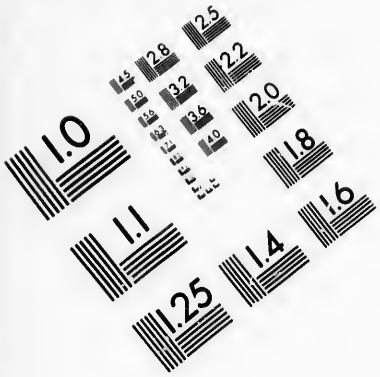

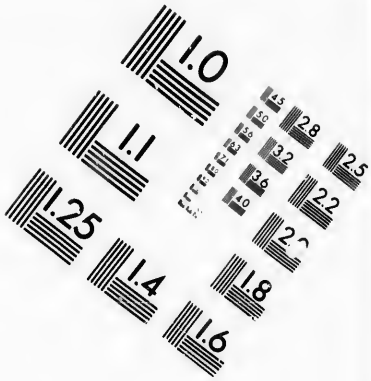

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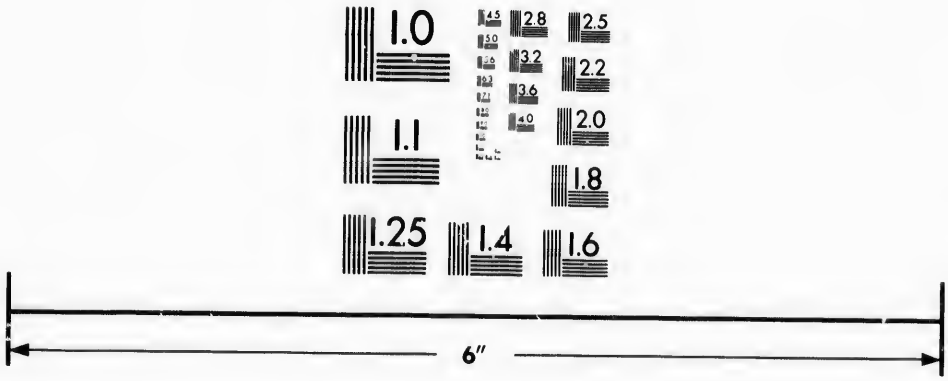

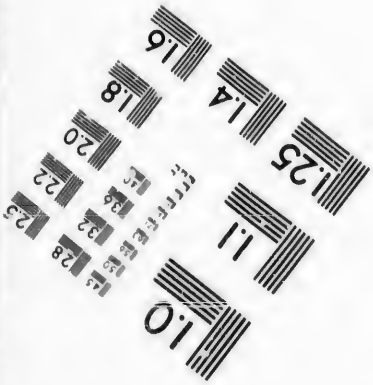

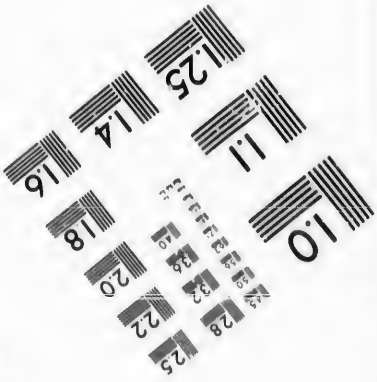

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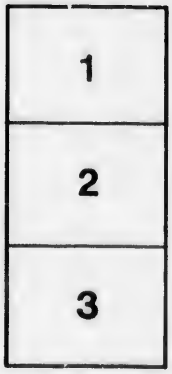

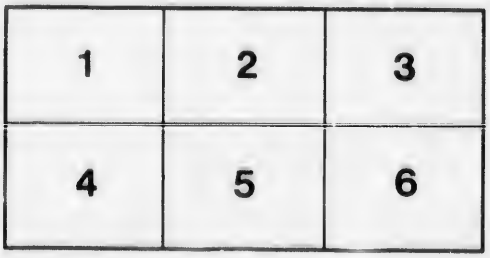

A

COMPENDIOUS HISTORY

OF THE

LATE WAR;

CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF

ALL THE IMPORTANT BATTLES,

AND MANY

OF THE SMALLER ACTIONS

BETWEEN THE

AMERICAN,

AND THE

BRITISH FORCES, AND INDIANS,

IN THE YEARS 1811, 1812, 1813, 1814, 1815.

BOSTON:
PUBLISHED BY J. W. BURDITT.
1815.

NOTICE.

THE Compiler of the following Compendious History, &c. begs leave to inform his friends, who requested a copy of the Discourse which he delivered on the late day of Publick Thanksgiving on account of the Peace, that the little work now offered to them, was to have been annexed to the Discourse, but in a more contracted form, as an Appendix; but as the materials could not be all collected before the Discourse was called for, the proposed appendix was then omitted.

We may no doubt increase our pious gratitude, now we are enjoying the blessings of peace, by calling to mind the distressing circumstances, and the bloody conflicts to which many of our fellow citizens were subjected, while the war continued. In this view, the following little work may be useful.

It is not pretended, that the account of the *smaller actions* is perfect. In the vexatious and predatory warfare carried on by British Squadrons on the coasts of the United States—on the bays and rivers, and particularly on the Chesapeake, and the rivers of Maryland and Virginia, there were unwarrantable depredations, attended with frequent skirmishing, between parties of the British forces, and the American militia, in which lives were lost. But however imperfect the narrative may be, on account of its brevity, it is presumed, the facts as far as they are stated, are correct, as the documents have been chiefly furnished from official accounts, and communications from gentlemen of great respectability, some of whom were in several of the principal battles.

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COMPENDIOUS HISTORY, &c.

AS the first battle which we shall enter on this compendious history, was fought by an American army with an army of Indians on the western frontier, several months before war was declared by the government of the United States, many will inquire, why an armed force, consisting of regular troops and militia, was marched into the Indian country? In answer to an inquiry of this sort, it is said,—The Indians had committed many acts of violence and cruelty, and were at that time, menacing the unprotected white people on their borders, under the direction of a wild chieftain, who pretended to be a prophet.

