

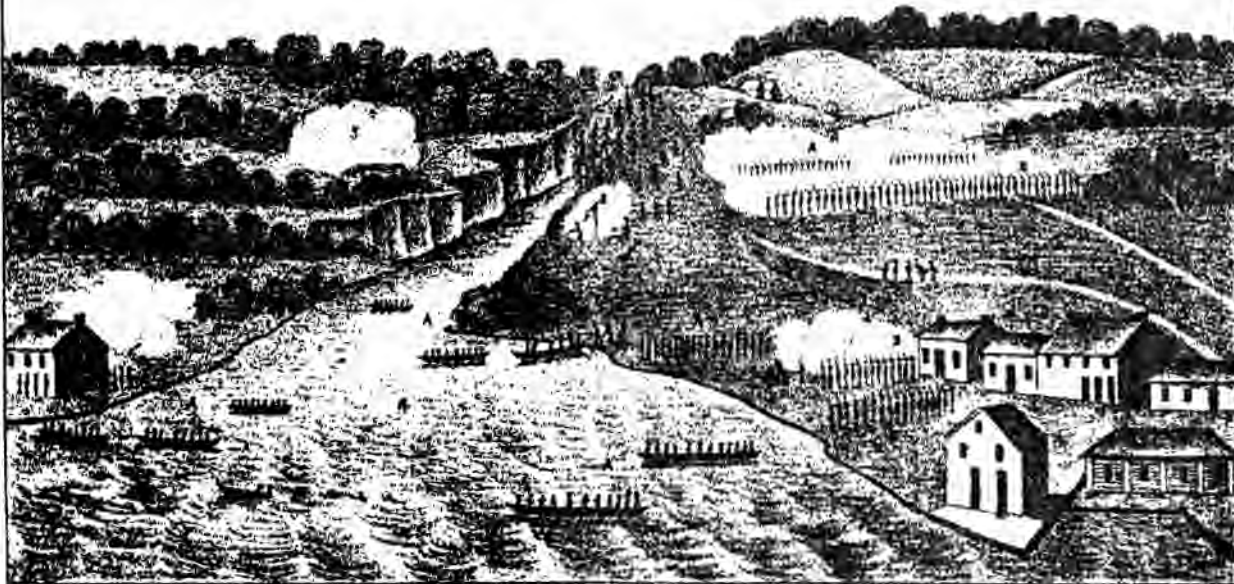


THE  
BATTLE  
OF  
QUEENSTON  
HEIGHTS

## *BATTLE OF QUEENSTON*

*After a sketch by Major Dennis, CM Oct., 1813.*

*f. Qutenskn, 2. Field Piece. 3. Smoke and the American Standard  
seen. 4. 'Aciagara River. Fort Gray Smoke. A. Arnericans. B. British.*



## BATTLE OF QUEENSTON HEIGHTS.

After the surrender of the United States General Hull and his army of 2,500 men at Detroit to General Brock, who commanded our little force of 1,300, of whom 600 were Indians, the Canadians made a hasty march to the Niagara frontier, where, with only 1,500 men, half of whom were militia-men and Indians, he prepared to receive the United States General Van Rensselaer, who commanded 6,000 regular and well-drilled troops.

On the 13th of October, 1813, Van Rensselaer, under cover of a strong battery on the New York State side, crossed with 1,200 men to the village of Queenston, a point just below where both rocky banks of the Niagara rise precipitously. Some of the invaders succeeded in gaining a good position on high ground by climbing and scrambling along apparently inaccessible places, but the main body was held back by two companies of the 49th Regiment under Major Dennis, with two small cannons.

General Brock, then at the town of Niagara (now Niagara-on-the-Lake), seven miles off, hearing the cannonade, rode off at once, accompanied by Col. Macdonell and Major Glegg to ascertain what was going on. He found that the United States soldiers were making some headway, and sent to Major-General Sheaffe at Fort George (Niagara) for more men, ordering him at the same time to begin firing on Fort Niagara on the enemy's side of the river.

Shortly afterwards, when at the head of a company charging up the hill to dislodge a body of Van R,ennselaer's men, he was killed, and within a little while Col. Macdonell also received a wound, from the effects of which he died next day.

Major-General Sheaffe took command, and after a hard fought battle, lasting for fully seven hours, the United States' invaders were driven off the field. Nearly a thousand of them surrendered to our men, who were much inferior in number; a hundred more were killed,

### BATTLE OF QITEENSTON HEIGHTS.

and, as a matter of course, a great many were wounded, many of the latter coming to grief while being pursued by our troops over the steep and rocky ledge, from eighty to a hundred feet high, which here forms the bank of the river. Among the prisoners we captured Col. Scott, who afterwards became a distinguished general in the United States army.

The battle of Queenston Heights was not a Mukden, nor a Sedan, nor a Waterloo, but its results were perhaps scarcely less far-reaching, as they affected the interests not of North America alone, but of the British Empire.

The plate opposite, to accompany which these lines were written, was drawn by Major Dennis, of the 49th Regiment, which behaved so valorously on the field that day.

It is not known where the original of the picture is to be found, but our copy was redrawn from a vignette on a small map of Upper Canada, " published by O. G. Steele, No. 206 Main St. [Buffalo]e, 1820."

Although not by any means a highly artistic production, there were probably few of those engaged who were better qualified to leave us a more realistic picture of the event in at least one of its final phases, than was the gallant major.

A lofty column, commonly known as Brook's Monument, has been erected on the eminence just above B, near the right, to the memory of Sir Isaac Brock, Col. Macdonell and the others who fell during the engagement..

Sailing up the river from Lake Ontario the monument comes into full view some time before the steamer reaches Queenston.

**The name has been obliterated.**

