodore Patterson and other officers of the navy, as well as to the mayor and citizens of Neworleans, in which he acknowledged their valor and bravery in greatly assisting towards the defence of the city.

Apostolic Mandate, &c.... On the 18th of December, the Rev. William Dubourg, apostolical administrator of the diocese of Louisiana, issued a mandate to the clergy, &c. of Neworleans, ordering prayers to be said in the churches of that city, on the 19th, 20th, and 21st of that month, together with the administration of the blessed sacrament and the psalm *Misere*, to implore divine protection on the arms of their brave defenders. This instrument was submitted to General Jackson, received his warmest approbation, and was printed and circulated at his request: thus showing that he was not insensible of a proper reliance on Providence for the success of his undertakings.

After the retreat of the enemy, a day of thanksgiving and praise to Almighty God was observed at Neworleans. During the solemnity of the ceremonies, the Rev. William Dubourg delivered the

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following elegant and highly finished address to Major General Jackson, accompanied with a wreath of laurel :

“GENERAL..... While the state of Louisiana, in the joyful transports of her gratitude, hails you as her deliverer, and the asserter of her menaced liberties ; while grateful America, as lately wrapt up in anxious suspense, on the fate of this important city, the emporium of the wealth of one half of her territory, and the true bulwark of its independence, is now re-echoing from shore to shore your splendid achievements, and preparing to inscribe your name on her immortal rolls among those of her Washingtons ; while history, poetry, and the monumental arts will vie in consigning to the admiration of the latest posterity, a triumph perhaps unparalleled in their records ; while thus raised by universal acclamation to the very pinnacle of fame, and ascending clouds of incense, how easy it had been for you, General, to forget the prime mover of your wonderful successes, and to assume to yourself a praise which must essentially return to that exalted source whence every sort of merit is derived !.... But, better acquainted with the nature of true glory, and justly placing the summit of your ambition in proving yourself the worthy instrument of Heaven’s merciful designs, the first impulse of your religious heart was to acknowledge the signal interposition of Providence ; your first step is a solemn display of your humble sense of his favours. Still agitated at the remembrance of these dreadful agonies from which we have been so miraculously rescued, it is our pride also to acknowledge that the Almighty has only had the principal hand in our deliverance, and to follow you, general, in attributing to his infinite goodness the homage of our unfeigned gratitude. Let the infatuated votary of a blind chance deride our credulous simplicity ; let the cold-hearted Atheist look up for your explanation of such important events to the mere concatenation of human causes ; to us, the whole universe is loud in proclaiming a Supreme Ruler, who, as he holds the hearts of men in his hands, holds also the thread of all contingent occurrences.

“Whatever be his intermediate agent (says an illustrious prelate) still on the secret orders of his all-ruling providence depend the rise and prosperity, as well as the decline and downfall of empires. From his lofty throne above, he moves every scene below, now curbing, now letting loose the passions of men : now infusing his own wisdom into the leaders of nations, now confounding their boasted prudence and spreading upon their councils a spirit of intoxication, and thus executing his uncontrollable judgments on the sons of men, according to the dictates of his own unerring justice.

“To him, therefore, our most fervent thanks are due for our

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late unexpected rescue ; and it is him we chiefly intend to praise, when, considering you, general, as the man of his right hand, whom he has taken pains to fit out for the important commission of our defence, we extol that fecundity of genius, by which, in an instant of the most discouraging distress, you created unforeseen resources....raised, as it were, from the ground, hosts of intrepid warriors, and provided every vulnerable point with ample means of defence. To him we trace that instinctive superiority of your mind, which at once rallied around you universal confidence, impressed one irresistible movement to all the jarring elements of which this political machine is composed, aroused their slumbering spirits, and diffused through every rank that noble ardour which glowed in your own bosom. To him, in fine, we address our acknowledgments for that consummate prudence which defeated all the combinations of a sagacious enemy, entangled him in the very snares which he had spread before us, and succeeded in effecting his utter destruction, without once exposing the lives of citizens. Immortal thanks be to his Supreme Majesty, for sending us such an instrument of his bountiful designs ! A gift of that value is the best token of the continuance of his protection.... the most solid encouragement to us to sue for new favours. The first which it emboldens us humbly to supplicate, as it is the nearer to our throbbing hearts, is, that you may long enjoy, general, the honours of your grateful country, of which you will permit us to present you a pledge in this wreath of laurel, the prize of victory, the symbol of immortality. The next is a speedy and honourable termination of the bloody contest in which we are engaged. No one has so efficaciously laboured as you, general, for the acceleration of that blissful period ; may we soon reap that sweetest fruit of your splendid and uninterrupted victories."

GENERAL JACKSON'S ANSWER.

"*Reverend Sir,*

"I receive with gratitude and pleasure the symbolical crown which piety has prepared. I receive it in the name of the brave men who have so effectually seconded my exertions for the preservation of their country....they well deserve the laurels which their country will bestow.

"For myself, to have been instrumental in the deliverance of such a country, is the greatest blessing that Heaven could confer. That it has been effected with so little loss....that so few tears should cloud the smiles of our triumph, and not a cypress leaf be interwoven in the wreath which you present, is a source of the most exquisite enjoyment.

"I thank you, reverend sir, most sincerely, for the prayers which you offer up for my happiness. May those your patriotism dictates

for our beloved country be first heard. And may mine for your individual prosperity, as well as that of the congregations committed to your care, be favourably received; the prosperity, the wealth, the happiness of this city will then be commensurate with the courage and other great qualities of its inhabitants."

Notwithstanding the departure of the enemy from the island of Orleans, General Jackson, having in view the possibility of their again appearing to invade the city, particularly if its defences were left unguarded, still continued martial law, and enjoined a strict military discipline upon the troops.

Capture of fort Bowyer..... Chagrined and disappointed at their repulse at Orleans, the enemy seemed determined not to leave the Gulf of Mexico until they had accomplished *something*. They accordingly sailed for Mobile Point, 150 miles east of New Orleans, and on the 6th of February arrived off that place in great force. On the 7th they commenced landing their troops between the Point and the river Perdido, as also on Dauphine island, opposite the point, and distant 3 miles. On the 8th, the enemy commenced bombarding the fort, both by land and water, which they continued without much intermission until the 12th, when Lt. Col. (formerly Major) Lawrence, commander of the fort, finding himself surrounded by thousands, and nearly reduced of provisions, was compelled to capitulate. General Winchester, who was stationed at Mobile, had ordered a detachment over the bay, with a view to divert the enemy from his object; but it arrived about 24 hours too late, though in time to capture one of the enemy's barges with 17 seamen.

The enemy took immediate possession of the fort and garrison, which consisted of 366 men, including officers, but these were soon afterwards exchanged. The British loss during the bombardment was between 30 and 40 killed and wounded.....The Americans had 2 or 3 wounded.

On the 18th of February, General M'Intosh arrived at Mobile, at the head of a considerable body of Georgia troops, and was momentarily expecting an attack from the enemy until the morning of the 22d, when a flag boat was sent from the British fleet to get some prisoners exchanged, which brought a copy of a letter from Lord Bathurst to the lord mayor of London, informing him of a treaty of peace having been sent to the United States from our ministers at Ghent for ratification. The major (Todd) charged with the flag, also brought a verbal communication to Gen. M'Intosh from Gen. Lambert, commanding the British army on that station, saying that all offensive operations on their part should cease until the pleasure of their government should be known.