It is well known, that the Indians at the west, have long possessed the same jealousies and apprehensions, with respect to their white neighbours, which the early historians of our country inform us, the Indians at the north and at the east entertained with respect to the first European settlers in New England. And if we have not been misinformed, the western tribes have had much stronger reasons for their apprehensions, than the tribes at the north and the east.

The Indians at the west, have frequently and grievously complained of the encroachments made on their possessions, and of the acts of fraud and violence committed by hunters, and other white people, who have come among them. Those complaints have been heard by commissioners appointed on the part of the United States to treat with the Indians. But treaties have not effectually secured the natives of the wilderness against encroachments; or innocent people on the frontiers, against savage cruelties.

The writer of this, is possessed of several anecdotes, which express the fears and apprehensions, which the Indians on the western borders have long entertained.

The two following are pertinent, and are worth preserving. At the time when a convention of delegates from the several states assembled at Philadelphia (1787) to agree on a federal constitution, a deputation from various tribes of Indians appeared, and requested to be heard.

The honourable member of the convention who gave the writer of this, the account now to be related, enumerated several of the tribes then represented; which, as nearly as can now be recollected, were the *Chippewas*, *Ottawas*, *Chactaws*, *Shawnees*, *Crecks* and *Delawares*. The chief speaker, a *Chippewa*, in a long speech, stated to General WASHINGTON, and the convention, the sufferings, to which *his* and other tribes were subjected, from the lawless people who frequented the woods, and often made depredations upon them. He stated that those people, not only came into their hunting grounds, but invaded their cabins, and stole their furs and skins; and what was still worse, they were known to lie in wait for their hunters, when re-

turning home, and rob them, and often kill them. The speaker became extremely pathetick, and wept, praying that some measures might be adopted by the government of the United States, to protect them.

When the hearing was ended, as the member of the convention from whom this anecdote was received, was retiring with his friend to their lodging, he said to his friend,—This Indian has attempted to impose upon us shamefully: his story, certainly, cannot be true: we certainly can have no people as bad as this fellow relates. His friend replied: The Indian speaks the truth, and nothing but the truth. Our *back-woods* people are as bad, they are quite as bad, as this Indian represents them to be. The first member replied, Why do you not apprehend these people and punish them. His friend answered,—It is impossible: No jury can be found in the counties where such crimes are committed, who will bring in a *white* man *guilty*, however clear the evidence may be, for killing an *Indian*. Both of the honourable gentlemen, it is believed, are still living, but the writer does not conceive it would be proper to mention their names. The other anecdote, expressive of like feelings and apprehensions of the western Indians, which we proposed to mention, is the following.

At a treaty with some tribes in the western states, at which the late General Lincoln was present; when at leisure, the General and several of the Indians were sitting on a fallen tree, the end of which reached very near a deep stream of water. The General sat on the part nearest the stream, and an Indian Chief next to him. The Indian said, pleasantly, to the General, sit a little farther; the General did so. He presently said, General, sit a little farther; he did

so, which brought him very near the end. The Indian said again, General,—a little farther; the General replied;—You will push me into the water. The native of the wilderness answered,—So you, white people, intend to make us poor Indians, remove, little by little, and then push us into the water, where the sun goes down.

Words need not be multiplied to show, that the Indians at the *West*, as well as at the *East*, have entertained strong suspicions, that the white people had, and still have, evil designs against them; and it is much to be regretted, that they have had, and that many still have, too much cause for such suspicions.*

Since the peace of 1783, the western frontiers have been frequently in a state of alarm, and in 1791 General *St. Clair*, and a considerable force under his command, were totally defeated by a body of Indians, who thought, whether justly or not, that his possessing the *Western Territory*, would be inconsistent with their safety.†

That the frontiers of *Ohio*, and *Tennesee*, and some of the other states were in danger, at the time when Governor *Harrison* marched an army into the Indian country, and menaced the Prophet's town, is not questioned; but whether the Indians had not been previously injured and provoked may be a question. But as it will not comport with the plan of this Journal of *Battles* and *Skirmishes*, to consider the particular grounds of the war, either with the Indians, or with Great Britain, we proceed to the simple narrative.

* Dr. C. Mather's Account of the Indian Wars. Hutch. Hist. V. I. p. 222.

† Holmes' Annals, Vol. II. p. 485.

Battle with an army of Indians at Tippacanoe, on the 7th of November, 1811.

Governor Harrison having advanced with an army, consisting of regulars and militia, amounting to nearly a thousand men, far into the Indian country, halted on the 6th, near the Prophet's town. On the morning of the 7th, before day light, the army was surprised and attacked in their encampment by four or five hundred Indians, under the direction of the *Prophet* and his brother *Tecumseh*. The sentinels and the guards fled into the camp, and the Indians immediately followed them. The conflict was severe and bloody. Such as were awaked by the first noise seized their arms and made a brave defence; others who were more tardy "had to contend with the enemy at the doors of their "tents." When there was sufficient light to act with advantage, the Indians were charged and "dislodged "from their advantageous position, by Capt. *Snelling* "at the head of his company," and were soon forced from the battle ground. By the return made to the commander, by the Adjutant of the army, the whole number of killed and wounded were 188, including many valuable officers. The number of the Indians killed is not known. "They left from thirty six to "forty on the field, and were seen to carry off, not "only the wounded, but the dead."

On the 25th of July, 1812, a scouting party, of one hundred men, from General *Hull's* army, were attacked by about the same number of Indians, near the river Canau, and after skirmishing two or three hours, returned to the main body, having lost four men killed, and two wounded. It was ascertained by deserters, that the Indians lost 10 or 12 killed, and many more wounded. Col. *Cass* gives an account of

this action, and says, "Lieut. Col. *Miller* conducted "in a most able and spirited manner." General Hull is now at *Sandwich*, having entered *Upper Canada* at the head of the north-western army, without opposition. The American flag is proudly waving in a province of the British dominions. But we shall soon learn the triumph was short. The General, and all his army, soon after surrendered to a force which they expected to conquer, and submitted to the humble condition of prisoners of war.

The beginning of August, Major *Van Horn* was sent to open the road from *Ohio*, which had been obstructed by a body of Indians, and was opposed with a superior force, and obliged to retreat, with the loss of five or six officers, and about twenty men.

August 8th, Col. *Miller* was detached, to proceed to the River Razin, with the 4th regiment of United States troops, and detachments from the Ohio and Michigan volunteers, the whole force consisting of six hundred foot and forty cavalry. They were met about three miles from Brownstown, and opposed by a body of British troops, about three hundred, and a large number of Indians. A severe battle ensued. The British troops and Indians were obliged to give way, and retreated with great precipitation. The loss on the American side was four officers wounded; seventy five non-commissioned officers and privates killed and wounded: and principally of the fourth regiment. Seven British and forty Indians were left on the field.

August 16th, 1812. General *Hull* surrendered *Detroit*, and all under his command, to Major General *Brock*, commanding his Britannick Majesty's forces in Upper Canada. General Hull, in his official letter

to the Secretary of War, states, that he had not more than eight hundred effective men, a force by no means sufficient to meet the enemy in the field; and as the fort was open to shells and shot from the batteries, it was not a place of safety for the garrison, the sick, the women and aged people from the neighbourhood, who had crowded into it. For these, and many other reasons stated in the official letter, General *Hull* found himself under imperious necessity to surrender, on such terms as he was able to make. And thus ended the *first* attempt to take the province of Upper Canada; a thing which no doubt General *Hull*, and many others, who were warm advocates for the late war, supposed might be easily done.

October 13, 1812. A *second* invasion was made on Canada, which proved no less unfortunate than the first made by General *Hull*. Col. Van *Rensselaer*, aid to General Van *Rensselaer*, of the New York militia, conducted this expedition. He crossed over, with the troops under his command, from the American side, near Queenstown, and immediately on their landing were opposed by the enemy, who were prepared to receive them. A severe conflict ensued, and the enemy were driven up a steep bank, "with a "bravery which could not be exceeded." The Amercan colours were again planted in the Upper Canada. But reinforcements arriving under General *Brock*, the enemy returned to the charge. Col. Van *Rensselaer* was severely wounded soon after he landed; but still being able to stand, "with great presence of mind, "he ordered his officers to proceed with rapidity, and "storm the fort;" which was done, and the enemy were driven in all directions. At this time powerful reinforcements joined the enemy from Fort George, and

as no reinforcements could be obtained from the American side, the conflict became unequal. "The enemy at length succeeded in repossessing their battery; and gaining advantage on every side. The Americans, exhausted of strength and ammunition, and grieved at the unpardonable neglect of their fellow soldiers, gave up the conflict."

The army which crossed over to invade Canada is stated to be, not far from 1000. The numbers killed and wounded are variously stated. Certain it is, that except a few, who made their escape, and recrossed to the American side, the whole army was lost, in killed and wounded and prisoners. General *Rensselaer* states in his official letter to Major General *Dearborn*, "The slaughter of our troops must have been very considerable, and the enemy have suffered severely. General *Brock* is among the slain, and his aid-de-camp mortally wounded."

In November, 1812, a detachment from General Hopkins' army under Col. Russell with four hundred men, succeeded in surprising one of the Pioria towns. It was defended by about one hundred and fifty warriors, who left twenty-five killed, and the survivors fled to a neighbouring swamp.

On the 17th November, an expedition under Col. Campbell surprised and destroyed one of the Massasinowa towns, driving the Savages across the river of that name, having killed seven and made thirty seven prisoners, with the loss of but two killed. On the next day, they were attacked by a strong reinforcement of Savages, and the action lasted with unabated fury, for one hour; at length, however, they were defeated with the loss of forty killed, and many wounded.

After the defeat of Col. Van *Rensselaer* at Queenstown, General *Alexander Smyth*, confident of better success, planned an expedition to invade Canada, by crossing over, and landing near Fort Erie. To excite the good people of the State of New York to the important enterprize, he published his famous proclamation, dated at his Camp, Buffalo, the 10th November, 1812. On the 26th December, the troops under his command, were preparing to cross the Niagara; a part of which, under Col. *Winder*, were ordered to attack two small redoubts of the enemy, in which they succeeded, spiking the guns, and destroying their works. Having accomplished this, they received orders from the General to return. In a skirmish with the enemy, six men were killed, and nineteen wounded. The project was then abandoned, as the force, under General *Smyth*, was not deemed sufficient to warrant a general engagement.

On the 22d January, 1813, General *Winchester*, with about one thousand men, were attacked at French town, near the River Rasin, by a force said to consist of about twelve hundred Indians, with one hundred and fifty or two hundred British regulars. The troops being surprised, and the ground unfavourable, they had but little opportunity of forming to advantage, and were soon broken, although the action was warm for nearly three hours. Many of the Americans were killed, and those that did not effect their escape were taken.

February 21, 1813, Capt Forsyth, who was stationed at Ogdensburg with a small force, was attacked, by a strong detachment from the enemy, and obliged to retreat, having twenty killed and wounded.

On the 27th April, *Little York*, the capital of Upper Canada, was taken by the American forces, under Major General *Dearborn*, with about seventeen hundred troops. They were landed under a heavy fire from the enemy, who were prepared to oppose them. They however immediately formed, and after carrying one battery, were moving forward in columns, when a tremendous explosion took place from a magazine which the enemy had previously prepared, and which proved a serious injury; the loss of the Americans exceeded one hundred men, including the brave General *Pike*, who commanded. Col. *Pierce* succeeded in command, and soon after took possession of the town. General *Sheaff*, who commanded the British, had moved off with the regular troops, and left directions with an officer of militia, to make the best terms he could. General *Dearborn*, on hearing that General *Pike* was killed, landed and assumed the command. The American loss at this time, was about fifty in killed and wounded.