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It was not until the 15th of March that General Jackson received official information at New Orleans of the ratification of the treaty by our government ; when he immediately revoked the order proclaiming martial law, having deemed it essential to the safety of the city to continue it in force until that time. He then discharged the volunteers and militia remaining on duty.

Biographical sketch of Gen. Jackson.... After the recent succession of great events, now seen by all to have been externally controlled by the mighty powers of one man, our solicitude is impatient to know the materials of which this extraordinary character is composed....who and what were his parents to produce such an offspring ? What incidents of his boyish years foretold the brilliancy and the energy of a mind, now perfected for the most daring exploits and creative for his wants even when all around was a chaos without form and void ? Had the subject of our enquiries been the vain and blustering herald of himself, we should have wanted inducements to explore a dark mine where no precious material, where no diamond blazed in the dust. He is not his own biographer to tell us what "OUR GENERAL" has done, nor has he threatened to "look down opposition." He has trusted his fame to his own exploits. We know little more of this luminary than by what we can behold while dazzled with its effulgence pouring from its excentric orbit. The familiar friends of Gen. Jackson permit us to know but little of his early life and by no means have we enough to pourtray the man. We have however gleaned something. The little which we possess is, that Gen. Jackson was born in Lancaster in South-Carolina, in what is there denominated the Waxhaw settlement. Having, at an early age, lost his parents, he was brought up by Messrs. Thomas and James Crawford, his uncles, in the same settlement. He was, for some time, a student in an academy, in what is now called York district, then within the Waxhaw. Mr. Humphrey's deserves the honor of being named as the then preceptor of this academy. Young Jackson afterwards studied the profession of law....was admitted to the bar, and three or four years after the war of the revolution, he emigrated to the now state of Tennessee, where he commenced the practice and soon became eminent in his profession. His speeches at the bar were always considered to be nervous and he was admired for the perspicuity of his style. He was, says a writer, pointed out to me in Knoxville (Tennessee) as an elegant scholar. In early life he was poor ; his industry soon made him rich. Generous and brave in his disposition, he was esteemed by all, who knew him. His influence soon became extensive. He was elected a member of the Tennessee convention, and had a large share in the formation of the constitution of that state. After the admission of the state of Tennessee into the union, he was elected

to the house of representatives from which he was transferred by the Tennessee legislature to the senate of the United States. This last station he occupied with known celebrity till he was appointed a judge of the supreme court of law and equity of Tennessee.

Having held this office, for several years, with honor to himself and with the reputation of impartial justice to the state, he surrendered the scales of justice and soon accepted the sword of a major general in the state militia. The desolate villages of the formerly haughty and powerful Creeks, evince at once the discernment of his state and the extraordinary talents and bravery of this chieftain.

We hazard the opinion, that it is not only necessary that a military commander have a mind prepared for any event, learned in arms and prophetic of the future, but that he have an external appearance suited to the toils of the field, inspiring confidence and overawing insubordination.

Of Gen. Jackson after his destruction of the Creeks, and before his defence of Neworleans, a writer of no common merit observes, "He is tall, thin and spare; but muscular and hardy, with an eye quick and penetrating. I have frequently seen him, and such was the impression his appearance made on my mind, that I have said to myself he is a man of iron. Adversity can make no impression on a bosom braced by such decision and firmness as are visible in his face and manners. Let not the reader conclude from this, that he is haughty, distant and imperious...he is quite the contrary. True, he sports not with the feelings of others, and no one is permitted to wound him with impunity. He is gay, communicative and liberal. The more you know him, the more you admire, and indeed love him. To be a patriot, a soldier and a gentleman, is sufficient to secure the inviolable friendship of this distinguished citizen. To the poor he is liberal; to the unfortunate, charitable. To the humblest private he is mild and tender: to the base and disaffected to his country he is stern and unbending, and yet just. He is above fifty-five years of age; but he has a juvenility of appearance, which would make him ten years younger. He is married; but has no children. If in the field, and at the head of armies in battle, we admire the dauntless soldier; we love the man, who at home and in retirement is hospitable and friendly. In this particular the general is pre-eminently conspicuous."

Thus far only is portrayed to us the very distinguished person, who seems to have been divinely commissioned successfully to protect our country, as well against the best disciplined armies, and the most scientific and experienced generals of Europe, as against the most formidable nation of savages which have ever incumbered our soil. Called to Neworleans for its defence by the imperious occasion, and by the command of his government, he

there had scope for all the versatility of his talents, and for all the promptitude and decision of his mind. A city without any adequate fortifications, upon an island, approachable in a hundred avenues, peopled from all nations, a Babel with a confusion of languages, recently admitted to, and little understanding the mild institutions of our government, was supposed to contain materials fitted for treason and to be readily induced to submit to a formidable invading enemy.

Soon after the arrival at New Orleans of General Jackson, a consultation for the safety of the city was had, at which his Excellency Governor Claiborne and the honourable the Judges of the Supreme Court attended as advisory to General Jackson. In this council it was thought to be necessary, and the opinion was not opposed, that martial law should be proclaimed. The safety of the people was considered as the supreme law of the land. The emergency did not permit the delay necessary for the act of other legitimate and higher authorities. There was a spirit which dared to execute, and General Jackson proclaimed martial law. Upon the approach of the enemy, a portion of the fickle and vibrating French population, obtained from the resident French consul, certificates of French citizenship. The general allowed their validity; but sent these alien exempts from military duty, under a military guard, 120 miles from his camp and besieged city, to Baton Rouge, in the interior.

A printer had misrepresented that General Jackson's order of removal applied indiscriminately to the whole French population. The French consul a second time resisted the martial law by claiming for his king individuals of the city militia. He even erected a standard, and under pretext of the violations of the liberty of the French citizens, invited them to revolt. General Jackson considering further forbearance as criminally endangering the lives of even these mongrel citizens, and as calculated to betray the city to the enemy, arrested this consul; and a Judge (Hall) of the supreme court issued a writ of *habeas corpus* to compel the enlargement of the prisoner. The general still determined to maintain his martial law, and thereby bind together this heterogeneous population to the defence of the city, ordered the judge into confinement, and to be removed without the lines of defence. Boldly indeed, and with an unyielding spirit, the general compelled and controuled the public safety.