On the 5th of May, General *Clay*, who was attached to the army under the command of General *Harrison*, was ordered, with a detachment of eight hundred men, to attack the enemy's batteries at *Fort Meigs*, and spike their cannon. This was accomplished, four batteries were taken, and the enemy driven away. But confiding too much in their success, they suffered themselves to be drawn into the neighbouring woods, where the British troops, with a great body of Indians, were prepared to attack them; and a severe conflict took place;—Of the whole number engaged, only one hundred and fifty effected their escape. On the same day an attack was made by Gen. *Miller*, with three hundred and fifty men, on the en-

emy's batteries on the other side of the river, in which they were successful, driving them from their works, and taking a number of prisoners.

On the 27th May, a portion of the army under Gen. *Dearborn*, commanded by Gen. *Lewis*, landed under cover of Com. *Chauncy's* flotilla, to attack Fort George, where they were opposed with great spirit: the intrepidity of the Americans, however, soon compelled the enemy to give ground, and they retreated in all directions. But the excessive fatigue of the American troops prevented a further pursuit; they returned and took quiet possession of the fort. The American loss was 17 killed, and 45 wounded: that of the enemy was 90 killed, 150 wounded, and 100 prisoners.

On the 29th May, a British detachment of 800 men, under Col. *Baynes*, effected a landing at Sacket's Harbour. The American forces at this place were but 600, and commanded by Gen. *Brown*, who attacked the enemy with his usual firmness. The conflict was warm and desperate, and continued unabated for two hours, but terminated in the retreat of the enemy to their fleet. The loss on both sides was very severe; that of the British was estimated at 200. The Americans lost about 150, including Cols. *Mills* and *Backus*.

June 6, 1813. The troops commanded by Brig. Gen. *Chandler*, who were stationed near 40 mile creek, were attacked by a large number of British and Indians under the command of Brig. Gen. *Vincent*, and although the American loss was small, and the enemy completely routed, and driven from the field, both Brig. Gens. *Chandler* and *Winder* were made prisoners, with 200 men. They had proceed-

ed to ascertain the situation of a company of artillery, when the attack commenced, and were surprised and taken. The loss of the enemy in this action, was estimated at 90 in killed and wounded; Col. Clark of the 49th British regiment, with 60 men were made prisoners.

On the 23d June, Lieut. Col. Boerstler with five hundred and seventy men were ordered to march from Fort George to a place called Beaver Dams, about eight miles from Queenstown, to disperse a body of the enemy, who had collected there for the purpose of procuring provisions. When within a short distance of the enemy, they were attacked from an ambuscade, but soon drove the enemy to the woods; then retired a short distance, sending an express for reinforcements, with an intention of renewing the attack. Col. Chrystie was immediately dispatched with three hundred men; but on his arriving at Queenstown, he received authentick information, that Col. Boerstler, with the troops under his command, had surrendered, after two hours fighting.

On the 25th June, an attack was made by the British forces on Hampton in Virginia. They effected a landing, but were met by the militia, who had collected in considerable force; after a severe conflict of one hour and a half the militia were overcome, and the British held possession.

On the 11th July, about two hundred and fifty British troops commanded by Cols. *Bishop* and *Warren*, crossed to the American side, and landed at Black Rock. They had marched above the Navy Yard before they were discovered, and the militia at that place were either taken or dispersed. The Brit-

ish had now quiet possession, and proceeded to burn the barracks, and spike the guns. The neighbouring militia, and a number of friendly Indians, were, however, soon collected, and attacked them; when they precipitately retreated to their boats, leaving eight killed, and five wounded. The American loss, was three killed, and five wounded.

August 2d, 1813. An attack was made by the British and Indians, supposed to amount to about eight hundred men, under Major *Proctor*, on the fort at *Lower Sandusky*, then under the command of Major *Croghan*. The action was severe, but terminated in the defeat of the British, who lost twenty seven killed, and about thirty prisoners.

September 14th. An American fort on the Tombigbee River was attacked by seven hundred Creek Indians. The action was fierce and bloody: Of about three hundred persons who defended the fort, nearly one hundred were killed, or wounded. The Indian loss was estimated at two hundred.

On the 23d September, Gen. *Harrison* writes that the army, under his command, had landed, and taken possession of Malden without opposition;—that the British forces, under Gen. *Proctor*, had retreated to Sandwich, having previously burnt the fort, navy yard, barracks and publick store houses.

On the 28th, the same army took possession of Detroit, which had also been evacuated, and the public property destroyed. A few days after, Gen. *Harrison's* army arrived at Sandwich, and finding that the enemy had proceeded on, and taken post at Daltons, fifty six miles from Detroit, arrangements were made to follow. On the 5th October the enemy were discovered, and the battle commenced. The firmness

and impetuosity of the Americans, soon decided that victory was theirs. The enemy fled in confusion, and were closely pursued. Gen. *Proctor* with a few dragoons effected their escape: six hundred and one British regulars, including twenty five officers, were taken, with twelve killed, and twenty two wounded. The Americans lost seven killed, and twenty two wounded.

On the 7th November, 1813, Gen. *Jackson* having received information, that a large body of Indians, were in the vicinity of the Coose River, immediately marched with two thousand men to attack them, when the Indians were totally defeated, leaving two hundred and seventy eight in killed and wounded. The loss of the Americans was fifteen killed, and eighty four wounded.

In the beginning of November, 1813, Gen. *Wilkinson* received instruction from his government to proceed against Montreal. In his passage down the St. Lawrence he was frequently annoyed by a detachment of the enemy from Kingston, who hung on his rear, and partial engagements with the guards often occurred. On the 11th November, Brig. Gen. *Boyd*, commanding the rear division of the army, had orders to attack the enemy, and, if possible, to take his artillery. The action soon after commenced, and continued two hours and a half, when the enemy were forced back; but although they were unable to regain their ground, their stand was permanent, and their charge resolute. At length the firing having ceased on both sides, the American troops resumed their position on the bank of the river, and proceeded down without further annoyance. The force of the contending parties were nearly equal. The Americans

lost in this engagement one hundred and two killed, including Brig. Gen. *Covington,* with two hundred and thirty seven wounded. The enemy's loss was not ascertained. On the arrival of the army at Barnharts, near Cornwall, they were met by Brig. Gen. *Brown,* with the troops under his command, where he had been instructed to take post.