After the peace was officially known at New Orleans to have been ratified, and when the martial law had ceased to operate, General Jackson was cited to answer before the judge, whom he had arrested, to show cause why an attachment should not issue against the general for a contempt of the court in sundry particulars relating to the writ of *habeas corpus*. The general disdain- ing to evade a requisition of the law, submitted himself to the

court, and by his council, offered to present to it his defence in writing, but which was contumeliously rejected without being read. This trial which precluded also a jury, was continued from day to day for several days, when on the last day, General Jackson walked into the court-house with admirable composure, and exemplary respect for the high authority which called him thither. He approached the judge with a paper in his hand, having dispensed with the friendly offices of the professional gentleman who had managed his case before. The judge informed the general that there were interrogatories to be pronounced to him, to which he was desired to respond: the general replied he would not answer them, saying, "sir, my defence in this accusation has been offered, and you have denied its admission, you have refused me an opportunity of explaining my motives, and the necessity for the adoption of the martial law in repelling an invading foe," pointing out at the same moment his objections to that mode of proceeding under which the enquiry was had, to know whether or not the attachment should issue. "I was then with these brave fellows in arms," (alluding to the surrounding crowd.) "You were not, sir." The judge went on to read his opinion. The general interrupted him with much apparent deliberation, saying, "sir, state facts, and confine yourself to them. Since my defence is, and has been precluded, let not censure constitute a part of this sought for punishment." To which the judge replied.... "It is with delicacy, general, that I speak of your name or character.... I consider you the saviour of the country; but for your contempt of authority, or that effect, you will pay a fine of 1000 dollars." Here the general interrupted by filling a check for that sum, on the bank, and presenting it to the marshal, which was received in discharge. The general then retired, observing, on his passage to the door, "it will be my turn next."

At the door he was received amid the acclamations of the exclaiming populace, with which the streets and avenues were filled, of all nations and colours. A coach awaited him at the door of the court-house, into which he was carried and seated, the shafts and handles of which were eagerly seized by the people.... In this way he was precipitated through the streets to the French coffee-house, amid the shouts of *vive le General Jackson*, and denouncing his prosecutors, thence to the American coffee-house, where the general addressed the crowd as follows:

Fellow-Citizens and Soldiers..... Behold your general, under whom, but a few days ago, you occupied the tented field, braving all the privations and dangers in repelling and defeating your

* * * Let it be remembered, that on the 24th of December Judge Hall and Judge **** obtained general permissions to pass the guards to and fro, and set out on foot, passed the upper guard above the river, and went to the interior, whence they did not return until after the victory.

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country's exterior enemies, under the rules and discipline of the camp, so indispensable to the hope of victory; rules which were predicated upon necessity, and which met the approbation of every patriot. Behold him now, bending under a specious pretext of redressing your country's civil authority, which, though wrought through prejudice, he scorns to deny or oppose, but cheerfully submits to what is influenced upon him, now that the difficulties under which we groaned are removed, and the discipline of the camp summons you no more to arms. It is the highest duty and pride of all good men to pay their tribute of respect to the guardian of our civil liberties. Remember this last charge, as in a few days I expect to leave you: it may serve as a lesson to yourselves and posterity."

Mr. Davezac gave the substance of the preceding remarks from the general in French; after which the general was conducted to the coach, and drawn to his quarters in Fauxbourg Marigny, followed by the multitude, echoing, *vive le General Jackson*.

The fine was afterwards paid by a voluntary subscription of one dollar each, by 1000 citizens.

In addition to the addresses to General Jackson, published in preceding pages of this work, numerous other addresses, which seem necessarily to comprise the mass of the city population of New Orleans, were also presented to the general, not only approving, but extolling, in the most grateful language, his military conduct. Congress has also passed, unanimously, resolutions of thanks to the general, for the defence which he made, and an emblematical gold medal, with devices of his splendid achievements, has been ordered to be presented to him. Addresses and resolutions of thanks from other and minor bodies from various parts of the Union, also evince the gratitude of this numerous people to the general, for his almost unequalled victories.

The stars of our country have splendidly shone; and may they long shine over the head of our Jackson. Our late enemies have felt from his hand our arrows. The olive now surrounds his brows. "In peace, he is the gentle breath of spring; in war, the mountain storm." He has appeared, and yet appears, covered with glory. The laurels with which he has decked his country's standard, will bloom for ages.

Geographical.... The island of Orleans is a tract of land lying between the Mississippi on the S. W. and the Iberville and lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain on the N. E. The Iberville is a bayou, or arm of the Mississippi, which leaves it on the east 208 miles from its mouth, according to the course of the river, and flows through lakes Maurepas and Ponchartrain, to the Gulph of Mexico. The island stretches from E. S. E. to W. N. W. in a

straight line, about 160 miles. Its breadth varies from 0 to 25 miles.

New Orleans city is the only town of any considerable consequence in the whole of Louisiana. It was founded in 1717, and stands on the east bank of the Mississippi, 87 miles from its mouth, 1308 below that of the Missouri, and 1115 below that of the Ohio. It is on the S. W. side of the Island of Orleans, and 6 miles west of lake Ponchartrain, with which it is connected by the canal Carondelet, 2 miles in length, leading to the bayou St. Jean, which empties into the lake. The town is regularly laid out, the streets cross each other at right angles, and are generally about 40 feet broad. The houses of the principal streets near the river are built of brick, and are covered with slate tiles. Those in the back part of the town are chiefly of wood. The length of the town along the river is upwards of a mile, and its breadth more than half a mile. In the centre of the town stands the cathedral and town-house, and in front of them an open square covered with grass. The *Levee* is an embankment of earth, about 6 feet high, commencing at fort St. Philip, or Plaquemine, 43 miles below, and reaching the Iberville at the head of the island, 121 miles above the city, according to the course of the river..... This artificial embankment is necessary in freshes to prevent the waters of the Mississippi from inundating the whole island. It makes an excellent road, about 20 feet wide, which is dry at all seasons of the year, and passes directly in front of the town along the margin of the river, affording a very pleasant evening walk. In the evening, after sunset it is crowded with company. All the markets are on the *Levee*. At the S. E. end of the town stands a building lately occupied as a convent by a number of Ursuline nuns. The city, suburbs and precincts of New Orleans contained, at the last census, 24,552 inhabitants, of whom 13,728 were whites, and 10,824 slaves. There are a number of Indians in the city, and more than one half of the whites are French. The different grades have each their different amusements.

Lake Ponchartrain is variously stated to be from 40 to 60 miles in length, and from 24 to 30 miles wide, and has a channel course through it about 18 feet deep. The bayou St. Jean, which leads from the lake to the canal Carondelet, is navigable for small craft only, having from 4 to 5 feet water in depth. At the mouth of the bayou is fort St. Jean. Lake Ponchartrain communicates with the Gulph of Mexico by a passage called the Rigolets. This passage is 10 miles long, between 3 and 400 yards wide, with 6 or 7 feet of water in depth. By this passage from the Gulph, is admitted through lakes Ponchartrain and Maurepas, a tide of from 1 to 6 feet, varied according to the course of the winds. As these waters pass through the Rigolets, they mingle with the waters of Pearl river, and together flow into the Gulph. On the

south side of the Rigolets, and near to the entrance from the Gulph, there is a large passage into lake Bourgne (or Blind Lake.) There is also a passage 6 or 7 feet deep between lakes Bourgne and Ponchartrain, called the bayou Chef-Menteur. Near the entrance into Ponchartrain, at the east end of the Rigolets, and on the north side, are the principal mouths of Pearl river. Upon the south side of the Rigolets, and commanding them, as well as some of the mouths of Pearl river, is the fort Petit Coquilles.

Lake Bourgne lies eastwardly of Neworleans about 20 miles. From the head of this lake, 5 miles from the Mississippi, is a Cypress swamp, which extends 4 miles from the lake, and within 1 mile of the Mississippi. This distance of one mile from the river toward the lake is firm ground; which extent of firm ground, skirted with the swamp, reaches above the city. Hence General Jackson, by erecting a breast-work of one mile in length, effectually fortified all the ground between him and the city upon which the enemy could march.

From the head of lake Bourgne, the bayou, or creek, Bienvenue extends to within 4 miles of the Mississippi; which bayou, with the addition of a canal, continued a water communication for small craft to the *Leves*. Hence, by opening a passage a few feet through the Levee, and deepening the canal, the enemy was enabled, in boats, to send a force across the Mississippi, to Morgan's entrenched camp, and to Patterson's batteries. A small distance below this canal, is the *Detour Anglois*, or English Turn, in the Mississippi. Upon this Turn, and on each side of the river, is a battery which commands the approach to Neworleans. No wind which can bring a vessel from the mouth of the river to this Turn, can carry her by it, without coming in *stays*; and every ship at this place must be as a raft, an object of deliberate fire from the batteries.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

Point-Petre and St. Mary's.....Loss of the U. S. frigate President.....Capture of the Cyane and Levant.....List of British vessels captured in 1814-15.....Close of the war, and treaty of Peace.

ON the 13th of January, 1815, about 1500 of the enemy attacked by land and water, a small fort at Point-Petre, at the mouth of St. Mary's river, in Georgia, which they succeeded in carrying; the garrison (consisting of 36 men) having previously effected its retreat after a few fires. During the movements of the land troops of the enemy against the Point, they were severely harrassed by a small but brave corps, consisting of 60 riflemen

and infantry, under command of Capt. Massias of the 1st U. S. rifle corps. The enemy's loss was considerable, while ours was but trifling.

The enemy afterwards entered the town of St. Mary's, about 6 miles up the river, where they committed many acts of plunder. After continuing there for 8 or 10 days, they retired to Cumberland Island, having burnt the barracks and blown up the fort at Point-Petre.

On the 24th of February, six of the enemy's barges, containing 280 men, attempted to ascend the St. Mary's river, with the view, as was supposed, of burning mills lying on the river. They were attacked by a party of 20 men under Capt. Mickler, aided by 30 of the Patriots of Florida under Col. Dill, and were compelled to retire with great loss, being so completely cut up as not to be able to work their barges with the usual complement of oars.... Their loss in killed and wounded was stated to have been from 100 to 160. Our loss was only 1 man severely wounded, our men having been aided by a cover of woods, which screened them from the sight of the enemy.

Loss of the frigate President..... On the 14th of January the United States frigate President, Com. Decatur, sailed from New-York on a cruise; and on the day following was captured, after a severe engagement, by a squadron of British vessels, as given in the following official letter:

H. B. M. ship Endymion, at sea, Jan. 18, 1815.

SIR—The painful duty of detailing to you the particular causes which preceded and led to the capture of the late U. S. frigate President, by a squadron of his Britannic majesty's ships, (as per margin) has devolved upon me. In my communication of the 14th, I made known to you my intention of proceeding to sea on that evening. Owing to mistake of the pilots, the ship, in going out, grounded on the bar, where she continued to strike heavily for an hour and a half. Although she had broken several of her rudder braces, and received such other material injury as to render her return into port desirable, I was unable to do so from the strong westerly wind which was then blowing. It being now high water, it became necessary to force her over the bar before the tide fell; in this we succeeded by 10 o'clock, when we shaped our course along the shore of Long Island for 50 miles, and then steered S. E. by E. At 3 o'clock three ships were discovered ahead; we immediately hauled up the ship and passed two miles to the northward of them. At day-light we discovered four ships in chase, one on each quarter and two astern, the leading ship of the enemy a razee....she commenced a fire upon us, but without effect. At meridian the wind became light and baffling; we had

increased our distance from the raze, but the next ship astern, which was also a large ship, had gained and continued to gain upon us considerably. We immediately occupied all hands to lighten ship, by starting water, cutting away the anchors, throwing overboard provisions, cables, spare spars, boats, and every article that could be got at, keeping the sails wet from the royals down. At 3 we had the wind quite light; the enemy, who had now been joined by a brig, had a strong breeze and were coming up with us rapidly. The *Endymion* (mounting 50 guns, 24 pounders on the main deck) had now approached us within gun-shot, and had commenced a fire with her bow guns, which we returned from our stern. At 5 o'clock she had obtained a position on our starboard quarter, within half point blank shot, on which neither our stern nor quarter guns would bear. We were now steering E. by N. the wind N. W. I remained with her in this position for half an hour, in the hope that she would close with us on our broadside, in which case I had prepared my crew to board; but from his continuing to yaw his ship, to maintain his position, it became evident that to close was not his intention. Every fire now cut some of our sails and rigging. To have continued our course under these circumstances, would have been placing it in his power to cripple us, without being subject to injury himself; and to have hauled up more to the northward to bring our stern guns to bear, would have exposed us to his raking fire. It was now dusk, when I determined to alter my course south, for the purpose of bringing the enemy abeam; and although their ships astern were drawing up fast, I felt satisfied I should be enabled to throw him out of the combat before they could come up, and was not without hopes, if the night proved dark, (of which there was every appearance,) that I might still be enabled to effect my escape. Our opponent kept off at the same instant we did, and our fire commenced at the same time. We continued engaged, steering south with steering sails set, two hours and a half, when we completely succeeded in dismantling her. Previous to her dropping entirely out of the action, there were intervals of minutes, when the ships were broadside, in which she did not fire a gun. At this period, (half past 8 o'clock) although dark, the other ships of the squadron were in sight, and almost within gun-shot. We were of course compelled to abandon her. In resuming our former course for the purpose of avoiding the squadron, we were compelled to present our stern to our antagonist; but such was his state, though we were thus exposed, and within range of his guns for half an hour, that he did not avail himself of this opportunity of raking us. We continued this course until 11 o'clock, when two fresh ships of the enemy (the *Pomone* and *Tenedos*) had come up. The *Pomone* had opened her fire on the larboard

bow, within musket shot; the other, about two cables length astern, taking a raking position on our quarter; and the rest, with the exception of the *Endymion*, within gun-shot. Thus situated, with about one-fifth of my crew killed and wounded, my ship crippled, and a more than fourfold force opposed to me, without a chance of escape left, I deemed it my duty to surrender.

It is with emotions of pride I bear testimony to the gallantry and steadiness of every officer and man I had the honour to command on this occasion; and I feel satisfied that the fact of their having beaten a force equal to themselves, in the presence and almost under the guns of so vastly superior a force, when, too, it was almost self-evident, that whatever their exertions might be, they must ultimately be captured, will be taken as evidence of what they would have performed, had the force opposed to them been in any degree equal.

It is with extreme pain I have to inform you that Lieutenants Babbit, Hamilton and Howell fell in the action. They have left no officers of superior merit behind them.

If, sir, the issue of this affair had been fortunate, I should have felt it my duty to have recommended to your attention Lieutenants Shubrick and Gallagher. They maintained, throughout the day, the reputation they had acquired in former actions.

Lieutenant Twiggs, of the marines, displayed great zeal; his men were well supplied, and their fire incomparable so long as the enemy continued within musket range.

Midshipman Randolph, who had charge of the fore-castle division, managed it to my entire satisfaction.

From Mr. Robinson who was serving as a volunteer, I received essential aid, particularly after I was deprived of the services of the master, and the severe loss I had sustained in my officers on my quarter-deck.