Here Gen. *Wilkinson* was much disappointed at not finding that Major Gen. *Hampton* had arrived on the opposite shore, pursuant to orders previously sent him. In consequence of this, with other difficulties, a council was held, who unanimously gave it as their opinion, that the attack on Montreal, should be abandoned for the present season; and that the army be brought into winter quarters. Thus has terminated another unsuccessful invasion of Canada, and is the *fourth* attempt to conquer that country, since the war commenced.

On the 12th Nov. Gen. *White,* with eight hundred militia and three hundred Indians, proceeded from Fort Armstrong on the Coose to attack the Hillabee towns on Tallepoosa River. On the 18th they were discovered in considerable force, when he succeeded in surrounding them undiscovered, and fired upon them; sixty five were killed, and two hundred and fifty one made prisoners, with whom he returned to the fort without losing a man.

On the 29th Nov. Brig. Gen. *Floyd,* with nine hundred and fifty Georgia militia and three or four hundred friendly Indians marched to attack the Indian town of Autosse, on the banks of the Tallepoosa, inhabited by the Creeks. In this he was successful, having killed and wounded nearly four hundred, and burnt the town. The American loss was eleven killed, and fifty four wounded.

On the 10th Dec. Gen. *M'Clure* removed the publick stores, &c. from Fort George, and destroyed it, and crossed over to the United States. The village of Newark was destroyed. It was said the British were in considerable force in the neighbourhood of Newark, and an attack on the American troops was apprehended.

Dec. 19, 1813. General *Drummond*, with twelve hundred British and Indians crossed the Niagara, and succeeded in taking possession of the fort. The village of Buffalo was also burnt, in retaliation for the destruction of Newark; and when the Indians were expostulated with, they replied, "Remember Tippacanoe and the Creek towns. Some of them were of the tribe whose wigwams were so unnecessarily destroyed by Gov. *Harrison's* army, before the war with England was declared. They said, "We have not yet forgotten *Hull's proclamation.*"

On the 27th Jan. 1814, General *Floyd*, at Camp Defiance, was attacked by a large body of hostile Indians. But succeeded in repelling them after a severe conflict, in which he lost eighteen killed and one hundred and thirty two wounded. The Indians left thirty seven killed, but took off nearly all his wounded.

On the 4th March Capt. *Holmes* with one hundred and sixty American troops in an engagement with a party of British and Indians, at the French River, one hundred miles from Detroit, succeeded in defeating them. His loss was four killed, and four wounded: the enemy lost in killed, wounded, and prisoners eighty.

On the 27th March, Gen. *Jackson*, with the troops under his command, proceeded to att. the

Indian tribes on the Tallepoosa, and after a severe engagement with one thousand, he succeeded in destroying their works, having killed five hundred and fifty seven, wounding many, and taken two hundred and fifty prisoners : his loss at this time was twenty six killed, and one hundred and six wounded.

On the 31st March, Gen. *Wilkinson*, with a body of American troops, proceeded as far as the river Lacole, where, after an obstinate resistance, they drove the enemy's pickets into a stone mill, which was strongly fortified, but which they attacked, and after a warm action retired. The enemy lost eleven killed, and forty seven wounded : the loss of the Americans was thirteen killed, and one hundred and twenty three wounded.

On the 8th April, a detachment from the blockading squadron off New London, consisting of one hundred and fifty men, proceeded up Connecticut river to Pettipague, in Seabrook, where they landed and burnt twenty five sail of vessels ; threatening, that if opposition was made, they would destroy the town. They were unmolested, and returned without loss. An attack was also made, sometime after, on Stonington, by a sloop of war, and several barges, which were driven off by a few men collected on the shore, with one piece of artillery : it is said, great destruction was made by the shot.

On the 6th May, An attack was made by the British under Gen. *Drummond*, on Fort Oswego, which terminated in the defeat of the Americans, who lost six killed, and had thirty eight wounded. The object of this expedition being accomplished, in the destruction of the fort, barracks, and publick stores, the British embarked, and returned to their squadron under Sir James Yeo.

On the 3d of July the troops, estimated at three thousand, crossed the Niagara, under Gen. *Brown*, Gen. *Scott* commanding the first brigade, as the advance, Gen. *Ripley* the second, Gen. *P. B. Porter* the militia, and *Farmers Brother* the Indians. Fort Erie surrendered in the afternoon. The garrison was commanded by a Major, consisting of one hundred and fifty men. On the 4th the army marched to Chippewa, driving in the enemy's advance ;—On the 5th Gen. *Riall* came out upon Chippewa plain, with two thousand two hundred regulars, while the militia and Indians on both sides were engaged in the woods,—Gen. *Scott* was ordered to engage them with his brigade, consisting of the ninth, under Major *Leavenworth* ; the eleventh, under Major *Mc Neal* ; and the twenty fifth, under Major *Jessup* ;—all New England regiments ; with a company of artillery, under Capt. *Towson*, making about thirteen hundred strong. After an hour's hard fighting the enemy broke, and run in all directions ; formed and broke a second time, and finally saved themselves by gaining their works at Chippewa, their loss about five hundred and fourteen ; the loss of the Americans, about three hundred and twenty nine, in killed, wounded and prisoners. On the 7th the enemy evacuated Chippewa, and retreated to Fort George. The next day our army arrived at Queenstown, and about the 19th at Fort George :—returned to Queenstown on the 21st, and recrossed the Chippewa creek on the 24th.

On the 11th July, 1814, Eastport was taken by the British squadron under *Sir Thomas Hardy*.

On the 25th, Gen. *Scott* advanced with his brigade, between eight and nine hundred, about a mile on the Queenstown road, where he found the enemy,

and engaged them about sunset. Gen. *Ripley* with the second brigade was ordered to support him, and soon after dark the militia volunteers. The enemy received large reinforcements under Gen. *Drummond* during the action, and through the night, and were estimated at four thousand; our force, of every kind, about two thousand five hundred. The action lasted till eleven o'clock; when both armies quitted the field. They had ten pieces of artillery, which were taken by Col. *Miller*, with the twenty first regiment, at the point of the bayonet; all but one were left on the field; the loss was about nine hundred on each side; their commander, Gen. *Riall*, and about twenty officers were taken, and they took one or two officers and forty men. Gen. *Brown* and Gen. *Scott* were wounded; one of Gen. *Brown's* aids mortally, and both Gen. *Scott's* severely. The next day our army, under Gen. *Ripley*, returned to Fort Erie.

August 1st, the enemy appeared before Erie, and on the fifth, sent fifteen hundred men across, to take Buffalo, and cut off our supplies. The brave Major *Morgan* met them, with three hundred riflemen, repulsed them, and forced them to recross the Niagara.

August 15th, Gen *Drummond* ordered an assault upon the fort in three columns, consisting of the picked men of his army, to the amount of three thousand, one column commanded by Col. *Scott*, one by Col. *Drummond*, and one by Col. *Fisher*. The American force consisted of but fifteen hundred, under Gen. *Gaines*, who took command about the first of August. The enemy were repulsed with great loss; between fourteen and fifteen hundred killed, wounded and prisoners; Col. *Drummond* was killed, and Col *Scott*

mortally wounded; our loss was sixty killed and wounded. On the 27th Gen. *Gaines* was badly wounded by a shell, and Gen. *Brown*, having recovered from his wound, took the command.

On the 24th August, a British force, said to amount to five or six thousand men arrived at Bladensburgh, on their way to the city of Washington. They were met by a comparatively small number of Americans, under Brig. Gen. *Winder*, who kept up a sharp fire for three quarters of an hour. in which the enemy suffered materially; but the immense disparity of force rendered it necessary to retire, having lost thirty or forty in killed, and about sixty wounded, with one hundred and twenty prisoners. A detachment from the enemy under Gen. *Ross*, then advanced to the city of Washington. Here they proceeded to burn the publick buildings, and met with no opposition. The CAPITOL, the President's house, Treasury and State Offices, the Navy-yard, Barracks, frigate Essex and Argus sloop of war, the Arsenal, a number of rope-walks and dwelling houses were destroyed.

On the 29th August, Alexandria, in consequence of the citizens having been ordered away, for the defence of *other* places, capitulated to a British force, which lay before the city, and were able to compel the inhabitants, to submit to whatever was required of them.

September 11th, the British army under Sir *George Prevost* made an attack on the American forces at Plattsburgh, commanded by Gen *Macomb*, but retreated with the loss of one hundred and seventy in killed and wounded. The loss of the Americans, sixteen killed, and thirty one wounded.

September 12th, the British landed seven or eight thousand troops under Gen. *Ross*, about fourteen miles below Baltimore, but were met by Gen. *Stricker* with the militia, amounting to three thousand one hundred and eighty five, who maintained an unequal contest for one hour and a half, but were at length compelled to retreat. The British advanced to within five or six miles of the city, where they halted. Gen. *Ross* attempting to reconnoitre the situation of the force which he had reason to think was preparing to attack him, ventured too far for his personal safety ; he was mortally wounded, by a lad, who had concealed himself until he had a fair opportunity to take his object with a rifle. Gen. *Ross* soon after died of his wound. His body was preserved, and sent home to his friends. Gen. *Stricker* had retired to his rear guard, which consisted of one regiment; he was there reinforced by a detachment under Gen. *Winder*,—by militia, and volunteers of the neighbourhood ; and taking a stand within sight of the enemy, he was prepared for another engagement. He was not however disturbed. The British, after viewing him until the 14th, thought it most prudent to retire to their shipping, which was done under cover of the night. Gen. *Stricker's* loss was one hundred and fifty killed and wounded. An attack was also made at the same time on Fort Mc Henry, commanded by Major *Armstead*, who defended the garrison with spirit, and succeeded in repelling the enemy ; the loss in the fort was twenseven killed and wounded.

September 15th, an attack was made by the British naval and land forces, on Fort Bowyer, on the Mobile, which was defended by one hundred and fifty eight men, under the command of Major *Lawrence*,

who succeeded in defeating them, and destroying one of their ships.

On the 17th September, Gen. *Brown* ordered a sortie from Fort Erie, with about two thousand five hundred men, under the command of Gens. *Ripley*, and *Porter*, and Col. *Miller*. All the enemy's batteries were taken, with about four hundred men, their cannon destroyed, and three hundred killed and wounded; our loss about four hundred killed, taken and wounded; among the latter was Gen. *Ripley*, severely in the neck. The next day the enemy precipitately retreated to Chippewa, after a siege of forty one days. During the siege there were daily skirmishes with the enemy, in which many officers and men were lost on both sides; and among them the brave Major *Morgan*, who repulsed the enemy on the 5th of August.

On the 10th October, an attack was made by Gen. *Bissell*, with nine hundred American troops, on Lyon's Mills, occupied by a British force, estimated at one thousand two hundred, in which he succeeded, after a short action, and destroyed the provisions which had been deposited there; the Americans lost sixty seven in killed and wounded.

On the 18th October, Gen. *Bissell*, with a brigade of Gen. *Izard's* army, was dispatched to an outpost occupied by the enemy, near the village of Chippewa. In this he succeeded; the enemy were brought to action, and defeated with the loss of two hundred killed and wounded; the Americans lost fourteen killed and fifty four wounded.

On the 11th January, 1815, the British landed with one thousand men, at Cumberland Island, Georgia, in view of the garrison at Point Petre, which on the 13th they attacked and carried. The Americans re-

treated, and their loss was but one killed, and three wounded, with a few missing.

On the 23d December, 1814, the British having by the capture of the American gun-boats, at the entrance of Lake Pontchartrain, obtained a passage to the Missisippi, effected a landing at a plantation eight miles below New Orleans, with about three thousand troops under Gen. *Keane*; they were attacked the same night by a far inferior force, consisting of regulars and militia, under Gen. *Jackson*: the action was obstinate, and the fire very destructive for two hours. At length the enemy ceased, and retired a short distance. The slaughter had been great; the ground was literally covered with the dead and dying. The Americans lost in this action, about one hundred.