Of our loss in killed and wounded, I am unable at present to give you a correct statement; the attention of the surgeon being so entirely occupied with the wounded, that he was unable to make out a correct return when I left the *President*, nor shall I be able to make it until our arrival in port, we having parted company with the squadron yesterday. The enclosed list, with the exception, I fear, of its being short of the number, will be found correct.

For 24 hours after the action, it was nearly calm, and the squadron were occupied in repairing the crippled ships. Such of the crew of the *President* as were not badly wounded, were put on board the different ships; myself and a part of my crew were put on board this ship. On the 17th we had a gale from the eastward, when this ship lost her bowsprit, fore and main-masts, and mizen top-mast, all of which were badly wounded, and was, in consequence of her disabled condition, obliged to throw over-board all her upper-deck guns; her loss in killed and wounded

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must have been very great. I have not been able to ascertain the extent. Ten were buried after I came on board (26 hours after the action;) the badly wounded, such as were obliged to keep their cots, occupy the starboard side of the gun-deck, from the cabin bulk-head to the main-mast. From the crippled state of the President's spars, I feel satisfied she could not have saved her masts, and I feel serious apprehensions for the safety of our wounded left on board.

It is due to Captain Hope to state, that every attention has been paid by him to myself and officers that have been placed on board his ship, that delicacy and humanity could dictate. I have the honour to be, &c.

STEPHEN DECATUR.

The British vessels referred to in the above letter, were the *Majestic*, *Endymion*, *Pomone*, *Tenedos*, and *Dispatch*; and the loss on board of the *President*, was 24 killed and 55 wounded.

In the gale, mentioned by Commodore Decatur, in which the *Endymion* was so much injured, the *President* also suffered severely. She afterwards, however, arrived at Bermuda, where she found the *Pomone* and *Endymion*. Commodore Decatur, after remaining on the island for a few days, was paroled and sailed for the United States in the British frigate *Narcissus*.

In a letter to the secretary of the navy, under date of the 6th of March, Commodore Decatur mentions, that "a considerable number of his killed and wounded was from the fire of the *Pomone*, and that the *Endymion* had on board, in addition to her own crew, 1 lieutenant, 1 master's mate and 50 seamen, belonging to the *Saturn*; and when the action ceased, was left motionless and unmanageable, until she bent new sails, rove new rigging, and fished her spars; nor did she join the squadron until 6 hours after the action, and 3 hours after the surrender of the *President*."

Capture of the Cyane and Levant.....On the evening of the 20th February, Captain Stewart, of the U. S. frigate *Constitution*, off the island of Madeira, fell in with his Britannic majesty's ships of war *Cyane* and *Levant*, when a spirited action commenced.... In 40 minutes the *Cyane* struck her colours, being much cut up, and the *Levant* endeavoured to escape. The *Constitution*, after manning the prize, pursued the *Levant*; and in half an hour came up with her, when she soon surrendered.

The *Levant* mounted 21 guns, 18 of which were 32 pound carronades, and her crew consisted of 160 officers, seamen and marines, commanded by Captain Douglass. Her loss in killed was 23, and wounded 16.

The *Cyane* mounted 34 guns, (22 thirty-two pound carronades, 10 eighteen pound do. and 2 long nine pounders,) and her crew consisted of 168 officers, seamen and marines, commanded by Captain Falcon. Her loss in killed was 12, and wounded 26.

The Constitution received but little injury; her loss in killed was 3, and wounded 12.

On the 9th of March the Constitution with her two prizes anchored off the Isle of May, (one of the Cape-de-Verd islands.).... On the 10th she got under way, and made sail for St. Jago, where she anchored. On the 12th, Captain Stewart discovered 3 British frigates standing for Port Praya; and considering the little respect heretofore paid by British vessels to neutral waters, he deemed it expedient to get under way. Signals were accordingly made for this purpose, when the Portuguese opened a fire upon Captain Stewart from several of their batteries, and the British frigates discovering the movements of our vessels, gave immediate chase. After continuing the chase for 3 or 4 hours, they succeeded in separating the Levant from the other vessels, when she tacked and stood for the harbour, her commanding officer, Lieutenant Ballard, hoping the neutrality of the port might protect him: but in this he was disappointed. For after anchoring in 4 fathom water, and within 150 yards of the shore, he was wantonly attacked by the British frigates, (which had chased him in) when, finding all further resistance vain, he was compelled to strike his colours.

On the 8th of April, the Cyane, commanded by Lieutenant Hoffman, arrived in safety at Newyork; and on the 15th of May Captain Stewart arrived at the same place in the Constitution, after a cruise of about 5 months....having heard of the ratification of a treaty of peace between Great Britain and America about a fortnight previous to his arrival.

List of British vessels captured in 1814 and 1815—extracted from Niles' Weekly Register.

Two brigs and a schooner by the G. Turk.
Schooner Mary by the Surprise.
A transport sloop laden with naval stores and implements of war, sunk by the enemy and afterwards raised by Commodore M'Donough.
Schooner Bird with fish, by the Grand Turk.
Ship Ocean, with a cargo of masts, &c. for men of war, by the General Putnam.
Schooner Georgiana, with rum and sugar, by the Grand Turk.
Schooner — by the Scorpion.
Schooner — by do and bilged.
Schooners Eugene and Stinger by the Midas—divested and destroyed.
Schooner Betsey and Jane, with dry goods valued at 150,000 dollars, by the Cadet of Salem.
Brig — with fish by the Jonquille.
Ship Amelia, mounting 4 long guns and 8 twelve pound carronades, richly laden with dry goods, after a close engagement, by the Saucy Jack.
Four schooners and three sloops by do.
Brig Louisa by the Macedonian, burnt.
Brig Britannia by do do
Ship Sir Edward Pellew, 307 tons, 2 guns and 19 men, by do—sunk.
Schooner Mariner by do—made a cartel.
Schooner — with fish, by the Resolution.
Brig S. B. 2 guns 12 men, by the Kemp.
Ship Rosabella, 16 guns, 35 men, an elegant vessel of 351 tons burthen and coppered, with a full cargo of sugar, captured by the Kemp.—

The Rosabella, in going into Charleston, um fortunately grounded on the bar and was lost.— This vessel was a loss to the British of from 2 to 300,000 dollars.
Brig Fortsea, 8 guns, 28 men, heavily laden with sugar, by the same.
Ship Princess 2 guns 14 men, with a great cargo of sugar, by do.
Schooner — with salt, by the Young Was p.
Schooner Hazard, with a valuable cargo, by the Surprise—divested and burnt.
Two small vessels by ditto—one given up, the other burnt.
Brig Courtney, with a cargo worth 300,000 dollars, by the Yankee.
Schooner Polly, with fish, by the Dash.
Schooner Swift by the Expedition.
Ship L'Amiable, with sugar, by the Roger.
Schooner — with a valuable cargo, by the Hero.
Ship — laden with provisions and stores for the allied forces in Florida, entering Mobile in mistake for Pensacola bay, and there captured by our troops.
Schooner Mary, with a valuable cargo of dry goods, by the Cadet.
Schooner St John by the Jonquille.
Schooner — by the same, made a cartel.
Brig Gun Maitland, with rum, by the Dash.
Sloop Mary by ditto—divested of goods and made a cartel.
Schooner — by the Fame.

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Two schooners and a sloop by the Caroline.
Brig Stephen of 14 guns and 30 men, with a rich cargo of dry goods, by the same after a short action—divested of her cargo and given up to the prisoners.
Sloop Trinidad, with coffee, hides and log-wood, by the Jonquil—divested and burnt.
Brig Equity, with a valuable cargo, by the Orlando.
Brig Lord Wellington, valuable, by the letter of marque Diamond.
Brig Margaret, with a full cargo of wine, by the Young Wasp.
Ship Hero of 610 tons, 14 guns and 37 men, laden with fish, &c. valued at 300,000 sterling, captured by the Ino.
Four brigs and a schooner, rich, by the Amelia.
Schooner Neptune of 8 guns, 18 men and 450 tons burthen, with a valuable cargo, by ditto.
Ketch Caroline, under Danish colours, overhauled by the Amelia and divested of 7 packages of dry goods, as British property.
Schooner Mary, formerly the Climax of Baltimore, of 6 guns and 12 men by do.
Brig Falla of 8 guns and 30 men, after an action of 30 minutes by do. The Amelia mounted only 6 guns.
East India ship General Wellesley, 8 guns, 80 men, 500 tons, with a valuable cargo, by the Yankee, after a running fight. The General Wellesley was afterwards lost on Charleston bar, and 7 of her crew only saved.
Brig — valuable by the Paul Jones.
The Lawrence, during a short cruise, took 13 prizes, some of them very valuable.
Brig Ld Wellington by the Expedition, burnt.
Ketch Expedition by the — cast away.
Schooner Goldfinder by the Young Wasp.
A transport, with 350 troops, chased ashore by three privateers and lost near Castine. The troops, however, escaped.
Sloop Governor Hodgdon by the Dash, divested of her cargo and given up.
Brig Only Son by ditto and ditto.
Schooner —, tender to the British frigate Herbus, 1 gun, 36 men, captured near Charleston by the U. S. larks under Lt. Kearney.
Brig —, laden with provisions for the army of New Orleans, where he had grounded and was burnt.
Three ships, two brigs and a schooner, by the Harper.
Brig Courtney, valuable, by the Yankee.
Ship St. Andrew of 8 guns, by do.
Brig Speculator by do. made a cartel.
Brig Patriot by the Brutus.
Brig Dantzic by the Paul Jones.
A tender to the British ship Dauntless, with 19 armed men, commanded by a lieutenant of the navy, captured by a small party of militia near St. James' Island, in the Chesapeake bay.
Transport brig Cyrus, 4 guns with provisions and clothing, captured on Lake Bourgne, burnt.
Transport brig — captured on do. and do.
Brig Peter, valuable, by the Lawrence.
Brig John by the Perry of Baltimore.
Brig Nancy by the same—made a cartel.
Three masted schooner — by the Warrior of New York—lost.
Ship William by the Charles Stewart.
A brig and a schooner by the Harrison.
Ship Mary, 6 guns, valuable, by the Little George of Boston.
Schooner Brent, tender to the Severn frigate, captured by a few boats of Com. Dent's flotilla, off Charleston.
Brig — by the Kemp.
A vessel by the Avon, ransomed.

Ship —, captured by the Jacob Jones.
His majesty's sloop of war Cyane and Levant, by the U. S. frigate Constitution. [See page 491.]
Brig Halcie by the Grand Turk—lost.
A schooner and two sloops by the America.
Packet ship Elizabeth, in ballast, 8 guns and 31 men, captured by the same, after a short battle. The Elizabeth had 3 killed and 13 wounded, and was literally torn to pieces, she was divested of her armament and given to the prisoners. The America suffered no injury.
A ship and a brig, by the Young Wasp.
Two brigs by the Morgiana.
A schooner, sloop and ship (the latter with a rich cargo) by the Kemp.
Brig — of 18 guns and 42 men, by the same after a smart action of 40 minutes, but afterwards abandoned, the prize crew being withdrawn and some articles taken out, on account of the near approach of British vessels of war.
Brig Alexander by the Leo—lost.
Brig Eagle by the Lawrence—recaptured.
Two brigs by the U. S. frigate Constitution.
A ship and a brig by the Rambler.
A valuable ship, three brigs, one schooner, and three sloops, by the Xebec Ulterior of Baltimore.
Schooner Arrow by the America.
Ship Adventure by the Chasseur—afterwards recaptured.
Two schooners and a sloop by the America.
Ship Emulation by the Syren.
Schooner — by the Macdonough—burnt.
Two schooners, a sloop and a brig, by the Reindeer.
Four brigs by the Portsmouth—one valued at 300,000 dollars.
Brig Adeona, valuable, by the America.
Schooner Sultan by the Morgiana.
Brig Sarah by the Warrior.
Brig Legal Tender, by the David Porter.
Brig —, sunk by the Prince of Neufchatel.
Ship Antigua, very valuable, by the Fox.
A ship and a brig, valuable, by the Morgiana.
Two brigs, a schooner and a sloop, by the Whig.
Six schooners and one brig, captured, by the Surprise—five destroyed and one made a cartel.
East India ship Star of 8 guns and 36 men, with a cargo worth 300,000 dollars, captured by the Surprise, after a severe engagement.
Two vessels by the Ranger, burnt.
Ship —, a collier, by the Ranger.
Brig Athill, 8 guns, by the Lawrence.
Schooner George by the David Porter.
Brig William by the Lawrence.
Brig — by the Champlain.
Brig Susanna, valuable, by the Sine-quanon.
Brig Flying Fish, valuable, by the D. Porter.
Ship Corona of 8 guns and a valuable cargo, by the Chasseur.
Packet (brig) Lady Mary Pelham of 10 guns, by the Kemp.
Brig Sarah by the Warrior, sunk.
Brig Lady Troubridge of 8 guns, by the Ino, burnt.
Ship Mary and Susan, 470 tons, with an immense cargo, by the Chasseur.
His majesty's schooner St. Lawrence of fourteen 12lb. carronades, one long gun and 75 men, besides a number of soldiers and passengers, captured by the Chasseur of Baltimore, Captain Boyle, after a very severe action of 15 minutes. The Lawrence had 40 men killed and wounded; the Chasseur 5 killed and 8 wounded. The latter mounted six 12lb. carronades, and eight short 1lb. carronades.

The number of British vessels captured during the war, as published in this work, is 1551.

TREATY OF PEACE.

JAMES MADISON,

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

To all and singular to whom these presents shall come,—GREETING :

WHEREAS a treaty of peace and amity between the United States of America, and his Britannic majesty was signed at Ghent, on the twenty-fourth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, by the plenipotentiaries respectively appointed for that purpose; and the said treaty having been, by and with the advice and consent of the senate of the United States, duly accepted, ratified, and confirmed, on the seventeenth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen; and ratified copies thereof having been exchanged agreeably to the tenor of the said treaty which is in the words following, to wit :

Treaty of peace and amity between his Britannic majesty and the United States of America.