On the 27th December the enemy succeeded in blowing up the United States' schooner Caroline. Emboldened by this event, their whole force advanced to within half a mile of the American lines, and a sharp fire commenced; he was however repulsed, with the loss of one hundred and twenty in killed; the American loss was but six killed, and twelve wounded. The enemy continued in sight, and daily skirmishes took place, with losses on both sides, until the morning of the memorable 8th of January, 1815, when the enemy having been actively employed the two preceding days in making preparation for a storm, advanced in two strong columns, on the right and left of the American lines, where they were received with a firmness, which they little expected, and which defeated all their hopes. The fire was so deliberate and certain, as to render their attempts to gain the works perfectly useless. The action continued with unabated fury for upwards of one hour; when all prospect of suc-

cess became hopeless; the enemy fled from the field, leaving their dead and wounded. Their loss was immense; seven hundred killed, fourteen hundred wounded, five hundred officers and privates were taken prisoners: making a total of twenty six hundred men. Sir *Edward Packenham*, their commander, was killed, and Major Gens. *Keane* and *Gibbs* severely wounded, the latter since dead.

At the same time that the British attacked the front line, they sent over a detachment of six hundred men, to attack two batteries on the left, in which they succeeded; but finding the guns spiked, and that the possessors had made good their retreat, recrossed to their main body, when the Americans again took possession.

On the 18th January, the enemy being incessantly harrassed by the artillery from both banks of the river, precipitately retreated, leaving eighty of their wounded, and fourteen pieces of artillery. On the morning of the same day, the enemy returned from Fort Philip, after bombarding it for nine days, with no other effect than killing one man, and wounding a few.

Thus has the enemy, within the short space of sixteen days, suffered a loss of four thousand men (having reinforced their number from the shipping) in killed, wounded and missing; including the flower of their army, and nearly the whole of their principal officers. The loss of the Americans has been indeed comparatively small; the return of the Adjutant General, dated at New Orleans, January 16, 1815, gives in the total amount of killed, wounded and missing, three hundred and thirty three.

The total defeat of the British forces sent out to conquer Louisiana, was by far the most important

event during the war. Had the British forces succeeded, as they had great reason to expect, and as the American government and people had great reason to fear, the consequences would have been serious to the citizens of the United States on the Missisippi, and in all the western settlements. As this event, so important and so interesting, took place at the close of the war, the compendious history of battles, and of less important actions on land, which we promised to give, is now finished. The "treaty of peace and amity, between the United States, and his Britannick "Majesty was signed by the commissioners of both "parties at Ghent, on the 24th December, 1814." And was ratified by the President of the United States, at Washington, February 18th, 1815.

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*The following is a list of all the publick vessels of war, belonging to each nation, which have been captured or destroyed.**

List of BRITISH VESSELS *of* WAR, *taken during the War.*

Guerriere, R Dacres, 49 guns, taken August 20, 1812, by the Constitution, Isaac Hull, 54 guns. Guerriere, 15 killed, and 64 wounded; Constitution, 7 killed and 7 wounded.

Macedonian, J. S. Carden, 49 guns, taken October 25, 1812, by the frigate United States, S. Decatur, 53 guns. Macedonian, 36 killed, and 68 wounded, United States, 5 killed, and 7 wounded.

Java, H. Lambert, 49 guns, taken December 29, 1812, by the Constitution, W. Bainbridge, 54 guns. Java, 60 killed, 170 wounded; Constitution, 9 killed, and 25 wounded.

Alert, Langherne, 26 guns, taken August 13, 1812, by the Essex, D. Porter, 44 guns. Alert, 3 killed.

* It may be proper to state, that the whole of this account of the American and British vessels of War, which have been taken or destroyed, in the several battles between the two late contending powers—except the account of the *Cyane* and *Levant*, lately taken by the *Constitution*—was prepared, and sent to the compiler of this little work, by a much respected friend, and was immediately put into the hands of the printer, as a part of a *then* intended Appendix to a Discourse, delivered on the 13th of April, the day of publick thanksgiving on account of the peace. A similar account of vessels of war, taken or destroyed, by the two late contending powers, "drawn," no doubt, "from the" same, "most authentick sources," appears this morning in the *Daily Advertiser*, as a counterpart to "the documents presented to the British Parliament, in February last."
May 15, 1815.

Peacock, Peake, 18 guns, taken February 24, 1813, by the Hornet, J. Lawrence, 18 guns. Peacock, 5 killed, 13 drowned, and 33 wounded; Hornet, 1 killed, 3 drowned, and 4 wounded.

Frolic, Whinyates, 22 guns, taken October 18, 1812, by the Wasp, Jones, 18 guns. Frolic, 30 killed, 50 wounded; Wasp, 5 killed, 5 wounded.

Boxer, Blythe, 16 guns, taken September 5, 1813, by the Enterprize, Burrows, 16 guns. Boxer, 20 killed, 14 wounded; Enterprize 1 killed, 14 wounded

Epervier, Wales, 22 guns, taken April 29, 1814, by the Peacock, Warrington, 22 guns. Epervier, 11 killed, 15 wounded; Peacock, 2 wounded.

Reindeer, Manners, 22 guns, taken June 28, 1814, by the Wasp, Blakely, 22 guns. Reindeer, 25 killed, 42 wounded; Wasp, 5 killed, 21 wounded.

Avon, Arbuthnot, 22 guns, taken September 7, 1814, by the Wasp, Blakely, 22 guns. Avon, 20 killed, 40 wounded; Wasp, 2 killed, 1 wounded.

Dominica, Baretti, 15 guns, taken August 15, 1813, by the Decatur, (privateer) 7 guns. Dominica, 13 killed, 47 wounded; Decatur, 4 killed, 16 wounded.

Hyflyer, Hutchinson, 5 guns, taken September 23, 1813, by the President, Rogers, 54 guns.

Pictou, taken by the Constitution, Stewart, 54 guns.

Balahou, King, taken by the Perry, (privateer.)

Hermes, Percy, 22 guns, destroyed Sept. 15, 1814, at Fort Bowyer, Mobile.