His Britannic majesty and the United States of America, desirous of terminating the war which has unhappily subsisted between the two countries, and of restoring, upon principles of perfect reciprocity, peace, friendship and good understanding between them, have, for that purpose, appointed their respective plenipotentiaries, that is to say: his Britannic majesty, on his part, has appointed the Right Honourable James lord Gambier, late admiral of the white, now admiral of the red squadron of his majesty's fleet, Henry Gouldbarn, esquire, a member of the imperial parliament and under secretary of state, and William Adams, esquire, doctor of civil laws: And the president of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the senate thereof, has appointed John Quincy Adams, James A. Bayard, Henry Clay, Jonathan Russell and Albert Gallatin, citizens of the United States, who, after a reciprocal communication of their respective full powers, have agreed upon the following articles :

ARTICLE I.—There shall be a firm and universal peace between his Britannic majesty and the United States, and between their respective countries, territories, cities, towns and people, of every degree, without exception of places or persons. All hostilities, both by sea and land, shall cease as soon as this treaty shall have been ratified by both parties, as hereinafter mentioned. All territory, places and possessions whatsoever, taken from either party by the other, during the war, or which may be taken after the signing of this treaty, excepting only the islands hereinafter mentioned, shall be restored without delay, and without causing any destruction, or carrying away any of the artillery or other public property originally captured in the said forts or places, and which shall remain therein upon the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, or any slaves or other private property. And all archives, records, deeds and papers, either of a public nature, or belonging to private persons, which in the course of the war may have fallen into the hands of the officers of either party, shall be, as far as may be practicable, forthwith restored and delivered to the proper authorities and persons to whom they respectively belong. Such of the islands in the bay of Passamaquoddy as are claimed by both parties, shall remain in the possession of the party in whose occupation they may be at the time of the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, until the decision respecting the title to the said islands shall have been made in conformity with the fourth article of this treaty. No disposition made by this treaty, as to such possession of the islands and territories claimed by both parties, shall, in any manner whatever, be construed to affect the right of either.

ARTICLE II.—Immediately after the ratifications of this treaty by both parties, as hereinafter mentioned, orders shall be sent to the armies, squadrons, officers, subjects and citizens, of the two powers, to cease from all hostilities. And to prevent all causes of complaint which might arise on account of the prizes which may be taken at sea after the said ratifications of this treaty, it is reciprocally agreed, that all vessels and effects which may be taken after the space of 10 days from the said ratifications, upon all parts of the coast of North America, from the latitude of 23 degrees north, to the latitude of 50 degrees north, and as far eastward in the Atlantic ocean as the 36th degree of west longitude from the meridian of Greenwich, shall be restored to each side: That the time shall be 30 days in all other parts of the Atlantic ocean, north of the equinoctial line or equator, and the same time for the British and Irish channels, for the Gulf of Mexico and all parts of the West Indies; 40 days for the North sea, for the Baltic, and for all parts of the Mediterranean; 60 days for the Atlantic ocean south of the equator, as far as the latitude of the Cape of Good Hope; 90 days for every part of the world south of the equator; and 120 days for all other parts of the world without exception.

ARTICLE III.—All prisoners of war taken on either side, as well by land as by sea, shall be restored as soon as practicable after the ratification of this treaty, as hereinafter mentioned, on their paying the debts which they may have contracted during their captivity. The two contracting parties respectively engage to discharge in specie, the advances which may have been made by the other for the sustenance and maintenance of such prisoners.

ARTICLE IV.—Whereas it was stipulated by the second article in the treaty of peace of 1783, between his Britannic majesty and the United States of America, that the boundary of the United States should comprehend all islands within 20 leagues of any part of the shores of the U. States, and lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between Nova-Scotia on the one part, and East Florida on the other, shall respectively touch the bay of Fundy and the Atlantic ocean, excepting such islands as now are or heretofore have been, within the limits of Nova-Scotia; and whereas the several islands in the bay of Passamaquoddy, which is part of the bay of Fundy, and the island of Grand Manan in the said bay of Fundy, are claimed by the United States as being comprehended within their aforesaid boundaries, which said islands are claimed as belonging to his Britannic majesty, as having been at the time of, and previous to, the aforesaid treaty of 1783, within the limits of the province of Nova-Scotia: In order, therefore, finally

to decide upon these claims, it is agreed that they shall be referred to two commissioners, to be appointed in the following manner, viz.: one commissioner shall be appointed by his Britannic majesty and one by the president of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the senate thereof, and the said two commissioners so appointed shall be sworn impartially to examine and decide upon the said claims according to such evidence as shall be laid before them on the part of his Britannic majesty and of the United States respectively. The said commissioners shall meet at St. Andrews in the province of New Brunswick, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places as they shall think fit. The said commissioners shall, by a declaration or report under their hands and seals decide to which of the two contracting parties the several islands aforesaid do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said treaty of peace of 1763. And if the said commissioners shall agree in their decision, both parties shall consider such decision as final and conclusive. It is further agreed, that in the event of the two commissioners differing upon all or any of the matters so referred to them, or in the event of both or either of the said commissioners refusing, or declining, or wilfully omitting to act as such, they shall name, jointly or separately, as report or reports, as well to the government of his Britannic majesty as to that of the United States, stating in detail the points on which they differ, and the grounds upon which their respective opinions have been formed, or the grounds upon which they refuse, or decline, or omit to act. And his Britannic majesty and the government of the United States hereby agree to refer the report or reports of the said commissioners, to some friendly sovereign or state, to be then named for that purpose, and who shall be requested to decide on the differences which may be stated in the said report or reports, or upon the report of one commissioner, together with the grounds upon which the other commissioner shall have refused, declined, or omitted to act, as the case may be. And if the commissioner so refusing, declining, or omitted to act, shall also wilfully omit to state the grounds upon which he has so done, in such manner that the said statement may be referred to such friendly sovereign or state, together with the report of such other commissioner, then the government of the United States engage to consider the decision of some friendly sovereign or state to be such and conclusive on all the matters so referred.

ART. V.—Whereas neither that point of the highlands lying due north from the source of the river St. Croix, and designated in the former treaty of peace between the two powers as the north-west angle of Nova Scotia, now the north-westernmost head of the Connecticut river, has yet been ascertained; and whereas that part of the boundary line between the dominion of the two powers which extends from the source of the river St. Croix directly north to the above mentioned north-west angle of Nova Scotia, thence along the said highlands which divide those rivers which empty themselves into the river St. Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic ocean to the north-westernmost head of Connecticut river; thence along the middle of that river to the river Iroquois or Cataraguy, has not yet been surveyed; it is agreed that for these several purposes two commissioners shall be appointed, sworn, and authorized, to act exactly in the manner directed with respect to those mentioned in the next preceding article, unless otherwise specified in the present article. The said commissioners shall meet at St. Andrews, in the province of New Brunswick, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places as they shall think fit. The said commissioners shall have power to ascertain and determine the points above mentioned, in conformity with the provisions of the said treaty of peace of one thousand seven hundred and eighty three, and shall cause the boundary aforesaid, from the source of the river St. Croix to the river Iroquois or Cataraguy, to be surveyed and marked according to the said provisions. The said commissioners shall make a map of the said boundary, and annex to it a declaration under their hands and seals, certifying it to be the true map of the said boundary, and a declaration under their hands and seals, certifying it to be the true map of the said boundary, and particularizing the latitude and longitude of such other points of the said boundary as they may deem proper. And both parties agree to consider such map and declaration as finally and conclusively fixing the said boundary, in the event of the said two commissioners differing, or both, or either of them, refusing or declining, or wilfully omitting to act, such reports, declarations, or statements, shall be made by them, or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign, or state, shall be made, in all respects as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