Levant, Douglass, 21 guns, taken February 20, 1815, by the Constitution, Stewart, 54 guns. Levant, 9 killed, 17 wounded.

Cyane, Falcon, 35 guns, taken February 20, 1815, by the Constitution, Stewart, 54 guns. Cyane, 7 killed, and 17 wounded.

(Note. The Constitution, in the capture of the Levant and Cyane, had 4 killed, 9 wounded.)

St. Lawrence, Gordon, 15 guns, taken February 26, 1815, by the Chasseur, (privateer) Boyle. St Lawrence, 15 killed, 23 wounded; Chasseur, 5 killed, 7 wounded.

Detroit, Barclay, 19 guns—Queen Charlotte, Finnes, 17 guns—Lady Prevost, Buchan, 13 guns—Hunter, Biguell, 10 guns—Little Belt, Bremen, 3 guns—Chippewa, 1 gun—captured September 13, 1813, by the squadron under the command of Commodore Perry, viz. the Lawrence, Perry, 20 guns—Niagara, Elliot, 20 guns, Caledonia, Turner, 3 guns—Ariel Packet, 4 guns—Scorpion, Champlin, 2 guns—Somers, Almy, 2 guns—Tigress, Conklin, 1 gun—Porcupine, Senatt, 1 gun—Trippe, Holdup, 1 gun. The American squadron had 27 killed, 96 wounded; on board the Lawrence only, there were 22 killed, 61 wounded.

Confiance, Downie, 39 guns—Linnet, Pring, 16 guns—Chub ——— 11 guns—Finch, — — — 11 guns—captured on Lake Champlain, September 11, 1814, by the squadron under the command of Commodore Macdonough, viz. the Saratoga, Macdonough, 26 guns—Eagle, Henley, 20 guns—Ticonderoga, Cassin, 17 guns—Preble, ——— 7 guns—ten gun-boats, mounting 16 guns—the British had 84 killed, 110 wounded; the Americans had 52 killed, 58 wounded.

Julia, Growler, Melville, Nancy, Townsend, E———, Morgiana, Lapwing, Landraile, captured at various times by the American squadron on Lake Ontario.

List of AMERICAN VESSELS *of* WAR, *taken during the late War.*

Nautilus, Crane, 14 guns, taken ——— 1812, by Admiral Sawyer's squadron.

Vixen, Reed, 14 guns, taken ——— 1812, by the Southampton, Yeo, 32 guns.

Viper, ——— 12 guns, taken ——— by the Narcissus, Lumley, 32 guns.

Wasp, Jones, 18 guns, taken October 18, 1812, by the Poictiers, Berresford, 74 guns.

Chesapeake, Lawrence, 47 guns, taken June 1, 1813, by the Shannon, Broke, 52 guns. Chesapeake, 48 killed, 96 wounded; Shannon, 26 killed, 58 wounded.

Argus, Allen, 16 guns, taken August 14, 1813, by the Pelican, Maples, 20 guns.
Vixen, Hall, — guns, taken December 25, 1813, by the Belvidere —— 36 guns.
Frolic, J. Bainbridge, 22 guns, taken April 26, 1814, by the Orpheus, Pigot, 46 guns.
Asp, Sigourney, 3 guns, taken July 14, 1813, by a detachment of boats at ——
Rattlesnake, Renshaw, 14 guns, taken July 11, 1814, by the Leander, Collier, 58 guns.
Essex, Porter, 44 guns, taken March 28, 1814, by the Phœbe, Hillyar, 46 guns, and Cherub, Tucker, 28 guns. Essex, 58 killed, 65 wounded.
Adams, Morris, 26 guns, destroyed by her Officers at Hampden, Maine, in consequence of a superior force advancing to attack her.
Caroline, Henley, 14 guns, blowed up at New Orleans.
Syren, Nicholson, 16 guns, taken by the Medway, 74.
President, Decatur, 54 guns, taken January 15, 1815, by a squadron of 4 frigates. President, 20 killed, 60 wounded.
(Note. No official account has been received of the killed and wounded on board the Pelican, Phœbe, Cherub, or the squadron which captured the President.

Eagle, Growler — taken June 22, 1813, by a detachment on Lake Champlain.
Julia, Growler — taken on Lake Ontario.
Scorpion, Tigress — taken on Lake Huron.

N. B. Frigate Essex, and sloop of war Argus, were destroyed by the enemy at Washington.

In fifteen actions on the Ocean, between British and American vessels of war, the Americans conquered in eleven battles fought by single ships—the British only conquered in four battles; two of which were fought by single ships, the other two were in one instance two to one, and the other, four to one against the United States vessels captured.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

From the above account of battles between publick vessels of war, belonging to the United States, and publick vessels of war, belonging to Great Britain, it appears, that the whole number of battles on the ocean was fifteen, in eleven of which success was on the side of the United States, and, except in a few unfortunate attempts to conquer Upper Canada, the American arms were not less successful on the land. In the most important battles, victory on the side of the United States, was not only unquestionable, but splendid.

But while our partialities for the nation to which we belong, and the country in which we live, are flattered by victories, the balance of satisfaction from the events of the late war, will not be very great.

when the whole cost, in lives lost, in property destroyed, and in property expended, shall be brought forward as a charge against any valuable consideration which has been gained, and which may be passed to the credit of the United States. These, however, are calculations to be made by the politician: the accounts, probably, will not be all brought in, and settled, by the present generation. The things which are past, can neither be corrected, or prevented. But past experience may give the most useful instruction.

The new, and very unexpected state of things* in that quarter of the world, which, during the last twenty years, hath been convulsed with wars, and crimsoned with the blood of its inhabitants, and where we hoped peace and order were again established, may call our country to new trials. From past sufferings the American people will be warned against future evils. Should heaven see fit to diminish the population of the older, and more crowded parts of the world, we hope and pray, the desolating judgment may not be sent to this young country.

The advice given by a man of God to the people of Israel long ago, may with great propriety be given to the American people, when foreign nations are preparing for war. "Stand ye still:—stand ye still, "and see the salvation of the Lord!"†

* The return of Napoleon to France. † 2 Chron. xx. 17.

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