ARTICLE VI.—Whereas by the former treaty of peace, that portion of the boundary of the United States from the point where the forty-fifth degree of north latitude strikes the river Iroquois or Cataraguy, to the Lake Superior, was declared to be "along the middle of said river into Lake Ontario, through the middle of said lake, until it strikes the middle of said river into Lake Iroquois and Lake Erie, thence along the middle of said communication by water between that lake and Lake Erie, until it arrives at the water communication into Lake Erie, through the middle of said lake to the water communication into the Lake Huron, thence through the middle of said lake to the water communication between that lake and Lake Superior." And whereas doubts have arisen what was the middle of said river, lakes and water communications, and whether certain islands lying in the same, were within the dominions of his Britannic Majesty or of the United States: In order, therefore, finally to decide these doubts, they shall be referred to two commissioners, to be appointed, sworn, and authorized to act exactly, in the manner directed with respect to those mentioned in the next preceding article, unless otherwise specified in the present article. The said commissioners shall meet in the first instance, at Albany, in the state of New York, and shall have power to adjourn to such other place or places, as they shall think fit: the said commissioners shall, by a report or declaration, under their hands and seals, designate the boundaries of the several islands lying within the said river, lakes and water communications, do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said treaty of 1763, agree to consider such designation and decisions as final and conclusive. And in the event of the said two commissioners differing, or both, or either of them, refusing, declining, or wilfully omitting to act, such reports, declarations or statements, shall be made by them, or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign or state shall be made in all respects as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

ARTICLE VII.—It is further agreed that the said two last mentioned commissioners, after they shall have executed the duties assigned them in the preceding article, shall be, and they are hereby authorized, upon their oaths, impartially to fix and determine, according to the true intent of the said treaty of peace, of one thousand seven hundred and eighty three, that part of the boundary between the dominions of the two powers, which extends from the water communication between Lake Huron and Lake Superior, to the most north-western point of the Lake of the Woods, to decide to which

of the two parties the several islands lying in the lakes, water communications, and rivers forming the said boundary, do respectively belong, in conformity with the true intent of the said treaty of peace of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three; and to cause such parts of the said boundary, as require it, to be surveyed and marked. The said commissioners shall, by a report or declaration, under their hands and seals, designate the boundary aforesaid, state their decision on the points thus referred to them, and particularize the latitude and longitude of the most north-western point of the Lake of the Woods, or such other part of the said boundary as they may deem proper. And both parties agree to consider such designation and decision final and conclusive. And in the event of the said two commissioners differing, or both or either of them refusing, declining, or wilfully omitting to put such reports, designations, or statements, shall be made by them, or either of them, and such reference to a friendly sovereign or state, shall be made in all respects, as in the latter part of the fourth article is contained, and in as full a manner as if the same was herein repeated.

ARTICLE VIII.—The several boards of two commissioners mentioned in the preceding articles shall respectively have power to appoint a secretary, and to employ such surveyors or other persons as they shall judge necessary. Duplicates of all their respective reports, declarations, statements and decisions, and of their accounts and of the journal of their proceedings shall be delivered by them to the agents of his Britannic Majesty, and to the agents of the United States, who may be respectively appointed and authorized to manage the business on behalf of their respective governments. The said commissioners shall be respectively paid in such manner as shall be agreed between the two contracting parties, such agreement being to be settled at the time of the exchange of the ratification of this treaty. And all other expenses attending the said commissioners shall be defrayed equally by the two parties. And in the case of death, sickness, resignation, or necessary absence, the place of every such commissioner respectively shall be supplied in the same manner as such commissioner was at first appointed, and the new commissioner shall take the same oath or affirmation, and do the same duties. It is further agreed between the two contracting parties, that in case any of the islands mentioned in any of the preceding articles which were in the possession of one of the parties prior to the commencement of the present war between the two countries, should by the decision of any of the boards of commissioners aforesaid, or of the sovereign or state so referred to, as in the four next preceding articles contained, fall within the dominions of the other party, all grants of land made previous to the commencement of the war by the party having had such possession, shall be as valid as if such island or islands, had by such decision or decision, been adjudged to be within the dominions of the party having had such possession.

ARTICLE IX.—The United States of America engage to put an end immediately after the ratification of the present treaty to hostilities with all the tribes or nations of Indians, with whom they may be at war at the time of such ratification; and forthwith to restore to such tribes or nations, respectively, all the possessions, rights and privileges which they may have enjoyed or been entitled to in one thousand eight hundred and eleven previous to such hostilities. Provided always, that such tribes or nations shall agree to desist from all hostilities against the United States of America, their citizens and subjects, upon the ratification of the present treaty being notified to such tribes or nations, and shall so desist accordingly. And his Britannic Majesty engages, on his part, to put an end immediately after the ratification of the present treaty to hostilities with all the tribes or nations of Indians with whom he may have been at war at the time of such ratification, and forthwith to restore to such tribes or nations respectively, all the possessions, rights and privileges which they may have enjoyed or been entitled to, in one thousand eight hundred and eleven previous to such hostilities. Provided always, that such tribes or nations shall agree to desist from all hostilities against his Britannic Majesty, and his subjects, upon the ratification of the present treaty being notified to such tribes or nations, and shall so desist accordingly.

ARTICLE X.—Whereas the traffic in slaves is irreconcilable with the principles of humanity and justice, and whereas both his Majesty and the United States are desirous of continuing their efforts to promote its entire abolition, it is hereby agreed, that both the contracting parties shall use their best endeavours to accomplish so desirable an object.

ARTICLE XI.—This treaty, when the same shall have been ratified on both sides, without alteration by either of the contracting parties, and the ratifications mutually exchanged, shall be binding on both parties, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington, in the space of four months from this day, or sooner if practicable.

In faith whereof, we the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this treaty, and have thereunto affixed our seals.

Done, in duplicate, at Ghent, the twenty-fourth day of December, one thousand eight hundred and fourteen.

(L. S.)	GAMBIEL.	(L. S.)	JOHN Q. ADAMS.
(L. S.)	HENRY GOULBURN.	(L. S.)	L. A. HAYARD.
(L. S.)	WILLIAM ADAMS.	(L. S.)	H. CLAY.
		(L. S.)	SONA RUSSELL.
		(L. S.)	ALBERT GALLATIN.

Now therefore to the end that the said treaty of peace and amity may be observed with good faith on the part of the United States, I, James Madison, President as aforesaid, have caused the ratification to be made public, and I do hereby enjoin all persons bearing office, civil or military, within the U. States, and all other citizens of insubordination, dissent, or being within the same, faithfully to observe and fulfil the said treaty and every clause and article thereof.

(SEAL) In testimony whereof, I have caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents, and signed the same with my hand.

Done, at the City of Washington, the eighteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen, A. D. of the sovereignty and independence of the United States the thirty-first.

By the President, JAMES MADISON.
JAMES MONROE, Acting Secretary of State.

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